

FPP

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With a view to protect the interest of the Aboriginal Tribes inhabiting North and Middle Andaman and in order to curtail traffic movements on the ATR, the Administration has introduced a convoy system vide Administration's Circular No. 1-836/2004-TW/333 dated 7/5/2009 at page 84/C. To minimize the traffic further this convoy system has reduced to eight times per day with specified hours of departure at Check Post. Two wheelers and three wheelers are prohibited inspite of all these measures. The report received from Senior Superintendent of Police reveals that the tourist vehicles, Government and private vehicles passing through Jarawa Reserve area have increased and the movement of non tribals particularly tourists has thus increased.

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**PUC-2** is the letter dated 9/7/2010 from the Senior Superintendent Police, South Andaman District regarding introducing additional convoy in between 9.30 hrs & 1200 hrs from Middle Strait to Port Blair. He has informed that during the Citizen Committee Meeting held at Panchayat Samiti, Rangat on 31-5-2010 Shri Biren Chandra Roy, Pradhan, Gram Panchayat, Sabari has raised a point that the vehicles and passengers coming to Port Blair have to wait at Middle Strait from 9.30 hrs. to 1200 hrs due to non availability of convoy and has requested to introduce an additional convoy between 9.30 hrs. and 1200 hrs. from Middle Strait to Port Blair.

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In this context it is stated that as per Administration's circular dated 16-3-2004 at page 6/e, between 9.30 hrs. and 13.30 hrs. 5<sup>th</sup> convoy was scheduled to start from Middle Strait at 10.30 hrs. Subsequently it was rescheduled at 11.15 hrs. vide Admn.'s Circular dated 22-6-2007 at page 45/C. As per Administration's Circular dated 7-5-2009 at page 84/C, the 5<sup>th</sup> convoy presently being followed starts from Middle Strait at 1200 hrs., which seems to be in order.

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**PUC - 3** is the letter dated 30-3-2010 from the Superintendent of Police, South Andaman District enclosing therewith a letter from President, Grain Dealers and Grocers Association, Babu Line regarding introducing additional convoy for heavy vehicles from Jirkatang to Middle Strait and Kadamtala to Rangat and back. The President Grain Dealers and Grocers Association has stated in his letter dtd. 25-3-2010 that the transporters find it difficult that bus to Diglipur from Port Blair reaches Diglipur at 4.30 PM but the heavy good vehicles reaches only the next day as the goods are essential items which should be delivered in time. Therefore, they have requested to introduce additional convoy system for heavy vehicles to and fro Port Blair and Rangat.

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Keeping in view the provisions under Policy on Jarawas framed by the Govt. of India the present convoy system on ATR being followed seems to be in order. Further increase a number of convoy on ATR will be against the Jarawa Policy as well as the Supreme Court's directions.

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