

PUC is regarding discussions with the Working Group of the Planning Commission on 18th June, 2002 on the Annual Plan 2002-2003 and Xth Five Year Plan 2002-2007 of the A & N Administration. We are concerned with sector- "Backward Classes and Tribal Development" vide item No. 7 of the minutes. It has been observed that the Annual Plan and Xth Five year Plan in respect of our sector do not reflect economic development activities of the Primitive Tribal Groups.

So far as the Primitive Tribal Groups are concerned there are specific schemes formulated and implemented for their welfare and development. In fact, these schemes do not form part of UT Plan. Instead the schemes for the welfare of the Primitive Tribal Groups are included under the Tribal Sub-Plan and the Govt. of India provide 100 % funds required for the Primitive Tribal Groups. An outlay of Rs. 1050.50 lakh has been proposed for the Xth Five Year Plan and an outlay of Rs. 214.20 lakh has been proposed for the Annual Plan 2002-2003 for the Special Central Assistance. The schemes for the Primitive Tribal Groups are being implemented by an Autonomous Body viz. Andaman Adim Janajati Vikas Samiti (AAJVS) from the fund provided by as grant-in-aid. The establishment cost of the AAJVS is being met out of the fund under sector "Welfare of SCs, STs & OBCs" of the UT Plan. Under the Annual Plan 2002-2003 a budget provision of Rs. 40 lakh has been proposed in the revised estimates towards the cost of establishment of AAJVS.

Besides there are as many as 20 sectors viz., Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries, Forestry, Cooperation, Village & Small Scale Industries, Power, Ports & Harbours, Shipping, Roads and Bridges, Transport, Education, Health, Water Supply & Sanitation, Housing, Civil Supplies, Information & Publicity, Social Welfare, Nutrition and Welfare of SCs, STs & OBCs under which the funds for development of the tribals under TSP are being earmarked and

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