

PUC - I is a note dated 15.6.2013 received from the Secretary (TW) enclosing therewith a note of Dr. Pandaya, Expert Member of General Body of AAJVS with regard to movement of traffic on ATR.

Dr. Pandaya, Expert Member of General Body of AAJVS has made the following suggestions vide his email dated 15.6.2013 addressed to the Secretary (Tribal Welfare) (reference pages 67-69/cor) regarding modification of timing of the convoy system, particularly with reference to the tourist operating on ATR ie. Jirkatang to Middle Strait in order to control the tourist vis-à-vis Jarawas.

Tourist/visitors proposing to visit Baratang in a private hired vehicles should take the earliest convoy ie. 0600 hrs and return in the convoy that leaves before the last one ie. 1230 hrs so that by 4.00 pm all the ATR vehicles are out beyond the stretch from RK Nallah and Middle Strait.

The existing practice is that Tourist/visitors proposing to visit Baratang leave Port Blair for Bratang leisurely with the expectation that they may get chances of seeing Jarawas on ATR on their journey trip when the sun goes down. Hence they prefer to avail the last convoy ie. at 3.00 pm.

The existing convoy schedule operating on ATR between Jirkatang and Middle Strait is given below:

	From Jirkatang	From Middle Strait
First convoy	0600 hrs	0630 hrs
Second convoy	0900 hrs	0930 hrs
Third convoy	1200 hrs	1230 hrs
Fourth convoy	1430 hrs	1500 hrs

The argument in favour of the suggested modification is that the casual frivolous tourists who hang out at Baratang completing only want to see the Jarawas and not really the Mud Volcanoes could be weeded out. This will also facilitate early return of the tourist to their place of staying at Port Blair. In fact the tourists main option to visit Baratang is to see the Lime Stone Cave and not the Mud Volcanoes. They hang out at Baratang to see the Mud Volcano as a pretext to get glimpse of the Jarawas while returning by the last convoy. The Jarawas too mostly come out on the road side in and around the last convoy time. The proposed change/modification will also facilitate police checking of vehicles a 'time specific operation' with prior knowledge and designated peak task time.

Following the change or modification, the tourist operators can sell not only a trip but also charge for the boat ride from Baratang Jetty to Lime Stone Cave. This would ensure livelihood of the local and small boat operators and cut down the chaotic situation at Baratang.

The above said suggestion of is submitted for the consideration please.

PUC - II is a note dated 26.6.2013 of the Secretary to LG, A & N Islands enclosing therewith a representation of Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma, President Pradesh Congress Committee regarding special convoy for the buses which breakdown on their way from North Andaman to Port Blair.