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The Jarawa are being manipulated and lured as accomplices in the poaching racket by introduction of a barter system. Crabs, turtles, ambergris are exchanged for one kg of rice or bananas. The system has evolved into one where the poachers or settlers make Jarawa undertake multiple transactions to get some rice or coconuts. So if a settler happens to be a vegetarian, the Jarawa are instructed to barter their produce for diesel or some other article with another settler and carry it back to the first settler. This system allows poachers to go scot-free. If a poacher is caught outside the Jarawa area, say the police, no action can be taken because Protection of Aboriginal Tribes Regulation, 1956 (PAT) is area specific, not tribe specific.

Poachers have introduced the Jarawa to addictive substances like tobacco and alcohol. Now the Jarawa allow them inside their forests for a free run with forest produce in exchange for some *sukha* (tobacco). Police expressed its inability to deal with poaching because of legal lacunae and lack of resources. Some AAJVS workers and other non-official sources, however, have indicated that a strong nexus exists between the poachers, police and forest department, especially where the poachers are local settlers.

Health

Provision of health facilities has been one of the principal reasons for official intervention. To minimise contact, however, separate wards have been established in hospitals for the Jarawa. A Jarawa hut has been constructed at the Kadamtala hospital to ensure that the lifestyle of the Jarawa is not affected. On visiting Tusnabad PHC, however, we found Jarawa admitted there for minor infections like cough, cold or cuts. This is strange considering the 2003 directive of the High Powered Committee and the Jarawa Policy of MHA both of which state that in-situ treatment should be provided and the Jarawa moved to hospitals only in case of an emergency. It seems that mobile medical units have been discontinued. AAJVS workers informed us how injured and ailing Jarawa along the west coast have to walk for hours at a stretch and wade through crocodile infested *nullahs* to access medical aid.

Doctors working among the Jarawa were all praise for their traditional systems of medicine. For example, Dr R.C. Kar's oral deposition and his Report, "Observations