

ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ADMINISTRATION
SECRETARIAT

The Deputy Adviser (BC & TD), Planning Commission

vide PUC has requested us to send certain information on implementation of special schemes for the development of nomadic, semi-nomadic and other migratory groups in this UT.

Of the six scheduled tribes in these Islands, the Jarawas and Sentinelese are nomadic and the Shompens are semi-nomadic. The Jarawas & Sentinelese are not only nomadic but also hostile to outsiders. The Administration has constituted official contact teams which go to the Jarawas once in a month and to the Sentinelese once in two months to establish contact order to befriend them & bring into main-stream of civilization. The Jarawas have become friendly to the contact team & shed their hostility to a great extent in recent years, while our contact with the Sentinelese is very minimal. It will not be possible to take up any comprehensive development programmes for these two tribal groups unless we have won their confidence & established full rapport with them.

The Shompens are semi-nomadic. They change their habitats when food resources are exhausted. A scheme is being implemented from the fund SCA under TSP to develop plantations of coconuts & other fruits to augment their food resources at the Shompen habitates so that they do not change their habitats in search of food resources.

The population & geographical distribution of the Jarawas, Sentinelese & Shompens is given below :-

Sl.No.	Name of Tribes	Population as per 1981	Area earmarked	Inhabited Island	Main occupation
1.	Jarawas	200 (Estimated)	638.86 sq kms.	Western coast of Middle Andaman & South Andaman.	Fishing & Gathering
2.	Sentinelese	80 (Estimated)	59.63 sq kms.	North Sentinel Island.	-do-
3.	Shompens	223	913.37 sq. kms	Great Nicobar Island	-do-

& provide gifts of coconut & bananas etc. in

It would be possible and not impossible

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