

Shri Enmai, a Jarawa boy in his teens of Middle Andaman was picked up by the officials of the administration when he was found lying at the outskirts of Kadamtala village in April 1996 with fracture in his leg. He was given medical treatment at GB Pant Hospital in Port Blair for about six months. While at Port Blair, he was exposed to the civilised world. He got friendly and healing treatment from the people. Thereafter, he was taken back to his habitat. Thus, Jarawas of Middle Andaman Island started coming out during the day time which was a significant change in their behaviour as they used to visit villages during nights to take away the fruits etc. in the past.

From September 1998, a large number of Jarawas including women and children started coming out at Tirur outpost in South Andaman and also along the Andaman Trunk Road. Their interaction with non-tribal settlements on the periphery of ATR, though not hostile, have nevertheless been one of the aggressive curiosity. On a few occasions, the Jarawas have also entered non-tribal settlements usually at night and aggressively demanded and carried away various house hold articles, arousing resentment among local people.

In order to deal with the situation, the administration on 04-03-99 organised a meeting at Raj Niwas under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor, A&N Islands in which people from all walks of life were invited. Based on the suggestions put forward by the representatives, the following decisions were taken: -

1. To augment food resources in Jarawa reserve by raising plantations, sea ranching etc.
2. To learn the Jarawa language for effective communication with the Jarawas.
3. To extend health care facilities near their habitat.
4. To prevent indiscriminate mixing of Jarawas with non-tribals.

To implement these decisions, AAJVS with the help of other Govt. Departments undertook various schemes like installing of fish aggregation devices, plantation of fruit bearing trees, imparting training in fishing to Jarawas with the nets, broadcasting of the molluscs in the creeks etc. to augment the food resources in Jarawa areas.