

Sl. No. 15 (R)

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No. 11/3/SCFC/94-MSW  
Government of India  
National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

Vth Floor,  
Lok Nayak Bhavan,  
New Delhi-110003

Dated the 29th June, 1994

The Secretary,

Andaman & Nicobar Administration  
Department of Tribal Welfare,  
Port Blair



Subject:- Excise Policy in tribal areas.

Sir,

I am to say that prior to coming into force of excise policy in the tribal areas of various States/Union Territories, the tribals were free to brew their own liquor for domestic consumption without any restrictions. Considering the fact that liquor is an integral part of a tribal's life State Governments and U.T. Administrations while framing excise policy have permitted tribals to brew a certain quantity of liquor for domestic consumption and on socio-religious functions. However, the quantity which a tribal is permitted to brew or keep with him/any given time varies from State to State.

Most of the States have banned distilling of country liquor except by licenced vendors and while some State have also banned the sale of country liquor in the tribal areas the others have not done so. Since liquor traditionall forms a part of a tribal's day-to-day life sometimes he is compelled to buy country liquor from the private vendor and in the process is exploited.

This Commission has been entrusted with the duty to monitor and evaluate all policies and programmes affecting the interests of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, It is, therefore requested that a detailed note on the excise

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