

problems, acquisition of two to three sturdy boats by AAJVS to be used to facilitate movements of the Jarawas along the coast all the way to Lewis Inlet without letting them appear on the road or traversing through settlements as the Jarawas traditionally and historically always moved along coast.

**(3) Alternate sea-route to Baratang.**

As per the Jarawa Policy 2004 facilities for travel by boat/ship is to be strengthened and transportation / travel by sea encouraged. Accordingly a project for alternate sea route was formulated and submitted to the GoI for approval. Necessary funds for the project will be provided by the Ministry of Shipping. A detailed Project Report comprising works viz. dredging, navigation aids and construction of Jetty involving an expenditure of Rs. 51.73 crore has been submitted to Ministry of Shipping for approval.

The Admn. had given a commitment to Hon'ble Apex Court to complete the project in time-bound manner. Thus the allegation of stalling the project is uncalled for.

It needs to be recalled and emphasized here that the alternate sea-route to Baratang has been planned with the sole objective of only lessening or eliminating tourists traffic on ATR for protection of the Jarawa tribe in terms of the Jarawa Policy, 2004 while ATR passing through the Jarawa reserve is to remain open to transport materials required for livelihood of the settler's population living in North and Middle Andaman, medical emergencies etc.

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To

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