

Tribal Welfare

Sl. No.	Action Point	Action Taken/Proposed to be taken
19(iv)	Sixth Schedule status to Tribals of Nicobar Group of islands.	

19(v)	Complaints of Tribal Council of Nicobars regarding their lands taken away and declared as Reserve Forest without consulting them.	<p>The State Government (read as Administration in the context of Andaman & Nicobar Islands) can constitute any forest land or waste land which is property of the Government as Reserved Forest in a manner as stipulated in Sections 4 to 20 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927. Therefore, to start the process of notifying the forest areas of Nicobar Group of Islands as Reserved Forests, as per the Indian Forest Act, 1927, the intention of the Administration was notified vide No. G/635/2 dated 15th March 1971 to constitute the area as Reserved Forests, after inquiry into and determine the existence, nature and extent of any right alleged to exist in favour of any person in or over any land or in and over any forest produce.</p> <p>The Forest Settlement Officer is required to conclude the enquiry as per the schedule of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, but such enquiries could not be concluded by the Forest Settlement Officer till 2006. Therefore, the process was initiated through the present proclamation vide No. FS/6-2/161 dated 21st November, 2006 under Section 6 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, to inquiry into and settle the rights and claims.</p> <p>Action initiated by the Department has never intended to take away the land of the tribal people or to establish control over the tribal people through the process of reservation. The rights of the tribals are already well</p>
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