

Shri Saxena mentioned about the present system of health care among the Jarawas. He was of the opinion that administering allopathic medicines among the Jarawas without proper study may possibly cause more harm in the long run as it is likely to adversely affect their immunity system.

Therefore, steps are to be taken to consult experts in the field of Medical Research and to formulate the regime of medicines which could be administered to the Jarawas taking into the account the relevant parameters of physiology among the Jarawas, their environment, present level of interaction by others with Jarawas etc. In this connection, it was suggested that DHS, A&N Administration may prepare a detailed report/paper based on the medical experience so far relating to the Jarawas. She will also identify the experts in the field of Medical research who could be consulted about the medical regime for the Jarawas in association with the Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research. DHS will also prepare draft questionnaire and instructional manual to study the health of the Jarawas by Composite Groups.

Shri Saxena mentioned about the sensitivity of human genetic materials of Scheduled Tribes, like Jarawas. The collection of blood samples or any other biological samples from the Jarawas and others should be restricted and only authorized national level institutes may be permitted by Govt. of India and A&N Administration to carry out any such genetic studies/researches.

Dr. (Mrs.) Indira Chakraborty, Head, Department of Bio Chemistry and Nutrition, All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health Kolkata shall similarly frame questionnaire and the manual to support the questionnaire of the nutritional aspect to be covered by the Composite Group. The experts in the field of nutrition would be consulted in finalising the questionnaire etc. on the nutritional parameters of the Jarawas.

Shri Saxena further suggested that integrated approach for the health care of the Jarawas may be desirable. Ayurvedic and allopathic intervention may also be advisable, apart from assessing the efficacy of ethno-medicine on Jarawas.

It would be desirable to cover the entire population/all the groups of the Jarawas in the longitudinal survey/study by the Composite Groups. It is also desirable to demarcate the Jarawa territory on the ground so that areas of interface between the Jarawas and others could easily be detected.