

18

**Tour note of Executive Secretary, AAJVS to Great
Nicobar Island from 12th to 14th February 2013**

The Executive Secretary accompanied by Accountant, AAJVS visited Great Nicobar Island from 12th to 14th February 2013. Reached Campbell bay on 12/2/2013 around 1020 hrs. Met the Assistant Commissioner, Campbell Bay, (Officer-in-Charge of Shompen Hut Complex) and discussed about the welfare activities being carried out for the Shompen.

Visited Shompen Sarai and saw 08 Shompens. 05 belonged to Kokeyon and 03 of Lawful bay area. They came for collection of ration articles. The population of Shompens at Lawful is 24 and Kokeyon 18. During interaction with the Shompens, they demanded for supply of dah, axe, hand saw, file, chisel, thread, needles, hammer and utensils. The Shompens of East-West road come to Campbell Bay by boarding Government bus which plies up to 08 Kms. They reach Campbell Bay with jungle produce and hand over to locals.

The Shompens of East-West Road and Lawful come to Campbell bay frequently for ration. The Shompen of Kokeyon come and interact with Nicobarese residing in the permanent shelter. These Shompens were in contact with Nicobarese of Pullobhabi and Impochi before Tsunami. They barter goods with Nicobarese. One Shri. Mathai, R/o impochi, who knows Shompen language, was the mediator. They exchange bettlenut, lemon, coconut and honey with the Nicobarese for tobacco and clothes. They came to Campbell Bay twice in 2013 and were provided with ration articles.

Inspected the Shompen Sarai. The building consists of Office of Tribal Welfare Officer, a room with kitchen and toilet for stay of Shompen.