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Shri Rajnath Singh Minister of Home Affairs
North Block
Central Secretariat
New Delhi - 110001
India

November 25, 2015

JS(UT)

Dear Shri Singh,

I am extremely concerned about the Jarawa tribe of the Andaman Islands. The Supreme Court of India ordered in 2002 that the road running through the Jarawa's reserve should be closed; yet it remains open. The road brings the tribe into regular contact with settlers and tourists who treat the Jarawa like animals in a human safari park.

Poachers are also entering the Jarawa's forest, hunting the animals the tribe relies on. Both tourists and poachers risk bringing disease, violence and exploitation to the tribe. Such contact could have devastating consequences for the Jarawa, putting their survival as a tribe at risk.

I urge you to ensure that the alternative sea route is put in place as soon as possible; that the road is closed to tourists and the Jarawa reserve is protected. The Jarawa must be allowed to make their own decisions about their future, in their own time.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]
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