

य रक्षा अनुसंधान **र्वेदीय विज्ञान अनुसंधान प**रिषद्,

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सेवा में,

Shri. Bishnu Pada Ray, The Hon'ble Member of Parliament, BJP Bhavan, Middle Point, Port Blair, A & N Islands

विषय:- Implementation of research project entitled- "Medico-Botanical Survey of A & N Islands (Selected areas)" - reg.

आदरणीय महोदय,

With reference to the above mentioned subject, I hereby inform you that Ayurveda Tribal Health Care Research Project, a unit of CCRAS, under the Ministry of AYUSH, Govt. of India, New Delhi has been functioning in these Islands since 1984. The basic aim of this project is to provide service oriented health care facilities to the tribal people through door-to-door and collection of vital data viz. Personal hygiene, occupation, addiction etc. The other aim is to collect folklore medicines from the tribes/villagers which can be later explored as drug.

Sir, as you are aware that the A & N Islands endowed with vast biodiversity of flora and fauna. The tribes of these Islands are using various plants in their traditional health care practices. It is need of time to collect, document and explore their rich heritage of knowledge for their well-being as well as benefits of other peoples of Islands. Hence, the research project entitled - "Medico-Botanical Survey of A & N Islands (Selected areas)" has been initiated by our Council at this unit in Dec, 2012. Till date, we have covered 64 forest beats of South, Middle and North Andaman and collected 407 plant specimens and also documented 78 folklore claims under this project.

Sir, since May, 2013; we are requesting the Tribal Welfare Dept. of A & N Administration to give us permission to conduct the Medico-Botanical Survey Tours in tribal areas. After one year i.e., May, 2014, the Tribal Welfare Dept. has referred this matter to ANTRI (Andaman & Nicobar Training & Research Institute) to place it before the Research Advisory Board for their consent (Annexure-I). In response to their letter (Annexure-II) and guidelines, we have submitted the detailed proposal to the Officer I/c, ANTRI, Port Blair (Annexure-III). This research proposal was placed