

PUC is an email received from Mr. Sayantan Bera, Correspondent of the Magazine, 'Down to Earth'. He has stated that the Magazine 'Down to Earth' is going to carry out a debate to discuss the issue of conservation of the Jarawa and other Stone Age tribes in Andaman. He has mailed some points which shall be considered in the said debate and requested us to send a write up of 500-700 words on the points.

Based on the information available with us the answers to the points are discussed as under:

S. No.	Question	Answer
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.	<p>In the year 1998 when Jarawas became friendly with the outside world their population was 235 approximately, at present the Jarawa population is 427 living in 1028 Sqkm of Jarawa Tribal Reserve. Jarawa tribes have a unique life style and live in harmony with nature. In the Jarawa Tribal Reserve area, entry of unauthorized persons has been banned. The A & N (PAT) Regulation 1956 as amended in 2012 has been more stringent by providing severe sentence/punishment to the poachers and violation of law so as to serve as deterrent. The land and food resources in the reserve area is rich and plenty enough for their subsistence. The Jarawas depend on forest produces like fruits and tubers. They hunt wild pigs, monitor lizards & turtles and collect turtle eggs.</p> <p>The GOI, MHA in the year 2004 framed a Policy for Jarawas. Based on this policy, the A & N Administration has taken various measures viz. protection ^{to} of natural habitat, cultural identity, health status of Jarawas and regulation of traffic on ATR etc. Consequent, upon the recent behavioral changes seen in the Jarawa tribe, the Govt. of India, MOTA advised the A& N Administration to carry</p>