

Dr M.M.Kutty, IAS

सचिव

Secretary (TW)

अ.स.प.

D.O.No.

11-20/AA/IVS/2001/TW/1453

अण्डमान तथा निकोबार प्रशासन
ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ADMINISTRATION

पोर्ट ब्लेयर

PORT BLAIR-744 101

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Port Blair, the 27th Sept 2001

Dear Shri Patnaik,

One Ms Shymali Ganguli, Advocate, Port Blair had filed a Public Interest Litigation in the Calcutta High Court regarding providing assistance, care and protection to Jarawas, one of the primitive tribal groups of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The Petitioner had *inter alia* sought a direction to the Central Govt/Andaman Admn to frame a suitable policy for rehabilitation and settlement of Jarawas.

The Hon'ble High Court disposed off the petition vide judgment dated 9.4.01. As per the directions of the Hon'ble High Court the Central Govt should constitute a Committee of Professional Experts to undertake a scientific study, research and survey in the matter of change in the behaviour of Jarawas and find out the cause of the same.

In pursuance of the directions of the Hon'ble High Court, the Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt of India vide its notification No.14040/24/99-ANL dt 26.7.2001 had constituted a Committee of Experts. Copy of the Notification is enclosed for ready reference.

The Expert Committee met on 10.9.2001 under the convenership of Lt Governor at Raj Niwas. After a great deal of deliberation, the Expert Committee decided to study the Jarawas issues on the following aspects.

- i Resources available for Jarawas
- ii Health and Nutrition of Jarawas
- iii Culture and behaviour of Jarawas

It was also further decided that to constitute three sets of multi-disciplinary Composite Group to study the above three aspects of the Jarawas. The study would cover all the season of a year to come to a definite scientifically acceptable conclusion.

In this connection, the Expert Committee felt that your organization will be of real help to study the first aspect that is, the study of resources available for the Jarawas. It is, therefore, requested that suitable three officers/officials, one for each Composite Group may please be nominated and details may be communicated to us within a week.

The Expert Committee is scheduled to meet again on 16.10.2001 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Lt Governor. It was decided by the Expert Committee that the Composite Groups will be formally constituted and ready for briefing/ training so that they proceed for the field study soon thereafter.

I shall be grateful if personal attention is paid to ensure nomination immediately.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Dr M.M. Kutty)

Shri SS Patnaik,
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
Port Blair (Fax No.30113)