

of the A&N Islands (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes) Regulation. The revised Buffer zone notification has been notified in the Official Gazette of Andaman & Nicobar Administration on 17.1.2013, and a copy of which has already been taken on record by this Hon'ble Court during the hearing held on 21.01.2013. A sketch showing the reserve area, the buffer zone and ATR as per the revised Buffer Zone Notification issued on 17.1.2013 is annexed herewith and marked Annexure P/2.

18. That in the notification dated 17th Jan, 2013, the Administrator has declared the area upto 5 km radius adjacent and contiguous to the Jarawa Tribe Reserve area, (notified on 15.9.2004), starting from Constance Bay in South Andaman to Lewis inlet Bay in Middle Andaman, as a Buffer Zone except the areas specified in the Schedule to the Notification subject to the condition set out in the said Schedule. In the Schedule, 34 settlement villages in the districts of South Andaman and North & Middle Andaman, the entire island of Baratang and seaward side of the western and eastern boundary of Jarawa tribe Reserve area have been mentioned, thereby removing them from the operation of Buffer Zone, notified in 2007. However, the Administrator declared that no person should carry out any activity directly or indirectly which might be prejudice to the safety and interests of the Jarawa tribe in any of the settlement villages falling in the Schedule. In order to remove any ambiguity it has been clarified in the Schedule that the normal day to day activities being carried out by the persons residing in the Revenue settlement villages who earn their sources of their livelihood should however remain unaffected. A statement showing the list of 34 revenue settlement villages and the present economic and historical background of the settlers living therein has been annexed.

19. That the A&N Administration simultaneously through appropriate administrative measures has put in place mechanism to monitor/regulate activities in the settlement villages now excluded from the Buffer Zone to ensure that the safety, security and interest of Jarawa tribes are protected. The Administration by its revised Buffer Zone notification has addressed not only the issue of protection of Jarawas but also the livelihood concerns of the settler population. The field level functionaries like Tribal Welfare Officers and Janjati Sevaks of AAJVS have been deployed at different contact points to safeguard the interest of the Jarawa and ensure that they are not exploited in any manner. Besides the field staff of AAJVS alongwith the Jarawa Protection Police, Forest officials carry out joint patrolling in the Jarawa Reserve area to prevent their exploitation by any one, which has proved effective.

21. That it is submitted that the orders passed by this Hon'ble Court on 21.01.2013 is being implemented and standing instructions to various authorities to stop movement of tourists on the ATR passing through Jarawa reserve area and to regulate the movements from Police Check Post established at Jirkatang No-2 to Middle Strait. No vehicles carrying tourists are allowed to ply through the stretches of ATR passing through the Jarawa reserve area in South and North & Middle Andaman. However, vehicle used by the Government Departments on govt duty are exempted. Also public goods carriers and other public service providers are exempted. The residents of North and Middle