

- (c) to teach them fishing by use of nets;
- (d) to prevent their mixing with local population and to this end we have teams of social workers and police who take them to staging huts in their area when they come out give them food items and send them back to their habitat.

The Administration keeps in touch with experts of anthropology, sociology and tribal welfare for modulating its approach.

The Administration also believes that it is its bounden duty to provide health cover to the Jarawas whenever required. A positive development arising out of the Enmay Factor is that an increasing numbers of Jarawas now approach the Administration's Primary Health Centres and Sub- Centres located at Kadamatala, Baratang and Tushnabad on their own, whenever they feel indisposed. It is the policy of the Administration to treat them immediately on priority, and whenever more specialised treatment is felt to be necessary, they are brought to the G.B Pant Hospital in Port Blair, suitably attended to, taken back to the vicinity of the settlement in the reserved forest, and sent back. Last year some of them had respiratory tract infection while others had dehydration problems. This was attended to at the G.B Pant Hospital and after restoring them to normal health, they were returned to the forest. At present there are a little over 30 Jarawas who have been treated at G.B Pant Hospital at Port Blair for the past fortnight for respiratory tract infection. They have since been restored to normal health and will be sent back to their habitat on 5<sup>th</sup> October, 1999.

The above explanatory note should clarify the position adequately. There is neither any intention at present, nor has there been in the past, of imposing any form of urbanization on these indigenous tribals. The stress of the Administration is one of the gradual integration of the Jarawas and not assimilation. The Administration has filed a counter affidavit on these lines before the Hon'ble High Court, Calcutta while opposing the writ-petition of Miss Shymali Ganguly.