

NEED FOR PLANTATION FOR TREES AND PLANTS - AGRICULTURE

Jarawas have been introduced so far with Bananas, Papayas, Guava and Coconuts. The Administration distributes these eatables whenever they contract the Jarawas. It is noticed that whatever is introduced to them in food stuffs, they have accepted the same and have enjoyed it. No one seems to have complained that his body did not accept these newly introduced food stuffs. No rashes, no allergy, no skin problem, no abdominal problem. Not only the food stuff introduced as above, but recently the Jarawas have been given cooked rice to eat. The Jarawas enjoyed the cooked rice. The Jarawas also took chapatis and ate. They ate the bread. They roasted fish on fire and enjoyed eating the roasted fish. Thus their body is adapted in taking new variety of food.

Jarawas catch fish from the creeks and shores with the help of their arrows. The Jarawas have not yet learnt the use of nets for catching the fish, although they have nets with them. They have used these nets for carrying their goods. The use of fishing nets is still to be taught. Once they know, how to use the fishing net this food problem would be somewhat solved when they catch fish in sufficient quantity. A fishing net was given to them this time also but before they could be told about its proper use, they ran away inside the jungle with the fishing net in their possession. Next time, the party going for the purpose must teach them the proper use of fishing net.

It is known that the Jarawas have collected some waste materials including the drifting pieces of Thermocol. They use the thermocol pieces as Buoyas which they tie to their body while swimming across the creeks. It is suggested that they may be given some sort of material like thermocol etc. to help them cross the small creeks and water channels.

It is historically known that a society of human beings only survives when they inculcate the habit of preserving a sufficient stock of vegetables and other raw food stuff so that they do not roam in a wilderness during the lean seasons in search of food. Similarly, it is also known that when a society or group roams in search of water during the dry summers they are killed due to dehydration and thirst. It is a curse on humanity when a person dies due to non-availability of water and food.

In the case of Jarawas, the Administration knows it fully well that the settlers from the mainland have encroached on their land and water resources resulting in their constant wandering in the wilderness in search of food and water. It has resulted in skirmishes with Jarawas. The Jarawas are known to have indulged in stealing food-stuffs, chickens and fruits from the house of encroachers. The Jarawa Protection Police fires blank rounds to scare them away.

I would in this situation suggest that the Jarawas may be provided with plastic and wooden Jerricans of one litre, five litres, twenty litres and hundred litres capacity for carrying and storing water to drink. I have seen Jarawas using a five litre Jerrican, opening it with perfect drinking water keeping away from their mouth and then closing it back again. This Jerrican was a proud possession with him. If possible, Syntex tanks of five hundred litres capacity may also be provided to them in sufficient numbers for storing water for the entire family.