

(3)

204

Gist of the letter addressed to Chairperson, NAC from Shri Samir Acharya, Sh. Pankaj Sekhsaria, Dr. Madhusree Mukherjee, Dr. Sita Venkateswar, Dr. Simron Singh, Dr. Vishvajit Pandya Sh. Rasheed Yusoof, Sh. Manish Chandi, and Dr. Harry Andrews relating to Violation of Supreme Court Orders and Marginalization of the Jarawas.

I. Ongoing Violation of Supreme Court Orders.

The Supreme Court had, in May, 2002 passed landmark orders aimed at protecting the fragile environment and vulnerable indigenous communities of these islands. Unfortunately, key parts of these orders continue to be blatantly violated by the A&N Administration. These are:-

- Non-implementation of an inner line area (ILA) regime, which is vital for restricting further influx and population growth in the Islands.
- Non-implementation of closure of those parts of Andaman Trunk Road (ATR) that run along and through the forests of Jarawa Tribal Reserve. Unfortunately, the ATR remains open in gross violation of Supreme Court Orders and in complete disregard for the rights and the future of the Jarawa.
- A&N Administration has made very little effort to enforce other aspects of the Supreme Court orders, dealing with appropriate construction technology for the Islands and reduction in mining of sand from the island's beaches.
- In a new and disturbing development, Shri Manoranjan Bhakta, Hon'ble MP from the Islands, demanded that the report of the Commissioner of the Supreme Court be reviewed and the A&N Administration endorses this move. It is further pointed out that failure to implement the IDA's decision and the Supreme Court Orders have resulted in severe water scarcity, soil erosion, destruction of corals from silt runoff from denuded