

and study by outsiders during this first attempt. Under these circumstances the health and nutritional survey among the Jarawas of Tirur area was limited to the few Jarawa individuals. As such the findings based on small sample could be misleading. Hence the Expert Committee felt that the gap could be filled up through another survey to cover the morbidity, mortality and nutritional status among the Jarawas of Tirur area during post monsoon period of the year 2002 i.e. during December, 2002.

22. Your humble petitioner submit that the Expert Committee during its meeting held on 29.1.2002 took a considered view that the Expert Medical team as constituted by Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi may also be requested to study and find out as to whether various norms / indices including balanced diet worked out for the general population are applicable to the community like Jarawa *ipso facto* or needs alteration. Accordingly A&N Administration requested the Director General, ICMR to initiate study among Jarawas. Copy of the minutes of the Expert Committee meeting held on 29.1.2002 were sent to the Director General, ICMR to enable him to comprehend the matter in proper perspective.

23. Copy of the letter written to Director General, ICMR is annexed herewith and marked as Annexure-III. Copy of the minutes of Expert Committee which met on 29.1.2002 is annexed hereto and marked as Annexure-IV

24. Your humble petitioner states that the Expert Committee framed issues and sub issues as indicated below to find answers to the questions raised by the Hon'ble High Court in their Order dated 9.4.2001 at page 52 and 53. Hon'ble High Court while expressing a deep concern and apprehension that the Jarawas like other indigenous tribes throughout the world including A&N Islands will face the danger either of total extinction because of communication of various diseases from the so called civilized world against which Jarawa have no immunity or of losing their identity and culture by merger with vast humanity in the so-called civilized Society, have ordered to ascertain whether such change of behaviour is because of :

(i) their desire to accept the civilized way of life.

Or

(ii) a shortage of food in their habitat

Or

(iii) the need to obtain occasional medical help

Or

(iv) failure to provide protection against poaching and encroachments resulting in shrinkage of their territory

Or

(v) Other reasons