

**ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ADMINISTRATION  
DIRECTORATE OF TOURISM**

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**NOTICE**

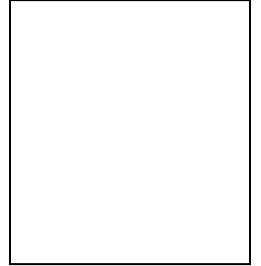
**Port Blair dated the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2009**

The Directorate of Tourism, Andaman & Nicobar Administration has formulated terms and conditions/guidelines for the operation of Scuba dive centre in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Those centers who conform to the qualification prescribed by the Directorate will be given registration. Those who intend to register their Scuba dive centre may obtain the application form along with terms and conditions/guidelines for registrations of Scuba dive centres from Directorate of Tourism or can download from the official of website of the Administration [www.and.nic.in](http://www.and.nic.in).

**Director (Tourism)  
(No. 2-1/2000-Tsm(PF-1))**

**Andaman & Nicobar Administration  
Directorate of Tourism**

**REGISTRATION FORM FOR SCUBA DIVE CENTERS**



1. Name of the Dive Centre :
  
2. Details about the registration of the organization / company which operates the dive centre :
  
3. Name of the Owner(s) with Nationality and Passport No. :
  
4. Address of the office in mainland – India and abroad with Telephone / Fax Mo. / e.mail :
  
- 5 Website if any :
  
- 6 Details about dive operation undertaken by the firm / person in Andaman in the past with duration of operation etc. :

7. Details of Scuba Diving staff (attach Photocopies of qualification)

Designation	Name	Nationality	Passport No.	Qualification	Ref. No
Dive Instructor					
Dive Master					
Others					

8. Details of support staff (attach Photocopies of qualification)

Designation	Name	Nationality	Passport No.	Qualification	Ref. No

9. Details of dive equipments and accessories

Description	Make	Quality
1. Dive Boat		
2. Dive Sets		
3. BCDs		
4. Compressor		
5. First Aid Kit		
6. Oxygen Kit		

10 Emergency Action Plan (EAP)  
(Attach copy) :

11. Details of the fee submitted as  
Demand Draft in favour of  
Accounts Officer, Dte. Of IP&T. :

12 Details of Insurance :

13 Details about Services offered with  
tariff. :

14 Communication equipment, if any,  
with details about permission  
obtained. :

15 Details of clearance from Ministry  
of Home Affairs (for foreign  
nationals) attach Photocopies. :

16 Location of Dive base :

17 Dive sites/area proposed to be  
visited :

18 Details of the registration of the  
boat used for taking dive tourists :

19 Any other relevant information  
(attach separate sheet if  
necessary) :

Signature of operator

Name.....

Date.....

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Terms and conditions/guidelines for registration of  
Scuba Dive Operators

1. An Indian or a foreigner who is legally carrying out dive operations(diving operators) within the permitted areas in Andaman & Nicobar Islands shall registers themselves with the Directorate of Tourism, A&N Administration by paying a fee of Rs 5000/- and comply with the terms and conditions/guidelines as may be specified by Directorate from time to time. This registration would be subject to security clearance to be sought by the Directorate from the Police Department. The registration will be valid for one season/year.
2. All foreign scuba diving operators shall obtain “RAP”(Restricted Area Permit) from the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India and intimate about it to the Directorate of Tourism before undertaking diving activities in the Islands. Dive operators of Indian origin should have antecedents verification certificate from A&N Police.
3. All Scuba diving operators registered with the Directorate of Tourism should give proper receipts/bills to all the dive tourists/guest. They should maintain proper records of the tourists/guest who come for diving activities and the receipts of the fee charges from them, in the manner as may be prescribed by the Directorate of Tourism.
4. All Scuba Diving operators must have permanent office and should display the rate cards for diving activities. A copy of the rate should be submitted to the Directorate of Tourism.
5. It shall be the responsibility of the diving operators to have provision of Life Guards, Medical First Aid and specified wireless communication system to facilitate communication between the Base station and the identified sites for diving.
6. The Scuba Diving shall be permitted only in the specified areas as notified by the Directorate of Tourism and the dive centre operators should take tourists to the specified dive sites only.
7. The diving operators/centers shall ensure that all those who undergo diving activities have undertaken insurance cover. They would also bear any cost to be incurred in case of any rescue or medication during emergency.
8. No underwater photography shall be undertaken during scuba diving activities without special permission to be obtained from the Directorate of Tourism.
9. The dive centre should have on its staff at least one “Dive Instructor” means a person who is certified by internationally recognized agency like PADI, CMAS, NAUI, BASC, and SSI.

10. The dive boat driver must hold a "Powerboat handling" (PBH) certification from National Institute of Water Sports (or its equivalent). The dive boat must carry a person who holds a valid Life Saving Techniques (LST) certificate from NIWS (validity two years) or holds a valid "Medic First Aid" certification.
11. The dive centre should have a minimum of six diving sets which includes tank, regulator with pressure gauge, depth meter and dive watch or deco-computer, mask, snorkel, fins, buoyancy compensating jacket, quick release weight belt and alternate air source.
12. The dive boat must carry the following- dive flag, oars, flares, first aid kit, walkie-talkie & medical oxygen set.
13. The Dive centre/operator must possess a certificate of pressure testing from an authorized testing centre every three years, or as per rules of the Government of India regarding high pressure cylinders. This inspection is to be entered in a maintenance book along with cylinder number. Tanks are not allowed to be used twelve years after the date of manufacture.
14. The Dive Centre/operator must use only specified compressor oil. Air purifying filters to be changed as per guidelines of compressor manufacturer and filter changes entered in the compressor book along number of cylinders filled during this period. The centre must have a certificate from authorized centre for quality of output of air compressor every six months.
15. Emergency Action Plan (EAP) must be drawn up specifying actions to be initiated by various members of the dive team and support staff in case of different types of emergencies.
16. "Safety Staff" member must be available at the base stations for all sea divers.
17. The dive centers must abide by the guidelines for safe operations and environment protection that will be issued by the A&N Administration or National Institute of Water sports on behalf of Ministry of Tourism from time to time.
18. Scuba Dive is allowed at identified areas in Jollybuoy Island, Redskin Island and South Cinque Island in National Parks and sanctuaries subject to payment of prescribed fee which is Rs 500/- per person per day in respect of Indian Citizen and Rs 1000/- per person per day in respect of foreigners.
19. Scuba divers must not cause any damage to corals, marine flora and fauna.
20. Collection of corals, marine flora & fauna and other sea wealth is strictly prohibited and any violation of this will attract penal action under section 29 of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
21. There should not be any disposal of sewage or garbage in the reef areas. Divers should also not use chemicals, explosive or any other

substance, which may cause injury to marine life/wildlife or destroy its habitat.

22. Boats surveyed by M.M.D/Engineer and Ship Surveyor and registered by Deputy Commissioner (Andamans) under M.S./I.V.Act(as the case may be) shall only be allowed for scuba diving. For operations in Protected Areas these boats should have the permission of the Chief Wildlife Warden.
23. The boats should anchor at designated points only, marked by floating buoys in Marine National Park and should take all precautions to avoid any damage to coral reefs by faulty anchorage.
24. No Scuba diving training should be carried out in protected areas.
25. The scuba divers must avoid reef walking and any other damage to coral reefs.
26. All foreigners, associated with scuba dive operations, are liable to pay tax as all income accruing in India is taxable in India. Besides all persons not domiciled in India have to obtain a Clearance Certificate in Form No. 33 for leaving India.

Tax deduction at source has to be effected on salary payments, interest on securities, payments to contractors and sub-contractors, rent, fees for professional or technical services, as applicable in each case.

The liability to file the returns of Income Tax commences after completion the financial year in which the business was started. The due date for filing the returns for different categories of assesses are as follows:-

Company	30 <sup>th</sup> November
Assesses engaged in Business or Profession	31 <sup>st</sup> August
Individual having Salary Income	30 <sup>th</sup> June
Cases where compulsory auditing is required	31 <sup>st</sup> October

For a person residing in India the total income includes all incomes

- a) Received or deemed to be received in India in such year.
- b) Accrues or arises or is deemed to accrue or arise to him in India during such year
- c) Accrues or arises to him outside India during such year.

For a non-resident the total income includes all income which:-

- a) is received or is to be received in India in such year
- b) Accrues or arises or is deemed to accrue or arise to him in India during such year.

The persons operating concerns relating to the dive activities have to maintain proper book of account. Financial transactions should be made in accordance with the Income Tax Act., and if the receipt crosses Rs.40 lakhs then compulsory auditing of a chartered Accountant should be undertaken.

The prospective may obtain tax related clarification or details from the local office of the Income Tax Department at Port Blair.

27. Income Tax clearance certificate should be submitted to the Administration for registration/renewal of registration.
28. All imported equipments should be under the cover of customs duty paid-receipt.
29. In case of any T.B.R.E (Tourist Baggage Re-export Rule), the Scuba Divers will have necessary endorsement on their passport of the list of equipments.
30. The foreign Scuba divers cannot sell their equipment in India which are under T.B.R.E.
31. In case of any defaults in respect of T.B.R.E (re-exports) they are liable to pay duty at applicable rates with fine at the time of departure to their destinations.
32. All customs check will be conducted at the time of entry and exits.
33. The dive centre is liable to be inspected by any authorized official(s) from the Directorate of Tourism, A&N Administration/ Navy/Police/Coast Guard/Customs/Income tax. The dive centre operators should not object them at anytime from inspecting the dive centre, equipments, records and dive operations.
34. Those operators who bring walkie-talkies with them should obtain necessary license from the Dept. of Tele communications. Otherwise they may hire walkie-talkie sets from the Port Management Board, Port Blair.
35. Non-compliance of any or all the aforesaid conditions shall render scuba diving operators liable for cancellation of their registration, besides any other actions permissible under the law.
36. Action will be taken against dive centre operators who operate in the islands without required registration, under the laws dealing with public safety.

F.NO: 2-1/2000/TSM/PF-1

## NOTICE

### **Areas open for Scuba Diving activities in Andaman Islands**

The Andaman and Nicobar Administration has decided to open the following areas for scuba diving activities in Andaman Islands.

1. Neil Island.
2. Henry Lawrence Island.
3. John Lawrence Island.
4. Inglis Island
5. Outram Island
6. Campbell Shoal
7. East coast of South Andaman Island between North Point and Chidiyatapu with the exception of Ross Island, main channel to the Harbour, Phoenix Bay, Chatham, Haddo/I.N.Jetty, FDN-1 and Brichgunj.
8. East and south coasts of Rutland island outside the Marine National Park.
9. Cinque Island and on shallow sites or around barren rocks in open sea upto but not including Passage Island.
10. North Wandoor to the north and outside the Marine National Park and shallow open sea areas such as Allen patches, north of Tarmugli Island.
11. Havelock Island excluding Havelock jetty and Radhanagar beach and on shallow sites and barren rocks in open sea such as pilot Reef and Minerva Ledge. Of the above places No. 2,3,5,9 & 10 are Marine National Park/Wildlife Sanctuary and entry to such areas are subject to permission from the Chief Wildlife Warden, Diving will not be permitted within 50 mts from the shore of the island coming under Marine National Park/Wildlife Sanctuary. No landing will be permitted on North Cinque Island and other island coming under the Marine National Park/Wildlife Sanctuary. The fees for entering the Wildlife Sanctuary and National Park/Wildlife Sanctuary. The fees for entering the Wildlife Sanctuary and National Park, operating a boat and diving are prescribed under rules 28 (3) and 28 (7) of Wildlife (Protection) Andaman and Nicobar Rules, 1973. The entry fee prescribed for each person is Rs. 10/- per day fee for operating a boat ranges from Rs.5000/- to Rs. 20,000/- per annum depending on the capacity of the boat and for scuba diving the fee is Rs. 500/- per person per day for Indian citizens and Rs. 1000/- per person per day in respect of foreigners.

Only scuba dive operators registered with the A&N Administration will be permitted to dive/take tourists for diving in the above areas subject to the fulfillment of the guidelines/terms and conditions notified vide No. 2-1/2000-TSM (PF-1) dt.20<sup>th</sup> Jan, 2001. This will be applicable for visiting yachts also.

Director (IP&T)

