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221 PUC is letter No. IGP/PQ/1151/11/2004/7050 dated 16/08/2004 of Dy. S.P (HQ), Office of the IGP regarding promulgation of regulation for amendment of the Section - 8 of A&N Islands (PAT) Regulation, 1956.

222 In this connection, it is stated that there is a proposal for amendment of Section - 8 relating to penalties for offences committed under the PAT Regulation under consideration of the Govt. of India, Ministry of Home Affairs as per the Administration's letter dated 28/11/002 at page 140/C. In response to the above proposal the Joint Secretary, UT vide his D.O letter No. U-11023/7/99-UTL dated 21/07/2004 at page 152/C addressed to the Chief Secretary, A&N Administration had asked for classification on the following issues: -

- a) The number of persons who have been charge sheeted and prosecuted under the aforesaid Regulation during the last 15 years and how many cases ended with acquittal;
- b) Whether there is an increase in the number of such cases over the past 15 years; &
- c) Whether by merely increasing penalties under the aforesaid Regulation, the protection of aboriginal tribes could be ensured.

223 The above issues were referred to IGP vide this office letter No. 1-467/2001-TW/505 dated 05/08/2004 at page 153/C. The Dy. S.P (HQ) has furnished the information as under: -

- a) A total of 2026 persons were charge sheeted, out of which 1812 persons were convicted and one person acquitted during the last 15 years, i.e., from 1989 to 2003.
- b) The number of cases registered year-wise under the A&N Islands (PAT) Regulation 1956 are given below: -

<u>S. No.</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>No. of cases registered</u>
1.	1982	82
2.	1990	60
3.	1991	90
4.	1992	68
5.	1993	98
6.	1994	72
7.	1995	71
8.	1996	57
9.	1997	78
10.	1998	85
11.	1999	112
12.	2000	118
13.	2001	130
14.	2002	103
15.	2003	72

As may be observed from the above statement there are has been unsteady increase in number of cases over the years.