

No. 1-822/2013-TW / DA ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ADMINISTRATION DIRECTORATE OF TRIBAL WELFARE ******

Port Blair, dated the

12

February'2016.

To

Dr.K.Ravichandran Conservator of Forests (Headquaters)

Sub: In the matter of Writ Petition (Civil) No. 109 of 2008 titled Wildlife First & Others-Vs-UOI & Ors.

Sir,

In pursuance to refer to your letter No. F.I/(Legal)/68/32 dated 8.2.16, I am directed to state that the Central Govt. issued the Constitution (Andaman & Nicobar Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1959 under Article 342 of the Constitution, notifying (Six) Aboriginal Tribes of Andaman & Nicobar Islands as Scheduled Tribes. Subsequently, in exercise of the powers conferred under Clause (2) of Article 243 of the Constitution, the President of India promulgated the Andaman & Nicobar Islands (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes) Regulation 1956, for the protection of the interest of socially and economically backward aboriginal tribes in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

Under the said Regulation, this Administration notified reserved areas, thereby prohibiting the entry as well as acquisition of any interest in land etc. of any person other than the members of the aboriginal tribes in the reserved area. Thus the interest of the scheduled tribes in A&N Islands have been fully protected by the Regulation, 1956 by exclusively preserving the area for them in which they have full rights to use their forest products for their bonafide use.

As far as, traditional forest dwellers are concerned, there are no forest encroachers who qualify for the purpose of the scheduled tribes and other traditional forest dwellers.

Yours mithfully,

Director (Tribal Welfare)

Copy to the Secretary (TW), A & N Administration for information),

Director (Tribal Welfare)