

MAY 2026



**MINISTRY OF TOURISM
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

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ABBREVIATIONS

S. N.	Abbreviation	Full Form
1	AAD	Automatic Activation Device
	ABVIMAS	Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Mountaineering and Allied Sports
2	ACCT	Association for Challenge Course Technology
3	AED	Automated External Defibrillator
4	AHA	American Heart Association
5	AMS	Acute Mountain Sickness
6	ANSI	American National Standards Institute
7	AR	Augmented Reality
8	ASTM	American Society for Testing and Materials
9	ATC	Air Traffic Control
10	ATV	All-Terrain Vehicle
11	ATOs	Adventure Tourism Operators
12	ATOAI	Adventure Tour Operators Association of India
13	AWBI	Animal Welfare Board of India
14	BERSA	Bungee Entrepreneurs and Riders Safety Association
15	BHS	British Horse Society
16	BIS	Bureau of Indian Standards
17	CO ₂	Carbon Dioxide
18	CIA	Community Impact Assessment
19	CPSC	Consumer Product Safety Commission
20	CPR	Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
21	CRZ	Coastal Regulation Zone
22	DAN	Divers Alert Network
23	DHV	Deutscher Hängegleiterverband / German Hang Gliding Association
24	DOT	Department of Transportation
25	DGCA	Directorate General of Civil Aviation
26	DSWS	Digital Single Window System
27	ECE	Economic Commission for Europe
28	EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
29	EMP	Environment Management Plan
30	EMS	Emergency Medical Services
31	ERP	Emergency Response Plan
32	FEI	Fédération Équestre Internationale
33	FPIC	Free, Prior and Informed Consent
34	GOI	Government of India
35	GPS	Global Positioning System
36	GRIHA	Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment
37	GSTC	Global Sustainable Tourism Council
38	HACE	High-Altitude Cerebral Edema

S. N.	Abbreviation	Full Form
39	HAPE	High-Altitude Pulmonary Edema
40	HIRA	Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment
41	HMI	Himalayan Mountaineering Institute
42	ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
43	ICAR	International Commission for Alpine Rescue
44	IFMGA	International Federation of Mountain Guides Associations
45	IMCA	International Marine Contractors Association
46	IMD	India Meteorological Department
47	IMF	Indian Mountaineering Foundation
48	IMO	International Maritime Organization
49	INR	Indian Rupee
50	IPC	Indian Penal Code
51	IRF	International Rafting Federation
52	ISA	International Surfing Association
53	ISO	International Organization for Standardization
54	IT	Information Technology
55	LNT	Leave No Trace
56	MoT	Ministry of Tourism
57	NDMA	National Disaster Management Authority
58	NDRF	National Disaster Response Force
59	NFZ	No-Fly Zone
60	NIM	Nehru Institute of Mountaineering
61	NIOSH	National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
62	NIWS	National Institute of Water Sports
63	O ₂	Oxygen
64	OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
65	PADI	Professional Association of Diving Instructors
66	PFD	Personal Flotation Device
67	PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
68	PRCA	Professional Ropes Course Association
69	RPWD Act	Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act
70	RYA	Royal Yachting Association
71	SANZ	Standards Australia New Zealand
72	SATDR	State Adventure Tourism Data Repository
73	SATRA	State Adventure Tourism Regulatory Authority
74	SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
75	SHG	Self-Help Group
76	SMS	Safety Management System
77	SOLAS	Safety of Life at Sea
78	SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
79	SPL	Student Pilot License

S. N.	Abbreviation	Full Form
80	SPRAT	Society of Professional Rope Access Technicians
81	SSI	Scuba Schools International
82	STCI	Sustainable Tourism Criteria for India
83	SUP	Stand-Up Paddleboarding
84	TEK	Traditional Ecological Knowledge
85	TSO	Technical Standard Order
86	UIAA	International Climbing and Mountaineering Federation
87	UN	United Nations
88	UNCRPD	United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
89	USLA	United States Lifesaving Association
90	USPA	United States Parachute Association
91	UTATRA	Union Territory Adventure Tourism Regulatory Authority
92	WCAG	Web Content Accessibility Guidelines
93	WFR	Wilderness First Responder
94	WMO	World Meteorological Organization
95	WRSTC	World Recreational Scuba Training Council

Preamble

Adventure tourism represents a dynamic and rapidly expanding segment of the global tourism industry, characterized by its provision of unique outdoor experiences that engage participants in exhilarating activities amidst nature. This sector not only enhances the recreational offerings available to travellers but also fosters heightened environmental awareness and contributes significantly to the economic development of our country. To safeguard the interests of adventure tourists, protect our natural ecosystems, and promote responsible and ethical business practices within this sector, we hereby present the model “**Adventure Tourism Safety Framework**”. This legislation serves as a guiding framework for state authorities to implement regulations and standards that ensure safety, sustainability and quality in adventure tourism activities.

Part 1 – PRELIMINARY

1. Title

This Act shall be known as the “Adventure Tourism Safety Regulation Act.”

2. Commencement

This Act shall come into force on 10/05/2026.

3. Definitions

In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires:

3.1. "Act"

Refers to the *Adventure Tourism Safety Regulation Act, 2026*.

3.2. "Adventure Activity"

Encompasses any activity that meets the following criteria:

- a) It is provided to a participant in exchange for payment.
- b) It is classified as either land-based or water-based.
- c) Air-based activities shall be governed as per the National Air Sports Guidelines, 2023, issued by the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India. The Ministry of Tourism shall adopt these guidelines and take action accordingly for the regulation, promotion and oversight of air-based adventure activities falling under its domain.
- d) It involves guidance, instruction or assistance provided to the participant.
- e) Its primary aim is to deliver recreational or educational experience to the participants.

- f) It is designed to expose the participant to a serious risk to their health and safety, which must be managed by the provider. This includes:
 - i. A failure in the provider's management systems (e.g., operational procedure failures or inadequate equipment) is likely to result in serious health and safety risks for the participant; or
 - ii. The participant being deliberately placed in dangerous terrains or hazardous waters.

3.3. Exclusions from Adventure Activity

For the purposes of this Act, the term “**adventure activity**” shall *not* include the following activities, which are explicitly excluded from its scope:

a) **Instructional or Equipment-Oriented Activities:**

Activities which are limited to the sale, rental, demonstration, or basic instruction of equipment, without actual outdoor adventure engagement or associated physical risks.

b) **Passenger Ropeways and Transport Systems:**

Use of cable cars, gondolas, funiculars, chairlifts, or similar mechanized systems intended solely for transportation, without any adventure component.

c) **Amusement and Mechanical Rides:**

Operation of amusement park rides, mechanical simulators, water slides, or similar entertainment-oriented devices within controlled or enclosed environments.

d) **Indoor Climbing and Abseiling Activities:**

Climbing or abseiling is undertaken exclusively in indoor environments, including climbing gyms, activity centers and simulation facilities.

e) **Ice Skating and Roller-Skating on Artificial Surfaces:**

Ice skating, roller-skating, or similar activities conducted on artificial, synthetic, or indoor surfaces.

f) **Indoor or Patrolled Snow-based Activities:**

Snow-related recreational activities conducted indoors or within designated, patrolled ski areas or terrain parks under formal supervision.

g) **Motorized Recreational Activities within Enclosed or Controlled Environments:**

Recreational use of motorized vehicles, such as all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), snowmobiles, go-karts, or jet skis, when operated exclusively within enclosed

circuits, tracks, or similar controlled settings, unless they form part of a regulated adventure itinerary.

h) Water-based Recreational Activities in Artificial or Controlled Settings:

Swimming, snorkeling, diving, or similar activities performed in swimming pools, artificial wave pools, or similar controlled aquatic facilities under lifeguard supervision.

i) Urban Walking, Leisure Tours, and Sightseeing Activities:

Guided or self-guided walking tours, cultural excursions, city sightseeing, and similar leisure activities conducted within urban, semi-urban, or otherwise developed environments where minimal physical or environmental hazards are present.

j) Equestrian Activities Conducted within Controlled or Enclosed Areas:

Horseback riding, pony rides, or similar activities conducted exclusively within arenas, paddocks, or enclosed instructional facilities.

k) Conventional Sports, Fitness, and Indoor Recreation Activities:

Traditional sports, gym-based fitness programs, yoga, boot camps, or obstacle courses conducted within enclosed sports or fitness facilities lacking significant outdoor elements or physical risk exposure.

l) Recreational Cycling on Paved or Sealed Roads:

Cycling activities conducted solely on paved urban streets, dedicated cycling lanes, or similar developed pathways devoid of rugged terrain or wilderness exposure.

m) Dry Ski Slopes and Synthetic Toboggan Runs:

Activities involving artificial ski slopes, dry skiing surfaces, or synthetic toboggan runs within managed recreational settings.

n) Playground and Low-height Recreational Structures:

Use of playground equipment, including swings, slides, and low-height rope courses (not exceeding 3 meters in elevation), designed for general public recreation.

o) Virtual Reality (VR), Augmented Reality (AR), and Simulation-based Experiences:

Activities involving virtual reality, augmented reality, or digital simulations that replicate adventure sports but do not involve actual outdoor engagement or exposure to physical risks.

p) **Social Events, Picnics, and Recreational Gatherings:**

Organized leisure activities such as picnics, social gatherings, or similar events, irrespective of location, that are not designed or intended as adventure activities.

3.4. Club Activities Exemption

Adventure activities provided by adventure/sports or recreation clubs shall not be subject to regulation when:

- a) The activity is conducted exclusively for members of that club.
- b) The activity is made available to members of other clubs through formal agreements aimed at fostering collaboration and participation.
- c) Non-members may participate in activities under the following conditions:
 - The activity primarily serves to promote interest in club membership or showcase the club's offerings or is intended solely for competitive purposes.

3.5. Association Activities Exemption

Adventure activities organized by associations representing sports or recreation clubs shall be exempt if:

- a) The activity is designed for members of the association or its affiliated clubs.
- b) Members of other associations or adventure/sports/recreation clubs may participate under reciprocal agreements that enhance cooperation and engagements.
- c) Non-members may participate in these activities under the following stipulations:
 - The activity is aimed at promoting membership or interest in the association's initiatives or is solely for competitive purposes.

3.6. Educational Institution Exemption

Adventure activities conducted by accredited educational institutions, including schools and tertiary education providers, shall not be regulated when:

- a) The activities are exclusively for enrolled students of the institution.
- b) Activities are available to students from other institutions based on formal agreements fostering educational collaboration.
- c) Non-students can participate under the following conditions:
 - The activity is designed to stimulate interest in the institution's programs or encourage potential student enrollment.

3.7. Adventure Activity Operator/Provider

The term "Adventure Activity Operator" means an **Operator**, as defined in Section 3.8, who offers or conducts one or more specific adventure activities; "Adventure Tourism Activity Provider" means a **Provider**, as defined in Section 3.9, who offers, organizes, or facilitates broader adventure tourism activities, services, or packages.

- 3.8. "Operator"** means any person, company, partnership, or organization that manages, organizes, supervises, or is directly responsible for conducting adventure tourism activities, either independently or in collaboration with other entities, whether for profit or not-for-profit.

Exclusions: The term "Operator" shall not include:

- i. Volunteer groups or associations conducting activities without commercial intent;
- ii. Sports or recreation clubs providing activities exclusively for their members; or
- iii. Registered schools, colleges, or tertiary education institutions conducting such activities solely as part of their academic or training programs.

Provided that the entities listed under sub-clauses (i) to (iii) shall not engage in or derive any commercial benefit from said adventure tourism activities.

- 3.9. "Provider"** means any person, company, or organization engaged in the direct delivery of adventure tourism activities to tourists, either independently or in partnership with others, whether for profit or not-for-profit.

Exclusions: The term "Provider" shall not include:

- i. Volunteer groups or associations conducting activities without commercial intent;
- ii. Sports or recreation clubs providing activities exclusively for their members; or
- iii. Registered schools, colleges, or tertiary education providers conducting activities solely as part of their curriculum or educational programs.

Provided that the entities listed under sub-clauses (i) to (iii) shall not engage in any form of commercial activity or operate for commercial gain in connection with said adventure tourism activities.

3.10. Adventure Guide, Instructor and Facilitator

An Adventure Guide, Instructor and Facilitator are certified professionals who lead outdoor adventure activities ensuring participant safety. They must have relevant certifications in outdoor skills and first aid practical experience in specific activities and knowledge of the terrain including water environment. Adventure Guides implement safety measures, follow local regulations, communicate safety instructions, promote

responsible practices and are trained in emergency response to handle unforeseen situations effectively.

3.11. Adventure Tourism Site

An Adventure Tourism Site is a designated location that offers outdoor activities on both land and water, providing thrilling experiences in natural settings. Land activities may include trekking, rock climbing, and mountain biking, while water activities can involve white-water rafting, kayaking and scuba diving. These sites are equipped with safety measures and infrastructure to support various adventures, emphasizing environmental sustainability and community engagement.

3.12. Malpractice

Refers to the operation of adventure tourism activities by individuals or entities:

- a) Without a Certificate of Registration.
- b) Without requisite safety equipment and infrastructure.
- c) Using substandard, uncertified equipment.
- d) Using untrained or uncertified Adventure Guides.
- e) Failing to comply with orders from a competent authority.

3.13. Government

Means the Government of the States/UTs of _____.

3.14. Official Gazette

Refers to the Gazette of the States/UTs.

3.15. Adventure Tourist

Adventure tourist refers to any individual or group, including pilgrims, visiting a destination from any part of India or abroad, whose primary purpose is not employment in the place of visit. This type of tourism involves travel and exploration that pushes individuals beyond their comfort zones, often in remote or exotic locations. It typically includes a blend of physical activities, cultural exchanges, and interactions with the nature.

3.16. Tourism Department

Refers to the department of the States/UTs Government responsible for tourism.

3.17. Registrar

Refers to the *State Adventure Tourism Regulatory Authority* responsible for overseeing registration and regulation under this Act.

3.18. Register

Signifies the official register of adventure activity operators maintained under this Act.

3.19. Safety Audit Standard

Refers to any safety audit standards published under this Act, including amendments.

3.20. Safety Auditor

Refers to the *State Adventure Tourism Regulatory Authority* responsible for conducting safety audits.

3.21. Certificate of Registration

Denotes the certificate issued by the registering authority in accordance with this Act.

3.22. Registration

Refers to the process of registering an adventure activity operator under the relevant provisions of this Act.

3.23. Worker

Refers to any individual engaged in work for an Operator, including but not limited to:

- a) Employees.
- b) Contractors and subcontractors.
- c) Employees of contractors or subcontractors.
- d) Employees of a labor hire company assigned to the business.
- e) Out-workers (e.g., adventure guides, trek leaders).
- f) Licensed foreign guides pre-approved by SATRAs.
- g) Apprentices or trainees.
- h) Volunteer workers.

3.24. Volunteer

For the purposes of this Act, a volunteer is defined as an individual who engages in work for an Operator with the knowledge or consent of the Operator, regularly and consistently, and is an integral part of the business. This definition excludes volunteers participating in the following activities:

- a) Fundraising events.
- b) Assisting with sports or recreation for educational institutions, sports clubs, or recreation clubs.
- c) Activities outside the educational institution for educational purposes.
- d) Providing personal care for individuals within the volunteer's home.

Part 2 - GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

4. State Adventure Tourism Regulatory Authority (SATRA)

4.1. Establishment of the Authority

In alignment with the decentralized governance framework for adventure tourism in India, an authority shall be established in each State and Union Territory, to be known as the **State Adventure Tourism Regulatory Authority (SATRA)** or **Union Territory Adventure Tourism Regulatory Authority (UTATRA)**, as applicable.

Note: - *State Adventure Tourism Regulatory Authority (SATRA) referred to all the States and UTs of India*

SATRA/UTATRA shall serve as the apex regulatory, enforcement and promotional bodies within their respective jurisdictions for all matters related to adventure tourism.

4.2. Constitution and Legal Status

4.2.1. The Authority shall be constituted through an official notification by the respective State Government or Union Territory Administration and shall:

- a) Possess perpetual succession and a common seal.
- b) Have the legal capacity to:
 - i. Initiate or defend legal proceedings in its name.
 - ii. Acquire, hold, manage, and dispose of movable and immovable property.
 - iii. Secure loans and enter into financial arrangements.
 - iv. Enter into binding contracts.
 - v. Perform all acts necessary to discharge its statutory responsibilities under this Act and any other functions lawfully assigned to it by the State Government.

4.3. Object and Purpose of the Authority

The primary object and purpose of the Authority shall be to oversee, regulate, and promote adventure tourism activities within the State or Union Territory. It shall ensure:

- a) Strict adherence to nationally prescribed safety, sustainability and quality standards.
- b) The promotion of responsible and inclusive tourism practices.
- c) The protection of tourists, service providers, local communities and the natural environment through comprehensive regulation and monitoring.

4.4. Role of SATRAs and UTATRAs

As the principal regulatory, implementation, and coordination body at the State or UT level, the Authority shall:

- a) Operate in close coordination with the Ministry of Tourism.
- b) Enforce the provisions of the Adventure Tourism Safety Law within its jurisdiction.

- c) Monitor compliance, grant approvals, and undertake periodic audits and safety reviews.
- d) Develop guidelines, facilitate stakeholder capacity building, and foster innovation and sustainability in adventure tourism practices.
- e) Act as a nodal point for inter-agency collaboration, data management, grievance redressal incident and continuous improvement in adventure tourism governance.

4.5. Functions of SATRAs and UTATRAs

4.5.1. Policy Implementation and Regional Adaptation

- a) Formulate comprehensive guidelines and establish measures aimed at fostering safe and sustainable practices in the establishment and operation of adventure tourism activities in the States/UTs.
- b) Adopt and effectively enforce national model guidelines, frameworks and templates including the Model Adventure Tourism Safety Law issued by the Ministry of Tourism, while adapting them to suit the specific regional, geographical, environmental and socio-cultural needs of the State/UT.
- c) Formulate and notify **State/UT-specific Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)**, licensing norms, regulatory procedures and safety codes, aligning with national benchmarks while addressing local geographical, environmental and socio-cultural conditions.
- d) Develop and implement a **State-level Code of Practice** specifically tailored to the adventure tourism sector to promote safe, sustainable, and responsible tourism operations.
- e) Participate in the **National Registry of Adventure Operators & Instructors** coordinated by the Ministry of Tourism to enable cross-verification, ensure uniformity in certifications, and maintain national-level data standards.
- f) Submit **annual safety and sustainability audit reports** to the State Government and share the same with the Ministry of Tourism to contribute to national policy reviews and improvements and maintain a registry of incidents.

4.5.2. Regulation, Accreditation and Licensing

- a) Maintain a verified and updated registry of all licensed Adventure Tourism Operators (ATOs), instructors, guides and service providers within the state/UT.
- b) Maintain a system for the registration, licensing, and grading of all entities involved in adventure tourism activities and services.

- c) Grant or recommend accreditation, licensing and renewals based on the criteria prescribed by the MoT.
- d) Regulate all adventure tourism activities and services to ensure compliance with safety and sustainability standards.
- e) Ensure routine compliance audits, site inspections and performance assessments of registered adventure entities.

4.5.3. Safety Oversight and Incident Management

- a) Establish a State/UT Adventure Tourism Safety Review Committee responsible for monitoring safety compliance, investigating **incidents** and recommending penal action in case of violations.
- b) Implement a robust and transparent **incident reporting system** for accidents, near- miss events and emergencies, with timely submission to the MoT.
- c) Establish a **State/UT Adventure Tourism Rescue and Emergency Communication Grid** in collaboration with: District administration, Forest and wildlife authorities, Disaster management agencies, Police, defense, and paramilitary forces (where required); coordinate search and rescue operations in collaboration with district administration, forest/wildlife departments, disaster management authorities and specialized agencies.
- d) Integrate adventure tourism emergency response mechanisms with the State Disaster Management Plan (SDMP), ensuring:
 - i. Joint training and simulation exercises with disaster and rescue authorities.
 - ii. Harmonized protocols for search and rescue, medical evacuation, and crisis management in adventure zones.
 - iii. Specialized arrangements for remote, high-altitude, border, and ecologically sensitive regions.
- e) Continuously monitor and evaluate adventure tourism activities and services to facilitate ongoing improvements and adherence to safety and sustainability standards.

4.5.4. Training, Capacity Building, and Certification

- a) Organize and promote training programs, certification courses and refresher workshops for operators, instructors and frontline personnel in collaboration with regional and national institutions.
- b) Ensure all certified personnel receive training in first aid, CPR, wilderness survival, risk mitigation, equipment handling and region-specific protocols.

- c) Build and maintain a State/UT-level database of certified institutes and human resources in the adventure tourism sector.

4.5.5. Promotion of Responsible and Inclusive Adventure Tourism

- a) Develop and implement state/UT-level promotional strategies aligned with national branding to position the region as a safe, sustainable and accessible adventure tourism destination.
- b) Encourage adoption of eco-friendly practices, gender inclusivity and local community participation in adventure tourism operations.
- c) Support community-led micro-enterprises and tribal/rural adventure experiences while ensuring adherence to safety standards.

4.5.6. Monitoring, Evaluation and Coordination with the Ministry of Tourism

- a) Conduct annual assessments and audits of adventure tourism activities and services, preparing a detailed annual report on the status of the sector in consultation with government entities and relevant stakeholders.
- b) Submit periodic (preferably quarterly) compliance and progress reports to the MoT, including data on training, operations, safety and outreach.
- c) Nominate a dedicated State/UT Adventure Tourism Nodal Officer for official communication and coordination with the MoT and other states/UTs.
- d) Participate in national-level policy consultations, capacity-building initiatives and review meetings convened by the MoT
- e) The Government shall present the annual report prepared as above to the State Assembly as soon as practicable after its publication - during a session or within twenty-one days of its next meeting.

4.5.7. Public Grievance Redressal and Tourist Support

- a) Establish a state/UT-level grievance redressal mechanism for tourists, operators and citizens concerning safety, service quality and regulatory issues.
- b) Operate a dedicated helpline or digital support system for adventure tourism queries, complaints and emergency reporting.
- c) Ensure transparent documentation and publication of safety audits, operator blacklists, resolved grievances and advisories.

4.5.8. Environmental and Disaster Risk Integration

- a) Ensure all adventure tourism activities align with state/UT-level disaster management plans, forest and wildlife regulations and environmental norms.

- b) Obtain and monitor necessary environmental, tribal and forest clearances in coordination with relevant departments.
- c) Promote climate-resilient tourism planning and responsible visitor behaviour in ecologically fragile zones.

4.5.9. Stakeholder Engagement and Advisory Consultations

- a) Actively engage relevant stakeholders - government departments, industry associations, training institutions, academic experts, local communities and civil society - through consultations, expert panels and joint task forces.
- b) Facilitate participatory planning, policy feedback, and localized problem-solving to ensure inclusive and grounded development of adventure tourism.
- c) Encourage collaboration for research, innovation, safety innovation and community engagement projects in the field of adventure tourism.

4.5.10. Data Management and Knowledge Building

- a) Collect, analyse and share region-specific data on adventure activities, participation trends, risk patterns, economic impact and environmental footprints.
- b) Support research studies, pilot projects, case documentation and dissemination of best practices in partnership with academic and training institutions.
- c) Maintain a digital knowledge repository or dashboard integrated with the national portal maintained by the MoT.
- d) Undertake any additional functions deemed necessary and ancillary to the objectives for which the Authority has been established.

4.5.11. Multi-Agency Coordination and Policy Alignment

The Authority shall institutionalize multi-agency coordination for policy development and regulatory alignment, by:

- a) Establishing collaboration among key Departments, including not limited to: Tourism, Environment and Climate Change, Forests and Wildlife, Legal Affairs, Home.
- b) Ensuring adventure tourism policies, licensing norms, and safety standards are harmonized with:
 - i. State-level environmental protection regulations.
 - ii. Wildlife and forest conservation laws.
 - iii. Regional safety and tourism development plans.
- c) Organizing periodic inter-departmental consultations, policy reviews, and coordination meetings to:
 - i. Strengthen regulatory synergies and information exchange.

- ii. Align tourism development with environmental safeguards.

4.6. Board of the Authority

4.6.1. The governance of the Authority shall be entrusted to a Board, which shall consist of:

- a) A Chairperson appointed by the Government.
- b) The Secretary of the Department responsible for tourism or a designated representative.
- c) The Secretary of the Department responsible for planning or a designated representative.
- d) The Secretary of the Department responsible for finance or a designated representative.
- e) The Secretary of the Department responsible for environmental affairs or a designated representative.
- f) The Chief Executive Officer of the Authority, who shall serve as the Secretary of the Board.
- g) Four additional members from different domains (land, water and air), appointed by the State Government including
 - i. One member nominated by the State Governments from registered associations within the adventure tourism sector and
 - ii. Three individuals nominated by the National/State adventure institutes (land, air and water).
 - iii. One member nominated by the National Adventure Tourism Association.
 - iv. One member nominated by the State Adventure Tourism Association (if any).

4.7. Functions of the Board of the Authority

4.7.1 The Board of the Authority shall be responsible for:

- a) Ensuring the effective and proper performance of the Authority's functions.
- b) Approving and ratifying the policies and strategic direction of the Authority.
- c) Managing, controlling, and administering the Authority's assets in a manner that advances its objectives.
- d) Accepting grants, donations, or endowments made to the Authority.
- e) Determining provisions for capital and operational expenditures, as well as establishing reserves for the Authority.
- f) Establishing bank accounts for managing the Authority's funds.
- g) Setting the terms and conditions for the appointment and compensation of the Authority's personnel.

- h) Collaborating with other organizations engaged in similar functions, both within and outside the States/UTs, as deemed appropriate to further the Authority's objectives.

4.7.2. Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Board may delegate specific powers or functions to a committee of the Board or to any member, officer or employee of the Authority through a formal resolution.

4.7.3. Board members shall receive allowances as determined by the Government.

4.8. Tenure and Vacation of Office

- a) A member of the Board appointed under section 4.6 shall serve a term not exceeding three years but shall be eligible for reappointment for one additional term of up to three years.
- b) Any member of the Board, excluding ex-officio members, may resign at any time by providing written notice to the appointing authority.
- c) A Board member, other than an ex-officio member, who is absent from three consecutive meetings without sufficient justification shall be deemed to have vacated their position on the Board.
- d) Should a Board member be unable to perform their duties for a valid reason, the Government shall assess whether this circumstance necessitates declaring a vacancy.
- e) In the event of a vacancy on the Board for any reason, the Government shall appoint a replacement in accordance with the provisions outlined in section 4.8.

4.9. Conduct of Meetings and Procedure of the Board of the Authority

The conduct and regulation of business and affairs of the Board shall be conducted in accordance with the prescribed procedures established under this Act.

4.10. Appointment of Chief Executive Officer and Other Staff

- a) The Government shall, in consultation with the Board of Authority, establish the terms and conditions for the appointment of the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with the provisions of this Act.
- b) Eligibility for an appointment as Chief Executive Officer shall require that the candidate holds a graduation's degree from a recognized university along with a minimum of ten years of relevant senior management experience.
- c) The Chief Executive Officer shall serve a term of three years, renewable for one additional three-year term and may be extended up to a total of seven years with the approval of SATRA or UTATRA provided the officer has not attained the age of sixty-five years.
- d) The Chief Executive Officer shall be appointed by the Government.

- e) The Board of the Authority may appoint additional officers and staff as necessary for the efficient operation of the Authority.

4.11. Functions of the Chief Executive Officer

- a) The Chief Executive Officer shall be accountable for the daily management of the Authority's affairs and shall report to the Board regarding the execution of their duties under this Act.
- b) The Chief Executive Officer shall undertake any additional functions as determined by the Board of the Authority.

4.12. Funds for the Authority

- a) The Authority shall maintain a general fund, which shall be administered by the Board.
 - b) The following shall be credited to the general fund of the Authority:
 - i. Donations and grants received by the Authority; and
 - ii. Fees, penalties, and other charges established by the Authority for the provision of various services.
 - c) Expenditures incurred by the Authority in exercising its powers and performing its functions under this Act shall be disbursed from the general fund.
 - d) The Authority shall have the authority to invest any funds that are not immediately required for its operational purposes in a manner determined by the Board.
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Part 3: REGISTRATION AND AUDITS

In the realm of adventure tourism, registration and regular audits form the backbone of a safe and credible operational framework. Ensuring that all adventure activity providers are formally registered not only brings them under a regulatory umbrella but also enables consistent monitoring, compliance with safety protocols and accountability.

5. Mandatory Registration of Adventure Activity Operators

To ensure public safety, uphold legal compliance and maintain high service standards in the adventure tourism sector, it is imperative to mandate the registration of all adventure tourism operators. This registration process shall encompass the acquisition of prior safety certifications, submission of detailed operational data, and continuous adherence to defined regulatory requirements. The primary objective is to ensure that all operators conform to established safety protocols, remain accountable for their activities, and operate within a structured, transparent, and legally compliant regulatory framework.

5.1. Eligibility for Registration

- a) Only entities (individuals, firms, companies or cooperatives) possessing a valid operation with equipment, trained employees and relevant experience.
- b) The operator must not be involved in any criminal or civil case involving proven negligence or death by willful conduct during past adventure activity operations.

5.2. Registration Procedure

- a) Submit the Safety Audit Certificate.
- b) Upload details to the Digital Single Window System (DSWS).
- c) Pay the registration fee (as determined by the Authority).
- d) Submit documents including:
 - i. PAN/Aadhaar
 - ii. Business incorporation certificate
 - iii. Staff certification and insurance documents
 - iv. Equipment and gear inventory list
 - v. Third-party liability and accident insurance

5.3. Duration and Renewal

- a) Registration is valid for 5 year and must be renewed annually.
- b) Renewal requires submission of a fresh Safety Audit Certificate and a compliance report from the previous year.

5.4. Cancellation or Suspension

If any operator violates safety norms, uses uncertified equipment, engages unlicensed guides, or offers activities without valid registration or renewal, their registration may be suspended or revoked after providing an opportunity for hearing within four weeks from the date of issuance of notice.

6. Digital Single Window System (DSWS)

To ensure transparency, efficiency, and public accountability, a Digital Single Window System should be created and operated at the state level, interconnected with the national regulatory framework.

6.1. Functions

- a) Accept online applications for registration, renewals, and audit scheduling.
- b) Maintain a public database of registered operators and safety auditors.
- c) Enable real-time submission and processing of:
 - i. Insurance documents.
 - ii. Staff training records.
 - iii. Environmental compliance reports.
 - iv. Complaint and grievance redressal mechanism.
 - v. Equipment inventory.

6.2. Stakeholder Access

- a) Operators can view audit checklists and update compliance data.
- b) Auditors can schedule visits and upload audit results.
- c) Tourists and public can:
 - i. Verify operator licenses
 - ii. Access safety ratings and incident reports
 - iii. Lodge complaints and incident reporting
- d) SATRA officials will monitor compliance dashboards, issue alerts and initiate action on breaches.

7. Safety Audit

A Safety Audit is a *legally binding prerequisite* for the registration and operation of adventure activity providers. It ensures conformity with recognized national and international safety standards and verifies that the operator maintains effective risk mitigation systems, equipment, and professional practices.

This requirement is aligned with:

- **ISO 21101:2014** – *Adventure Tourism Safety Management System.*
- **ISO 21102:2020** – *Competence of personnel.*

- **UIAA/IFMGA/ICAR** guidelines for mountain and expedition safety.
- **DGCA/ICAO** norms for air-based activities.
- **SOLAS and IMCA** norms for water-based adventure activities.

7.1. Pre-Activity Safety Audit Requirement

Before offering any adventure activities to participants, operators are mandated to:

7.1.1. Obtain a Safety Audit

- a) Secure a safety audit from a qualified safety auditor from the government recognized organization for the adventure activities (land, water and air) offered.

7.1.2. Pass the Safety Audit

- a) Successfully pass the safety audit as conducted by the safety auditor.

7.1.3. Provide Required Information

Furnish the safety auditor with the following essential information:

- a) **Operator's Full Name:** The complete legal name of the operator provides the activities.
- b) **Description of Adventure Activities:** A detailed description of the adventure activities that the operator is authorized to offer.
- c) **Location Addresses:** The addresses of all locations where the adventure activities are conducted.
- d) **Business Name:** If applicable, the business name under which the operator conducts adventure activities.

7.2. On-Site Audit

7.2.1. Auditor conducts a thorough inspection of all operational locations (As per annexure 8).

7.2.2. Scope of Audit Includes Verification of:

- a) **Safety Infrastructure & Equipment:** Condition, adequacy, certification (e.g., helmets, harnesses, rafts, vehicles, parachutes) - *Aligns with ISO 21101 (Adventure Tourism Safety Management), EN standards for PPE.*
- b) **Instructor Qualifications & Rescue Readiness:** Valid certifications, training records, demonstrated rescue skills - *Aligns with ISO 17024 (Personnel Certification), industry best practices (e.g., IRATA, RYA, PCIA).*
- c) **Emergency Evacuation Plans:** Existence, adequacy, staff training, communication systems, access to emergency services - **Core principle of ISO 21101, ISO 22399 (Societal Security - Guideline for Incident Preparedness).*

- d) **Compliance with SOPs:** Adherence to documented Standard Operating Procedures for each specific activity (Land, Air, Water) - *Fundamental requirement of ISO 21101, national adventure activity guidelines.*
- e) **First-Aid & Incident Response:** Availability of trained first-aiders, adequacy of first-aid kits, incident reporting procedures, communication protocols - **Aligns with ISO 31000 (Risk Management), national first-aid requirements.*
- f) **Environmental Impact Mitigation:** Practices to minimize ecological damage during operations - *Aligns with ISO 14001 (Environmental Management) principles, Global Sustainable Tourism Council (GSTC) criteria.*

7.3. Audit Findings & Reporting:

- a) Auditor documents findings (supported by photos/video where appropriate).
- b) Auditor assesses compliance against applicable national safety standards and the requirements of this framework.
- c) Auditor provides a written notification to the operator:
 - i. **Pass:** Details of compliance.
 - ii. **Fail:** Detailed reasons for failure and non-conformities.

7.4. Certification (if passed):

- a) Auditor issues a **Safety Audit Certificate** specifying:
 - i. Approved Adventure Activities.
 - ii. Conditions of Approval (if any, e.g., quarterly reporting, specific upgrades).
 - iii. Expiry Date (Maximum Validity: 12 Months).
- b) Auditor submits a copy of the certificate and required information to the Registrar.
- c) Auditor collects and remits the registration fee to the Registrar.

7.5. Post-Audit and Monitoring:

- a) Auditor monitors operator compliance with any certificate conditions.
- b) Operator must display/possess the valid certificate.
- c) Findings are uploaded to the Digital Single Window System (DSWS) for public transparency (sensitive info redacted).

7.6. Scope of the Safety Audit

- a) Verification of safety infrastructure (helmets, harnesses, rafts, vehicles, etc.).
- b) Instructor qualifications and rescue readiness.
- c) Emergency evacuation plans.
- d) Compliance with SOPs for respective land, air, and water-based activities.
- e) First-aid and incident response systems.

- f) Environmental impact mitigation practices

7.7. Frequency

- a) Initial Audit before first registration.
- b) Annual audit before registration renewal.
- c) Surprise audits may be conducted by State Adventure Tourism Regulator Authority (SATRA) or MoT/central authorities based on complaints or risk assessments.

8. Safety Auditor

8.1. Recognition and Qualifications

8.1.1. Must be:

- a) An individual with certified training from recognized national institutions (NIM, HMI, IISM, ITBP for land; NIWS, Navy-certified for water; DGCA/CAA for aerial).
- b) Or an auditing firm registered with SATRA/ MoT with experience in risk assessment.
- c) Safety Auditors must be licensed by the State Adventure Tourism Regulator Authority (SATRA) or MoT
- d) Licensing is valid for 3 years, subject to review of audit records and performance.

8.2. Recognition of Safety Auditors

The State Adventure Tourism Regulatory Authority shall constitute or recognize a Safety Auditor Board in accordance with Section 4.8.

8.2.1. Notification of Recognition

Upon granting recognition, the States/UTs must provide written notice specifying:

- a) The duration for which the Authority is recognized as a safety auditor.
- b) Any conditions imposed on that recognition in accordance with Section 8.2.2 of this Act.

8.2.2. Conditions of Recognition:

Conditions Imposed on Recognition: The States/UTs may impose conditions of recognition necessary to uphold safety, including but not limited to:

- a) Conditions limiting the safety auditor to specific locations, types of activities, or equipment.

8.2.3. Withdrawal of Conditions:

The States/UTs retains authority to withdraw any conditions by providing written notice to the safety auditor.

8.3. Functions of Safety Auditors

8.3.1. The core functions of a safety auditor include:

- a) Conducting safety audits to assess compliance with safety standards.
- b) Issuing safety audit certificates to operators who pass audits, subject to any necessary conditions.
- c) Providing copies of safety audit certificates and related information to the Registrar.
- d) Ensuring the registration fee for the operator is paid during the validity of the audit.
- e) Monitoring operators to ensure compliance with safety audit certificate conditions.

8.4. Conflict of Interest

Auditors shall not audit organizations they are affiliated with. Violation leads to debarment and legal action.

8.5. Ethics and Transparency

All findings to be:

- a) Uploaded to Digital Single Window System (DSWS).
- b) Made public (excluding sensitive info).
- c) Supported with video/photo documentation.

8.6. Safety Auditor's Responsibilities

The safety auditor conducting the audit must:

a) Compliance Assessment

Evaluate the operator's compliance with applicable safety standards pertinent to the adventure activities provided.

b) Written Notification

Issue a written notice to the operator indicating whether the audit has been passed. If the operator fails the audit, the notice must include a detailed account of the reasons for failure.

8.7. Issuance of Safety Audit Certificate

Upon successful completion of the safety audit, the safety auditor is required to:

8.7.1. Issuing a Safety Audit Certificate

Provide the operator with a safety audit certificate specifying:

- a) The specific adventure activities audited.
- b) The validity period of the audit, which must not exceed 12 months.
- c) Any conditions that the certificate may be subject to.

- d) Submit a copy of the safety audit certificate, along with any additional required information, to the Registrar.
- e) Collect and remit any registration fee to the Registrar upon demand, corresponding to the duration of the audit's validity.

8.7.2. Conditional Issuance

The safety auditor may issue the safety audit certificate subject to conditions deemed necessary to ensure ongoing safety in alignment with applicable safety standards.

9. Registration of Adventure Activity Operator

9.1. Registrar's Responsibilities

- a) Registering adventure activity operators upon receipt of a valid safety audit certificate and all required documentation unless there are reasonable grounds for denial.
- b) Maintaining a public register of authorized adventure activity operators.
- c) Cancelling or suspending registrations when deemed necessary.
- d) Taking action on registration, suspension or cancellation based on reports submitted by the Technical Committee (SATRA/UTARA).

9.2. Grounds for Declining Registration

The Registrar must refuse to register an individual if there are reasonable grounds to believe:

- a) False information or evidence was provided to obtain the safety audit certificate.
- b) The individual does not qualify as an adventure activity operator.
- c) The individual is unfit for registration due to prior improper conduct in providing adventure activities.

9.3. Discretionary Decline of Registration

The Registrar may exercise discretion to decline registration if:

- a) The individual has not complied with any conditions attached to the safety audit certificate.
- b) Past failures to safely provide activities have endangered or could have endangered lives.
- c) The individual has previously offered adventure activities without proper registration during the applicable regulatory period.

9.4. Opportunity for Representation

Before declining registration, the Registrar must afford the individual a reasonable opportunity to make written submissions or present their case regarding the proposed decline.

9.5. Notification of Decline

If registration is denied, the Registrar must provide the individual with written notice detailing the decision.

9.6. Considerations for Registrar's Decision

The Registrar's decision may be informed by:

- a) The views of the safety auditor who issued the safety audit certificate.
- b) Insights provided by safety auditors during their functions under this Act.

9.7. Register of Adventure Activity Operators

9.7.1. Maintenance of the Register

The Registrar must maintain a public register of authorized operators.

9.7.2. Contents of the Register

The register must include:

- a) Full name of the operator.
- b) Description of authorized activities.
- c) Address of each operational location.
- d) Legal or trading name under which the operator conducts business.
- e) Registration validity period.
- f) Any period of suspension.
- g) Date of cancellation if applicable.

9.7.3. Accessibility of Information

The register must be accessible for inspection on an internet site maintained by or on behalf of the States/UTs.

9.7.4. Registration Fees

A fee applies for each full or partial year of registration would be decided by the State Adventure Tourism Regulatory Authority.

9.7.5. Registration Obligations

The Registrar must register and maintain the registration of an operator, regardless of whether the associated fee has been paid.

9.8. Cancellation or Suspension of Registration

9.8.1. The Registrar shall cancel a person's registration as an adventure activity operator if:

- a) The registration was made in error.
- b) False information or evidence was provided to obtain the current safety audit certificate.
- c) The individual/entity is not an adventure activity operator.

9.8.2. The Registrar may cancel or suspend a person's registration if satisfied, on reasonable grounds, that:

- a) The person is unfit for registration due to improper conduct in providing adventure activities.
- b) The person has failed to comply with conditions specified in their current safety audit certificate.
- c) The person's failure to safely provide adventure activities, as far as reasonably practicable, has endangered or may endanger a person's life.
- d) The individual/entity, while under Section 7.1.3 (b) has provided activities they were not registered to provide.

9.8.3. Before cancellation or suspension, the Registrar must provide the operator with a reasonable opportunity to submit a written response or to be heard on the matter.

9.8.4. If the registration is canceled or suspended, the Registrar must provide the operator with written notice specifying:

- a) That the operator's registration has been canceled or suspended.
- b) In the case of suspension, the period for which the registration is suspended.

9.8.5. The Registrar's decision may be informed by:

- a) The views of the safety auditor who issued the current safety audit certificate.
- b) The views of an auditor, based on the exercise of their duties under the relevant Act.

9.9. Penalty for Non-Compliance in Registration

9.9.1. Prohibition Against Unregistered Provision of Activities

Adventure activity operators must not provide activities to participants unless:

- a) The operator is registered to provide such activities.
- b) The operator holds an exemption from the registration requirement granted by this Act.

9.9.2. Offering Activities without Registration

Operators must not offer activities to the public unless:

- a) They are registered.
- b) They have:
 - i. Engaged a safety auditor for a safety audit within the specified timeframe.

- ii. Provided necessary information to safety auditors as outlined in section 7.1.3.
 - iii. Included a statement in promotional material indicating that the activity will only be provided if the operator is registered or exempt at the time of the activity.
- c) They possess an exemption from the registration requirement granted by the Authority.

9.9.3. Offenses and Penalties

Violations of the above requirements result in the following penalties:

- a) Individuals may be fined up to INR 10,000.
- b) Entities may incur a fine of up to INR 50,000.

***Penalties may be updated by the state authority as per their convenience from time to time.**

10. Publication of Safety Audit Standards

- a) The State/UTs shall develop and periodically review one or more safety audit standards.
 - b) The State/UTs shall formulate the latest safety audit standards in accordance with the BIS, UIAA, BSI, WRSTC, ISO, HSWR, AAAS or any international standards recognized by the authorities from time to time for adventure tourism.
 - c) These standards shall specify the requirements with which adventure activity operators must comply to reduce health and safety risks during the provision of adventure activities.
 - d) The standards shall include requirements to manage the risks associated with drug and alcohol use by operators, employees, or other people involved in providing adventure activities.
 - e) Different safety audit standards may apply to different types of adventure activities offered by operators.
-

PART 4 - SAFETY AND COMPLIANCE

To ensure uniform safety standards, sustainable environmental practices, professional competence, and responsible data management across all forms of adventure tourism activities within India, the following provisions are mandated for implementation by all registered adventure tourism operators, facilitators, training providers, and stakeholders:

11. Insurance Provisions

Adventure tourism is an inherently high-risk domain, involving activities conducted in unpredictable and challenging natural environments. While these pursuits offer significant recreational, wellness, and economic benefits, they also pose potential hazards to tourists, operators, and support personnel. Despite stringent safety standards, unforeseen incidents may occur due to environmental, human, or equipment-related factors.

At present, there is a critical gap in India's adventure tourism ecosystem: the absence of a dedicated and comprehensive insurance mechanism tailored to the diverse risks associated with adventure tourism. The development and enforcement of such a policy framework are vital for mitigating losses, ensuring participant safety, enhancing stakeholder confidence, and encouraging responsible industry practices.

The exponential rise in domestic participation, coupled with India's vast geographic diversity, necessitates the immediate implementation of a structured insurance policy that mandates protection for all stakeholders, including tourists, tour operators, service providers, equipment suppliers, and adventure infrastructure developers.

11.1. Scope of Insurance Coverage

The policy shall apply uniformly across India and cover the following categories:

- a) Adventure Tour Operators: Entities registered with State/UT authorities and engaged in organizing or facilitating adventure activities.
- b) Adventure Professionals: Individuals employed or contracted to deliver adventure tourism services (e.g., instructors, guides, porters, kitchen staff).
- c) Clients/Tourists: Individuals engaging in any registered adventure activity.
- d) Adventure Camps, Resorts, and Parks: Institutions offering outdoor recreation, lodging, or event-based adventure activities.
- e) Gear and Equipment: Tools, devices and assets used during adventure activities.
- f) Liability Provisions: All forms of insurable liability that could arise in the conduct of an adventure activity.

11.2. Insurance Requirements for Tour Operators

All licensed adventure tour operators shall mandatorily maintain valid insurance under the following categories:

- a) Third-Party Liability Insurance (TPLI): Covers legal claims from third parties for bodily injury or property damage caused during the course of operations.
- b) Comprehensive General Liability Insurance (CGLI): Offers broader coverage beyond third-party claims, including premises-related incidents, product liability, and event-specific mishaps.
- c) Tour Operator Liability Insurance: Specifically tailored to risks associated with itinerary-based operations, including multi-day expeditions.
- d) Personal Accident Insurance (PAI) and Group Medical Cover (GMC): Must be provided to all permanent and temporary staff.
- e) Directors and Officers (D&O) Liability Insurance: Protects company executives against personal losses due to legal claims arising from managerial decisions.

Operators must submit documentary proof of all active insurance policies during licensing and renewal processes. Copies must be retained at the operational site and shown upon request during audits or inspections.

11.3. Insurance Coverage for Adventure Professionals

All adventure professionals whether salaried, freelance, or contractual - must be insured under an adventure-specific Personal Accident Insurance policy. Mandatory coverage must include:

- a) Death due to accident.
- b) Permanent and temporary disabilities (partial or full).
- c) Hospitalization due to injury sustained during activity.
- d) Emergency medical evacuation (via road, terrestrial, aquatic and aerial).
- e) Repatriation of mortal remains.

11.3.1. Recommended Add-on Benefits:

- a) Air evacuation for high-altitude/remote operations.
- b) High-altitude and environment-specific illnesses (e.g., AMS, HAPE, HACE, frostbite).
- c) Compensation for dependent family members.
- d) Educational coverage for children.
- e) Loan protection and EMI insurance.
- f) Coma cover and compassionate visit support.

Professionals such as freelance guides and instructors must additionally secure Professional Liability Insurance, which protects them against negligence claims made by clients. Porters, cooks, and laborers employed on a temporary or daily-wage basis must be mandatorily covered under the Workmen's Compensation Policy as per the Employees' Compensation Act, 1923, Government of India.

11.4. Mandatory Insurance for Clients/Participants

All clients engaging in registered adventure activities must be covered under a comprehensive insurance plan, either provided by the operator or purchased independently.

11.4.1. Mandatory Inclusions:

- a) Accidental Death and Disability (ADD).
- b) Accidental Medical Hospitalization.
- c) Basic Emergency Evacuation.

11.4.2. Advanced Coverage (Recommended for High-Risk Activities):

- a) Heli or Air Rescue Services.
- b) Evacuation from extreme terrains (via road, terrestrial, aquatic and aerial).
- c) High-altitude specific medical conditions.
- d) Trip cancellation or disruption.
- e) Financial assistance for family (e.g., Coma, Disability Income).

11.4.3. Risk-Based Insurance Coverage in Adventure Tourism

Risk Category	Minimum Evacuation Cover	Hospitalization Cover	ADD Cover
Urban/Low Hills	₹10,000	₹50,000	₹50,000
Mid-Altitude (<5000m)	₹25,000–₹50,000	₹1,00,000	₹1,00,000
High-Altitude (>5000m)	₹3–4 Lakh	₹2,00,000+	₹1,00,000+
Extreme Expeditions	₹5 Lakh+	₹2,00,000+	₹2,00,000+

Insurance coverage must allocate funds separately to each component (death, hospitalization, evacuation) to ensure claims can be made independently.

11.5. Adventure Resorts, Camps, and Theme Parks

Adventure infrastructure establishments must maintain the following insurance coverage:

- a) Client Accident Insurance: For all registered participants.
- b) Staff Insurance: PAI and GMC coverage for all employees.
- c) CGLI: For property-based liabilities.

- d) D&O Liability Insurance: For managerial personnel.
- e) Fire, Burglary, and Natural Disaster Insurance: Including earthquakes, floods, and landslides.

11.5.1. Additional risks to be covered include:

- a) Medical negligence in first aid.
- b) Terrorism and civil unrest.
- c) Valet/vehicle damage.
- d) Guest property loss.
- e) Event and excursion-based liability.

11.6. Gear and Equipment Insurance

Operators must maintain insurance coverage for all equipment and tools used in adventure activities across land, air, and water environments. The insurance shall cover:

- a) Damage caused by terrain or environmental factors, including terrestrial, aquatic and aerial conditions, as well as weather-related impacts.
- b) Theft, loss, or damage during transit or use.
- c) Equipment and tools specific to each domain, including but not limited to:
 - i. **Terrestrial:** trekking gear, climbing equipment, bicycles, off-road vehicles, protective gear.
 - ii. **Aerial:** parachutes, paragliding wings, hot air balloons, drones, helmets, harnesses.
 - iii. **Aquatic:** boats, kayaks, scuba diving gear, life jackets, waterproof communication devices.
- d) Technical, rescue, and navigation equipment (e.g., GPS devices, radios).
- e) Expedition, photography, and communication tools.

11.7. Definitions and Mandates on Liability Insurance

Liability Insurance offers financial protection against legal claims made by third parties due to injury, property damage, or operational negligence. The following forms are recognized under this framework:

- a) Third-Party Liability.
- b) Comprehensive General Liability (CGLI).
- c) Directors and Officers Liability (D&O).
- d) Errors and Omissions Liability (E&O)
- e) Professional Liability.
- f) Tour Operator Liability.

- g) Workmen's Compensation

11.7.1. Expanded CGLI Protections Must Include:

- a) Act of God (natural disaster) coverage.
- b) Premises liability (gyms, pools, common areas).
- c) Food and beverage-related illnesses.
- d) Guest excursions and offsite events.
- e) Copyright and advertising injury.
- f) Contractor negligence.
- g) Vehicle parking damages.
- h) Medical malpractice at camp or resort.

11.8. Proof of Insurance and Licensing Compliance

Adventure operators are required to submit proof of valid insurance coverage during the licensing or permit application process to the relevant State Adventure Tourism/Union Territory Adventure Tourism (UT) regulatory authority.

Additionally, operators must maintain updated records and be prepared to provide proof of insurance coverage at any time upon request during audits or inspections.

11.8.1. Insurance documents must include:

- a) Policy number and issuing company.
- b) Validity period
- c) Scope of coverage
- d) Coverage limits for each category (death, disability, evacuation, etc.)

11.9. No Activity Without Insurance

No adventure activity shall be conducted without proper and valid insurance coverage in place for both participants and operators. This includes:

- a) Pre-event coverage: Risks during preparation, acclimatization, equipment testing.
- b) Post-event coverage: Liabilities from delayed symptoms or complications.

Operators found conducting activities without valid insurance shall face immediate suspension of operations and penalties under Section 14.3, including monetary fines and prohibition from future licensing.

11.10. Regulatory Oversight and Compliance Mechanisms

- a) The Ministry of Tourism (MoT), in collaboration with the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) and State Adventure Tourism Regulatory Authorities (SATRAs), shall:
 - i. Approve adventure-specific insurance policies.

- ii. Develop minimum insurance coverage guidelines.
- iii. Encourage public-private partnerships to develop sector-specific insurance products.

b) SATRAs shall be responsible for:

- i. Conducting routine compliance audits.
- ii. Reviewing insurance documents during license applications or renewals.
- iii. Establishing a grievance redressal mechanism for resolving insurance-related disputes.

c) Penalties for Non-Compliance:

- i. Monetary fines proportional to the severity and frequency of the violation.
- ii. Temporary or permanent suspension of licenses/permits.
- iii. Prohibition from organizing future adventure activities.

d) Adaptability Clause:

- i. The insurance policy framework shall be reviewed periodically to accommodate new adventure activities, emerging risk scenarios, and technological advancements.

12. Environmental Protection and Sustainability in Adventure Tourism

All adventure tourism activities must adhere to eco-friendly and sustainable practices aimed at preserving the integrity of the natural environment and minimizing ecological disruption.

Recognizing that adventure tourism is conducted in ecologically sensitive and often remote areas, this section seeks to ensure that such activities do not compromise the natural environment. It outlines enforceable obligations for operators, tourists, and regulators to safeguard the ecological integrity of destinations while promoting sustainable development, in accordance with the Constitution of India, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, and aligned with the Sustainable Tourism Criteria for India (STCI).

12.1 Legal Basis and Applicability

This section draws its legal foundation from:

- a) **Environment (Protection) Act, 1986:** Establishes a comprehensive framework for environmental protection. Adventure activities such as trekking, river rafting, and wildlife safaris must adhere to prescribed standards, especially in ecologically sensitive zones.
- b) **Wildlife Protection Act, 1972:** Prohibits activities harmful to wildlife. Operators must obtain required permissions and ensure no disturbance to wildlife or habitats within or near national parks and sanctuaries.

- c) **Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980:** Regulates diversion of forest land for non-forest use. Operators must secure clearances for activities in or impacting forested regions to avoid deforestation and habitat loss.
- d) **Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 2019:** Restricts unsustainable development in coastal areas. Adventure activities such as beach and water sports must comply with CRZ norms to protect marine biodiversity.
- e) **National Green Tribunal Act, 2010:** Establishes the NGT for swift redress of environmental disputes. Operators are subject to the jurisdiction of NGT for non-compliance or disputes involving environmental harm.
- f) **Biological Diversity Act, 2002:** Requires safeguarding of biodiversity. Adventure tourism must avoid interference with natural habitats and may require biodiversity impact assessments.
- g) **Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957:** Adventure operations in or near mining zones must ensure no conflict or degradation arises from proximity to regulated mineral areas.
- h) **Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 (as amended):** Certain high-impact adventure projects require a formal EIA to assess ecological consequences before commencement.
- i) **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):** In alignment with India's SDG commitments, operators must minimize ecological footprints, promote inclusive growth, and adopt carbon-neutral practices.
- j) **State-Specific Environmental Laws:** Operators must ensure compliance with additional rules notified by respective State or UT governments governing environmental protection in their jurisdictions.

These laws collectively serve as the legal foundation for all obligations, practices, and regulatory mechanisms described herein. This section applies to all operators, service providers, guides, and participants involved in land, water, and aerial adventure activities within the territory of India. This section draws its legal foundation from:

- i. **Article 48A and Article 51A(g) of the Constitution of India** – which mandate the protection and improvement of the environment.
- ii. **Environment (Protection) Act, 1986** – as the overarching environmental law.
- iii. **Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016**, and related local/state regulations.
- iv. **The Sustainable Tourism Criteria for India (STCI)** as guiding principles.

This section shall apply to all operators, service providers, guides, and participants involved in land, water, and aerial adventure activities within the territory of India.

12.2 Principle of Environmental Stewardship

Operators and participants shall function as environmental stewards. The principle of "Leave No Trace" shall be upheld in all areas of operation. "Sustainable Use" shall govern resource consumption, and the "Precautionary Principle" shall guide decisions in the absence of complete environmental data.

12.3 Codified Leave No Trace Policy

Operators must:

- a) Ensure campsites, trails, and natural areas are left cleaner than found.
- b) Prohibit contamination of water bodies; locate all washing, toilet, and kitchen areas at least 100 meters from any natural water source.
- c) Prevent discharge of greywater and waste into natural systems.
- d) Avoid the use of firewood; use solar cookers or permitted fuels.
- e) Use existing trails and campsites; prohibit the creation of new ones without regulatory clearance.

Violations shall attract penalties under this Act and applicable pollution control laws.

12.4 Impact on Local Communities

Operators shall:

- a) Prioritize local employment and skills training.
- b) Promote purchase of goods and services from local vendors.
- c) Respect and integrate local customs and socio-cultural values.
- d) Facilitate benefit-sharing through cooperative or Self-Help Group (SHG)-based models.

Failure to meet these obligations may result in license suspension or rejection of registration renewal.

12.5 Sustainable Operational Practices

All adventure tourism entities shall:

- a) Maintain comprehensive waste management plans including segregation, composting, and recycling.
- b) Prohibit single-use plastics in all operations.
- c) Use solar or other renewable energy sources for power, heating, and lighting.
- d) Install water-efficient fixtures and undertake rainwater harvesting wherever feasible.

Annual compliance certification may be made mandatory by state authorities.

12.6 Carbon Footprint Management

Operators shall:

- a) Monitor fuel consumption and energy usage.
- b) Use low-emission vehicles and efficient logistics planning.
- c) Offset carbon footprints via afforestation or verified carbon credit schemes.
- d) Submit annual reports to the State/ Union Territory Adventure Tourism Regulatory Authority.

12.7 Custodianship of Natural Heritage

Tourism stakeholders shall:

- a) Protect flora, fauna, avifauna, and coral reefs.
- b) Refrain from disturbing nesting sites, breeding grounds, or migratory routes.
- c) Report illegal activities such as poaching, felling, or unlicensed access to the authorities.

Violations may be prosecuted under relevant sections of the Wildlife Protection Act and Forest Conservation Act.

12.8 Mandatory Compliance with Environmental Laws

Operators must:

- a) Secure all environmental clearances prior to construction or activity launch.
- b) Submit copies of clearances to the designated state tourism authority.
- c) Maintain operational records for inspection.
- d) Install signage detailing environmental rules at activity sites.

12.9 Scientific Carrying Capacity Enforcement

A site-specific carrying capacity assessment shall be conducted and enforced. This includes:

- a) Limits on daily tourist numbers per trail, water stretch, or aerial route.
- b) Restrictions on campsite area and density.
- c) Limits on vehicular access and noise levels.

State Governments shall publish annual carrying capacity guidelines for all notified zones.

12.10 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

Operators conducting large-scale or high-impact activities must:

- a) Conduct Rapid or Full EIA, depending on scale.
- b) Publish an Environment Management Plan (EMP).
- c) Submit findings to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) and make them publicly accessible.

12.11 Climate Risk Mitigation and Disaster Preparedness

Operators must:

- a) Integrate IMD forecasts and early warning systems.
- b) Develop and share climate risk contingency plans.
- c) Design structures and logistics to withstand flash floods, landslides, and heatwaves.
- d) Coordinate with SDMAs and NDMA.

12.12 Restoration of Degraded Areas

Where degradation is observed, operators shall:

- a) Contribute to a Local Environmental Restoration Fund.
- b) Undertake replanting using native species.
- c) Restore trails, slopes, or natural assets damaged by operations.
- d) Submit restoration reports with geo-tagged evidence.

12.13 Waste and Pollution Control Measures

Operators shall:

- a) Comply with Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.
- b) Establish collection, segregation, and safe disposal systems.
- c) Set up portable eco-toilets and greywater management systems.
- d) Conduct seasonal clean-up drives in collaboration with local communities.

12.14 Green Certification and Incentives

The Ministry of Tourism and State Governments shall:

- a) Promote voluntary certification under STCI, Green Leaf, and GRIHA.
- b) Offer financial incentives for certified operators including:
 - i. Renewable energy subsidies
 - ii. Low-interest eco-loans
 - iii. Tax rebates
- c) Prioritize certified operators in promotional campaigns.

12.15 Environmental Education and Behavioural Change

Operators must:

- a) Conduct mandatory environmental orientation for tourists.
- b) Install pictorial, multilingual signs at campsites and trails.
- c) Disseminate the National Code of Environmental Ethics.
- d) Educate all staff on STCI and environmental SOPs.

12.16 Monitoring, Reporting, and Enforcement

- a) State Tourism and Forest Departments shall:

- i. Conduct bi-annual environmental compliance audits.
 - ii. Maintain publicly accessible compliance dashboards.
 - iii. Penalize violations with fines, license suspension, or legal prosecution.
- b) SATRA/ UTATRA may empower independent Environmental Compliance Inspectors.

12.17 Grievance Redressal and Transparency

Communities, NGOs, and tourists shall have the right to:

- a) File grievances online or at local tourism offices.
- b) Access public EIA reports and restoration plans.
- c) Participate in annual consultation forums.

12.18 Commitment to STCI Principles

Operators shall:

- a) Adopt STCI in both letter and spirit.
- b) Train staff on safety of women travellers, prevention of child abuse, and uphold zero-tolerance on exploitation.
- c) Conduct third-party audits and publicly declare compliance annually.

13. Training and Certification

This Chapter establishes the statutory framework for training, certification, and competency assurance of all individuals engaged in the conduct, supervision, instruction, or facilitation of adventure tourism activities across land, air, and water domains within India. It ensures that such activities are performed by qualified and professionally trained personnel in accordance with standards notified by the Ministry of Tourism, in alignment with national guidelines and international best practices. These provisions aim to elevate safety, professionalism, and capacity-building across the adventure tourism ecosystem while promoting inclusive participation from local and indigenous communities.

13.1. Mandatory Certification of Personnel

- a) No person shall conduct, guide, supervise, instruct, or otherwise facilitate any adventure tourism activity - whether on land, in air, or on water - unless he or she holds valid certification issued by an institution recognized and accredited under this Act.
- b) Such certification shall:
 - i. Be specific to the type, category, and risk level of the adventure activity.
 - ii. Conform to the Standards as notified by the Ministry of Tourism and adopted or adapted by the respective State Adventure Tourism Regulatory Authority (SATRA).

- iii. Be valid as per the period prescribed by the issuing authority or the relevant regulatory provisions.
- c) For all high-risk, technical, or specialized adventure activities, the following certifications shall be mandatory:
 - i. **Advanced First Aid Certification:** Including CPR, trauma management, and treatment for environmental and wilderness emergencies (e.g., hypothermia, heatstroke);
 - ii. **Activity-Specific Technical Skills Certification:** Covering equipment usage, safety protocols, emergency procedures, and terrain-specific knowledge (e.g., paragliding instructor, diving master, white-water rescue technician, caving leader);
 - iii. **Rescue Operations Certification:** Relevant to the operational environment and risk exposure (e.g., rope rescue, avalanche rescue, swift- water rescue).

13.2. Employment of Certified Personnel by Operators

- a) All registered adventure tourism operators shall employ only such personnel as possess valid and appropriate certifications under Section 13.1 for any role involving the direct conduct, supervision, or technical facilitation of an activity.
- b) Operators shall verify and document the validity of such certifications prior to engagement and shall not assign uncertified individuals to operational roles under any circumstances.

13.3. Maintenance of Competence

- a) Certified personnel shall undergo mandatory refresher training at intervals as specified by the respective State Adventure Tourism Regulatory Authority (SATRA) or the relevant accrediting institution.
- b) Operators shall conduct regular skills audits (at least once annually) to evaluate and document the operational readiness of their personnel.
- c) Re-certification shall be obtained upon expiry of each core certification. Personnel whose certification has lapsed shall be ineligible to perform any duty requiring that certification until re-certified.

13.4. Accreditation of Training Institutions

- a) Only those institutions that are accredited by the Ministry of Tourism/ SATRA or its designated national accreditation body shall be authorized to provide training and issue certifications under this Act.

- b) Accreditation shall be granted subject to the institution demonstrating:
 - i. Curriculum alignment with National Adventure Tourism Board's standards and relevant international standards (e.g., UIAA, IFMGA, CMAS, IRF, PADI, USPA).
 - ii. Qualified trainers and assessors with adequate field and instructional experience.
 - iii. Proper infrastructure, equipment, safety protocols, and risk management systems.
 - iv. Robust evaluation and assessment methodology.
- c) A publicly accessible National Register of Accredited Training Institutions shall be maintained by the Ministry of Tourism and cross-linked with State-level records maintained by SATRA.
- d) Accredited institutions shall be subject to periodic audits to ensure ongoing compliance with quality and safety standards.

13.5. Training and Certification for Local Communities

- a) The Ministry of Tourism, in collaboration with SATRA, shall develop and implement targeted training and certification schemes to enhance the participation of local, indigenous, and marginalized communities in the adventure tourism sector.
- b) Subsidized training programmes, gender-inclusive capacity-building initiatives, and youth skilling missions shall be promoted as part of inclusive and sustainable tourism development.

13.6. Operator Record-Keeping and Verification

- a) Every registered adventure tourism operator shall maintain accurate and up-to-date records of personnel certifications, including:
 - i. Copies of current and valid certifications for each relevant staff member.
 - ii. Certification issue and expiry dates.
 - iii. Documentation of refresher training, audits, and re-certifications.
- b) These records shall be retained for a period of not less than five (5) years after the individual ceases employment or as otherwise prescribed.
 - i. Operators shall:
 - Ensure certification validity through internal verification systems prior to deployment for each operational season or expedition.
 - ii. Make all records available to authorized officers during inspections, audits, or inquiries without delay.

13.7. Enforcement and Penalties for Non-Compliance

- a) Employment of uncertified or inadequately certified personnel constitutes a Category Violation under section 14.3.1 under this Act, amounting to a serious breach of safety standards.
- b) Upon detection, the State Adventure Tourism Regulatory Authority may impose any or all the following:
 - i. Monetary penalties as prescribed under Section 14.3.2.
 - ii. Immediate suspension of the specific activity or operational license.
 - iii. Cancellation or non-renewal of the operator's registration.
- c) Individuals found conducting regulated activities without valid certification shall be barred from performing those functions and may be subject to penalties under the applicable provisions.
- d) Training institutions found operating without accreditation, or issuing invalid or fraudulent certificates, shall be liable for:
 - i. Blacklisting and revocation of accreditation.
 - ii. Legal proceedings including financial penalties;
Prohibition from offering any training under this Act.

14. Data Governance, Digital Compliance and Predictive Safety Intelligence

In recognition of the critical role that data plays in enhancing safety, transparency, accountability, and resilience in the adventure tourism ecosystem, this Chapter establishes a comprehensive framework for digital governance. The provisions herein mandate the structured collection, secure storage, and regulated sharing of participant and operational data by adventure tourism operators. It integrates national legislation such as the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023, and international standards including ISO/IEC 27001, GDPR, ISO 23022, ICAO, and IMO protocols. This Chapter also enables the deployment of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and data analytics for predictive risk identification, compliance monitoring, and real-time safety interventions.

14.1. Maintenance of Digital Records

- 14.1.1. Every registered adventure tourism operator shall maintain a secure, encrypted, and verifiable digital database covering all activities conducted under this Act.
- 14.1.2. The database shall mandatorily include the following components:

a) Participant Records

- i. Full name, age, nationality, government-issued identification number.
- ii. Health declarations, including pre-existing medical conditions and allergies.
- iii. Emergency contact information.
- iv. Insurance policy number, provider name, and validity period.
- v. Digitally signed risk acknowledgment and consent forms.

b) Activity Records

- i. Dates and GPS-tracked routes or coordinates.
- ii. Duration and weather conditions.
- iii. Names and certification IDs of guides or instructors involved.
- iv. Type, serial numbers, and maintenance logs of equipment used.
- v. Documentation of safety briefings and emergency preparedness measures.

c) All digital records under this section shall be:

- i. Preserved for a minimum of seven (7) years from the date of the activity's conclusion.
- ii. Made accessible to the MoT or the State Adventure Tourism Regulatory Authority (SATRA) within 24 hours of a formal request.

14.2. Establishment of the State Adventure Tourism Data Repository (SATDR)

a) The State Adventure Tourism Regulatory Authority (SATRA) shall establish and operate the State Adventure Tourism Data Repository (SATDR) to facilitate:

- i. Real-time and periodic reporting by operators.
- ii. Automated incident reporting and analysis.
- iii. Inter-agency rescue coordination (with NDRF, NDMA, State Disaster Forces, Coast Guard, and Civil Aviation authorities).

b) Operators shall submit:

- i. Monthly operational and safety compliance reports.
- ii. Post-activity manifests for each expedition or event.
- iii. All data in formats compliant with ISO 23022 (digital event metadata schema).

c) Non-compliance with SATDR submission requirements shall constitute a Category II Violation under *Section 14.3 (Enforcement and Penalties)*.

14.3. Enforcement and Penalties

To ensure compliance with this Act and its rules, the following graded enforcement and penalty framework shall apply:

14.3.1. Categories of Violations

Violations shall be classified into three categories based on severity, impact, and recurrence:

a) Category I: Minor Violations

Administrative or technical lapses that do not result in safety risks or harm to stakeholders.

Examples include:

- i. Delay in submitting routine reports (excluding SATDR).
- ii. Failure to display license or certification at the site.

b) Category II: Moderate Violations

Non-compliance that affects data integrity, community participation, or operational governance, but does not pose immediate physical risk. **Examples include:**

- i. Non-compliance with SATDR submission requirements.
- ii. Failure to conduct mandatory cultural sensitization sessions.
- iii. Inadequate insurance documentation or expired policies.
- iv. Non-payment of notified benefit-sharing dues to local communities.

c) Category III: Major Violations

Actions or negligence resulting in direct threats to life, safety, environment, or gross violation of legal obligations.

Examples include:

- i. Conducting activities without valid insurance.
- ii. Unauthorized operations in ecologically sensitive or restricted areas.
- iii. Serious breach of safety standards leading to injury or fatality.
- iv. Violation of consent requirements under Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC).

14.3.2. Penalty Structure

a) Category I:

- i. Written warning and a timeline for corrective action.
- ii. Monetary fine up to ₹10,000 for repeated offences.

b) Category II:

- i. Monetary fine of ₹25,000–₹1,00,000 depending on the impact.

- ii. Suspension of license/permit for up to 3 months for repeated or unrectified violations.
- iii. Mandatory compliance audit at the operator's expense.

c) Category III:

- i. Monetary penalty ranging from ₹1,00,000 to ₹10,00,000.
- ii. Immediate suspension or cancellation of license/permit.
- iii. Blacklisting of the operator or professional from future registration.
- iv. Criminal liability where applicable under Indian Penal Code or Environment (Protection) Act, etc.

14.3.3. Appeals and Review

- a) Affected parties may file an appeal with the State Adventure Tourism Appellate Authority within 30 days of the penalty notice.
- b) The Ministry may appoint an Ombudsperson to review penalties exceeding ₹5,00,000 or involving community disputes.

14.4. Mandatory Incident Reporting and Analytics Integration

- a) Operators must report the following to SATDR:
 - i. Injuries or medical emergencies requiring intervention.
 - ii. Equipment failure affecting operational safety.
 - iii. Safety protocol breaches or serious near-miss events.
- b) Reporting timelines:
 - i. Preliminary report: within 6 hours of the incident.
 - ii. Detailed forensic report: within 72 hours, including a root cause analysis, participant accounts, and corrective actions.
- c) Failure to report incidents shall trigger penalties under *Section 14.3 (Enforcement)*, including:
 - i. Fines up to ₹5 lakh per occurrence.
 - ii. Temporary suspension of licenses for repeated or wilful non-compliance.

14.5. Data Protection, Privacy, and Legal Compliance

- a) Data collected under this Act shall comply with:
 - i. The Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023.
 - ii. ISO/IEC 27001:2022 standards.
 - iii. GDPR principles where applicable to foreign nationals.
- b) Operators must:
 - i. Use AES-256 encryption for all stored and transmitted data.

- ii. Implement explicit consent protocols detailing the purpose and extent of data usage.
 - iii. Undergo annual third-party cybersecurity audits, with results submitted to SATRA.
- c) Unauthorized sharing, breach, or falsification of data shall attract:
 - i. Imprisonment up to two (2) years.
 - ii. Permanent revocation of operator license.
 - iii. Civil penalties under the DPDP Act, up to 4% of annual turnover.

14.6. AI and Predictive Safety Intelligence

- a) The SATRA shall deploy AI-driven analytics and machine learning algorithms within SATDR to:
 - i. Predict high-risk zones, weather-related dangers, or operator risk profiles.
 - ii. Flag abnormal patterns indicating non-compliance or systemic safety lapses.
 - iii. Suggest preventive action to operators through digital advisories and alerts.
- b) AI-based systems shall be used for:
 - i. Certification expiry tracking and personnel risk mapping.
 - ii. Insurance claim risk flagging
 - iii. Rescue resource optimization in case of ongoing incidents
- c) AI and data models used shall be periodically reviewed by the National Data Governance Committee, comprising:
 - i. Representatives from CERT-In, NASSCOM, NATCC, and SATRA.
 - ii. Aligned with evolving UN Tourism Safety Protocols and amendments to the Information Technology Act.

14.7. Interoperability and National Integration

- a) The SATDR shall provide open API access for secure integration with:
 - i. National Health Stack – for real-time access to participant health records in emergencies.
 - ii. SARAS – for civil aviation monitoring of air-based adventure activities.
 - iii. INCOIS – for oceanographic and weather data related to maritime adventure activities.
- b) All digital frameworks shall conform to:
 - i. ICAO Annex 6 for air adventures.
 - ii. IMO GMDSS protocols for maritime safety.
 - iii. UIAA global taxonomy for mountaineering and allied land activities.

PART 5 - GREEVANCE REDRESSED AND PENALTIES

15. Grievance Redressed Mechanism

In a sector as dynamic, decentralized, and risk-sensitive as adventure tourism, it is imperative to establish a responsive, transparent, and equitable mechanism for addressing grievances that may arise among stakeholders. These grievances may pertain to safety violations, service deficiencies, environmental concerns, or rights infringements affecting tourists, local communities, operators, and others. The Grievance Redressal Mechanism under this Act aims to instill public confidence, improve sectoral accountability, and uphold the principles of natural justice.

The mechanism recognizes the diversity of stakeholders in the adventure tourism ecosystem and ensures that their complaints are heard, processed, and resolved in a timely and fair manner. It leverages digital tools for accessibility, ensures due process, and mandates documentation and review. Importantly, this mechanism is integrated with other critical elements of this Act such as enforcement provisions, operator licensing, safety standards, community engagement, and data protection thereby functioning not in isolation but as a vital node within the broader governance framework.

15.1. Establishment:

The State Adventure Tourism Regulatory Authority ("the Authority") shall establish and maintain a robust, transparent and accessible Grievance Redressal Mechanism to address complaints related to the provisions of this Act and its associated regulations from:

- a) Tourists participating in adventure tourism activities.
- b) Local communities affected by adventure tourism operations.
- c) Licensed Adventure Tourism Operators (ATOs).
- d) Other stakeholders as prescribed by the Authority.

15.2. Accessible Submission Channels:

Complaints may be submitted through multiple, easily accessible channels, including:

- a) A dedicated online portal/webform accessible via the Authority's official website.
- b) Electronic mail (email) to a designated Authority address.
- c) Physical submission at Authority offices or designated nodal centres (e.g., tourist information centres, district administration offices).
- d) Toll-free helpline number with options for lodging complaints.
- e) Written complaints sent via registered post.
- f) Such other modes as may be prescribed by the Authority to ensure wide accessibility.

15.3. Complaint Requirements:

Complaints shall:

- a) Clearly identify the complainant (with contact information).
- b) Specify the entity/person against whom the complaint is made.
- c) Detail the nature of the grievance, citing relevant provisions of this Act or regulations if possible.
- d) Provide supporting documents, evidence, or information (where available).
- e) Be filed within a reasonable timeframe from the occurrence of the incident, as prescribed by the Authority.

15.4. Acknowledgement & Unique ID:

- a) Upon receipt, the Authority shall acknowledge the complaint within three (3) working days via the complainant's preferred contact method (email, SMS, post).
- b) A unique tracking identification number shall be provided for all complaints.

15.5. Preliminary Scrutiny:

- a) The Authority shall conduct an initial scrutiny within five (5) working days of receipt to determine:
 - i. Admissibility (jurisdiction, completeness, prima facie merit).
 - ii. Urgency (especially for safety-related issues).
- b) Complaints lacking essential information may be returned for resubmission within a specified timeframe.
 - i. Complaints clearly outside the scope of this Act shall be dismissed with reasons communicated to the complainant.

15.6. Resolution Process:

- a) Admitted complaints shall be assigned to a designated Grievance Redressal Officer (GRO) within the Authority.
- b) The GRO shall investigate the complaint, which may include:
 - i. Seeking written explanations/clarifications from relevant parties (ATOs, complainants, witnesses).
 - ii. Conducting site inspections or audits.
 - iii. Reviewing records, permits, safety logs, etc.
 - iv. Holding hearings if deemed necessary for fairness.
- c) The GRO shall endeavor to resolve the grievance through mediation or conciliation where appropriate and acceptable to all parties.

- d) If resolution isn't achieved through (c) the GRO shall make a reasoned recommendation or decision.

15.7. Timelines for Resolution:

- a) Every effort shall be made to resolve grievances expeditiously.
- b) The Authority shall aim to dispose of grievances within a maximum period of fifteen (15) days from the date of admission. Complex cases may require an extension, not exceeding a further thirty (30) days, with written justification provided to the complainant.

15.8. Status Updates:

- a) Complainants shall receive regular status updates on their grievance at least every five (05) days via their preferred contact method.
- b) The online portal shall allow complainants to track the real-time status of their complaint using the unique ID.

15.9. Orders & Redressal:

- a) Based on the investigation and findings, the Authority (or designated officer) may pass orders directing:
 - i. Corrective actions to be taken by the ATO (e.g., safety improvements, compensation, service restoration).
 - ii. Remedial measures for affected communities or environments.
 - iii. Imposition of penalties, fines, or license suspensions/revocations as per this Act.
 - iv. Dismissal of the complaint.
- b) Orders shall be communicated in writing to all concerned parties, stating the reasons and any recourse available.

15.10. Appeal:

- a) Any party aggrieved by the order of the GRO/Authority may appeal to a designated Appellate Body (e.g., Tourism Grievance Council, specific Appellate Officer within the Authority) within thirty (30) days of the order.
- b) The Appellate Body shall endeavour to dispose of the appeal within sixty (60) days.

15.11. Record Keeping & Transparency:

- a) The Authority shall maintain detailed, confidential records of all complaints, proceedings and orders.
- b) The Authority shall publish anonymized summaries of grievances received, actions taken and their outcomes in its Annual Report and on its website, ensuring privacy.

15.12. Accountability:

- a) The Authority shall be accountable for the efficient and impartial functioning of this Mechanism.
- b) Performance metrics related to grievance redressal (e.g., time taken, resolution rate, appeal rate) shall be monitored and reported regularly.
- c) Failure by Authority staff to adhere to timelines or procedures without valid justification may constitute misconduct.

15.13. Protection from Retaliation:

- a) The Act shall prohibit and penalize any form of intimidation or retaliation against complainants (tourists, community members, operators acting in good faith, whistleblowers) for utilizing this Mechanism.

15.14. Review:

- a) The Authority shall review the effectiveness of the Grievance Redressal Mechanism annually and make recommendations for improvement to the relevant Government Department.

16. Penalties under the Grievance Redressal Mechanism

In order to ensure compliance with the provisions of this Act and to maintain the credibility, timeliness and fairness of the Grievance Redressal Mechanism, the following penalties shall apply in relation to grievances addressed under this chapter:

16.1. Penalties for Operators and Stakeholders

- a) Failure to Comply with Redressal Orders

Any Adventure Tourism Operator (ATO) or stakeholder who fails to comply with a redressal order issued by the Authority within the stipulated time shall be liable for:

- i. A fine up to ₹50,000 for a first instance.
- ii. Up to ₹2,00,000 for repeated non-compliance.
- iii. Suspension or cancellation of license in cases of wilful or continued defiance.

- b) Provision of False or Misleading Information

Any entity or individual who knowingly submits false or misleading information during the grievance process shall be liable for:

- i. A fine up to ₹1,00,000.
- ii. Temporary suspension of operations, where safety or public interest is at risk.

- c) Obstruction of Investigation

Obstruction of the Grievance Redressal Officer (GRO), site inspection teams, or the Authority during grievance resolution proceedings shall attract:

- i. A fine up to ₹1,00,000.
 - ii. Seizure or temporary restriction of adventure activity permits.
- d) Intimidation or Retaliation Against Complainants

Any act of retaliation, coercion, or harassment against a complainant, witness, whistleblower, or any participant in the grievance process shall invite:

 - i. A fine up to ₹5,00,000.
 - ii. Criminal proceedings under relevant IPC sections or applicable laws.
 - iii. Immediate suspension or blacklisting of the responsible ATO or personnel.

16.2. Penalties for Frivolous or Malicious Complaints

To discourage misuse of the mechanism:

- a) Individuals or entities found to have filed malicious, vexatious, or grossly frivolous complaints with the intent to harass or gain undue advantage may be:
 - i. Issued a written warning or censure.
 - ii. Fined up to ₹10,000 upon the second such occurrence.
 - iii. Barred from filing further complaints for a prescribed period, subject to review.

16.3. Penalties for Authority Officials

To ensure accountability within the regulatory system:

- b) Any official of the Authority found to have wilfully delayed, ignored, or mishandled grievance cases without reasonable cause shall be subject to:
 - i. Departmental disciplinary action.
 - ii. A show-cause notice and possible removal from the grievance handling role.
 - iii. A fine deduction from remuneration, as per applicable service rules.

16.4. Escalation and Enforcement

All fines and penalties imposed shall be recoverable as arrears of land revenue. The Authority shall be empowered to enforce orders using assistance from local administration, police, or relevant departments, if required.

Part 6 - Local Community Involvement and Empowerment

Recognizing local and indigenous communities as the traditional custodians of India's diverse landscapes and ecosystems, this Act emphasizes their vital role in sustainable adventure tourism. It seeks to ensure inclusive, equitable participation and empowerment of host communities through structured engagement, capacity-building and benefit-sharing. By promoting livelihood opportunities, cultural preservation and governance participation, the Act aims to foster tourism that respects local heritage, supports economic development and enhances community resilience. This framework aligns with national and international commitments to community rights, environmental stewardship and sustainable development.

Objectives

- a) To ensure that adventure tourism in India is inclusive, equitable and respectful of local and indigenous communities who are the traditional custodians of landscapes and ecosystems.
- b) To promote livelihood generation, cultural preservation, and capacity-building of host communities through structured participation, benefit-sharing, and governance mechanisms.

17. Employment and Economic Participation

- a) Every registered adventure tourism operator shall, to the maximum extent feasible, prioritize the engagement of local individuals for roles including but not limited to:
 - i. Guides/ Instructors and porters/helpers.
 - ii. Cooks and hospitality staff.
 - iii. Transport and logistics personnel.
 - iv. Safety marshals and site maintenance staff.
- b) Operators shall source ancillary services such as accommodation, catering, transportation, equipment rental and waste management from local service providers, cooperatives, or Self-Help Groups (SHGs) wherever such services exist and meet safety standards.
- c) All local workers shall be provided with:
 - i. Written contracts.
 - ii. Fair and timely wages in accordance with the applicable Minimum Wages Act and labour laws.
 - iii. Safe and dignified working conditions.

- d) The Ministry and State Nodal Agencies shall facilitate access to low-interest loans, grants and public-private partnerships for the development and scaling of community-owned tourism enterprises.

17.1. Capacity Building and Skill Development

- a) It shall be mandatory for operators to invest a fixed percentage, as notified by the Ministry of their annual operating budget in local skill development.
- b) Operators shall conduct or sponsor certified training programs in:
 - i. Wilderness first aid and emergency response.
 - ii. Activity-specific skills for land, air and water-based adventure.
 - iii. Hospitality management and communication.
 - iv. Environmental sustainability and waste handling.
- c) Training shall be undertaken in collaboration with:
 - i. District Skill Development Authorities.
 - ii. Accredited NGOs and training agencies.
 - iii. National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) programs.

17.2. Cultural Sensitivity and Heritage Recognition

- a) All operators and their clients shall undergo a mandatory cultural sensitization briefing before participating in activities near or within local communities.
- b) No cultural event, ritual, sacred space, or performance shall be engaged with, recorded, or displayed without:
 - i. Prior informed consent from the community.
 - ii. Ethical guidelines for representation and attribution.
- c) Any act of cultural appropriation, misrepresentation, or unauthorized commercial use of indigenous knowledge shall constitute a punishable offence under this Act.
- d) Operators shall allocate a percentage of site-level revenue, as notified, to support:
 - i. Cultural preservation efforts.
 - ii. Community heritage centres.
 - iii. Documentation of Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK).

17.3. Governance and Representation

- a) Local community representatives shall be mandatorily included in:
 - i. Site-Level Tourism Management Committees.
 - ii. State Adventure Tourism Boards.
 - iii. Monitoring and audit panels under this Act.

- b) Any proposed tourism activity that may significantly impact local landscapes, ecosystems, or livelihoods shall be subject to a Community Impact Assessment (CIA) and Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC).
- c) Communities shall retain the right to veto or demand modification of projects through a documented resolution passed by the Gram Sabha or Village Council.

17.4. Benefit-Sharing and Community-Led Tourism

- a) **Operators and the local Panchayat or community body shall collaboratively:**
 - i. Establish transparent and equitable revenue-sharing arrangements.
 - ii. Jointly manage tourism routes, campsites and related facilities.
 - iii. Define clear roles and responsibilities for community monitoring.
 - b) **Community-led enterprises, such as eco-tourism cooperatives or Self-Help Groups (SHGs), shall be encouraged and supported through:**
 - i. Priority access to tourism infrastructure concessions.
 - ii. The issuance of permits for managing trails, campsites and interpretation centers.
 - iii. Active participation in government promotional schemes and capacity-building programs.
-

PART 7 - SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES OR SPECIAL NEEDS

18. Special provisions for persons with disabilities

This section ensures compliance with the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (RPWD Act - GOI), UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD), ISO 21101:2014 (Adventure Tourism Safety Management) and Harmonised Guidelines for Universal Accessibility in India - 2021 and international accessibility and safety standards, and adventure tourism-specific risk management principles to promote inclusive and safe participation in adventure tourism.

18.1. Definitions

- a) **"Person with Disability"**: As defined under RPWD Act 2016 Section 2(s), encompassing physical, sensory, intellectual, or psychosocial impairments.
- b) **"Accessibility"**: Design of environments/products/services per RPWD Act Section 2(i) and ISO 21542.
- c) **"Reasonable Accommodation"**: Modifications under RPWD Act Section 2(y) and UNCRPD Article 2, not imposing undue burden.
- d) **"High-Risk Activity"**: Adventure pursuits with elevated injury probability (e.g., mountaineering, white-water rafting).

18.2. Accessibility Compliance

Operators shall conform to the following standards:

- a) Physical Infrastructure: ISO 21542 (Building accessibility) and NBC 2016 Annex D (Indian accessibility standards) for trails, transport, campsites and lodges.
- b) Retrofit existing facilities within 36 months; new builds to exceed ISO 21542 standards.
- c) Equipment: ISO 21101:2014 Clause 6.3 (Adaptive adventure gear safety) and ASTM F3230 (Inclusive activity design).
- d) Integrate universal design principles for all new infrastructure and equipment
- e) Publish accessibility features/limitations (terrain gradients, weight limits) in booking materials.

18.3. Staff Training and Competency

- a) Training modules must include:
- b) RPWD Act compliance, particularly Section 26 (Accessibility duties).
- c) ISO 21101:2014 Annex B (Inclusive emergency protocols).

- d) Certified courses from the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI), National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM), or National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC).
 - i. All staff, guides and instructors shall be certified in inclusive practices and emergency handling for persons with special needs.
 - ii. Training documentation must be submitted biennially to the State Adventure Tourism Regulatory Authority.

18.4. Accessible Information

- a) Information for participants must be provided in accessible formats complying with:
 - i. Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 AA standards for digital content.
 - ii. Right of Person with Disability Act (RPWD) Act Section 42 for accessible communication.
- b) Mandatory sign language interpretation shall be provided for all high-risk activity briefings.
- c) Emergency contact and itinerary details must be available in Braille, large print and audio formats upon request.

18.5. Individualized Safety Planning

- a) Pre-activity risk assessments must be conducted as per ISO 21101:2014 Clause 8.2 to evaluate the physical and mental capability of persons with disabilities to safely undertake the proposed activity.
- b) Individual Accommodation Plans (IAPs) must be developed for each participant with special needs, detailing personalized safety measures, assistance required and specific equipment to be used.
- c) Emergency response plans must align with NDMA's Disability-Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction Guidelines.

18.6. Non-Discrimination

- a) No person with a disability shall be excluded from participating in an activity solely on the basis of their disability subject to risk analysis as per the applicable standards, except where:
 - i. A risk assessment conducted under ISO 31000:2018 verifies imminent and unavoidable safety threats.
 - ii. Alternatives or safer adaptations are offered in accordance with Section 3(3) of the RPWD Act.
- b) Differential pricing based on disability is strictly prohibited under Section 19 of the RPWD Act.

18.7. Transparency and Disclosure

Operators shall publish:

- a) Accessibility audit reports certified under ISO 17020 (Inspection body standards).
- b) Limitations on participation or activity scope, validated and endorsed by the State Adventure Tourism Safety Authority (SATSA) or State Tourism Board.

18.8. Enforcement and Penalties

- a) Non-compliance with the provisions of this section shall attract penalties under Adventure Tourism Safety Law/Act:
 - i. First Violation: Written warning and 90-day compliance directive.
 - ii. Second Violation: Fine ranging from ₹50,000 to ₹2,00,000 and temporary suspension.
 - iii. Repeated Violations: License cancellation and blacklisting up to 3 years.
- b) Provisions in line with the Maharashtra Adventure Tourism Policy 2021 and similar state-specific frameworks may be enforced concurrently.

18.9. Recordkeeping

- a) All records relating to accessibility training, individual assessments and accommodation plans shall be maintained for a period of 5 years.
- b) Operators shall submit:
 - i. Annual accessibility compliance reports to the State Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities.
 - ii. Biennial inclusive tourism audits to the Ministry of Tourism.

18.10. Review Mechanism

The Ministry of Tourism, in collaboration with registered Disability Rights Organizations (DROs) under the RPWD Act, shall:

- a) Review this framework every three years.
- b) Integrate updates from NDMA, BIS and international standards bodies into future revisions.

ANNEXURE 1

Activities Referred to in the Definition of Adventure Activity

Note: Each activity listed in this schedule exemplifies an adventure activity, applicable solely to the extent that Section 3.2. pertains to the activity.

1. Abseiling (if conducted outdoors)
2. All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) Tours
3. Boarding (Desert, Mountain and Sea)
4. Boating (Banana Ride, Disco Water, Sofa Ride and Towable Ride)
5. Bungee Jumping
6. Camping
7. Canoeing
8. Canyon Swinging
9. Caving
10. Cliff Jumping
11. Glacier Walking
12. High Ropes Course Crossing, High Wire Crossing, or Use of a Zip Wire or Ziplining.
13. Hiking
14. Jet Skiing (PWC)/Water Skiing/Jet Pack/Fly Board
15. Kayaking
16. Mountaineering
17. Mountain Biking/Motor Biking
18. Nature Walks/Bird Watching
19. Quad Biking or Trail Biking
20. Paddle Boarding
21. Rafting
22. Rock Climbing/Rappelling/Bouldering (if conducted outdoors)
23. Safaris
24. Scuba Diving
25. Snorkelling
26. Surfing
27. Snow Activities (if conducted outdoors and outside a patrolled ski area), including:
 - a) Skiing,
 - b) Snowboarding
28. Trekking
29. Zorbing

ANNEXURE 2

ISO 21101:2014 - *Adventure Tourism Safety Management Systems*

1. Introduction

ISO 21101:2014 is an international standard that specifies requirements for safety management systems (SMS) tailored to adventure tourism activity providers. It offers a structured framework to enhance safety performance, ensure participant and staff safety, demonstrate safe practices and support compliance with applicable legal requirements.

2. Scope and Applicability

This standard is applicable to all types and sizes of adventure tourism providers, operating in diverse geographic, cultural, and social environments. It is particularly relevant for activities such as hiking, zip-lining, climbing, rafting, mountain biking, skiing, snowboarding, skin diving and base jumping.

3. Core Components of ISO 21101:2014

- a) Safety Management System (SMS):** Organizations are required to establish, implement, maintain and continually improve an SMS that includes:
 - i. Safety objectives and targets
 - ii. Roles and responsibilities for safety
 - iii. Training and competency requirements
 - iv. Incident reporting and investigation procedures
 - v. Emergency response and evacuation plans
 - vi. Equipment maintenance and inspection procedures
- b) Risk Assessment and Management:** The standard outlines procedures for identifying, assessing and managing risks associated with adventure tourism activities, including environmental, social and operational risks.
- c) Training and Competency:** Organizations must ensure that staff and guides are adequately trained and competent, including training in first aid, emergency response and specific skills related to the adventure tourism activity.
- d) Equipment:** Organizations must ensure that equipment used in adventure tourism activities is fit for purpose, well-maintained and inspected regularly to ensure safety.
- e) Customer Information:** Participants should be provided with clear and accurate information about the risks associated with the adventure tourism activity, as well as any requirements or prerequisites for participation.

- f) Monitoring and Continuous Improvement:** Organizations are required to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of their SMS and make continuous improvements based on feedback, incident reports and changing circumstances.
- g) Legal and Regulatory Compliance:** Organizations must comply with relevant laws, regulations and industry standards related to adventure tourism safety.

4. Benefits of ISO 21101:2014 Certification

- a) Risk Reduction and Enhanced Safety:** Implementing the standard helps in delivering services that consistently meet safety requirements and are dependable.
- b) Regulatory Compliance:** Facilitates understanding and adherence to statutory and regulatory requirements.
- c) Improved Stakeholder Relationships:** Enhances the perception of the organization among staff, customers and suppliers.
- d) Improved Risk Management:** Ensures greater consistency and traceability of services, making problems easier to avoid and rectify.
- e) Proven Business Credentials:** Independent verification against a globally recognized standard demonstrates commitment to safety.

5. International Adoption

ISO 21101 is increasingly being adopted globally. For instance, Switzerland mandates its use for certain high-risk outdoor adventure activities. In India, states like Kerala and Maharashtra have integrated ISO 21101 into their adventure tourism safety regulations.

6. Conclusion

Incorporating ISO 21101:2014 into adventure tourism safety laws provides a comprehensive framework for managing safety risks. It ensures that adventure tourism providers operate with a consistent approach to safety, thereby protecting participants and enhancing the overall quality and credibility of adventure tourism services.

ANNEXURE 3

ISO 21102:2020 – Adventure Tourism – Leaders – Personnel Competence

1. Introduction

ISO 21102:2020 is an international standard that specifies the minimum competence requirements for adventure tourism activity leaders. These individuals are directly responsible for leading, supervising, instructing or guiding participants during adventure tourism activities. The standard is designed to ensure that personnel demonstrate appropriate behavior, technical skills, decision-making and communication in outdoor and potentially hazardous environments.

3. Scope and Applicability

This standard is applicable to any individual or organization that provides adventure tourism experiences involving direct interaction between leaders and participants. It covers land, water and air-based activities such as trekking, rafting, skiing, scuba diving, mountaineering and more. ISO 21102 is intended for use in conjunction with ISO 21101:2014, which outlines the safety management system requirements.

3. Core Components of ISO 21102:2020

- a) **Competence Requirements:** The standard defines competence based on the combination of knowledge, skills and personal attributes necessary for adventure activity leaders to effectively and safely manage participants. This includes:
 - i. **Technical skills** specific to the activity (e.g., climbing techniques, equipment handling).
 - ii. **Leadership and interpersonal skills** to manage groups in dynamic environments.
 - iii. **Environmental awareness**, including weather, terrain, flora, fauna and sustainable practices.
 - iv. **Health and safety management**, including emergency procedures and first aid.

b) Training and Assessment:

Leaders must undergo appropriate training programs and assessments, ideally through certified and accredited institutions. Key aspects include:

- i. Activity-specific technical training.
- ii. Risk perception and mitigation techniques.
- iii. Wilderness First Aid or remote emergency response certifications.
- iv. Cultural sensitivity and communication.

c) Behaviour and Ethics:

Adventure leaders are expected to uphold high ethical standards, including:

- i. Respect for local communities and cultural contexts.
- ii. Encouragement of responsible behavior from participants.
- iii. Adherence to "Leave No Trace" principles and ecological conservation.

d) Supervision and Review:

Organizations must regularly assess and monitor their leaders to ensure continued competence. This includes periodic training, performance reviews and updates based on feedback, incidents or changes in operating environments.

4. Benefits of ISO 21102:2020 Adoption

- a) **Enhanced Participant Safety:** Ensures all leaders possess critical safety and emergency response skills.
- b) **Professionalization of Sector:** Promotes standardization and credibility of guides and instructors.
- c) **Improved Service Quality:** Skilled leaders create better group experiences and manage risks more effectively.
- d) **Global Recognition:** Aligns with best international practices, supporting cross-border tourism collaborations and certifications.

5. International Adoption

Countries with established adventure tourism frameworks, such as France, Switzerland and Japan, mandate the use of competence standards aligned with ISO 21102. In India, institutes like the Nehru Institute of Mountaineering and ABVIMAS follow similar training benchmarks for guide certification.

6. Conclusion

Integrating ISO 21102:2020 into national and state-level adventure tourism guidelines is critical to ensuring participant safety and the professional development of adventure leaders. By setting clear benchmarks for technical and behavioral competence, this standard enhances the credibility and sustainability of adventure tourism operations globally.

ANNEXURE 4

UIAA/IFMGA/ICAR Guidelines - Mountain and Expedition Safety

1. Introduction

The UIAA (International Climbing and Mountaineering Federation), IFMGA (International Federation of Mountain Guides Associations) and ICAR (International Commission for Alpine Rescue) are globally recognized organizations that provide comprehensive guidelines for safety in mountain adventure activities. These guidelines collectively promote safe practices in climbing, trekking, skiing, mountaineering and expeditions, particularly in high- altitude and alpine environments.

2. Scope and Applicability

These guidelines are applicable to adventure tourism operators, mountaineering schools, expedition organizers, rescue teams and government agencies involved in managing and regulating high-altitude and mountainous activities. They cover:

- a) Recreational and commercial trekking and climbing.
- b) Expeditions (e.g., Himalayan peaks, international climbs).
- c) Ski mountaineering, glacier travel and avalanche-prone activities.
- d) High-altitude rescue and search operations.

3. Core Components of UIAA/IFMGA/ICAR Guidelines

a) Personnel Qualification and Training:

- i. **UIAA & IFMGA Guidelines** emphasize proper certification for guides, instructors and support staff.
- ii. Training must include rope work, navigation, altitude sickness response, avalanche risk assessment and crevasse rescue.
- iii. IFMGA-certified mountain guides must complete rigorous, standardized programs across partner countries.

b) Equipment Standards (UIAA):

- i. UIAA certifies technical gear such as carabiners, ropes, harnesses, helmets, ice axes and crampons.
- ii. All equipment must meet durability, strength and usability standards.
- iii. Regular inspections, maintenance and documentation are mandatory.

c) Safety and Risk Management:

- i. Structured approach to route planning, risk analysis and decision-making in unpredictable mountain environments.

- ii. Use of weather forecasts, route marking, time scheduling and group management techniques.
- iii. Promotion of accident prevention through best practices and real-time situational awareness.

d) Rescue Operations (ICAR):

- i. ICAR sets protocols for mountain rescue teams, including helicopter evacuations, stretcher handling and remote access rescues.
- ii. Integration of GPS, VHF/UHF communication, drones and avalanche transceivers.
- iii. Guidelines for collaboration with civil authorities and local response units.

e) Environmental and Ethical Practices:

- i. Emphasis on “**Leave No Trace**” principles and ecological conservation in fragile mountain ecosystems.
- ii. Cultural sensitivity toward local communities and indigenous populations.
- iii. Waste disposal, camp site management and group size control.

4. Benefits of Adoption

- i. **Participant Protection:** Ensures activities are led by competent professionals using tested equipment.
- ii. **Accident Prevention:** Reduces fatalities and incidents through planned risk management and training.
- iii. **Global Recognition:** Builds international confidence in Indian operators and destinations.
- iv. **Sustainable Practices:** Encourages respect for local culture, biodiversity and community wellbeing.

5. International and Indian Context

- a) Europe:** IFMGA guides are mandatory for leading expeditions in countries like Switzerland, France and Italy.
- b) India:** Institutes like the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute (HMI), NIM and ABVIMAS integrate UIAA and IFMGA-aligned training programs. However, formal nationwide regulation is still evolving.

6. Conclusion

The integration of UIAA, IFMGA and ICAR guidelines into India’s adventure tourism safety frameworks will elevate operational standards for high-altitude and expedition activities. These guidelines serve as benchmarks for mountain safety, guide professionalism and sustainable alpine tourism development.

ANNEXURE 5

DGCA/ICAO Norms - Air-Based Adventure Activities

1. Introduction

Air-based adventure tourism activities such as paragliding, paramotoring, skydiving, hot air ballooning and microlight flying require strict adherence to aviation safety regulations due to the elevated risk levels involved. The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) in India and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) provide comprehensive regulatory frameworks for safe operation of these aerial activities.

2. Scope and Applicability

These norms apply to all commercial and recreational operators offering air-based adventure activities, including private entities, clubs, federations and tourism operators. The norms govern:

- a) Aircraft/aircraft-like equipment used for tourism and sport.
- b) Operators, pilots, instructors and ground staff.
- c) Airspace use permits and No-Fly Zones (NFZs).
- d) Safety infrastructure and emergency procedures.

3. Core Components of DGCA/ICAO Norms

a) Licensing and Certification:

- i. **Pilot Licensing:** All operators must ensure pilots/instructors are licensed under appropriate DGCA regulations (e.g., SPL, PPL, FIC).
- ii. **Aircraft/Equipment Certification:** All aircraft, including microlights and gliders, must be registered and airworthy as per DGCA-approved categories.
- iii. **Organizational Accreditation:** Operators must be registered entities and obtain DGCA-approved authorization (e.g., NSOP – Non-Scheduled Operator Permit, ATO - Approved Training Organization).

b) Flight Operations and Safety Procedures:

- i. **Pre-flight Briefings:** Mandatory briefings to all participants about safety precautions, harness use, communication signals and behaviour protocols.
- ii. **Operational Planning:** Includes weather forecasting, site surveys and designated take-off and landing zones.
- iii. **No-Fly Zones:** Compliance with ICAO airspace classifications and DGCA-designated restricted areas (e.g., near airports, defence bases).

- iv. **Air Traffic Coordination:** Where applicable, coordination with local ATC (Air Traffic Control) is essential.

c) Equipment and Maintenance:

- i. Regular inspection, maintenance logs, and shelf-life monitoring of safety equipment (e.g., parachutes, altimeters, radios).
- ii. Use of DGCA-compliant aircraft fitted with GPS tracking, radio systems and emergency locator transmitters (ELT), where applicable.

d) Personnel Competency:

- i. All ground crew and instructors must be trained in first aid, emergency handling and evacuation protocols.
- ii. Refresher training and medical fitness checks for pilots are required at regular intervals.

e) Emergency and Incident Management:

- i. Provision for emergency landings, crash protocols and immediate medical assistance.
- ii. Incident reporting to DGCA with detailed analysis and root cause evaluation.

4. Benefits of Adoption

- i. **Safety Assurance:** Minimizes aviation-related risks for tourists and operators.
- ii. **Legal Compliance:** Aligns operations with national civil aviation and international norms.
- iii. **Tourism Promotion:** Builds trust among domestic and international adventure tourists.
- iv. **Disaster Preparedness:** Improves readiness for handling unforeseen aerial incidents.

5. International and Indian Context

a) ICAO Standards: As a member state, India must align its civil aviation policies with ICAO's Chicago Convention and Annexures (notably Annex 6 - Operation of Aircraft, Annex 1 - Personnel Licensing).

b) India-Specific Regulations: DGCA's Civil Aviation Requirements (CAR), particularly Section 7 (Flying Training) and Section 2 (Airworthiness), guide sport aviation.

Notable initiatives:

- i. Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand mandate DGCA compliance for paragliding zones.

- ii. Balloon festivals in Rajasthan and Goa follow operator safety checklists issued by DGCA.

6. Conclusion

Incorporating DGCA and ICAO norms into the national adventure tourism safety framework ensures standardized, reliable, and legally compliant aerial adventure experiences. With increasing demand for air-based adventure activities in India, such regulation is critical to safeguarding lives and sustaining tourism sector growth.

ANNEXURE 6

SOLAS and IMCA Norms - Water-Based Adventure Activities

1. Introduction

Water-based adventure tourism activities including scuba diving, snorkelling, sea kayaking, rafting, sailing, jet skiing and underwater exploration require strict safety protocols due to inherent aquatic risks. The **International Maritime Organization (IMO)** regulates marine safety through the **SOLAS (Safety of Life at Sea)** Convention, while the **International Marine Contractors Association (IMCA)** provides operational guidance for diving and underwater activities. Together, these frameworks form the backbone of global maritime and underwater safety.

2. Scope and Applicability

These norms apply to all operators, guides and facilitators of water-based adventure activities whether in oceans, rivers, lakes or artificial water bodies. They are relevant for:

- a) Scuba and snorkelling operators
- b) White-water rafting and kayaking companies
- c) Jet ski and personal watercraft rentals
- d) Marine tours, sailboats and recreational cruises
- e) Diving service providers and underwater adventure operators

3. Core Components of SOLAS and IMCA Norms

a) Vessel and Equipment Standards (SOLAS):

- i. All vessels used in commercial operations must comply with SOLAS guidelines concerning:
 - Life-saving appliances (life jackets, rafts, flares)
 - Fire protection and safety systems
 - Navigation systems and communication equipment
- ii. Vessels must be certified, regularly inspected and manned by trained and qualified personnel.
- iii. Safety drills and passenger briefings are compulsory for longer marine trips.

b) Diving and Underwater Operations (IMCA):

- i. IMCA sets strict guidelines for:
 - **Diver qualifications and certification** (e.g., PADI, SSI, CMAS equivalents)
 - **Dive team composition**, including surface supervisors and standby divers

- **Use of safety equipment** like dive computers, oxygen kits, surface marker buoys and underwater communication systems
 - **Depth limitations** and pressure management
 - ii. Dive planning must include hazard assessments, decompression schedules and emergency recovery protocols.
- c) Risk Assessment and Site Suitability:**
- i. Site-specific risk assessments must be carried out, including:
 - Water currents, tides and underwater topography
 - Accessibility for emergency response teams
 - Wildlife activity, seasonal hazards and water pollution levels
 - ii. Environmental and cultural site integrity must be preserved.
- d) Competency and Training:**
- i. Water activity guides must be trained in:
 - Open Water Rescue, CPR and oxygen administration
 - Navigation, vessel operation (if applicable) and emergency signalling
 - ii. Boat operators must hold marine driver licenses with experience in recreational water tourism.
- e) Emergency Preparedness:**
- Operators must maintain Emergency Response Plans (ERP) that include:
- Man, overboard drills
 - Near-drowning procedures
 - Rapid evacuation routes
 - Coordination with coast guards or marine rescue services

4. Benefits of Adoption

- a) **Minimized Risk of Water Accidents:** Enhances survival outcomes in case of emergencies.
- b) **Environmental Sustainability:** Encourages eco-responsible water-based tourism practices.
- c) **International Standards Alignment:** Builds credibility for operators seeking foreign clientele.
- d) **Stronger Legal Defence:** Demonstrates due diligence in liability cases.

5. International and Indian Context

- a) International:** SOLAS is a binding treaty enforced by port and coastal nations worldwide. IMCA is accepted as a global diving operations standard, particularly in Europe, Asia-Pacific and the Middle East.
- b) India:**
 - a. States like Goa, Kerala and Andaman & Nicobar Islands have started aligning water activity licensing with SOLAS/IMCA principles.
 - b. Indian Maritime University and Naval academies also adopt parts of these standards for training.

6. Conclusion

Incorporating SOLAS and IMCA norms into India's water-based adventure tourism safety standards will significantly enhance operational security, environmental compliance and customer trust. These international frameworks support professionalized aquatic adventure operations, reduce accident risk and ensure consistent safety across all forms of water-based experiences.

ANNEXURE 7

BIS - Indian Safety Standards for Adventure Tourism Activities

1. Introduction

The **Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)**, under the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, is the national standards body of India. BIS develops and publishes safety and quality standards across various sectors. In the context of adventure tourism, BIS has begun formulating standards aligned with international norms such as ISO 21101:2014, with the aim of contextualizing safety protocols to India's unique geography, climate and regulatory ecosystem.

2. Scope and Applicability

BIS standards for adventure tourism are designed to apply to a wide range of activities, including:

- a) Land-based (e.g., trekking, mountaineering, rock climbing, zip-lining)
- b) Air-based (e.g., paragliding, ballooning)
- c) Water-based (e.g., rafting, kayaking, scuba diving)

These standards are meant for tour operators, government bodies, training institutions, equipment manufacturers and safety auditors.

3. Core Components of BIS Standards for Adventure Tourism

a) Alignment with ISO 21101:

- i. BIS has adopted **IS/ISO 21101:2014** as an Indian standard titled *IS 17667:2021 – Adventure Tourism – Safety Management System – Requirements*.
- ii. It incorporates India-specific provisions such as:
 - Use of local terminology and languages for customer briefings.
 - Regional climatic conditions, terrain-specific hazards and local rescue agency protocols.

b) Minimum Requirements for Operators:

- i. Registration with state tourism departments.
- ii. Staff must hold valid certifications from recognized adventure training institutes like NIM, HMI, IHCAE, ABVIMAS.
- iii. Operators must submit Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and Risk Assessment Plans for approval.

c) Equipment Quality:

- i. Equipment such as harnesses, ropes, helmets, carabiners, rafts and life jackets must conform to relevant **IS codes**, e.g.:
 - IS 11066 for climbing ropes
 - IS 3521 for safety belts and harnesses
 - IS 15809 for inflatable rafts
- ii. BIS mandates batch testing, labelling, shelf-life tracking and disposal protocols for expired gear.

d) Guide and Instructor Competency:

- i. BIS standards emphasize Indian ecosystem readiness:
 - High-altitude acclimatization protocols
 - Monsoon and flood response preparedness
 - Conflict-prone area travel management
- ii. Training modules must align with **National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF)** for the tourism sector.

e) Customer Safety and Disclosures:

- a) Mandatory pre-activity safety briefings in regional languages.
- b) Display of emergency contact details at activity sites.
- c) Written risk acknowledgments from participants and parental consent for minors.

f) Auditing and Compliance:

- a) BIS encourages **Third-Party Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs)** to audit and certify operators.
- b) Non-compliance may result in loss of license or financial penalties by state authorities.

4. Benefits of BIS Standards

- a) **Localized Risk Mitigation:** Addresses specific environmental and regional risks.
- b) **Legal Readiness:** Acts as a reference in dispute resolution and liability cases.
- c) **Boosts Credibility:** Helps operators gain recognition through Indian national certification.
- d) **Industry Alignment:** Encourages harmonization of central and state-level safety practices.

5. Current Adoption in India

- a) **States like Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Goa** have adopted BIS-based frameworks in collaboration with the Ministry of Tourism.
- b) BIS is working with the Indian Mountaineering Foundation (IMF) and the Adventure Tour Operators Association of India (ATOAI) to develop activity-specific Indian standards for zip-lining, paragliding, rafting and camping.

6. Conclusion

BIS plays a critical role in “Indianizing” global safety standards for adventure tourism. Its emphasis on contextual risk, linguistic inclusivity and operator competency ensures a culturally relevant and legally enforceable approach to adventure safety. Adoption of BIS norms strengthens India's ability to scale adventure tourism responsibly and sustainably.

ANNEXURE 8

Safety Audit Checklist for Adventure Tourism Operators

(Aligned with Global Best Practices & Regulatory Standards)

A. OPERATOR INFORMATION

1. Name of Adventure Operator: _____
2. Registration No. (MoT/SATRA): _____
3. Type of Adventure Activities
(Land/Water/Air): _____
4. Primary Locations of Operation: _____
5. Date of Audit: _____
6. Auditor Name & Accreditation No.:
(License issued by MoT/SATRA): _____

AUDIT INSTRUCTIONS

Each item is to be scored on a 0–3 scale:

3 = Fully Compliant

2 = Partially Compliant

1 = Non-Compliant

0 = Not Applicable

Provide remarks for all scores below 3.

Sections carry differential weightage based on criticality.

B. SAFETY AUDIT SCORING TABLE

SECTION B1: LEGAL & DOCUMENTATION COMPLIANCE (Max Score: 36)

S.N	Criteria	Score (0–3)	Remarks
1	Valid license under State Adventure Tourism Board/ Regularity Authority		
2	Valid Insurance Coverage for Clients, Staff & Equipment		
3	Documented and approved ERP and risk assessment for each activity (HIRA Methodology)		
4	Valid permissions from all statutory bodies (forest, coast, etc.)		
5	Client Consent Forms and medical declarations maintained		
6	Gender, Person with Disabilities or Special Needs & Child Safety Measures (where applicable)		
7	Display of Safety Signages, Do's/Don'ts SOPs, legal licenses, emergency signage on premises		
8	Incident/accident reporting records maintained (min. 3 years)		
9	Compliance with documentation retention and audit trail policies		
10	Operator's self-declaration of legal and policy compliance available		

11	Compliance with industry codes of good practice		
12	Documented Safety Policy & Defined Safety Objectives (ISO 21101.4 & .5)		

Sub-Total B1 ____ / 36

SECTION B2: PERSONNEL QUALIFICATION & TRAINING (Max Score: 33)

S.N	Criteria	Score (0–3)	Remarks
1	Guides/staff certified under relevant Indian/international standards		
2	First aid and CPR certified staff on every activity		
3	Staff-to-client ratio meets statutory minimums		
4	Training logs including refresher training and skill drills maintained		
5	Background verification of all adventure and support staff done		
6	Anti-drug and alcohol safety policy enforced		
7	Defined leadership and support roles for activity		
8	Drivers possess valid commercial permits and fitness certificates		
9	Briefing agenda includes reminders of activity-specific hazards		
10	Annual review of training records		
11	Activity-specific certified instructors (e.g. IFMGA, WFR, Rescue 3, DGCA, PADI, etc.)		

Sub-Total B2 ____ / 33

SECTION B3: EQUIPMENT & TECHNICAL SAFETY (Max Score: 33)

S.N	Criteria	Score (0–3)	Remarks
1	Equipment adheres to ISO/EN/UIAA/BIS standards		
2	Pre-event equipment inspection conducted and recorded		
3	Daily usage logs and condition checks maintained		
4	PPE provided, regularly replaced and fit-tested		
5	Third-party safety certification obtained annually		
6	Equipment clearly labelled and stored as per SOP		
7	Maintenance, replacement and retirement policies enforced		
8	Sanitation protocols followed for reusable equipment		
9	Weatherproof storage & checklist for issue/return process		
10	Emergency and communication devices checked before use		
11	Post-activity equipment care procedures followed		

Sub-Total B3 ____ / 33

SECTION B4: CLIENT ORIENTATION & SAFETY BRIEFINGS (Max Score: 24)

S.N	Criteria	Score (0–3)	Remarks
1	Pre-activity briefing including risks and procedures conducted		
2	Safety briefings delivered in regional and official languages		
3	Demonstration of use of gear and PPE performed live		
4	Attendance log and client signatures documented		
5	Medical history and fitness levels screened		
6	Waivers, ID proof and contact details collected		
7	Client expectations and emergency behaviour explained		
8	Documented waiver and briefing SOP followed		

Sub-Total B4 _____ / 24

SECTION B5: ENVIRONMENTAL & ETHICAL PRACTICES (Max Score: 27)

S.N	Criteria	Score (0–3)	Remarks
1	Activity adheres to Leave No Trace and sustainable tourism guidelines		
2	Animal interaction (if any) is ethical and as per national SOP		
3	Eco-friendly materials used; no plastic/flammables left behind		
4	Community involvement in planning or delivery of services		
5	Natural hazards identified and mitigated		
6	Pre-event site assessment and environmental briefing conducted		
7	GSTC-aligned LNT principles adopted		
8	Carbon footprint reduction measures (ISO 14064)		
9	Wildlife disturbance mitigation (IUCN Guidelines)		

Sub-Total B5 _____ / 27

SECTION B6: EMERGENCY & INCIDENT PREPAREDNESS (Max Score: 36)

S.N	Criteria	Score (0–3)	Remarks
1	Stocked first aid kits accessible at base and on-site		
2	Emergency exit and rescue plan displayed at all locations		
3	Real-time communication systems tested and documented		
4	Coordination with local EMS and hospital/trauma centre		
5	Emergency drills conducted quarterly with records		
6	Post-incident debriefs and learning logs maintained		
7	Emergency contact numbers posted at operational sites		

8	Vehicles and rescue kits checked pre-departure		
9	'Activity Complete' notification protocol in place		
10	Quarterly Safety Committee Meetings conducted		
11	Satellite communication system available (e.g., Inmarsat)		
12	AED & trauma kits available (AHA Guidelines)		

Sub-Total B6 ____ / 36

C. TOTAL SCORE & COMPLIANCE STATUS

S.N	Section	No. of Criteria	Max Score	Achieved
1	B1: Legal & Docs	12	36	
2	B2: Personnel	11	33	
3	B3: Equipment Safety	11	33	
4	B4: Client Briefing	8	24	
5	B5: Environment	9	27	
6	B6: Emergency Readiness	12	36	
7	TOTAL	63	189	

D. GRADING MATRIX

S.N	Score Range (out of 189)	Compliance Level	Action Recommended
1	169 – 189	Excellent (Green)	Fully compliant, continue operations
2	139 – 169	Satisfactory	Minor corrective actions required
3	100 – 139	Needs Improvement	Compliance improvement plan required
4	Below 100	Non-Compliant	Activity to be suspended until rectified

Annexure 8.1

Optional Activity-Based Audit Checklist

To be completed for relevant activities only. These criteria are not included in the core audit score (189 points) but are mandatory for operators seeking activity-specific endorsements.

A. LAND-BASED ACTIVITIES

1. Trekking & Mountaineering

S.N	Checkpoint	Standard Reference (Full Form)	Compliance (Y/N/NA)	Remarks
1	UIAA/CE-certified climbing gear (ropes, carabiners, harnesses)	UIAA 101, EN 892, BIS IS 3521		
2	Regular gear inspection logs	UIAA 123		
3	Avalanche safety gear (for snow zones)	ASTM F2045, CAA Standards		
4	High-altitude medical kits	Wilderness Medical Society (WMS) / Wilderness Medical Associates (WMA)		

2. Mountain Biking & Cycling

S.N	Checkpoint	Standard Reference (Full Form)	Compliance (Y/N/NA)	Remarks
1	Helmets (CE EN 1078)	CPSC, BIS IS 4151		
2	Bike maintenance logs	IMBA Trail Guidelines		
3	Knee/elbow pads for technical Trails	ASTM F2040		

3. Rock Climbing & Via Ferrata

S.N	Checkpoint	Standard Reference (Full Form)	Compliance (Y/N/NA)	Remarks
1	Dynamic climbing ropes	EN 892, UIAA 101		
2	Via Ferrata lanyards	EN 958, UIAA 128		
3	Anchor point integrity checks	IRATA, SPRAT		

4. Caving / Spelunking

S.N	Checkpoint	Standard Reference (Full Form)	Compliance (Y/N/NA)	Remarks
1	Headlamps, backup lighting Systems	NSS, UIAA, BIS IS 10322		
2	Cave mapping and navigation Plan	IUS		
3	CO2 and oxygen levels checked	OSHA/NIOSH, BIS IS 11255		

5. ATV / Off-Roading

S.N	Checkpoint	Standard Reference (Full Form)	Compliance (Y/N/NA)	Remarks
1	Helmets and protective gear	DOT, ECE R22.05, BIS IS 4151		
2	ATV maintenance & inspection logs	ROHVA		
	Terrain briefing and safety Perimeters	Tread Lightly! Guidelines		

6. Obstacle Courses / Adventure Parks

S.N	Checkpoint	Standard Reference (Full Form)	Compliance (Y/N/NA)	Remarks
1	Structure certified by Engineer	ISO 9001, EN 15567-1, BIS IS 875		
2	Safety gear provided	UIAA, CE EN 12277, BIS IS 2925		
3	Trained facilitators with incident response training	ACCT Standards		

7. Horseback Riding / Equine Trails

S.N	Checkpoint	Standard Reference (Full Form)	Compliance (Y/N/NA)	Remarks
1	Equine health & vaccination Records	FEI, AWBI India		
2	Trail briefings include animal Behavior	BHS		
3	Rider helmet and tack inspection	ASTM F1163, BIS IS 15827		

8. Tree-Based Adventures

S.N	Checkpoint	Standard Reference (Full Form)	Compliance (Y/N/NA)	Remarks
1	Tree health/load assessment by Arborist	ISA		
2	PPE for tree climbing	ANSI Z133, BIS IS 3521		
3	Fall arrest lifelines installed	OSHA, EN 360, BIS IS 3521		

B. WATER-BASED ACTIVITIES**1. Whitewater Rafting & Kayaking**

S.N	Checkpoint	Standard Reference (Full Form)	Compliance (Y/N/NA)	Remarks
1	SOLAS-approved life jackets	ISO 12402-3, IMCA D014, IRF, BIS IS 15809		
2	Whitewater helmets	CE EN 1385, IRF		
3	Throw bags & rescue ropes	EN 1891, Rescue 3 International		

2. Scuba Diving & Snorkeling

S.N	Checkpoint	Standard Reference (Full Form)	Compliance (Y/N/NA)	Remarks
1	Dive equipment servicing logs	PADI/SSI, ISO 24801, EN 14153		
2	Oxygen & first aid kits	DAN Standards		
3	Dive computer & depth gauges	CE EN 13319, WRSTC		

3. Surfing & SUP

S.N	Checkpoint	Standard Reference (Full Form)	Compliance (Y/N/NA)	Remarks
1	Leash & flotation devices	ISO 6185-1, ISA		
2	Rip current awareness Training	USLA Guidelines		

C. AIR-BASED ACTIVITIES

1. Paragliding & Hang Gliding

S.N	Checkpoint	Standard Reference (Full Form)	Compliance (Y/N/NA)	Remarks
1	Certified equipment	DGCA/FAA, ICAO Annex 6, EN 926		
2	Reserve parachutes	FAA 14 CFR §105.43, USPA BSRs		
3	Weather monitoring	WMO, DHV, EN Certification		

2. Skydiving

S.N	Checkpoint	Standard Reference (Full Form)	Compliance (Y/N/NA)	Remarks
1	AAD (Automatic Activation Device)	FAA TSO-C23d		
2	Rigging & packing logs	USPA BSRs		

3. Hot Air Ballooning

S.N	Checkpoint	Standard Reference (Full Form)	Compliance (Y/N/NA)	Remarks
1	Certified burners & envelope	FAA Part 31, DGCA		
2	Pre-flight weather assessment	ICAO Annex 3, WMO		

4. Bungee Jumping

S.N	Checkpoint	Standard Reference (Full Form)	Compliance (Y/N/NA)	Remarks
1	Cord, harness, winch systems Certified	SANZ 5848, ASTM F2959, BIS IS 3521		
2	Jump master certification & rescue Drills	BERSA		
3	Structural integrity of platform	ISO 17020, BIS IS 875		

5. Ziplining

S.N	Checkpoint	Standard Reference (Full Form)	Compliance (Y/N/NA)	Remarks
1	Certified cable, harness, Trolley	ACCT, ASTM F2959, BIS IS 3521		
2	Anchor & platform load Testing	EN 15567-1/2, BIS IS 875		
3	Brake/catch mechanisms Tested	ANSI/PRCA 1.0-1A		

E. FINAL AUDITOR RECOMMENDATION

Overall Compliance Rating: ☐ Fully Compliant ☐ Partially Compliant ☐ Non-Compliant

Summary of Major Observations:

.....
.....

Critical Non-Conformities (if any):

.....

Corrective Actions Required:

.....

Recommended Timeline:

F.SIGNATURES & DECLARATION

Role	Name & Designation	Signature & Date
Auditor		
Operator Representative		

TECHNICAL INSPECTION REPORT (EQUIPMENT)

1	Date of Inspection								
2	Name of Firm								
3	Description of Equipment's								
S. No	Name of equipment*	Nos	Name of manufacturers	S. No	Model	Color	Last check date	Usage (hrs./mins)/ Validity	Remarks

***Include ropes, rafts, harnesses, carabiners, helmets, PFDs, paragliders, radios, emergency kits, GPS units, first aid boxes, weather monitoring devices, communication gear, etc.**