

Regarding approval of Adventure Tourism Activities Policy for state

Govt. Of Maharashtra
Tourism and Cultural Affairs Department
Government Resolution No. TDS2020/09/प्र.क्र. 490/पर्यटन
Dated 24.08.2021

Reference:

- 1) पर्यटनवसांस्कृतिककार्यविभाग, शासननिर्णयक्रमांकन्यायप्र2013/07/प्र.क्र.498(भाग) / पर्यटन, दि .26.06.2014.
- 2) पर्यटनवसांस्कृतिककार्यविभाग, शासननिर्णयक्रमांक : टीडीएस2015/11/प्र.क्र.1021/पर्यटन, दि .04.05.2016.
- 3) शालेयशिक्षणवक्रीडाविभाग, शासननिर्णयक्रमांकक्र. न्यायप्र. 2014/प्र.क्र.105/क्रियुस -1, दि. 26.07.2018.

Preface

The state of Maharashtra is blessed with a 720 km. long coastline adorning Konkan region and the Sahyadri mountain range running parallel to it. In addition there are Satpuda and Vindhya mountain ranges. The State is blessed with diverse and rich heritage like ancient forts, rivers flowing through the mountains, dense forests in Vidarbha. It provides ample scope for organizing Land, Air and Water based Adventure Tourism activities. The Tourism Policy 2016 provides for promotion of adventure tourism as well as registration, regulation, monitoring, planning, encouragement, training, etc. of organizers of Adventure Tourism Activities and Adventure training institutes.

Accordingly, a Government Resolution (reference 1 above) was issued on 26.06.2014 prescribing guidelines for organizations conducting Adventure tourism activities on Land, Air and Water. Shri. Vasant Limaye and others filed a writ petition no. 8304/2014 in the Mumbai High Court challenging this Government Resolution. It was pointed out in the petition that due to various shortcomings in the Government Resolution dated 26.06.2014, it would not be possible to implement it due to practical difficulties.

A committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of the Commissioner, Sports and Youth Services to give recommendations to the Government for framing rules/guidelines for organizations/individuals conducting various adventure tourism activities on Land, Air and Water and to make necessary improvements in the Government Resolution dated 26.06.2014 issued by the Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs. The committee had submitted a draft of the revised Government Resolution to the government. Accordingly, a Government Resolution dated 26 July,

2018 (Reference. 3 above) was issued by the Ministry Of Education and Sports. Shri. Vasant Limaye and others again filed a writ petition No. 490/2019 in the Mumbai High Court challenging the Government Resolution. Hon. High Court directed the government to take appropriate action after conducting a hearing in respect of the said petition.

As per the directions of the High Court, a hearing was conducted on 05.02.2020 under the Chairmanship of Additional Chief Secretary (Sports) which was attended by Principal Secretary (Tourism) and the concerned petitioners. During this hearing, Petitioners and Maha Adventure Council (MAC) President Shri. Vasant Limaye submitted an elaborate presentation regarding their various suggestions about the Government Resolution of 26.07.2018 and the practical difficulties that could arise due to lacunae in the Govt. Resolution. In this hearing, it was decided that since adventure tourism activities fall under the purview of the tourism department, the matter should be referred to the tourism department for taking appropriate action. A meeting was held on 5th May 2020 under the Chairmanship of the Principal Secretary (Tourism) with representatives of the Adventure Tour Operators Association of India (ATOAI) and representatives of other organizations in the field. The guidelines prepared by ATOAI are recommended by the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India. It was decided to develop Safety Guidelines for Maharashtra after making necessary modifications in these guidelines to suit Adventure Tourism activities in Maharashtra and also keeping in mind safety standards prescribed under ISO 21101 and BIS IS\ISO21101: 2014 standards for adventure tourism activities on Land, Air and Water. Accordingly it was under consideration of Government of Maharashtra to implement adventure tourism policy.

Government Resolution:

The following “Adventure Tourism Activity Policy“ is hereby approved for making rules for organisers involved in conducting Adventure Tourism Activities and thereby creating a well planned system for safe adventure tourism.

2. Adventure Tourism (Activities) Policy

This policy is applicable only to the State of Maharashtra. This policy is applicable to adventure tourism activities on land, air and water that are being organized at present as well as those that will be newly introduced in future.

This Government Resolution is applicable only to Organized Adventure Tourism Activities. Provisions of this policy are applicable to all organizations, individuals or groups of individuals who are engaged in organizing any adventure activity on Land, Air or Water, where there is a clear distinction between organizers and the participants and where responsibility of safety of participants is primarily

transferred to organizers. According to this Policy it is mandatory for organizers of such Adventure Tourism Activities to get themselves registered and follow safety guidelines mentioned in the Policy. Such registered organizers will be entitled to permissible incentives for Adventure Tourism Activities under the Tourism Policy-2016.

3. The following categories of organizers related to organization of adventure tourism activities are bound to register under the Adventure Tourism Activities Policy:

1. Individuals organizing Adventure Tourism Activities (Online or other)
2. All organizations involved in organizing Adventure Tourism Activities (Adventure Tour Operators), Individual Ownership (Proprietary Concerns) Partnership Concerns, Organizations registered under the Companies Act 2013
3. Non-profit organizations/charitable organizations/amateur organizers/clubs.
4. Service Providers who provide their services for organizing Adventure Tourism Activities
5. Adventure Tourism Aggregators (Individuals and Organizations)
6. Camps / Resorts Organizing Adventure tourism activities
7. Institutes and Organizations imparting training pertaining to Adventure Tourism Activities

4. This policy is not applicable to the following adventure activities and their organizers.

1. All adventure sports competitions (For e.g. rock climbing competitions, artificial wall climbing competitions, air sports competitions, etc.) and their organizers.
2. All Adventure Tourism Activities organized by experienced individuals or organizations on the basis of self-responsibility and self-abilities by experienced individuals or organizations. But if, in addition to such activities, if any such individual or organization organizes Adventure Tourism Activities for beginners or inexperienced people (the scope/definition of which is given in an earlier paragraph) then such organizations are required to register themselves under this Policy.
3. Adventure Tourism Activities organized individually on the basis of self-responsibility and self-abilities (e.g., trekking expeditions in Sahyadri, rock climbing expeditions) where participants are experienced and total number of participants is not more than 15.
4. Adventure Tourism Activities conducted by schools.

5. Jeep safaris in wildlife sanctuaries and nature tours and their organizers (if these activities are controlled through entry-gates by Forest Department and specific guidelines are given by Forest Dept., for e.g. Tiger Reserves). All nature trails outside the sanctuaries will fall under land based Adventure Tourism Activity Policy.

5. Safety Precaution to be taken while organizing Adventure Tourism Activity:

1. If the Adventure Tourism Activity is to be conducted in Mumbai Municipal Corporation area, then it will be necessary to obtain permissions from the Office of the Commissioner of Police, Mumbai and other police officers in relation to safety, law and order, traffic arrangements and other important issues. If any accident takes place in any such Adventure Tourism Activity then appropriate legal action will be taken after due inquiries/investigation against the concerned persons. If it is observed, in relation to Adventure Tourism Policy, that an unauthorized business is conducted again and again then action will be taken against the concerned persons under Indian Penal Code.
2. “No Objection Certificate” from the police is required if there is any religious, political or social dispute about the place of Adventure Tourism Activity.
3. Depending upon the safety arrangements at the place of activity, “No Objection Certificate” from the concerned department should be obtained as per the category of activity.
4. It will be necessary to obtain “No Objection Certificate”/written permission from parents of participants below the age of 18.
5. When the participants register for adventure activity, they should be informed online/by text message about the adversities during Adventure Tourism Activity and care to be taken. It is the responsibility of Organizers of such Activities to ensure that no risk is caused to the safety and lives of people.
6. Guides and rotating teams should be appointed at the place of Adventure Tourism Activity.
7. An expert guide should be available to keep the equipment, tools, machines required during Adventure Tourism Activity in good condition and properly maintained. It will help in reducing the accidents during the adventure tourism activities or completely prevent it.

In addition to above, the following conditions will apply to Adventure Tourism Activities conducted at pre-established spots (fixed spots).

1. It is necessary to display maps for directions, banners conveying risks and instructions about Adventure Tourism Activities. Watch towers should be erected at the place of Adventure Tourism Activity, sirens should be used at risky spots.
2. It is necessary to have enough safety arrangements at the place of Adventure Tourism Activity (e.g., safety nets, etc.).
3. If it is observed that the safety equipment/safety arrangements are of inferior/substandard quality/incomplete then action will be taken against the concerned owner / conductor of the programme.
4. It is necessary to take precautions as per the directions of Fire Brigade Department to ensure that fire does not break out at the place of Adventure Tourism Activity. It will also be the responsibility of organizers/owners/conductors to remain in contact with fire brigade squad / rescue teams to ensure timely help, if required.
5. It is expected that First Aid Centre is located at the place of Activity.
6. It is necessary to ensure that no hindrance is caused to the traffic in the area where Adventure Tourism Activity is conducted.
7. Due care should be taken to ensure that betting does not take place at the place of Adventure Tourism Activity.
8. Care should be taken to ensure that illegal business is not carried out at the place of Adventure Tourism Activity. If it comes to the notice of the Tourism Department that illegal business is being conducted, then concerned officials of Tourism Department should lodge a complaint and take appropriate action under Indian Penal Code.
9. If Adventure Tourism Activity is conducted without following the rules and conditions laid down by government and if any hazard is caused to people, then the concerned persons will be charged with culpable homicide.
10. According to situations, socio-geographical aspects, technical aspects, rules in force etc., should be kept in mind while conducting Adventure Tourism Activity.
11. Precaution should be taken to ensure that provisions of Fire Arms Act and Explosives Act are not violated while conducting Adventure Tourism Activity.
12. If an accident is caused while conducting Adventure Tourism Activity, the organizer will be totally held liable for it.

6. Registration Procedure:

There will be two-fold registration procedure for adventure tourism activity as follows.

6.1 Temporary Registration Certificate:

It is mandatory to obtain a Temporary Registration Certificate from Director, Directorate of Tourism for organizers of adventure tourism activities that are covered under Adventure Tourism Policy.

i. All organizers who are engaged in organizing any type of Adventure Tourism Activity on Land, Air or Water will have to apply for Temporary Registration Certificate within six months from the date of issuance of Government Resolution. As a special case, the organizers will be allowed to continue their Adventure Tourism Activities during this six-month period given for temporary registration.

ii. It is also mandatory for the organizers to obtain a temporary registration certificate who commenced adventure tourism venture after the issuance of Government Resolution.

iii. After applying for temporary registration, conditional permission will be given for organizing adventure tourism activities. During the validity period of the temporary registration certificate, the organizers of Adventure Tourism Activities should follow the safety guidelines.

iv. For both the above types of organizers it will be mandatory to obtain final certificate within 18 months from the date of the issuance of Government Resolution.

v. The organizers of Adventure Tourism Activities should apply online for Temporary Registration Certificate by submitting application in the prescribed application format along with the required documents to the Director, Directorate of Tourism. Registration fee of Rs.500/ - will have to be paid online through GRAS system. For those adventure organizers who are not able to apply online on their own, online registration facility will be provided at the Headquarter of the Directorate of Tourism and the Deputy Director (Tourism) Regional Offices. This registration will be valid for one year.

vi. Temporary registration certificate will be issued by the Office of the Director after scrutinizing the application. The validity of this registration certificate will remain valid for one year from the date of issue.

vii. Temporary registration is an exceptional provision given to Adventure Tourism Activity organizers to acquire the necessary capabilities and prepare for final registration and this provision will be available for maximum one year.

viii. The concerned temporary registration holders must acquire the various qualifications required for the respective Adventure Tourism Activities as mentioned in the safety guidelines (e.g. certified equipment, trained staff and leaders, all the required infrastructure) within a period of one year from the date of temporary registration.

ix. In exceptional circumstances, only one extension of six months for the Temporary Registration will be given only after verifying the reasons. In this regard, the decision of the Director, Directorate of Tourism will be final.

x. In case of - snorkeling, scuba diving, passenger transport / boating / boating project / sports area and water sports diving projects - all being at one place, it is mandatory for the organizer to obtain a confirmation of area from Maharashtra Maritime Board.

xi. Except for the activities mentioned in paragraph 4, it will be mandatory to register all types of Adventure Tourism Activities based on Land, Air and Water with the Directorate of Tourism.

Documents to be submitted along with the temporary registration form:

1. Document showing the category of the organizer (charitable organization / organization registered under the Companies Act / partnership organization / Gumasta license etc.) - whichever is applicable
2. Documents for personal identity of the applicant (Aadhar card / Driving License / Electoral Identity Card (any one of these).
3. PAN Card (Income tax proof) required

4. In case of Charitable organizations / organizations registered under the Companies Act / partnership firms, a copy of the resolution of the concerned organization authorising the applicant to register the organization.
5. A document showing the address and possession of the main office premises of the Adventure Tourism Activity Organizer (electricity bill / property tax bill / water bill / telephone bill- any one).
6. Income Tax Returns of last two years (if available)
7. GST certificate (if available)
8. If office premises is rented, then copy of Rent Agreement.
9. Undertaking for following Safety Guidelines while conducting Adventure Tourism Activity.

Registration fees:

Types of Adventure tourism activities for Temporary Registration Certificate (trekking, rappelling, nature trail, temporary camping, rock climbing will be considered as a single activity and for one or more of these activities) a single final certificate will be issued. For Zip Line, Bike Tour, Cycling, All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) activities, a separate final certificate will be issued for each of these adventure tourism activities considering them as independent adventure activity. Similarly, Water Sports Unit will include Banana Boat, Jet Ski, Parasailing, Sea Water Rafting, Kite Sutfing, Canyoning, Water Scooter, Speed Boat, Kayaking, Paddle Surfing, Power boat boating etc. and only one temporary certificate of registration will be issued for all these activities. Registration fee will be Rs.500 / - each.

6.2 Final Registration Certificate –

The final registration certificate will be issued to organizations carrying out Adventure Tourism Activities based on the criteria given in the safety guidelines such as certified equipment, trained staff and leaders, all the required infrastructure as well as the site inspection report.

An application must be submitted to the Office of the Director (Tourism) for the final registration certificate along with all the required documents, at least 60 days before the expiry of the temporary registration certificate. If the application for the Final Registration Certificate is received after the expiry of the temporary registration certificate, the Director of Tourism will have the right to take a decision on case to case basis.

Applications received for Final Registration Certificate will be scrutinized by the Divisional Committee (with site inspection if required). The Divisional Committee

will take necessary action within 30 days on applications received for registration and submit the same with recommendations to Tourism Directorate for grant of final registration.

Action to be taken on Final Registration

A separate Cell for Adventure Tourism Activities will be formed in Directorate of Tourism. Director (Tourism) will head this cell. This cell will scrutinize the application received for registration from office of Dy. Director and submit the same for approval and registration to the committee formed for Adventure Tourism Activity Registration.

If this cell finds some discrepancies in the application, it will be returned to the concerned deputy commissioner's office within 15 days with remark. Office of Dy. Director will remove these discrepancies within 15 days and re-submit the application to Directorate of Tourism office.

Adventure Tourism Activity Cell will grant registration within 30 days of receipt of the complete application form from the office of Dy. Director (Tourism).

Appropriate action will be initiated about issuing final registration after the Adventure Tourism Activity Cell takes decision on the proposals received from Divisional Committee along with recommendation.

Registration period

The Final Registration Certificate issued for Adventure Tourism Activities will be valid for 3 years from the date of issuance of such Registration Certificate.

Registration fees:

Types of Adventure tourism activities for Final Registration Certificate (trekking, rappelling, nature trail, temporary camping, rock climbing will be considered as a single activity and for one or more of these activities) a single final certificate will be issued. For Zip Line, Bike Tour, Cycling, All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) activities, a separate final certificate will be issued for each of these adventure tourism activities considering them as independent adventure activity. Similarly, Water Sports Unit will include Banana Boat, Jet Ski, Parasailing, Sea Water Rafting, Kite Surfing, Canyoning, Water Scooter, Speed Boat, Kayaking, Paddle Surfing, Power boat boating etc. and only one temporary certificate of registration will be issued for all these activities. Registration fee will be Rs.1500 / - each.

7. If applicant is registering for more than one type of adventure, he/she will be charged a registration fee of Rs. 1500 / - per adventure activity.

In case the registration is granted for business / office, such organizer can organizer the Adventure Tourism Activities (such as nature trail, temporary camping, trekking, rappelling) at any place in Maharashtra. Apart from this, independent registration certificate will be required for land, air and water based activities for each location.

These fees should be paid through GRAS system.

8. Renewal Charges:

1. The renewal fee for each Adventure Activity will be Rs.1,000/-
2. If the applicant is applying for renewal of registration for more than one Adventure Activity, he/she will be charged Rs.1, 000/- per activity.
3. These fees must be paid through GRAS system.
4. The renewal period will be two years. Renewal is required to be done after every two years.

9. Provisions regarding Insurance:

Individual participants as well as organizers who are actually present at the site of adventure activity, should have adequate insurance cover. As recommended in the Safety Guidelines, the organizers are required to share with the participants, all information, about all the risks involved, adequate insurance coverage and the need for it in the adventure activity before commencement of the adventure activity. It will be the responsibility of the organizers to comply with the Safety Guidelines regarding the insurance coverage of the participants, organizers and employees participating in the activity, and professionals (permanent, contractual or otherwise).

10. Rescue and rescue operations:

Accidents sometimes happen during adventure tourism activities in Maharashtra. In such cases, it is necessary to immediately carry out rescue operations. Voluntary organizations and experienced individuals come forward to help the government in carrying out such rescue operations, especially in an accident in remote mountain areas. In order to carry out such rescue work, it is necessary to set up a system to encourage these voluntary groups as well as to make a provision of insurance for rescue team. With the help of experts, the Tourism Department will develop an Action Plan to provide the necessary equipment, training, financial assistance etc. to the organizations / individuals participating in the rescue operation.

11. Annual report

It is mandatory for each registered person to submit the online report for activities conducted in previous financial year (1st April to 31st March) in the prescribed format by 30th June.

12. Expert Panel

The Director (Tourism) will compile a comprehensive list of experts in the field of Adventure Tourism Activities in land, air and water. The selection of these experts will be based on specific criteria. Experts from such list will be appointed as members on state level and divisional committees. Such list will be announced within six months of the date of issuance of GR. A committee of experts from all three media will be appointed by the Tourism Department to prepare such a list and its criteria.

13 State Level Committee:

A state Level Committee is formed for effective implementation of Adventure Tourism Activity Policy. The committee structure and its scope are as follows:

Structure:

1	Additional Chief Secretary/Principle Secretary/Secretary, Tourism	Chairman
2	Director General of Police, Maharashtra or Senior Officer nominated by him as representative	Member
3	Sports Commissioner or Senior Officer nominated by him as representative	Member
4	Principle Chief Forest Conservator or Senior Officer nominated by him as representative	Member
5	Chief Executive Officer, Maharashtra Maritime Board	Member
6	Joint/Dy. Secretary, Water Resources Dept.	Member
7	Director, Tourism Directorate	Member
8	Experts in Land, Air and Water based Adventure Tourism Activities nominated from Expert list of Tourism Directorate (3+2+2)	Member
9	Joint Director, Directorate of Tourism	Member Secretary

Scope of the work of State Level Committee for implementation of Adventure Tourism Activity Policy

1. Comprehensive development of all types of Adventure Tourism Activities in the State, use of appropriate and safe methods and taking measures.
2. To determine the methodology and procedure for inquiries in accidents caused during Adventure Tourism Activities.
3. To determine the procedure for redressal of complaints.
4. To suggest improvements if necessary, in the scope of work of the Divisional Adventure Tourism Activities Committees.
5. To provide all necessary assistance to the Government for proper implementation of this Adventure Tourism Activity Policy.
6. To prepare a policy framework for the overall development and promotion of Adventure Tourism Activities.
7. To approve new Adventure Tourism Activities in tune with the changing times and to suggest improvements.
8. To take measures for time bound implementation of this policy.
9. To hold quarterly meetings of this committee for reviewing the implementation.
10. The Govt. will regularly publish the guidelines considering the changes in Adventure Tourism Activities. State Level Committee shall have the power to accept changes in the Guidelines for Adventure Tourism Activities, in consultation with experts.
11. To guide innovative Adventure Tourism Activities in Maharashtra about publicity in various media at National and International level.
12. To prepare guidelines for gradation of registered adventure activity organizers.
13. To implement 'One Window Scheme' to make it easier for registrations/renewals of organizers and to get permissions from various government departments (Forest, Archeology, Irrigation, Home etc.)
14. To guide Directorate of Tourism in preparing panel of experts and approve the panel list received from Adventure Tourism Activities Cell.

14. Divisional Committee:

1	Divisional Deputy Director, Directorate of Tourism	Chairman
2	Senior Officer nominated by jurisdictional Supdt. Of Police as representative	Member
3	Senior Officer nominated by Sports Commissioner as representative	Member
4	Senior Officer nominated by Divisional	Member

	Forest Officer as representative	
5	Senior Officer nominated by Executive Engineer (Water Resources/ Public Works Dept./ Maharashtra Maritime Board)	Member
6	Experts in Land, Air and Water based Adventure Tourism Activities from Expert panel of Tourism Directorate for (3+2+2)	Member
7	Staff member, Divisional Tourism Office	Member Secretary

Scope of the work of Divisional Committee:

1. To scrutinize the application forms received for Final Registration based on temporary registration according to the General Guidelines and specific for the respective adventure activity.
2. To conduct onsite inspection, if required, of Adventure Tourism Activity equipment/trainers/staff/basic infrastructure and other related aspects.
3. To submit the report about eligible organizers to Adventure Tourism Activity Cell along with site visit report and remarks.
4. To take criminal action/stop organizers involved in illegal Adventure Tourism Activities and to submit the report to the Director (Tourism)
5. To conduct inquiries if an accident is caused during an Adventure Tourism Activity, take appropriate action against the concerned persons based on such inquiry.
6. Maintain coordination between Divisional/District level Adventure Tourism Associations and the Government.
7. To provide all possible assistance for proper implementation of the Adventure Tourism Activity Policy.
8. Collection of information about origin, spread and major achievements in adventure tourism activities in district/division.

15. Adventure Tourism Activity Cell:

1	Director (Tourism), Tourism Directorate	Chairman
2	Joint Director (Tourism)	Member
3	Experts in Land, air and water based adventure tourism activities from Expert List prepared Tourism Directorate (3+2+2). It is necessary that at least one expert attends the meeting according the work of respective category	Member

4	Assistant Director(Development)	Member Secretary
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Scope of Adventure Tourism Activity Cell

1. Detailed scrutiny of applications received from Divisional Committee
2. To decide about granting Temporary and Final Registration Certificate based on such scrutiny.
3. To give recommendations to State Level Committee for solving the problems in implementation of Adventure Tourism Policy.
4. To take steps to publicize and implement Adventure Tourism Policy.
5. To prepare guidelines for preparing panel of experts, prepare an expert panel and place it before State Committee for approval.
6. To grant star-rating to registered Adventure Tourism Activity Organizers.
7. To implement 'One Window Scheme' for Temporary and Final Registration

16. Inspection and action for violation of conditions in Government Resolution:

The Director or Deputy Director, Directorate of Tourism himself or any officer authorized by them, may carry out inspection of equipment and the safety measures of Adventure Tourism Activity, if necessary.

If any Adventure Tourism Activity is planned and conducted without registration then action will be taken treating it as unauthorized business.

17. Nature of Violations:

1. Organizations covered by the provisions of the Govt. Resolution, organize adventure activities without obtaining registration.
2. Serious violation of standards of safety measures prescribed (for example- use of inferior quality or sub-standard equipment than the prescribed standards).
3. Serious violation of other provisions of this Govt. Resolution while conducting Adventure Tourism Activities.
4. Not having an expert guide as prescribed in the Safety Guidelines.

In case of abovementioned violations, organizers will be liable for fines given below:

1. Fine of Rs. 2,000/- to Rs.10, 000/- for minor or medium grade violation.
2. Fine of Rs.10, 000/- and sealing of equipment being used for Organizing Adventure Tourism Activities without Registration.
3. Fine of Rs.15,000/- and sealing of equipment/sealing of office being used for organizing Adventure Tourism Activities, if the same organizer is found to be conducting activity without obtaining registration or illegal organization of activity for second time.

4. Fine of Rs.25,000/-, if the same organizer is found to be conducting activity without obtaining registration or illegal organization of activity for third time and criminal action will be initiated.

18. Other Action

The Director, Tourism Directorate is empowered to suspend/cancel Registration Certificate in the event of violations mentioned above. The Director of Tourism is empowered to blacklist such organizers and ban them from conducting Adventure Tourism Activities in future in Maharashtra. Before taking any such action, the concerned organizers will be given due opportunity to present their side in the matter.

Any penal action against the organizers of Adventure Tourism Activity under the provisions of this Govt. Resolution will be without prejudice to any other action taken under the applicable provisions of Indian Penal Code, Cr. Procedure Code, Consumer Protection Act or any other law for the time being in force.

19. Appeal

In case of recommendation by Divisional Deputy Directorate, Directorate of Tourism of suspension/cancellation of registration, an appeal may be filed with the Director (Tourism) within 30 days.

An appeal may be filed with the Principal Secretary (Tourism) against the decision of the Directorate of Tourism within 30 days. The decision of Principal Secretary (Tourism) will be final.

Organizers based out of Maharashtra and wishing to conduct Adventure Tourism Activities within the state of Maharashtra are required to register themselves under this Policy or engage a registered service provider under this Policy to conduct the activity. If organizers registered under this Policy conduct their Adventure Tourism Activities outside Maharashtra (e.g., Himalayan trekking, rafting, paragliding, etc.) then they should follow the guidelines issued by Tourism Ministry (Govt. of India), ATOAI safety guidelines and also rules and guidelines from respective states.

While conducting activities like mountaineering, trekking in reserved forests, public parks and national parks, it is necessary to follow applicable laws and rules of Archeology Dept. (Central and State), Forest Dept. for the places falling within their jurisdiction. Similarly necessary permissions should be

obtained from Water Resources/ Irrigation/ Local Self Govt. Bodies for conducting Adventure Tourism Activities in dams. It is necessary to obtain all permissions of respective dept. of Central/State Govt. depending upon the Adventure Tourism Activity.

Tourism Dept. will take necessary steps to implement online system of 'Single Window Policy' for obtaining various such permissions in future. Tourism Dept. will take all necessary steps to establish a training center for all the three categories of Adventure Tourism Activities.

20. Safety Management:

Detailed and exhaustive Safety Guidelines for organizing Adventure Tourism Activities on Land, Air and Water in a disciplined and safe manner will be made available on the website www.maharashtratourism.gov.in. Various subject wise annexures of Safety Guidelines are also available at www.maharashtratourism.gov.in. For the benefit of organizers.

Annexure-A: Index

Annexure-B: Safety Management System

Annexure-C: Safety Guidelines for Land based Adventure Tourism Activities

Annexure-D: Safety Guidelines for Water based Adventure Tourism Activities

Annexure-E: Safety Guidelines for Air based Adventure Tourism Activities

Annexure-F: Forms and Templates for Adventure Tourism Activities

This Government Resolution is available on the website of Govt. of Maharashtra www.maharashtra.gov.in having code. No. 202108241644238923. This is issued under digital signature.

By order and in the name of Governor of Maharashtra

(R.J. Kadam)

Under Secretary
Govt. of Maharashtra

To,

1. Principal Secretary to the Governor, Raj Bhavan, Mumbai
2. Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister, Mantralaya, Mumbai-32
3. Secretary to the Deputy Chief Minister, Mantralaya, Mumbai-32
4. Private Secretary to the Minister (Tourism), Mantralaya, Mumbai-32
5. Private Secretary to the Minister of State (Tourism), Mantralaya, Mumbai-32
6. Private Secretary to all Ministers / State Ministers, Mantralaya, Mumbai-32
7. Leader of Opposition, Legislative Council, Vidhanbhavan, Mumbai
8. Leader of Opposition, Legislative Assembly, Vidhanbhavan, Mumbai
9. All Legislative Council Members, Legislature, Mumbai
10. All members of the Legislative Assembly, Legislature, Mumbai
11. Chief Secretary, Mantralaya, Mumbai
12. Additional Chief Secretary / Principal Secretary / Secretary, of All Ministries, Mantralaya, Mumbai
13. Director, Directorate of Tourism, Maharashtra, Mumbai
14. Managing Director, Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation, Mumbai
15. All Divisional Commissioners
16. All Collectors
17. All Municipal Commissioners
18. All Chief Executive Officers, All District Councils
19. All Police Commissioners
20. All District Police Superintendents
21. Select File, Desk - Tourism