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Copy of d.o. letter No. 13015/17/82-ANL dated the 13th July, 1983 from Shri S. Varadan, Additional Secretary, Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi addressed to Shri Kampani, Lt. Governor, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Port Blair.

You may kindly recall the meeting held on 9th June, 1983 in my room regarding resumption of the construction of the Andaman Trunk Road.

2. We have since been informed that the Prime Minister has approved the following line of action:-

(i) Resumption of construction on the existing alignment of the 87-110 Kms. stretch may be permitted subject to an eastward shift of the road between 93 and 99 Kms. which would cost an additional Rs. 30 lakhs.

(ii) The area along the entire length of the road both on the western and eastern side, falling in the Jarawa territory would be declared a Jarawa reserve to the extent it is feasible to do so. This matter may be examined most expeditiously.

(iii) The safe-guards recommended by the team of anthropologists should be scrupulously adhered to under the supervision of a senior and responsible officer.

(iv) The policy of maintaining regular contact with the tribe should be systematically pursued and regular reports about the result of such contacts should be made available to PM's office both during the construction and the post-construction phases.

(v) As the contact between the tribe and the Administration has been initiated, an anthropological study of the tribe by competent scientists would be useful. The Jarawa tribe has not been studied at all and apparently it is at an extremely early level of technological and social development. This will also help the Administration in devising sound programmes for ensuring that the tribe does not decline numerically.

Prime Minister has also directed that for monitoring the implementation of the safe-guards recommended by the team of anthropologists, an officer sensitive and concerned enough should be assigned.

3. It is requested that further action in accordance with the above decisions may kindly be initiated at an early date.

4. We shall be grateful to be kept informed of the progress of the work from time to time to enable us to keep the Prime Minister's office posted with the latest developments.

With regards,

Paras
15(a),
(d), (e)
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the report
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