



Call for Action !

## Concerns Intensify as Government Proposes to Amend Kerala Tourism (Conservation & Preservation of Areas) Act 2005

### EQUATIONS' comments on the Kerala Tourism (Conservation and Preservation of Areas) Amendment Bill, 2010

EQUATIONS  
07 July 2010

*Equations has expressed concern over the Kerala Government's move to amend the Kerala Tourism (Conservation & Preservation of Areas) Act 2005 through an Ordinance and later by a Bill in the Assembly in June 2010 on the grounds that it will usurp the powers and mandate of local self-governing institutions. We had raised concerns on the Kerala Tourism (Conservation & Preservation of Areas) Act 2005 on similar grounds in 2005 and 2007. The Ordinance route now taken by the government with hardly less than 15 days left for the Assembly session intend to exclude dialogue with people and their representatives and thereby evade public scrutiny. We have sent in appeals on our concerns on these developments to the Honourable Governor Shri. R.S. Gavai, Chief Minister Shri. V.S. Achuthanandan and Subject Committee Members on Tourism of the Legislative Assembly. We expect debate to be raised in the Assembly on the issue.*

07.07.2010

His Excellency Shri. R.S. Gavai,  
The Governor of Kerala,  
Raj Bhavan,  
Vellayambalam,  
Thiruvananthapuram 695099

**Sub:** [Concerns on the Kerala Tourism \(Conservation & Preservation of Areas\) Amendment Bill 2010](#)

Dear Sir,

Greetings from EQUATIONS!

EQUATIONS is a research, campaigning and advocacy organization, working since 1985 on the impacts of tourism particularly in terms of rights and benefits to local community. We are charged with the vision of democratizing tourism by upholding the principles of equity, justice and sustainability.

This to bring to your notice our concerns about the recent move by the Kerala government to amend the Kerala Tourism (Conservation and Preservation of Areas) Act 2005. On 12th June 2010, the Kerala Tourism (Conservation and Preservation of Areas) Ordinance, 2010 was promulgated. Subsequently the Kerala Tourism (Conservation and Preservation of Areas) Amendment Bill was introduced in the Legislative Assembly on 29th June 2010. The Assembly has referred the Tourism Amendment Bill 2010 to its Subject Committee. We are extremely concerned about these developments as we believe that this only intensifies several serious issues that we had raised earlier in relation to the Kerala Tourism (Conservation and Preservation of Areas) Act 2005.

In the enclosed notes we have made more detailed comments with respect to the *Kerala Tourism (Conservation and Preservation of Areas) Ordinance, 2010* and the subsequent *Kerala Tourism (Conservation and Preservation of Areas) Amendment Bill, 2010*. Also find enclosed our critique on the *Kerala Tourism (Conservation and Preservation of Areas) Act, 2005* sent to the State of Kerala in 2007.

We hope that you give due consideration to the concerns raised by us.

We are happy to provide any clarifications or further details. Please contact Saroop Roy B.R. at [saroop.r@equitabletourism.org](mailto:saroop.r@equitabletourism.org) or Rosemary Viswanath at [rosemary.v@equitabletourism.org](mailto:rosemary.v@equitabletourism.org).

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours Sincerely,

Saroop Roy  
Coordinator, Kerala State Networking Programme  
EQUATIONS

**Enclosed:**

1. "[Kerala Tourism \(Conservation and Preservation of Areas\) Act – Concerns Intensify](#)", EQUATIONS' Concerns related to the Kerala Tourism (Conservation and Preservation of Areas) Ordinance, 2010 and Amendment Bill, 2010
2. [Critique of Kerala Tourism \(Conservation and Preservation of Areas\) Act, 2005](#)

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