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(23) PUC-I at page 118/C is the letter No. F.10 (G-I0/70/549 dated 04/10/2006 from the Chief Conservator of Forests (Planning & Development) addressed to the Director (TW) regarding the visit of the Scientific Expert Committee to go into the report of Shri Sekhar Singh on the Status of Forests & other allied matters in A & N Islands.

(24) The Chief Conservator of Forests in the PUC-I has sought the information on the following: -

- (i) What are the varieties of nonwood and animal products traditionally used by tribes? Is there any scope for starting handicraft units for the tribes and local people?
- (ii) What is the level of tribal knowledge about forests regarding identification of plant species particularly Medicinal, availability and quality of nonwood products, animals, birds, reptiles, fishes etc.? Is there a possibility of starting a para or auxiliary forestry force for the study and conservation of biodiversity?

(25) The letter is endorsed to the Director of Industries and the Anthropological Survey of India, Port Blair also. The reply could be in the following lines ;

(26) The Primitive Tribal Group (PTG) of A&N Islands have the handicrafts like bows and arrows, wooden buckets and small implements to collect roots etc. from the forest. The PTG includes tribes like Andamanese, Onges, Jarawa, Sentinelese and Shompen. The PTGs other than Jarawa make canoes. The Nicobarese being the advanced tribe of these islands make variety of handicrafts, which include mat, canoes etc. The tribes of the islands make use of the plants available in the forest. The details of the variety of such plants may be available with the Directorate of Industries.