

(193)

will be better if these vehicles are permitted in the first convoy of the day starting from South Andaman. The vehicles going upto Baratang may than be allowed in the subsequent convoys. Also there need to be restriction on number of vehicles in these convoys for better traffic movement and regulation of their activities while in transit through Jarawa Reserve. We need to review this for which Police Department has to suggest measures which can then be notified.

- (C) We may also consider providing more buses to carry visitors to Baratang etc. with window covered with dark film/screen so that visibility is reduced to bare minimum from both inside and outside. There can be partition between the driver's chamber and passenger portion, so that passengers can not see through the glass/windshield in the front. These alternative arrangements will reduce number of vehicles moving on ATR considerably and at the same time reduce possibilities of eye or other contact with Jarawas as well. Such buses can be given permit to return back the same day, thereby the unnecessary strain of crossing of a large number of vehicles at Middle Strait Jetty will be removed. Normally 200-300 visitors go to see the caves and this can be easily handled by 6-7 buses, in place of 30-40 tourist vehicles/S.U.Vs plying presently both ways. Once alternate sea route is developed in future, the pressure of vehicles on ATR can be further reduced.

Yours faithfully,

926 Assistant Commissioner (TW)

OBC