

In the interim report of a meeting in 1988 prepared by an expert group constituted by the Island Development Authority in respect of the primitive tribals of the islands the following observations are found

"The situation in these communities is very precarious than what was initially thought of. The females in the group have become more vulnerable because of the sudden change in their lifestyles. Their reserve is under pressure which is likely to grow as the Trunk Road passing through their territory is completed. In the case of sentinelese their fishing waters around the island are under pressure."

40. In respect of the Jarwa and the attempts by the administration to give them food and increased contacts the Planning Commissioner had the following to say:

The Jarawa

The distribution of rice, cooked or raw, should be phased out as quickly as possible to avoid the risk of infection in any form being carried to these people which may prove to be a great risk for their very survival. All visitors to the Jarawa area without except should be medically screened against infectious diseases. All visits to this area should be strictly regulated and should not be allowed for, any purpose other than the authorised contact programme. Detailed records of each contact programme should be preserved. The idea of establishing any case camp in the Jarawa area at this stage is premature particularly in view of the health risk associated with such a venture"

The Great Andamanese

✓ "The entry of outsiders in Strait Island should be strictly regulated"

The Onge

"Onge Reserve Area should be clearly marked out and effectively protected."

41. Clear Felling

The cutting of forest for the purpose of regeneration is basically the cutting of forest for timber with regeneration as an excuse. If regeneration is to be done then clear felling is prohibited and only the older trees are cut. The mother trees are never cut. The

Expert
Committee