

With regard to the tribal knowledge about the forests relating to identification of the plant species particularly medicinal ones, it is mentioned that the tribes do have traditional knowledge. This indigenous knowledge needs to be studied and documented by the research organizations. The Anthropological Survey of India and Botanical Survey of India located in Port Blair may have carried out researches into related fields. As such the required information could be obtained from these research organizations.

PUC-II at page 119 - 129/c is the letter No. F.10(G-I)/70/542 dated 04/10/2006 from the Chief Conservator of Forests (Planning & Development) addressed to the Secretary (TW) regarding the visit of the Scientific Expert Committee to go into the report of Sh. Sekhar Singh on the Status of Forests & other allied matters in A & N Islands. Following para are related to Tribal Welfare :-

(ii) How the local communities sustain their livelihoods before tsunami? In other words, what are the traditional occupations evolved and adopted by local communities? To what extent the tsunami changed livelihoods of local inhabitants, particularly the tribal communities?

(ix) Andaman Trunk Road is another issue that needs to be addressed. What was the social structure and traditional livelihoods of the tribes inhabiting the area before the road was constructed? What are the impacts of road on the forestry resources used by the tribes and how the tribal community is affected by the vehicular movement through the road. What are alternative options economically viable and acceptable to the local communities?

(x) What are the conceptual definitions of the following;

(iii) Tribes.

Reply to the item No. (i) could be as under :-

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