<u>**Minutes of the meeting held in the chamber of Principal Secretary**</u>
<u>**(Transport) on 10.9.2014 to discuss issues related with operation of night**</u>
<u>**bus service from Diglipur to Port Blair.**</u>

The following were present:

1. Shri. G.L. Meena, Secretary-cum- Director (Transport)
2. Shri. Shibesh Singh, SP (D) South Andaman
3. Shri. R. Veeriah, DSS I/C
4. Shri. Dinesh Kannan.S. Divisional Forest Officer, SA
5. Shri. R.A. Dohrey, Executive Secretary (AAJVS)
6. Shri. B.Binoy, Secretary, STA

At the outset it was explained to everybody that STA has permitted introduction of night bus service from Diglipur to Port Blair and vice versa on the request of DC Mayabunder, District Planning Committee (N&M Andaman), PRIs, local residents etc. The proposed departure and arrival timing of the said service was appraised as follows:

Forward Journey

Departure from Port Blair	-	12.30 PM
Convoy timing from Jirkatang	-	2.30 PM
Arrival at Rangat	-	7.00 PM
Arrival at Diglipur	-	11.00 PM

Return Journey

Departure from Diglipur	-	11.00 PM
Convoy timing from Parlobjig No.15	-	2.30 PM
Availing ferry at Gandhighat jetty	-	04.45 AM
Convoy timing from Middle strait	-	6.30 AM
Arrival at Port Blair	-	09.30 AM

It was explained to all that there would not be any violation of convoy timings and no disturbance would be created to the Jarawas due to the movement of this bus. A trial run was made by the owner of this bus service and he suggested that if the bus is permitted to cross Parlobjig No. 15 at 3.30AM instead of 4.00 AM and ferry is provided at 4.30 AM at Uttara jetty, then passengers can freshen up at Baratang before availing the first convoy from Middle Strait. It was also requested that priority may be given to the night bus in the ferry at Uttara jetty. Response from the general public of North Andaman was encouraging.

SP (D), SA stated that if there is no change in the timings of convoy and opening of gate at Parlobjig No. 15 check post, then Police Department would not have any objection in the plying of this bus service. He also stated that