

month's notice to vacate the extra land occupied by them. On the expiry of this notice period, the allotments of those who have not complied with this notice shall be cancelled and they should be forcibly evicted within three months, without any further claim to compensation or land. Such notices should be issued within six weeks.

(15) All post 1978 forest encroachments shall be completely removed within three months.

(16) For the eviction of encroachers, an effective action plan shall be prepared and implemented under direct supervision, monitoring and control of a Committee under the Chairmanship of the Lt. Governor with Chief Secretary, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and reputed NGO representatives, its members. The Chief Secretary, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, shall file every month an affidavit about progress of eviction of encroachments.

(17) The process of issue of identity cards to all the residents shall be completed within a period of six months.

(18) The extraction of sand shall be phased out @ minimum 20% per year on reducing balance basis to bring the sand mining to the level of 33% of the present level of mining within a maximum period of 5 years.

(19) The approvals accorded by Ministry of Environment & Forests under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, shall be reviewed by a Committee consisting of Secretary, Environment & Forests, Director General of Forests and at least one non-official member of the Forest Advisory Committee constituted under the Forest (Conservation) Rules to restrict the approvals to the barest minimum needed to serve emergent public purposes. Felling of trees shall commence only after the process of compensatory afforestation has actually been undertaken on the ground. In future, the proposals shall be considered for approval only after detailed Environmental Impact Assessment has been carried out through an independent agency identified by Ministry of Environment & Forests.

(20) Specific actions shall be undertaken by Ministry of Environment & Forests/Andaman & Nicobar Islands Administration on the other recommendations of Shri Shekhar Singh Report which are not specifically dealt with in above orders. Ministry of Environment & forests and the Andaman & Nicobar Islands Administration shall file an affidavit within three months giving details of action taken by them on each of such recommendations.)

Copy of this order be sent by the Registry to the Chief Secretary, Andaman & Nicobar Islands for information and compliance.

IA NOs. 502, 737 in 502, 695, 723-724, 711, 738 in 502, 739@
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in 502, WP(C) 118/02, 424, 729 in 424 & Cont.@
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List after the ensuing summer vacation.