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Onges while going out for hunting at sea during night hour carry traditional torches along with them and a flaming torch is also kept at the shore for identification of shore. The sea on the day of accident was very turbulent. It is reported that on the day of accident the ill-fated Onges while hunting a turtle hooked a turtle through detachable harpoon. And since the weather was turbulent the outrigger of the Canoe broke and it was over turned, resulting the death of the Onges. District Magistrate, Andamans District has conducted an inquiry and published the inquiry report in the local newspaper as rejoinder.

61. That with regards to statements made in para 81 the same are denied and disputed. I say that the Government and the Administration have been engaged in the activities with the sole purpose of ensuring the well-being of the Onges. It is the collective wisdom available with the Government that is being relied upon to undertake the measures for the well-being of the tribal groups. The government administration had the advantage of access to the experts and the expert organisations like anthropologists, scientists, Anthropological Survey of India, etc to help design the welfare measures. This would be in contrast to the opinion / view expressed by