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No.1-554/2000-TW
ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ADMINISTRATION
DIRECTORATE OF TRIBAL WELFARE

Port Blair, dated the September, 2003.

To

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

Sub:- Recognition of Bengalee Refugees belonging to the Namasudra, Poundra, etc. communities as Scheduled Castes and inclusion in the list of Scheduled castes of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Delhi and Andaman & Nicobar Islands where they have been rehabilitated by the Govt. of India.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your letter No.4-57/99-Home (Foreign) dated 3rd June, 2003 ^{on} regarding the above mentioned subject. ^{to the Commission} The comments of the Tribal Welfare Department on the issue of recognition of Bengali refugees belonging to Namasudra etc as SC are ^{given in} as under:-

As for ^{an} the A & N Islands, ^{are concerned,} the Bengalee refugees mostly Namasudra, ^{originally from} from East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) have ~~been~~ settled in South, Middle and North Andamans under the colonisation / rehabilitation scheme of the Govt. of India. The Bengalee Refugees from East Pakistan had initially migrated to West Bengal, where they were kept in transit camp and from there they were shifted to various States/UTs including the A & N Islands for permanent settlement under ^{the} rehabilitation scheme of the Govt. of India.

With regard to their claim for SCs status in ^{the} relation to this UT, it is stated ^{originally they belong to} that they were all Namasudra ^{community known} and accorded SC status in ^{of A&N Islands} relation to West Bengal, ~~having been settled there initially, but they~~