

a) To stop poaching and intrusion into the Jarawa territory and prevent its further destruction by encroachment and deforestation.

9. Your humble petitioner states that the A & N Police is playing a very vital role in preserving Jarawas culture and habitat from poachers, encroachers and unauthorized persons. The Police is maintaining 26 Jarawa Protection Posts (JPPs) at various places in North, Middle and south Andaman along the inner line demarcating the reserve area under the A & N Islands (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes) Regulation 1956. Police staff comprising of about 23 Head Constables & 119 Police Constables are manning these JPPs to stop poaching and intrusion in the Jarawa territory and prevent its further destruction by encroachment and deforestation and also to prevent any untoward incident involving tribals and non-tribals. Besides, staff from Police Station / OP / JPPs is also used to patrol in all these areas Baratang and PS Kadamtala comprising of 2 Sub-Inspectors, 1 Asstt. Sub-Inspector, 10 HCs and 46 PCs are also especially Mathura, Beachdera and Ferrar Gunj. The staff of OP Tirur, OP Jirkatang, are engaged in Jarawa related duties. OP Jirkatang and JPP Middle Strait are regulating traffic convoys under police escort through the reserve area.

10. Your petitioner further states that these convoys under escort on the ATR Route prevent any unauthorized person from contacting Jarawas and distributing food, clothing and gift items to them. The OPs are also conducting regular patrolling in addition to picket duties at Jarawa camps in order to keep the aboriginal tribes within the reserve area and to collect and communicate information regarding the presence and movements of the aboriginal tribes. Four vehicles alongwith the communication system have also been provided for conducting patrolling and other Jarawa related duties. Besides, 3 trucks fitted with wireless sets at PS Bamboo Flat, PS Dundus Point, OP Tushnabad are also used for Jarawa duty as and when required. 6 hand held wireless sets are available at OP Jirkatang, which are being used in convoy duties i.e. front and rear of vehicles. The strategic location of the Jarawa Protection Posts as well as additional mobilization of police manpower during times of need coupled with increased mobility and communication by means of wireless, and a convoy system of all vehicles from Jirkatang to Middle Strait are steps which are being taken by the A & N Police to stop poaching and intrusion in the Jarawa territory.

11. Your petitioner further states that the Forest Authorities have also initiated the steps in accordance with the directions of the Hon'ble High Court. The Divisional Forest Officer, South Andaman has alerted the check post at Jirkatang No.7 to check the movement of illegal collection of forest produces from the Jarawas Territory. Regular patrolling and combing operations have been conducted in Jarawa reserve to prevent illegal poaching if any as indicated in his letter No.15-43/G/465 dated 27th September 2001. Similarly Divisional Officers Baratang Division has arranged for beat patrolling / combing operations to prevent illegal poaching in the Jarawa area if any as indicated in his letter No.G-10/BT/98-99 dated 976 dated 5th October 2001.