Restricted Area Permit and Protected Area Permit Regime in Sikkim

To visit Sikkim foreigners must obtain Restricted Area Permit (RAP) previously known as Inner Line Permit from Sikkim Tourism Officers on the strength of valid Indian Visa.

The RAP is issued free of cost by:

- 1. Ministry of Home affairs, Government of India, Lok Nayak Bhawan, New Delhi
- 2. All Foreigners Registration Offices.
- 3. All Indian Mission Abroad
- 4. Immigration Offices at Airports at Mumbai, Kolkatta, Chennai and New Delhi
- 5. Deputy Director, SNT Complex, Siliguri, Tourism Department phone no: 0353 2512646
- 6. Assistant Director Tourism Department, Sikkim House, Panchasheel Marg, New Delhi, Tourism Department, phone number : 011- 41680421/011-26115346
- 7. Assistant Director Tourism Department , Sikkim Tourism Office, 4/1 Middleton Street, Kolkatta, Phone Number : 033 22817905
- 8. Assistant Director– Tourism Department , Melli, Near Melli Police Check Post, South Sikkim, Mobile No: 9775453611, 03595-248536
- 9. Deputy Director, Tourism Department, Sikkim Tourism Office, Rangpo, East Sikkim phone no: 03592-240818
- 10. Resident Commissioner, Government of Sikkim, Sikkim House, New Delhi
- 11. Deputy Commissioner, Darjeeling, West Bengal
- 12. Deputy Secretary/ Under Secretary, Home Department, Government of West Bengal, Kolkatta

The Nationalities of Pakistan, China, Maymmar and Nigeria will not be issued Permit without the prior approval of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi.

Foreigners are advised to travel in a group of two or more in restricted areas of Sikkim. Foreigners are not allowed to travel single.

Protected Area Permit (PAP) for various places in Sikkim are issued as follows: -

East District:-

- 1. Tsongo –Baba Mandir-permit are issued by Police Check Post for Domestic Tourist. For foreign tourist, permit is issued by Tourism & Civil Aviation Department and Police check post.
- 2. Nathula Pass Permit is issued by Tourism Department and Police Check Post for domestic tourist.

West District:-

- 1. Dzongri Trek Permit is issued by Adventure Cell of Tourism & Civil Aviation Department, Govt. of Sikkim
- 2. Singalila Trek Permit is issued by Adventure cell of Tourism & Civil Aviation Department, Govt. of Sikkim

North District:-

- 1. Yumthang Permit is issued by Police check post for Domestic Tourist and for foreigners permit is issued by Tourism Department and Police Check Post
- 2. Yumesamdong Permit is issued by Police check post for Domestic Tourist and for foreigners permit is issued by Tourism Department and Police Check Post
- Thangu-Chopta Valley Permit is issued by Police Check post for Domestic Tourist and for Foreigners permit is issued by Tourism Department and Police check post. Foreigners must apply through a Sikkim Tourism registered Travel Agent in groups of two people or more for visiting these areas.
- 4. Gurudongmar Permit is issued by Police check post for domestic tourist and for foreigners permit is issued by Tourism Department till Thangu.
- 5. Green Lake Trekking Permit is issued by Tourism Department after obtaining a valid permit from Ministry of Home Department, New Delhi.

South District:-

Restricted Area Permit is a valid permit for trekking anywhere in the South District for Foreign Tourist.

<u>Alpine Mountaineering Expedition permit</u> is issued by Tourism Department after obtaining valid permit from Home Department, Government of Sikkim, Gangtok, for the following peaks as per the Home Department Notification no: 25/Home/2006 dated 20/3/2006

Tinchenkhang 5603 metres (West Sikkim) Jopuno 5935m (West Sikkim) Freys peak 5830m(West Sikkim)

Lama Angden 5868m(North Sikkim) Brum Khangse 5433m (North Sikkim)

National park and Wildlife Sanctuary entry permits is issued by Forest Department at Gangtok.