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activities therein, Para 5 (iv) dealt with the issue of the width of Andaman Trunk Road (ATR), Para 6 (i) dealt with the recommendations of the subcommittee for reduction of the number of convoys on the ATR, para 6(iii) dealt with the issue of adopting a policy of 'Listen and Facilitate' rather than the policy of 'provide and deny', and the steps initiated towards reduction of the frequency of convoys and the manner in which the movement of the convoys was to be monitored, and para 17 dealt with the issue of the revised buffer zone notification.

5: Having considered the aforesaid statutory changes, administrative initiatives and revision of the limits of buffer zone etc. the Hon'ble Supreme Court was pleased to hold that Special Leave Petition has become infructuous. Accordingly, the Hon'ble Supreme Court was pleased to dispose of the petition as infructuous. However, under its order disposing the Special Leave Petition, the Hon'ble Supreme Court made it clear that:

*"the petitioners shall strictly comply with the amended regulations and the orders issued for implementation thereof."*

6. The aforesaid observation makes it clear that while the Petition stands disposed of, the administration, is by virtue of the aforesaid order duty-bound to strictly abide by the amended regulations and the orders issued for implementation thereof (amended regulations).

7. Consequent upon the aforesaid, the operative legal regimen would be the regimen that has come into effect consequent upon the amendment of regulations and the issuance of orders pursuant to such amended regulations. The administration is expected to act in strict accordance therewith and as long as the Administration acts in conformity with the amended regulations and the orders thereunder, their actions would not be assailable on the ground that such action is violative of the provisions/position that existed till the date of the disposal of Special Leave Petition.

Regards,

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