

52 The Applicants have filed Writ Petition No 76 of 1999 before the Calcutta High Court Circuit Bench at Port Blair, seeking a writ of Mandamus putting on record the extensive destruction of the forest in the Andamans and the Nicobar Islands without a workable plan as required by Section 2 of the Forest Conservation Act 1980 and in reckless disregard of the fragile ecology of the islands and requesting therein that the cutting of trees be stopped forthwith and mining activity be stopped and for other reliefs

53 The matter came up for admission on 31.8.1999 and the Respondents took the plea that the same issue was pending before this Hon'ble Court and was fixed to be heard on 7.9.1999. In view of the statement the Hon'ble High Court was pleased to pass an order stating that the applicants should approach this Hon'ble Court and bring the violation of the order to the notice of this Hon'ble Court. A true copy of the said order dated August 31, 1999 is annexed hereto and marked Annexure-K is a true copy of the said order dated August 31, 1999.

The Applicants are therefore making this application for intervention.

54 That the application is bona fide and made in the interests of justice.

In the facts and circumstances stated hereinabove, it is Most Respectfully prayed that this Hon'ble Court be pleased to

- a Allow the applicants to be impleaded in the present petition.
- b Direct the Respondents to forthwith stop the cutting of trees in the Little Andamans.
- c Direct the Respondents to remove from the tribal reserve all encroachments / camps / bases.
- d Direct the Respondents to immediately stop all mining / quarrying or any other non-forest activity in the Little Andamans.
- e Quash and set aside the lease dated 20.11.1987.
- f restrain the Respondents from carrying out any road construction either within the tribal reserve or within 500 metres around the tribal reserve.