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**ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ADMINISTRATION
DIRECTORATE OF TRIBAL WELFARE**

REPORT

I) BUFFER ZONE: BACKGROUND

The Andaman & Nicobar Administration constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary vide Order No. 351 dated 21-8-2012 to revisit the Buffer Zone Notification, aftermath of the Supreme Court Order dated 2-7-2012 in SLP (Civil) No. 12125 of 2010, in view of the Jarawa policy 2004, A & N Islands (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes) Amendment Regulation, 2012 and keeping in view of the concerns of the Settler community. The Committee in its first meeting held on 22-8-2-12 constituted a Sub-Committee and a Field Level Committee under the convener ship of Secretary (TW) and Director (TW) respectively to go into details and to consult all stake holders including Jarawa and the local villagers for revisiting the Buffer Zone Notification.

The Supreme Court vide an interim Order dated 2-7-2012 directed to implement the Buffer Zone Notification of 2007 prohibiting entry of the non-tribals for commercial / tourism activities in the Buffer Zone, till the notification rescinded/amended.

The Notification issued under the proviso of Andaman & Nicobar Islands (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes) Regulation, 1956 was challenged in the High Court by a private resort owner who established a Resort at Collinpur village located at close proximity to the Jarawa Reserve. The maintainability of the Notification without having a specific provision about Buffer Zone in the PAT Regulation was agitated. The High Court struck down the notification and this decision was upheld by the Division Bench of Calcutta High Court on an appeal filed by the Administration. The Supreme Court on the SLP filed by the Administration stayed the order of the High

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