



## GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

### Abstract

Water Resources Department - Irrigation Department - Development, Operation and Management of tourist destination in Irrigation Scheme premises - guidelines formulated - Orders issued.

### **WATER RESOURCES (MP) DEPARTMENT**

G.O.(Rt)No.830/2016/WRD Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 24-09-2016.

Read: - 1. Government letter No.2919/MP3/2015/WRD dated 10.04.15.  
2. Meeting held on 13.01.16 convened by Secretary (WRD). -  
3. Letter No.CS-ADIO/42015-IDRB dated 29.04.16 from the Director (Designs) IDRB.

### ORDER

Reservoirs of Irrigation and Hydro Electric Projects were developed as Tourist destinations even before the beach and backwater tourism made its impact in the State. Irrigation Project sites are in serene locations that attract nature lovers and have the potential to provide adventure tourism, boating, cycling, nature walk etc. Tourism Department is investing in the development of destinations under Irrigation department utilising the funds made available from different agencies. Destinations under Irrigation Department include dam and reservoir premises, land owned by the Department in different project sites, by the side of Inland Waterways etc. Government have concern over security of the dam structure, reservoirs, structures near the proposed locations, pollution of the reservoir and access to emergency operation locations. Hence adequate guidelines that define development activities to be undertaken by the Irrigation department to ensure improved utilisation of assets of Irrigation Department become necessary.

2) Government have examined the matter in detail and are pleased to frame the following guidelines for Joint Development & Operations of

Tourism Destination in the premises of Irrigation Scheme to curb uncontrolled tourism activities in dams and damsites.

### **I. Identification and mangement of land for tourist activities:**

a) The Officer in charge of the dam (Executive Engineer and his subordinate) and the representative of the Tourism Department will have the responsibility of Identification of suitable land in the premises of the Irrigation scheme. Whenever activities are planned with the collaboration of other Departments, an agreement guiding the terms of collaboration shall be entered into with the Department concerned. Suitable land shall be identified by utilising the services of consultants. The officer in charge of the dam shall ensure the security of the structures, easy access for emergency operations, chances for pollution of the reservoir, scope for future development and such other parameters while identifying land for tourism activities.

b) The land thus identified shall be mapped, proposed activities described and should be approved by the Chief Engineer(IDRB). The Superintending Engineers and Chief Engineers in charge of the dam shall take a decision on the proposal within 15days on receipt of such proposals and submit the same for Government approval.

c) Tourism officials and Irrigation officer in charge of the scheme shall closely follow the architectural design and get approvals of the Chief Engineer(IDRB). Stake holder participation shall also be ensured.

### **II. Execution of Tourism Project:**

a) Any development of the destination shall blend with the natural habitat and specific directions shall be given to the consultants to make the proposal accordingly.

b) A high level committee consisting of the concerned officers from both the departments (Irrigation and Tourim)including the representative of the Director of Tourism shall be formed for the speedy execution and to consider and approve changes required during the course of

construction, The Consultants' Proposal approved by the Tourism Department shall be carried out through Irrigation Department. The changes thus approved will be placed before the Technical Sanction Authority for approval. There will not be any centage charges for Irrigation Department.

c) Consultancy services and payment for contractors will be made by the Tourism Department.

d) Completion certificate of the works shall be certified by the Tourism, Irrigation Departments and the consultant. The Consultant shall also provide an operation manual for installations.

### III. Operation and management:

i) Irrigation Project Tourism Management Committee will be formed jointly developed by Irrigation Department & Tourism Department in the following structure.

a) General Council: Irrigation Project Tourism Management Committee.

b) Chairman: Member of Legislative Assembly of the locality.

c) Vice Chairman: District Collector.

d) Secretary: Executive Engineer, Irrigation Department

e) Members:

1. President of the Grama Panchayath/ Chairperson of the Municipality.
2. Members of the Grama Panchayath/Ward Councillor representing the locality (3Nos).

3. Asst. Executive Engineer of Irrigation Department operating the scheme.
4. Representative of Tourism Department.
5. Representative of District Tourism Promotion Council.
6. Tahsildar/Taluk Surveyor.
7. Two stakeholders from Travel & Tourism industry.
8. Officials of other departments associated with the destination (ie, DFO if forest area is involved, Port Officer, if boating is provided, etc)

#### **ii. Executive Committee:**

a) Chairman: District Collector.

b) Convenor : Executive Engineer of the Irrigation Department. (He will carry out the day to day functioning and prepare proposals for future development plans for the destination).

#### **IV. Revenue of the Management Committee**

The sharing pattern of the net revenue of the destination between the Tourism, Irrigation Departments and the Management Committee shall be in the ratio of 10:10:80 jointly operated by Vice Chairman and Secretary of the General Council. All receipts payments shall be made by a bank account. Government share will be remitted to treasury. The share of the Management Committee shall be utilised for sustainable maintenance and upkeep of the facilities and also for future development.

#### **V. Duties and Responsibilities:**

The Managing committee shall ensure that the reservoir and premises

are not polluted by tourism activities and proper arrangements for waste disposal are in place. Tourism activities shall not endanger the safety of the structures and emergency operations.

(By Order of the Governor)

TINKU BISWAL IAS,  
Secretary to Government.

To

1. The Chief Engineer (I&A), Thiruvananthapuram.
2. The Chief Engineer, Project -I, Kozhikode.
3. The Chief Engineer, Project - II, Thiruvananthapuram.
4. The Chief Engineer, IDRB, Thiruvananthapuram.
- ✓ 5. The Director, Tourism Directorate, Thiruvananthapuram.
6. Water Resources (IR) Department.
7. Stock File/Office copy.

Forwarded by order

