

An autonomous organization known as Andaman Adim Janjati Vikas Samiti (AAJVS) has already been created to look after the interest of Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs) including the Jarawas of Andaman Islands. The renowned anthropologists, experts in the related fields and the public representatives are the members of the above said Organization. The AAJVS deliberates on all the matters concerning to Jarawas and other PTGs and renders advice to the A & N Administration and also implements the programmes for the welfare of the aborigines.

The Government of India have formulated and notified a comprehensive policy for the welfare and the protection of the Jarawa recently. This policy is being implemented by the A & N Administration. Various protective and welfare measures are being initiated for the well-being of the Jarawas. As such the Administration is fully seized all the matters relating to the welfare of the Jarawas.

Matter relating to Hon'ble Supreme Court Order:

Non-closure of Andaman Trunk Road: - The matter of keeping the Andaman Trunk Road in operation has been taken up with the Hon'ble Supreme Court through I.A 918 of 2003. The matter is still pending before the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

Appropriate construction technology for Andaman and Nicobar Islands and reduction in mining of sand: The Construction agencies have been directed to change their designs to make use of alternative building materials. For the purpose of construction of timber and bamboo based 'Assam Type' constructions recommended by Shekhar Singh Commission, solid / thick-walled bamboos are required, which are not available in Andaman and Nicobar Islands. However, the Forest Department has initiated action for raising solid/thick-walled bamboos such as *Bambusa bambos* and *Dendrocalamus strictus* in its Annual Plan Programmes.

Regarding mining of sand, the Supreme Court vide its order dated 07/05/2002 has ordered for reduction of quantum of extraction to 1/3rd of the level of extraction in 2001-2002 over a period of 5 years, and this is being implemented. The Sand Allotment Committee headed by the Chief Secretary makes allotment taking the direction of the Supreme Court into consideration.

Review of the recommendations of Shekhar Singh Commission: - The Administration in its affidavit dated 07/08/2002, filed before the Hon'ble Supreme Court, in compliance of the direction in the order dated 07/05/2002, has sought a review of the recommendations of Shekhar Singh Commission. The matter is yet to be heard by the Hon'ble Supreme Court.