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No. 16012/7/2000-SCD-II
Government of India
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment

943/Div 15.4
11/6/01

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Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi
Dated 22nd May, 2001

To

The Chief Secretary
Andaman & Nicobar Islands,
Port Blair.

Subject: Information on leasing of Natural Resources to SCs/STs.

Sir,

The National Committee for Celebration of Baba Saheb Dr. B.R. Ambedkar had recommended introduction of a policy to lease/license Natural Resources under the State control to actual workers and their cooperatives/associations in 1991. Accordingly all the States Governments/UT Administrations were requested to consider introducing suitable policy in their States/UTs concerned and to intimate details of the action taken in this regard.

2. Shri Buta Singh and Shri Ram Das Athawale have sought for details for the action taken and proposed to be taken regarding implementation of scheme for leasing of Natural Resources licenses to the SCs/STs in the year 1993 in the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 7944 for 17.5.2000. Subsequently, this matter was again raised vide Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2686 for 6.12.2000 and Unstarred Question No. 3773 for 13.12.2000. As relevant information on the subject was not available in the Ministry, assurances have been given in respect of these questions.

3. I would, therefore, request you to kindly arrange for sending full details in respect of your State/UT on the following:-

- a. Schemes being implemented for leasing of Natural Resources in general and to SCs/STs in Particular;
- b. Date of introduction of the scheme; salient features;
- c. No. of SC/ST persons benefited under the scheme yearwise since its implementation.
- d. In case implementation of the scheme is not satisfactory reasons thereof and action proposed to be taken.

4. It is requested that the above information may please be sent to us at the earliest.

Yours sincerely,

(S.K. Panda)
Joint Secretary