

## The coming out of the Jarawas

History has it on records that soon after establishment of the 'Andaman Home' at Ross Island by the British. There was a large scale epidemic of diseases like measles etc. which took toll of several hundreds of the aborigines. That was the price paid by the great Andamanese in their first contact with civilisation.

Recently in the Jirkatang-Tirur area batches of Jarawas are coming out of the forests for food. It has posed a problem. Large number of people are flocking in the area to see the Jarawas come closer to them, take photographs, give old cloths and even food etc. It is wrong with the danger of certain virus and germs being passed on to the Jarawa community. The Administration has done well to caution the public not to treat them as objects of curiosity or try to get too close too close or friendly with them. It is unlikely that the public will listen to such pious advice. The police should be deployed to keep the public at a safe distance from the Jarawas.

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