

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

TOURISM DEPARTMENT

TCT-TSP-SJDY-0001-2025

NOTIFICATION

No. 2099/TSM,

Shri Jagannath Darshan Yojana (SJDY) Revised Operational
Guidelines, 2026

Dated. 17.01.2026

Odisha, the sacred land of Mahaprabhu Shri Jagannath, is renowned for its timeless spirituality, ancient temples, rich culture, and compassionate people. The State's cultural and religious heritage is deeply intertwined with the divine presence of Shri Jagannath Mahaprabhu at Puri, whose temple stands as a living symbol of faith and devotion for millions of devotees in Odisha & abroad. For many elderly citizens and widows across Odisha, a pilgrimage to Shri Mandir is a lifelong aspiration, one that embodies their spiritual fulfilment.

To ensure that age, distance, or financial constraints do not prevent devotees from experiencing the divine Darshan of Mahaprabhu Shri Jagannath, Government of Odisha has been pleased to introduce a new scheme, namely, the "*Shri Jagannath Darshan Yojana (SJDY)*" vide Tourism Department Resolution No.13567/TSM, Dated 20.11.2025 to facilitate economically weaker senior citizens and widows of all ages of Odisha in fulfilling their long-cherished dream of visiting the holy shrine of Shri Jagannath Mahaprabhu at Puri. The Scheme provides organized, safe, and comfortable pilgrimage opportunities with a view of fostering spiritual enrichment, emotional satisfaction, and social harmony among the beneficiaries.

For the operation of this scheme, Govt. has been pleased to formulate the following guidelines:

1. Short Title & Commencement:

- a. These guidelines may be called as Shri Jagannath Darshan Yojana (SJDY) Revised Operational Guidelines, 2026
- b. This shall come into force on the date of their publication in Odisha Gazette.

2. Definitions:

- a. "State" means Govt. of Odisha
- b. "Department" means Tourism Department
- c. "OSRTC" means Odisha State Road Transport Corporation
- d. "SJTA" means Shri Jagannath Temple Administration
- e. "PRI" means Panchayati Raj Institutions of the concerning district
- f. "Collector" means Collector & DM of concerned district
- g. "BDO" means Block Development Officer of concerned Block
- h. "EO" means Executive Officer of concerned Urban Local Body
- i. "TDO" means Tourism Development Officer of concerned districts who were earlier known as Tourist Officer/ District Tourist Officer/ Officer - in Charge of Tourism for the District
- j. "GP" means Gram Panchayats of concerned District
- k. "SLC" means State Level Committee headed by Director, Tourism
- l. "DLC" means District Level Committee headed by concerned ADM of each district chosen by Collector of that District
- m. "Monitoring cell" means cell constituted at Tourism Department
- n. "EMA" means Event Management Agency engaged by OSRTC to provide logistical support and services
- o. "Pilgrim" means a senior citizen of the State of Odisha aged between 60 and 75 years, or a widow of any age not exceeding 75 years, who is selected for the Yatra under the Scheme.
- p. "Yatra Itinerary" means the tour package decided by Tourism Department
- q. "Starting Point" means the point/ location where the pilgrims will be picked up i.e., the Gram Panchayat headquarters
- r. "Congregation Point" means the point/ location where the pilgrims of the concerned district/ block will come to get their health checkup, lunch, breakfast and such services done.

3. Coverage under the Scheme and Duration:

- a. The scheme is applicable across the entire State of Odisha. Economically weaker citizens between the age of 60 years and 75 years and widows (of any age not exceeding 75 years) who are physically fit and free from communicable diseases are eligible to undertake pilgrimage under this scheme.
- b. The Scheme shall remain in force from the date of publication of the notification in the Odisha Gazette up to 31st March 2029 i.e., FY 2025-26 to

FY 2028-29 unless otherwise modified, withdrawn, or replaced by the Government.

- c. A total of approximately 1,00,000 nos of beneficiaries will be selected from across the State over the scheme duration.
- d. Pilgrims from 21 districts i.e., Ganjam, Gajapati, Kandhamal, Boudh, Sambalpur, Bargarh, Deogarh, Jharsuguda, Sundargarh, Balangir, Subarnapur, Angul, Koraput, Rayagada, Nabarangpur, Malkangiri, Kalahandi, Nuapada, Balasore, Keonjhar and Mayurbhanj will be provided with a one night stay facility at Puri.
- e. Pilgrims from 09 districts i.e., Puri, Khordha, Cuttack, Jagatsinghpur, Dhenkanal, Kendrapada, Nayagarh, Bhadrak and Jajpur will undertake a day tour to Puri.

4. Implementation of the Scheme:

a. Implementation

SJDY will be implemented end to end through Odisha State Road Transport Corporation (OSRTC), with close coordination and convergence of multiple stakeholders to ensure safe, smooth, and comfortable pilgrimage for all eligible beneficiaries.

The detailed implementation plan is as follows:

b. Eligibility:

- i. The beneficiary shall be a widow (of any age not exceeding 75 years) or a senior citizen aged between 60 and 75 years.
- ii. The beneficiary shall belong to an economically weaker / deprived section of society.
- iii. Beneficiaries receiving monthly Social Security Pension, including Widow Pension, under schemes implemented by the Social Security & Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities Department (SSEPD), Government of Odisha, shall be deemed to have satisfied the condition of economic vulnerability and shall be treated as eligible under this Scheme.
- iv. Beneficiaries not covered under Social Security Pension, but who are widows (of any age not exceeding 75 years) or senior citizens aged 60–75 years belonging to economically weaker / deprived sections, shall establish their eligibility through valid Government-issued documents relating to age, domicile and economic vulnerability at the time of document verification.
- v. The beneficiary shall be physically fit to undertake the journey and shall not be suffering from any communicable disease as on the date of travel.

- vi. The beneficiary shall be a permanent domicile of the State of Odisha and a permanent resident of the concerned Gram Panchayat / Urban Local Body from which he or she is selected under the Scheme.
- vii. Each beneficiary shall be eligible to avail the benefit of this Scheme only once during the entire duration of the Scheme.
- viii. Any beneficiary found to have furnished false or incorrect information relating to age, domicile or eligibility shall be disqualified and debarred from availing benefits under this Scheme or any similar scheme in future.

c. Selection of Beneficiaries

- i. The Department of Tourism (DoT) shall fix district-wise, block-wise and/or Gram Panchayat-wise targets for beneficiaries under the Scheme based on population and administrative requirements.
- ii. DoT shall obtain Gram Panchayat-wise lists of eligible widows and senior citizens aged between 60 and 75 years from the database of beneficiaries receiving monthly Social Security Pension, including Widow Pension, under schemes implemented by the Social Security & Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities Department (SSEPD).
- iii. During monthly Social Security Pension disbursement, the Gram Panchayat Executive Officer (PEO) shall inform eligible beneficiaries about the objectives, facilities and conditions of the Shri Jagannath Darshan Yojana (SJDY).
- iv. Beneficiaries willing to undertake the pilgrimage shall provide their written consent on yearly basis in the prescribed Consent Form (Annexure-I).
- v. Beneficiaries not covered under Social Security Pension, but who otherwise meet the eligibility criteria prescribed under clause 4(b), may submit their consent along with valid Government-issued documents to establish age, domicile and economic vulnerability to the concerned PEO for consideration.
- vi. The PEO may require additional documents for establishing eligibility under this scheme for beneficiaries not covered under Social Security Pension. The beneficiary shall submit all required documents.
- vii. Participation under the Scheme shall be purely voluntary and no beneficiary shall be compelled to participate.
- viii. Beneficiaries shall be considered only from their place of permanent residence, and selection shall be restricted to the Gram Panchayat or Urban Local Body to which they belong.

- ix. No beneficiary shall have availed benefits under this Scheme or any similar pilgrimage scheme implemented by the Government of Odisha during the preceding five years.
- x. In case an adequate number of eligible beneficiaries are not available in any Gram Panchayat, Block or District, the Department of Tourism may reallocate the shortfall to other districts at its discretion to ensure full utilisation of the overall target under the Scheme.
- xi. In case the number of willing beneficiaries exceeds the target fixed for any Gram Panchayat or Block, a transparent randomisation or lottery process shall be conducted at the GP/ Block level.
- xii. A selected list and a wait-listed list shall be prepared through the same randomisation process.
- xiii. After randomisation, DoT shall forward the certified list of selected and wait-listed beneficiaries to the concerned Block Development Officer (BDO) for further action.
- xiv. Selected beneficiaries shall produce documents as required by the PEO during the verification process.
- xv. Beneficiaries shall submit an undertaking confirming that they are physically fit, are undertaking the journey voluntarily, and accept that the State Government shall not be responsible for any unforeseen incident during the pilgrimage.
- xvi. In case any selected beneficiary withdraws, is found ineligible, or fails verification, the next eligible beneficiary from the wait-listed list shall be considered.
- xvii. After completion of all processes related to selection of beneficiaries, the final list of beneficiaries along with the waiting list of beneficiaries shall be handed over to concerned District Administration and OSRTC.

d. Disqualification

- i. A beneficiary not meeting the eligibility criteria cited at Section 4 Point No. b, shall be disqualified to avail Yatra under this scheme.
- ii. Decision of DoT in this regard will be the final decision.

e. Transportation from GP to Block HQ/ District HQ

- i. After the randomization process is completed, beneficiaries will be notified of their selection status and the date and time of travel through SMS & call.
- ii. The Department of Tourism shall communicate the final list of pilgrims for each trip to OSRTC. Based on this, OSRTC in coordination with

the District Administration & Block administration shall identify one or more congregation points at each Block or District Headquarters.

iii. OSRTC shall arrange transportation of beneficiaries from the congregation points at each Gram Panchayat (GP) to the predefined congregation points at the Block or District Headquarters using Mukhyamantri Bus Seva (MBS) buses or other suitable means of transportation.

iv. Block Development Officers at the Block level, Executive Officers at ULB level, and Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) shall provide necessary assistance and coordination to the OSRTC team to ensure smooth transportation of beneficiaries.

f. Health Check up

i. Upon arrival at the Block or District level congregation points, a health check-up of every beneficiary shall be conducted.

ii. If any pilgrim is found unfit to travel or is detected with a communicable disease, they shall not be allowed to continue with the journey. OSRTC in coordination with the District Administration shall arrange for their safe return to their respective homes.

iii. In case one or more pilgrims are found unfit or absent for any trip, waitlisted candidates shall be contacted and given the opportunity to undertake the trip in their place.

iv. Upon arrival at Puri, the health check-up of pilgrims (if any needed) will be attended to by Puri district administration.

g. Transportation from Block HQ/ District HQ to Puri

i. Upon completion of the health check-up, pilgrims will be provided with pure vegetarian meals (breakfast, lunch, evening snacks with tea, or dinner) based on their departure timing.

ii. Each pilgrim will receive a kit bag containing essential items such as toiletries, caps, fluorescent jackets, water bottles, and souvenirs to support them during the journey.

iii. OSRTC will provide transportation for all trips using Air Conditioned (AC) deluxe buses.

iv. Each bus will be equipped with basic first aid kits and a sufficient quantity of drinking water prior to departure.

v. Two escort officers per bus will be assigned to assist pilgrims throughout the journey.

vi. Pilgrims will be provided with four vegetarian meals daily (breakfast, lunch, evening snacks with tea, and dinner) during the pilgrimage.

vii. Temporary transit camp facilities will be established en route at strategic locations, providing access to washrooms and refreshment services for pilgrims.

viii. Any pilgrim requiring medical attention during the journey will be treated at a Government medical facility free of cost.

ix. All pilgrims will be provided with group health insurance coverage worth up to three lakhs per person the cost (and premium) of which will be borne by OSRTC.

h. Accommodation and Food

i. Pilgrims from 21 districts undertaking the night stay tour will be accommodated at Brundabati Nivas, Puri on a sharing basis. Each room will have basic amenities including beds, mosquito nets, fans, drinking water, and washrooms with hot water, toiletry kits, and room attendants.

ii. Pilgrims from 9 districts undertaking the day tour will be provided with food, washroom facilities, and a brief rest at Brundabati Nivas during their stay at Puri.

iii. All pilgrims will receive four vegetarian meals per day including breakfast, lunch, evening snacks with tea, and dinner.

iv. The responsibility of provision of food to pilgrims will remain entirely with OSRTC.

v. Mahaprasad will be provided to all pilgrims as part of the spiritual experience.

vi. Local transport will be arranged from Brundabati Nivas to Shri Mandir for both day visitors and pilgrims undertaking the one-night stay tour.

vii. A dedicated help desk is to be set up at the Brundabati Nivas to assist pilgrims to address queries and provide logistical support related to accommodation/ stay, Darshan schedules, and return arrangements.

viii. Medical facilities will also be provided at the Brundabati Nivas for providing treatment to pilgrims when necessary by Puri district administration & OSRTC.

i. Escorts and Support Staff

i. OSRTC will provide two escort officers per bus to accompany pilgrims during travel.

ii. The Shri Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA), in coordination with the District Administration, Puri, will facilitate the Darshan of Shri Jagannath at the temple for all beneficiaries.

iii. OSRTC will provide additional support staff at Puri, in addition to the escort officers, to ensure smooth management and coordination during Darshan.

iv. OSRTC will also provide additional manpower, support staff, and security at Brundabati Nivas, Puri, as required for pilgrim accommodation and associated services.

j. Darshan Facilitation

i. The Shri Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA), in coordination with District Administration Puri, will facilitate the Darshan of Shri Jagannath at the temple for all beneficiaries.

ii. SJTA will also facilitate Mahaprasad for all pilgrims and appoint a nodal officer to oversee implementation at the temple premises.

k. Return Journey

i. The return journey follows a similar structure with transit support and a final drop-off at their respective GPs.

l. Roles and Responsibilities:

❖ **OSRTC** will be responsible for the following:

i. Responsible for end-to-end execution of the scheme.

ii. Arrangement of transportation for all pilgrims from Gram Panchayat (GP) level to Block/ District headquarters and onward to Puri and return to respective Gram Panchayats.

iii. OSRTC shall ensure full compliance with transport safety, insurance, and vehicle fitness norms under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, and related State Rules. Buses must have the fitness certificate approved by the RTO for operation under this scheme.

iv. Arrangement of health check-up of pilgrims at Block/District Headquarters (congregation point).

v. Preparation of bus schedules, management of turnaround, and ensuring timely departures and arrivals.

vi. Ensuring availability of trained drivers and other staff for all segments of the journey.

vii. Maintaining vehicles in safe and hygienic condition, including Mukhyamantri Bus Seva (MBS) buses, AC deluxe buses, and other transport means.

viii. The responsibility of provision of food to pilgrims will remain entirely with OSRTC i.e., provision of food (Breakfast + Lunch + Evening Tea with Snacks + Dinner) to all pilgrims.

- ix. Provide kit bags to all pilgrims containing essential items such as toiletries, caps, fluorescent jackets, water bottles, and souvenirs.
- x. Provision of transit camps at strategic locations along the route and necessary facilities for pilgrims at these camps, including rest areas, toilets, drinking water, and medical assistance.
- xi. Coordination with all stakeholders including BDOs, EOs, PRIs, and District Administration for smooth operations.
- xii. Deployment of adequate number of escort officers in each bus for assistance during the journey.
- xiii. Provision of additional manpower, support staff, and security at Brundabati Nivas, Puri and other transit points as required.
- xiv. Ensuring that all pilgrims are covered under a Group Health Insurance Policy.
- xv. Arrangement of spare vehicles and standby drivers to address any vehicle breakdowns or unforeseen contingencies.
- xvi. Establishment of an emergency response protocol including first-aid facilities, contact helplines, and coordination with local hospitals, police, and fire services for quick response to any emergency situation.
- xvii. OSRTC may engage an Event Management Agency (EMA) to provide comprehensive services related to logistics management, pilgrim facilitation, event coordination, communication support, and overall assistance at congregation points, transit camps, and destination locations to ensure smooth and efficient execution of the scheme. The engagement of the EMA shall be carried out in accordance with the prevailing Government norms and procedures.
- xviii. Submit periodic reports to the Department of Tourism on beneficiary data, trip completion, and any operational issues for monitoring and review purposes.
- xix. Any other arrangement that may be needed to facilitate the smooth and hassle-free transport of the pilgrims to and from Puri under this scheme.

❖ **Department of Tourism (DoT):**

DoT will be responsible for the following:

- i. The Department of Tourism (DoT) shall fund the entire scheme out of its budget allocations.
- ii. DoT shall provide branding and promotion support to OSRTC, SJTA and District Administrations.

- iii. DoT shall develop, operate and maintain a Travel Management Software for hassle free monitoring and database of pilgrims.
- iv. The Department of Tourism shall issue travel advisories to the pilgrims from time to time.
- v. DoT shall facilitate coordination between OSRTC, District Administrations, Shri Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA) and any other agency involved to ensure smooth implementation of the scheme.
- vi. DoT shall prepare a centralized travel or trip scheduling plan for all tours under the scheme.
- vii. DoT shall monitor overall scheme implementation, ensure timely fund release and undertake periodic review meetings with all stakeholders.
- viii. Any other arrangement that may be needed to facilitate the smooth and hassle-free transport of the pilgrims to and from Puri under this scheme.

❖ **District Administration:**

The District Administration shall be responsible for the following:

- i. Facilitate overall coordination and supervision of the scheme within the district & with OSRTC ensuring smooth execution at all levels.
- ii. Identify and notify suitable congregation points at Block and District Headquarters in consultation with OSRTC for assembly, health check-up, and departure of pilgrims.
- iii. Facilitate health check-up arrangements at the Block or District Headquarters in coordination with the Chief District Medical Officer (CDMO) and ensure availability of medical personnel, equipment, and first-aid support.
- iv. Coordinate with OSRTC to arrange safe and timely transportation of pilgrims from Gram Panchayat (GP) level to Block or District Headquarters and onward to Puri.
- v. Ensure that BDOs, EOs of ULBs, and PRIs extend necessary support for mobilization, verification, and facilitation of beneficiaries.
- vi. Oversee the uploading of all beneficiary data to the Travel Management Portal after verification and certification by the concerned PEOs.

- vii. Ensure the physical verification of selected beneficiaries before travel and provide necessary administrative support for health screening and documentation.
- viii. Facilitate arrangements for transit camps at designated en route locations in coordination with OSRTC, ensuring availability of essential facilities such as toilets, drinking water, rest areas, and refreshments.
- ix. Deploy adequate administrative and support staff at congregation points and transit camps to ensure smooth facilitation of pilgrim movement.
- x. Provide security arrangements at congregation points and transit camps in coordination with local police authorities.
- xi. Maintain close coordination with OSRTC and the Department of Tourism for handling emergencies, medical contingencies, and any other unforeseen incidents during the journey.
- xii. Ensure proper communication with all Block and ULB-level officials for timely dissemination of instructions, schedules, and updates related to the scheme.
- xiii. Any other arrangement that may be needed to facilitate the smooth and hassle-free transport of the pilgrims to and from Puri under this scheme.

❖ **District Administration, Puri:**

- i. Facilitate overall coordination and supervision of the Shri Jagannath Darshan Yojana within Puri district to ensure smooth execution at all levels.
- ii. Identify and notify suitable congregation points at Blocks and District Headquarter of Puri in coordination with OSRTC for assembly, health check-up, and departure of pilgrims.
- iii. Facilitate health check-up arrangements at congregation points, ensuring availability of medical personnel, equipment, and first-aid support.
- iv. Coordinate with OSRTC for safe and timely transportation of pilgrims from Gram Panchayat level to Block/ District Headquarters and onward to Puri.
- v. Ensure support from Block Development Officers (BDOs), Executive Officers (EOs) of ULBs, and Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) for mobilization, verification, and facilitation of beneficiaries of Puri district.

- vi. Oversee the uploading of all beneficiary data to the Travel Management Portal after verification and certify completion in the prescribed format before randomization of Puri district.
- vii. Facilitate availability of adequate rooms in Brundabati Nivas for pilgrims.
- viii. Coordinate with OSRTC for smooth management of all services at Brundabati Nivas, including meals, lodging, and assistance to pilgrims.
- ix. Deploy administrative and support staff at congregation points, transit camps, and Brundabati Nivas to ensure smooth facilitation of pilgrims.
- x. Manage law and order at Brundabati Nivas and Puri, coordinating with local police authorities as needed.
- xi. Facilitate parking management and coordinate with OSRTC for local transport arrangements at Puri.
- xii. Provide or facilitate all emergency services for pilgrims, including medical assistance, ambulance services, and coordination with local hospitals.
- xiii. Coordinate with SJTA and OSRTC to ensure smooth Darshan of Shri Jagannath and provision of Mahaprasad to all pilgrims.
- xiv. Maintain close coordination with OSRTC, SJTA, and the Department of Tourism for handling emergencies, medical contingencies, or unforeseen incidents during the journey.
- xv. Ensure proper communication with all Block and ULB-level officials for timely dissemination of instructions, schedules, and updates related to the scheme.
- xvi. The District Administration, Puri, may engage the services of an Event Management Agency (EMA), if required, to support coordination, logistics management, and the smooth execution of all activities related to the scheme. Any such engagement shall be undertaken in accordance with the prevailing Government norms and procedures and the cost of such will be borne by OSRTC.
- xvii. Any other arrangement that may be needed to facilitate the smooth and hassle-free transport of the pilgrims to and from Puri under this scheme.

❖ **Shree Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA):**

- i. Facilitate Darshan of Shri Jagannath for all beneficiaries under the scheme at the temple premises.

- ii. Coordinate with OSRTC and District Administration support staff and escort officers for smooth flow of pilgrims during Darshan, including queuing, guidance, and crowd management.
- iii. Coordinate with OSRTC for providing Mahaprasad to all pilgrims participating in the scheme.
- iv. Appoint a nodal officer to oversee implementation of the scheme at the temple and coordinate with OSRTC, District Administration, and Department of Tourism.
- v. Support OSRTC and District Administration in managing any contingencies, including medical emergencies or other unforeseen situations during Darshan.
- vi. Any other arrangement that may be needed to facilitate the smooth and hassle-free Darshan and provision of Mahaprasad to the pilgrims under this scheme.

❖ **Panchayati Raj & Drinking Water Department:**

- i. Facilitate mobilisation, awareness and consent collection of eligible beneficiaries at the Gram Panchayat level through Panchayat Executive Officers (PEOs).
- ii. Verify eligibility, documents and domicile of selected beneficiaries through the concerned PEOs and certify the beneficiary lists in the prescribed format.
- iii. Coordinate with Gram Panchayats and Block Development Officers (BDOs) for randomisation, finalisation and forwarding of selected and wait-listed beneficiary lists.
- iv. Provide necessary coordination and on-ground support to OSRTC at congregation points, transit camps and during onward movement of pilgrims, as required.
- v. Support the implementation of health check-ups and other preparatory arrangements at Block and District Headquarters in coordination with the District Administration.
- vi. Ensure timely communication, reporting and compliance by PEOs and BDOs for smooth execution of the Scheme.
- vii. Any other arrangement that may be required to facilitate smooth and hassle-free implementation of the Scheme at the Gram Panchayat and Block levels.

❖ **Housing and Urban Development Department:**

- i. Support mobilization and verification of beneficiaries at the ULB level through EOs.

- ii. Assist in mobilization of urban beneficiaries.
- iii. Assist OSRTC at congregation points and transit camps.
- iv. Facilitate communication and coordination between municipal officials and District Administration for smooth execution of the scheme.
- v. Any other arrangement that may be needed to facilitate the smooth and hassle-free transport of pilgrims under this scheme.

❖ **Police/ Law & Order Authorities:**

- i. Facilitate smooth passage of buses operating under the scheme in coordination with the concerned District Administrations. Buses travelling under SJDY may not be detained for scrutiny under normal circumstances at any level.
- ii. Maintain law and order at congregation points, Brundabati Nivas, transit camps, and at Puri.
- iii. Manage emergencies and coordinate rapid response when needed.
- iv. Any other arrangement required to ensure the safety, security, and smooth functioning of the pilgrimage under this scheme.

❖ **Pilgrims:**

- i. Adhere strictly to the trip schedule, including departure, transit, and Darshan timings.
- ii. Follow instructions from escort officers, support staff, police, and temple administration at all times.
- iii. Maintain decorum, respectful behaviour, and cleanliness during the pilgrimage.
- iv. Take care of personal belongings and use the facilities provided responsibly.

5. Source of funding for the Scheme/ Project and fund flow mechanism:

- a. The DoT shall be the funding authority for the Shri Jagannath Darshan Yojana (SJDY).
- b. DoT shall allocate funds from its own budget annually, based on the yearly target of beneficiaries under this scheme.
- c. DoT shall release funds in a timely manner to OSRTC for smooth execution of the scheme.

- d. All expenditure under this scheme shall be met from the budgetary allocation of the Department of Tourism. The Financial Advisor, DoT, shall vet proposals for fund release to OSRTC.

6. Intended Scheme/ Programme Outcome:

- a. Successful pilgrimage of approximately 1,00,000 no of economically weaker senior citizens and widows (of all age) to Shri Jagannath Dham, Puri over the duration of the scheme.
- b. The number of trips may vary depending upon the circumstances extraneous to the Government/ Department, or as may be decided by the Government from time to time.
- c. Similarly, the target number of Pilgrims per district are tentative and may vary depending on the decision of the Government from time to time.

7. Monitoring & Evaluation mechanism:

- a. The Department of Tourism shall track - trip schedules, beneficiary data, and feedback received through the Travel Management Portal.
- b. OSRTC shall submit quarterly progress reports to the Department of Tourism, detailing the number of beneficiaries covered, trip-wise performance, and issues, if any.
- c. OSRTC shall also obtain feedback from pilgrims at the end of each trip and submit a compiled summary along with the quarterly progress report.
- d. A third-party midterm evaluation may be commissioned to assess the impact of the scheme and recommend improvements.
- e. For smooth implementation and effective oversight, two monitoring committees shall be constituted, one at the State level and one at the District level.

i. State Level Monitoring Committee:

One state level monitoring committee shall be formed under the chairmanship of Director Tourism with the following members

- Director, Tourism – Chairman
- Representative of OSRTC – Member
- Representative of SJTA – Member
- Representative of PR&DW Department – Member
- Representative of H&UD Department – Member
- Collector, Puri – Member
- Officer-in-Charge of the Scheme, Department of Tourism – Member Convenor

- Any Other member as desired by Director, Tourism

ii. District Level Monitoring Committee

One district level monitoring committee shall be formed in each district under the chairmanship of ADM along with the following members

- Concerned ADM – Chairman
- Concerned BDOs – Members
- Concerned EOs of ULBs in the District – Members
- Representative (s) of OSRTC – Members
- District Medical Officer / CDMO
- District Police / Law & Order Officer – Member
- Representative from District Tourism Office – Member Convenor
- Any other member as desired by ADM

8. Grievance Redressal:

- a. A dedicated helpline number and email ID shall be established by OSRTC for addressing grievances related to travel arrangements, facilities, or on-ground issues faced by pilgrims.
- b. The District Administration / OSRTC shall maintain a complaint register at each designated congregation point, transit camp, and within the travel management system, ensuring resolution of grievances within a stipulated time period.
- c. The Department of Tourism (DoT) shall monitor grievances through the portal and quarterly reports, ensuring systemic rectification/modifications (if any required) and process improvement (wherever required).

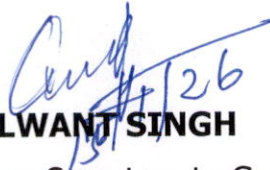
9. Forms to be annexed

- Annexure – I: Consent Form for Shri Jagannath Darshan Yojana (SJDY)
- Annexure – II: Declaration / Undertaking by the Pilgrim (compulsory)
- Annexure – III: Health Screening Format at Congregation Point
- Annexure – IV: Feedback / Satisfaction Form (Post-Trip)

ORDER

Ordered that the Notification be published in the Extraordinary issue of the Odisha Gazette for general information and copies thereof be forwarded to all Departments of Government / the A.G., Odisha / all HoDs/ all RDCs/ all Collectors/ all TDOs for information.

By Order of Governor


BALWANT SINGH

Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Government