

Instructions for Arunachal Pradesh Project Students

--- Ramana Athreya

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A. Travel Plans

Travel between rest of India and Guwahati

1. Direct trains from Kolkata, Delhi, Mumbai and Bengaluru-Chennai
2. Flights
 - Direct flight: from Kolkata and Delhi
 - One-stop in Kolkata (no change of plane) – Mumbai, Bengaluru, Chennai

Travel between Guwahati and Eaglenest

Route: [Assam] Guwahati – Tezpur – Balipara – [Arunachal] Bhalukpong – **Tenga (stop for Eaglenest)** – Bomdila – Dirang – Tawang

Guwahati to Tenga

1. Rent a taxi from Guwahati to Tenga: 9 hr; Rs. 8000
Drive all the way if you leave Guwahati by 11 AM, and cross Tezpur before 4 PM; otherwise halt in Tezpur
2. Direct bus from Guwahati (dep: 5.30-6.30 AM) to Bomdila/Dirang/Tawang. Get down at Tenga (arrival: around 5 PM) 22 km before Bomdila
Arrive in Guwahati the previous day
3. Bus from Guwahati to Tezpur – every half hour; 4-5 hr journey; about Rs. 200
Shared Sumo from Tezpur bus stand to Tenga – dep: 5-6 AM and 11-12 AM; 4-5 hr journey; about Rs. 400
Either arrive in Guwahati the previous day and leave early in the morning (by 6 AM), or reach Tezpur by 5 PM and catch the Sumo early next day

Tenga to Eaglenest: Contact Mr. Indi Glow in Tenga Market for help

1. Hike 18 km along a jeep track to Lama Camp (via Tenga Ledge and Ramaling)
2. Rent a vehicle in Tenga – 1 hour journey; about Rs. 800

Tenga to Guwahati: Make arrangements through Mr. Indi Glow

1. Reach Tenga the previous evening and stay in a hotel
Book a shared Sumo seat from Tenga (dep: 5-6 AM and noon) to Tezpur
Bus from Tezpur to Guwahati
2. Rent a taxi from Tenga to Guwahati

B. Expenses

Undergraduate students from IISERs have a contingency grant to cover their summer project expenses. As informed by the Director, IISER-Pune (apparently agreed upon by all IISERs) the contingency grant cannot be used for book grants but only for mentorship activities (like these projects). Out of a contingency grant of Rs. 20,000 please ear-mark Rs. 6000 for travel between your home and Eaglenest; the rest will be utilised for field expenses (accommodation, camp support and field vehicle). Further, Rs. 750 per week will be deducted from your fellowship for boarding.

Project Personnel from IISER-Pune – expenses will be borne by my project. You will be reimbursed travel expense up to the maximum allowed train fare (check with the administration)

External (non-IISER) project students – Your expenses will be as follows:

Minimum: Rs. 6000 per month; travel till Eaglenest at your own expense.

Maximum: summer project grant minus travel expense (maximum Rs. 6000).

C. Inner Line Permit (ILP)

All Indians need an ILP to enter Arunachal Pradesh. It will be checked at the entry point in Bhalukpong. I can have the ILP issued for you if I get a consolidated list of the following details for the whole team – the details in an excel sheet and along with the images as attachments in an email

1. Full Name (do not use initials – include a first name and a last name)
2. Father's name (do not use initials – include a first name and a last name)
3. Full Address with nearest police station
4. Address, phone and email of Parent/Guardian during the visit (This may or may not be the previous address.)
5. Identity card (driver's license, student I-card, Voter's ID, etc) – it should have a photo and an address.
6. Softcopy of photograph
 - frontal view of shoulder and face
 - 300 x 400 pixels
 - jpg file with 80% quality
 - name the file: ilp_firstname_lastname.jpg
7. Date of entry into Arunachal.
8. These should be emailed to Nandini Hazra (nandini.hazra@students.iiserpune.ac.in) for collation.

The information should reach Nandini by 1st April 2014. After that date students will have to obtain the permit directly at the offices of the resident commissioners of Arunachal in New Delhi, Kolkata or Guwahati.

C. Packing List for Eaglenest

Will be updated as required – check before departure

Sleeping bag + ground sheet	Wicket-keeper inner gloves – 2 pairs	2 Camp torches, with spare cells
Rain wear + Umbrella	Camp wear	Herpers: Hi-power LED torch with lots of spare cells.
Warm wear		Camping knife
(waterproof) hiking shoes		10m length of rope
Camp footwear		Plastic covers for wrapping articles against moisture
Rubber gumboots for herpers		Plate + spoon + mug
Cap		Insect repellent
Full-sleeved field shirts		Personal medicines & toiletries
Full legged field trousers	Student Identity card Driver's License (if available)	Skin-cream / vaseline /
Plenty of sets (6+) of inner-wear and socks	Rs. 5000 in cash and access to a similar amount by card	

Note:

1. Full-sleeved shirts are recommended against insect bites; wicket-keeper inner gloves also help against insects
2. Full trousers and shoes are mandatory for field work – it is a safety issue and shorts and sandals will not be permitted.
3. Full-sleeved shirts and full trousers are recommended for camp wear as well.
4. Keep separate field clothes and camp clothes ... and make sure that the latter are dry when being used. Clothes tend to get wet in the field and take a long time to dry - pack plenty of socks and inner-wear.
5. Footwear of some sort is mandatory even inside the camp premises.
6. Personal hygiene is not a personal issue when sharing a tent with 3 others. You are expected to keep your tent clean, and have regular bath (every few days) to avoid body odour and infection.
7. It is recommended that herp groups carry the following footwear:
 - Hiking boots – preferably waterproof
 - Shin-length rubber boots for stream work
 - Camp footwear (rubber sandals or slip-ons)
8. Umbrella is ideal for rain in very humid conditions
9. Carry rechargeable spare cells – especially the kind which charge within 3-4 hours. Carry 3-4 sets of cells. Herpers should expect to consume 1-2 sets every day.
10. Only laptops and other electronic equipment used for research will be allowed to be recharged on the battery banks. All other items will have to be recharged on the genset, for which a fee will be levied (Rs. 100 per hour)

D. Receipts for Reimbursement of Expenses

Any expense incurred for the project will be reimbursed provided a receipt for the same is produced. Many commercial entities (hotels, restaurants, shops, etc) do not have receipts in Arunachal Pradesh, however they are usually willing to sign a receipt if you prepare one. It is your responsibility to get a receipt for all expenses if you wish to be reimbursed

A basic receipt has the following structure.

Receipt	
Received from	<u><i>Your full name, IISER-Pune (Project: Ramana Athreya)</i></u>
The sum of Rupees	<u><i>amount in words (numerals)</i></u>
For	<u><i>whatever service (e.g. Jeep rental, travel, purchase of articles or wages)</i></u>
<hr/>	
Date:	Signature
	Name of the service provider
	Address:
	Phone:

Note:

1. If vehicle rental mention the origin, destination, distance and/or duration, vehicle number and driver's name
2. If purchase of articles mention the list of items on the reverse of the receipt
3. If wages mention the name of the person, work done and the number of days
4. If the expenditure is in excess of Rs. 5000 the receipt must carry a revenue stamp, with the signature partly across the stamp.

Printed receipts of the above kind may be bought in stationery stores for about Rs. 50. It is strongly recommended that all project personnel carry one along with a dozen revenue stamps (available at a post office)

E. Emergency Contact

Please note that you may not be able to communicate with your family and friends on a regular basis while in Eaglenest. It is important that your parents appreciate this point. They may safely conclude that if they don't hear from you it means that everything is proceeding smoothly and safely. I have provided a list of emergency contact numbers for the use of your parents should they wish to pass on some urgent message to you.

These should not be used to seek information on your whereabouts or situation

Mr. Indi Glow: Bugun Welfare Society, Tenga; +91-3782-273359, +91-94360-51508

Mr. Goutam Narayan: EcoSystems-India, Guwahati: +91-94350-16247

Ms. Nandita Hazarika: EcoSystems-India, Guwahati: +91-94350-162478

Ms. Gauri Gadgil: +91-98228-70017

Mr. Ramana Athreya: +91-99603-18508 / 94357-68179