

**Fwd: Debate in Down To Earth Magazine on the Jarawa**

Dear Sir

Hope this email finds you well. Thanks for speaking to me over the phone.

Down To Earth's upcoming print edition is carrying a debate where we are inviting experts to discuss the issue of 'conservation of the Jarawa and other stone age tribes in Andaman.

We would appreciate if you could write a 500-700 word piece for us and thereby participate in the debate. Find below a brief we prepared for the debate. Its best if we could have your piece by May 14.

You can revert to me or our features editor (copied in this email) for any queries.

Look forward to your piece.

Warmest Regards  
Sayantan

**BRIEF ON THE DEBATE:**

Debate Idea: Is secrecy is the best way to conserve the Jarawa and other tribes?

**Points to Consider:**

1. There is little information on the present status of the Jarawa on what's happening inside the reserve. Disturbing reports have arrived on poaching, sex abuse and introducing the tribe to drugs and alcohol. Conflicts with the settler population seem to be on the rise. We don't have a clear picture on the well being of the Jarawa or if they are venturing out due to depletion of resources inside their habitat.
2. Conflict of Interest between the settler population and Jarawas with regard to the Jarawa Tribal Reserve. Candidates during elections campaigned for a liberal tourism policy, relaxing buffer zones, expanding the ATR and bringing Jarawas into 'mainstream' (education, health, food doles- what some may call undignified dependence). Is this a battle of resources between the settler population where unemployment is high and the tribals who preserved the last patch of tropical rainforests in the Islands?
3. Other tribes who were inducted into the 'mainstream' like Onges and Great Andamanese have slowly died out. The Jarawa is no longer 'hostile', the Sentinelese still are. Should be leave them the way they are? How do we know what they want?