

**With reference to the declaration of  
Caravan Tourism Policy of the State**

**Government of Maharashtra  
Environmental and Cultural Affairs Ministry  
Government Resolution Number: TDS 2021/02/Sr. No. 501/ Tourism,  
Madam Cama Road, Hutatma Rajguru Chowk  
Mantralaya, Mumbai, 400032  
Date- 15th March, 2021**

**Reference:** Tourism and Cultural Affairs Department, Government Resolution Number- TDS- 2015/01/Sr. No. 1021/Tourism, 04/05/2016

**Preface:-**

The State Government declared “Maharashtra Tourism Policy 2016” by Government Resolution of 4th May, 2016. Paragraph 4.6 of the said policy has an inclusion of ‘Caravan Tourism’. According to it, a provision was made that the Department of Tourism will prepare a policy in order to channelize, facilitate and incentivize (1) Caravan Parks in Public Sector, Private Sector and on PPP basis and (2) Caravans in Public Sector, Private Sector and on PPP basis. In addition, a provision was also made in the “Maharashtra Tourism Policy- 2016” that the Department of Tourism will delineate the necessary directive principles and criteria for enforcement and operation of Caravan Parks, Safety and Security measures, procedure for Destination Development, Constructing Parking Bays with mandatory services, providing restroom facility, responsibilities related to health and hygiene, eco-friendly procedure.

2. Considering the above mentioned provisions and on observing the growing preference of the tourists to travel by private vehicles on the background of Covid-19, providing the facilities of Caravans and Caravan Parks to tourists was under government consideration.

**Government Resolution:-**

Maharashtra is adorned with diversified natural beauty. Exemplary sea shores, historical forts, mountain ranges, hill stations, rivers, rich forests, historical heritages, caves, dams are some of such peculiar tourist places. At such places, Caravan Tourism has a huge potential. In addition, some remotest villages have a meagre number of proper facilities of accommodation like hotels and resorts. At some reserved sites where any permanent construction is prohibited, creating a well-managed system for providing all required facilities to the tourists with the

help of Caravan and Campervan and as a result developing tourism, Caravan Tourism policy is approved for implementation in the state.

**Aims of the policy:**

1. Delineating directive instructions for the actual implementation of the concept of Caravan Tourism mentioned in Tourism Policy, 2016.
2. Providing accommodation to tourists at characteristic tourist spots.
3. Providing facilities to tourists by encouraging investment in the private sector.
4. Encouraging organization of family picnics.
5. Providing accommodation facilities to tourists at places where they can have the opportunity to stay and enjoy nature at a close proximity.
6. Providing innovative experience to tourists rather than the traditional modes of accommodation like hotels and resorts.
7. Searching for new tourist places and providing tourists with accommodation facilities at remote locations, ultimately adding value to local tourism development and benefiting the local economy.
8. An opportunity to utilize “No Development Zones” for commercial facilitation.
9. Maximal returns in minimal investment.
10. Facilitation of tourism in remote areas.
11. Employment opportunity.
12. Providing residence at places where residential facilities are not already available.

**Scope of the policy:**

This policy is framed for providing Caravans and Caravan Parks to tourists by optimally utilizing the resources already abundantly available in Maharashtra. This policy will be applicable in the entire state of Maharashtra.

**Part - 1 Caravan Park**

**1. Concept and Definition**

- A) “Caravan Park- is a place furnished with basic infrastructure and facilities wherein a Caravan can be parked with the purpose of residence at fixed spots for Caravan Parking. Small and Big Caravans can be parked at such parks.”

B) “Hybrid Caravan Park- in this park, we will have a Caravan Park in one part and resort, amusement parks, adventure parks, waterpark, camping site with tents, nature park, agri tourism and many such activities in the remaining area, all carved in a single layout.”

## **2. Land for the Caravan Park:**

1. Caravan Parks can be constructed mainly on privately owned lands either by the landowner himself or a developer.
2. A minimum of 1 hectare of land is necessary for at the most 20 parking bays.
3. Caravan Park should be designed in such a way that different sized caravans can be easily parked there.
4. The land for Caravan Park should be table land situated on a plateau or similar terrain.
5. Caravan Parks should be preferably constructed at one of the following locations-

- I. Buffer zone of forests
- II. Foot of forts
- III. Hill Stations
- IV. Dam Area/ Premises
- V. Cave Area/ Premises
- VI. Coastal Areas/ Beach premises
- VII. Areas near Highways

6. Besides this, in the premises of Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation or on open land in the custody/ under the ownership of Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation, Caravan Parks can be constructed either by the Corporation or by making rental agreements with private industrialists.

## **3. Area and design of the Caravan Park**

1. It is mandatory that the area and design of the caravan park is compatible with the surrounding environment.

2. While parking a Caravan, traffic might be disturbed. Hence enough space for safe moving/ turning of the vehicle should be ensured while designing the Caravan Park.
3. It is necessary to have in place an appropriate drainage system & rain water harvesting system.
4. The layout of the caravan park should be ideal for fulfilling all commercial requirements.
5. Caravan Parks should be planned in such a way that the privacy of the tourists is intact and at the same time their safety is in no way compromised.

#### **4. Internal Roads:**

1. Internal roads should be securely aligned with Caravan Park and with appropriate width with provision for proper effluence of water.

#### **5. Parking Arrangement:**

Parking should have the following facilities:

1. At least 1 parking bay should be 15 mt × 6 mt (at a mountainous or elevated spot) and the rest of the bays should be 7.5mt × 5mt.
2. At the stop, there should be a minimum of 5 meters' distance between two caravans.
3. Every parking bay should be separately bordered/ demarcated and should have direct access to the internal road.
4. Parking bay should be at least 6 inches high from the ground with a strong concrete construction.
5. Every parking bay should have a separate electricity and water connection.

#### **6. Tourist Facility Centre:**

1. Tourist Facility Centre should be constructed by using eco-friendly means. As far as possible, the Tourist Facility Centre shouldn't be situated higher from the ground.
2. The personnel at the tourist facility centre should be trained. There should be a fixed dress code for the staff.

3. List of Do's and Don'ts should be displayed at select visible spots.
4. At least 1 electrician, 1 plumber and 1 sweeper should be available for service.
5. Local maps, brochures should be made available for the tourists.
6. Tie-up should be established with a local tourist guide.
7. Waiting room, Rest rooms facility should be provided.
8. A suitable architectural design should get preference based on the long lasting durability, energy efficiency and utilization of local resources in the proposed design.

### **7. Landscaping:**

1. Landscaping should be in place. Landscaping should be arranged, trees should be planted along the road taking into account the privacy and security of the tourists.
2. 10% space out of the total area or as much as of land as necessitated by the local town-planning department should be maintained as recreation space.
3. Landscaping should ensure reduction of stress and irritation caused by dust particles and heavy winds.

### **8. Necessary/ Mandatory criteria for operation of Caravan Park:**

1. Caravan Park should be functional 24× 7 in tourism/tourist seasons.
2. The approach road from the main road leading to Caravan Park should be in good condition.
3. Enough water for drinking and other usages should be available.
4. Supply of electricity should be enough and in case of electricity failure, a backup facility should be available.

### **9. Safety and Security**

Caravan Park owners must ensure that they fulfill following mandatory criteria for the safety and security of tourists.

1. In order to avoid trespassing, Caravan Parks should be protected by fencing from all 4 sides. Enough security measures should be taken e.g. CCTV cameras, Security guards etc.
2. Fire Extinguisher machine should be available.

3. Necessary material for first-aid should be available and personnel that is trained in first-aid should also be present.
4. Caravan Parks should have a 'doctor on call' facility.
5. Caravan Park owners should maintain contact with local medical officers.
6. The existing regular staff at the Caravan Park should get mandatory training in disaster management to face disasters like Fire, Accident, Earthquake, Flood etc.
7. The responsibility of security will be shared between trip organizer and owner.
8. Number of entry points to the Caravan Park should be limited so that illegal entry into the park would not take place.
9. The management of Caravan Park should ensure proper alignment of Standard Operation Procedure for better handling the situations of natural calamities and medical emergencies.

**10. Cleanliness:**

1. Separate restrooms for women and men with 24 hours water supply and availability of wash basins, mirror should be sufficiently available.
2. A separate restroom for drivers should be available.
3. Number of restrooms should be fixed according to the number of parking bays.
4. Restrooms should contain Eco Toilets.
5. The waste should be re-used in a creative, eco-friendly manner.
6. Restrooms should be cleaned at least twice a day.
7. Burning waste of any kind for disposition is not permissible. Waste management should be carried out by local village panchayat and authorities at their level.
8. It will be mandatory to keep separate bins for biodegradable and non-degradable waste.

9. Boards demonstrating messages such as “No Smoking/ Do not Spit/ Maintain clean and plastic-free premises” should be hung at select visible spots.

**11. Provisions for the differently abled:**

- It is necessary to keep wheelchairs at Caravan Park and the design of the Caravan Park should be such that differently abled people can move around effortlessly.
- There should be a separate restroom for differently abled people.

**12. Optional Criteria:-**

1. There should be a provision for the laundry service, service of a tourist guide, waiting lounge for the clients, separate accommodation for drivers.
2. Operators of Caravan Park should be keen on rendering tourists a safe, responsible and experience-based tourism opportunity. Information about the nearby tourist attractions should be available.
3. Picnic Table, Games for the kids and Amusement material should be available.
4. With due permission from the State Revenue Department, a liquor counter/bar can be created on the site of Caravan Park.
5. At the Tourist Facility Centre, material for repairing vehicles and first-aid should be available.

**13. Necessary Permissions**

1. For the Caravan Park, permission for the layout and construction from the local authorities according to the development control rules laid down by Planning Commission/ Local Authorities.
2. No Objection Certificate from the police station.
3. Letter of Agreement with the Revenue Department, Forest Department, Water Resource Department, MTDC etc in case the Caravan Park project falls on lands owned by respective departments.

4. All necessary permissions should be obtained from the Directorate of Tourism, Forest Department, Water Resource Department, and Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation.
5. Permission/ No Objection Certificate should be obtained from the Environmental Department as per the necessity.

## **Part- 2- Caravan**

### **1. Concept and Definition**

**A) Caravan-** “It is a vehicle with a bed and with optional facility of kitchen, toilet, couch, table etc.”

“Caravan is a vehicle characteristically built with a motive of facilitating travelling, rest and accommodation. This includes Recreational Vehicles, Campervan and Motorhomes.”

**B) Caravan Operator-** Caravan Operator is a business person/ professional who operates the business of providing Caravans to tourists on rent.

### **2. Types of Caravan:**

This policy will be applicable to Caravans of the type 1, 2 and 3.

- 1) Single Excel Conventional Caravan:** 3 meter and 6.5 meter long Caravan comfortable for sleeping for 2 to 6 people. In this Caravan, bed, chair, table, restroom, bathroom and kitchen are available.
- 2) Twin Extra Large Caravan:** To a big Caravan one can attach an Extra Large extension so that a more spacious and luxurious Caravan is ready. Because of increased length, more amenities can be created.
- 3) Tent Trailer:** Tent Trailer Car can be used to travel from one point to another. Tent Trailers are of different lengths and are equipped with different amenities. They can be easily folded and carried around Free on Wagon.
- 4) Folding Caravan:** Folding Caravans can be useful where there is a restricted availability of space.



- 5) Camper Trailer:** Camper Trailers are just like Tent Trailers. Camper trailer has an additional tent berth included in it. Camper Trailer has all the amenities like a tent trailer.

**3. Basic Mandatory Criteria for Caravan / Campervan:**

1. One must register the vehicle (Caravan) at the office of Collector, Transportation Department by paying necessary fees.
2. In any condition, Caravans will be strictly prohibited to park at Forts, Premises of prohibited forests and dams and inside the flood line of rivers.
3. Caravan owners should take enough measures to ensure that the sewage from Caravans is not directly disposed of at natural water reserves or on open lands.

**Mandatory/ Basic Amenities in Caravan/ Campervan**

1. Sofa cum bed should be available for sleeping (enough for 2 people).
2. Facility for Cold Drinks and Snacks.
3. Air Conditioning System.
4. External Barbecue points.
5. Toe Touch Stabilizers should be installed.
6. Mobile charging ports.
7. GPS System.
8. Battery or external hook-ups for a smooth supply of electricity.
9. Water heaters run on Gas or Electricity. .
10. For parking the Caravan, a power wheel mover system (Integrated or clip-on).
11. A separate system for communication between driver of the vehicle and passengers.

**4. Optional Criteria**

1. Washing Machine or Cloth Dryer.
2. Space for lodging a bicycle behind the Caravan.
3. Tent building material in the Caravan.
4. Audio Guide Service.

5. Fridge, Microwave and Kitchen.
6. Enough supply of water in the restroom with arrangement of a shower and hand shower.
7. Dining Table.
8. Availability of separate sewage tanks for Grey water (Wash Water) and black water (Sewage Water)
9. Wheelchair facility for differently abled persons.

**5. General Guidelines:**

1. Caravans can be parked for stay only at registered Caravan Parks where the respective departments have granted permission for vehicle parking.
2. Caravan Operators can operate at the pilgrimages at Pandharpur, Kumbh Mela at Nashik and other grand pilgrimages held in Maharashtra. During the time of such pilgrimages, Caravans can be parked as per the availability of space and permission from the owner of the space. Here, the condition for parking Caravans only at the Caravan Park can be relaxed.
3. If certain tourists are driving the Caravan all by themselves, then they should possess prior experience of self-drive.
4. Vehicle should be in line with the latest Indian vehicle standards.
5. The Caravan operator should provide an online booking facility.
6. It is mandatory to abide by the rules of the Motor Vehicles and Transport Department.
7. In the event of an accident, informing the nearest police station/hospital will be obligatory for the Caravan Driver/Operator.

**Part - 3**

**1. Other General Guidelines:**

1. Third Party Insurance should be drawn for the Caravan, Caravan driver as well as Caravan Park.

2. Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation can park Caravans on the tourist resort premises or on any open land owned by Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation.
3. Private owners can park in the above places by making a rental agreement with the corporation.
4. At most 5 Caravan vehicles can be parked at Agri-tourism Centres registered with the Directorate of Tourism.

## **2. Benefits extended by the Department of Tourism to Tourism Entities:**

1. Under Tourism Policy- 2016 various incentives for internal Caravan Park/ Caravan Tourism such as concession in Stamp Duty, Return of GST, Concession in Electricity bill will be applicable.
2. Under Tourism Policy- 2016, Directorate of Tourism will issue a No Objection Certificate for smooth channeling of loans from the banks.
3. The Directorate of Tourism will facilitate the spaces for Caravan Parking.
4. Caravan owners can make independent agreements with Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation for parking.
5. Because of the NOC from the Directorate of Tourism for the space selected for Caravan Park, obtaining permissions from other departments will be easier.
6. Separate orders will be issued by the Department of Transportation for giving a complete exemption from Vehicle Tax to Caravans registered as Tourist entities.

## **3. Registration:**

1. Registering Caravan and Caravan Park with the Directorate of Tourism will be mandatory.
2. Caravan Parks and Caravan Tour Operators will be registered online by the Department of Tourism, available at the official website- [www.maharashtratourism.gov.in](http://www.maharashtratourism.gov.in) of Maharashtra Tourism.
3. Registration fees are INR 5000 while the renewal fees are INR 2000.

4. Renewal will be carried out every 5 years.
5. Because the Caravans used for personal/private usage are not entitled to any benefit under this scheme, their vehicles do not need to be registered with the Directorate of Tourism.
6. This policy will be coordinated and regulated by the Director, Directorate of Tourism.

#### **4. Training:**

1. Training will be provided from time to time on Marketing, Cleanliness, Maintenance and Management.
2. For efficient functioning of Caravan Park and Caravan, the directorate of Tourism will invite experts from the following fields for training-
  - Responsible and Safe Tourism.
  - Effective Management.
  - Promotion and Marketing.
  - Health and Sanitation.

#### **5. Employment Generation:**

In unskilled employment, 80% of locals will be given preference, meaning the Operators of Caravans and Caravan parks will give priority to locals from respective districts for employment.

#### **6. Promotion and Marketing:**

1. The Directorate of Tourism will work for the promotion and smooth operation of Caravans and Caravan Parks.
2. Authorized Caravan Parks will be promoted on the official website of the Department of Tourism. In addition, promotion will be carried out on different social media via different Events, Road shows, Exhibitions, Press Meet, FAM Trip.
3. Different circuits will be created for Caravan Tourism.
4. Video content created by owners of Caravan Parks and Caravans will be promoted.

5. Selected Caravan operators will be taken to respective destinations during the road shows of Maharashtra Tourism.

### **7. Facilitation:**

For the development of Caravan Tourism, following will be followed for facilitation of privileges:

1. Help make available land for Caravan Park at tourist destinations in Maharashtra with potential for tourism
2. Help for obtaining No Objection Certificates/ Permission Letter from concerned departments.
3. Help in registering a Caravan Vehicle.
4. The Department of Tourism will provide assistance to the investors of Caravan Park to obtain a grant from concerned departments on the plan of Caravan Park.
5. Providing all possible help from Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation, Forest Department, Water Conservation Department, Revenue Department and other concerned departments for making available land for Caravan Parks.
6. Single Window scheme can be started for various No Objection Certificates/ Permission Letters for Caravan Park/ Caravan.

### **8. State-level Committee:**

For the guidance, supervision and regulation of Caravan Tourism Policy, State-level Committee will be formed as follows:

1. Principal Secretary (Tourism) - President
2. Secretary (Forest)
3. Upper Principal Secretary (Water Resource Department)
4. Collector (Transportation Department)
5. Special Inspector General of Police, State of Maharashtra, Mumbai
6. Executive/ Managing Director (Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation)
7. Director – State Archeology Department
8. Experts in the field of Caravan Tourism (2)
9. Director (Directorate of Tourism) – Member Secretary

**9. Scope of the Committee:**

1. Making necessary changes from time to time for overcoming difficulties in the smooth implementation of Caravan Tourism Policy.
2. Including new developments related to Caravan.
3. Taking decision over including new criteria in Hybrid Caravan Parks.
4. Prioritizing locations for the implementation of Caravan Tourism Policy.
5. Recommending necessary changes with reference to the benefits in the Tourism Policy.
6. Guiding the Director, Directorate of Tourism over promotion and operation.
7. Suggesting changes in the policy as needed and coordinating with various departments.
8. Recommending safety measures.

The said government resolution is available on the official website [www.maharashtra.gov.in](http://www.maharashtra.gov.in) of the Government of Maharashtra and its code number is 202103151539277223. This said order is issued by signing a digital signature.

By the order of the Governor of Maharashtra and in name of,

Ramesh Jayaram Kadam  
Upper Secretary, Government of Maharashtra

**To,**

1. Principal Secretary to the honorable Governor
2. Upper Principal Secretary to the honorable Chief Minister, Mantralaya, Mumbai-32,
3. Personal Secretary to the honorable Minister (Tourism), Mantralaya, Mumbai, 32,
4. Personal Secretary to the honorable Minister of State (Tourism), Mantralaya, Mumbai, 32,
5. Personal Secretaries to all honorable Ministers/ Ministers of State

6. Honorable Opposition Leader, State Assembly, Mumbai.
7. Honorable Opposition Leader, Legislative Assembly, Mumbai.
8. All Honorable Members of the Assembly
9. All Honorable Members of the Legislative Assembly
10. Honorable Chief Secretary, Mantralaya, Mumbai
11. Upper Chief Secretary, Water Resource Department, Mantralaya, Mumbai.
12. Upper Chief Secretary, Home Department, Mantralaya, Mumbai.
13. Principal Secretary (Forest), Revenue and Forest Department, Mantralaya, Mumbai.
14. Upper Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries/ Secretaries, All Administrative Departments, Mantralaya, Mumbai.
15. Accountant General, Maharashtra-1, (Accounts Audit/ Accounts and Grants), Mumbai
16. Accountant General, Maharashtra-2, (Accounts Audit/ Accounts and Grants), Nagpur.
17. Accountant General, (Local Body Audit and Accounts), Mumbai
18. Commissioner, Department of Transportation.
19. Special Inspector General of Police, State of Maharashtra, Mumbai.
20. Executive Director, Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation, Mumbai
21. Director, Directorate of Tourism, State of Maharashtra, Mumbai.
22. Director, Directorate of Archeology and Museums, State of Maharashtra, Mumbai.
23. Select File (Nivad Nasti) / Tasks Tourism

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