

Minutes of the meeting held in the chamber of the Secretary (TW) on 08/10/98 at 11.00 a. m. in connection with the recent visits of Jarawas in the villages of Ferrargunj, South Andaman

The following were present :-

- 1) Dr. K. Mukhopadyay, Head of Office, ASI
- 2) Shri A. K. Singh, Assistant Commissioner (TW)
- 3) Shri Mohammed, Executive Secretary, AAJVS

The Secretary (TW) presided over the meeting.

1. At the outset the Secretary (TW) requested the HOD, ASI to give his opinion about the visit of Jarawas started in the villages of Ferrargunj Tehsil in South Andaman. The HOD, ASI stated the it is too early to say that they are coming to civilised areas for want of food as per the indications given by the Jarawas to the research Officers of ASI, there is no dearth of food in their habitat. The Assistant Commissioner (TW) stated that on 06/10/98 evening 32 Jarawas came to Tirur in the evening and on receipt of information, he rushed to Tirur with the representative of AAJVS. The Jarawas were sent back with gift items. he also informed that on 07/10/98 morning 30 Jarawas again came to Uttara near Police Out Post. On receipt of information the AAJVS arranged gift items and the staff of AAJVS rushed to Tirur with A. C (TW). On that day, the HOD, ASI with his staff were also present there. The HOD, ASI informed that he himself with his staff, the staff of AAJVS and police walked inside the forest upto 7 Kms and left the Jarawas with gift items at Sippi Takrey. The Secretary (TW) also informed that he also visited Tirur and the S. P (District) also reached there and they had discussion with Pradhan and villagers of the area on the issue.

2. The HOD, ASI stated that the Jarawas were hesitant to go further with the police and other officials as perhaps they did not want there actual habitat to be located by the outsiders. He opined that with a sea worthy vessel, the area may be surveyed by sea route to locate their actual habitat

:: Action by Director (TW), Executive Secretary, AAJVS