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454 (4) (10) (25° 30)

Hon'ble Governor, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Portblair

Sub.: Jarawas of Andamans.

Respected Sir,

This is to request your Excellency to look into a matter of vital importance.

When I visited Andamans in the second week of February, I travelled through the area declared as Jarawas Reserve. I was deeply grieved by what I saw. After all they are aborigines and one does not expect civilized behaviour from them. But it is a disgraceful state of affairs when people, who are as much human beings as we, are given a treatment similar to wild beasts.

Some of them loiter along the road the whole day. When a car is passing by, a group would stand right in the middle of the road and in a threatening manner, demand food. They even harass passengers and snatch away food packets, and articles like pens glasses. . . . etc. They would swear at the tourists, using extremely bad words.

There is no point in complaining or even being sorry for them. We are duty bound to do something for our less fortunate countrymen.

As Dr. Tilak Ranjan Bera has mentioned in his book, (Andamans the Emerald Necklace of India) about two hundred and fifty Jarawas exist today. They live in the six hundred and fifty-seven square kilometer of jungle area declared as the Jarawa Reserve. There is the Andaman Trunk Road, the only highway of Andaman which connects Port Blair with the northern locality of Maya Gunder. Unfortunately, this road passes though the Jarawa Reserve for a considerable distance. The road remains busy with ever increasing traffic. This brings the Jarawas into contact with

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