KAILASH MANASAROVAR YATRA 09 JUNE – 09 SEPTEMBER 2013

LAST DATES:

- 04 March 2013 to file an online application.
- 11 March 2013 to submit printout of an online or printable application.

BATCHES: This year, 18 batches, each with a maximum 60 Yatris, are planned to be sent for the Yatra between 09 June and 09 September. Batches are allocated through a fair computerized process and are normally not changeable.

DURATION: The Yatra proper will be for 22 days. In addition, Yatris need to spend 2-3 days in Delhi for medical tests, Chinese visa, briefings, etc. The Delhi Government will provide free meals and accommodation for the stay in Delhi. Yatris may, however, are free to make their own arrangements.

NATURE OF YATRA: The Yatra is known for its religious value, cultural significance, physical beauty and thrilling nature. Holding significance for the Hindus as the abode of Lord Shiva, it holds religious importance also for the Jains and the Buddhists. It is undertaken by hundreds of people every year. In 2012, a record number of 774 Yatris undertook the Yatra.

The Yatra is organized by the Ministry of External Affairs every year. It is open to eligible Indian citizens, holding valid Indian passports, who wish to proceed to Kailash-Manasarovar for religious purposes.

CAUTION: The Yatra involves trekking at high altitudes of up to 19,500 feet, under inhospitable conditions, including extreme cold and rugged terrain, and may prove hazardous for those who are not physically and medically fit. Only those healthy and physically fit should apply to undertake the Yatra.

The Government of India shall not be responsible in any manner for any loss of life or injury to a Yatri, or any loss or damage to property of a Yatri due to any natural calamity or due to any other reason. Pilgrims undertake the Yatra purely at their own volition, cost, risk and consequences.

The Government shall not have any obligation to bring the mortal remains of any pilgrim across the border for cremation in the Indian side, in case of death on the Chinese side. All Yatris are, therefore, required to sign a Consent Form for cremation of mortal remains on the Chinese side in case of death.

PHOTO GALLERY: Slideshow at KMY website http://kmyatra.webstarts.com consists of photographs obtained from various websites to provide Yatris a pictorial insight into the KMY expedition. More and larger photographs can be accessed at the KMY Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/KMYatra.

INFORMATION GUIDE: Yatris may refer to the Information Guide for Yatris - 2013 for a detailed insight into the KMY expedition. The Guide will be sent to confirmed Yatris.

LEGAL: Jurisdiction of courts - Without prejudice to the contents of the KMY websites, all claims, disputes and differences shall be subject to the jurisdiction of courts in Delhi only.

CONTACT: Attaché (China), Ministry of External Affairs, Room No.255-A, South Block, New Delhi-110011. Tel: 011-23014900, Fax: 011-23016559, eMail: kmyatra@mea.gov.in

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WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

An Indian citizen, holding a valid Indian passport and aged between 18 and 70 years as on 01.01.2013, with a Body Mass Index (BMI) of 27 or less, who is physically fit and medically healthy, is eligible for undertaking the Yatra for religious purpose.

An applicant should not suffer from medical conditions such as high blood pressure, diabetes, asthma, heart disease, epilepsy, etc. The selected applicant is required to undergo and qualify comprehensive medical examinations conducted by the Delhi Heart and Lung Institute (DHLI) and the ITBP Base Hospital in New Delhi.

FOREIGNERS: Those who hold foreign nationalities are not eligible to apply for the Yatra. PIO and OCI card holders are, thus, ineligible.

ADDITIONAL MEDICAL TEST AT GUNJI: Reactions to altitude trekking – An additional medical test to ascertain reactions to altitude trekking will be conducted by ITBP at Gunji after about 5 days of the Yatra at a height of around 3500 metres. A Yatri who is found medically unfit here will not be permitted to continue the Yatra and will forfeit all charges levied earlier by Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam Limited (KMVN) and others.

COMPETENT MEDICAL AUTHORITY: ITBP and DHLI – The findings and the recommendations of the Delhi Heart and Lung Institute and the ITBP medical personnel both in Delhi and Gunji will be final and binding. No other medical certificates or test reports are accepted to qualify for the Yatra proper.

A selected applicant, when found medically unfit, will not be allowed to proceed on the Yatra, and will forfeit the non-refundable deposit paid to Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam and the amount paid for medical examinations.

MEDICAL TESTS CONDUCTED BY DHLI AND ITBP

- 1. Hb.
- 2. TLC
- 3. DLC
- 4. BLOOD SUGAR (F & PP)
- 5. BLOOD UREA
- 6. CREATININE
- 7. SERUM BILURUBIN, SGOT, SGPT
- 8. BLOOD GROUP WITH Rh typing
- 9. LIPID PROFILE
- 10. URINE RE
- 11. CHEST X-RAY
- 12. TMT
- 13. E.C.G.
- 14. PULMONARY FUNCTION TEST (PFT)
- 15. HbA1c
- 16. STRESS-ECHO-TEST (if recommended by doctor).

BODY MASS INDEX: A person's fitness for the Yatra depends on many factors of his/her health. An otherwise fit person should try to lower the BMI level to 27 or less to add to his/her fitness.

LIAISON OFFICER: Only a serving Government officer is eligible to be appointed as Liaison Officer. A person who has been on the Yatra as a Liaison Officer or as a Yatri in the past will not be considered for selection as Liaison Officer.

Selection	Process	

SELECTION PROCESS

Draw through a fair computerized system - Yatris will be selected and assigned to different batches by the Ministry of External Affairs through a fair computer-generated random gender-balanced selection process. A batch, once allocated to a Yatri through the computerized process, will not normally be changed.

A spouse, subject to fulfilling prescribed conditions to qualify for the Yatra, will automatically be selected for the same batch, provided he/she has submitted his/her application for the Yatra and this fact is clearly indicated in the relevant column of the application form.

CONFIRMATION OF PARTICIPATION: Deposit Rs.5,000 - Each selected applicant will be required to deposit a non-refundable amount of Rs.5,000/- through a Bank Demand Draft in favour of "Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam Limited", payable in Delhi, by specified deadline to confirm participation in the Yatra.

MEDICAL TESTS IN DELHI: Must qualify all medical tests - Selected Yatris are required to assemble in New Delhi 2-3 days in advance of the Yatra to undergo thorough medical tests at the Delhi Heart and Lung Institute and the ITBP Base Hospital. Parameters of medical tests are decided by the ITBP Base Hospital, keeping the requirements of the Yatra in mind. Only those applicants who pass these tests are allowed to proceed on the Yatra.

ADDITIONAL MEDICAL TESTS AT GUNJI: Reactions to altitude trekking - Medical tests to ascertain reactions to altitude trekking will be conducted by ITBP at Gunji after about 5 days of the Yatra at a height of around 3500 metres. A Yatri who is found medically unfit at Gunji will not be permitted to continue the Yatra any further.

CONDITIONS: Applicants may carefully note the following conditions before applying:

- 1. Applicants should possess an ordinary Indian passport valid for at least six months as on 01 September 2013.
- 2. It is the individual's responsibility to ensure that application contains accurate information and that it is complete in every respect including date of birth.
- 3. Incomplete applications will be rejected.
- 4. Incorrect or false information in the application form will be ground for disqualification at any stage, including during the Yatra. All payments made to KMVN and others will, thus, be forfeited.
- 5. After receiving the communication announcing the preliminary selection, the selected applicant is required to confirm in writing to the Ministry of External Affairs that he/she can travel before the stated deadline. Otherwise, it will be presumed that the selected Yatri cannot travel, and he/she will be replaced from the stand-by list.
- 6. Failure to pass the medical examinations in Delhi and Gunji will be ground for disqualification. Medical certificates issued by any source other than DHLI and ITBP in Delhi and Gunji will not be accepted for final selection of Yatris.
- 7. A Yatri, disqualified on medical grounds in Delhi, will forfeit the non-refundable deposit paid to KMVN. Also, a Yatri, disqualified on medical grounds at Gunji, will forfeit the total amount paid as Yatra fees to KMVN.
- 8. The Yatra batches will leave on scheduled dates even if replacements called from the standby lists to fill any vacancies that may arise, are unable to join the group on time.

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	Selection Process .	

IMPORTANT DOCUMENTATION AFTER SELECTION: Yatris must ensure to bring following documents with them when they report in New Delhi for the Yatra after their selection:

- 1. Ordinary Indian passport, valid for at least six months as on 1 September 2013.
- 2. Indemnity Bond, executed on a non-judicial stamp paper of Rs.10 or as applicable locally and authenticated by a First Class Magistrate or a Notary Public. Selected Yatris are required to sign this Indemnity Bond stating that they undertake the Yatra at their own risk.
- 3. Four recent passport size photographs.
- 4. Undertaking for evacuation by helicopter in case of emergency.
- 5. Consent Form for cremation of mortal remains on Chinese side in case of death there.

INTIMATION: Selected applicants will be informed about their inclusion in a particular batch about 3-4 weeks before their scheduled departure for the Kailash Manasarovar Yatra.

CONFIRMATION: Each selected applicant will be required to deposit a non-refundable amount of Rs.5,000/- through a Bank Demand Draft in favour of "Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam Limited", payable in Delhi, by specified deadline to confirm participation in the Yatra.

MEDICAL AUTHORITY: Yatris must qualify all prescribed medical tests by DHLI and ITBP. Findings and recommendations of qualified ITBP medical personnel are final and binding. No other medical reports are accepted to qualify for the Yatra.

	Fees and Expenditure

FEES AND EXPENDITURE

No refunds - The medical charges are non-refundable even if the applicant is not able to undertake the Yatra eventually due to disqualification on medical grounds or otherwise.

Applicants found medically unfit will not be allowed to proceed on the Yatra, and will forfeit the non-refundable deposit and other payments made to KMVN.

DEPOSIT TO CONFIRM PARTICIPATION: Initial payment to KMVN – Each selected applicant will be required to deposit a non-refundable amount of Rs.5,000/- through a Bank Demand Draft in favour of "Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam Limited", payable in Delhi, by specified deadline to confirm participation in the Yatra.

COST OF YATRA: Total cost of the Yatra per Yatri will include the following:

SL.NO.	AMOUNT	DETAILS
1.	Rs.32,000	This includes Service Tax and is payable to KMVN. Out of this, an applicant will be required to deposit a non-refundable amount of Rs.5,000/- through a Bank Demand Draft in favour of "Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam Limited", payable in Delhi, by specified deadline to confirm participation in the Yatra. Balance amount is payable on arrival in Delhi to begin the Yatra.
2.	Rs.2,400	Chinese visa fee payable in cash.
3.	Rs.3,100	Payable to Delhi Heart and Lung Institute (DHLI) for medical examination.
4.	Rs.2,500	In case a selected Yatri is required by DHLI to undergo a Stress Echo Test, this additional amount of Rs.2,500/- would be charged from the Yatri concerned.
5.	Rs.20,000	Hiring of Porter and Pony on the Indian side. It works out to roughly Rs.44,000 at an exchange rate of US \$1 = Rs.55.
6.	US \$800	Payable in cash to Chinese authorities on entry into Tibet.
7.	RMB 1,410	Hiring of Porter and Pony on the Chinese side. It works out to roughly Rs.13,000 at an exchange rate of RMB 1 = Rs.9.
8.	RMB 600	Hiring of Cooks on the Chinese side. Roughly Rs.5400.
9.	-	Expenditure on adequate medicines, clothing, food stores and other items required for the Yatra. For details, Yatris may refer to the Information Guide for Yatris - 2013

FALSE INFORMATION: Incorrect or false information in the application will be ground for disqualification, even after selection has been confirmed and/or Yatra has begun. All payments to KMVN and others will be forfeited.

UNFIT IN DELHI: If a Yatri is disqualified on medical grounds at Delhi, he or she will forfeit the non-refundable deposit paid to KMVN.

UNFIT AT GUNJI: If a Yatri is disqualified on medical grounds at Gunji, he/she will forfeit the total amount paid as Yatra fees to KMVN.

How to	Apply?	

HOW TO APPLY?

APPLY ONLINE

Apply online at http://passport.gov.in/kmy/ by <u>4 March 2013</u>, and then take a printout of the submitted Application with bar code and sign it. Send the signed application with following enclosures - (1) four recent passport size photographs, and (2) Indian passport photocopies of photo page, family details page and address page - so as to be received by <u>11 March 2013</u> by 'Attaché (China), Room No.255-A. South Block, Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi - 110011'.

SUBMIT PAPER APPLICATION

In case the online application filing system is inaccessible or an applicant prefers to submit a paper application form instead, he/she can download the prescribed application form and Declaration at the following websites:

- http://kmyatra.webstarts.com/uploads/yatri-form.pdf
- http://mea.gov.in/

Duly filled in and signed application form, with the following **ENCLOSURES**, may be sent by Speedpost or Registered India Post:

- 1. Four passport size photographs;
- 2. Indian passport photocopies of photo page, family details page and address page;

Completed application must be received at the following address by 11 March 2013:

Attaché (China) Room No.255-A, South Block Ministry of External Affairs New Delhi - 110011.

CONDITIONS

Applicants may carefully note the following conditions before applying:

- 1. Applicants should possess an ordinary Indian passport valid for at least six months as on 01 September 2013.
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- 3. Four recent passport size photographs.
- 4. Undertaking for evacuation by helicopter in case of emergency.
- 5. Consent Form for cremation of mortal remains on Chinese side in case of death there.

FEES

Fees are paid after selection.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

For acknowledgement of receipt, please attach a self-addressed post card with the application. Applicants should send their applications by Speedpost or Registered India Post, and not by private couriers, to avoid delay in delivery and/or loss of applications.
