

P.U.C. is in reply to this Administration's letter dated 11th October, 2001 at page 66/C regarding amendment of A&N Islands (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes) Regulation, 1956. We have informed Govt. of India that the proposal regarding amendment of section 8 relating to enhancement of the penalties of PAT Regulation may be dropped, but the Government of India have desired to know whether the above decision has the approval of the Lt. Governor, A&N Islands.

Initially the proposal for amendment to section 8 of the PAT Regulation was referred to Govt. of India vide this Administration letter dated 19th November, 1991 at pages 3-4/C. The proposal was considered by the Expert Group under the Ministry of Home Affairs and it was approved as mentioned in the D. O. letter dated 12th February, 1998 at page 5/C of the former Chief Secretary, A&N Administration. The provision of section - 8 of the PAT regulation vis-à-vis amendment cleared by the Expert committee is reproduced below: -

- (1) whoever in contravention of the provisions of section 6, acquires any interest in or in any product of, or crop raised on, any land, or carries on any trade or business, in a reserved area, shall be punishable with imprisonment which may extend to one year, or with fine which extend to one thousand rupees or with both and the interest so acquired shall be disposed of in such manner as the Chief Commissioner may, after taking into consideration the circumstances of the case, direct
- (2) Whoever, in contravention of a notification issued under section 7, enters a reserved area shall be punishable with imprisonment which may extend to one year, or with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees, or with both.
- (3) Whoever, does anything in contravention of any of the conditions or restrictions subject to which a pass has been granted to him under section 7, shall be punishable with imprisonment which may extend to one year, or with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees, or with both."

"Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes) Regulation 1956. The amendments suggested by the Administrator, Andaman & Nicobar Islands have been accepted with the following modification:-