

The proposals 10<sup>th</sup> Five Year Tribal Sub-Plan, Sector-wise were discussed as under: -

### 1) Agriculture

The Special Officer (SD), Directorate of Agriculture, informed that a single scheme is being formulated to include all the proposals for the tribal area and the schemes/projects, which were included under the 9<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan and could take off are discontinued. He further stated out that the tribals do not come forward to accept the modern technology in the field of Agriculture. The following suggestions were agreed.

- a) Supply of copra dryer for every 'Tuhet' of the Nicobarese on subsidy. As there is uniform 50% subsidy in respect of schemes under Special Central Assistance approved by the Govt. of India, fund under Special Central Assistance could be utilized for providing Copra Dryer to the Nicobarese families. Adequate demonstration may be conducted before supplying the machine so as to familiarize the tribals about its operation and maintenance.
- b) Traditional system of cultivation of coconut may be improved with involvement of the tribals.
- c) Soil conservation measures are to be taken up in the tribal area.
- d) Eco-friendly measures are to be adopted in farming in tribal area.
- e) Dispersed plantation in primitive tribal areas.

### 2) Co-operation

The RCS stated that an amount of Rs. 4.00 crore was being proposed for revival of MML, Nancowry. Dr. Kanchan Mukhopadhyay, Head of Office ASI, the Expert, suggested all the schemes being implemented in the tribal areas may be reviewed. It was suggested necessary provision for grant of loan-cum-subsidy and working capital for the OMPCS, Dugong Creek and GAMPCS, Strait Island.