

ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ADMINISTRATION
Directorate of Health Services
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Kindly refer to Chief Secretary's U.O. Note No. CS/PS/2006 dated 26.07.2006 regarding news item appeared in the Outlook Magazine on 31st July, 2006 on the matter of health status of Jarawa Tribe.

- As reported in the outlook magazine, the number of Jarawas is around 274 during the last survey, whereas recent survey shows that Jarawa population is 308 which is a increasing trend. Hence the news items published in the Outlook magazine is baseless and not a fact because so far none of the Jarawas are reported with measles and none of them died by such communicable diseases. However, few cases among the Jarawa reported with rashes and they were properly taken care of by this Directorate.
- In view of the above news item, it is to mention here that a team of Sr. Doctors of A & N Health Department comprising of Dr. S.K. Paul, Dr. R.C. Kar, Dr. Wajid Ali Shah, Deputy Director (TH) and Dr. N. Sadasivan, Director of Health Services alongwith paramedics, Dr. K.P. Felicitus of PHC Tushnabad and Dr. Ajit of PHC Kadamtala along with team of Doctors from ICMR conducted survey from time to time to ascertain the health conditions of the tribals.
- Moreover, on the request of the A & N Administration, Expert Team comprising of Dr. Ramesh S. Durvasiyala, Professor of Health Studies area, Administrative Staff College of India, Hyderabad and Dr. (Mrs.) Sasikala, Associate Professor of Microbiology, Gandhi Medical College, Hyderabad have visited the Jarawa reserve area and their report says that no suspected cases of measles were reported in Primary Health Centre of Kadamtala, Tushnabad and G.B. Pant Hospital including Tirur and Middle Strait area where Jarawas were examined on road side.
- Universal Immunization Programme (UIP) could not be taken up because it is policy decision. Moreover, Jarawas are still not very much friendly with outer world. Action has already been initiated with Govt. of India, Ministry of Tribal Welfare and Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

(Dr. N. Sadasivan)
Director of Health Services

Chief Secretary

U.O. No. 10-1/DHS/TH/GC/Jarawa/403 dated 31.07.06

Copy also forwarded for information to :-

- (iii) The Commissioner-cum-Secretary (Health), A & N Administration, P/Blair.
- (iv) The Secretary (TW), A & N Administration, P/Blair.

Director of Health Services

Jarawa

31.7.06

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Copy to be placed in records. Jit