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No.DHS/PS/SR/98/ 364
ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ADMINISTRATION
Directorate of Health Services

26
186

Port Blair, dated the 12th May, 1998.
13

To

The Executive Secretary,
Andaman Adim Janjati Vikas Samity,
Secretariat Complex,
Port Blair.

Page 16-17/C

Please refer to your letter No.IV-IV/AJVS/TW/Vol.1/1217 dated 28th April, 1998 therefrom enclosing the recommendations on Tribal Health and Nutrition submitted by the Assistant Director, Regional Medical Research Centre, Port Blair. After going through the aforesaid recommendations, the comments of the undersigned are furnished as under:-

Regarding Tribal Health and Nutrition are concerned, it is pointed out that a Survey team comprising Dr.S.Mohammed Ali, Deputy Director (Malaria), Dr.MA Rashid, Deputy Director (Health), Dr.SS Singh, Medical Specialist, Dr.JC Das, Shri Krishna Kumar and Smt. Chakraborty has already visited the tribal area last year and a report on the Health and Nutritional Profile of the tribal has already been submitted to the Secretary (Tribal Welfare), A&N Administration, vide my letter No. ANI/PS/DHS/SR/97 dated 3rd June, 1997. In the report, among other things, it has also been indicated that the tribals residing in the Strait Island should get high protein diets and also other micro nutrition which at present is deficient in their foods. I understand that the Administration has already taken up the matter with the Agriculture Department so that enough green vegetables can be grown in those area.

As regards their health management, one Compounder has already been posted and he keeps strict vigil on the tribals. He is sending periodical reports which also include the health aspects of the tribal population. No doubt, the Lady Medical Officer who has been posted in the PHC Long Island and who is overall responsible for giving medical cover among tribals in Strait Island, is not regularly visiting the area for which she has been cautioned. In the near future we expect that the medical cover on tribals can be given on regular basis. However, the matter regarding the tribal women are not getting proper care during the time of pregnancy, is not true. This Directorate is always sending qualified Pharmacist every three months and he is in a position to extend required medical care for the tribal women. Whenever it is found essential he is sending/referring such tribal women to GB Pant Hospital for specialised consultation and treatment.

Page 26