

The PUC is concerning the quarterly report (quarter ending 31 March, 1985) on the construction of Andaman Trunk Road and contacts with the Jarawas.

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 THE ^{DARKER} DARKER SIDE: The report by Project Yatrik (Page 176/c) reveals that contact with the Jarawas could not be established. What is more, (a) the Jarawas attacked the men of Project Yatrik once while the latter were engaged in jungle clearance work. In this attack, a personnel of the Bush Police received an arrow on his shoulder.

(b) The Jarawas set upon the Project Yatric camp at Jirkatang/CD with stones during night hours.

(c) Two forest guards were killed by Jarawa arrows on 20.3.85.

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 In this connection, attention is drawn to the Report of the Committee of Anthropologists on the Jarawa and Shompen Situations (Pp 2/c-13/c). The Committee had pointed out.

"It seems that the Jarawa tribe has been led to use hostility as an effective shield against external onslaughts". (Page 5/c, para 6). It is interesting that the members of Project Yatric were attacked while they were clearing jungle. The above committee of Anthropologists had observed: "It appears ^{that} a part of the cause for confrontation between the Jarawas and the non-tribals lies in the exploitation of forests. Even ordinarily, a tribe resents exploitation of forests in the area which it regards its own". (Page 11/c(e)).

Suggestions: Hence it is suggested that the WATCH DOG COMMITTEE may go into the reasons that might have provoked ^{the} hostile reactions of the Jarawas and may also suggest ways and means of avoiding such hostility in future. In this context, it may be pertinent to point out that in the Report of the Anthropologists it was advised that for the construction of A.T. Road, "it would be desirable not to have permanent labour camps and instead mobile labour parties should be made to the extent possible" (Page 10/c (b)). The Report also suggested that "no habitations, whether official or private, should be located in the ^{vicinity} ~~civinity~~ of the boundary of the Jarawa Reserve and, certainly, not within the Jarawa Reserve" in order that the sensitivity of the Jarawas are not offended (Ibid). We may also bear in mind the word of caution aired by Smti Kapila Vatsayan, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Education and Culture during discussions held on 4.2.1984 in the Ministry of Home Affairs on matters connected with construction of 87-110 KMs stretch of A.T. Road. (p 108/c)

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