

**Government of Odisha
Department of Tourism & Culture
(Tourism)**

No. 2593 / TSM, Bhubaneswar, dt. 25.02.2012
T-TSP-II-5/2012

From

Shri Ashok K. Tripathy, IAS
Principal Secretary to Govt.

To

The All Collectors & District Magistrates

Sub: **Guidelines for regulation of the visit of foreign tourists/ researchers to the areas inhabited and frequented by the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) such as Bondas, Dongaria Kandhas and other such communities.**

Sir,

In inviting a reference to the subject cited above, I am to say that Government has decided to regulate the visit of foreign tourists/ researchers to the areas inhabited and frequented by the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) such as Bondas, Dongaria Kandhas and other such communities. The following instructions should be strictly followed in this connection.

1. No foreign tourist/ researcher intending to visit the areas inhabited and frequented by the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) will do so without express permission from the District Magistrate of the district. A copy of the permission should be marked to the local Police Station. It shall be the duty of the Inspector-In-Charge/ Officer-In-Charge of the Police Station to ensure that the conditions mentioned in the permission are strictly followed. In case of any violation, criminal cases should be lodged against the tourist/ sponsor/ tour operator under appropriate sections of law.

2. All applications for such permission shall be made to the District Magistrate through the Tourist Officer of the concerned district.

3. While granting permission the District Magistrate should impose such conditions as are necessary to protect and uphold the cultural ethos and dignity of the tribal community. Some of the conditions are indicated below.

- (a) The District Magistrate should allow visitors to visit only limited number of villages/ locations taking into account the sensitivity of the area and bonafide of the purpose of visit.
- (b) The visitors should be accompanied by a representative of the Development Agency of the concerned PVTG. For this purpose, the Development Agency may empanel suitable persons from the PVTG community to act as guides.
- (c) No permission should be given for visiting the PVTG areas at night.
- (d) No photography/ videography of the tribal persons belonging to the PVTGs will be allowed.
- (e) Physical proximity of the visitors to the PVTGs should be strictly prohibited. They should also not be allowed to enter into the houses of the PVTGs.
- (f) No permission should be granted for any form of amusement/ entertainment by the PVTGs for the benefit of the visitors.

4. The tour operators who intend to take tourists to these areas should be registered with the Department of Tourism & Culture with certain additional conditions.

- (i) They should not depict the photographs, videographs, write-ups on PVTGs in their website/ brochures in an inappropriate manner for promotion of tourism.
- (ii) They should submit a monthly return of foreign tourists visiting areas inhabited or frequented by the PVTGs.

Yours faithfully,

Shripath

25/02/2012

**Principal Secretary to Govt.
Tourism Department**

Memo No. 2594 / TSM, Bhubaneswar, dt. 25.02.2012

Copy forwarded to Principal Secretary to Govt., Home Department for kind information and necessary action. Steps may be taken for restricting the movement of foreigners in protected areas under the provisions of Foreigners' Order, 1948 in order to provide for punitive action.

[Signature]
25/02/12

**Principal Secretary to Govt.
Tourism Department**

Memo No. 2595 / TSM, Bhubaneswar, dt. 25.02.2012

Copy forwarded to Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Govt., ST & SC Development Department for kind information and necessary action.

[Signature]
25/02/12

**Principal Secretary to Govt.
Tourism Department**

Memo No. 2596 / TSM, Bhubaneswar, dt. 25.02.2012

Copy forwarded to HRAO/ THRAO/ TAAO/ OTOA for information and necessary action.

[Signature]
25/02/12

**Principal Secretary to Govt.
Tourism Department**