

### Onges

The Onges, who also belong to the Negrito group, have traditionally been located in Little Andaman in an area called Dugong Creek and South Bay. Since they were scattered over Little Andaman, with the resettlement of East Bengal refugees on this island in 1974, two Onge settlements were created at Dugong Creek and South Andaman in this island, and they were regrouped and settled here. Today their number is 97. Here again the Andaman Adim Janjati Vikas Samiti administers a cooperative society known as the Onge Multipurpose Coop Society for their welfare. A Primary School has been established in Dugong Creek, and Onge children are admitted to this school located there itself, and they have reached the 3rd Standard. The Onges are engaged on a coconut plantation raised by the Administration and administered by the Andaman Adim Janjati Vikas Samiti. They also hunt wild pigs, turtles and are engaged in the collection of honey.

Both the Great Andamanese and the Onges (like the Mongoloid Nicobarese and Shompens) are registered on the voters list and have voted in last year's General Elections.

### Sentinelese

The Sentinelese, the third tribe in the Negrito group, have traditionally been based only in North Sentinel Island. The Sentinelese continue to be a hostile tribe and contacts with them had been few and far between, even with the contact policy of the Administration previously being followed. The only known friendly contact with the Sentinelese took place in 1991 when a team led by the Director of Tribal Welfare, Shri SA Awaradi was able to land on this island without any resistance from the Sentinelese and they accepted gifts of coconut. After this, there were infrequent expeditions upto the year 1996, but these were not friendly expeditions, in that, articles, were merely left on the beach, and thereafter the team left the place without seeing the Sentinelese. A few years ago two vessels had run aground in the vicinity of North Sentinel island. One of these was a Panamanian vessel called M.V. Primrose, while the other vessel was M.V. Rusley. Since these could cause serious navigational hazards, the Shipping Department of the Administration had arranged for the dismantling and disposal of these vessels and this activity necessitated landing on the island for sometime. After the year 1995 the A&N Administration has not sent any contact expedition to the North