

It was pointed out during the 2nd Seminar held on Jarawa tribe of Andamans at Port Blair on 27th and 28th of May, 2004 that the reserve area is under the encroachment of non-tribals and the members participated the seminar addressed the issue and sought Administration's intervention in the matter for the protection of Jarawa territory and from shrinking of Jarawa area by way of encroachment etc.

In this regard it is to submit that so far South Andaman Islands is concerned there is no any encroachments in the reserve area though some part of the reserve boundary passes through the revenue villages of Tirur, Colinpur, Mile tilak and Jirkatang. In Middle Andaman also there is no encroachments in the Kadamtala, Uttara and Kausalyanagar but some encroachments exists in the northern side of Middle Andaman i.e near Chaintipir and Hanspuri revenue village.

In order to ascertain correct ground position a team of officials visited the area which includes Assistant Commissioner (Mayabunder), Assistant Commissioner (Settlement) and Divisional Forest Officer Mayabunder. The members of the team were taken to the particular spot where the RCC pillars is fixed by the Survey team to ascertain that the demarcation is conducted in the field. The team members were taken to the spot from the village boundary of Chaintipir village covering a dense forest inside approximately 4 kms. and ultimately the team members has seen the RCC pillar erected by the survey team. After confirming the ground situation the official team has come back to the Chaintipir village and again from there they proceeded towards the Ganeshnagar, an encroachment pocket which is inside the Jarawa territory near Wolga Creek. The team went to the Ganeshnagar pocket in an engine dinghy via Wolga Creek and while passing through the creek the survey team has shown us the forest track and a wooden pillar planted in the creek while demarcating the reserve area. The team visited the Ganeshnagar encroachment pocket and found that all the encroachers of this area is post-78 forest encroacher and in pursuance of Supreme Court's direction the plantations has already been cut but the encroachers continue to remain there and raise the paddy cultivation.