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**Minutes of the meeting held on 4/09/2001 in the chamber of Director (TW), A&N Administration to discuss proposals for the 10<sup>th</sup> Five Year Tribal Sub-Plan in respect of sectors - (1) 'Forestry and Wildlife' and (2) 'Village Small Scale Industries'**

The following were present: -

1. Shri S.A Awaradi, Director (TW).
2. Shri T.C Nautiyal, ACF (P&F), Forest Department.
3. Shri Kanchan Mukhopadhyay, Head of Office, ASI, Port Blair.
4. Shri James Anthony, IPO, Industries Department.
5. Shri A.L Singh, Research Officer (TW).

**1) Forestry and Wildlife :**

Head of Office, Anthropological Survey of India, Port Blair has been nominated as an Expert on 'Tribal Welfare', so his advise on the plan proposals for welfare and development of the tribals is necessary and important. In the context of the forest management as far as it relates to welfare of the tribals particularly the Primitive Tribes, the following suggestions emerged.

Besides, continuance of the existing schemes of the 9<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan, it was considered highly desirable to create wildlife sanctuaries for the tribal reserved areas particularly (1) the Jarawa reserved area in South and Middle Andaman (2) the Onge reserved area in Little Andaman, (3) North Sentinel Island inhabited by the Sentinelese, (4) Strait Island inhabited by the Great Andamanese so as to conserve eco-system of the those tribal reserved areas, as there has been considerable degradation of ecological resources of the tribal reserves causing immense hardships for survival of the tribals over the years.

Further it was suggested that in South Andaman Islands, the forest lying north of Jirkatang and east of ATR, which is not within any tribal reserve, may also be declared as wild-life sanctuary, as the same is contiguous with the forest on western side of ATR, which is tribal reserve. In fact the aforementioned forest north of Jirkatang and east of ATR is under active occupation of the Jarawas.

The Forest Department would be considering the possibilities of formulation of schemes for Joint Forest Management (JFM) with participation of villagers. It was felt, if such schemes are adopted in settlement areas lying close to Tribal Reserves in the district of Andaman, those can be very helpful for management of the Tribal Reserves. Social

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