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6. 6(2) Completion of Andaman Trunk Road.

Joint Secretary(Tribal Development), MHA pointed out that a portion of this road passed through the Jarawa (hostile tribe) area and its construction in this area would have to be examined in detail. Shri Nechal Singh Chowla said that the local Admn. were themselves intruding into the Jarawa area at certain other places and it would be wrong to take this plea and abandon construction of the road on this stretch. M.S.(HOME) informed the Committee that he had instructed the committee of officers to visit the islands to make an on the spot study and submit their recommendations. A final decision would be taken soon thereafter.

The Committee of Anthropologists appointed by the Ministry of Home Affairs to go into the question of resumption of GAT Road construction in the Jarawa area have since visited these islands and submitted their report. Our comments on the recommendations made in the report have already been furnished to the Home Ministry and their final decision in the matter is awaited.