

Ref PP 63-64/C

(14)

PUC is a letter dated 24th July, 2014 from the Conservator of forests (HQ), Department of Forests and Environment, A & N Islands, Port Blair, forwarding a copy of IA No. 5-6 of 2014 in Writ Petition (C) 109 of 2008 for para-wise comments. There are 24 paras in the IA.

(15)

The IA relates to alleged large scale to indiscriminate distribution of forest lands to ineligible and bogus claimants in the wake of implementation of "The Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forests Rights) Act, 2006. The position with regard to implementation of the Act in respect of this UT is given below:-

(16)

Para No. 1	Comments
Large scale indiscriminate distribution of forest lands under the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006.	<p>The area inhabited by the Scheduled Tribes in this UT has been declared as reserve areas under the A & N Islands (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes), Regulation 1956 to protect their interests in the lands situated in the reserve area and at the same time the reserve area has also been declared as reserve/protected forests under the Forest Conservation Act, 1980. However the provisions of the PAT Regulation supercede any other law for the time being in force Acquisition of any right over the lands situated in the reserve area by the non-tribals is prohibited. Even entry of non-tribals in the reserve area is prohibited except on the authority of a pass granted by the Competent authority.</p> <p>In this UT the tribals hold land on community basis as per their tradition/convention and</p>