

PUC is an email dated 10.3.2017 received from Professor Mayank Vahira, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai. He informed that they have written to the Hon'ble Lt Governor, A&N islands requesting permission to study the astronomical concerts of the tribes of A&N islands. The said copy has been endorsed to the Secretary (TW). In the past they have studied other tribes like Gond, Kolam, Banjara and Krokru by visiting their villages etc and gathered significant understanding and insights into their work and they are ready to share the material. They have received support from the Indian Council for Historical Research. He stated that following four persons shall be involved in this study:

- 1) Professor Mayank, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research
- 2) Dr Srikumar Menon, National Institute of Advanced Studies
- 3) Prof Wayne Orchiston, National Astronomical Research Institute, Thailand
- 4) Ms Kishore Menon, Centre for Excellence in Basic Science

It has been certified that the sole purpose of the study is to understand their concepts of astronomy and culture.

In this regard, it is submitted that conducting of study on the tribes of these islands by the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research is a good proposal and will help this Administration to go forward in the interest of the tribes. But tribes of A&N islands cannot be correlated with the tribes like Gond, Kolam, Banjara and Krokru for which they had conducted studies in the earlier past.

We have certain protocols which have to be followed strictly. For conducting of study, they should have to submit the study paper explaining what kind of study they will carry out, time frame required and outcome of the study. Further, involving foreign national in the study requires approval of the Ministries of Home and Tribal.

As such, it is proposed that we request the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research to follow the above said protocol, so that this Administration may take further step in the matter.

Submitted please.

JRO 6/3/17

EO (TW) 31/3/17

RO 4/4/17

Ac (TW) may kindly approve 4/4

2/4/17

4/4/17

Secretary (TW)

P. Discusy
5/4/2017

Director (ATRI) Director (TW)

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