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**ANDAMAN ADIM JANJATHI VIKAS SAMITI
PORT BLAIR**

F.NO.18-6/AAJVS/2001

Sub: Court cases of Onge matters

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P.U.C. is the letter from Deputy Conservator of Forest relating to Interlocutory applications filed by society for A&N Ecology (sane) Bombay Natural History Society and Kalpavriksha (I.A.No. 502 of 1999) in writ petition NO. 202 of 1995 (Godavarana Thirumalpath _Vs- UOI & others.

They have further intimated that a meeting is convened in the chamber of PCCF at 11.AM. You are requested to attend the meeting alongwith the comments on the related paras. The following could be the comments:

Para 3: It is a fact that Onge is a negrito tribe living in the Little Andaman Island. It is one of the isolated tribes and hence there is no possibility of admixture of Onges with others. It is not certain that Onges are living on these earth only for last 70,000/ years.

Para 4: Policy of the A&N Administration towards the Onges and for that matter of all the schedule tribes have never been intended to be destructive. What ever policy and programme plan undertaken by the Administration are expressly meant for the welfare of the tribes.

Para 18: It is a fact that Onges have been hunterer and gatherer. Though they settled at Dugong Creek and provided with free ration, they do go for hunting, gathering and fishing activities. As such, Forest operations may affect the Onges. However, an area of approximately 500 Sq.km out at total area of 731.5 Sq. Km. in the Little Andaman Island has been declared as a Tribal Reserved , so that the Onges have exclusive right and opportunity for the natural resources available there on.

Para 22: The statement of Mrs. Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister of India in 1975 is a matter of records.