

- The Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt of India has constituted an Expert Committee for the welfare of Jarawas under the convener-ship of Hon'ble Lt Governor, A&N Islands.
- The first meeting of the Expert Committee under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Lt Governor held on 10.09.2001.
- The decisions/action taken in the meeting are summarized below (action taken in blue font) :-
- An affidavit has to be filed in the High Court at Kolkata for granting additional time for the expert committee to finalize its report.

Since the direction of High Court was to the Union Government, Hon'ble Lt Governor has informed the Ministry of Home Affairs about the decision of the committee to move to High Court for additional time. An affidavit vetted by the Law Department has been submitted to the Hon'ble Lt Governor for approval. Once approved, it will be filed.

- The Composite Group is to include representatives from departments/disciplines of Health, Nutrition, Forest & Environment, Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), Anthropological Survey of India (ASI), Botanical Survey of India (BSI).

The name of persons who will form the Composite Group, has been finalized by DHS & PCCF. ZSI and BSI expressed its inability to provide full time members for the constitution of experts, since they have very limited manpower at Port Blair. However, whenever required, they will be providing the assistance.

I have conducted a meeting at my level with the representatives of PCCF, DHS, ZSI, ASI and BSI in this regard.

The Composite Group is to be headed by Anthropological Survey of India. The representative of ASI has informed that the name of persons who will be heading the team is under finalisation and the representatives from ASI may be two or three.