

F.No1-953/2013-TW (RAB/ANTRI) ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ADMINISTRATION DIRECTORATE OF TRIBAL WELFARE

Date: 11/02/2014

REPORT

Sub:- Distribution of Kangapo to Jarawa women

On the 11th of February, Research team comprising of Tribal Welfare Officer Pronob Sircar, Research Associates of ANTRI Deepti, Shabana, Poongodhi (Librarian) and the Janjati Sevaks visited the Jarawa women in Tirur area to distribute the "Maxis".

The team interacted with over 25 women and adolescent girls and distributed Maxis to them. They were quite happy with them. There was small number of women available. The others had gone to 'Bada Bhalu'. Now, since the Jarawas have started using clothes, they have instilled in themselves a need for cleanliness and now wash their clothes regularly. The powder that was given to them is applied to their faces replacing the traditional clay paintings.

After this, Research associates along with the Librarian accompanied 10 Jarawa girls for fishing. Some of the observations made during the visit are as follows:

- They still continue their traditional forms of catching fish. Each of them had fishing net to catch fish and a basket to store the fish.
- They have good knowledge about the spots when they can find the fish and are experts in doing so.
- Girls always go for fishing in groups.
- They have the sense of shame among them. This was observed when the girls came onto the road and there were non-tribal's nearby, they covered themselves with their nets and baskets.

On asking them about what they do during their menstrual cycles, they replied that they sit at one particular place and don't go out.