

Report on the contact of Jarawas by the
Jarawa contact party on 18-5-1987.

The party consisting of Shri. Naresh Kumar, DY. SP, Shri. Prem Kishen, Medical Officer, Shri. Subbu Krishna from Anthropological Survey of India, Shri. Bhaktawar Singh and the Executive Secretary, left on 17.5.87 at 11.30 am on their contact mission of Jarawas by MV Milale in one of her trial voyage after her extensive repair. Four members of the "INTACH" who were on the preparation of documentary film on Andaman and Nicobar Islands also accompanied the party to give coverage of the contact operation. The voyage was comfortable and we reached Kadamtala at 5.15 P.m. Halted at night at Kadamtala. Evening we had some discussions with the local people and it was understood that there was no incidence of attack by the Jarawas in the villages.

Next ~~point where the~~ day on 18th ~~morning~~ morning we left by Milale to Lakra Lungta, the first point where the Jarawas usually gather expecting the contact party. The party proceeded in two dunghis to the shore and the Jarawas were eagerly waiting to go on board the ship. Seventy two Jarawas, consisting of 30 males 20 females and 22 children including few infants ~~were~~ were contacted. They were brought on board the ship except five women including one child who stayed back on shore. They were given gifts, like, coconuts, cooked rice, plantain, red cloths, iron pices etc. They were joyous and cheerful and kept a friendly relation with the party. About 3-4 males were appeared to be new faces and probably the first in the contact. They showed some violence, but other Jarawas including the females ensured full protection to the party members from the possible violent action by these new people. The whole situation was peaceful. After about 3-4 hours joy ride we attempted to take them back to their shore. All willingly left the ship for their habitat, but 27 including one lady and two children were reluctant to leave the ship. They were expressing their desire to come with us. Finding all our peaceful efforts to send them back were in vein, we brought them to Kadamtala. They were brought on shore in the jetty and allowed to stay ~~for~~ for some ~~for~~ time. On