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(vii) Future of Jarawa Tribe

The Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PTGs) in A & N Islands are mainly hunters and gatherers and have been isolated from the mainstream since time immemorial. These PTGs use traditional bark, leaves, mud and colour on their bodies. Their life styles are unique and distinct and do not conform to conventional standards relating to food and habits.

Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India, in consultation with the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and A & N Administration has finalized a policy on the Jarawa Tribe of Andaman Islands, on the basis of the recommendations of experts in various fields. The policy has been notified in December, 2004 and is being followed strictly in terms of its aims and objectives.

• The thrust of the policy is not to interfere with the lifestyle of Jarawa Tribes.

(viii) Recognition of Scheduled Tribes Status to immigrant STs in Andamans

A & N Administration has received many representations from Chotanagpuri Tribals (commonly known as Ranchis in these islands) demanding recognition as a Scheduled Tribe of A & N Islands.

Chotanagpuri Tribals migrated to these islands during British time and onwards, settled in these islands due to employment, agriculture, economic and other social reasons. They are STs in relation to their state of origin i.e. Bihar, Jharkhand etc. They are advanced than any of the native tribes of A & N Islands. The issue of inclusion of Chotanagpuri Tribal communities in the Scheduled Tribe list was examined by the UT Administration from time to time and a view was taken that they are originally the migrant communities and are far more advanced than even the most advanced Scheduled Tribes of these Islands i.e. Nicobarese. In view of above the Administration feels that their inclusion in the list of Scheduled Tribes of this UT would be detrimental to the interest of aboriginal tribes of these Islands. Six aboriginal tribal communities who originally belong to the islands namely the Great Andamanese, Onges, Jarawas, Sentinelese, Shompens and the Nicobarese have already been identified as STs in respect of the UT of A & N Islands. Therefore the case of Chotanagpuri Tribes was not recommended to the Govt. of India vide Administration's letter No. 1-581/91-TW dated 18.10.1994 (copy enclosed).

As per the instructions contained in the Govt. of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi letter No. BC-16014/1/82-SC&BCD-1 dated 6th August 1984, ***"the SC/ST person on migration from the State of his origin to another State will not lose his status as SCs/STs but he will be entitled to the concessions/benefits admissible to the SCs/STs from the State of his origin and not from the State where he has migrated"*** ((copy enclosed). Therefore, the people of migrant communities are not the original inhabitants of these islands as like other aboriginal tribes of Andaman and Nicobar islands. The Scheduled Tribes notified are the original inhabitants of these islands, and the migrants from mainland are not covered under the Govt. of India Notification dated 31.3.1959 vide Constitutional Order No.58: The Constitution (A & N Islands) Scheduled tribes Order, 1959). (copy enclosed).