

The Director (TW), A&N Administration had undertaken a field visit to Jarawa Tribal Reserve of Jirkatang to Kadamtala on 28th and 29th March, 2018. He reported that the western side of the NH-04 is safer and conducive for Jarawa tribes for their survival, whereas, the Jarawa are more attracted towards the Eastern side of the NH-04 going down upto the entire East coast of the forest from Middle Strait to Kid Island. He observed that this fascination towards eastern side appears to be mainly due to illegal barter system developed by and between poachers through Eastern coast and Jarawas. He also reported that the Jarawas have picked up all vices like tobacco chewing, alcoholism, consumption of some NDPS items.

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As a remedial mechanism, the Director (TW) has suggested that an exclusive convoy for the heavy vehicles carrying cargo and fuel between Port Blair and Middle/ North Andaman from Jirkatang to Middle Strait and Middle Strait to Jirkatang, so that a surprise intermittent checking of these vehicles can be done because these vehicles are only carrying the undesired items tobacco, NDPS item etc and exchange with Jarawas. Doing such checking in present convoy system of all mixed vehicle will put other passengers/ commuters in avoidable inconvenience and will cause unrest, as such, the Director in its tour report suggested for an exclusive convoy for the heavy vehicles carrying cargo and fuel.

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This Directorate in consultation with the Law Department of Administration issued a complied circular regulating the convoy on ATR was issued vide Circular dated 7.4.2017, without bringing about any change in the basic convoy system. In order to consider the mechanism proposed by the Director (TW) for introduction of an exclusive convoy for the heavy vehicles carrying cargo and fuel between Port Blair and Middle/ North Andaman from Jirkatang to Middle Strait and Middle Strait to Jirkatang, we have to revise/ supersede complied Circular dated 7.4.2017.

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In view of the above, a draft complied Circular is attempted and placed alongside for kind perusal. Kind approval of the Hon'ble Lt, Governor, A&N Islands may be solicited.

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JRO 13/4/18

EO (TW) 13/4/18

RO Shri 13/4/18

AC (TW)

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Bring out the entire genesis of
convoy system to take appropriate decision
in the matter

Shri 13/4

JRO / EO

RO Shri 13/4