

tourists and other person visiting Baratang islands using the ATR passing through the Jarawa reserve

Area.

23. That with the complete ban imposed, the local

people who are engaged namely taxi operator etc,

in the tourism activities for their livelihood have

been banned from carrying tourists through the

ATR. The number of private vehicles plying on ATR

has been reduced from an average of 157 per day

to a mere 70. In this context, it is submitted that

the ATR declared as NH-223 in 2004 (now NH-4)

is the lifeline of the Andaman group of Islands. It

has a length of 333 km connecting South

Andaman, Baratang, Middle Andaman and North

Andaman Islands. There are 100 Revenue Villages

with approximately 1.5 lakh population living all

along the ATR. Most of the population comprises

of settlers from the erstwhile East Pakistan, now

Bangladesh. However, a stretch of 56 km of ATR is

passing through Jarawa Reserve. The