



Sri Lanka Tourism

Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority, 80, Galle Road, Colombo 03, Sri Lanka.

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SLTDA/SQA/2026/11/6

The Managing Director / Director / Officer Responsible / Proprietor / Partner
Tourism Establishments Registered with the Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority

Dear Sir/Madam,

Strengthening Emergency Preparedness and Safety Measures for Tourists in Coastal Areas

This refers to the letter dated 04 September 2026, bearing reference No. DMC/06/PP/Tsunami Readiness, addressed to the Director General of the Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority (SLTDA) by the Disaster Management Centre (DMC).

As part of the initiative of the Disaster Management Centre to strengthen preparedness for coastal hazards, the Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority wishes to draw the attention of all tourism-related establishments located in coastal areas to the potential risks associated with coastal emergencies, particularly tsunamis.

Coastal emergencies, including tsunamis, may occur with very limited time available for warning, response and evacuation. Considering the significant number of local and foreign tourists accommodated at beachfront and other coastal establishments, it is essential that appropriate emergency preparedness and life-safety measures are in place to safeguard both tourists and staff.

Accordingly, all hotels and other tourist accommodation establishments located in coastal and potentially hazard-prone areas are kindly requested to review and strengthen their existing emergency preparedness and evacuation arrangements, with particular attention to the following:

- Establishing and maintaining clear and practical tsunami and coastal hazard evacuation plans appropriate to the location of the establishment.
- Identifying and clearly marking safe evacuation routes and suitable vertical or horizontal evacuation locations, as appropriate.
- Clearly displaying evacuation routes, emergency instructions and relevant safety information in locations that are easily accessible and visible to both tourists and staff.

- Conducting regular awareness programmes, emergency drills and evacuation exercises for staff to ensure an effective response during an emergency.
- Ensuring that relevant staff are familiar with official tsunami warning systems, alerts and emergency communication procedures.
- Making appropriate arrangements to promptly guide, assist and evacuate tourists during an emergency, with particular attention to persons with disabilities, children, older persons and other individuals who may require additional assistance.
- Ensuring that emergency contact details and relevant warning information are readily available and accessible to both staff and guests.
- Regularly reviewing, testing and updating emergency preparedness and evacuation arrangements to ensure that they remain effective, practical and appropriate to the prevailing circumstances.

All establishments are kindly requested to give due attention to the above measures and take appropriate action to strengthen the safety and emergency preparedness of their premises.

Your cooperation and commitment towards ensuring the safety and well-being of both local and foreign tourists, as well as your staff, are highly appreciated.

If the above matters are not applicable to your establishment, please kindly disregard this communication.

Yours faithfully,



Director – Standards & Quality Assurance
For Director General
Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority

Cc: Director General/ Major General Sampath Kotuwegoda (Retd) nde IG