190

hand in the deep sea for the purpose of collect of marine resources or fishes etc. They are accustomed to fishing and collect other sea foods in shallow water within a certain limited distance nearly 500 meters to 1000 meters. They must have explored areas on land but remained static in terms of see route. Hence, extension of reserve area in coastal water up to 5 km distance from high tide line on the western side of the South and Middle Andaman Islands from Constance Bay to Lewis Inlet Bay is desirable but further extension of 5 km of Buffer Zone area is undesirable from the fishing and other activities point of view. Simultaneously, it becomes very difficult task for patrolling and surveillance. However joint patrolling is being carried out in Jarawa reserve area by AAJVS, Police and forest Department to control poaching and other illegal activities.

UNIFORM REACTION FROM VILLAGERS AND MEMBERS OF PRIS:

Ever since announcement of the Buffer Zone notification the entire residents of adjacent villages are living in constant apprehension. They are afraid they have to quit the villages leaving beloved all the belongings and property that have earned over last 57 years by their hard work. Being the victim of changing circumstances the villagers are scared for construction of their personal residence/ buildings in Buffer Zone area. Both the villagers and members of PRIs believed that the notification will be stopped the further developmental activities in villages. They all are of full of optimism that the Buffer Zone would not cover their area of settlement and would continue line till the last breath of life. They strongly oppose the notification and expect its immediate withdrawal at any cost.

Suggestion:

For the survival of the Jarawas it is necessary to protect their reserve area and food resources. In this regards four more team consisted of members from AAJVS, Police and Forest department should be constituted for four different areas like Baratang, Kadamtala, Kausallya Nagar and Chainpur villages exclusively for monitoring and patrolling in Jarawa reserve area. The members should be engage exclusively for the protection of the Jarawa reserve area on regular basis not for other purpose.

Anup Kr. Mondal Tribal Welfare Officer AAJVS, Kadamtala