

*The Bengali Settlers inhabit most of the islands of Andaman today. They live all over the rural areas of South Andaman; about 90% to 95% of the population of Middle and North Andaman Islands, Little Andaman, Have Lock and Neil Islands is Bengali. The Therefore, the total population of the Bengali Settlers of 1,25000 to 1,30000 corroborate well with the facts and figures.*

- V. *The Bengali Settlers, mostly Hindu dalits, (Scheduled Castes) failed to avail even 1% jobs out of the 38% government jobs reserved for the OBCs in the local Administration since last 10—12 years.*

*Hence, it is very clear that much backward Bengali Settlers, mostly Hindu rural dalits, are unable to compete with the much advanced mostly urbanized Penal. Therefore, 38% of the government jobs reserved for the OBCs in A & N Administration is being enjoyed mainly by the Pre-'42 Local Borns having a population of about 35 thousand only.*

As a result, there is hardly any Pre-'42 Local Born family now without a government job. Most of their educated youths and sometimes all the members of a family are employed. Whereas, most of the Bengali Settlers are poor cultivators or labourers living in the rural and most backward areas; they are deprived of the quality education and only few are employed, mainly as the teachers in the Bengali medium schools of the Administration.

9. *Bengali settlers are the first humane / civilized Indians to be settled in Andaman Islands.*

*Before Independence the Andaman Islands were inhabited mostly by the aborigines; Port Blair and a few villages of South Andaman were inhabited by the convicts only settled by the British under Penal Settlement Scheme. None of the normal humane person settled in Kalapani in those days. Hence during Independence in August, 1947 most of the islands of Great Andaman, namely South Andaman, Middle Andaman, North Andaman, Ruth land and Little Andaman islands were uninhabited.*