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ecosystem and environment of the Islands. An extract from the A&N Islands Tourism Policy is annexed hereto as Annexure 4. The availability of sites for tourist development, under the said policy, has been made subject to the PAT Regulations, 1956. Although the Respondent has bought the revenue land and got the land-use changed from "Agriculture" to "Commercial" in 2001, the ground situation at that time was different, and the changes in behaviour of the Jarawas themselves could not be foreseen. The Policy of the Government of India for Protection of Jarawas was brought out in 2004, after consultations with experts and consultants. The Buffer Zone notification is in aid of the objects set out in this policy.

14. The Petitioner reiterates the contents of its affidavit dated 13.12.10 and further responds to the affidavit filed by the Respondent in terms stated above. The Petitioner maintains that the Buffer Zone Notification, if interpreted in a manner that keeps out commercial tourist activities, would serve the overall policy of protecting the Jarawas, while also respecting the livelihoods of settlers who have resided in the area for close to half a century. This Hon'ble Court may therefore be pleased to take notice of these facts, while adjudicating the present dispute.

DEPONENT

Verification

The Contents of paras __ to __ are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

DEPONENT

DATE 28-2-2011

PLACE