May kindly like to peruse the notings at pre-page on the proposal mooted by Prof. Pandya for providing limited quantity of rice (3 Kg per month per head) on bimonthly basis for the Jarawa children going to the school. He has suggested that the supply of rice would be made at the school on a pre-announced day and in front of the community on a bi-monthly basis to the mother/aunt of the Jarawa child. However, dispelling the apprehension expressed in some quarters, Prof. Pandya has clarified that the supply of this small quantity of rice would not make them give up their traditional way of collection of food items from the forests as it would not going to be the sole source of food and hunger satisfying resource for them. He has also pointed out that there had been a significant decline in the availability of easy and steady traditional food source required by them from the forests and proposed arrangement would reduce the influence of outsiders coming in the fringe areas for exploiting this community for their personal gains.

As Phase-I of Ang Katha has evoked a lot of interest and enthusiasm amongst the Jarawa children as also their parents, may kindly like to introduce this scheme on an experimental basis under guidance of the eminent Anthropologist like Prof. Pandya through the hotspots in Jarawa areas keeping the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India informed of its impact and gains. The expenditure on provisioning of rice and other logistic support shall be borne by the Andaman Adim Janjati Vikas Samity from the funds available with the Samity during the current year.

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