

**BISHNU PADA RAY**  
Member of Parliament  
(Lok Sabha)



Member :

- Standing Committee on Transport & Tourism
- Consultative Committee of Ministry of Home Affairs
- Committee on Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme
- Committee on Empowerment of Women
- Central Advisory Committee for Lighthouses

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12<sup>th</sup> August 2003

To

The Hon'ble Lt. Governor  
A & N Administration  
Raj Niwas  
Port Blair  
Fax No. (03192) 230372

**Sub: Inclusion of Karen community in the ST List – reg:**

Sir,

You may recall that on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2003 during the IDA meeting at Raj Niwas, Port Blair, a representation of Karen community visited the Prime Minister and submitted a memorandum requesting inclusion of their community in the Scheduled Tribe category. At that time in the presence of your honour and myself, the Prime Minister agreed it being a genuine demand and advised us to pursue the case.

Two members of Karen Community, Shri Ashu Ontang and Shaw Leva came to Delhi in this connection and met the Hon'ble Minister of Tribal Affairs, Shri Jual Oram, with my letter dated 29<sup>th</sup> April 2003, copy enclosed. The Hon'ble Minister assured that he would write to the UT Administration for this purpose.

A couple of months back, you will recall, when you were in Rangat during the opening ceremony of the Austin Bridge, again a delegation of Karen Community met with you in presence of Shri Parimal Ray, Secretary (Rev) and submitted a memorandum on this context. At this time, you had assured them that the matter would be considered. As in the past, I also supported the request of the Karen community.

It has been a long pending issue and I shall be grateful if your Honour would kindly look into this matter, and accord the necessary support so that it enriches your list of great achievements in the A&N Islands by another good work.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

  
(Bishnu Pada Ray)