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D.O. No. 597/AN/NOC/01/2007

वाणिज्य राज्य मंत्री
वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय
भारत सरकार

उद्योग भवन, नई दिल्ली
MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMERCE
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
UDYOG BHAWAN, NEW DELHI

2nd March 2007

जयराम रमेश
JAIRAM RAMESH



मुख्य सचिव का गोपनीय कार्ड
अ. नं. स. : 8658
दिनांक : 8/3/07

Dear Shumsher

Last year, I had taken up with the Administrator, Andaman & Nicobar Islands the issue of genetic research of Jarawas and Onges to be conducted by the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology. This is one of key recommendations of the NAC Expert Group which I Co-chaired. This study is very essential in view of the fact that Negrito tribes of Andaman & Nicobar Islands are the oldest living tribes out of Africa in the world and, therefore, probably hold the key to susceptibility to human diseases. On the specific request of Administrator, CCMB has obtained no objection from the Indian Council of Medical Research for the study.

In view of the clearance from ICMR, necessary permission may be granted to Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad to collect samples through your Medical Health System only.

To put it mildly, I am a little tired of prolonged correspondence. Let us have a specific time-frame for the study and also fix responsibilities. I suggest you call for a meeting with Director, CCMB and complete the formalities. On my next visit to Port Blair, I would like to review this activity.

With regards, *Best wishes,*

Yours sincerely,
Jairam
(Jairam Ramesh)

Shri Shumsher K. Sheriff,
Chief Secretary,
Andaman & Nicobar Islands
Port Blair

on file
15/3
S2/SW
2/8/3