

185

- 29 -

more information on this aspect it would not be advisable to take the help of even the Cnge.

3) Poaching in Jarawa territory should be stopped totally and in the case of any encounter with the Jarawa, action should be taken either by the Bush Police or by officers with great restraint so that destruction of Jarawa life and property is avoided. This is essential to prevent giving further provocation.

4) It was observed during the visits of the Contact Party to the Jarawa area of Middle Andaman that they are keen on receiving medical treatment for injuries. They are now aware of the efficacy of medication in providing relief. On one of our visits in November 1985, a Jarawa woman, who appeared to be in an advanced stage of pregnancy, brought a girl of about 10-12 years to our Durgi on her back. The girl had an injury on her right leg. The woman was unable to hoard the durgi on her own. She was then helped ~~xxxxx~~ abroad and the girl was treated in the boat. The woman appeared to be very pleased and left. She had earlier been treated for some trouble in her eyes by members of the Contact Party. Medical treatment could be a potent means of earning their faith.

5) Genuine efforts be made to learn their language and, at the same time, to acquaint them with some Hindi terms so that the communication gap is reduced. For this purpose visits by the Contact Party should be regular and, whenever possible, the duration of stay must be increased.

6) The Contact Party has recently started bringing the Jarawa on board to Uttara Jetty where they can see a large number of non-Jarawa men, women and children. Such visits by the Jarawa, if continued, might decrease mutual suspicion and ill-feeling between the Jarawa and the non-Jarawa. Once the fear psychosis that exists on both sides is eradicated, mutual trust and faith is bound to grow. In March 1986 when 15 Jarawa were brought to Uttara Jetty, the local people were very enthusiastic about seeing them. People of all age groups came from villages far and near and even from Pangat, covering a distance of more than 50 km. Some of them wanted to spend some time with the Jarawa and some also offered them gifts.

But care must be taken before allowing the public to interact freely with the Jarawa to ensure that this does not cause any health hazard to the latter. Taking people in large numbers to the Jarawa area may also create

