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F. NO. 1-752/2013-TW / 929
ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ADMINISTRATION
DIRECTORATE OF TRIBAL WELFARE

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Port Blair dated 10<sup>15</sup> October, 2013

**NEWS ITEM**

It was reported that about 10 Jarawas of Kadamtala area of North and Middle Andaman District came out from the Jungle on 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2013 and met the village Pradhan demanding rice and iron tools.

The incident was got enquired carefully by the Tribal Welfare Officer of AAJVS with the Jarawas concerned, who divulged that (i) Maharaja Bala alias Raja S/o Late Hari Bala, resident of Kadamtala (ii) Suresh Xaxa S/o Banadick Xaxa, resident of Kadamtala (iii) Surender alias Suren S/o Lakpati, resident of Broombally (iv) Swapan Biswas alias Toko S/o Bhagirat Biswas, resident of Broombally had been frequently visiting the Jarawa habitat within the Tribal Reserve Area for poaching and used to hunt the wild boar. They also supplied intoxicating liquor and tobacco to Jarawas. Only on the instigation of Maharaja Bala, the Jarawas were taken to meet the Pradhan and the incident was stage managed with vested interest.

Based on the depositions made by the Jarawas, a FIR was lodged in the Kadamtala PS by the Tribal Welfare Officer to take criminal action against the named accused. Accordingly, the Police have filed a criminal case bearing No. 31/13 against the four accused persons under Section 7/8 (2) (6) of the A&N Islands (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes) Regulation, 1956. The committing of unauthorized entry into the Tribal Reserve Area, poaching of the resources therein, supplying of tobacco and liquor to tribals are very serious offences for which sentences upto Seven (07) years imprisonment could be imposed. The above said four accused has already been arrested by the Police. The Administration is committed to protect the Jarawa tribe from exploitation and therefore strict action will be taken against unscrupulous elements who violate the law.

*Anurag Bha*  
10/10/13

**Assistant Commissioner (TW)**