

The Administration in the year 1976 (25.03.1976) has constituted Andaman Adim Janjati Vikas Samity (AAJVS) and registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 with the Administrator as the President of its General Body, and the Chief Secretary as the Chairman of its Executive Council to oversee and monitor the implementation of various welfare programmes and policies of the Administration and the Central Government in regard to the PVTGs. The said Samity is funded by the Administration and the Central Assistance received from the Central Government and has the following objectives:

- a) Protect and Preserve Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs);
- b) Promote social, economic and cultural interests of PTGs;
- c) Conduct Research Studies to identify specific issues of PTGs and formulate policies & programmes; and
- d) Protect health and prevent extinction of PTGs.

ii) **Andamanese:** They were once an 8000 strong tribal population, however, due to the British policy of friendly contact, their number had dwindled to below 20. Today, after many efforts in terms of protection