

Minutes of the High Powered Committee on Jarawas  
of Andamans Islands which met in the chamber of  
Chief Secretary on 9.1.2004.

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3/DTW  
-1-04.

(1). The Administration has constituted a High Powered Committee vide order No. 159 dated 21<sup>st</sup> June 2001 in pursuance of the Order dated 9.4.01 of Hon'ble High Court of Calcutta in W.P.No. 48 of 1999, to monitor implementations of short term directions of the Court. List of the officers who attended the meeting in the chamber of Chief Secretary on 9.1.2004 is annexed.

(2). While welcoming the participants, the Chief Secretary emphasised the need and urgency to comply with the Orders of the High Court of Calcutta including the short-term measures as contained in their Order dated 9.4.01. He also mentioned that various issues relating to the protection of Jarawas were discussed with the Superintending Anthropologist, Anthropological Survey of India, Port Blair.

(3). After detailed discussion, the following recommendations were arrived at :-

- ✓ (i). Enlarging of reserved area to include the forest to the east of the Andaman Trunk Road from Jirkatang Post No.2, (North of Jirkatang - Shoal Bay Creek) to Potatang in South Andaman leaving 200 mtrs. belt as reserve may be considered. This will provide the Jarawas de jure access to the resources in the reserved forest. This will; improve the food security for the Jarawas. It will also prevent possible activities by non-tribals at a later date which may impinge upon the resource base and cultural aspects of the Jarawas.

✓ Action: PCCF, Secretary (TW) and D.C (A)

- (ii). Frequent camping by the Assistant Commissioner (TW) at Jirkatang will be useful to monitor the tribal affairs closely. He may be conferred with the powers of Executive Magistrate under the provisions of Criminal Procedure Code to control and coordinate government / public intervention in the Jarawa area.

Action: Director (TW)

- (iii). Six Motorcycles could be procured by AAJVS to enable the field officials to help in preventing unauthorized interaction of non-tribals particularly the commuters on the Andaman Trunk Road.

Action: Executive Secretary, AAJVS

*[Handwritten signatures and initials are present at the bottom of the page.]*