

Mrs B. Bharmathi,
Additional Secretary(CS),
Ministry Home Affairs,
New Delhi

(Shakti Sinha)

Yours sincerely,

Shakti

I would request you to consider the proposed amendment to the PAT Regulation on priority.

Solicitor General has now written a letter bringing out all these points (Copy enclosed). I would like to bring to your notice last two paras at page two of the letter, where in Supreme Court has stated that in order to implement the Buffer Zone and the restrictions in true spirit of protecting the Jarawa Tribe from the harmful effect of development, specifically tourism, we need to notify an appropriate amendment to the PAT Regulation in a timely manner, before the next date of hearing i.e. 4th May 2011.

Now in the last hearing held on 4th March 2011 in the Supreme Court, the issue of implementation of Buffer Zone notification come up again and Court was apprised by the Solicitor General appearing from Administration side, that considering various factors related to settlements/villages within the Buffer Zone all normal day to day activities may not be considered as 'Commercial' as they are going on for many decades and do not effect the Jarawa tribe. However as the Administration has already moved an amendment to PAT Regulation wherein detrimental commercial activities would be defined, the issue of selective implementation of Buffer Zone restrictions will be properly dealt with. Since the amendment is under consideration with MHA, Supreme Court was asked for 8 weeks time for the review exercise to be concluded and a decision to be taken on the proposed amendments. The Court has accordingly adjourned the matter to 4th May 2011.