

To frame/workout a comprehensive policy as per the needs and aspirations of the Shompen tribe the Administration has taken up a survey on contemporary situation of the Shompens to understand the social, political and economic principles by which the Shompen social structures maintained various forms of distance among themselves as well as with the outsiders. The contemporary survey is being carried out the field officials of AAJVS under the guidance of the Group of Experts. The Report of the survey shall be submitted by April 2014 to finalise the draft Shompen Policy.

Jarawa :

In reference to the minutes of the meeting of 'Expert Committee' constituted by Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Govt. of India held on 2.2.2012 for preparation of policies for various Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PTGs) of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, it may be recalled that while examining the question of reviewing the existing Jarawa Policy of 2004, the Committee advised the A & N Administration to carry out the empirical study on Jarawa tribe.

An empirical study on Jarawas has been undertaken by the A & N Administration with the assistance of the Anthropological Experts, the Tribal Welfare Officers and Janjati Sevaks of Andaman Adim Janjati Vikas Samiti (AAJVS). The topics identified for study are (i) Social Impact Assessment, (ii) Study of movement patterns and Calenderics, (iii) Identifying Jarawa Hot Spots & (iv) Study of Jarawa Nutrition. The Project study has been carried out by the Experts viz. Prof. Vishvajit Pandya, Shri Manish Chandi, Director (TW), Officers of AAJVS with thrust on ethnographic observation and anthropological understanding of the concerns relating to livelihood security of Jarawas, their social organization, forms of education and learning and health & nutrition well being. The research team submitted its findings entitled "Jarawa movements in relation to time and space" to the Administration. The study report has suggested setting up of 'Hot Spots' in the Jarawa tribal reserve to ascertain the free will of the tribe.

The process of setting up of Hot Spots at the following places viz Bada Balu, Jhao Kona, Tirur and Potatang in South Andaman and Phooltala, Lewis Inlet and Bluff Island in Middle and North Andaman is being taken, and once the structure for Hot Spots at the respective places come up and become operational the second phase of study on the Jarawa will be taken up to ascertain the free will of the tribe.

Hot Spots' at the following the places namely Tirru, Jhao Kona & Pottatang in South Andaman and Phooltala in Middle Andaman has been completed and works on 'Hot spots' at places like Bada Balu, Lewis Inlet Bay and Bluff island has not yet been started as they are inaccessible during rainy season due to rough condition of sea.