

self-reliance on the other, the Administration have, over the years, imparted instruction to them to go in for dispersed horticultural cultivation inside the forests focussing on coconut, jack-fruit, papaya, mango, etc. This has had only limited success, and barring jackfruit cultivation which they have indulged in inside the forests, other crops have not really prospered. Such dispersed cultivation was made along the west coast or in openings in the thick forest canopy. Other assistance has been in the nature of occasionally introducing some pigs(disease free) into the jungle, which the Jarawas hunt and relish. Also some efforts have been made in teaching them sea-ranching so as to enrich marine resources in their areas. Molluscs have also been broadcast in shallow waters and creeks in which sometimes, Jarawas, both adults and children, have also participated. Both in South and Middle Andamans, use of fish nets has also been taught to a few Jarawas. As already explained earlier, the Jarawas had remained hostile till a year ago. In fact killings by Jarawas of non-tribal persons took place in South Andaman Island as recently as the first quarter of 1998.

The Enmay Factor

In the month of May, 1995 a Jarawa boy called Enmay was found injured at Kadamtala in Middle Andaman Island with a leg fracture. He was initially treated at the Primary Health Centre and thereafter transferred to the GB Pant Hospital in Port Blair where he remained under treatment for nearly six months. This is the first case in post-Independence times of a Jarawa tribesman having actually lived in a non-tribal settlement, although for the purpose of medical treatment.