

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1286**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2022

**GENETIC STUDY OF TRIBES IN ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS**

1286. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA :

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Anthropological Survey of India (ANSI) has undertaken genetic study of some tribes in Andaman and Nicobar Islands;
- (b) if so, whether any prior and informed consent has been sought from those tribes; and
- (c) whether Government has provided funds to the ANSI for research aimed at determining 'racial purity' of those tribes?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF CULTURE, TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

- (a) Yes, Sir. Anthropological Survey of India had undertaken genetic study of the following communities :
  - i) The Nicobarese community for detection of hemoglobinopathies under the project Community Genetic and Health.
  - ii) The Jarwa community under the project DNA Polymorphism of Contemporary Indian Population.
- (b) Yes, Sir. Prior and informed consent has been obtained from those tribes by AnSI.
- (c) No, Sir. AnSI never initiated any such study related to determining 'racial purity' of the Indian population.

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