(275)

This has reference to the meeting held in the Office of the Principal Secretary, Transport on 01/12/2010 and 06/12/2010 with regard to the regulation of traffic on the ATR, the issue of same day return permit and the collection of fees from vehicle owners intending to move through the Jarawa Reserve Area (JRA).

In this connection it is stated that:

- i) As of today, 8 convoys from Jirkatang to Middle Strait and the same no of Convoys from Middle Strait to Jirkatang, starting from 0630 hours till 1530 hours, are being organized for regulating the movement of vehicles passing through JRA. On an average, approx. 200-225 vehicles pass through JRA daily between Jirkatang and Middle Strait and back in 16 convoys (8 each), but on special occasions, the no of vehicles goes up to 300 in a day as well.
- ii) The maximum no of vehicles (about 60-70) come in the first Convoy between Jirkatang to Middle Strait at 0630 hours. The length of this Convoy is almost 1.5-2.0 Kms, which is difficult to regulate/manage in accordance with objectives of the notified Jarawa Policy.
- iii) The 2nd Convoy in the morning at 0700 hours from Jirkatang to Middle Strait consists of approximately 10 vehicles only with the Convoy being approx.250-300 meters long.
- iv) At present, on an average, the same day return permission is given to about 20 vehicles which includes govt and private tourist buses, the private vehicles of the residents wanting to attend to important & urgent duties, A&N officials & other govt officials coming to these Islands to visit Baratang while availing leave/LTC, as per the needs of the commuters, after due diligence.
- v) In the month of September, 2010, the details of vehicles which moved through ATR between Jirkatang to Middle Strait and back are as under:
 - a) Bus
- Private- 268 (Passenger) + 74 (Tourist)
- Govt- 701(Passenger) + 14(Tourist)
- b) Truck
- Private-1051(for goods, materials and essential commodities)
- Govt-123 (APWD and Electricity Dept, Ambulances etc.)
- c) <u>LMVs</u>
- Private- 1468 (Passenger +owners) + 747 (Tourists)
- Govt- (329)

The details of vehicles in the month of November, 2010 are as under:

- a) Bus
- Private- 392 (Passenger) + 148 (Tourist)
- Govt- 662(Passenger) + 51(Tourist)
- b) Truck
- Private-958 (for goods, materials and essential commodities)
- Govt-136 (APWD and Electricity Dept, Ambulances etc.)
- c) LMVs
- Private- 1810 (Passenger +owners) + 1489(Tourists)
- Govt- (326)