

**Minutes of the Expert Committee meeting held at Raj Niwas,  
Port Blair on 6.11.2001**

1. The following members of the Expert Committee were present:

- i) Shri N. N. Jha, Lt. Governor, A & N Islands -- Convenor
- ii) Shri K.B.Saxena, Former Secretary, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- iii) Dr. R. K. Battacharaya, Director, ASI.
- iv) Shri Som Naidu, Assistant Commissioner, M/Bunder
- v) Dr.(Smt) Namita Mohammed Ali, Director, Health Services
- vi) Dr.(Smt) Indira Chakravarthy, Head of Department of Biochemistry & Nutrition, All India Institute of of Hygine & Public Health.
- vii) Shri S.A. Awaradi, Director(Tribal Welfare)

2. The following officers were also present: -

- a) Dr MM Kutty, Secretary (Tribal Welfare)
- b) Shri S.S.Patnaik, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests.
- c) Dr. Manoj Kumar, Regional Medical Research Center.
- d) Officers of the Anthropological Survey of India, Port Blair

3. With the permission of the Lt. Governor, Secretary (Tribal Welfare) briefed the Committee about the decisions taken in the last meeting of the Expert Committee and the follow-up action taken on those decisions.

4. Shri K.B.Saxena, Member of the Expert Committee explained the details of action taken so far and made certain suggestions as under :

- (i) The draft questionnaires prepared by Director of Health Services, Professor Indira Chakraborty of All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health, Director of Anthropological Survey of India, and Zoological Survey of India , Port Blair were scrutinized by the Members of the Expert Committee. Certain modifications were suggested in the questionnaires on Health and Nutrition.
- (ii) The questionnaires prepared by Botanical Survey of India and Zoological Survey of India require thorough revision as they are incomplete.
- (iii) Members of the Composite Group from Forest Department are required to be adequately senior and should not be below the rank of Range Officer.