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PUC is the letter from Commissioner-Cum-Secretary (IDA) regarding Status Paper of the recommendations and action taken on Short term / Long term studies commissioned by IDA for the development of A&N Islands.

IDA has sponsored a study of the socio-cultural pattern of tribal population (aboriginals) and their living style, occupation and health conditions etc. The expert group had submitted interim report during the year 1988 and another report on health aspect being the part of the Expert Group study was also submitted by Professor Dr. IC Verma of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (he was one of the members of the Expert Group)

The recommendations of the Expert Group including that of Dr. IC Verma were dealt in detail earlier by the Administration which may please be seen in the closed file No.1-505/92-TW at page 13 to 15/C and Page 148/c to 152/C. The recommendation with regard to reorganisation of the AAJVS was not considered necessary by the Administration on the following grounds:-

- (i) The appointment of One Director (Special Programme) and 9 members of the Project team, other supporting staff and infrastructure facilities like accommodation, vehicles etc. would have costed Rs.58 lakhs per annum. The matter was taken up with the Govt. of India, Minister of Welfare who have intimated that it is not possible for the Ministry to provide the funds under Special Central Assistance for such recurring expenditure to the AAJVS.

Funds provided under SCA are primarily meant for the family beneficiary oriented and income generating schemes for the welfare of the scheduled tribes. It was also noted that there are irregularity in the selection of Director (Spl. Programme) to the extent that Expert Group selected one of its own member as the Director (Spl. Programme).

- (ii) Further it was noted that the existing arrangement then (and even now) with regard to the welfare of the primitive tribe is satisfactory because the Director of the Tribal Welfare Department being an officer belonging to Junior Administrative Grade of Union Territory Civil Services and Assistant Commissioner (TW) who is also