

Minutes of the Meeting held on 11.05.2009 at Port Blair under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs to review the implementation of 'Policy on Jarawa Tribe of Andaman Islands, 2004', the role of AAJVS in its implementation and the relevance of a Jarawa Tribal Development Authority suggested by the Planning Commission

A meeting to review the implementation of the Policy on the Jarawa Tribe of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands (A&NI), the role of the Andaman Adim Janjati Vikas Samiti (AAJVS) in its implementation, and the relevance of a Jarawa Tribal Development Authority proposed by the Planning Commission was held at Port Blair on 11.05.2009 under the Chairmanship of Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, New Delhi. Chief Secretary A&NI participated. The list of participants is at Annexure.

The Chief Secretary of the UT Administration, at the outset, welcomed the Union Secretary, Joint Secretaries of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA), the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) and the other participants to the meeting. That was followed by a brief self introduction.

The Secretary (MoTA), in his opening remarks, recalled the decision taken in the 12th meeting of Island Development Authority (IDA) held on 19.01.2009 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble PM, that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, in consultation with MHA & A&NI Administration, had to opine on the setting up of a Jarawa Tribal Development Authority, as suggested in the report of the Sub Group of Experts set up by the Planning Commission. He felt that this could be done only in the context of the functioning of the AAJVS, meant to protect the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PTGs) of A&N Islands. But, in the first stage, one had to understand the progress in the implementation of the Jarawa Policy notified in 2004.

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