



Weather Today

Max. Temperature: 29.9°C
Min. Temperature: 25.5°C
Relative Humidity 073% at 0830 hrs & 072% at 1730 hrs
Sunrise: 0522 hrs IST (28.11.2007)
Sunset: 1652 hrs IST (27.11.2007)
Rainfall 000.0 MM upto 0830 hrs
000.0 MM up to 1730 hrs on 26-11-2007.
Total rainfall recorded since 01-01-2007
Up to 26-11-2007 = 2536.4 MM

FORECAST

Weather seasonal over Andaman Sea. Partly cloudy sky becoming mainly cloudy sky with light to moderate rain or thundershower will occur at many places. Maximum temperature & minimum temperature will be around 30°C and 25°C respectively on 27th November, 2007.

Time & Heights of High & Low Waters

Tuesday, Nov 27, 2007

Time (hrs)	Height (mtr)
0433	0.28
1028	1.86
1621	0.39
2246	2.27

AAJVS - a Big Responsibility ahead

There are six scheduled tribes namely Nicobarese, Great Andamanese, Onges, Jarawas, Sentinalese and Shompens in Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Out of these all others except the Nicobarese are Primitive Tribes and still far behind the mainstream of civilized society. Earlier in the absence of any separate department, one of the sections in the Secretariat was looking after the affairs of tribal welfare. Having felt the necessity of an independent organization for the protection and welfare of the Primitive Tribes, the Andaman Adim Janjati Vikas Samiti has been constituted in the year 1976, which is an autonomous institution registered under Societies Registration Act 1868. The Administrator (Lt. Governor) of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands is the Chairman of the AAJVS and Chief Secretary is the Vice-Chairman. The Executive Council of AAJVS has 15 members and a DANICS officer is appointed as its Executive Secretary. Ever since its inception AAJVS has been doing good job for the protection and welfare of the Primitive Tribal Groups of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. After posting of a DANICS officer as the regular Executive Secretary in August, 2007 the Organization has gained a

dynamic momentum.

Great Andamanese are settled at Strait Island, Seventeen of whom are employed in different govt. departments and most of them are posted at Port Blair. Accompanying them, their family members also mostly stay at Port Blair, thus having the scope of frequent contacts with others (non-tribals) and getting attracted to vices faster than virtues which is an obvious human tendency, particularly for the members of a Primitive Tribal Group in the process of development and joining the mainstream society. The Executive Council of AAJVS in its meeting held on 17.08.2007 has resolved that all the members of Great Andamanese PTG shall be posted at their settlement at Strait Island.

In order to eliminate the 'dependency syndrome' of the Great Andamanese various self sustenance activities like development of their coconut plantation, vegetable cultivation, bee-keeping, reopening of poultry unit, opening of a piggery unit etc. at Strait Island have been planned. A team of officers of

concerned departments of the Administration led by Special Secretary (TW) and Executive Secretary, AAJVS has already inspected the Great Andamanese Settlement, Strait Island on 07.11.2007 for the purpose.

In view of the increased tourism activities and the consequent threat to Jarawas, a proposal has been approved to constitute a Committee to review the existing Regulation / Rules for protection of aboriginal tribes and suggest amendments and procedural changes to eliminate violation of notified Jarawa Policy in order to ensure better and effective protection of Jarawas.

A Special Ward has been earmarked at G.B. Pant Hospital, Port Blair for treatment of patients from Primitive Tribes. Similarly, a ward has been set apart at Primary Health Centre, Tushnabad for treatment of Jarawa patients. A separate eco-friendly ward has been constructed for the same purpose at Primary Health Centre, Kadamtala. All these three wards are notified as 'reserved area' under

Andaman & Nicobar Islands (PAT) Regulation, 1956.

Construction of similar eco-friendly wards at Primary Health centre, Baratang for Jarawa patients and Primary Health Centre, R.K. Pur for Onges patients is in process.

To create awareness and sensitization among mass towards Primitive Tribal Groups a workshop titled "Sensitization for Peaceful Co-existence with Primitive Tribes" is being organized by AAJVS during the Bharat Nirman Jansuchna Abhiyan to be held from 19th to 23rd November, 2007 at Rangat.

Out of 5 Primitive Tribes Great Andamanese and Onges are already in the mainstream. Shompens are shy in nature but in contact with the outsiders for quite a longtime. Still they are not much affected mainly due to the fact that their habitat - Great Nicobar is the farthest, not so easily accessible island in the UT of Andaman and Nicobar and, therefore, there is not much tourism thrust there as

yet. With the cessation of hostility in Jarawa since 1998 they are now in regular contacts with outsiders. As such they are now very much prone to outside influence to the indigenous lifestyle, mainly due to increased tourism activities at Baratang which is having good tourism attraction points and resultant voluminous increase of traffic on Andaman through Jarawa Reserve Area between Jirkatang and Middle Strait.

In the process of civilization Primitive Tribes generally tend to lose their indigenous qualities proved by history. The Primitive Tribes of Andaman and Nicobar Islands are invaluable human heritage. Their preservation and protection and welfare is the responsibility of Andaman Adim Janjati Vikas Samiti. In view of the changed scenario vested with increased responsibility AAJVS, it is the need of the hour that the Autonomous Institution given more autonomy in respect so as to deliver good in an effective manner in the interest of Primitive Tribes.

(Source: AAJVS)