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tour by Core Group of Experts, AAJVS staff and Senior Officer of Administration.

## Establishment of Tribal Research & Training Institute.

Of the six Scheduled Tribes, the Nicobarese tribe is an advanced having successfully assimilated in the mainstream society without losing any of their traditional and cultural values, mainly due to their long contact with the outside world through traders and missionaries coupled with their larger population size. The remaining five viz. Onge, Jarawas, Andamanese, Sentinelese and Shompens are still Particularly Vulnerable Tribal (PVTGs). Groups Andamanese, Onges, Jarawas & Sentinelese belong to the Negrito race while the Shompen belong Mongolic race. Administration has so far been dependent on the external agencies/ researchers for inputs their welfare development. However, this has not been as fruitful as desirable in view of inherent limitations. In view of this the concept Tribal Research Institute was mooted and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India agreed to set up a Tribal Research Institute in the A & N Islands and agreed to provide central assistance under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Research and Training" in September, 2001.