



Vulnerability among Primitive Tribal Groups in Andaman

Dr. Swapan Kumar Biswas, Associate professor, P .G. Dept. of Political Science
J. N. Government College, Port Blair , Andaman,India

Abstract: The local poachers are so dare even not hesitate to abduct the Jarawa girls . A groups of AAJVS staff along with police force after receiving information from a joint patrolling force in the Jarawa areas to apprehend the poachers who have abducted Jarawa girls .The arrested poachers are from nearby Jarawa areas living in Collionpur, Temple Mayo and Herbertabad of south Andaman district .In this operation Jarawas accompanying the joint police patrolling party and apprehended the culprits along with four girls. All seven accused persons have been arrested and criminal cases have been made against these people.

Key words: socio-economic development, mainstream, Little Andaman

Introduction

India has second largest tribal population in the world next to African countries. More than 700 communities (including sub-tribes) so far have been notified as Scheduled Tribes (STs) in India. Who speak 100 different language/dialects. Census 2001 recorded 84.32 Million tribal's are living in India, which constituted 8.2% of total India's population of which 1.3% are primitive tribes spread over 187 district (SriKant. H) .Altogether 75 categories of Primitive Tribal Groups (PTG) defined as vulnerable tribal group by the government of India during 11th Plan to give special attention on their socio-economic development. Scheduled Tribes (STs) who are more backward than other have been historically classified as PTG's since 1973. Their population as per the 1991 census is about 75 lakh. They live in pre-agricultural level of technology, remote isolated enclaves', smallness in number, diminishing population and low level of Literacy. (P. 285- Rajiv Gandhi). There are two broad categories among the PTG's found viz. the "heritage groups" which have been insulated from the surrounding populations and are placed in isolated ecological

environments, such as Jarawas, Sentinalese, Shompen, Cholonai kam and the group located on the fringes of "mainstream" population and have some contact with them such as the Birhor, Chenches Jenu Kurubas etc. (Rajiv Gandhi National Institution for your Development pp. 15-16, Training manual for Tribal youth as social Animators.)

Primitive tribes in Bay Islands:

The Archipelagos are the home lands of four primitive Negrito and Two Mongoliod tribes, who have been living in time immemorial. The Negritos are living in Andaman Archipelago and Mangloid in Nicobar Archipelago. Their state of Origin or migration to these islands is really a mysterious and debating. The British have made a forceful interaction with Andaman tribes since 1858. The Great Andamanese, Onges, Jarawas and Sentinalese have been living in Andaman Chain of islands, Great Andamanese are the largest groups having more than 5500 individuals with 12 sub-groups with distinct dialects in Great Andaman Islands. Jarawas are a separate group share same islands but rivalry of each other. The G. Andamanese was recognized them as "Stranger" known as



Jarawas. The Onges and the Sentinalese have been living in Little Andaman & North Sentinel Islands without interaction with other two groups. All four groups are stranger to each other and recognized as hostile communities.

The arrival of British force and established Penal Colony in South Andaman was made at the cost of thousands of Great Andamanese lives. British authorities' mercilessly killed the Great Andamanese with gunpoint's and punitive "human hunting" expeditions and physically exploited both male and females. Due to contact with outsiders, contagious diseases killed these innocents' tribes and dwindle their population. The British were not stop their inhuman "savage hunting expedition", but they cleverly and forcefully used the Great Andamanese against hostile Jarawas in South Andaman. The Andamanese were used against Jarawas and killed them as and when encounter was done by British . In spite of that Jarawas were faced minimum disturbance in compared to Great Andamanese. It was the negative effect of Colonial system which was seen every part of the world. Where ever the colonial powers entered they contact and encountered with the indigenous. The Population of Andamanese sharply declined from estimated 5500 in 1858 to 45 in 1947. However, the Sentinalese and Onges were Lucky enough to save themselves as they were living in isolated islands; ie. North Sentinal Island & Little Andaman respectively. The same incident was happened with indigenous of Canada also.

Early period of independence, the local administrations have failed to draw attention to these uprooted Great

Andamanese, who had lost their livelihoods, lands and survivability. Few souls were left with uncertain lives. They were roaming and led a nomadic live. Females and children were faced a miserable life. Many of them kept by Burmanese and bore the child of non-tribal's. Illegal sexual forceful relationships were developed among helpless females. Males were misguided and addicted with opium and alcohols. No welfare plans were undertaken for their resettlement and protections. They were victims of all odd situations.

The addiction to opium, wine and tobacco has often led the Andamanese to odd corners and subject to pressures of various sortsparents of young girls are thus forced to give their daughters to Burmses in marriage or concubinage . The Jero women, it is said, used to marry Burmese more frequently. Kota' father was a Burmese. Konmu , now married to a Burmese , was the daughter of Burmese father . Lokahis present wife was previously attached to a Moslem convict" (Kochar,V K ,1969).

Meanwhile, A & N, Aboriginal protection act of 1956 (PAT) came into practice to safeguard these helpless notified tribes and to protect their territories, and natural food resources. Strong provisions under this act was made which stated that no person other than a member of an original tribe shall, except with the previous sanction of the Chief Commissioner, acquire any interest in any land situated in a reserved area or in any product of or crop raised on, such land, or shall, except under and in accordance with the terms and conditions of a accredit granted by the Chief Commissioner of A&N Islands, carry on may trade and business in any such area. But strangely enough, the out numbers



non-tribal's people regularly poaching in to tribal areas.

In 1970, Bharatiya Adim Jan Jati Sangathan, had approached these Primitive tribes with a guidelines to take appropriate policies for welfare, and protection of notified Aborigines. Accordingly in 1970, BAJJS had started their functions among Onges, who were being disturbed and displaced due to ongoing rehabilitation schemes to resettle Bengali refugees in Little Andaman. Until 1976, no such welfare scheme had started among Great Andamanese, Sentinalise, Shompen and Jarawas. Under Society Act, in 1976, Andaman Admi Jan Jati Samiti was formed utterly for four notified primitives of Bay Islands.

Settlements of Great Andamanese and Onges:

However ,in 1970, the Great Andamanese were settled in an isolated island called Striat Island covering an area of 3.11 sq. Km in a new environment. They had been rescued from their uncertain agonic lives in Port Blair to Small Island. Similarly, Onges of Little Andaman were the inhabited of 668 sq. Km of big islands had asked to live in 52.29 hectare identified two settlement points called Dugong Creak and South Bay. The movement of the Shompen of Great Nicobar had been restricted more than 650 sq. km of land forest and sea area to few km. of interior forests due to resettlement of Ex-serviceman in this island. In 1956 Aborigine Protection Act had been reduced the Jarawa territory from 6408 sq. km in 1858 to 1689 sq km in 1957. Again in 1984, 856.72 sq km of forest areas were fixed as tribal a reserved area, which was reduced by 50% of reserved land of previous (1957) times.

New phase and area under Aboriginal:

The new settlement of both Onges and Great Andamanese have limited there area of jurisdiction. They have lost their right over forests, Lands, resources and even livelihoods as they had inherited from ancestors'. Nevertheless, the Jarawa territories have been encroached by administration for resettlement of Bengali and other communities. The South Andaman villages have been expanded over Jarawa territories, Tirur, Ferrargunj, Colinpur, Lal Pahar, Jirgatang, Tushnabad areas were developed for settlement purposes by pushing the Jarawas into deep forest. In Middle Andaman, Kadamtala, 10 No.base camp, Kalshi, upto Chainpur, Kamatang, of Middle Andaman were free movement of Jarawas - hunting-gathering tribes. But settlement scheme had displaced them from their accessorial territory and forced them to live in a limited pockets with scarcity of natural food resources . The Sentinalese have been living isolated in North Sentinal Island .However, the non-tribal poachers, fisherman, hunting groups also encountered with them and share their available resources and did not hesitated even to killed them without notice of the local authorities.

The AAJVS has been formed, in 1976 to look after the welfare and protection of these vulnerable tribes. Under the new settlement scheme, the Onges and Great Andamanese, were settled down with all modern facilities to each family. The Semi Pucca house, water, electricity, free ration, pre-primary School, Medical sub-centre, entertainment, radio- T.V. Kitchen garden, milk cow, poultry birds, Honey bee culture, for their better and easily family life. Efforts have been made by providing all facilities so that both the tribes should left their hunting-



gathering lives and adopted “spoon feeding” settled lives.

Special attention was given to Jarawas and Sentinalese with especial team called “contact team” for befriending with these hostile tribes. Regular contact party constituted with medical doctor, Anthropologist, AAJVS members, Police personal who visited the pockets of Jarawas with gifts items like

Banana, Coconuts, Iron Piece, Red cloths, etc. for a better friendly relations and give them medical aid, and to understand their problems. Though, one or two occasions the Sentinalese had signed a friendly deeds by accepting gift item from contact party. Otherwise, these hostile tribes have been maintaining isolation in their North Sentinalise Island.

Age Composition of Primitive Tribes

Sl. No	Age group	Shompen				Onges				Great Andamanese				Jarawas				0-10
		M	F	T	%	M	F	T	%	M	F	T	%	M	F	T	%	
	0-10	24	14	38	17.35	23	21	44	42.30	9	9	18	32.72	79	70	149	38.10	249 769 (32.61%)
	11-20	23	28	41	18.372	11	08	19	18.5	10	05	15	27.27	50	49	99	25.31	174 789 (22.39%)
	21-30	27	19	46	21.00	07	06	13	12.5	01	06	07	12.72	29	30	59	15.08	
	31-40	35	17	52	23.74	03	07	10	9.61	05	03	08	14.54	24	18	42	10.74	
	41-50	16	9	25	11.41	03	04	07	6.73	02	02	04	7.27	11	20	31	7.92	30
	51-above	12	5	17	7.74	04	07	11	10.57	01	02	03	5.45	08	03	11	2.81	6.64%
	Total	137	82	219	100.00	51	53	104	100.00	28	27	55	100.00	201	190	391	100.00	

Sources : AAJVS, Port Blair, 2012, No. detail survey was conducted on Sentinalise, due to their hostile attitude.

Demography and age profile of primitive tribes:-

Among these four vulnerable tribes in Bay Islands the infant (0-10 age groups) are more among Onges. Out of total 769 people, 249 (32.6%) are infant among four tribes. In the age group of 0-20, (55%) 423 population are found. 174 (22.39%) are belong to age groups of 10-20 years. Only 41 (6.64%) people are in the age group of above – 51 years, hence, a sizable number of individuals are in between 0-20 years of age among four tribes, whose enumeration on head count was done by the tribal welfare (AAJVS) department.

The male female ratio among Shompen is (137 M, 82 F) under serious

threat, females are less than male. However, among Onges, Great Andamanese sex ratio is about equal. But in case of Jarawsa it is (201-M, 190 F) disproportion. Imbalance among Shompen in the age group of 21-40 is delicate, which is productive age group, but six ratio is less. So far as other tribal group is concerned it is not so solemn in compared to Shompen.

Economic activities and employment

Seems, they have lost the livelihood and traditional subsistence economy , the administration had plan to give them alternative economy and job security. They have lost that own territory. Neither British nor free India government could give attention for their



welfare and protection. Perhaps, few old males were struggling to continue their hunting-fishing activities for their survival. Till 1970, Onges were undisturbed who followed their traditional hunting – gathering activities. The other three tribes-shompen, Jarawas, Sentinalese were success to keep themselves isolated and continued their age old traditional livelihood activities.

Job Security among Onges & Andamanese

Out of 52 Great Andamanese and 104 Onges, 19 and 6 individuals have been engaged in various departments in settlement areas. The department rendering their services for their welfare and development in education, Health, PWD, Electricity, Police, Forest, Social Welfare, they were engaged as Ayah, Jetty Man Iascar, Police Constable, Field Assistant, Attendant Dresser Chowkidar, Day care worker, Mazdoor, and Helper, so that they can get a regular source of income their families. But in case of Jarawas and Sentinalese, and Shompen, no such scheme has been started so far.

Free rations for Great Andamanese and Onges:

The free ration items has been continuously supplying to Great Andamanese and Onges through their respective multi-purposes cooperative societies. Ration items are rice, Atta, Dal, sugar, spices, onion, Kerosene Oil, Soyabean, washing and both soaps including baby foods, with specific quantity to every individual to fulfill the daily needs of the family. All the members of these two communities are fully dependent on dole “system” spoon feeding economy has made them lazy and cripple in their daily life.

Autonomy on Jarawa territory:

To make a land connection in between Port Blair the alone business city and Middle North Andaman population was an urgent need. Sea route was not adequate to make a fast communication with these vast settlements villages. Hence in 1965 an official proposal was placed to find out the possibility to link Port Blair and Middle –North Islands through Jarawa areas. In 1973, the construction of Andaman Trunk road (ATR), the life line of Andaman people was started. More than 45 Km. length of road passing through Jarawas areas to reach Middle East was made with the cost of many innocent Jarawas and construction labours. Uncounted encountered was happened, where Jarawas tried to resist stopping this project in their areas and ending their lives unnoticed. Early eighties, the ATR was opened to operation the vehicles for passenger and goods for Middle North. The increasing traffics and movements of passengers including tourists ultimately disturbed the peaceful lives of Jarawas. As a result, outbreak of diseases has been reported and Jarawa population has dwindled.

To protect the Jarawas from outside exploitation, PIL of 1999 was brought before Hon'ble High Court of Calcutta (Circuit bench, Port Blair). Accordingly, the court has passed order to the administration vide their order dt. 9.4.2001, the W.P. No. 048 of 1999 regarding framing a policy on Jarawa of A & N Islands for their protection and safety. In 2001, government of India appointed one man commission by Prof. Shekar Singh (Prof. of Indian Institute of Public administration, New Delhi) for review the forest resources and its protection. The Commission did the survey of the forest of the Andaman islands and given an alarm that the forest



resources in Jarawa territory should be protected from non-tribes and also suggested to close down the ATR going through the Jarawa territory for their safety and protection. Subsequent by, in 2002, Supreme Court also ordered the Government of India shut down of ATR (The Hindu, 22.1. 2013) as a result, the A & N administration by an extra ordinary order passed on 21.12.2004 regarding framing of policy on Jarawas tribes. Here, Hon'ble H.C. also directed the Union Government for formation of a Committee of Experts headed by the Lt. Governor of the Islands as the convener along with renewed Anthropologists, Sociologists, Nutrition experts, doctors for immediately undertaking a scientific study, research and survey in the aforesaid change in the behavior of the Jarawas and to find out the cause of the same The committee shall submit its reports within six months before the Union government and Lt. Governor and inform the same before the circuit Bench of this court (High Court).

Further instruction was given to both Union and UT for formulation a policy, plans and programme, whether the steps shall be taken for bringing the Jarawas in the mainstream of the society or they should be left their own way of life a before or the balance the peaceful existence theory as suggested by Mr. A.S. Awaradi in his Master Plan. Moreover, the government shall arrange seminars, and open discussion of the different experts, both national and international on the line involving Anthropologists, Sociologists, individuals and NGP's.

It was an uncertain period where Jarawas came out from their forests and showing a sign of friendship with outsiders. The villagers started poaching; hunting wild pigs, fishing from forests and other food from Jarawa territory as

Jarawas depends on these natural resources available in their areas. Due to scarcity of food items in their vicinity, they were forced to enter settlement villages and stolen utensils, banana, iron piece, and other food items from houses at night. During their operation at non-tribal settlements, they encounter with villagers, patrolling police, and killed innocent villagers, domestic animals and vice-versa. Time and again, these small group of Jarawas in Kadamtala and Tirur areas had changed their aggressive behaviours and later surrender before non-autochthon as a sign of friendship with villagers and government agencies. They left their hostility and surrender before mainstream as a result, the administration had decided to give them food items, medical aid facilities, as it was already offered to the Great Andamanese and Onges.

Meanwhile, the administration had come out with guidelines for the protection and welfare of Jarawas are :

1. Protect them from harmful effects and contact with the outsiders.
2. To preserve their traditional subsistence economy and age old cultural identity.
3. To provide medical aid to reduce mortality.
4. To conserve the ecology and environment of their reserve territory so that they can able pursue their traditional mode of subsistence way of life.
5. To sensitize settlement villages around the Jarawas habitat and personnel working for the protection and preservation of the Jarawas.



6. The policy allowed them maximum autonomy, non-intervention in their cultural life.
7. No attempt to bring them to the mainstream society against their conscious will to rehabilitate them in separate island / locations.
8. No exploitation of natural resources within the Jarawas reserve by any non-tribal.
9. No attempt to curtail, reduce or to acquire land demarcated for them.
10. All encroachments in the Jarawas territory shall be removed on priority basis.
11. No person other than Jarawas reserve without permission by the competent authority.
12. No tourist will be allowed to visit / interact with them
13. Traffic on ATR will be regulated strictly limiting the traffic to the essential purposes of public transport, supplies goods etc. all vehicles will be moved only in restricted hours.
14. For close down the ATR travel by boat/ship will be encouraged by the authorities for shipment of goods and passengers in Middle North Andaman.

Meanwhile vehicles movements and tourists mobility through Jarawas territories has been increased. The tourists were attracted by Travel agencies to get opportunities to see the naked Stone Age Jarawas on the way to visit Mud Volcano, stone caves in

Baratang and Middle East areas. The Jarawas became "showcase" for tourists and they were ready to pay extra for this adventure journey. To stop the overcrowded movements of tourists and goods vehicles into Jarawas areas, which giving some had habits among them. The families of Jarawa children, females stand on road sides and received gifts, foods and other articles from tourists was highly objectionable for safety and identity of Jarawas. Hence, put bar on such unlawful acts by the outsiders. Which called gift economy would be a "slow poison " for them .Ultimately, in the month of October 2007, the local administration brought the notification No. 234/2007/F. No. 1-752/ 2007-TW, to prevent any person other them members of an aboriginal tribes from indulging in any commercial and tourism activities in the Buffer Zone (BZ) of five Km. from boundaries of Jarawa reserve. In November 2007, the local administration issued order to stop commercial activities in Buffer Zone. Accordingly, few small commercial enterprises in this BZ, were received notice for closed down their business including Barefoot Resorts in Koriaghat, Colinpur sea beach area. As a consequent, Resorts owner challenged the BZ notification in Port Blair circuit Court. In the response to the petition, lower court gave judgment in favour of resort. But Administration went to Higher Appeal to restore the BZ notification. The Divisional Bench of Culcatta High Court at Port Blair on its order in August 2009, did not give any relief to administration. At last the Administration appealed to the Hon'ble Supreme Court. In March 2010, Supreme Court had ordered to fully implementation of the B.Z. notification.

On Buffer Zone issue Mr. Pankaj Sekhsaria, editor "Protected Area



update" and founding member of Kalapavriksh, NGO had raised many important questions in "The Hindu" national newspaper on 5.2.2013 issued to be answered by Administration.

1. What would it mean to restrict commercial activities in this 5 km BZ.
2. How many villages of non-tribal settlers would this BZ include?
3. How many families would be impacted?
4. What would be happened with livelihoods, if their commercial activities were stop?

The administration was in back foot as local people, enterprises with the supports of Local M.P, and the political leaders strongly protested against the implementation of BZ policy. Therefore, the closure notices were served to few commercial establishment in Dec. 2010, was drown in the face of protest by local people. However, Hon'ble Supreme Court in July 2012, directed the local Administration to bring BZ notification into effect in letter and spirit. As the administration was shown less interest in implementation of BZ, so Hon'ble Court asked the administration why it should not be considered in contempt for non-implementation of the notification. On the BZ issue, Pankaj remarks – the A & N administration was creating a buffer Zone to secure the fringes of Jarawas territory at the same time as it was willfully allowing its heart to be eaten away and destroyed (The Hindi – A road still run through it).

According to the Court order, the Administration constituted an expert Committee, the committee has come out with various measures and suggestions to protect Jarawas and other aboriginal

vulnerable tribes in Andaman. The Committee has sent an alarm that tribes of Andaman are under stress. Exports have accepted the order of the Hon'ble S.C. and agreed that the sections of the ATR through the Jarawas area should be closed. The growing tourists pressure and traffic movements exposing the Jarawas and disturbing their normal lives. Tour operators went beyond the limits and commercialize the Jarawas. The Route is their main tourist attraction. Through a video clip it was focus that the Jarawas are using a "human safari" and forced them to enter taint as section of visitors etc. the matter became seriously viewed by concerned authorities in India. As a result on 21.02.2013 Supreme Court asked for closure of tourist traffic on ATR in keeping with the notification. Again in July 2013 Supreme Court has taken a serious view for none—implementation of Buffer Zone notification by the administration.

The Union and local Administration were in a dilemma, if they implemented Buffer Zone notification, then many villagers and commercial establishment would be affected and need to be displaced from their present places, otherwise non-comply of Court order would be a serious violation of court of law. Local people were agitating over the BZ issue and against the closing of ATR road. The agitation was backed and supported by Local M.P and political leaders. Therefore, in Jan 17, 2013 administration had issued another notification of the BZ with modification in which, Baratang island and 34 revenue villages were excluded from BZ and also reduced the area of the Jarawa Tribal Reserve on the sea side. But again on 21.01.2013 Hon'ble Supreme Court asked for closure of tourist traffic on the ATR in keeping with the notification and



also asked for explanation on why 34 villages shall be excluded.

To safeguard the interest of vulnerable Jarawas and other tribes in A & N Islands, the local administration had been working seriously. In 1990 – Mr. A.S. Awaradi, an anthropologist turned administrator in Local Administration under capacity of Director, Tribal Welfare prepared a long term Master Plan. He stated in his Master Plan (1990-2020):

... in order to protect Jarawa, their food items from non-tribal's "A Buffer Zone" at the periphery of the settlement area, separating it from the Jarawa territory, to prevent every infiltration into the Jarawa. Thereby squaring off the Jarawa problem of non-tribal's as well, "The B.Z is symbolic system intelligible to the Jarawas on it is devised on their symbolic. Therefore, it is material co-existence of Jarawas and non-autochthonous on either side of B.Z in the East, while it is crucial association of Jarawa and "Ship People" (government men on duty) not the "boat people" poachers in the West. (Mr. A.S. Awaradi ,PP – 402-403).

He had given a clear account of conflict in between Jarawas and Non-tribal's from 1947 to 1968 during settlement of Bengalis and other people in Jarawas territories. At least 68 people were killed by Jarawas, skirmish like encounter recorded 70 times in South Andaman, 61 times in Middle Andaman .Similarly , Jarawas also organized plundered 57 in South Andaman and 47 times in Middle Andaman in settlers villages. He placed an argument that the organized plunder of Banana, Papaya, utensil, and iron from settlement villagers too, indicated the scarcity of food and consequent by the intense food anxiety. He put a serious note on Jarawa and their survival. He warned that if a

suitable action is not initiated immediately, the Jarawas would succumb to the famine sooner or later (P. 358). As till date Jarawas were notified as hostile tribe, but they were in the edge of surrender or lost their battler with big force f non-tribes. Awaradi stated that the Jarawas put up the resistance for any expansion activities involving exploitation of the forest resources and encroachment of their territory. They were surrounded by uncounted number of poachers, hunters, who indiscriminately plunders the forest resources, foods items from their areas.

The local administration is seriously thinking about the closing of ATR and find out an alternative connectivity in between Port Blair and Middle- North Andaman apart from sea route. But ironically, it would affect the basic policy of islands tourism, as because, the private tour operators are not ready to lose their business by closing the ATR, the life-line of Andaman. Because Mud Volcano, Lime Stone cave, forest canopy are main attraction of tourists in Middle –East and Barataung Island . It is also cost-effective to carry tourist through sea route. Hence, the ordinary tour operators could not effort to continue their business. Though one or two big operator has already invested money and started luxury ferry services from Port Blair to Havelock, Neil Islands and Baratang. But what will happen with small tour operators how run their tourist cabs and earn money. They have taken bank loan for purchasing cabs. They will lose their regular income and hundreds of drivers also going to lose their job, which operates in this route. Before we close this route, the administration must think about an alternative land route to reach the Middle



–East without entering the Jarawas territory.

The Jarawas issue becomes a sensitive and emotional at local, national as well as international level. The government is very serious about Jarawa problems and issues. Therefore, the local administration has opened on 2nd Oct 2013, a Tribal Research Institute on the advice of the Expert Committee at Port Blair. Institute has started its tasks to make special attention on Jarawas, including all vulnerable aborigine and Nicobar tribes about their welfare and protections. The institute will work under Directorate of Tribal Welfare. In 1976, AAJVS was started its functions to look after primitive (Adim Janjati) tribes welfare, settlement, and development issues. Above and all, Directorate of the Tribal welfare also functioning to cover entire tribal issues of Bay Islands under Tribal Sub-Plan to utilize the fund's annual and (five years) in all important sectors related to Development and Welfare. The Anthropological Survey of India, a research Oriented department has already been functioning since 1953. Besides, the ATR including Buffer zone issues have been highlighted together by the administration. Tribal administration has given extra attention on these vulnerable groups by consisting a groups of experts, professional at national and international reputed in the name of Research Advisory Board. Time to time Board members from the field of An.SI, Medical specialist, sociologists, social-environmentalists, forests officials steering high level meeting and asses on the spot information on these primitives and give their valuable suggestions to administration for protection, upliftment and welfare of them.

To safeguard Jarawas, the administration is over sensitive. But

some recent incident in Kadamtala, and arrested of few villagers including Pradhan of Kadamtala had created new type of problems. "Andaman Shekha" local Daily reported on 03.10.2013 that a group of Jarawas led by Mr. Afee reached Kadamtala Panchayat and demanded to meet Lt. Governor and tell – we don't have food, we are in great distress, we eat pigs, honey, potatoes, fishies but now- a - days there is serve shortage of food inside of jungle. We often sleep empty belly but do not get any food items from the *babus* (Government). We know government (Sarkar) give a lot of food items and clothes for us but we don't get anything. We want our children to study in school, like Children of Onges....".

On this reports, the innocent Jarawas highlighted their plight, shortage of foods. They directly blamed the officials, who do not give them ration as allotted by the administration. They want all government facilities as receiving by the Onges and the Great Andamanese. A serious conspiracy has come into light after investigating the Jarawas incident in Kadamtala. It is revealed that a group of unscrupulous local poachers, the residents of Kadamtala and Broombally villages (Adjacent to Jarawa Reserved areas) are active behind the plan, who insisted Jarawa to approach higher authority and place their demands. These poachers apprehended by local police and it was found that these poachers entering Jarawa areas regularly and illegally hunting pigs, collecting forest goods, fishes, collecting honey by offering them alcohols, and other gift articles. However, Mr. Halder, Pradhan, Tushnabad claims that the Police force stationed Jarawa protection are often unnecessary harassing the innocent villagers and threatening them to book them under PAT laws. Out of 75 cases



registered , 40 are from Colimpur village , majority of them have been booked .

“The committing of unauthorized entry into the Tribal Reserve Area, poaching of resources therein, supplying of tobacco and liquor to tribes are very serious offences for which up to seven years imprisonment could be imposed .The four accused has been arrested by the police . The administration is committed to protect the jarawa from the exploitation and therefore strict action will be taken against unscrupulous elements who violate the law” (The daily Telegram ,10th.October ,2013.)

These poachers are exploiting and exhausting the natural resources from Jarawa areas. Hence, Jarawas face the acute shortage of foods. Now Jarawas are easy prey to unscrupulous poachers, as former are no more hostile and make any harm to non-tribal. Later the Panchayat Pradhan of Kadamtala was also arrested on the ground that he was also instigated Jarawa to highlight their demands before higher authority including file complaint against the agencies, who do not supply food items to them.

The local poachers are so dare even not hesitate to abduct the Jarawa girls . A groups of AAJVS staff along with police force after receiving information from a joint patrolling force in the Jarawa areas to apprehend the poachers who have abducted Jarawa girls .The arrested poachers are from nearby Jarawa areas living in Collionpur, Temple Mayo and Herbertabad of south Andaman district .In this operation Jarawas accompanying the joint police patrolling party and apprehended the culprits along with four girls. All seven accused persons have been arrested and criminal cases have been made against these people. The incident is as serious so

far as the safety of the Jarawas, especially the Jarawa girls are concerned. The matter is under investigation .It is trying to find the motive behind the abducted/ kidnapped of Jarawa girls by local poachers. If either of the things happened, then the matter is so serious and the local administration should be serious about the safety of the innocent girls. The proper step should be taken against arrested culprits and capital punishment must be awarded against them so that in near future no such type of criminal activities would be done by any person. The recent incident of kidnapping the four Jarawa girls by local poachers is a serious view in terms of security of the girls of the innocent tribes. The use of jarawa as a “ human Safari” and use the women to dance before the tourists to entertain them has already made hue and cry at international level after releasing the video clips in electronic media .Now again the incident of kidnapping Jarawa girls will create a lot of criticism at various level . To stop all these incidents the local administration should over sensitive and alerts to avoid this type of situation.

Dr. Madhushree Mukherjee , she is working among Islands tribal highlighted the dark and painful incident of innocent women who often been sexually exploited by field staff and poachers . As they do not able to approach to the authority ,so their sexual incident is not recorded or coming in the public domain . Therefore the culprit would never be caught and awarded punishment. She has recorded many cases among G. Andamanese women ,Onges ,Jarawas and even among Shompen females .The authority is not seriously deals with this matters and try to stop sexual harassment with tribals



women .(National Conference ,2014- ANTRI).Similarly, Pradhan of Tushnabad Panchayat of South Andaman admitted that some of the poachers illegally entering Jarawa areas and offering gift items, alcohol , tobacco and hunting pigs, deer and fishing . Even this poachers physically exploiting the Jarawa women . (National Conference ,2014- ANTRI).Mr. Saxena , expert in tribal affairs accepted that the sexual exploitation is a serious matter among tribes of the islands . It is not easy to get evidence , when that happened with females . He also said that any face of interface in between tribes and non-tribes is surly exploitative in anywhere in India and also in Andamans. (National Conference ,ANTRI,2014)

This people should be punished seriously, who are damaging the atmosphere of the tribal society .Both Pradhan ,Mr. Mohan Halder and Tribal Welfare Officer Dr.P K Sirkar ,have come out with their experience about the capital punishment to the offenders and stated that the conviction of guilty person is taking long time with due process of laws . Meanwhile , the witness among Jarawas against convicts are not available or agreed to give witness statements before Government Pleader .” When an offender is caught with help of the Jarawa he is released on bail soon and accelerate his efforts to contact the Jarawa witnesses and change his comments for next judicial procedures in which he goes through all tricks and play to win the game. The Jarawas further again show change in behavior and hesitate to cooperate the authority and in providing secret information about the offender .Many of the poachers with repeated crime have been freed on bail within a short period . Such examples encourage the people and habitual

criminals to do crime without fear and discourage the field staff and police .”(Sircar ,Field Experience on need of Protection & Preservation –With special reference to Jarawa of Andaman Islands , National Conference , 2014).

Recently a national newspaper has covered a serious and sensational issue first time in the history of Primitive tribal of Andaman . A Jarawa has killed a five-month old baby of his own community . Tatehane a Jarawa youth did this heinous crime to save the purity of their race . A Jarawa unmarried women borne a baby whose biological father is a non-tribal (?).The baby with a lighter skin colour was born to an unmarried Jarawa woman. As per the report the local police has arrested the two non-tribals identified in the criminal complaint ;a 25 year old believed to have fathered of the child , who was accused of rape , and a man who gave Tatehane liquor and was accused of abetting murder and interfering with aboriginal tribes .(IE, 15.3.2016.page-1-2).It is heard that they usually kill non-jarawas said one of the medical staff Ms. Rooby Thomas .When the duty officer of Police Dept. Mr. Hassan accompanied an old Jarawa to take him to the baby’s body .In reply the old Jarawa reluctant to hand over the body and said “ If I give the body to you , the world will start shaking ,and we will all die “ .The entry of non – Jarawa into reserve areas is a serious alarmed for authority to face this type of problem unless a punitive action will be taken against trespassers in near future .The local poachers strike up illicit relationships with innocent Jarawas , trading food for help in harvesting crabs or fish , some of them also abduct girls and make relations forcefully .

Comments and Conclusion



To safeguard and welfare of the tribes of India especially to protect these vulnerable from all kind of exploitation and odd situations , all kind of constitutional arrangements have been made by our leader at the time of framing of Constitution. Time to time new provisions have been enacted in the constitution for their developments and progress .

The present situation is so critical and complicated, that the local administration as well as the researchers, academician and anthropologists are so perplexed and under dilemma about the protection and welfare of Jarawas ,Sentinelese ,Onges and Great Andamanese .The colonial legacy in different form is still prevailing where Govt. policy and bureaucratic style of functioning is unable to support these endanger indigenous small groups who are about to vanish from the earth . In the line of modernization, the Great Andamansese families are providing free LPG connection. Moreover, the health problem of these aborigines is seriously viewed by administration .Therefore, local health Department under its

References

- 1) Rajiv Gandhi National Institution (2010): Development, Training manual for Tribal youth as social Animators. Sreeperumbadhur , Tamil Nadu.
- 2) Andaman Adim Janjati Vikas samiti:(1977): Andaman & Nicobar Administration ,Port Blair.
- 3) Biswas ,S K (2007): The Great Andamanese and Onges ;Cultural Dynamism , Abhijit Publication ,New Delhi , 2008.

initiative a Comprehensive health profile for Onge tribes has been launched .Every Onge will be screened and their health profile will be made and kept for better monitoring of their health and to enable for policy makers & administration to focus on measures to ensure the perpetuity of them.(The Daily Telegrams,25th.December ,2013). Their forcefully entry into mainstream is giving them all odd situation and they are in the edge of vanishing .Perhaps their isolation is no more acceptable ,it is already late .The real question before the researchers, academician and anthropologists ,whether they should allow to follow the theory as Liberal leaders like Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Verrier Elwin who advocated complete autonomy to the tribal to safeguard their identity , culture , land , resources and let them live according to their own "genius ".But these vulnerable small groups are neither able to survive without protection and help of the administration who act as guardian of them nor they have the self-surviving capacity under present day condition.

- 4) Kochar , Y K (1969): The Great Andaman today,in Man in India ,vol. 49(3).
- 5) Mukhejee , Madhushree (2008): Defending the Guardians in Andaman Wave , vol.25,Port blair.
- 6) Basic Statistic, (2006) : Directorate of Statistic and Economics , A& N Administration , Port Blair..
- 7) The Daily Telegrams,25th.December ,2013
- 8) Indian Express , :Why Andaman police are tiptoeing around killing of five -month -old baby , 15.3.2016.



- 9) Sircar P K (2014) : Field Experience on need of Protection & Preservation – With special reference to Jarawa of Andaman Islands , National Conference , 2014.
- 10) Sinha Rajiv K (2001) : Tribal Ecology – The people and their Problems in (ed) Behavioural Dimension of Tribal Landscapes.
- 11) Sekhsaria , Pankaj & Vishwajit Pandya (2010): The Jarawa Tribal Reserve Dossier ; cultural and biological diversities in the Andaman Islands , Kalpavriksh.
- 12) Pandya, Vishwajit (2010): Hostile border on historical landscape : the placeless people of Andaman cultural .
- 13) Hema Bannerjee & Biswas S K (2012):Displacement & Rehabilitation of tribals of Andaman : A critical review in (ed) Displacement & Rehabilitation : Solution for the future , Gyan Pubshing house , N D ,
- 14) Panighrahi ,Nilkhantha ,(2012): Potential Displaced people & their loss resources .
- 15) Joshi, B L (1990) : A Framework for Planned Rehabilitation in The Uprooted (ed) V. Sudarsan & M A Kamal , Gyan Publishing House , N D .
- 16) H.Srikanth(2010):Indigenous peoples in Liberal Democratic States : A comparative Study of Conflict and Accommodation in Canada and India, Colorada: Bauu Press .
- 17) The Daily Telegraph, IP&T department, Andaman, 15th August, 2007.
- 18) Govt. of India (1990): SCs/STs Commission Reports , 1990, Ministry of Tribal Welfare Govt. of India.
- 19) A. Xavier Raj & Satwant Kaur (1990): Displacement & Resettlement : A conceptual Frame of the problems & Prospects ,in (ed) The Uprooted , by The Uprooted (ed) V. Sudarsan & M A Kamal , Gyan Publishing House , N D .
- 20) Verma , R C (1990): Indian Tribes through the ages , Publication Division , GOI, Ministry of Culture , N D .
- 21) Awaradi, A S (1990) : Master Plan for Primitives of A & N Islands , A & N Administration , Port Blair .
- 22) The Hindu, National Daily News , 26.12.2011.
- 23) Aashish Bhagat (2014): Stone mine owner in Dumka , Jharkhand, The Week , Anniversary Special issue , Vol. 32(52). Dec,2014,p, 36.
- 24) Saxena, K. B (2014) : Lecture delivered on Vulnerable Tribals of Andaman , National Conference, on 5-6 ,Dec. 2014.) Port Blair.
- 25) Deepti, Terrassa ,(2014); Education system of Tribals of Andaman . National Conference, on 5-6 ,Dec. 2014.) Port Blair.
- 26) Mohan, Halder (2014) ;Pradhan , Tushnabad, South Andaman , Lecture delivered on Vulnerable Tribals of Andaman , National Conference, on 5-6 ,Dec. 2014.) Port Blair.
- 27) Shabanam , Maidu (2014) ; Lecture delivered on Vulnerable Tribals of Andaman , National Conference, on 5-6, Dec. 2014.) Port Blair.
- 28) Denis Giles (2014): Editor, The Andaman Chronicle, Lecture delivered on Vulnerable Tribals of Andaman , National Conference, on 5-6 ,Dec. 2014.) Port Blair.
- 29) Mrs. Surmai (2007): Head , The Andamanese Tribals in Strait Island ;The Daily Telegram , A&N Admn. Port Blair.