

deployed along the ATR to discourage tourists and other travelers along the road from engaging in any kind of interaction with the Jarawas.

The A&N Administration is looking into an alternate shipping mode of transport for the public traveling between Port Blair and Baratang Island and further strengthening ferry services between Middle and North Andamans to reduce the traffic on ATR. However as per the preliminary report of Shipping Department the estimated financial implication is about Rs 130-135 crores in augmenting the shipping fleet and a further Rs.32-35 crores for construction of jetties, improving navigational channels etc. The Director of Shipping Services has been requested to send a Detailed Project Report to this Administration to process the matter further.

The A&N Administration has also send a proposal to the Union Home Secretary, and Ministry of Tribal Affairs, New Delhi to constitute a Group of Experts in consultation with the Ministry of Home Affairs and A & N Administration to review the Jarawa Policy of 2004 and make course corrections as is envisaged in clause VI 'e' of the Jarawa Policy. The focus of the Policy need to shift from **protection and preservation to empowerment**. The suggested term of reference for the committee is (i) To review the Jarawa Policy notified in December, 2004, clarify policy objectives and suggest course corrections, so that the Jarawa Policy remains dynamic and takes into account the changing needs and circumstances, (ii) To examine the recommendations of the Babu Committee and suggest specific measures for implementation, including measures relating to empowerment of Jarawas through education as well as increasing the food resource base of the Jarawa Reserve area and (iii) To come up with a strategy for empowerment of the Jarawas to negotiate the modern world with confidence, without loosing their vitality and cultural identity, as has been successfully achieved with the Nicobari Tribe.

As regards to the report of the Sub-Group of experts on the Jarawa Tribe of Andaman islands submitted to Planning Commission in 2006 co-authored by Dr. Syeda Hameed, the A&N Administration has submitted its comments on the report in September 2006. The proposal to form a separate Jarawa Tribal Development Authority (JTDA) to monitor, suggest and review contacts with the Jarawas has not been agreed by the Administration on the ground that AAJVS and its Executive Council is having a similar composition and tasks. (A copy of Administration's comments is attached at **Annexure - III**). This issue was again taken up in the meeting to discuss implementation of Jarawa Policy held on 11-5-2009 under the Chairmanship of Secretary to GOI, Ministry of Tribal Affairs and it was decided to restructure the AAJVS. It was also decided that there is no need for a Jarawa Tribal Development Authority as it would duplicate the work already done by AAJVS and Tribal Welfare Department of the UT Administration. (Copy of minutes is attached at **Annexure-IV**)

Administration is in the process to restructure and revamp the AAJVS based on manpower study report prepared for the Administration by the National Productivity Council (NPC), Kolkata in May 2010.