

115/Dir K. W.  
28/11/06

Ph. No. 234696

# Joint Action Committee

Ranchi Association, A & N Islands (REG. NO.88)

Vanvasi Kalyan Ashram, A & N Islands

Catholic Maha Sabha, A & N Islands

56/12  
CS  
S/LW  
REG. No. J.A.C./01/1996

Date: 18-01-06

To,  
Professor Ram Kapse,  
His Excellency the Lt. Governor,  
Andaman and Nicobar Islands,  
Raj Niwas, Port Blair.

Reg. Inclusion of Migrated Tribes from Chotanagpur residing in A & N Islands in the scheduled Tribes List of Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

Hon'ble Sir,

With reference to the Notification published in news paper "The Daily Telegrams", A & N Islands dated 6.1.06, in which Hon'ble Lt. Governor, A & N Islands have been pleased to specify the communities Local Borns', Bhatus, Moplas, Karens and Bengali Settlers as Other Backward Classes in respect of the Andaman & Nicobar Islands and 38% reservation in posts/services under A & N Administration for Other Backward Classes of this Union Territory, I would like to state the following:-

- (i) Tribal people of Chotanagpur were recruited since 1918 till 1941 by the Britishers for the development of these Islands. Since the recruiting centre was the "Ranchi" town, these tribes were known as "Ranchis" in these Islands, though they belong to the various states of Jharkhand, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa & West Bengal.
- (ii) After Independence of India, to help Bengali Refugee settlement Chotanagpur tribal people, known as experts in jungle work were recruited by the Andaman Government through the Agencies "Saheb Challan", "Sen & Ushman" "Challan" and "Sardar Challan" in huge numbers. "Between" 1946 to 1956 the Forest Department has recruited more than 9,000 Chotanagpur tribal labourers. In the record Vol. I & II Chatham Saw Mill the date and time of arrival of ships from mainland number of labourers received an amount of Rupees & Ration before leaving to working forest camp in Middle & North Andaman.

These labourers were completely ignored by the Administration. They came before the Refugee settlers or during the settlement period, hence they have all the rights to get the facilities of inclusion in the list of Tribal in A & N Islands.