

VISIT TO JARAWA AREA

(S) (132)

During the visit to the Jarawa area in Middle and South Andaman, below mentioned observations were made, which are as follows :

1. Inspite of seeing the mother ship, even^{only} by seeing the smaller boat, they communicated to their people quickly and reached to the Yadita contact point immediately with the spirit of competition to collect the gift items as maximum as possible.
2. Probably due to delay in reaching the contact point, the male Jarawa might had gone for hunting, because of total Jarawa contacted were 40, of which only 4 adult male were observed. Besides, adult female were 8 and the total number of children was 28 of which 7 infants were also observed.
3. The ratio of children to adult Jarawa was 7:5 which shows quite better birth rate during the last few years.
4. None of the Jarawa was seen with Bow and Arrow, which indicates an excellent friendly gesture.
5. It was also noticed that after the collection of gift items, they started enquiring about the belongings of party members, whether any party member is hiding any thing in his pocket. This peculiarity was prominent with the children of 4 to 12 years age.
6. The gift items were first accumulated at about 8 places, which was further rearranged by them by putting them in their nets, baskets or net bags.
7. The children were very quick in response and imitating the act or words of any party members, which shows their undirectional approach and full concentration for any act.
8. Among all the Jarawa, only one adult male was observed putting the chest guard and female and children were putting the waist bands either made of palm leave threads or the red cloth offerings, which were given by the former party members.