(98)

Thereafter, GOI started settling them under Colonisation Scheme at Rangat since 1953. Subsequently, the Bengali refugees were settled at various places of Middle, North and Little Andamans and at Neil and Havelock islands till 1975—76. They comprise about 90—95% of the total population in the above mentioned islands till today. It is important to know that the GOI not only silenced the international bodies and the critics by settling the refugees in these most remote parts of the country but had strengthened the claim of India also over these islands about to be lost to Burma (Myanmar) like Coco islands. Many of them died of malaria, leptospirosis (Andaman fever), snake bite, gastroenteritis, accidents, etc.

The total population of A&N Islands including the convicts and their descendents was only 14,000 in 1946. The total population of these islands was about 2,15,000 (Two lacs fifteen thousands) in 1981 and the Bengalees were 75% of the total population (Census-1981). Hence, the total Bengalee population in 1981 was about one lac ten thousands (1,10,000). After 25 years, that in 2006, the Bengali population should at least increase to more than two lacs (2lacs) if we exclude infiltration. Therefore, for all practical purpose, it may be assumed that at present atleast 50% population of A&N Islands are Bengalee which is very much well known to the all concerned, including the local politicians. (About 25% of the Bengali population are the Refugee Settlers). No wonder a migrated non-Bengalee Politician who may be a foreign national, has adopted a Bengali name and fooled the Bengali electorates.

We find that the manipulation in population census has started after 1981 Census. The total population of the Bengalees has been shown much lower in the subsequent Census conducted in 1991 and in 2001 for political and other reasons. Whereas, the total population of the Bengali Refugee Settlers (or all the settlers) and the Pre-'42 locals are not shown separately by the Census Department, under Ministry of Home Affairs, GOI for the obvious reasons.

The manipulation and fabrication of facts regarding the total population, education and economic status and the occupation surveys conducted by the Administration for the Post-'48 Bengali Refugee Settlers and the Pre-'42 Settlers for the OBC Commission has crossed all limits.

The total population of the Bengali Refugee Settlers has been shown much lower than the Pre-'42 Settlers in the Report of the OBC Commission and no copy has been served to the party concerned with malafied intention. It is known to all concerned that the total population of the Pre-'42 Settlers (i.e., only 6—8% of the total population) is approximately one third (1/3 rd) of the total population of the Post-'48 Settlers (i.e., about 21—25% of the total population of the whole islands and about 98-99% of the settlers are Bengali). This may easily be verified from the Ration Card, Voters Identity Card, Island Identity Card, etc. Census department, Port Blair under the Ministry of Home Affairs, GOI, is not showing any data on the settlers separately, possibly for political and other reasons.