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**VIEWS OF THE ADMINISTRATION IN THE MATTER OF JARAWA ISSUE,
WHENEVER IT WAS PUBLISHED IN THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL
MEDIA REGARDING EXPLOITATION OF THE JARAWAS**

1) About the Policies and Mechanism

In order to protect and preserve the Jarawa tribe exploitation from outsiders, the Andaman and Nicobar Administration is implementing the Jarawa Policy framed by the Central Government in the year 2004. Whenever, instances of violations are detected, prompt action is being taken and criminal cases are filed under the provisions of Andaman and Nicobar islands (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes) Regulation, 1956 and the SC&ST (Presentation of Atrocities) Act, 1989.

2) Facts and figures on criminal cases registered under Andaman and Nicobar islands (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes) Regulation, 1956 and the SC&ST (Presentation of Atrocities) Act, 1989.

As on date, there are 49 cases pending before the criminal Courts. In all these cases, the Police Department has completed the investigation and filed the charge-sheet and the cases are under trial in the Court. Police Department has been directed to expedite the investigations and also to file petitions in the Court to get the pending criminal cases disposed of early.

3) Inducting Jarawa tribe into mainstream

We have no plans of pushing Jarawas into preconceived idea of what is "what mainstream". Giving doles has been curtailed; we are working on creating distinct and appropriate educational programme.

Jarawas are to be allowed to take their own decisions in negotiating with the world outside their territory. The Administration has adopted the policy of 'listen and provide' what the tribe expressly requires. There is maximum autonomy given to the Jarawas with minimum intervention by the Administration. Efforts are being made to compile and understand what the communities in different stages of acculturation would like and why, before we just protect and provide, the main concern is to keep the culture and identity also alive and vibrant.

4) Conflict of Interest between the settler population and Jarawas

The Tribal Welfare Department of the Administration including the ANTRI has taken up programme for sensitization of the settlers of the surroundings villages namely Collinpur, Herbatabad, Manpur, Templemyo and Tirur being sensitive in view of the frequent interactions and poaching by the settlers in the Jarawa Reserve Area over the years. A few individuals from the settlers community have been engaged as volunteers/ informers by AAJVS to keep watch on intrusions/ poaching by the settlers including movement of the Jarawas into the adjoining settlement villages and report to the Tribal Welfare Officer posted at Tirur whenever such incidents takes place. The outcome of such initiatives has been very positive/ encouraging in view of the fact that a few habitual offenders of the area could be apprehended/ nabbed and brought to book. The impact of sensitization of the settlers of the adjoining villages of the Jarawas reserve coupled with strict enforcement of the law is now visible/ felt as the incidents of poaching and other unlawful activities in the Jarawa Reserve including Buffer Zone have been brought under control.