

To

~~Shri N.C. Ragtab,~~
The Under Secretary to Govt. of India,
Govt. of India, Ministry of Home Affairs.
New Delhi (Fax No. 23094103)

Sub:- Matter raised by Shri Shri Bishnu Pada Ray, Member of
Parliament, during Zero Hour in Lok Sabha : reg.
Sir,

I am directed to refer to your letter No..U-16014/4/2011-ANL dated
3/6/2011 regarding the above mentioned subject.

In this context, it is stated that in this UT there are six aboriginal tribes
~~who originally belong to the Islands~~ namely the Great Andmanese, the Onges,
the Jarawa, the Sentinelese, the Shompens and the Nicobarese, who are
notified as the Scheduled Tribes in respect of the UT of A & N Islands. The
Chotanagpuri Tribals -Orans, Mundas, Kharias, Santhalis, Lohras, Chik-
Bariks and others (commonly known here as Ranchi community) are not
included in the STs list of these UT as the people belonging to this community
are migrated to Andaman Islands in the past and they are the STs in relation
to their state of origin ie. Bihar, Jharkhand etc. As far as reservation is
concerned, the UT Administration is following the policy of the Govt. of India,
and as per the instructions contained in the Govt. of India, Ministry of Home
Affairs, New Delhi letter No. BC-16014/1/82-SC&BCD-1 dated 6th August
1984, "the SC/ST person on migration from the State of his origin to another
State will not lose his status as SCs/STs but he will be entitled to the
concessions/benefits admissible to the SCs/STs from the State of his origin
and not from the State where he has migrated". Therefore, the people of
migrant communities are not the original inhabitants of these islands, as like
other aboriginal tribes of Andaman and Nicobar islands, The Scheduled
Tribes notified are the original inhabitants of these islands, and the migrants
from mainland are not covered under the ST notification.

Similarly, no Scheduled Castes has been notified in this Union Territory
and caste system is not prevailing in these Islands. Practice of untouchability
is non-existent in these islands and none of the community suffers any caste
discrimination. The policy of A & N Administration is to maintain the existing
social harmony and continuing a casteless society in these Islands.

Further, the Census is conducted all over the country in uniform
method.