

(57)

Keeping in view of the above, the following action is recommended:-

a) The Revenue Department may be asked to withdraw the permission to convert this property for commercial use.

b) Foreigners may be barred from visiting not only the tribal reserve, but also from an area of 5 Kms around the reserve, which may be declared as a buffer zone.

c) If at any time in the months ahead, M/s Barefoot Group applies for an excise licence for storage & service of liquor, the same may be refused.

d) The Forest department may be asked to give a report about the status of the land, because as per a Notice Board adjacent to the site, an area of 10 Sq Kms. has been declared as a Crocodile Sanctuary, under protection of the Wild Life Act, and entry in and around is restricted.

e) The notified Jarawa Policy may be amended to provide a buffer zone of 5 Kms around the Jarawa reserve, where no commercial or tourist activities would be allowed.

As desired by C.S vide his minutes at para 16/N on page 5/N, the following Heads of Departments/ Offices viz. PCCF, IGP, Secretary (Law), DC, South Andaman, Special Secretary (Tourism) and ES, AAJVS were requested to send their comments on the above issues vide this office letter dated 16.7.2007 followed by reminders dated 24.8.2007 at page 9/c and dated 14.9.2007 at page 11/c.

The comments of the following Departments are as under:-

ACF (Planning & Statistics) vide letter dated 13.8.2007 at page 6/c has stated that **"the Jarawa Reserve is located towards North and approximately it is 1.5 Km away from the Collinpur Village. The status of the land lying between Collinpur Revenue Village and Jarawa Reserve is Reserved Forest and it is acting as a buffer around the Tribal reserve"**.

The Dy. Director (Tourism) vide letter dated 16.8.2007 at page 8/c has stated that **"The Tourism Deptt. is of the view that declaration of 5 Km of area from the Jarawa reserve as a buffer zone would adversely affect tourism in Baratang"**.