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Secretary (TW) met the Great Andamanese children. She inquired the teacher about the method of teaching and other issues relating to their education. Smti. Surmae informed that only a few of the adults can speak Great Andamanese language viz.. Jero.

Secretary (TW) asked the School teacher to teach Great Andamanese language to the school going children. The hand books and primers prepared by Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore, can be utilized for this purpose. She directed AAJVS to send required books to Strait Island immediately.

(Action: AAJVS / Teacher Strait Island)

Secretary (TW) inquired about distribution of Identity cards to the Great Andamanese. They informed that identity cards have already been issued to them.

The Plantation-in-Charge, Strait Island stated that during the year 2003, the Great Andamanese Multi-purpose Co-operative Society Ltd. Strait Island deposited an amount of Rs.2.00 lakhs vide cheque no: 0618585/11.2003 and Rs.77,303/- vide cheque no: 0618597/25.5.03 to Executive Engineer, CD-I, APWD for construction of store-cum-godown at Strait Island, but nothing has been done till date.

The Secretary (TW) inquired about the matter with Assistant Engineer, APWD and directed him to immediately take up the work on priority basis.

(Action: APWD)

Dr. R.C. Kar stated that some of the older generation Great Andamanese have succumbed to acute alcoholism. Nao (Jr.), Jirake and Buro died due to alcoholism. He expressed the immediate need for sensitization and teaching the new generation in this regard. A joint effort in this regard is the urgent need of the hour.

Shri. Elphe, Great Andamanese complained that there is regular inflow of liquor to Strait Island through Government Servants, Contractors and labourers. The Police are not checking the luggage / materials brought into Strait Island.