

30 There are two categories among the Scheduled Tribes (STs) of A & N Islands viz. the Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs) and a advanced tribe. The Nicobarese belonging to the second category while the remaining five STs viz. Andamanese, Onges, Jarawa, Sentinelese and Shompens belong to the first category. Among the PTGs, Andamanese and Onges have been settled in the Strait Island and Dugong Creek in Little Andaman respectively.

31 The tsunami destroyed the houses of Onges and Andamanese while the coconut plantation raised for the above said tribes was not damaged to any considerable extent. These two tribes were being provided with free ration, cloths etc. apart from other necessary facilities at their settlements by the Administration. As such, the livelihood of Andamanese and Onges has not been affected to any considerable extent by tsunami.

32 The other PTGs i.e Jarawas, Sentinelese and Shompens have hunting and gathering mode of livelihood. The forest area inhabited by these tribes has not been affected to any great extent by the tsunami. As such there is no perceptible change in the livelihood of the above said tribes.

33 The Nicobarese tribe has been traditionally engaged in the horticulture activities. The coconut plantation in many villages were located on the coastal areas also. As such, some portions of the coconut plantation were damaged due to the tsunami of December, 2004. Various Departments including Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries, Industries etc. of the A & N Administration have rehabilitation programmes for the Nicobarease. The details of which would be available with the Relief and Rehabilitation Department in the Secretariat.

34 The reply for item No. (vii) could be as under:-

35 The Andaman Trunk Road passes across the South Andaman and Middle Andaman Islands. The Jarawa tribe inhabits the western parts of the above said islands. The traditional livelihood of the Jarawa is hunting and gathering in the forest apart from fishing in the coastal waters. The Jarawa tribe has its own culture and social structure. The research organizations like Anthropological Survey of India are mandated with the study and documentation of society and culture of the tribes including the Jarawas.