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No. 1-822/2013-TW / 651  
ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ADMINISTRATION  
DIRECTORATE OF TRIBAL WELFARE

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Port Blair, dated the 26<sup>th</sup> July 2016.

To

Shri Uttam Kumar Kar,  
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India,  
Ministry of Tribal Affairs,  
FRA Division,  
Room No. 216 (J), D-Wing,  
Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi - 110001.

Sub: **Matter raised under Rule 377 in Lok Sabha on 22.12.2015 by Sh. Faggan Singh Kulesty, MP.**

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your letter No. 16014/2/2016-FRA dated 11.7.2016 on the above cited subject.

In this context, it is stated that the Govt. of India has notified six tribes the Andamanese, Onges, Jarawas, Shompens, Sentinelese and Nicobarese as Scheduled Tribes in relation to this UT. The Nicobarese are progressive tribes while others are Particularly Vulnerable Tribes (PTGs). The Area inhabited by Scheduled Tribes has been declared as reserved area under the A & N Islands (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes) Regulation 1956, thereby prohibiting the entry as well as acquisition of any interest in land etc. of any person other than the members of the aboriginal tribes in the reserved area. Thus the interest of the Scheduled tribes in A&N Islands have been fully protected by the Regulation, 1956 by exclusively preserving the area for them in which they have full rights to use their forest products for their bonafide use.

The welfare and development of the Nicobarese are undertaken by various Departments of Administration under Tribal Sub-Plan. The participation of the Nicobarese tribals in their development programmes is being ensured through the seven traditional Tribal Councils of the Nicobareses one each at Car Nicobar, Chowra, Teressa, Nancowry, Katchal, Kamorta and Tribal Council for Great & Little Nicobar. These Tribal Councils are autonomous in their own way. The Tribal Council functionaries viz, Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Deputy Vice Chairperson and Village Captain are invariably involved in formulation of the development programmes for the Nicobarese through the District Planning Committee of Nicobars District being its members and they are paid remuneration at the same rate as the

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