Ref: Secretary (TW)'s minutes at para 50/N on pre-page

It is learnt from Shri O. Varghese, Statistical Officer (IDA) that IDA Section has not sent any reply in the matter to Ministry of Home Affairs. However, the issue regarding grant of ST Status to the Ranchis and Karens and SC status to the Bengali, Tamil and Telgu communities was raised as agenda points for the IXth meeting of the standing Committee of IDA by the Ex-Member of Parliament and it was discussed at the meeting of Standing Committee held on 23/11/2004 at New Delhi. (A copy of the relevant portion of the minutes is placed at pages 123-124/C for reference). A follow up action / report indicating the stand of the Administration on the issue was sent to Statistical Officer (IDA) vide this office letter No1-505/2003-TW/187 dated at pages 126-129/C. However, the issue did not come up for the discussion at the Xth IDA meeting held on 19th January 2003.

Chief Secretary reviewed on 23.4.2004 the action taken on the decisions of the Xth IDA meeting held on 23.4.2004 and it was decided to drop the issue. (Please refer to points relating to Tribal Welfare of the minutes of the above meeting vide pages 120-122/C).

We are to send reply to Ministry of Home Affair's letter No.L-14035/1/2004-ANL dated 5th February 2004 at page Ministry of ST& (PUC-I) and No.12016/25/2001-SCD(RL.Cell) A&N dated 19.1.2004 at page 79/C (PUC-II) forwarding the Ex-MP's letter dated 20th December 2003 demanding the ST status to Ranchis and Karens and SC status to Bengali, Tamil and Telgu communities. As the issue raised as agenda points for IDA meeting by Ex-MP and the issue raised in his letter forwarded by two different Ministries of Govt. of India is the same, a draft reply has been attempted on the basis of the follow up action at pages 126-129/C sent to Statistical Officer (IDA) and the same is put up for consideration please.

> Research Officer (TW) 15/6/2004

Directof (TW) Please Summonste the Stand | decission of Administration is the matter.

Ro (gw)

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