

Sub:- Issue of Press Release regarding use of ATR by all concerned -reg

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In order to dispel the uncertainty and confusion prevailing amongst the local population regarding closure of the portion of ATR passing through Jarawa Tribal Reserve in South Andaman District from Jirkatang to Middle Strait for the tourists in the wake of operationalization Alternate Sea Route project from Port Blair to Baratang by introducing the first sailing w.e.f. 1st October, 2017, as part of the implementation of the Jarawa Policy of 2004 and compliance of the commitment given by this Administration to the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in SLP No. 12125/2010, it is proposed to release following Press item for the information of general public in the Daily Telegrams and other local dailies through Director (IP)

"It is brought to the notice of all concerned that the Administration would operationalize Alternate Sea Route from Port Blair to Baratang by introducing the first sailing w.e.f. 1st October, 2017, as part of the implementation of the Jarawa Policy of 2004 and compliance of the commitment given by this Administration to the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in SLP No. 12125/2010.

It is clarified that the portion of ATR passing through Jarawa Tribal Reserve in South Andaman District from Jirkatang to Middle Strait shall remain open for the use of both islanders and the tourists as no decision has been taken by this Administration for closing it down for the tourists for the time being. However, the tourists are advised to avail boat service being provided by the Directorate of Shipping Service, Port Blair for their visit to Baratang for safety and security of the Jarawa tribes"

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A draft Press Release is placed alongside for kind perusal and approval.

(D. M Shukla)
Secretary (Tribal Welfare)

Chief Secretary

20/9/17
Secy (TW)

Director (TW)

20/9/2017
Secy (TW)