## MOST URGENT SUPREME COURT MATTER

No. DIGP/HQ/2013/ | 4पुलिस जप महानिरीक्षक का कार्यालय (मुख्यालय)

## OFFICE OF THE DY INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE (HQ)

अण्डमान तथा निकोबार द्वीपसमूह

ANDAMAN & NIÇOBAR ISLANDS

Port Blair dated the 2 Feb., 2013

То

The Secretary Tribal Welfare
Andaman & Nicobar Administration
Port Blair

Sub: Clarification about use of ATR by religious groups -reg.

Sir,

In the interim order passed by Hon'ble Supreme Court in the SLP No. 12125 of 2010, the Hon'ble Court was pleased to direct that the Andaman Trunk Road (ATR) can be used by people residing in settlement villages, Govt. officials and other bonafide road users including those who transport goods and services to the settlement villages in North and Middle Andaman district. It was also directed that no tourist shall be allowed to use the ATR passing through Jarawa Reserve Area.

During checking of passengers travelling in STS buses at OP Jirkatang on 29/01/2013, it was found that one religious group from mainland was travelling in STS Express bus going to Rangat in 0900 hrs convoy. They wanted to go to the areas in North & Middle Andaman District by using ATR passing through Jarawa Reserve Area. Since they were not carrying any local identity proof, they were treated as tourists and were not allowed to use ATR for further movement. A GD Entry No. 4 dated 29/01/2013 has been made at OP Jirkatang in this regard. The group agitated the action taken by the police.

Therefore it may be clarified whether the religious groups which want to use ATR passing through Jarawa Reserve area for going to North & Middle Andaman District for undertaking religious preaching and visits to religious places are to be allowed to use ATR or otherwise. An early reply in this regard will be highly appreciated.

Yours faithfully

(Sharad Agarwal, IPS) DIGP(HQ)/Nodal Officer

Copy for kind information to:

1. Secretary to Hon'ble Lt. Governor

2. PS to CS, A & N Islands

3. SO to DGP

4. R to IGP

5. R to IGP(L&O)