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construction of the road and that no habitation, whether official or private, should be located in the vicinity of the boundary of the Jarawa region and certainly not within the reserve area

46 The Planning Commission Report of March 1986 stated that the Andaman and Nicobar Islands are "ecologically sensitive area".....having a "fragile and unique ecosystem"

Poaching

47 The wildlife experts living in the Andaman and Nicobar islands did investigation in respect of extensive poaching in the islands and made a report in respect of a visit in March 1999. The Applicants crave leave to refer to and rely on the same.

Environmental Impact assessment

48 The Centre for Taxonomic Studies, Bangalore did an environmental impact assessment in 1987 and concluded.

" Since the Jarawa reserves are well stocked with timber and easily accessible, envious and greedy eyes are being cast on them. The Andaman Trunk Road, constructed after long arguments has increased the confrontation between the tribal and settler "

Is such a phenomenal increase in the rate and intensity of extraction within a limited island system sustainable? If replenishment of the stock were adequate there might have been some hope. The facts do not give room for optimism

" Forest plantation of exotic timber species have been failures "

" Nevertheless the rapid run off during the rainy season the erosion on steep slopes and the degradation of soil are evident in many season parts of the Andamans "

" The third and most serious threat comes from man. The forest area is continually shrinking because of diversion to non-forest uses "

" The important point at issues is whether a unique type of vegetation that now covers the island should be destroyed for the sake of a commercial crop even if in itself it is