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The A & N Administration has specified the following communities namely Pre- 1942 settlers of A & N Islands comprising of the (1) Local Borns (2) Bhatus or the Bhantus (3) Moplas and (4) Karens and post-1942 Bengali Settlers, settled in the islands under various rehabilitation schemes of the Central Government as Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in respect of A & N Islands vide A & N Admn. Notification No.343/2005/F.No.8-3/2003-TW dated 16.12./2005 and as amended vide No.75/2006/F.No.8-3/2003-TW dated 19/4/06.

As informed by the Member Secretary, National Commission for Backward Classes, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt. of India vide letter No. National Commission for Backward Class/RW/PH A & N Islands 2007 dated 4/7/07, the National Commission for Backward classes proposes to hold a Public Hearing at Port Blair on 3.8.2007 regarding inclusion of castes/communities/ sub-castes/ synonyms in the Central list of OBC for the UT of A & N Islands and to hear various linguistic associations who have represented to Hon'ble Minister of State SJ&E during her official visit to the islands in April, 2007 with regard to reservation extended to communities in the Islands under OBC Category. Therefore demand related to inclusion of castes/ communities/ sub-castes/synonyms in the Central list of OBC for the UT of A & N Islands or other linguistic matters, if any, can be heard by the National Commission during their visit.

In view of the above background, there seems no justification for formation of a SC/ST Commission in this U.T.

*Abdullah*  
12/7/07

Special Secretary (TW)  
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