

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
ANDAMAN ADIM JANJATHI VIKAS SAMITI

Port Blair, dated the 18th December, 2001

To

The Director of Shipping Services,
A & N Administration,
Port Blair.

Sub: Deployment of M.V. Shompen in connection with the study of Jarawa tribe in pursuance of the order of the Hon'ble High Court, Calcutta – reg.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to this office letter of even No. dated 8.12.2001 regarding the subject mentioned above. As you are aware of the fact that M.V. Shompen was deployed in the context of study of the Jarawas of Tirur area. As per the programme drawn up by you the vessel was deployed on the Western Coasts in the South Andaman Islands for 10 days deployment.

The multi-disciplinary study team tried to scout the Jarawas of Tirur area for couple of days. They could not locate the Jarawas hence the mission of keeping the vessel in anchorage on the Western Coast was abandoned.

The next course of action decided by the multi-disciplinary team was to approach the Jarawas to locate their camps from the land-ward side. After many days of combing of the forest the team has now located the Jarawa camps some where near Bada Balu in the South Andaman Island. This information has been communicated by the team on the night of 17.12.2001.

As per the programme now chalked out for the study team, they would be proceeding to Western Coast of South Andaman Island by a suitable boat in the night of 18.12.2001. The vessel like M.V. Shompen could remain in anchorage near the Jarawa camps so that the research team could get down and study the Jarawas during the day time and return to vessel for night halt on board. This system will continue till the Jarawas of the Tirur areas are surveyed. Tentatively it will take about a week's time to complete the task.