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Andaman & Nicobar Islands in the Bay of Bengal located in the south-eastern part at a distance of 1200 nautical miles from mainland India is famous for its breath taking scenic beauty. It is also home to the five most vulnerable tribes which are on the verge of extinction. The present study is confined to one such tribe called Onges. The tribes are the inhabitants of the southernmost Islands of Andaman group of Islands from Port Blair.. It was only after the penal settlement in 1858, they came in contact with civilisation. Ever since then there has been a decrease in their numbers. The path of development undertaken by the government has led to the loss of their traditional values Government has been making efforts to develop their economic activity, taking care of their health needs and over all development, without directly bringing them into direct contact with the mainstream people. But it is also not hidden from the world that they are a fast diminishing tribe. The purpose of conducting a research on this tribe is to find out the ways which would benefit not only the Onges but also the people from mainstream. The study intends to examine to what extent Government intervention has been able to develop their basic capabilities and connect them to the people from mainstream without destroying their original tradition and culture and thereby suggests measures. What needs to be done. The research would like to suggest a model based on Capability approach to development (by Amartya Sen). The basic idea is that there is a difference between capabilities and functioning. This approach gives importance to individuals, their freedom, to develop and progress. People may have the same set of capabilities but not all are able to convert the same into functioning (the act of converting the capabilities into doing) because of the societal structure, tradition, the desire to do so. Hence, development seen from this perspective is to find out the capabilities and then assist them to develop on their own terms which will benefit not only the concerned people but also the people from mainstream can benefit by learning their skills. This is connecting the capabilities. Capabilities represent the real opportunities, freedom, whereas functioning, implies the ability to convert the capabilities into actions, the "beings and the doings".

DESCRIPTIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

1. How is life at present as compared to in the past?
2. Are you people contented with the facilities being provided by the government?
3. What is the kind of activities that you enjoy doing?
4. If the government with draws free ration, are you ready to work and earn?
5. Do you want to live the life as the mainstream people/ If not what is it that you dislike about people from mainstream?
6. Has it ever occurred to you that you want to be like the mainstream people?
7. What is your reaction to the people of mainstream, the good and the bad part?
8. Has your health conditions improved due to government intervention?
9. What type of food do you enjoy eating?
10. What kind of illness do you suffer usually?