

To The Executive Secretary, AAJVS, Port Blair

Jirkatang dated 24th April 2018

Sir,

Report - Anti-poaching drive from Jirkatang to Pitmen Island on 23-04- 2018

On relevant information received from reliable sources I forthwith constituted a team of Forest staffs (under supervision of Janab Mohd. Ali, Camp Officer) and AAJVS and not this time Police for some reasons but nothing negative. It was doubted upon and as only to see whether the Jarawas presumably camped on the bank of the Jirkatang Creek and ahead towards the open sea. The team members were

1. Dr. Pronob Kumar Sircar, Tribal Welfare Officer, AAJVS , Jirkatang
2. Shri Debashis Mondal, Senior Janjati Sevak, AAJVS , Jirkatang
3. Shri George Wilson Ekka, Workman, Forest Department
4. Shri Ajay, Operator of engine dinghy of Forest Department

We left at around 1430 Hrs by the Bonga Dongy of Forest Department namely MF DRAW which was bearing a kirloskar engine of 10HP capacity. After two hours of journey we reached near Kyd Island (Duratang in local parlance) on eastern side of South Andaman. Thence we reached Pitmen Island which is called 'Bada Japan or Japan Tekri' by local fishers. We did not find any fisherman there around. We moved ahead from this spot towards north and there also we did not find any country boat or any other watercraft. While returning through the creek locally addressed as Jirkatang Nallah we saw some Jarawas carrying torches to signal the comers. There were 5-6 young members appeared from the dark on the bank with the flashing of lights from their battery torches. On our reaching close to them they identified us to be extremely astonished as it was unexpected at their end about our so sudden arrival at this time and space. Their intention was crystal clear that they came to contact the predetermined local person(s) or any fisherman coming through the creek. Perhaps they had some stuffs hidden in the hinter to barter with the comers. Even on the soft and clever interrogation, they did not disclose anything about any person.

It was really shocking to me looking to the severity of the fact that these Jarawas were camped near Jirkatang Nallah outside their reserve for dubious purpose. But the team successfully persuaded the boys and they promised to go back to the place they previously camped inside the reserve. The team returned to Jirkatang at about 1030 Prime Meridian. Further we decided to continue such expeditions with involving the Police in future.

Key Note : The members of Forest Department Mr. George Wilson Ekka and Mr. Ajay, Dongy Operator provided lots of information of historical importance. They showed us the spot locally called "Katora" where the Jarawas often come to catch fishes and hunt turtle.

Humble Request : The Bonga Dongy namely MF DRAW is partially damaged and not sea worthy. It is requested to the competent officer of the Forest department to kindly arrange for its substitute for the future trips in sea please.

At the end but not least, I am very much thankful to YOU Sir for your constant monitoring and encouragement for such operations. Few more such expeditions will definitely pitch the message in the mindset of the coerced or enticed Jarawas and the non-Jarawa barterers that we are here with grit standings as barricades between the Jarawas and the bad people.

Thanking you sir

Yours Faithfully

Dr. Pronob Kumar Sircar
Tribal Welfare Officer, AAJVS
Jirkatang

Copy to

1. The Secretary (Tribal Welfare) for favour of information please.
2. The Director (Tribal Welfare) for favour of information please.
3. Dy Ranger, Forest Department, Miletalak/Jirkatang for favour of information please.
4. Camp Officer, Jirkatang/ Miletalak beat for favour of information please.

Dr. Pronob Kumar Sircar