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the villages in search of metallic objects. Accommodation constructed by APWD at Jatarg has also been ransacked for metallic objects (Project Yatrik's letter no. 20056/BP/P4/EZ).

These incidents also suggested that the supply of the above mentioned items should be adequate. But keeping up a constant supply of these gift items may give rise to some other problems too.

If a constant supply of rice and other food items like coconuts is maintained, the Jarawa may completely give up their economic activities and may become idle and dependent. It may also result in the inadequate intake of the food value which they normally get from forest produce.

Therefore, if efforts to make the Jarawa dependent on outsiders succeed, then measures should also be taken to keep them well-supplied in exchange for items hand-produced by them. These would include baskets, nets, bows and arrows, resin, shell, etc. but not honey, so that they feel that they are earning their food and not living off the charity of others.

Those who feel that nothing should be taken from the Jarawa may object to such barter on the ground that it may create some misunderstanding between the Jarawa and the Contact Party. It is true that no item of the Jarawa should be taken without their knowledge or when they are not willing to part with them as was done in the past during punitive expeditions which as Mann (1971:207) said amounted to 'stealing' and 'looting'.

But during our visits we have seen the Jarawa exchange items of adornment, e.g. chest guards, etc. for shirts and vests upon the insistence of the persons who accompany the Contact Party. These innocent people should not end up being exploited in the name of 'exchange'. A barter exercise would keep the Jarawa actively engaged in the preparation of their traditional items, and inculcate in them a sense of self-respect as opposed to a sense of helpless dependency on others as has happened with the Great Andamanese.

- 2) Some members of the Bush Police who accompany the Contact Party in Middle Andaman have become very friendly with the Jarawa. Their help may be taken to promote the growth of a sympathetic attitude towards the Jarawa among their colleagues.
- 3) Efforts should also be made to bring about a change in the overall attitude of the common

