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F. No 1-5/2004-TW/1171
ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ADMINISTRATION
DIRECTORATE OF TRIBAL WELFARE,

Port Blair, dated 19th November, 2012.

To

Shri Bishnu Pada Ray,
Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha),
C/o M.P Office, Port Blair,
A & N Islands 744102

Sub:- Issues raised by the Hon'ble MP in the 14th meeting of Standing Committee of IDA-reg.

Sir,

I am to refer to the minutes of the meeting held under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary on 30/10/2012 in the Conference Hall of Secretariat to discuss the issues raised in the 14th meeting of Standing Committee of IDA and to appraise herewith the details of following issues:

Reservation for Chotanagpuri Community

The Ranchi Association of A&N Islands had represented to this Administration as well as the Government of India in the past seeking recognition of the migrated Ranchi community (Scheduled Tribes in relation to the States of Bihar & Jharkhand) as Scheduled Tribes of A&N Islands but their demand/ request could not be acceded to as they are migrant and are not original inhabitants of these island and the interest of the aboriginal tribes of this UT being more backward will adversely be affected.

Being aggrieved, they filed a writ petition in the High Court of Calcutta in 2006 which was dismissed with the observation that none of the Ranchis nor any tribes who have migrated from the mainland have been included in the presidential order (The Constitution (A&N Islands) Scheduled Tribes order 1959).

The Ranchi Association filed an appeal being MAT No. 023 of 2006 before the Division Bench of High Court of Calcutta Circuit Bench at Port Blair, which too was dismissed on 07.08.2006 on the same ground. The Ranchi Association further filed a Review Petition being No. 01 of 2007 in the High Court of Calcutta Circuit bench at Port Blair which was disposed of on 14.2.2007 declining to entertain the Review petition.

In the wake of dismissal of their writ petitions they have filed Appeal (C) 9845-9847 of 2008 in the Hon'ble Supreme Court and the said appeal have been tagged along with similar appeal namely Appeal (C) 4494 of 2006 by the Hon'ble Supreme Court. The two Judges Bench comprising Mr Justice B. Sudershan Reddy & Mr Justice Surender Singh Nijjar in their order dated 7.10.2010 has directed the Registry to place the