: 1200—1500; 3346 1941—30441

Total population of A & N Islands in 1948 was 18,000 only including Nicobaries (about 50%), that is, before Bengali Settlers were settled. The total population increased to more than 33 thousand in Census-1951 after initial settlement of Bengalis in the rural areas of South Andaman only from 1949 to 1951. According to the Census-1981, GOI, New Delhi the total population of A & N Islands was 1, 88,741 and 75% of the total population was Bengali (Settlers and Non-Settlers).

Hence, population of the Bengali Settlers <u>can never be</u> 57,948 only and the population of the <u>Pre-'42 Local Borns</u> can <u>never be so high</u>; Their population was estimated to be <u>30-35</u> <u>thousand</u> only considering the usual <u>growth rate</u> and other parameters.

Moreover, the Local Born Association itself declared their actual population to the apex court in 1990--'91. The 'Ten-vear Parents Association' had filed a case in the Supreme Court in 1990-'91 pleading for more seats in professional colleges for their children. The Administration and Local Born Association had filed affidavits in the apex court as respondents wherein mainly the backwardness of the Bengali Settlers was depicted by the Local Born Association in absence of the representative of the Bengali Settlers. The Case was withdrawn for out-of-the-court settlement when BAANI filed an affidavit in favour of the Settlers to become a party to the Case stating the factual position and the ground realities. The population of the Pre-'42 Local Borns mentioned therein in the affidavits and submitted to the apex court was only 7% of the total population, that is, about 12—13 thousand only at that time (1990--'91). Therefore, the projected population of the Pre-'42 Local Borns submitted to the OBC Commission by the local Administration is completely imaginary, false, fabricated and politically influenced.

contof. - 11