ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ADMINISTRATION DIRECTORATE OF Tribal Welfare

File No. 1-752/2007-TW

This office has got information that one M/S Barefoot Group has purchased a land at Colinpur, South Andaman for tourist resort, which is adjacent to Jarawa reserved area.

On receipt of information, the Special Secretary (TW), A & N Administration accompanied by Assistant Commissioner (TW) and Research Officer (J), Directorate of Tribal Welfare visited Colinpur on 8.7.2007 Sunday at 10.30 A.M. On arrival at Colinpure it is seen that an office with few employees of M/S Barefoot Group is functioning nearby sea-shore beach. We had talked to one of their employee, who informed us that they are going to construct a building for running a restaurant for the tourists.

It is learnt from the concerned Patwari of the office of the Tehsildar, Ferrargunj that there is 2.00 Hect land at Survey No. 118/1 and 118/2 in the name of Late Binod Singh at Colinpur under Ferrargunj Tehsil, of which 1.40 Hect land at Survey No. 118/1 for agricultural purpose and 0.60 Hect land at survey No. 118/2 for commercial purpose. It is also learnt that M/S Barefoot Group has taken the entire land on lease basis for a period of 99 years through Notary registrations. Now the land is under process of registration in the office of the Assistant Commissioner, Settlement / SDM, South Andaman.

There is a Zhao Kona, where the Jarawa reside is very close to the land purchased by M/S Barefoot Group at Colinpur for tourist resort. When there is low tide, the Jarawas come to that area in search of their livelihood. If the tourist resort is constructed at that place, the Jarawa will be visiting frequently to resort area for want of their needs, which may cause exploitation by the non-tribals including tourists.

As per the instructions contained in the policy on Jarawa Tribe of Andaman Islands framed on High Court's Order in consultation with the experts and notified with the consent of the Govt. of India, no tourist will be allowed to interact with the Jarawas so that curious intrusions are avoided as these intrusions adversely affect their life style and health.