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ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ADMINISTRATION

Directorate of Tribal Welfare

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Port Blair, dated the 30th June, 2003

To

The Assistant Secretary (PGC)
A & N Administration,
Port Blair.

Sub: Representation submitted by Dr. E. Asirvatham, President, A & N Administration Catholic Association to the Prime Minister of India during his visit to these Islands on 19.1.2003.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your letter No. 1976 (22)/2003/PGC(GA) dated 16.6.2003 regarding the above subject and to say that the following issues have been raised in the joint representation dated 19.1.2003 of the President, A & N Catholic Association and Ranchi Association.

1. Since Andaman and Nicobar Islands is an Union Territory, all Scheduled Tribe facility should be given to Chotanagpur Adivasis residing in these Islands.
2. Since Chotanagpur adivasis played a major role in settlement and Development of Andaman and Nicobar Islands and since they still remain undeveloped socially, economically and educationally, they are to be included in the list of Andaman and Nicobar Scheduled Tribes.
3. As long as Chotanagpur adivasis are not included in the list the unused S.T reserved posts and educational seats are to be filled by non-local tribals, especially the Chotanagpur adivasis.
4. S.C / S.T Commission should be formed in Andaman and Nicobar Islands to identify the backward.

In this connection it may be pointed out that the Adivasis of Chotanagpur popularly known as Ranchis, though it is a Misnomer, have been settled in these Islands under the rehabilitation scheme of the Govt. of India. Subsequently a sizeable population of the Ranchis have migrated from their State of origin on their own and settled in these Islands. They are not Scheduled Tribes in relation to the A&N Islands as they are not included in the constitutional order No.58-the constitution (Andaman and Nicobar Islands) scheduled Tribes Order, 1959 under which the six Scheduled Tribes of this UT have been specified. Instead they are Scheduled Tribes in relation to the State which they originally belong. Thus they are migrants from other State.

With regard to migrant Scheduled Tribes, the Policy laid down by the Govt. of India is that where a person migrates from one State to another State, he / she can claim to belong to a caste/tribe/community