

Reference page: 290-291/cor.

Ms Samhita Veda Acharya, Convenor, INTACH vide letter dated 25.10.2016 has stated that Indian National Trust for Art & Cultural Heritage is a non-profit organization and has its chapters all over India and in UK. The NGO is involved in conservation of Intangible Cultural Heritage which incorporates the knowledge, skills and practices that communities or individuals recognize as part of their unique identity, it promotes cultural diversities and human creativity. The INTACH, Andaman and Nicobar Chapter has been in existence since 1980s and has done pioneering work in many fields like documentation of Coral reefs in association with the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN) and introduction of Classical Dance and Music forms like Kathak, Hindustani classical vocals and also documentation of folk songs of the Ranchi, Bengali and Nicobari community available in and around Port Blair.

Further she has stated that at present the INTACH, Andaman and Nicobar Chapter desires to document and collect information pertaining to cultural practices of the Central Nicobar Islands. She has requested to grant permission to visit Kamorta Islands to collect information and document the cultural practices like day to day lives, beliefs, customs & festivals of the Nicobarese of Central Nicobar Islands.

In this context, it is stated that the proposed visit is for Kamorta Islands where Nicobarese are inhabited and they are advanced tribe. It is proposed that we may grant permission to Ms. Samhita Veda Acharya, Convenor, INTACH, Andaman and Nicobar Chapter to collect information and document the cultural practices like day to day lives, beliefs, customs & festivals subject to the following:

- (i) The documentation on cultural practices like day to day lives, beliefs, customs & festivals should be carried out under the overall supervision of the Assistant Commissioner (Nancowry).
- (ii) No undue interference in the lives of the Nicobarese tribes during the course documentation.
- (iii) The documentation and information collected should be shared with the Directorate of Tribal Welfare, A & N Administration.
- (iv) Necessary permits for entry into tribal reserve area should be obtained from the District Administration.

Kind approval of the Secretary (TW), A & N Admn. may be solicited.

Submitted please.

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May kindly peruse the notes above. The applicant have asked for a permit of 30 days to prepare the documentary for which they shall peruse the District Administration. Further, the documentation/information/saw footage shall be shared with this