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done to the Bengalis in A & N Islands. It may not take long to arouse and revolt by their brethrens in West Bengal, Tripura, Assam, Jharkhand, Orissa, Delhi, etc. It is high time that the local Administration and GOI must be transparent and treat the Bengali Settlers in A & N Islands accordingly and as per with other Indians.

The Bengali Settlers, mostly the <u>namasudra</u>, <u>pondro-kshatriya and other sudra</u> communities, must be recognized as <u>Scheduled Castes</u> as done in West Bengal, Tripura and other States as per the provision in the Indian Constitutional. The A & N Islands is an integral part of India ruled directly by GOI, New Delhi through the Lieutenant Governor in absence of a local legislature. Hence, the Bengali Settlers may easily be declared as <u>Scheduled Castes</u>.

Therefore, like in other States and at the Centre (GOI), 7.5%, 15% and 27% of the government jobs in the local Administration and the GOI may be reserved for the Scheduled Tribe, Scheduled Castes and OBCs respectively, that is, for the Nicobaries, the Bengali Settlers and the Pre-'42 Local Borns (Penal Settlers) respectively by declaring the Bengali Settlers as Scheduled Castes at the earliest.

Yours faithfully.

Shri Jayanta Biswas General Secretary BAANI, Port Blair.

Copy To:

- 1. Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Hon'ble Finance Minister, GOI, North Block, New Delhi.
- 2. Miss Mamata Banerjee, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of West Bengal, Writer's Buildings, Dalhousie, Kolkata for kind information and necessary action please.

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