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AN INTERMITTENT CONTACT WITH THE JARAWA, MIDDLE ANDAMAN  
SEPTEMBER 2ND - 4TH 1996

- A. Justin, Anthropeologist (Cultural)

The Pilot Project was launched on September 2nd '96 to undertake a comprehensive study of the so called Jarawa, one of the modern hunting-fishing gathering small and isolated communities of the negrite population who are presently inhabiting marginalized packets of the Reserved Forest of south and middle Andaman. Under the Pilot Project study an intermittent friendly contact was established in September 1996. The party members consisted of the following besides the author of this report :-

1. Shri A.K. Gupta, Executive Secretary, AAJVS
2. Dr. K. Chandra, Officer-in-charge, ZSI
3. Dr. V. G. Rao, Asstt. Director, ICMR
4. Dr. T.S. Naidu, a visiting Anthropeologist & Futurologist
5. Dr. R. Singh, Linguist, CIIL
6. Shri P.K. Mishra, Dy. Superintendent of Police
7. Shri B.V. Ravi Prasad, S.T. Asstt. (Physical)
8. Shri Venkatesh, a Video cameraman & a few Police Personnel.

M.V. Tarmugli was chartered specially for the purpose. On September 2nd 1996 the contact party set out from Port Blair by the vessel cited above. Next morning at 8 am the ship arrived at Brooke Point, Middle Andaman, near the outer mouth of Port Anson Creek opposite to Spike island. Then the vessel blew a long whistle or sound blast but to no avail. There was no trace of the indigenous people. No curl of smoke ~~was~~ was sighted behind the bushes. Neither figures of human being near the bushes nor on the rock nor the