Copy of D.C.No.1-374/82-TW dated 21st May, 1984 from Lt.Governor, A&N Islands, Port Blair addressed to Joint Secretary (UT), Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi.

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Please refer to your d.o.letter No.U.13015/17/82-ANL dated 5-4-'84 regarding construction of the Andaman Trunk Road and re-alignment of the portion passing through the Jarawa reserve.

You do not seem to have received our letter
No.1-324/82-TW dated 29th March, 1984 addressed to the
Director (ANL), Government of India, Ministry of Home
Affairs. Anyway, the position in regard to various
points raised in Shri S. Vardan, Additional Secretary,
MHA's d.o.letter No.13015/17/82-ANL dated 14th Mm July, 1984
MHA's letter No.U.13019/17/82-ANL dated 19th August, 1983
and your d.o.letter under reference is as follows:-

It is a fact that the work on the Andaman Trunk Read was resumed on 14th March, 1984 as mentioned in our Principal Engineer's letter No.WS/3-20/88/63/656 dated 19th March, 1984. Though clearance for resumption of work on the Andaman Trunk Read was conveyed vide Shri S. Varadan's d.c. letter dated 14th July, 1983 aforesaid, we thought it appropriate to explore the possibilities of keeping the alignment of the road as much away from the Jarawa reserve as possible. Accordingly, a preliminary survey in this regard was carried out and it was found feasible to shift the alignment eastwards from 84.5 kms. Accordingly, fresh tree cutting was done and action initiated to mobilise labour, construct labour barracks, re-organise the Bush Police establishment and set up a dispensary.

The area of the Jarawa reserve has been extended so as to include the entire area on the eastern side of the Andaman Trunk Read alignment from Putatang creek upto 110 Kms of Andaman Trunk Read extending upto the sea on eastern side. Thus an area of about 90 Sq.kms. has been added to the Jarawa reserve. A copy of the Netification dated 9th April, 1984 issued in this regard is enclosed. (Annexure 'A)

In pursuance of the guidelines contained in Shri S. Varadan's d.e. letter dated 14th July, 1983 and the decision taken at the meeting of the Advisory Committee on Primitive Tribes held on January, 21 and 22, 1984, a Watch Dog Committee has been constituted to review and monitor the implementation of the safeguards recommended by the team of Anthropologists on Jarawa situation. This Committee of officers is headed by the Chief Secretary, Deputy Director, Anthropological Survey of India, Port Blair is also a Member of this Committee. A copy of the order issued in this regard is enclosed (Annexure 'B').