

Ref No. 238-240/11

F. No. 1-5/2004-TW

(83)

PUC is is letter No.U-16014/4/2011-ANL dated 3/6/2011 from the Under Secretary to GOI, Ministry of Home Affairs, forwarding a copy of Special Mention raised by Shri Bishnu Pada Ray, Member of Parliament, A & N Islands during Zero Hour in Lok Sabha regarding SC/ST enumeration in the 2011 Census.

(84)

Member of Parliament says that in 2011 Census held recently, only the native tribes were enumerated as Scheduled Tribes in relation to these islands and the status of migrated Tribes residing in these islands were not enumerated as Scheduled Tribes. Similarly there are Scheduled Castes selteled in these Islands but in 2011 Census, they were not enumerated as SCs as it was printed in the form itself that "No SCs in Island." In this regard, the MP is of opinion that in matters like Census, the people to have a right to state or indicate the category which they belongs, either as SC or ST and the same may be recorded in the Census schedule. Therefore, he has sought the Govt. intervension in the matter.

(85)

In this context, it is stated in this UT there are six aboriginal tribes who originally belong to the Islands namely the Great Andmanese, the Onges, the Jarawa, the Sentinelese, the Shompens and the Nicobarese, who are notified as the Scheduled Tribes in respect of the UT of A & N Islands. The Chotanagpuri Tribals -Orans, Mundas, Kharias, Santhalis, Lohras, Chik-Bariks and others (commonly known here as Ranchis) are not included in the STs list of theis UT as the people belonging to the above said community are migrated to Andaman Islands in the past and they are the STs in relation to their state of origin ie. Bihar, Jharkhand etc. In case of SCs, no Scheduled Castes has been notified in this Union Territory. Practice of untouchability is non-existent in these islands and none of the community suffers any caste discrimination. The policy of A & N Administration is to maintain the existing social harmony and continuing a casteless society in these Islands.

(86)

Since it is an issue related to Census Department, if approved, we may forward a copy of PUC to the Director, Census Department, A *& N Islands, for their comments. Accordingly, a draft letter is putup for approval pleae.

24/6/11

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Senior Research Officer
(t6-Ranchi Association)

24/6/11