

Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Council of Andaman Adim Janjati Vikas Samiti held at Raj Niwas on 13.8.94, at 3.00 P.M., under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Lt.Governor, Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

...
List of participants is annexed.

At the outset, the Lt.Governor expressed his unhappiness over the delay in holding the meeting of the Executive Council. Secretary(TW) regretted the lapse and stated that the delay was due to the absence of a whole time regular Executive Secretary. The Lt. Governor desired that henceforth the Executive Council must meet twice a year as required. He also stated that immediate action be taken to post a whole time officer as Executive Secretary, AAJVS. //

Agenda item No.1. Review of follow-up action on the decisions taken in the last meeting of the Executive Council held on 10.12.1992.

During the review, Shri Manoranjan Bhakta, MP referred to the recent killings of some non-tribals by the Jarawas and opined that the Jarawa attacks were due to shortage of food in their habitat. He suggested that the Administration should raise plantations of coconut and other fruits on a separate island where the Jarawas could be shifted. Secretary(TW) pointed out that the anthropologists, who had participated in a seminar-cum-workshop on tribal development organised at Port Blair from 30.12.1991 to 2.1.1992, did not favour the idea of shifting the Jarawas, as hunting and gathering tribes develop an intense attachment to their territory. According to the anthropologists, displacement of Jarawas from their territory may cause complex problems.

The Inspector General of Police stated that the latest Jarawa attack was probably due to tress-pass into their territory by the victims, although there was no direct evidence available to that effect. He said that his personal view that the Jarawa attack only when provoked.

After detailed discussions, the following decisions were taken:

- ✓ (a) Fruit bearing trees like coconut and banana wherever possible, be raised in the Forest/APWD/Police camps along the ATR so that the same can be left for use by the Jarawas once these camps are wound up after the completion of work.
- ✓ (b) The entire policy towards the primitive groups in general and the Jarawas and the Sentinelese in particular needs to be discussed in detail. A seminar be organised in this connection. Experts from all over the country should be invited to this seminar.