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PUC-I is a letter dated 30th Sept, 2011 from Shri. Vishal Jolly, State Vice President, Bharatiya Janata Party, A & N islands.

PUC-II is a letter dated 24th Sept, 2011 from representatives of PRIs of Diglipur, North Andaman.

PUC-III is again a letter dated 1st November, 2011 from Shri. R. Mohan, State President, BJP, A & N Islands.

PUC-IV is a letter from Island Protection Forum, Prem Nagar, Port Blair.

All the letters are expressing concern against reduction in number of conveys of vehicles plying through the Jarawa Tribal Reserve from Jirkatang to Middle Strait and vice-versa as implemented vide Admn's Circular No. 1-836/2004-TW/421 dated 13th September, 2011. In terms the above mentioned circular conveys in the ATR's stretch of the Jarawa Tribal Reserve between Jirkatang and Middle Strait has been reduced from 8 to 4 w.e.f. the last week of Sept, 2011 with a view to protect the interest of the aboriginal Jarawa tribe.

As a matter of fact the Hon'ble Supreme Court while disposing of IA No. 502 in W.P.(C) No. 202/1995 T.N Godavarman Thirumalpad (Petitioner) -Vs- Union of Indian and Others (Respondents) passed various directions, one among them (Sl. No. 20) was as follows:- at flag 'A'

"(20) Specific actions shall be undertaken by Ministry of Environment & Forests/Andaman & Nicobar Islands Administration on the other recommendation of Shr. 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."

So far as the recommendations of Shekhar Singh Report is concerned point No. 26 states as follows:- at flag 'B':

"(26) The Andaman Trunk Road should be closed to all vehicular traffic from Miletalak in South Andaman to the northern boundary of the South Andaman Island. Similarly, it should be closed to all traffic from Kadamtala (corresponding to Pralabjig camp No. 3) in Middle Andaman up to Kaushalya Nagar (corresponding to Porlabjig camp No. 15). This should be done within three months. Further, no persons except for the Jarawas living in the Reserve should be allowed to enter the Reserve by any means unless he/she is permitted by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, and the Secretary, Tribal Welfare, ANI Administration, and no such permission should be granted unless the person is proceeding on bonafide work related to the welfare of the tribals or the protection of the area."

In the affidavit filed before the Hon'ble Supreme Court in response to its direction as contained at Point No. 20 above, the A & N Administration has attempted its best to ensure that the Andaman Trunk Road passing through the Jarawa Reserve is not totally closed giving due justification thereof. However protection of the interest of the Jarawa Tribe is also, no doubt, need of the hour. With large number of conveys (8 Nos.) earlier allowed, it was difficult to regulate traffic in the stretch of ATR between Jirkatang and Middle Strait thereby leaving ample scope to the tourists to indulge in undesirable interaction with Jarawas. As such the number of conveys has been reduced to four.