the group was much larger then the honey gathering expedition and had no essential honey collection equipment with them.

- Quickly the vehicle was arranged to move the Jarawa group without any AAJVS worker accompanying.

- Lone staff present at Middle Strait was cornered and helpless as his language competency and relationship with Jarawas of Middle Strait is highly questionable.

- The group did not ask to be dropped any where near to the place proposed and compelled the driver to take them off the main road close to the plantation near by and dropped them.

- This was a major blunder and wrong judgment on part of the field staff as well as the driver that the villagers have construed as;

> "After many years, a vehicle brought the Jarawas to the plantation in Mile Tilak and cause the damage. If Jarawas walk by in the vicinity once a while and take some thing that is fine but why drive them here!"
> (Based on personal interview with a long term resident of Mile Tilak who is employed in Port Blair)

Deductions from Jarawa culture and field situation.

- Jarawas had planned to gather Bananas way in advance.

- Honey is not seen on trees and gathered. It needs to be tracked down by trail of honeybees and their droppings to establish the proximity of the comb.

- Honey collection is always a small group or individual operation and never a large group work. Well-experienced and efficient field staff is aware of this and often see through the deceptive game Jarwas play with AAJVS subordinates and staff.

- Apparently staff at Middle Strait could have avoided the incident by simply directing Jarawas to take the forest pathway as opposed to providing the vehicle that too without any staff in it.

- Indeed in past the Jarawas have visited the fringes of Mile Tilak via jungle trail and taken fruits, but this is very rare occurrence in the last decade.

Conclusion

- Is there a real persistent food shortage? And if so how to deal with it is one of the major concerns of the ongoing research work. Can we create