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*Whenever we introduce a developmental plan in a tribal or rural village/area, our policy has been to seek the opinion and cooperation of the local population. In case of Jarawas it was neither done, nor ever planned. It was considered that the Jarawas were "savages", who could not even express what they desired. On the contrary, we have witnessed during the last few years that within the shortest span of time Jarawas have not only picked up Hindi words, but they easily converse about their likes and dislikes in Hindi to outsiders. If they can learn Hindi so quickly, can't they learn English, or any other language?*

*The ATR suddenly exposed the Jarawas to the technological world and might of the 20<sup>th</sup> century civilization. They could no longer remain in social and geographical isolation, as could the Sentinelese. A group of tribesmen living at the subsistence level technology often resent the introduction of a new technology in their habitat, instead of welcoming the innovation. Similarly, sudden exposures to the outside world by such groups living in comparative social and geographical isolation also pose critical problems. We must take lessons from the Chowrians, the inhabitants of the Island of Chowra in the Nicobar Archipelago, who in 1973 summarily demolished the reservoir, made by the government for their use, and threw the entire debris into the sea. No sooner had the labours and the personnel of the Public Works Department left the Island after the completion of reservoir, the islanders organized a meeting at the behest of the Chief of the witchdoctors, and unanimously decided to demolish the reservoir. They considered the raw materials such as bricks, cement, etc. as foreign items, which they feared would cause death and diseases in the island.*

*The Chowrians could do so because they were numerically stronger, and more aware of their rights and dignity. Had the Jarawas been numerically stronger, and politically aware of their rights and dignity, they would have long back, perhaps at the very initial stage of construction, uprooted the entire ATR and thrown into the forest or the sea. And, all the parties with vested interests, which are opposing the closure of the ATR today, including the government, would have remained mute witness and spectators of the reverse of their fortune. The ATR passes through the Jarawas for millennium: but the*