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Anthropological Survey of India
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Draft report on the situation of Buffer Zone

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Conceptual Framework of Buffer zone: The concept of a buffer zone was first included in the *Operational Guidelines for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention* of UNESCO in 1977. In the *Operational Guidelines* of 2005 the inclusion of a buffer zone into a nomination of a site to the World Heritage List is strongly recommended but it was not mandatory. Where it was categorically mentioned that **a buffer zone serves to provide an additional layer of protection** to a World Heritage property (in this case i.e. Jarawa Tribal Reserve)

The *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention*, UNESCO, November 2011 states that-

- Wherever necessary for the proper protection of the property (in this case i.e. JTR), an adequate buffer zone should be provided.
- For the purposes of effective protection of the nominated property (in this case i.e. Jarawa Tribal Reserve), a buffer zone is an area surrounding the nominated property which has complementary legal and/or customary restrictions placed on its use and development to give an added layer of protection to the property. This should include the immediate setting of the nominated property, important views and other areas or attributes that are functionally important as a support to the property and its protection. The area constituting the buffer zone should be determined in each case through appropriate mechanisms. Details on the size, characteristics and authorized uses of a buffer zone, as well as a map indicating the precise boundaries of the property and its buffer zone, should be provided in the nomination.
- A clear explanation of how the buffer zone protects the property should also be provided.
- Where no buffer zone is proposed, the nomination should include a statement as to why a buffer zone is not required.