Dear Sh Sinha,

As you may kindly aware that the National Commission for Scheduled Castes set up under Article 338 of the Constitution of India has been vested with the powers to investigate and monitor all matters relating to safeguards provided to the members of Scheduled Castes. It also keeps vigil on cases of atrocities against the Scheduled Castes all over the country under the specific provisions of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 and Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 with the objective of eradicating untouchability.

The National Commission for Scheduled Castes now has planed to organize a National Level Conference on 'Atrocities on Scheduled Castes and their socio-economic development - issues & challenges' at Vigyan Bhawan (Hall No. 5), New Delhi on 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2011 where the Chief Secretaries, Social welfare Secretaries, Director General of Police, In-charge of PCR Cells and Administrators from all States & UTs will be participating to express their views on this important subject. The Commission also proposed to invite views of the States/UTs on the topic of discussion in advance which may kindly be forwarded by 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2011 both hard and soft copies (Email ID: arunabh.b@nic.in) to enable the Commission to prepare an agenda item for discussion.

I would like to invite your active participation in the above conference. Your presence would be an honour for the Commission as the same will enhance the quality of discussion and will facilitate to frame a white paper on welfare of Scheduled Castes by the National Commission for Scheduled Castes.

An early confirmation regarding your participation will be highly appreciated.

Shri Shakti Sinha Chief Secretary

UT of Andaman & Nicobar Island

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Yours Sincerely