

PUC is the letter No. 2-11/NYK/Port Blair/99/63 dated 18.8.99 from the District Youth Coordinator, NYK addressed to the Secretary(TW) with a copy to Director (TW) regarding awareness camp on the Jarawas.

The Youth Coordinator has requested to provide financial assistance to launch awareness camps among the villages for which he has submitted proposal. The estimated financial assistance is desired by him as Rs. 28,500/-. He is proposing to organize the awareness camps of the following villages viz. Tirur, Ferrargunj, Baratang and Kadamtala.

The participants in the awareness camps include 30 to 40 local youths and public. He has proposed to provide them snacks and lunch apart from other items like pen, slip pads etc.

The issue was discussed in the chamber of Secretary (TW) during which the youth coordinator and the Director (TW) were present. The Youth Coordinator opined that he/his organization at present does not have expertise on the Jarawa to organize the awareness camps. So he is planning to invite the resource persons from the Anthropological Survey of India, Tribal Welfare and Police etc to impart the awareness.

The group of 30 to 40 in a villages appears to be very small. The awareness could be to a larger group in each village. Instead of providing snacks @ of Rs. 10/- per head and lunch @ of Rs. 50/- per head, a light refreshment could be given to all participants in the awareness camp.

Such camps in which workshops / discussions etc. are proposed to be included, could be completed in the forenoon itself. If the NYK proposed to hold the exhibition in the village, the same could be continued till the evening.

It may be mentioned here that the Administration has already decided to start the awareness camp among the villagers residing near the Jarawa areas by involving the ASI, Police and PRIs and others.

It would be a good idea to involve NYK also in the awareness campaign. Financial Assistance could be provided to NYK to carry out awareness camps out of the funds available with AAJVS. The awareness camps could be a coordinated programme involving all the above organizations.