

VV Bhat.

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250, No. 1-324 / 82-TW  
XXXXXXXXXXXX (Tribal Welfare)

5th July,

82

Dear Smt. Uma Pillai,

Kindly refer to letter No. U.13015/16/79-ANL dated 22nd March 1982 and signal of the same number dated 1-7-82 regarding comments on the report of the Committee of Anthropologists on the Jarawa situation in the Andaman Islands.

Para 10 to 13 - Construction of Andaman Trunk Road between 87 and 110 km at Jirkatang:

The Committee has given three alternatives in para 10 of their report. These alternatives are -

1. Realignment eastward of the entire length of the road from a point as near as 46 km point which is the southernmost meeting point of Jarawa Reserve and the A.T. Road.
2. Shifting of the 87 - 110 km stretch eastward as much as possible, since this stretch is yet to be constructed.
3. Resumption of construction on the existing alignment of the 87-110 kms stretch.

Alternative (1) i.e. realignment of the road from 46 km point towards east so as to take the road far away from the Jarawa Reserve will mean additional construction of about 80 km of road and abandoning of the road already constructed from 46 km onwards upto 87 km. This will result in heavy infructuous expenditure besides requiring considerable time for construction of this portion of road. According to the present yardstick, construction of this 41 km of road between 46 km and 87 km alone will cost about Rs. 3.5 crores which will be an additional avoidable expenditure. With the resources at present available with the APWD., it may take about 8 years to complete this length of road. For this reason, adoption of this alternative does not appear to be workable and may be dropped from consideration.

In alternative (2), the Committee has suggested shifting of the stretch of road from 87 km to 110 km which is yet