(263)

Please refer to Para 45/N above. The Chief Secretary has written a D.O. reply to the Hon'ble Minister of State for Commerce, Government of India, Shri Jairam Ramesh in response to his D.O. letter No.597/VP/MOS/2007 dated 2.3.2007. The office copy of the D.O. reply is placed at page 52/C.

The Chief Secretary has written in his reply to the Minister that he has got the copy of letter of ICMR to CCMB in connection with the proposed genetic study of Jarawas and Onges, following his talk with Dr. Laji Singh, Director, CCMB. The Chief Secretary has further informed the Minister that the A&N Administration has taken up the issue with the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India about the issue relating to genetic study which is required in such matters pertaining to PTGs.

The Chief Secretary has written a D.O. letter to the Secretary, Government of India, Ministry of Tribal Affairs vide the D.O. letter No.1-605/98-TW dated 17.3.2007, the office copy of which is placed at page 53 to 66/C with the endorsement to the Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.

The Chief Secretary has referred to the D.O. letter dated 2.3.2007 of Hon'ble Minister of Shri Jairam Ramesh and also the letter of "no objection" from the Indian Council of the Medical Research for the proposed study by CCMB. Still further, the Chief Secretary has made a reference to the another D.O. letter dated 12.3.2007 of the Hon'ble Minister, Shri Jairam Ramesh written to the Chief Secretary in which Minister has mentioned about the permit for the CCMB to make film to record the life style of various tribes of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The Minister has also further indicated in his D.O. letter that ICMR has already conveyed its no objection (vide Page 49/C).

The Chief Secretary in his D.O. letter to the Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs has sought the guidance and prior approval before any genetic research can be considered by the Government and UT Administration.

This is for information and records.

Research Officer (J) 20.3.2007

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Assistant Commissioner (TW)

Director (TW)

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