

should be completely closed. The third option is to construct a parallel road in the South and the Middle Andaman in Jarawa Reserve.

No traffic or the pedestrians or the visitor should be allowed to enter into Jarawa area and even to reach near the ATR.

Let us examine the opening or the closer of the ATR on merit and demerit basis, or better said who the gainers are and/or who are the losers? As far as gainers of the opening of the ATR are concerned it is only the numerically, economically, and politically strong Bengali settlers and other immigrants, and the timber merchants. It is my hunch that the timber tycoons and the early settlers have been continually attempting to influence the decision of the administration. Needless to say, that they are economically and politically stronger than the rest of the stakeholders. Now, it depends upon the rationale of the planners, policy makers, and administration to decide whether they favor the losers or the gainers in the battle for the ATR.

The second option is the closer of the ATR. It is no denying a fact that even if we summarily and abruptly close the ATR, the Jarawas would not stop or severe their contact with the outside world. They would certainly continue to come out of their Reserve. In that case, it appears, the closer of the ATR would not serve its purpose. However, it is not like that.

The closer of the ATR would at least check or stop the pace of interaction of the Jarawas with the outsiders. If this interaction is not allowed to develop any more through appropriate check and balance, or unless this interaction is regulated in a planned way, all attempts to protect the Jarawa life and culture would boomerang. Instead of doing good to the Jarawa life and culture it may damage for all times to come. A group, which has, so far lived the life of the old-stone-age, if exposed to the 21st century technological world without any check and balance, it is bound to perish. The Jarawas have already started chewing tobacco. The days are not far off, when they would also start consuming liquors, opium, and other intoxicant, if the ATR remains a passage free-for-all.