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F.No. 1-554/2000-TW

Ref: CS's minutes at para 141/n.

(142)

This is regarding inclusion of Karens in the list of Scheduled Tribes of the A&N Islands.

(143)

It may be mentioned that of the six Scheduled Tribes, the Great Andamanese, Onges, Jarawas, Sentinelese and Shompens are classified as Primitive Tribes. The Primitive Tribes are hunters and gatherers. The literacy rate among the Primitive Tribes is very less. Only a few Andamanese have been employed in Govt. departments. Thus all the five Primitive Tribes are far more backward than the Karens in every aspect. The Nicobarese too are socially and economically more backward than the Karens. Moreover, the Karens are not aboriginal of these Islands unlike the six Scheduled Tribes.

(144)

Further the Karens have been identified as OBC in the report of the Commission for OBCs submitted to this Administration. The Report is under consideration of the Administration.

(145)

Therefore, inclusion of the Karens in the list of STs in A&N Islands would be detrimental to the interest of the aboriginal Scheduled Tribes in these islands. Accordingly, a draft reply is put up for approval please.

146  
4288 Dist/No  
8/12/03  
10/2/80  
8/12/03

7344  
Received on 15/12/03  
Despatched on 17/12/03

5.12.03

Research Officer (TW)  
(CF: T4-298)

Director (TW)

May please approve.

5.12.2003

Sery (TW)

Amended draft reply may kindly be seen for approval

PA  
Amended in the draft

(147)

Cell  
17/12/03  
9/12/03

Agree  
S  
Sery (TW)

May kindly see before

CS:ic  
21/12/03

h.g.  
A letter to go to V.L.H. + Jee  
see notes, please refer to the  
reply will be able to complete  
request for special sub guide for the  
Group, as a special case.