

Material for possible Supplementaries

A PIL has been filed by Ms. Shyamaly Ganguly, Advocate, Port Blair in the Hon'ble High Court of Kolkata expressing apprehension about the welfare of Jarawa Tribe, their activities, behaviour pattern and other related aspects. The Hon'ble High Court passed an order dated 09/04/2001 directing the GOI to constitute an Expert Committee for under taking scientific study, research and survey in the change in behaviour of the Jarawa and to find out the cause of the same. Accordingly, the GOI has constituted an Expert Committee under the convenorship of the Hon'ble Lt. Governor of A & N Islands and experts from various fields have been included in it for the purpose of undertaking study on the Jarawas. The Expert Committee is required to submit the study report to the Hon'ble High Court of Kolkata and GOI by March 2003. The Expert Committee has completed the study and is in the process of writing its report. In this context, it may be pointed out that the Expert Committee, besides the issues relating to health, social aspects etc., is also seized of the impact of ATR and its use by the vehicular traffic on the Jarawa Tribe and it may dwell upon it. The policy decision towards the welfare of the Jarawa including ATR will be taken by the GOI following the submission of the report by the Expert Committee.

Besides, as further directed by the Hon'ble High Court the following interim measures viz. patrolling on the ATR by Jarawa protection police to prevent poaching and intrusion into Jarawa territory, discourage Jarawa to come out in open for the purpose of accepting food, gifts or otherwise and demarcation of Jarawa territory and providing medical aid to the extent necessary in their own territory are being carried out.


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