

Khatoons Public Grievances Cell at Mayabunder is a NGO and it has represented the Chairman, National Human Right Commission, New Delhi regarding issues relating to Jarawa matters. Almost all the issues highlighted by the Cell are similar, which the Administration is receiving in spate from different corners of the country and from abroad as well. On receipt of such representation, Administration has submitted a status report to the Govt. of India about the policy of the Administration to deal with the aboriginal tribes of these islands. Such representatives are continuing to pouring in.

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One such representation was sent to the Chairman, National Human Right Commission, New Delhi on the same issues and the commission has taken cognizant of the matter and called for a report. The Administration has submitted a factual position to the Commission which are admitted and the case has been dropped. Similarly, when the above-mentioned NGO represented to the Commission about the plight of the Jarawas, the Commission has simply endorsed the representation of the NGO without any specific direction, which implies that the Commission is satisfied about the action being taken by the Administration for the welfare of the Jarawas.

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The petition received from the so called NGO is nothing but narrated sequence of events which the members of the NGO probably might have seen at different Jarawa contact points while they are crossing the area. The issues which the Association highlighted are: -

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- 1) Tourists are throwing the eatables to the Jarawas.
- 2) Jarawas have seen on ATR in naked bodies and with empty stomach.
- 3) Administration is spending 50-70 lakh rupees per year for Jarawas but actual benefit is not reaching to the tribes.
- 4) The report submitted by the Anthropological Survey of India about the food resources is false.
- 5) Unabated poaching is continuing in the Jarawa reserved area.

The issue highlighted by the so-called NGO is in the knowledge of the Administration and the Administration is trying its level best to safeguard the interest of the Jarawas and extending the welfare schemes in most scientific manner. Since the Jarawa matter is very sensitive, no scheme is implemented in hasty manner lest the socio-cultural life of the tribes will be affected adversely. The Administration has taken up the following steps to protect the Jarawa tribes: -

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