

You will appreciate that any tourist activity falls squarely outside the existing notification dated 30th October 2007 and continuation of this activity is liable to be considered as being contempt of the order passed today.

You are, therefore, requested to take note and take necessary action including stoppage of tourism in the said areas, if necessary.

The draft of the proposed regulation has been shown to me and under Section 2(h) and Explanation to Section 2 which is as follows:

✓ | "Commercial and Tourist activities/ Establishments" means Resorts, Hotels, Restaurant, Bars and Paying guest accommodation, except Govt. run Guest Houses."

Explanation

✓ | The commercial and tourist activity/establishment does not include cultivation and sale of Paddy, coconut, arecanut, fruits and vegetables, fishing and sale thereof, rearing of animals and birds and sale thereof and petty business like tea shop, pan shop, grocery shop and related activity.

Hence, while cultivation, sale of produce, petty business like tea shop, pan shop, grocery shop, will not be considered commercial activities, tourist activities in and around Limestone caves and mudquerry will still fall outside the proposed definition. That apart, the activity in and around the two jetties on the trunk road joining North and South Andaman Islands is liable to be considered commercial not withstanding the definition in the draft regulation.

Hence, it is necessary for you to consider whether the commercial activity around the jettys should also be excluded from the definition of commercial activity to enable it to continue.

I therefore request you to address the following two issues in the proposed amendment: