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PAGE 1/5

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Dr. Anvita Abbi

Ph.D. Cornell University
Professor of Linguistics
Shri G.C. Joshi
Special Secretary (Tribal Welfare)
Ad&N Administration
Secretariat, Port Blair
Andaman



November 21, 2005

Subject: submission of the first report of the project titled
Vanishing voices of the Great Andamanese

Dear Mr. Joshi,

This is in reference to your communication F.1-272/2005-TW/1589 dated 31st October 2005 asking us to submit the report of the work undertaken by us during our last visit to Port Blair of nine weeks duration. I am submitting the same along with this letter.

I would like to draw your attention to the fact that my team worked hard despite the adverse circumstances created by Tsunami. Because of the circumstances beyond our control, linguistic data elicitation did not meet our goal and at present, the data we have is too small to write even a grammatical sketch leave alone a comprehensive grammar. Whatever we have is incomplete and needs immediate validation. An urgent permission to continue our work with the Great Andamanese is solicited. I hope you will share our anxiety to preserve the national heritage of India and will extend your help and cooperation towards this goal.

Thanking you,
Sincerely yours,

Anvita Abbi

Anvita Abbi

Encl. The First Project Report

Cc to Dr. S. Awaradi

22/11/05
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(i) Do (ND)
(ii) E & AAS