(from pre-page)

The Administration, I have found, vide letter dated 14th July, 2004 has permitted Prof. Anvita Abbi, Jawaharlal Nehru University(JNU), New Delhi and her team to visit the Straight Island to do linguistic research. I understand the JNU team has already initiated action in this regard and the research work could not be completed due to the Tsunami. I don't see any reason to stop the research work at this stage, without any contradictory report against the Researchers.

I would, therefore, suggest that the Researchers should be allowed to continue the research work as per the terms and conditions already intimated to them. In case need be, expost facto approval of the Executive Council may be taken. This is all the more important, as the Great Andamanese are a vanishing tribe, and strictly speaking their way of living is quite different, as of now, from other primitive tribes like the Jarawas and Sentinelese. However, as indicated earlier, the research work should be carried out strictly under the guidance of the officials of the Tribal Welfare Department. We may

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(D.S. Negi) Chief Secretary 3.11.2005.

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