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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
जनजातीय कार्य मंत्रालय  
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Dated the 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2017

Dear Sir,

As you would be aware, the Government of India has taken the initiative for Holistic Development of Islands. The Department of Border Management, Ministry of Home Affairs and NITI Aayog have been engaged in the task of identification of islands which could be taken up for holistic development in consultation with all stake holders. One of the Islands selected for holistic developments is Little Andaman Island of A&N Islands.

2. As you are aware, Onges, an aboriginal tribes inhabiting in Little Andaman Island have been declared as Scheduled Tribes and Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups(PVTGs), their population is reported to be reducing since 1911 when first Census took place.

3. You may recall that during September, 2016, the ex-Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs visited Onges' habitats at Little Andaman Island during his visit to A&N Islands and it was observed that their population is on the rise after interventions by the A&N Administration. It was agreed by A& N administration to reconsider the strategy for Onges development and send a report to the Ministry. However, the report from A&N Administration is still awaited.

4. I will appreciate if you please look into the matter personally and furnish the above mentioned report which, inter-alia, should cover their demography and interventions for development. This may please accorded TOP priority.

With highest regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Rajesh Aggarwal)

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