

Tribals in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

145. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the tribe-wise number of tribals in Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the religion they follow;

(b) whether the policy of keeping Jarawa and Sentinelese tribes yielded any positive result for their progress and preservation, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has brought out any literature highlighting the tribal struggle for freedom in Andamans; and

(d) whether there are any special plans for the education and health, specially for their next generation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA): (a) The Tribe-wise population of Scheduled Tribes in Andaman and Nicobar Islands as per Census 2011 is given below:

Tribes	Population
Andamanese, Chariar, Chari, Kora, Tabo, Bo, Yere, Kede, Bea, Balawa, Bojigiyab, Juwai, Kol	44
Jarawas	380
Nicobarese	27168
Onges	101
Sentinelese	15
Shom Pens	229

Based on information received from the Directorate of Tribal Welfare, Andaman and Nicobar (A & N) Administration, Nicobarese follow Islam and Christianity.

(b) Yes, Sir. The A & N Administration has opened various channels of communication with the Jarawas so as to ascertain their present concerns as well as their future needs within the framework of Government of India's Policy. This has yielded promising results in terms of the communities' greater confidence in sharing information relating to poaching, encroachment and other forms of abuse they have had to face.

With regard to Sentinelese tribes, the A & N Administration has adopted an 'eyes-on and hands-off' policy to ensure that no poachers enter into the island. A

protocol of Circumnavigation of the North Sentinel Island has been made and notified in consultation with Government of India, which have yielded meaningful results.

(c) A Memorial has been constructed at the entrance of the Water Sports Complex at Port Blair in the memory of those Great Andamanese who had laid down their lives in the famous Battle of Aberdeen fought on 17th May, 1859 against the Britishers and a solemn function is organized every year on this day.

(d) As of now, there are no special plans for the education and health, especially for the next generation of Scheduled Tribes (STs) in A & N Islands. However, following measures have been taken:

(1) Health

- Exclusive medical wards in Primary Health Centres (PHCs) located near the Jarawa Reserve at Tushnabad, Kadamtala and GB Pant Hospital, Port Blair have been set up for treatment of Jarawas. Such wards are also declared as Tribal Reserve under the Protection of Aboriginal Tribes Regulation, 1956 to prevent any interaction of the unauthorised non-tribals with the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs).
- Medical Sub Centres have been established by the A & N Administration at Dugong Creek in Little Andaman and Strait Island for providing health care facilities to the Onges and Andamanese tribes.
- Health card of each individual of PVTGs is maintained by Tribal Welfare Officers of Andaman Adim Janjati Vikas Samitie (AAJVS)/Medical Sub Centres and are regularly updated.
- The expertise available with the Central Government Institutions like Regional Medical Research Centre (RMRC), the Department of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH) and GB Pant Hospital is utilized for the wellbeing of the PVTGs from time to time.
- Nutritional supplements are being provided to the pregnant women, lactating mothers and infants belonging to Onge and Andamanese tribes through AAJVS.
- Currently Shompen/Nicobari/Onges patients are airlifted to Port Blair for treatment in case of emergency from Campbell Bay and Dugong Creek by the A & N Administration through the existing fleet of Helicopters.

(2) Education

- Ministry of Tribal Affairs is implementing the following Educational Schemes for Scheduled Tribe students across the country including Andaman and Nicobar Islands:

1. Umbrella Scheme (consisting of the following sub-schemes)
 - (a) Pre-Matric Scholarships for ST students
 - (b) Post Matric Scholarships for ST students
 - (c) Constructions of Hostels for ST Boys and Girls
 - (d) Ashram Schools
 - (e) Vocational Training Centre.
2. National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education of ST students consisting of the following sub-schemes:
 - (a) Top Class Education for ST students,
 - (b) Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for ST Students.
3. National Overseas Scholarships for ST Students.
 - The A & N Administration through AAJVS extends all financial support to the tribal students of Onge and Andamanese communities for their education at the primary, middle and higher secondary levels. Exclusive Middle level schools have been established in the tribal settlements for Onges at Dugong Creek, Little Andaman and for Andamanese at Strait Islands. Informal education system has been introduced amongst the Jarawas and Onges children through bilingual bicultural curriculum developed by Andaman and Nicobar Tribal Research Institute (ANTRI) and AAJVS.

Amount spent by trified to procure tribal products

146. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount spent by Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED) to procure tribal products during the last three years;

(b) what is the exact amount passed on to tribal artisans/producers against the purchase of these products during the last three years;

(c) whether the TRIFED or the Ministry has taken any concrete steps to ensure that a fair price for tribal products is passed on to the tribal artisans/producers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA): (a) The amount spent by Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED) to procure