

## **POLICY ON TATTOO**

1. **Candidates belonging to tribal communities/areas:** Candidates belonging to tribal communities/from tribal areas, as declared by the Government of India Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders Act/Lists (amended and modified from time to time), are permitted to have permanent body tattoos on any part of the body, as per existing customs and traditions of the said tribe to which a candidate belongs. Such candidates will only be permitted to continue with the selection process in a SSB on the condition that the following certificates are submitted by the candidate from a tribal area, prior to commencement of Stage I of the selection process:-

- (a) Self Certification Certificate as per **Appendix 'A'**, to be signed by the candidate.
- (b) Certificate of belonging to a tribal community and permissibility of permanent body tattoo(s) as per format at **Appendix 'B'**, to be signed by one of the following two officials:-
  - (i) DC/DM or SDM of the District/Tehsil where the tribe of the candidate is presently settled (Name and designation of the concerned official must be clearly mentioned).
  - (ii) Chairman/Secretary or any other senior member of the Tribe (Name, designation (if any) and address of the concerned member will be clearly mentioned).

2. **All Other Candidates:** Permanent body tattoos are permitted on the following body parts only, for which a candidate will be required to sign a Self Certification Certificate as per format at **Appendix 'C'**:-

- (a) Inner face of forearms i.e. from inside of the elbow to the wrist of both the hands.
- (b) Reverse side of the palm/back (dorsal) side of both hands.

3. **Nature of Tattoos**

(a) Permissible Tattoos.

(a) Though no restriction on size or type of tattoo has been specified, tattoos are only permitted on body parts as mentioned above.

(b) Only small innocuous tattoos, that are not prejudicial to good order and military discipline, are permitted e.g. religious symbols or names of near and dear ones etc.

(b) Non-permissible Tattoos. Regardless of location of a tattoo on the body (permitted/not-permitted), the following will fall under the category of 'non-permissible tattoos':-

- (i) Tattoos on any other part of the body.
- (ii) A tattoo with lewd or offensive content or indecent figures.

(iii) Tattoos that are indecent, sexist or racist, explained as follows:-

(aa) Indecent tattoos are those that are grossly offensive to modesty, decency or propriety.

(ab) Sexist tattoos are those that advocate a philosophy that demeans a person based on gender.

(ac) Racist tattoos advocate a philosophy that degrades or demeans a person based on race, ethnicity or region and religion.

4. **Acceptance/ Non-Acceptance of Permanent Body Tattoo(s)** Any candidate with a permanent body tattoo(s) on any part of the body other than as specified in para 2(a) & (b) above (permissible category), or is of an objectionable nature (non permissible category), as brought out in Paragraph 3(b) above, **are not eligible for enrolment into the Indian Navy.**

5. Candidates with non permissible tattoos will be rejected by:-

(a) The Commandant, Selection Centre/ President of Selection Board prior to commencement of Stage I (or).

(b) The Commandant, Selection Centre/ President of Selection Board as soon as the non-permissible tattoo(s) is noticed at any stage of the selection process (or).

(c) The Commandant, Selection Centre/ President of Selection Board as soon as the non-permissible tattoo(s) is noticed during the medical examination phase, on intimation by Medical Authorities (or).

(d) The Commandant, Pre-Commission Training Academy (PCTA), if a non permissible tattoo(s) is noticed post-enrolment during the training phase.

**Appendix 'A'**

**SELF CERTIFICATION CERTIFICATE (ONE FOR EACH TATTOO) BY CANDIDATES FROM TRIBAL COMMUNITIES WITH PERMANENT BODY TATTOO(S)**

1. I, ----- (Name of Candidate), Son/  
Daughter of

----- (Name of Father/Mother/Guardian  
as applicable)

----- (Date of Birth) hereby give an undertaking that I  
belong to

----- Tribe from ----- area of -----  
----- State and I do not have any permanent body tattoo on my body/I  
have one/two/three/ four/more than \* permanent body tattoo (s) inked on  
my body as follows (one for each tattoo):-

<b><u>Photograph of Tattoo</u></b>	Details of Tattoo
(Post candidate to be pasted here duly signed by the candidate with name. Please do not use staple pins/clips).	Size of Tattoo – (In Cms)  Language - (If Applicable)  Significance of Tattoo – (If Applicable)

(\* Delete whichever is not applicable)

2. I am enclosing Certificate(s) as per Appendix 'B' in original, for permanent body tattoo(s) on my body, duly signed as per instructions.

3. I hereby, declare that besides the tattoo(s) as referred in Para 1 of Appendix 'A' Above, I will not have any other permanent body tattoo(s) in future if I am selected to undergo pre-commission training.

4. The above information given by me is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

5. I understand that misrepresentation of any facts/concealment of any information regarding permanent body tattoo(s) will lead to cancellation of my candidature at any stage from commencement of the selection process and I shall be solely responsible for the same.

Plcae:

Date :

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(Signature of the Candidate)

Name, Entry & SSB Batch No.

**Appendix 'B'**

**CERTIFICATE (ONE CERTIFICATE FOR EACH TATTOO) FOR  
PERMANENT BODY TATTOO IN RESPECT OF CANDIDATES FROM  
TRIBAL COMMUNITIES**

1. This is to certify that ----- (Name of Candidate) whose date of birth is ----- is the Son/Daughter of ----- (Name of Father/Mother/ Guardian as applicable) and belongs to ----- (Name of the Tribe) Community of ----- (Name of the District) in the State of ----- (Name of the State).

2. It is certified that the permanent body tattoo(s) inked at the following parts of the body ----- (Name of the candidate) is as per existing customs and traditions ----- Tribe and is in practice as on date:-

- (a)
- (b)
- (c)
- (d)

(Total No. of Tattoos – both in figures and words)

3. Post card size photographs of each of the the tattoo as given in Paragraph 2 of Appendix 'B' above is correct and placed as under for ay future reference / record hereafter:-

<b><u>Photograph of Tattoo</u></b>	Details of Tattoo
(Post card size to be pasted here duly signed by the candidate and official issuing this certificate with their respective names. Please do not use staple pins/clips).	Size of Tattoo – (In Cms)  Language - (If Applicable)  Significance of Tattoo – (If Applicable)

**Note-** Each tattoo will have a separate photograph with details and will be described separately. Additional pages will be used for the purpose and each page will be attested separately.

Place :

(Signature with Name, Designation and

Stamps of DC/DM or SDM of the District/Tehsil) OR (Signature with Name, Designation if any and Address of Chairman/Secretary or Senior Member of the Tribe to which the candidate belongs to with their Stamp.

**SELF CERTIFICATION CERTIFICATE (ONE FOR EACH TATTOO)  
UNDERTAKING BY CANDIDATES (OTHER THAN THOSE FROM TRIBAL  
COMMUNITIES) WITH PERMANENT BODY TATTOO(S)**

1. I, ----- (Name of Candidates), Son/Daughter of -----  
----- (Name of Father/Mother/Guardian as applicable), -----  
----- (Date of Birth) hereby give an undertaking that \*I do not have any  
permanent body tattoo on my body/\*I have one/two/three/four/more than  
four permanent body tattoo(s) as per details given and shown in the  
photograph(s) at Paragraph 2 below (\*strike out whichever is not applicable).

<b><u>Photograph of Tattoo</u></b>	<b><u>Details of Tattoo</u></b>
(Post card size to be pasted here duly Signed by the candidate with name. Please do not use staple pins/clips).	Size of Tattoo – (In Cms)  Language – (If Applicable)  Significance of Tattoo – (If Applicable)

2. I hereby declare that besides the tattoos as declared by me in Paragraph 1  
above. I will not have any other permanent body tattoo(s) in future if I am selected  
to undergo pre-commission training.

3. The above information given by me is true and correct to the best of my  
knowledge and belief.

4. I understand that misrepresentation of any facts/concealment of any  
information regarding permanent body tattoos will lead to cancellation of my  
candidature at any stage from commencement of the selection process and I shall  
be solely responsible for the same.

Place:

Date:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of the Candidate)  
Name, Entry & SSB Batch No

Note 1 – Each tattoo will have a separate photograph and will be described  
separately. Additional pages will be used for the purpose and each page will be  
signed by the candidate.

Note 2 - Commandant Selection Centre/President of Selection Board/  
Commandants of a Pre-Commission Training Academy are empowered to reject a  
candidate for non-permissible permanent body tattoo(s).