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Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs
Directorate of Census Operations, A & N Islands
10 Church Lane, Port Blair: 744 102
Telephone: 03192-232333
E-Mail: dco-ani.rgi@censusindia.gov.in



Port Blair, dated 27th July, 2015

To,

The Secretary Tribal Welfare,
Andaman & Nicobar Administration
Port Blair

Subject: - Videography of Mother Tongue Survey by NFDC in Port Blair - Regarding

Sir,

The Government of India has approved the audio-video documentation of 6 Mother Tongues of Andaman & Nicobar Islands viz. Andamanese, Nicobarese, Jarawa, Shompens, Onges and Karen under the Plan Scheme "Mother Tongue Survey of India (MTSI)" in the 12th Plan during 2014-15. With reference to the Minutes of the 6th Research Advisory Board (RAB) meeting held on 13/02/2015 (copy enclosed) at the Andaman and Nicobar Tribal Research and Training Institute (ANTRI), under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Tribal Welfare), the Agenda of linguistic field survey under the plan scheme "Mother Tongue Survey of India" was discussed. The RAB had recommended for the survey to be conducted among the Nicobarese, Karens and Great Andamanese communities.

The National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) has been entrusted with the task of documentation in coordination with the Directorate of Census Operations, Port Blair. A questionnaire for this survey has been prepared centrally by the Language Division, Kolkata, Office of Registrar General India, Ministry of Home Affairs (copy enclosed). This questionnaire consists of 1557 words, 525 sentences and one story which will be uttered once by the Data Elicitor (representative of Census) and thrice by the Informant in his/her Mother Tongue with pre-defined gap of 3-5 seconds. Upon successful completion of the Survey the raw footage of the videography shall be available for verification by competent authority of A & N Administration.

To initiate the field work a suitable venue at Port Blair may kindly be suggested for uninterrupted sound proof videography of the following Informants as given below: -

- (1) NICOBARESE - RURAL - 4 Samples
(Male age: above 50, Female age: above 50, Male age: below 50, Female age: below 50)
- (2) KAREN - RURAL - 4 Samples
(Male age: above 50, Female age: above 50, Male age: below 50, Female age: below 50)
- (3) ANDAMANESE - RURAL - 4 Samples
(Male age: above 50, Female age: above 50, Male age: below 50, Female age: below 50)

An Interpreter of respective Mother Tongues may also kindly be arranged by the A & N Administration, who will be present during the entire documentation process and help the Informant in understanding the Words and Sentences of the Questionnaire.