

Guidelines for Development of Floating Facilities for Tourism and Recreational Purposes

Issued by
Coast Conservation Department (CCD)

The development of floating facilities (such as floating restaurants, recreational floats, boat houses etc.) for tourism and recreational activities within the coastal zone of Sri Lanka are not very significant yet. But with the current development trends and the diversification needs that have emerged pertaining to the tourism industry, emphasis will be placed on development such facilities in the near future. Although these facilities are important for tourism and recreation, they also can have negative impact on traditional socio-economic activities, shoreline ecology, aesthetic and navigational aspects. Therefore, to ensure sustainable tourism and recreational activities within the Coastal Zone, the following guidelines will be applicable for construction and establishment of floating facilities for tourism and recreational purposes.

1. The floating facilities for tourism and recreational purposes within the Coastal zone will be allowed only in the specific locations identified by the CC&CRMD.
2. The preliminary proposal should be submitted to the CC&CRMD prior to formulation of the detail proposal to avoid delays in the approval process.
3. The proposals for floating facilities for tourism and recreational purposes are subjected to the EIA/IEE process on case-by-case basis based on the discretionary powers vested with DG CC&CRMD.
4. Floating facilities for tourism and recreational purposes are not permitted rest on the bed (substrate) of water bodies in the Coastal Zone.
5. No floating facilities for tourism and recreational, including recreational platforms for fishing and swimming, is are permitted where coral reefs and sea grass beds are located and adjacent to the turtle nesting areas.
6. Floating facilities for tourism and recreational purposes will not be permitted in areas declared as Conservation Areas, Affected Areas and areas identified for mineral extraction, including sand.
7. Floating facilities for tourism and recreational purposes will not be permitted in close proximity to the beach scene areas or other traditional fishing practices (such as stake net and still fishing) are carried out.

8. Dumping of solid waste water from the floating facilities for tourism and recreational purposes into the coastal waters or other water bodies in the coastal zone will not be permitted
9. Moorage facilities should not interfere with legal public access to the shoreline or uses of the Coastal Zone.
10. Wood or any other material treated with toxic compounds should not be used for the construction and operation of floating facilities for tourism and recreational purposes.
11. Spreading of artificial night lighting should be avoided as much as possible by focusing the lights, and using shades that minimize illumination of the surrounding environment of the floating facility.
12. All foam material, whether used for floatation or for any other purpose related to the structure floating facility must be encapsulated within a shell that prevents breakup or loss of the foam material into the water and is not readily subject to damage by ultraviolet radiation or abrasion.
13. Floating should be positioned at least 10 m of native aquatic vegetation.
14. To ensure safety of the coastal water users and to curtail safety hazards, floating facilities should be adequately marked with reflectors.
15. No floating facilities are permitted to be located in close proximity to the defence establishments.