

No.YHAI/NO/2010

Date :03.02.10

Circular No.30/10

KEEP ROHTANG PASS CLEAN

PROJECT

Rohtang Pass (el. 13,051 ft (3,978 m)) 51 KM from Manali, is a high mountain pass that connects the Kullu Valley with the Lahul and Spiti valleys of Himachal Pradesh, India.

We had organized our first Trekking Programme in Manali area of Himachal Pradesh in 1970. Since then, we had never looked back and have been organizing programmes in Kullu-Manali regularly. During all these years, we have seen Rohtang Pass getting dirtier and polluted as thousands of tourists visit Rohtang Pass every day in the tourist season. They use their own cars, taxis and other vehicles to go to this Pass to enjoy snow and allied sports. Due to our long association with this region, we feel concerned about the deteriorating environment and pollution at such an important pass. Our National Chairman, Dr. Harish K. Saxena has, therefore, proposed to organize a special drive to "Keep Rohtang Pass Clean" under the Centenary Celebration of Youth Hostelling International and 60th Anniversary of YHA of India.

On 16th March 2009, a delegation of YHAI members under the Chairmanship of Dr. Harish K. Saxena met the Dy. Commissioner, Kullu and other Government officials to push our suggestions to Keep Rohtang Pass Clean. The response of the district administration was very positive. YHAI has proposed a number of steps. One of the steps was to send volunteers to Rohtang Pass to sensitize the general public. We decided to send volunteers to Rohtang Pass who would sensitize the tourists as well as local persons about the problems and request them to "Keep Rohtang Pass Clean". .

During MAY 2009 we have successfully completed the 1st year of the programme having three batches wherein sixty volunteers gave their services which was highly appreciated by the tourist and local administration. It became an effective tool to sensitize the tourist, taxi drivers and the shop keepers in the vicinity of the Rohtang Pass and Marhi.

Once again as part of the strategy to continue the programme for three years it was decided to organize this year also during the month of MAY 2010.

You are, therefore, requested to send application of volunteers as early possible for this very special drive and thereby contribute to noble cause of keeping environment clean.

Dr. Harish K. Saxena, National Chairman of YHAI and Chairman, Organizing Committee of Centenary Celebration of Youth Hostelling International and 60th Anniversary of YHA of India has nominated Shri Padmanabh Dave, National Vice President, YHAI and Chairman Orissa State Branch as the Project Coordinator.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE

Volunteers for each group shall consist of YHAI members from different states in order of preference: Camp leaders, Co Directors, Field Directors, Participants of National/State level High altitude Expedition. The application should be forwarded by the respective state branches.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

- Preferred age group 20 Years to 50 Years
- The Volunteer should be in excellent physical and medical fitness duly certified by a Registered Doctor.
- The volunteers must have taste for adventure and willingness to serve as volunteer in rough and tough terrain.
- The volunteers should be able to withhold the stress and strain in such high altitude at Rohtang Pass which has a height of 13051 feet for a long duration of 7 days.

**Right of selection of volunteers is reserved with National Office,
Youth Hostels Association of India, New Delhi**

REPORTING DATES

The Volunteers has to report at the base camp Seobagh on the first day of the each batch they have selected or have been nominated:

- 1st Batch:** 9th May 10 to 16th May 2010
2nd Batch: 13th May 10 to 20th May 2010
3rd Batch: 17th May 10 to 24th May 2010
4th Batch: 21th May 10 to 28th May 2010
5th Batch: 25th May 10 to 01st June 2010
6th Batch: 29th May to 5th June, 2010

Applications of the volunteers are to be forwarded by the State Branch as per aforesaid criteria to the National Office, YHAI. Each group shall consist of volunteer from different states. Final Selection will be made by the National Office.

DURATION

The Programme begins on 9th May 2010 with Youth Hostel Seobagh as Base Camp. Volunteers has to report at the base camp as per their selection as confirmed by the YHAI. The duration of the camp for each group of volunteers is 7 Days and Nights and departure after breakfast on 8th day.

WHERE TO REPORT

Youth Hostel **Seobagh (Tel No: 1902-230113)** is 3 kms from Kullu on the left bank of meandering river Beas near Jairu Mineral Water Plant. It is linked by road via RAM SILA orchards and terraced fields and commands a panoramic view of surrounding mountains. Regular bus services are available for Kullu from Delhi, Chandigarh & Punjab, Nearest Railway Station is Chandigarh (310 kms) & Nearest Airport is Bhuntar (11 kms).

WHAT YOU SHOULD BRING

Woolen jackets, Woolen & cotton cloths, walking shoes, raincoats, hand gloves, woolen muffler or monkey caps, bed sheet, sun glass, woolen socks, torch with spare batteries, lunch box, water bottle, steel mugs, plate, spoon, cold cream, toilet paper, medicine which you normally use at home.

SCHEDULE

DAY 1	Report at Base Camp Youth Hostel Seobagh (Kullu)
DAY 2	Acclimatization & Orientation
DAY 3	Shifting of volunteers to MARHI(3320 mtr)
DAY 4 to DAY 7	MARHI to ROHTANG PASS and back
DAY 8	Group breaks after breakfast from Seobagh

No participation fees. Volunteers have to bear only the traveling expenses to and fro Seobagh to their respective hometown.

Volunteers shall be awarded with Certificate for their Volunteer work on completion.

What YHAI will provide:

1. Accommodation in tents with blankets and sleeping bags.
2. Simple nutritious Vegetarian food.
3. To and fro transport for Marhi / Rohtang Pass

**CENTENARY CELEBRATION OF YOUTH HOSTELLING INTERNATIONAL
&
60TH ANNIVERSARY OF YHA OF INDIA
"KEEP ROHTANG PASS CLEAN " 2010 PROJECT**

4. Jacket on returnable basis,

RISK FACTORS:

This is a high altitude adventure oriented voluntary work at 13,050 ft high **Rohtang Pass** for four to five hours daily for six days which can lead to:

- High altitude sickness leading to Pulmonary Oedema.
- Exhaustion due to stress and strain.
- Any unforeseen event

YHAI will provide adequate assistance in the above circumstances but can not be held responsible for any risks mentioned or not mentioned above.

Volunteer desirous of joining this voluntary work may apply on a prescribed Registration form (appended) duly supported by a Medical certificate through their respective State Branches on or before **1st April, 2010**.

For any query, please contact National Office, Delhi on telephone Nos.011-26110250, 26871969 or Shri Padmanabh Dave, Project Coordinator at his Number: 09437061774.

We expect early response from your State.

J.P. Sharma
Acting Chief Executive Officer

To

The Secretaries/Chairmen of all State Branches and National Executive Committee members of YHAI

Project Coordinator or his nominee. I also certify that I am not suffering from any ailment which may be a handicap in rendering my services. I further certify that I have informed my family members about my joining the project as a Volunteer.

*IN CASE OF ANY ACCIDENT, ILLNESS OR INJURY OR DISABILITY OR DEATH, I WILL NOT HOLD THE YOUTH HOSTELS ASSOCIATION OF INDIA WHOLLY OR PARTLY RESPONSIBLE.

*I further declare that I have not been suffering from any infectious disease for the past one month and that I am keeping good health.

Recommendations from the State/District Unit

Signature

Note : Fill up all columns. Incomplete form shall not be accepted.

OFFICE NOTE

Date of Reporting.....

Name of the Base Camp

**CENTENARY CELEBRATION OF YOUTH HOSTELLING INTERNATIONAL
&
60TH ANNIVERSARY OF YHA OF INDIA
'KEEP ROHTANG PASS CLEAN' - 2010 PROJECT**

**MEDICAL CERTIFICATE
(To be filled by a registered Medical Practitioner only)**

1 NAME : Mr. / Ms.

SURNAME

NAME

2 FATHER'S / HUSBAND'S NAME :

SURNAME

NAME

3 ADDRESS & TELEPHONE No:

4 DATE OF BIRTH :

Date	

Month	

Year			

Is the Applicant suffering from

Present illness /Past illness/ Physical Disability	An Infectious Disorder	Yes		No
	Hypertension	Yes		No
Any known allergy to Drugs / Foodstuff	Bronchial Asthma	Yes		No
	Diabetes Mellitus	Yes		No
History of Taking Drugs for Chronic Disease	Epilepsy	Yes		No
	Heart Disease	Yes		No

I have medically examined Mr./ Mrs. / Ms. _____
on (Date)_____ and found him / her medically and mentally fit to undergo
"Keep Rohtang Pass Clean" 2009 Project in high altitude areas & in the mountains and as per history and
clinical examination he/she is not suffering from any chronic disease.

Name of Dr. _____ Degree: _____

Registration No.: _____

Signature of the Medical Officer
and seal

Date:.....

Applicant's Signature

