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कार्यालय कार्यपालक सचिव

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

अण्डमान आदिम जनजाति समिती

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अ. डा. सं. / R.D. No.: 2474

दिनांक / Date: 24/12/07

To
The Assistant Commissioner (TW)
A&N administration
Port Blair

Sub: Protection of Jarawa Tribal Reserve – reg.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No.1-752/2007-TW/757 dated 23rd November 2007 on the subject cited above, I am to state that both the Notifications proposed are with very well intension towards the protection of the small Primitive Tribe- 'Jarawa'. The drafts are also well made. However, I would like to point it out here that as per section 7 of A&N Islands (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes), Regulation, 1956 and notifications issued there under no person other than a member of an aboriginal tribe shall enter a reserved area except on the authority and subject to the observance of the conditions and restrictions of a Pass granted by the Deputy Commissioner or by such other officer as the Deputy Commissioner may authorize in writing in this behalf. It, therefore, implies that the commuters on the Andaman Trunk Road passing through Tribal (Jarawa) Reserve should also obtain the said "Pass" as mentioned above. But, unfortunately the same has not been followed from the very beginning when the ATR was opened for vehicular traffic. This needs to be enforced first, particularly in view of the increased vehicular traffic on ATR through a long stretch of Tribal Reserve with off course, the exemption as suggested in the proposed Notification to the Old Inhabitants and Settlers, to the extent of compulsorily possessing and producing the Islanders Identity Card during their journey through Tribal Reserve.

Moreover, in view of the changed scenario due to increase in population and rapid boost to tourism industry in Andamans, it is the need of the hour that the Tribal Pass enabling any non-tribal to enter any Tribal Reserve may be issued only on the report/recommendation of AAJVS (the Trustee Organization for PTGs) duly endorsed by the Tribal Welfare Department. This will obviously make the process of obtaining Tribal Pass cumbersome, thereby yielding fruitful result in checking the menance of "Jarawa Tourism" and will ultimately prove as one of the strongest measures for protecting the small PTG.

Yours faithfully,


(Govind Ram)

Executive Secretary