

3. Do you agree with the 3 or 4 criteria for identification of PTGs mentioned above or would you like to make suggestions in this regard? Please support with clarifications.	This Administration fully agree to the criteria suggested for identification of PTGs by the Commission.
4. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs had commissioned a bench-mark survey for PTGs in 2001-2002 to ascertain the socio-economic level of each PTG. What has been the progress in this regard?	The Survey in respect of the three PTGs viz. Great Andamanese, Onges and Shompens has been completed. As the sentinelese are inaccessible, no survey in respect of them could be conducted. Similarly, the information in respect of the Jarawa, who are nomadic and still subsists on hunting and gathering, could not be collected.
5. Do you feel that there is need for reviewing the total situation with a view to assessing continuity of a particular group in the list? Please give, your comments.	All the PTGs of this UT still qualify the criteria to continue as PTGs as they are at the pre-agricultural stage, small static and declining population.
6. What difference do you find between the general run of tribal groups and PTGs, which should entitle the latter to differential treatment?	There are six Scheduled Tribes in this UT of which, five are PTGs and the remaining one, i.e., the Nicobarese is a progressive tribe and it has joined the mainstream. We may compare the five PTGs with the Nicobarese. The Nicobarese are agriculturist as they grown plantation of coconut and arecnut and they rear pigs. They are self supporting from the yield they get from plantations. They are educated and a good number of them have govt. jobs when the PTGs are still at Pre-agricultural stage, their population is small, static and declining and they are uneducated, so the PTGs need differential treatment.
7. Are you in favour of an aggressive interventionist approach for PTGs or you would like them to evolve largely on their own? Please give an explanatory note on the approach you favour.	They may be allowed to develop according to their own genius. The strategy for development of the PTGs as proposed in the Master Plan is given below : Shompens. 1. Restabilize the disturbed eco-cultural equilibrium. 2. Prepare the shompens through their inherent process of aculturation for co-existence with the mainstream societies.