

From pre-page

16 Please refer to the note of the Secretary to Hon'ble Lt. Governor at para 14/n above. It is desired to obtain the detailed proposal from the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) Mumbai, examine it and submit for the approval.

17 The e-mail received from TIFR has the two page proposal which may be seen at page 100-101/c. The scrutiny of the proposal indicates the following:

Aim of the Project:

18 Study of astronomical beliefs among the tribal people of A & N islands

Methodology:

19 (i) Interview the members of the respective tribes to document their understanding and use of the sky in their lives.

(ii) The interview will be in the place /village of the tribal people.

(iii) No other intrusive method will be employed except the interview, photography and videography with tribal people.

Duration of field study:

20 Tentatively 10 days to 2 weeks visiting the different tribes and interviewing the members of the tribe

Composition of Project team:

21 It will consist of archaeologists, astronomer and anthropologists from India and Thailand with extensive experience in studies of tribal astronomy in India and Indonesia.

Proposed team members:

22 (i) Prof. M N Vahia, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai. He is the Principal Investigator of the project and has an extensive experience in studies of tribal astronomy.

(ii) Prof. Wayne Orchiston, National Institute of Research in Astronomy, Thailand. He is an Australian citizen and an expert on the astronomy of tribes in Thailand.

(iii) Prof. Srikumar Menon, National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore. He is an expert on early megalithic culture of India.

(iv) Mr Ganesh Halkare, Amravati, Maharashtra. He is an expert on Anthropology and has extensive experience in studies of Tribal astronomy.