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A meeting was held in the Chamber of the Secretary (TW) on 6.7.2005 at 1530 hrs to discuss the issues relating to permanent shelters for the Onges and Great Andamanese. The meeting was attended by representatives from Forest Corporation, APWD, D.S.S. Electricity apart from Director (TW) and Executive Secretary, AAJVS. Fair minutes of the above is being issued. (Pl. see Item No 8.)

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During discussion regarding permanent shelters for the Great Andamanese, the Secretary (TW) directed that the pattern of new houses for Great Andamanese should be finalized only after consultation with the Great Andamanese.

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Accordingly, the Director (TW) invited few Great Andamanese who came to Port Blair last week for various purposes. The Great Andamanese opined that they are only few in number at Port Blair and it is better to obtain views of entire community staying at Strait Island. Executive Secretary, AAJVS was also present during the above discussion.

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Such being the position, it is proposed that a team comprising of Officers/Officers from the following departments/Organizations may visit Strait Island immediately :-

- a) APWD
- b) Electricity
- c) Forest
- d) Anthropological Survey of India
- e) Tribal Welfare
- f) AAJVS