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- (iv) The first phase of provisions of books of bilingual and bicultural curriculum namely "Ang Katha" for the Jarawas has been made to instill community identity vis-à-vis the "outside world".

The welfare delivery system of the ANI Administration is under constant scrutiny of both National & International NGOs, like UK based "Survival International" which advocates isolation and preservation of Jarawa tribe. However, since the Jarawa tribe is no more in isolation and the habitat is in close vicinity of the settlement village, it is the endeavour of the Administration that the Jarawa tribe is in no manner exploited by anybody. The Administration has set for itself a task of all-round development for the islanders while keeping ecological concern and tribal issue in the fore. The UK based NGO "Survival International" resort to malicious propaganda against the Central Government and the ANI Administration. However, the ANI Administration ever remains alert, accountable & responsive towards the safety, security & welfare of the tribes.

C) Other Initiatives by A&N Administration:

The Andaman and Nicobar Tribal and Research Institute (ANTRI) has been made functional from 02.10.2013 and was formally inaugurated by **Hon'ble President of India** on 12.1.2014. This institute carries out field research and helps the Administration in framing appropriate welfare policy in consultation and collaboration with the tribal community.

The ANTRI organized the first National Conference at Port Blair held on "THINKING FUTURES: The PVTGs of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands" on the 4th and 5th December, 2014. It brought stakeholders from various walks of life under one aegis and a meaningful dialogue was held on how to go for re-structuring and/or formulating policy measures for Tribals in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

D) Way forward :

The status of implementation of Jarawa Policy notified by the Central Govt in the year 2004 is being reviewed by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs periodically. The ANI Administration has set up the Andaman and Nicobar Tribal Research & Training Institute (ANTRI) to formulate tribal specific policy, based on the field requirements. The policy for the mongoloid tribe namely "Shompen" has recently approved by the Expert Committee of Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Govt of India and is being notified.

It is being submitted that originally agenda points circulated for 13th IDA meeting covered also the tribal issues of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. However, it was informed by the Member Secretary, IDA, during the meeting held on 15.06.2011 that 'pending recommendations of the Expert Committee set-up by the Ministry of the Tribal Affairs to review the Jarawa Policy, 2004, the tribal issues included as item No. 5 and 6 of the agenda notes had been withdrawn".

In view of the various initiatives taken in the matter, IDA may kindly be briefed about the above initiatives and may like to drop this as an agenda item.

A. N. Meeg