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We help tribal peoples
defend their lives, protect
their lands and determine
their own futures.

Lt General Bhopinder Singh
 Lieutenant Governor of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands
 Raj Niwas
 Port Blair 744 101
 Andaman Islands
 India

12 January 2010

Your Excellency,

Survival is concerned to discover that a number of tour operators are promoting tours which include sightings of, or encounters with, the Jarawa tribe. Details of the companies are attached.

As I'm sure you are aware, the promotion by tour operators of sightings of the Jarawa is in contempt of orders dated 07.05.2002 of the Supreme Court in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 202 of 1995. The Andaman and Nicobar Administration Directorate of Information and Publicity Division issued a public caution to this effect to hoteliers, tour operators, cab operators and others on 30 May 2007.

Survival believes that the promotion of 'Jarawa tourism' puts the tribe at serious risk of disease, including swine flu, to which they are likely to have no immunity and which could easily devastate the population.

In addition to those tour operators advertising visits to the Jarawa on the internet, we believe there are likely to be many more individuals promoting sightings of the Jarawa directly to tourists within the islands.

I respectfully urge you to ensure that tourism to the Jarawa is stopped. I also urge Your Excellency to close the sections of the Andaman Trunk Road running through the Jarawa reserve, and to ensure that the poachers, tourists and other outsiders are kept off the tribe's land.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen Corry
Director

Founded 1969
Right Livelihood Award 1989
Survival International
Charitable Trust
Registered Charity 227444
Company registered in England
no. 1656317
Registered office as above