



SOP FOR VEHICLES GOING TO PICNIC SPOTS AND PILGRIM PLACES IN ODISHA



**COMMERCE & TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA**



1. Introduction:

Odisha had reported 5,467 road fatalities in 11,663 road accidents in 2022 as against 5,081 deaths in 10,983 accidents in the year 2021.

From the month of November to February, winter season and picnic activities contribute to an increase in the road accidents and fatalities. Therefore, in the upcoming months, Odisha aims to achieve a significant reduction in the road accident-related casualties thorough rigorous enforcement measures specially, at the picnic spots and pilgrim places. During winters, these are the areas that often attract increased traffic as people move outdoors for recreational activities. The influx of visitors may lead to congested roads, parking challenges and higher risk of accidents. Furthermore, individuals engaged in recreational activities near picnic spots may be less attentive to traffic rules or may engage in activities that distract them from their surroundings, contributing to a higher likelihood of accidents. It is crucial for both drivers and pedestrians to be mindful of their surroundings, adhere to safety guidelines and exercise caution to prevent accidents in these popular recreational areas. Accident statistics during the months of December and January for last Four years is indicated below:

Sl. No.	Year	Road Accident Fatalities		Total	Total fatalities in the Year	* % of fatalities during December and January to total fatalities.
		December	January			
1	2019	444	564	1008	5333	19
2	2020	596	504	1100	4738	23
3	2021	528	503	1031	5081	26
4	2022	529	462	991	5467	18

* Higher numbers of fatalities during these months are evident as reflected in the table.

2. Detailed Action Plan:

To enhance safety during excursions and trips to picnic spots, comprehensive measures will be instituted to regulate the operation of buses and other vehicles.

a) Vehicle and RTO related activities:

- Vehicle owners must have Special Permit from the concerned RTO before engaging their vehicles for such trips.
- Vehicles of which the Fitness Certificate is in-force shall only be permitted by concerned authority.
- At major picnic spots, posters will be displayed indicating testimonials from accident victims/ family members with accidents photos. The contents of the poster will be provided by the Transport Commissioner and shared with the districts.

b) Collaboration with Different Agencies:

- State Pollution Control Board has started a campaign of **Plastic Free Picnic Spot** in the State. Transport Department will collaborate with State Pollution Control Board and distribute Leaflets, pamphlets with road safety messages and testimonials/ appeal of road accident victims' family at the picnic spots.
- Awareness activities including Street Plays may be organized at the picnic spots with the support of local NGOs.
- PRI members to be sensitised to have oversight at the picnic spots in the respective areas.

c) Police related activities:

- Police personnel shall conduct thorough inspection of vehicles near the picnic spots/ pilgrim places to identify and prevent the transportation of hazardous or dangerous or objectionable materials like: Cooking Gas, K. Oil, Crackers etc.

- The objective is to prevent accidents that could result from the improper transport of hazardous substances and to safeguard the overall well-being of individuals.
- As decided in the review meeting, the Director General of Police will be requested to issue instructions to the District Authorities to deploy Police personnel near each picnic spot.

3. Joint activities by RTO & Police:

a) Stringent Enforcement against Overloading:

- In a collaborative effort between RTOs and Police personnel, stringent enforcement shall be conducted to address the issue of overloading of passengers and ensure safe transport.
- Transport Department Officials / Inspectors shall periodically conduct checks at picnic spots to verify compliance with the applicable MV Acts and Rules.
- RTOs shall actively participate in regulating and monitoring the carrying capacity of vehicles during the permitting process. Simultaneously, police personnel shall conduct routine inspections at checkpoints to enforce these restrictions near the picnic spots/pilgrim places.
- The collective aim is to prevent accidents and enhance overall road safety by ensuring that vehicles comply with their designated carrying capacities.

b) Breath Analyser at Entry and Exit Points:

- Enforcement against drunken driving shall be conducted with full strength. Police in association with staff of RTO to use breath analyzers at the entry and exit points of important picnic spots and pilgrim places (list annexed as **Annexure-1** as notified by the State Pollution Control Board, Odisha) to identify instances of drunken driving which is a significant contributor to road accidents.
- The person found driving under influence of alcohol shall be punishable u/s 185 of MV Act. The driver shall be immediately arrested and their driving license shall be impounded. The owner shall arrange alternative driver for

continuation of the trip The driver details shall also be forwarded to the Hon'ble Court for adjudication.

- In case of driving without a driving license, the vehicle must be detained and the owner shall arrange alternative driver for continuation of the trip.

c) Auto Rickshaws can not be utilized beyond the terms/conditions allowed in the permit.

d) Parking Space:

- Recognizing the importance of adequate parking infrastructure, all Collectors and SPs shall ensure that there is sufficient space for parking at picnic spots and pilgrim sites.
- These measures will address the challenges posed by congestion and limited parking availability, contributing to smoother traffic flow, and minimizing disruptions.

e) Emergency Response:

- Vehicle owners shall put the name and contact number of at least one person from their group inside the vehicle to facilitate communication in case of emergencies.
- RTOs to develop and implement emergency response plans in collaboration with local authorities to address the road accidents or emergency occurring in transit or at picnic spots.
- Collectors and SPs to ensure that emergency contact information including ambulance services and police stations is prominently displayed at picnic spots/ pilgrim centers.

f) Reporting and Evaluation:

- RTOs shall make a brief documentation of the activities taken up for future analysis and guidance. .

4. Vehicle related activities:

a) Designated Driver Assistant/Helper:

- During long distance journeys to picnic spots and pilgrimages, all HMVs shall have a designated driver assistant or helper to support the driver especially during extended travel periods.

b) Mandatory First Aid Box:

- As a proactive measure for emergency preparedness, vehicle owners/drivers shall carry a First Aid box in their vehicles. This requirement ensures that essential medical supplies are readily available in the event of an emergency.
- The First Aid box should contain basic medical supplies to address injuries or health related issues that may arise during the travel.

5. IEC Activities:

Transport Commissioner will organise the awareness drive throughout the State.

6. Provision of Funds:

For implementation of the above activities, RTOs will be provided with funds as per the following:

SI No	Criteria	Funds to be placed
1	Districts with more than 10 CD Blocks	Rs. 1.00 lakh
2	Districts with 7 to 10 CD Blocks	Rs. 75,000/-
3.	Districts with less than 7 CD Blocks	Rs. 50,000/-

In addition to above, for additional funds the RTOs may request the Transport Commissioner. Transport Commissioner will examine the requirement.

Annexure-1*

SI No.	District	Location
1	Angul	Kukudadarah
		Ketakijharan
		Beulajhar Matha, (Talchar)
		Derejang Dam, (Angul)
		Belpunji Matha
2	Balasore	Bichitrapur, Bhograi
		Rissia, Kuldhia Wild Life Sanctuary
		Chandipur, Balasore
3	Baragarh	Deodhar Siva Temple, Padampur
		Nrusinghanath Temple, Paikmal
		Pathaseni Temple (Hirakud Reservoir Area), Ambabhona
		Baishnidevi Temple,Turunga, Bargarh
4	Bhadrak	Eram, Bhadrak Block Head Quarter
		Gohiratikiri, Bhadrak Block Head Quarter
		Adampur, Bhadrak Block Head Quarter
5	Bolangir	Bhimadungi Eco-Tourium
		Gaikhai Ecotourism
		Kumudapahad
6	Boudh	Ramgarh
		Balasingha
		Kularikudh
7	Cuttack	Dabarkhol
		Mahavinayak Temple, Chandikhole
		Chandikhol,Champurjhar
		Duburi
		Ashokjhar, Sukinda

		Saranda Hilltop
		Ansupa Deojhar
		Chandikhol Ollasuni, Balichandrapur
		Sukinda Dhaltangarh
8	Deogarh	Kurudkote Waterfall
		Bhai Bhauni Waterfall
		Thango Dam
		Rangana
		Bhamamandali
		Pradhanpat Waterfall
		Deojharan Waterfall
		Guguda Waterfall
9	Dhenkanal	Sapua
		Saptasajya
		Dandhadhar
10	Gajapati	Gandahati Waterfall
		Mahendragiri Hill
		Taptapani
11	Ganjam	Kankandevi, Behtanai Square, On Sh33
		Khuteswari, Near Sorada Reservoir (Dam)
		Black Buck Nature Camp (Saluapali), Near Mudulipalli, Nh-157
		Giant Squirrel Nature Camp, Near Saluapalli, Kaliamba Village
		Ghodahada Ecotourism
		Sonapur Beach Site
		Narayani Temple
		Budhakhol, Near Budhagiri Bidya Pitha, Buguda
		Black Buck, Nature Camp Near Cheramaria, Nh-59

12	Jharsuguda	Chandi Mandir, Brajaraj Nagar
		Rampaluga Hirakud Reservoir Area, Bagmunda, Lakhanpur Block Head Quater
		Kolilighughar Waterfall, Gobindpur Tollgate Lakhanpur Block
		Eco-Park Malimunda, Jharsuguda Town
13	Kalahandi	Sindher Waterfall, Th. Rampur
		Dokrichanchara, Koksara, Ampani
		Hello Point, Th. Rampur
		Rabandhara, Lanjigarh, Bhawanipatna Sadar
		Sospadar, Lanjigarh, Bhawanipatna Sadar
		Manikera, M Rampur
14	Kandhamal	Mandasaru
		Sirki
		Pokada Jhar
		Nature Park
		Medubandha Waterfall
		Ludu Waterfall
15	Keonjhar	Hadagarh
		Gadachandi
		Chakratirtha
		Gundichaghagi
		Remal Dam Site
		Gunduchaghagi Waterfall
		Badaghagra Waterfall
		Sanaghagra Waterfall
		Khandadhar Waterfall(Keonjhar Side)
16	Khordha	Maa Tarini Temple
		Maa Biraja Temple
		Kosalasuni Temple

		Bhuiani Temple
		Madangiri Temple
		Maninag Temple
		Asurkumari Temple
		Khilamunda Temple
		Ugaratara Temple
		Pandabasuni Temple
		Kalijai Temple
		Mangalajodi
17	Koraput	Nageswar Caves, Balda
		Gupteswar, Baipariguda
		Raniduduma, Nandapur
		Deomali Hiltop, Pottangi
17	Mayurbhanj	Hatibari, Jamsola
		Tindharia, Near Saradha, Karanjia
		Uski Waterfall, Similipal
		Joranda Waterfall, Similipal
		Lulung, Similipal
		Bramanikunda, Bangriposi
		Manchabandha-Near Salbani Frh, Baripada
		Asurghaty, Rairangpur
		Khadakhai, Rairangpur
		Bankbal Dam, Bijatala
		Kaliaghaty, Near Chadheipahadi Village
		Nesa Dam ,Bahalda
		Bhimkund Eco Tourism, Thakurmunda
		Bhairav Kunda
		Barehipani Waterfall, Similipal
		Sitakund, Similipal
		Devkund, Similipal

		Jambira Reservoir Deuli Picnic Spot, Baripada
		Devkund Picnic Spot, Similipal
		Badjod Reservoir Picnic Spot, Betnoti
18	Nabarangpur	Chandandhara, Jharigaon
		Keliua Shiv Temple, Jharigaon
		Mangaldora, Tentulikhuti
19	Nayagarh	Simili Jhara
		Jogijogiani
20	Nuapada	Godhus Waterfall Nuapada, Lodra
		Orenjhola Wasterfall
		Beniadhush Waterfall, Komna, Soseng
		Kharaldhus Waterfall, Komna, Jalmadei
		Patora, Nuapada, Patora
		Tikhali, Komna, Kulihaon
21	Puri	Palanga Vss Beladala Aera
		Lotus Hotel Aera
		Near Light House
		Jahania
		Gangadevi
		Rajhans
22	Rayagada	Minajhola Shiv Temple, Gudari
		Chatikona, Muniguda
		Halva, Rayagada
23	Sambalpur	Govindpur, Bamra
		Pitapali, Jamadarpali
		Zero Point, Hirakud Dam (Burla)
		Dhodrokusum, Hirakud Dam (Burla)
		Debajharan, Jujomura
24	Sonepur	Singhjurikata, Lachhipur, Sonepur Block
		Hariharjore, Rampur, Dunguripali Block

		Puja Dunguri, Patali Shri Khetra, Ullunda Block
25	Sundergarh	Vaishnodevi Temple, Rourkela Town
		Akshaya Shila, Bisra Town
		Pitamahal Dam, Vedvyas Chowk
		Mandira Dam, Rajgangpur Block
		Kansbahal Dam, Rajgangpur Block
		Deomul Waterfall, Rajgangpur Block
		Deodhar, Darjing Chowk
		Bramani River, Darjiling Darjing Chowk
		Tensa Nature Camp, Tensa Chowk
		Rukura Dam, Bonai Town
		Hanuman Vatika, Rourkela Town
		Vedvyas Dham, Vedvyas Chowk
		Chhengapahad Natural Arc Heritage Site, Hemgir Block
		Sarafgarh Nature Camp, Lephripada Block
		Ushakothi Cave, Lephripada Block
		Khandadhar Waterfall/Nature Camp, Barsuan Town

*The above list is illustrative. The list is notified by the State Pollution control Board, Odisha. These locations are to be focussed.

