# Ramana Athreya

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## Field Ecology Research in Arunachal Pradesh during the Summer

This document is essential reading for participants in the above programme, and their parents/guardians.

- 1. I will be carrying out research in ecology in Arunachal Pradesh during during May-July, every year.
- 2. Students are under no obligation to participate in the above programme. They may utilise their summer scholarship and contingency grants (as applicable) for expenses associated with the above programme. Nevertheless, any participation will be entirely voluntary and from a personal interest to be trained in and to contribute to ecological research and conservation in Arunachal Pradesh.
- 3. The official programme will start in Guwahati on the scheduled date (arrive in Guwahati the previous day) and end on returning to the same city (home journey the next day). Travel between home or IISER-Pune and Guwahati will be organised by the students themselves.
- 4. Students will be hosted in basic field conditions during the programme (tents, simple food, etc). They should be prepared for sustained heavy rains, cold weather and leeches.
- 5. Students may be unable to contact their families by phone for days or even weeks. The emergency phone numbers provided to the parents/guardians is strictly meant for exceptional/emergency situations only. *Please note that lack of communication is an indication of normalcy.*

## Safety Issues

- 6. The camp sites are situated in a remote wilderness between 20 and 60 km from the nearest human habitation; there are no facilities at the campsite for any emergency, medical or otherwise. Students susceptible to medical emergencies should consider this, and seek advice from their doctor, before joining the programme.
- 7. The forest is inhabited by potentially dangerous wildlife including among others elephants, gaur, black bear, and some venomous snakes and arthropods. We have not had any casualty in any of the groups that I have led into that area during the last decade. This is largely due to the scrupulous following of safety rules in the forest, especially when studying potentially dangerous animals.
- 8. Arunachal Pradesh itself is as safe as any other state in India. However, access into Arunachal is through pockets of Assam which have a history of insurgency. Again, we have not had any mishaps in any of the groups I have led to that area during the last decade.
- 9. Nevertheless, participants and their parents/guardians have to realise that neither IISER-Pune nor I can guarantee safety of the participants in such a programme.
- Students will be expected to abide by any rules of behaviour imposed by me or my representative during the programme. Consumption of alcohol and narcotics of any sort is strictly forbidden during the entire period. Any violation could result in expulsion of the student from the programme, as irresponsible behaviour may jeopardise others in the group as well.

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I have read and understood this document

I have read and understood this document

student's name, signature and date

parent's/guardian's name, signature and date



#### Letter required from parent/guardian of B.Sc / M.Sc students

To The Director Indian Institute of Science Education & Research (IISER), Pune.

Sir

My son/daughter/ward, <u>name</u>, wishes to join Dr. Ramana Athreya on his ecology field research visit to Arunachal Pradesh during <u>Start Date</u> to <u>End Date</u> A summer project such as this will complement his/her class-room and laboratory training and provide hands-on training in field ecology and conservation. I realise that

- 1. the field site is a remote area with no human habitation and far from help in case of any emergency of any kind.
- 2. <u>name</u> is volunteering for this out of personal interest. She/He is under no obligation to participate in this programme, notwithstanding the provision to use his/her scholarship/contingency fund for expenses associated with this programme.
- 3. <u>name</u> is expected to make his/her own arrangements for the journey between home and Guwahati (to-and-fro).

I have read and understood the attached write-up provided by Dr. Athreya describing the context of the trip and am in agreement with all the provisions of the same. I consent to my son/daughter/ward participating in this programme in Arunachal Pradesh. I acknowledge that neither IISER-Pune nor Dr. Ramana Athreya can be held accountable for any untoward event/mishap of any kind during this trip.

Yours sincerely

signature Name of parent/guardian:

Name of student:

Roll number of student:

Contact Person during the visit (either for any information, requirement or emergency)

Name of Parent/Guardian:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

#### In case of a non-IISER-Pune student, please have a faculty member of the institution certify the lines below:

This is to certify thatname	surname	_ is a bona fide student of $\_$	name of	institution
name of institution	, studying in the	year of the course	course	name .
He/she does/does not have a summer fellowship/contingency grant to cover the expenses of the research project.				

Signature:

Name & Designation:

Email address and phone number:

## Letter required from post-graduate researchers / project personnel

To The Director Indian Institute of Science Education & Research (IISER), Pune.

Sir

I, <u>name</u> surname , wish to join Dr. Ramana Athreya on his ecology field research visit to Arunachal Pradesh during <u>Start Date</u> to <u>End Date</u>. The field visit is part of the research that I wish to undertake.

- 1. I realise that the field site is a remote area with no human habitation and far from help in case of any emergency of any kind.
- 2. I am volunteering for this out of personal interest and am under no obligation to participate in this programme. Or (strike out one of the two statements, as appropriate)

I was aware of the necessity of this visit when I joined the project.

I have read and understood the attached write-up provided by Dr. Athreya describing the context of the trip and am in agreement with all the provisions of the same. I acknowledge that neither IISER- Pune nor Dr. Ramana Athreya can be held accountable for any untoward event/mishap of any kind during this trip.

Yours sincerely

signature Name:

Institution:

Date:

Contact Person during the visit (either for any information, requirement or emergency)

Name of Parent/Guardian:

Phone Number:

Email Address: