



Islanders free to travel on ATR by Govt/private vehicles

Port Blair, Jan 30

In the interim order dated 21st Jan, 2013 passed by the Supreme Court in the SLP No.12125 of 2010 relating to the matter of Buffer Zone, the Court has directed that the ATR could be used by the people residing in the settlement villages, Govt. officials and other bonafide road users including those who transport goods and services. It has also directed that no tourist should use the Andaman Trunk Road passing through Jarawa area. In order to regulate the traffic movement, in view of the orders of the Supreme Court, the Secretary (STA) has issued a circular containing detailed instructions.

The residents of Andaman & Nicobar Islands intending to travel by STS or private buses on ATR from either side between Jirkatang - Middle Strait and Kadamtala have to produce copy of their

Identity Cards for obtaining tickets from the ticket counters or from the Transport officials/ crews in the bus. The suggested document includes any of the following namely- Islanders identity Card, Local Certificate, Driving License, Pan Card, Bank Pass Book, Electoral Photo Identity Card, Aadhar Card etc. of A&N Islands. The Transport authorities and private bus owners shall not issue any tickets without verifying the above documents.

Passengers are advised to carry the required identity document with them which was shown at the time of purchase of tickets.

In case of visit of relatives and friends of the residents of the Islands, the visitor has to provide declaration in the prescribed form containing details viz., name, address with phone number of the visiting relative and their own details for the purchase of tickets in the case of travel

by stage carriage buses.

The private bus owners have also been directed to follow the same procedure and keep records for future reference.

Motor vehicles having Contract Carriage Permits (commercial vehicles) shall not transport tourists on ATR but islanders can use commercial vehicles or their personal vehicles for travelling on ATR with proper identity proof.

All the concerned authorities, Stage Carriage Permit Holders, Contract Carriage Permit Holders, Public Carriers and Non Transport Vehicle owners (private vehicle owners) are directed to strictly follow the above instructions with immediate effect without fail. Any violation of the above instructions shall be liable for legal prosecution, the circular added. (Full text of the circular along with the prescribed proforma is on page 2).