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अण्डमान तथा निकोबार प्रशासन  
ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ADMINISTRATION  
सचिवालय / SECRETARIAT

DO No.11-33/AAJVS/2006

Port Blair, dated the 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2010.

Dear

Review of Policy on Jarawa Tribe of Andaman Islands.

The Policy on Jarawa Tribe of Andaman Islands was finalized by the Ministry of Home Affairs in consultation with various experts, NGOs, A&N Administration and Ministry of Tribal Affairs and notified on 21.12.2004. A copy of the Policy is at Annexure-I. The Policy lays emphasis on **protecting** the Jarawas from harmful effects of exposure and contact with the outside world while they are not physically, socially and culturally prepared for such interface, and on **preserving** the social organization, **mode of subsistence** and cultural identity of the Jarawa community. The Policy envisages maximum autonomy to the Jarawas with minimum and regulated intervention by the Government. The policy envisages that there shall be no intervention in the cultural life of the Jarawas and they will be left at liberty to develop according to their own genius and at their own pace. No attempts shall be made to bring them to the mainstream of society against their conscious will. The overarching thrust of the policy is on **protection and preservation**.

Under Clause VI (e), the Policy envisages periodic review so that the policy remains dynamic and takes into account the changing needs and circumstances.

The phenomenon of the Jarawa tribe coming out from the Tribal reserve areas and interacting with the modern world is a fact of life which cannot be wished away. A symbiotic relationship has developed with neighbouring settlements in some cases, while in other cases, situations of conflict have arisen. This interaction takes place not only along the Andaman Trunk Road (ATR) but also in Tirur and Kadamtala areas. Just as citizens of the modern world are propelled by natural, human curiosity to interact with Jarawas, it appears that Jarawas are also propelled by natural, human curiosity to interact with the modern world. All humans, including Jarawas are compulsive communicators. This is not an attribute confined to modern 'humans'.