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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY
AND COMMERCE
27, Jawahar Nehru Road,
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5.

Non-surplus producing economy ensures long hours of leisure. Communities who live on a subsistence economy enjoy leisure and make use of their leisure by devoting themselves in pursuing creative activities like painting, drawing, decorating objects of daily use, making ornaments and decorating themselves with items which are not necessarily utilitarian in nature. Their tradition of non-material intangible oral history, myth and stories is no less an aspect of their creativity. Unlike the so-called civilized people, these people do not often require any contrivance (pack of cards, ball, toys etc.) to entertain themselves with during their pastime. These pleasures tribes enjoy a state of mind which is qualitatively different from that found among the civilized folk. Civilizations grow discontentment (see Sigmund Freud's Civilization and its Discontent) - leisure at times (for us) is a boring pastime and often engenders tension of competitiveness making us forget that life is to be lived.

6.

The efforts of the administration to persistently assimilate these people in the modern way of life may bear no fruit immediately. In the case of children, the facilities that are available in the modern set up will not serve the children of these people who have a relatively shorter span of childhood as they have to take on adult-like responsibilities at an early age. It is increasingly becoming important to be aware of this as many children of various sections lose out on this and scarce resources are not properly utilized. Thus, hitherto used means of inducing programs have to be newly thought of.

With these points, I hope that I have been able to explain my point of view.

With respect,

Yours sincerely,

(R.K. Bhattacharya)

To
The Secretary,
Ministry of Industry,
Government of Andaman & Nicobar Islands,
Port Blair.