

to help the Onges. It is for the welfare of the Onges that the Administration undertakes developmental programmes among the Onges.

Para 25:

To provide necessary medical care for the Onges the Administration has established a Medical Sub Centre at Dugong Creek with a Medical Officer posted there. Similarly the medical coverage is extended to the Onges of South Bay. Directorate of Health Services undertakes required measures for the health of the Onges.

Para 29:

An area of approximately 500 Sq.Km out of total area of 731.5 Sq.kms has been declared as tribal reserve in Little Andaman for the use of Onges. The Onges are being encouraged to go for foraging activities. Their traditional activity of hunting ,gathering and fishing would keep them healthy, active and they may find in them the purpose in their life. Coconut plantation has been raised in the Onge settlement areas so that they need not depend on others for ever.

Para 36:

The statement of Shri Tambolai Onge, is a matter of records.

Para 39 &40:

In pursuance of the order of the High Court in Writ petition No.48 of 1999, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India have constituted a Committee on Experts to study the Jarawas and their problems and then to recommend certain measures for the welfare of Jarawas. The Committee is required to submit its report to the Government and also to Hon'ble High Court .The various issues like Andaman Trunk Road, Health care, and food for the Jarawas etc would be covered by the Expert Committee. On the basis of the recommendations of the Expert Committee, the Government of India and A&N Administration would be formulating a policy for the well being of the Jarawas. Thereafter various measures would be taken up by the Administration as per universally accepted policy directions for the well being of the Jarawas. As such all the issues raised in para 39 and 40 would be taken care in due course.

Para 43 to 45 &48: In the light of comments in respect of para 39 and 40 nothing else is added.