

Subject

File.....

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① This is a letter received from Divisional Forest Officer, South Andaman dated 21st December, 2015 regarding unrestricted access to Jarawa tribal reserve and informed that a proposal for diversion of forest land for the purpose of "Construction of 2-lane bridge pver Middle Strait Creek of NH-223 connecting South Andaman Island and Baratang Island" on 17.12.2015. In order to complete part -II of the FCA proposal, their office was directed to complete the enumeration of the trees in the proposed area within a period of seven days. This issue was finalized in the meeting chaired by Hon'ble MP, A&N Islands which was attended by the Principal Secretary, APWD, APCCF (FCA & CRZ), Dugong Creek, South Andaman and other senior officers from various Departments.

② The efforts for early completion of the enumeration were putforth by their Division. However, due to the restriction in the Jarawa tribal reserve by the A & N Police, the staff & labourers of Forest Department could not spend sufficient time keeping the scheduled convoy timings. Keeping the convoy timing in view, the field timing has been very much restricted due to which the enumeration is not moving as per the schedule. It is also informed that the Incharge, Checkpost Jarawa Tribal reserve did not allow beyond the convoy timings a Mazdoor, who was bitten by a snake during the course of tree enumeration.

③ The Divisional Forest Officer, South Andaman requested to take-up the issue with Director General of Police, A&N Islands for unrestricted access in the Jarawa tribal reserve for carrying out the enumeration work. It is further submitted that there may be delay in completing the work without unrestricted access for which their Division should not be held responsible.

④ File is submitted for further necessary direction please.

Sch
04.1.16

Adm-O.