

2. What are the specific needs and problems of SC/ST communities in your State?

Ans: The specific problem relating to scheduled tribes of Andaman & Nicobar Islands are mainly due to the following:-

- (i) The territory is an archipelago. Islands are situated in the remote places hence many of them are not easily accessible.
- (ii) ST population is sparsely spread in remote isolated islands except for one Island where the Nicobar District Headquarters is located.
- (iii) Lack/inadequate infrastructure in the Island territory.
- (iv) Inaccessibility clubbed with hostility of some of the primitive tribes of these Islands.
- (v) Communication gap particularly with primitive tribes due to absence of scientific studies *particularly the linguistic study which ~~are~~ have now been initiated particularly in case of the Jarawel.*

The needs of the Scheduled Tribes of Andaman Nicobar Islands could be as under:-

- (i) Augmentation of basic infrastructure facilities like Transport and Communication, Power Supply, Civil Supplies, Education/ Health.
- (ii) Scientific studies of the tribes particularly the primitive tribes to understand their needs and requirements.