

Note from Para 34 page 12/ante of Secretary, AAJVS may kindly be perused. He has given a detail account of action taken by the Administration for the welfare of the primitive tribes particularly the Jarawas living in South and Middle Andaman. Khatoon's Public Grievances Cell a so called NGO has alleged:-

- (a) The tourist coming from the mainland and abroad hand out food items like Chicken Biryani, Idly, Dosa and other local food preparations to the Jarawas and the Jarawas enjoy these food items instead of Banana and Coconuts provided by the Administration. The eatable like Chicken Biryani etc are not harmful to the Jarawas.
- (b) Since the poachers intrude in the Jarawas areas, the Jarawas come out on the main road i.e the Andaman Trunk Road and beg for food.
- (c) The fund provided by the Govt. of India is being misused by the Administration and not utilised for the welfare of the Jarawas.
- (d) The Jarawas should be allowed to mingle with the civilized population and should be encouraged to adopt the lifestyle of the civilised population.
- (e) The boat namely 'MV Milale' which was procured for maintaining regular contacts with Jarawas and other primitive tribes in the A&N Islands, although condemned, salary of the staff is being drawn from the funds allocated for the welfare for the primitive tribes.

Regarding contention of the NGO that the food items like Biryani, Idly, Dosa and other local preparations are not harmful to the Jarawas, it is submitted that in the opinion of experts and the Directorate of Health Services, the Jarawas should not be given exotic food items as mentioned above. As such food items are harmful to them, as they are not conditioned to consume spicy food.

A team consisting of staff of AAJVS, Police personells and officials from the Directorate of Health Services have been constituted for surveillance of the Jarawa area and prevent poaching and intrusion in the tribal reserved area. As a result, poaching activities have been minimised to a great extent. The team has been keeping vigil of the Jarawa reserved area

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