

Para 39 : It is a fact that there has been changes in the life style of the Primitive tribes like Great Andamanese and Onges, because of the historical reason. In other words tribes particularly Great Andamanese have had long interface with outsiders right from the establishment of the Penal Settlement by the British Administration earlier. Onges also have had some interaction with the outsiders following the rehabilitation of Bengali Settlement in Little Andaman Island.

A & N Administration after a decision rehabilitated the Great Andamanese and Onges. They have been provided with basic amenities including food supply, drinking water supply, house, health, education etc. Administration has posted Social Workers in the Settlements to ensure that no unauthorised persons enters into the tribal villages to avoid any kind of exploitation.

As far as the Sentinelese are concerned they are in total isolation and no unauthorised persons can land on the North Sentinel Island inhabited by the Sentinelese. The Sentinelese profess active hostility towards outsiders, hence no outsiders can venture into the territory and exploit them. Jarawa tribe till recently also professed hostility towards outsiders. However of late they have shunned this hostility. To prevent unauthorised interaction of outsiders with the Jarawas the Administration has taken all preventive measures. The traffic on the Andaman Trunk Road is strictly regulated by the Police. Vehicles move in convoys along with Police escort so that no non tribal could have interface with Jarawas. Further, Police picquet and the officials of the Tribal Welfare are positioned near the camps of Jarawas on the Andaman Trunk Road to make sure that Jarawas are not contacted by others and further the Jarawas are not affected by the traffic. The Shompens live in the interior of Great Nicobar Island and there is a least chance of interaction of the Shompens with the outsiders. The Tribal Welfare Officer is positioned in the Shompen Area to ensure not only the protection of the Shompens but also to carry out the welfare measures among the Shompens.

Para 40 : The distribution of cooked rice to the Jarawas was phased out quickly, as suggested by the Experts. All the Members of the Contact Party were medically screened against contagious diseases. No unauthorised persons were allowed to contact the Jarawas. The detailed records of the contact programme with the Jarawas are being maintained. Establishment of camp etc. in the Jarawa area has not been undertaken. The enforcement agencies like Police & Forest are always vigil to prevent entry of unauthorised persons