

**POLICY FOR  
ERECTION OF  
TEMPORARY BEACH  
SHACKS  
IN A&N ISLANDS**

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## **1. INTRODUCTION :**

There are beautiful beaches in A&N Islands which are visited by several tourists to enjoy leisurely time. In the recent past several unauthorised hawkers and temporary shacks have come up in a very unorganised manner at the popular beaches. This gives a very shabby look spoiling the beauty and ambience of the beautiful beaches apart from causing disturbance to the visitors.

It is felt that if such a practice is allowed, then this would result in complete chaos and unorganised shacks on all the beaches. The impact of tourism and the increased popularity of beach shacks have raised concerns about environmental sustainability and the preservation of natural ecosystems. It is crucial to find a balance between the development of these structures and the conservation of the coastal environment, ensuring that they coexist harmoniously without causing harm.

It is therefore felt that a well defined policy for erection of temporary shacks at various beaches in A&N Islands needs to be formulated by virtue of which the shacks are set up in an organised manner, having a uniform size and look and also following certain laid down criterion .

Permit shall be granted for erection of temporary shacks on the identified beach stretches after a joint inspection to be carried out by the Officials of Tourism Department along with the Officials of District Level Committee(DLC) under Andaman Nicobar Coastal Zone Management Authority (ANCZMA).

## **2. ABOUT BEACH SHACKS :**

Beach shacks are small, often temporary, huts or huts-like structures that are typically located near or on the beach, offering a unique and laid-back atmosphere to visitors. They are usually constructed using local and natural materials, such as bamboo, wood, thatch, or even palm leaves. This rustic aesthetic blends harmoniously with the surrounding environment, allowing visitors to immerse themselves in the beauty of the beach and its natural surroundings. Beach shacks have become an integral part of coastal experiences around the world.

Beach shacks serve various purposes depending on their location and the culture of the area. In many coastal regions, they act as informal food and beverage establishments, serving up delicious local cuisine and refreshing drinks. Visitors can relish seafood, tropical fruits, and other local delicacies while enjoying the scenic views and the soothing sounds of the ocean.

These shacks also provide a space for relaxation and socializing. They often feature cozy seating areas, hammocks, and beach chairs where people can unwind, soak up the sun, read a book, or engage in lively conversations with friends and fellow beachgoers. Many beach shacks also host live music performances, beach parties, and cultural events, adding to the vibrant and festive ambiance.

Beach shacks are not only about food and leisure; they often contribute to the local economy and tourism industry. They provide job opportunities for locals, from cooks and servers to artisans who create handicrafts and souvenirs sold in these establishments.

Beach shacks are more than just temporary structures on the shorelines. They represent a way of life, a place of relaxation, and a gateway to unique cultural experiences. Whether you seek a taste of local cuisine, a moment of tranquility, or a lively gathering spot, beach shacks provide a haven where you can escape the worries of everyday life and embrace the beauty of the beach.

### 3. BEACHWISE LOCATION OF SHACKS IN A&N ISLANDS

The various beaches have been divided into two groups i.e. Group 'A' and Group 'B' taking into account the popularity of the beaches as well as footfall.

Names of beaches and number of shacks permitted :

#### GROUP A

| S.No. | Name and Location                             | Maximum number of shacks permitted |
|-------|---|------------------------------------|
| 1     | Kalapathar Beach, Swaraj Dweep, South Andaman | 10                                 |
| 2     | Elephanta Beach, Swaraj Dweep, South Andaman  | 15                                 |
| 3     | Laxmanpur Beach, Shaheed Dweep, South Andaman | 20                                 |
| 4     | Bharatpur Beach, Shaheed Dweep, South Andaman | 20                                 |
| 5     | Corbyn's Cove, Port Blair, South Andaman      | 10                                 |

#### GROUP B

| S.No. | Name and Location                          | Maximum number of shacks permitted |
|-------|--|------------------------------------|
| 1     | Sitapur Beach, Swaraj Dweep, South Andaman | 05                                 |
| 2     | Badabalu Beach, Chidyatapu, South Andaman  | 10                                 |
| 3     | Raman Bagicha ,Rangat, Middle Andaman      | 15                                 |
| 4     | Cutbert Bay, Beach,Ragat, Middle Andaman   | 10                                 |
| 5     | Baludera Beach, Baratang, Middle Andaman   | 15                                 |
| 6     | Karmatang Beach, Mayabunder, North Andaman | 15                                 |
| 7     | Ramnagar Beach, Diglipur, North Andaman    | 10                                 |

## **4. ALLOTMENT OF BEACH SHACKS**

### **4.1 ALLOTTMENT PROCESS**

1. Tenders/Auction proposals will be invited by Tourism Department for allotment of temporary beach shacks to be erected on identified beaches in the last week of July such that the shacks can be made operational by 1<sup>st</sup> of October i.e. by start of the tourist season. The shacks shall have to be dismantled and removed by the shack allottees after the end of tourist season i.e. by 31<sup>st</sup> March.
2. The shacks will be allotted through Auction/tenders/competitive bidding over and above a minimum annual fee (reserve fee) for each shack.
3. Permits shall be issued to put up only one beach shack by one member of a family who is unemployed and no other family members can apply. The applicant should not be employed or engaged, directly or indirectly in any other business, vocation or profession. Permit shall be granted for putting up only one beach shack to any one member of the family. Validity of Permit : The Permit so issued shall be valid for two years .

Explanation - For the purpose of this section, family shall include husband or wife, as the case may be, dependent parents and unmarried children, provided they figure in the same ration card as that of the applicant.

4. The applicant for beach shacks should not have any criminal background and there should not be any charge sheet pending against him in any criminal Court . Any application received from any persons with criminal charge sheet pending against them in any court will be rejected forthwith.
5. In case of death of the successful shack allottee, the shack may be transferred in the name of the “legal heirs” in the family upon request of the member of the family of such deceased shack allottee and after careful consideration of the facts by the Department of Tourism.
6. The successful shack allottee shall collect the permit within a period of 15 days from the date of draw and shall erect the Shack within one month. No shack shall be erected before obtaining/collecting the Permit from the Department.
7. In case of any complaint is received with documentary proof that the shack

allottee has obtained the shack fraudulently in violation of this policy, the permit issued to such allottee, shall be cancelled forthwith and the shack shall be re-allotted to the next waitlisted applicant and the security deposit shall be forfeited without any notice.

8. The Department reserves the right to make adjustment as regards to demarcation of Shacks depending upon the site condition/availability of space.
9. If due to any adverse weather conditions or beach protection or any such work/activity in public interest, needs to be carried, Director of Tourism may withdraw any permission for Shack Permit before the specified date and in such cases, allottee/permission holder will not be liable for any compensation.
10. The beach shack allotted shall not be sublet under any circumstances. In case the shack is sublet by the allottee, the Shack shall be demolished on the spot and the security deposit shall be forfeited without notice.

#### **4.2 FEES :**

1. The cost for Auction/Tender Application Form for one shack shall be Rs. 10,000/- (non-refundable).
2. The minimum reserved annual fee for the Shack shall be as under:

|                     |                                     |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| For Group A Beaches | Rs. 40,000/- - 1 <sup>st</sup> year |
|                     | Rs. 50,000/- 2 <sup>nd</sup> year   |
| For Group B Beaches | Rs. 25,000/- - 1 <sup>st</sup> year |
|                     | Rs. 30,000/- 2 <sup>nd</sup> year   |

3. The annual beach shack fee shall be paid in advance before taking possession . In case of Non-payment of the annual beach shack fee, the beach shack allottee shall not be allowed to erect the beach shack on the allotted location. In case it is found that a shack allottee has erected the beach shack without payment of the annual fees in advance, the said beach shack shall be demolished without any notice and the security deposit by the allottee shall be forfeited to the Government Treasury.
4. In case the successful beach shack allottee fails to set up the beach shack<sup>6</sup> within one month days from receipt of allotment/permission letter from the department then the, annual beach shack fee will be forfeited, without notice.

### **4.3 SECURITY DEPOSIT**

1. Each successful allottee shall furnish a refundable security deposit in favour of Senior Accounts Officer , payable at Port Blair for Rs. 30,000/- (Rupees thirty thousand only) at the time of collection of permission letter.
2. In case of default or breach of or non-compliance of any of the terms and conditions of the policy for erection of beach shacks , temporary seasonal structures or any other violations as are prohibited under the prevailing Laws, the Security Deposit made by the applicant shall be forfeited to Government Treasury, without notice. The applicant shall be required to produce a fresh security deposit of equal amount within a period of 10 days in order to continue the Permit for erection of temporary beach shack so allotted, failing which the Permit so issued shall be revoked without any further intimation to the beach shack applicant and the structure shall be demolished thereafter as per provisions of Law. The security deposit made by the applicant shall be released after the expiry of Permit period and after the removal of structure and certificate obtained from the Designated Authority .

### **5. TYPE AND SPECIFICATIONS OF SHACKS:**

1. The beach shack structure shall be of the size 12 mts. (length) x 8 mts. (breadth) only and the height of the beach shack shall be maximum of 3.5 mts. including height of boards displayed above the roof. No shack shall be permitted to have a mezzanine floor or an additional floor. Beach shacks which are bigger in size other than permitted are liable to be demolished and the permission shall be cancelled forthwith. The security deposit will also be forfeited without any notice.
2. The beach shack shall be erected out of eco-friendly materials like bamboos/wooden poles with thatched leaves/thatched bamboo mat roofing as far as possible. However, in case of paucity of wood the same may be erected out of the other modern materials like synthetic, steel, nylon fabric etc. for the purpose of frame work. Use of concrete material is absolutely banned.<sup>7</sup> Grouting, plastering, laying of PCC/RCC on the floor/structure/digging of

soak pits/digging and laying of pipes/ metal staircases grouted in cement etc. shall not be permitted at any cost.

3. A uniform design approved by A&N Administration for beach shack shall have to be followed by the allottees , which will be provided in due course of time.

## **6. GENERAL CONDITIONS :**

1. The beach shack shall be erected only at the place earmarked /designated by the Department and shown to the allottee by physical demarcation at the site.
2. The beach shack allottee shall enroll all the staff working in the shack who is handling food, for a special course conducted by DBRAIT or any other institution as may be specified by the Department preferably within one month of their appointment. The beach shack allottee shall also enroll for one day orientation Work Shop at DBRAIT or any other institution as may be specified by the Department.
3. The beach shack allottee shall not employ any Children below the age of **14 years** as per the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986. In case of any violation, the Security Deposit will be forfeited in the Government Treasury and the shack permit will be cancelled.
4. The activity in the beach shack shall be restricted to sale of permitted items i.e. food items , beverages, souvenirs, etc. and not for any other purpose. License for sale of any alcoholic beverages shall have to be obtained by the allottee from the Excise Department of A&N Administration.
5. The beach shack allottee shall provide printed bills to the customers for food, refreshment and any other service charges.
6. The Shack shall not be operated before obtaining permission/NOC/Permit from all other concerned Departments such as Excise, Health, Food & Drugs Administration, Fire Services and other concerned authorities as may be applicable. Failure to comply with these conditions shall result in cancellation of the permit. The concerned Departments shall issue licenses only to those shacks, which have been given permission by the Tourism Department. List of allotment shall be forwarded to concerned Departments.



7. The beach shack allottee shall make provision for giving Fire cover/First Aid to the structure and the public/tourists and shall adhere to all guidelines issued by fire department.
8. If the beach shack allottee is found to place any additional items/material on the beaches other than those permitted, the same shall be confiscated by the Department and the violator shall be prosecuted. It shall be at the discretion of the Director of Tourism, to auction/dispose off the items so confiscated . The beach shack Permit shall also be liable for cancellation.
9. The beach shack shall be dismantled and all the materials used for its erection including any equipment/furniture etc. shall be removed within one week of expiry of the permitted period (including disconnection of electric supply and water connection, if obtained) . The area shall be cleared and cleaned up without leaving any dirt/discarded material at the site. If the allottee does not remove the structure, then the beach shack shall be removed by the Department at the cost and risk of the allottee and the cost incurred for such removal shall be recovered from the allottee. Also the allottee shall be disqualified from applying for a Shack for a period of three years.
10. The unsuccessful shack applicants shall not erect any beach shack illegally. If done so, the same shall be subject to demolition at his/her own risk and cost and the fee submitted by the unsuccessful applicant shall be forfeited to the Government Treasury and he/she shall be Penalized/Black listed from applying for Shacks for a period of three years .
11. The beach shacks allotted are subject to surprise inspections by the Monitoring Committee to be constituted by the Department of Tourism and in case it is found that the allottee is absent during three consecutive inspections, it shall be assumed that the shack has been sublet and the beach shack Permit will be cancelled .
12. The beach shack allottee shall be allowed to display board indicating list of food-items/rates at the Shack inside the shack. No advertisements of any brands shall be permitted on any shack. In any case no tariff boards/ standees shall be allowed to be installed outside the shack or on top of the shack. In case of violation, the boards shall be confiscated and security deposit shall be forfeited.

13. The Shack allottee shall not practice any discrimination for entering into the Shack against any person based on Nationality or sex or caste or religion or race or any other such factors . Permit is liable for cancellation in case of such complaints received, after due verification.
14. No foreigners shall be permitted to work in any Shack even though he/she may have necessary visa for work.
15. Timing for operation of Shack shall be from 7:00 a.m to 10:p.m.. However Liquor serving timings will be subject to limitations of the Excise rules.
16. Loud music shall be not played in or around the shack. Mild music audible within the shack can be played which should not cause any disturbance to surrounding occupants. The decibel level of sound equipment should be within the permissible limits as per Noise Pollution rules. Any music system comprising speakers and amplifiers beyond the permissible limits as aforesaid shall be confiscated.
17. The shack allottee shall make his arrangements for electricity and Water from the concerned departments/agencies at his own cost. No DG set shall be allowed to be operated in or around the shacks.
18. The enforcement /statutory authorities, in case of non-compliance ,to impose penalties or fines as per statutes /regulations or law of the land.
19. Extra tables, chair, etc. will not be allowed around the shack.

## **7. CLEANLINESS AND SANITATION**

1. The beach shack allottee will be required to maintain two dust bins, one for biodegradable waste with a lid and the other for non-biodegradable waste. Each allottee will also maintain a container to collect the waste water generated from washing, kitchen etc. The concerned Village Panchayat/ Municipality shall collect and dispose of the respective wastes for which necessary fees shall be paid by the beach shack allottee. The Department shall levy penalties for disposing off garbage unlawfully and even cancellation of permission for (a) not maintaining dustbins (b) not disposing off waste water properly (c) illegal dumping/burying of garbage in the vicinity or any portion/place of beach stretch. The dustbin size shall be of 50 litres in with separate lids in black (dry waste), green (wet waste) and blue (plastic) to be bought and kept in designated areas.

2. Compulsory installation of portable toilets - With the objective of enforcing eco-friendly shacks and preventing damage to the environment, every beach shack allottee shall compulsorily provide portable toilet facility, like chemical mobile toilet with inbuilt proper sewage collection and disposal facility. The toilet waste shall not be let out on beach area. The officials of the tourism department shall verify if this criterion is adopted by the shack allottee and only then issue the permit. Toilets/lavatories without portable attached collection and disposal units will not be permitted under any circumstances. No septic tanks, soak pits or open draining of toilet waste in the ground shall be permitted at any cost. Penalty for installing any soak pit, open draining of sewage and toilet waste in to the sand on the beach shall lead to cancellation of the permit , forfeiture of security deposit and will further may lead to debarring the shack allottee for future. The Toilet should be managed in a clean and hygienic manner at all times. In case of violation of these conditions, the shack license will be revoked without notice.
3. Area surrounding the beach shack must be kept clean by the beach shack allottee. Burning or burying of waste/garbage in any form is not allowed. In case, any dirt/garbage, fire wood, charcoal, etc. is found behind the beach shack or nearby, the Permit of the beach shack shall be liable for cancellation forthwith and the beach shack shall be demolished at the risk and cost of the beach shack allottee. The beach shack allottee shall take the responsibility to see that no garbage is dumped/buried in the bushes/vegetations or dunes. The beach shack owner shall hand over segregated wet and dry garbage to the Beach cleaning contractor appointed by the Department and maintain a proper log book with daily entries. Two separate wet and dry garage collection bins will be maintained by the shack allottee, as per colour code prescribed by the Department.
4. Each allottee shall obtain potable water for their use from certified sources only.
5. The shack allottee shall take due care to keep the beach litter free and the responsibility thereof shall lie on the shack allottee.
6. No smoking and No spitting board with the wordings “Say No to Tobacco” “Yes to Life” to be compulsorily displayed by each Shack allottee and he shall abide by the applicable rules and regulations in this regard. If any psychotropic substances or narcotic substances are found in the beach shack the beach shack<sup>11</sup> allottee shall be debarred for life for applying for the beach shack.

## 8. MONITORING COMMITTEE :

A Monitoring Committee will be constituted by the Department of Tourism comprising of the following members:-

|                                       |                  |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| Director (Tourism)                    | Chairman         |
| Assistant Commissioner                | Member           |
| Deputy Director(Science & Technology) | Member           |
| Deputy Superintendent of Police       | Member           |
| Food Safety Officer                   | Member           |
| Deputy Director(Tourism)              | Member Secretary |

### 8.1 FUNCTIONS OF MONITORING COMMITTEE :-

- i. Inspection of the Beach Shacks to ensure compliance with all laid down norms and procedures including inter alia safety & security , fire safety guidelines , sewage and waste disposal, pollution etc .
- ii. Making surprise inspections of the beach shacks to check that the tourists are being provided proper facilities .
- iii. Redressal of any complaints received from any tourist against the beach shack allottees.
- iv. Recommend penalties against the allottees operators in case of any malpractice or any violation of any relevant law.

## 9. COMPLIANCE

Beach shack allottees must comply with all laws and regulations of the A & N Administration and all statutory authorities . Non-compliance will result in the cancellation of the permit. Violation of laws in force shall attract penalties under relevant Rules/Acts of Central or UT Administration.

## 10. REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed periodically by the A&N Administration to ensure that it remains relevant and effective. In case of any change required in the policy, consultation will be held with the line departments and other stakeholders.

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