

(27) As for reported cases of offences punishable under the said Regulation, there is increase in the number of offences. The provision of existing PAT, Regulation did not have much impact on the offenders, causing disruption of life of the Tribals in the reserved area. Therefore, it is proposed that the punishment may be for a minimum period of one year extendable upto 3 (three) years only and the fine of Rs. 2000/- extendable upto Rs. 10,000/- to have deterrent effect on the offenders.

(28) If approved, we may send a revised proposal along the above lines to the GOI.

(29) Submitted for approval, please.

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20/18

AD/TM

(30) May please refer to office notes at paras 24-29/n. It is regarding proposal relating to amendment of the A & N Islands (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes) Regulation, 1956. In this connection please refer to Govt. of India's letter dated 10.7.2001 at page 64/c (PUC), stating that it would not be justifiable to amend the Regulation to provide for a severe punishment of a minimum period of imprisonment of one year extendable upto three years, which is normally awarded in law aimed at removing social evils. The Govt. of India have requested this Administration to reconsider the whole matter and propose a reasonable punishment in the circumstances and situation prevalent in the Union Territory.

(31) The suggestions of the Govt. of India is examined as under :