

3. The Team submitted part 1 of the Report relating to construction and use of Andaman Trunk Road on the Jarawa tribe. The report relating to roads in Great Nicobar Island is yet to be submitted by the Team.

4. The Team of Anthropologists suggested three alternatives in relation to the construction of Andaman Trunk Road 87-110 Kms. stretch. These were -

- (a) Realignment eastward of the entire length of the road from a point as near as the 46 Kms. point which is the southern most meeting point of the Jarawa Reserve and the Andaman Trunk Road;
- (b) shifting of the 87-110 Kms. stretch eastward as much as possible since this stretch is yet to be constructed; or
- (c) resumption of construction of the 87-110 Kms. stretch along the existing alignment.

These and other related issues were discussed in an inter-ministerial meeting in the Ministry of Home Affairs on 4 June, 1983 and 9 June, 1983. Later, the Prime Minister approved action on the following lines :

- 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 safeguards 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.

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