

REPORT OF THE SUB-GROUP OF EXPERTS ON THE JARAWA

Comments

The Sub-Group of Experts established by the Planning Commission on issues pertaining to Jarawa tribe in Andaman and Nicobar Islands has submitted its reports dated August 2006. In so far as the Andaman and Nicobar Administration is concerned, we would like to offer the following comments:

General Observations:

(1) At the outset it may be mentioned that the Sub-Group does not have a representative from the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. Hence the views of the Government of India are not available on the report.

(2) As a general observation it needs to be pointed out that there is an existing policy which has been outlined by the Government of India and issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs dated 21.12.2004 which provides guidelines for implementation of the policy towards the Jarawa Tribe. It may not be out of place to mention that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has also agreed for the formulation and issue of such a policy. Hence, at present, the policy is under implementation.

Institutional Mechanism

(3) A suggestion has been made to establish Jarawa Tribal Development Authority (JTDA). It has been suggested that a post of Programme Administrator be established to implement the policies of the JTDA and a Facilitation Committee to be chaired by the Chief Secretary of this Administration. The Sub-Group must be aware that there is an Executive Council of Andaman Adm Janjati Vikas