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Note on Agenda Items to be discussed in the conference of the Secretaries of  
various States/ UT Administration In-charge of Department of Rural  
Development and Welfare of SCs & STs scheduled to be held on 07<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>  
January 1998 at New Delhi.

I. State Plan Funds

- (a) There are no scheduled castes declared in this UT, so no Special Component Plan (SCP) is to be implemented by this Administration.

There are six scheduled tribes viz. the Great Andamanese, the Onges, the Shompens, the Jarawas, the Sentinelese and the Nicobarese in this UT.

The total population of this UT is 2,80,661 of which the tribal population is 26,770, which constitutes 9.54% as per 1991 census. The Tribal Sub-Plan is being implemented for welfare and development of the Scheduled Tribes. The allocation of funds for TSP during the years i.e. 1994-95 to 1996-97 had been 11.80%, 14.55% and 12.93% respectively, which are apparently greater than the percentage of the tribal population.

- (b) Flow of allocated funds under SCP/TSP expenditure and physical achievements.

There were 92.14 %, 49.62% and 50.67% expenditure out of the funds allocated for TSP during the years 1994-95 to 1996-97 respectively. The details may please be seen vide Annexure-I (b) (Statement-1) while the details of physical achievements under TSP under various heads of developments could be seen vide Annexure-I (B) (Statement-3).

- (c) Reasons for shortfall in expenditure, physical achievements and diversion of funds, if any.

The Main reasons for shortfall in expenditure as well as physical achievements were non-procurement of ships for the tribal areas and non-execution of capital works i.e. construction of staff quarters. The procurement of ships involves a lot of formalities including floating of global tenders etc. which is time consuming. So far as construction of staff quarters is concerned, There was environmental restriction on collection of sands, stones etc. required for construction of building.

There was no diversion of funds allocated for the tribal area.

II. Special Central Assistance

- (a) The details of allocation and expenditure in respect of Special Central Assistance are furnished vide Annexure-II (b) (Statement-1), which indicates that there were 72.9%, 93.9% and 94% under Special Central Assistance during the years 1994-95 to 1996-97.

- (b) Reasons for shortfall in expenditure, if any.

There was shortfall in expenditure due to delay in construction of staff quarters at the tribal settlements. Due to unique geographical condition of these Islands it is difficult to reach the building materials to isolated and remote tribal settlements.