

3. To prevent tourists from socializing and interacting with the Jarawas on the 50 km stretch of the ATR which passes through the reserve area, a system of police convoys accompanying the tourist buses and vans has been put in place by the ANI administration which do not allow the tourist traffic to halt anywhere in the reserve area. The government staff however, move freely in the reserve area without any escort. One instance of a private truck was seen parked on the ATR – against existing rules – and Jarawa boys mingling with the driver and helper of the truck and accepting food and other items.

4. Increasing tourist traffic continues to be a concern. Tourist operators have found ways of flouting the rule that no tourist vehicle will ply back and forth to Baratang the same day [with purpose of reducing tourist traffic]. Advance positioning of separate vehicles with different registration numbers at Baratang, allow the tourists visiting Baratang to return the same day thereby defeating the purpose of the existing rules.

5. Planning Commission Sub-Group had recommended that a special police force of trained graduates and sociologists should be created and entrusted with the task of patrolling the Reserve. They should be sensitized and given powers to book poachers and others who seek to exploit the simple trials. Much later in 2009, in the meeting held by Secretary (Tribal Affairs) at Port Blair on 11th May, 2009, it was agreed in-principle, in the deliberations with the Chief Secretary of ANI that many of the prescriptions of the Jarawa policy cannot be implemented unless the 1956 Regulation is amended to provide stringent punishment for poaching in to Jarawa territory and for exploitation of Jarawas.

6. In the meeting held with Secretary (Tribal Affairs) it was informed that ANI Administration has prepared a report with an estimated financial implication of approx. Rs. 170 crores towards developing an alternate sea route from Port Blair to Baratang which would reduce significantly tourist traffic through the Jarawa reservation. Moreover, it will be a cost and time saver to the tourists as well.

7. Planning Commission Sub-Group Report had recommended the creation of a Jarawa Tribal Development Authority (JTDA). However, it was decided that in lieu of the proposed JTDA with a reconstituted General Body and Executive Council of under the Lt. Governor, ANI and Chief Secretary, ANI, respectively. While the work of the AAJVS has had some positive effects, there is need for restructuring of the AAJVS to induct professionals, and fill in the large number of vacancies, incentivize personnel to stay and work in the ANI or explore alternate mechanisms to service the institutions for the welfare of the Jarawa Tribes. It was suggested in the last meeting of the Executive Council of the AAJVS that ideally the Executive Secretary's position be filled by an anthropologist. The present Executive Secretary of AAJVS is a DANICS (Delhi, Andaman Nicobar Island Civil Services) officer who is only holding additional charge.

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