

Development and Sustainability: Study among the Ang (Jarawa) and Settler communities of South and Middle Andaman

Anthropological Survey of India has taken-up a National Project "*Development and Sustainability*" during the 13th Plan period. Primarily, all together 16 number of areas / villages have been selected for the study all over the country. One of the village/area selected for the study is *Ang* (Jarawa) areas of South and Middle Andaman. Today nowhere in the world we can find hunter-gatherers living in the domain of hunting and gathering. Most of them are surrounded by dominant neighbour groups. So, history and culture of any hunter-gatherer society must have to be understood as the product of a complex triple dynamics: part of their culture needs to be understood in terms of the dynamics of the foraging way of life itself, part from the dynamics of their interaction with (often more powerful) non-foraging neighbours, and part from the dynamics of their interaction with the dominant state administrative structures (Leacock and Lee 1982). Increased contact with outsiders brings about changes in *Ang* (Jarawa) society and culture. The self-sufficient *Ang* (Jarawa) society gradually started to depend on different need based, contextual specific outside elements. Barter relation have established between *Ang* (Jarawa) and settlers. The relationship is basically need based exchange of different commodities.

Unlike the days of so called hostility, one notable thing is that the urge of barter is often from the side of *Ang* (Jarawa) and a reciprocal relationship exists between both the bartering partners. It is also notable that they often select bartering partner from the villagers by the trial and error method where the basic criteria is to get the best deal. Most of the time barter occurs with specific and preselected individuals. *Ang* (Jarawa) men and women used to come the fringe villages near to the Tribal Reserve with their bartering items and demands for the desired article in exchange. In some cases bartering also occurs on some pre-fixed consent between the partners. They like to barter those required articles which they cannot manufacture from the available forest resources or the articles to which they are fond of or addicted. The bartering items which are **flowing inward** towards the *Ang* (Jarawa) are as follows: Rice, Biscuits, cooking oil, Spices and other different food items, Tobacco (Sukha, Jarda etc.), Cloth, Torch and battery, Iron implements, Metal utensils, Safety pin, Mirror, Plastic bottle to keep water, Polythene sheet, Nylon rope, Plastic drum, soap, Cosmetic cream and powder, artificial ornaments etc. These are few non-traditional items which are bartered from outside, there are many more to mention. The bartering items which are **flowing outward** from the *Ang* (Jarawa)