

- c) The Administration has not permitted the CCMB to do any blood-sampling or filming of the PTGs, even though the Minister of State for Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India has written several letters to the Lt. Governor and Chief Secretary seeking permission for the project. Under the circumstances, the Admn. will find it very difficult to explain the existence of a tourist resort so close to the very PTG whom it's trying to isolate from close contact with outsiders.

It's essential that our approach to the PTGs be consistent, and not department-centric, and adhering in letter and spirit to the notified Jarawa policy. There are no two opinions that this PTG deserves all assistance in its fight for survival, in its natural state. The Jarawas have been recognized as international human heritage, and it's the onerous responsibility of this Administration to protect and preserve this status. An analogy may "make" the argument clearer:- when it came to a choice between the Taj Corridor and the Taj Mahal, the heritage building (merely 450 odd years old) was unanimously declared as immeasurably more valuable, even though the Taj Corridor project would have accelerated the development of that area and created employment opportunities for the locals. Insidious arguments may be put forward that the Barefoot Resorts project at Collinpur would generate employment for 50-75 persons in the village, but this has to be weighed against the negative externalities it would undoubtedly cause to the Jarawas, and thus to the world whose common heritage they are. It's important to nip this trend in the bud.

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 the protection of the Wild Life Act, and entry in & around is restricted.