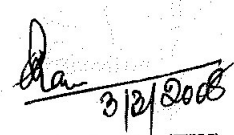


From the page :-

A copy of letter No. U-13034/3/2008-ANL dated 21st February'2008 of the Under Secretary to Govt. of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi forwarding there with a copy of letter dated 18th February'2008 of Dr. Gail Coelho, Reader in Linguistics, University of Delhi has been received by this Directorate also. The Ministry of Home Affairs has forwarded the letter for appropriate action under intimation to the Ministry.

In this context it is stated here that Ministry of Tribal Affairs vide their letter No. 19013/2/2005-Schemes dated 9th June'2005 (flag 'B') has already communicated that so far as Primitive Tribal Groups are concerned they should be left on their own and unnecessary interference in their lives in the name of studying those tribes should not be encouraged.

It may, however be mentioned here that the Nicobarese are one of the Scheduled Tribes of A&N Islands, who are no more classified as PTG as they have already assimilated in the main stream society shoulder to shoulder in the process of development. As such there may not be any objection on the part of Department of Tribal Welfare to carry out linguistics research in Nicobar Islands by Dr. Gail Coelho subject to the approval by the competent authority, of course, after proper verification of nationality, character and antecedents and also subject to the condition that one copy of the research study report shall be made available to the Department of Tribal Welfare, A & N Administration for our reference and use.


3/2/2008
Assistant Commissioner (TW)

Director (TW) / Secretary (TW)

Deputy Commissioner, SA