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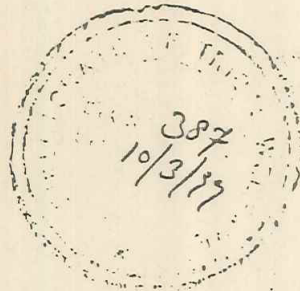
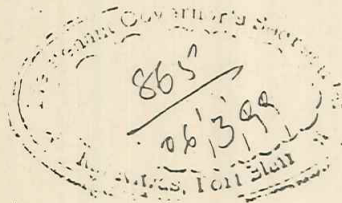
SURVIVAL INTERNATIONAL

Survival

for tribal peoples



SLAG (R)



Shri J. P. Gupta
Lieutenant Governor
Andaman and Nicobar Islands

Niwas
Port Blair
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Andaman Islands
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March 3, 1999

Lieutenant Governor,

Survival is extremely concerned for the welfare and future of the Jarawa people. They have begun to make friendly contact with outsiders. We urge that their the ownership of their land must be recognised and that their territory must be protected from encroachment and poaching. We believe that the only way that this necessarily achieved is to restore their reserve to its original 1957 limits, close Andaman Trunk Road and relocate to outside of the reserve all the settlers and peering in forest camps within this area.

Survival urges your administration to allow the Jarawa to make their own future decisions. If they should not have another way of life imposed upon them. Notions that a nomadic hunter-gatherer lifestyle is more 'backward' or 'primitive' than settled agriculture and that the Jarawa should eventually be assimilated into mainstream society are, in our view, force, outdated and similar those held by the colonial British authorities in India. Survival urges you not to repeat the mistakes that the British made with the 'Great' and 'Orange' mistakes that have led to their virtual annihilation, but to allow the Jarawa to decide their own future for themselves.

Finally, the 'Sentinelese' have shown by their hostility that they do not wish to be contacted. Survival asks your government to respect their right to remain uncon- touched and to make any further attempts to contact them.

Yours sincerely,

Sir (rw)
01/03/99
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Survival is a non-profit
organisation that works
for the rights of
tribal peoples to
their own future
and to protect
their land and