

Brief note on the contact expedition to
Jarawas and Sentinelese organised on
12th and 13th February, 1993.

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The contact expedition team to Jarawas and Sentinelese was organised by the Administration on 12th and 13th February, 1993. The team was led by Dr. Sanat Kaul, Chief Secretary, other members of the team included Shri VN Singh, Inspector General of Police, Smt Bimla Jindger, Secretary (Tribal Welfare), Shri SA Awaradi, Director (Tribal Welfare), Shri HPS Sran, Executive Secretary, AAJVS, Shri Azimal Haque, Assistant Commissioner (T.W.), Shri A. Justine, A.S.I., Shri OP Mishra, Dy.S.P. and Dr. Shafiq Cadir, C.M.O.

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The usual gift items like coconuts and bananas were given to the Jarawas on landing at a spot near Foul Bay, Middle Andaman Island on 12.2.1993. As in the past the Jarawas scrambled for the collection of gift articles. They collected the gift articles and kept in separate heaps.

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During this expedition it was observed that many of the Jarawas including the children had skin sores and the ointment was applied on by the Medical Officer and the Compounder who accompanied the team. Chief Secretary has desired that a Skin Specialist may accompany during the next expedition team to investigate further into the skin sores observed among the Jarawas. It was noticed that Jarawas were excessively eager to get the ointment applied on the skin sores during the contact expedition.

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During this expedition a unique situation wherein an affray between the two Jarawas men was observed. The Jarawas rushed to the beached boat laden with the banana gifts. They started collecting them. Suddenly there was a violent