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31/3/11
No. SP (D/SA)/2011/1660

**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE,
South Andaman District.**

Date: 04/04/11
Port Blair, dated the 30th March, 2011

To,

The Secretary (TW)
A & N Administration,
Port Blair

Sub:- Amendments in A & N islands PAT Regulation , 1956- reg.

Sir,

Your kind attention is invited towards the acute shortage of AAJVS staff deployed in the Jarawa reserve area and also the lack of suitable penal provisions in the A & N PAT Regulation, 1956, Rules, 1957 made thereunder and the subsequent amendments to prosecute those who indulge in unwarranted activities while passing through the Andaman Trunk road (ATR) in the tribal reserve .

2. On the 47 KM stretch of ATR in the tribal reserve between Jirkatang and Middle Strait, only 03 AAJVS personnel have been reporting for duty to control and supervise the members of the Jarawa tribe, who loiter on the fringes on the ATR, at various places, which provides an opportunity to the commuters/tourists to make contact with members of the PVTG, thereby defeating the very purpose of the notified Jarawa policy. In absence of a suitable number of well trained AAJVS staff, the Police cannot by itself control interaction with the Jarawas.

3. It is to further inform that the A & N Islands PAT Regulation, 1956, Rules, 1957 made there under and the subsequent amendments including the draft amendment, 2010 have been thoroughly examined to explore the possibility of prosecuting those, who indulge in making deliberate and willful contacts with the Jarawas and offer them eatables , tobacco etc. and also undertake photography and videography on the Andaman Trunk Road. But the said regulation, despite strictest of interpretations, doesn't provide any teeth whatsoever to the police department to prosecute offenders as the ATR alongwith 30 meters on each sides from the central line has been excluded from the purview of Jarawa Reserve Area by a Gazette notification dated 15/9/2004 of A & N Administration.

4. However, it is pertinent to mention that an attempt has been made to make activities punishable under law by proposing certain additions in section 8 after clause (3) of the A & N Islands PAT Regulation, 1956 in the proposed draft Amendments, 2010. The same may not to be enough to prosecute those who indulge in unwarranted activities on the ATR as it has been excluded from the purview of a tribal reserve Area.