

SL. No	Title	Details
1	The particulars of its organisation, functions & duties	Annexure-1 enclosed
2	The powers & duties of its officers and employees	Annexure-2 enclosed
3	The procedures followed in the decision-making process, including channels of supervision and accountability	Annexure-3 enclosed
4	The norms set by it for the discharge of its functions	<p>The AAJVS Service Rule, 2013 and AAJVS Rules, 2004 have been officially notified to ensure the smooth and efficient management of office affairs, administrative procedures, and service conditions of its personnel.</p> <p>To maintain operational efficiency and accountability, all officials working within AAJVS function under the direct supervision and administrative control of the Executive Secretary, AAJVS. The Executive Secretary is responsible for overseeing day-to-day operations, ensuring adherence to established norms, and implementing decisions taken by the Executive Council. This structured framework facilitates effective governance, streamlined service delivery, and a cohesive approach toward the welfare and development of the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) under the purview of AAJVS.</p>
5	The rules, regulations, instructions, manuals and records, held by it or under its control or used by its employees for discharging its functions	

6	A statement of the categories of documents that are held by it or under its control	<p>As an autonomous body, AAJVS does not have formally designated sections within its office structure. However, to ensure efficient handling of various responsibilities, the organization follows a functional division of work. Matters related to tribal welfare, research, and development are managed by the Development-cum-Research Officer, who is responsible for formulating and implementing welfare initiatives, conducting studies, and ensuring that policies align with the socio-cultural needs of the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs).</p> <p>Meanwhile, administrative, financial, and audit-related affairs are overseen by the Administrative Officer, who is responsible for handling office administration, personnel management, accounts, and financial compliance. This structured allocation of responsibilities ensures the smooth operation of AAJVS while maintaining a clear focus on both tribal welfare initiatives and institutional governance.</p>
7	The particulars of any arrangement that exists for consultation with, or representation by, the members of the public in relation to the formulation of its policy or implementation thereof	<p>For AAJVS, the term "public" primarily refers to the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) residing in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Recognizing the unique socio-cultural dynamics and developmental needs of these communities, the Executive Council of AAJVS undertakes periodic reviews of policies and plans formulated by the Administration. These reviews ensure that welfare</p>

		<p>measures remain relevant, adaptive, and aligned with the evolving requirements of the PVTGs.</p> <p>To strengthen the delivery mechanism of welfare programs, continuous engagement and consultations are held with members of the respective PVTG communities. These interactions provide valuable insights into their immediate and long-term needs, enabling AAJVS to refine its approach for effective implementation. The participatory nature of policy review and decision-making ensures that the initiatives undertaken are community-centric and sustainable, thereby fostering inclusive development while respecting the traditional way of life of the PVTGs</p>
8	<p>A statement of the boards, councils, committees and other bodies consisting of two or more persons constituted as its part or for the purpose of its advice, and as to whether meetings of those boards' councils, committees and other bodies are open to the public, or the minutes of such meetings are accessible for public</p>	<p>AAJVS operates under the supervision of two governing bodies that are responsible for controlling, reviewing, and guiding its mandate:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. General Body, chaired by the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor (HLG), serves as the apex authority overseeing the overall functioning of AAJVS. It provides strategic direction, approves key policy decisions, and ensures that the organization's objectives align with the broader developmental goals for the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs).

		<p>2. Executive Council, chaired by the Chief Secretary, is responsible for the formulation and periodic review of policies, administrative frameworks, and operational strategies. It plays a crucial role in setting norms, approving welfare programs, and ensuring the effective implementation of initiatives aimed at the welfare and development of PVTGs.</p> <p>The decisions taken are being communicated and disseminated to the PVTG communities by the AAJVS field functionaries deployed in this area while keeping in view of their linguistic and cultural identity.</p>
9	A directory of its officers and employees	Annexure-4 enclosed
10	The monthly remuneration received by each of its officers and employees, including the system of compensation as provided in its regulations	Annexure-5 enclosed
11	The budget allocated 2023-24	Annexure-6 enclosed
12	The manner of execution of subsidy programmes, including the amounts allocated and the details of beneficiaries of such programmes.	NA
13	Particulars of recipients of concessions, permits or authorizations granted by it	NA

14	Details in respect of the information, available to or held by it, reduced in an electronic form	Annexure-7 Enclosed
15	The particulars of facilities available to citizens for obtaining information, including the working hours of a library or reading room, if maintained for public use	The required information can be obtained from the Office of the Executive Secretary, AAJVS, located at the Secretariat Complex, Sri Vijaya Puram, during official working hours from 08:30 AM to 05:00 PM on all working days. Additionally, the information is available on the official website of the Andaman & Nicobar Administration at https://andaman.gov.in , where relevant updates, notifications, and documents can be accessed.
16	The names, designations and other particulars of the Public Information Officers	Executive Secretary, AAJVS Public Information Officer (PIO)
17	Such other information as may be prescribed	Information enclosed. (Annex-8)

The particulars of its organisation, functions & duties

Established on 25th March 1976, AAJVS is an autonomous body registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860

The Andaman Adim Janjati Vikas Samiti has been extending support to the primitive tribal communities of the Andaman & Nicobar Islands for improvement in the conditions for their life, socio-economic development and work through sustainable development methodologies and strategies, one of the most essential needs of human being. AAJVS is fulfilling this task by conducting various programme/activities, viz., development, Vocational Training, Cultural, Health & Family Welfare Literacy, Agriculture & Horticulture Counselling, Employment generation programme, etc.

The Andaman Adim Janjati Vikas Samiti is a autonomous organization with a belief to build a society that is equitable, just and provides equal opportunities to all the members of the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups.

AAJVS has a deeply rooted goal to bring about a change in the lives of PVTG communities through dedicated and hardworking staff and capacity building. Empowerment of the tribes has always been on the agenda. AAJVS has been actively involved in the organizing the Tribal communities to assert their rights of indigenous genius, equality, health, food security and secured livelihood and a respectful place in the community in particular and nation in general. The core focus areas include: empowerment, nurturing in built and hidden talents, providing housing, education, safe drinking water, sanitation, health and Hygiene, child Health, right to Food etc.

AAJVS dream to be a role model in transforming our organization into an action-based service provider to the particularly vulnerable groups (PVTG's) at the centre of all its operations. It is the hand of the triangle between Andaman & Nicobar Tribal Research and Training Institute and the Directorate of Tribal Welfare. The ideas mooted and pumped out by the think tanks brought out after series of serious deliberation are implemented across the entire reserve.

The focus of every program of AAJVS is not only to enable the Tribe to lead a healthy life and a life of dignity, but also get full of opportunities for development and growth. We hope to strengthen as well scale up these efforts in the future.

AAJVS has focused on the dimensions of protection which need immediate attention. Through policy and advocacy efforts with s, AAJVS addressed many issues in the operational areas. There has been no incident of alcoholism among the tribal communities of late.

The objective of our welfare Development program is to build long-term understanding with the community. The focus has been on aligning our stakeholders to the cause and to join us on our journey in creating a human genius and friendly environment. Our attempts are to make the tribes a cause and a national priority.

Though there are varieties of constraints facing the organization, we have been able to address all the issues of the tribes including education, health, hygiene, sanitation, protection and safety, housing, water supply, energy supply and all basic infrastructures.

Finance: Transparency and accountability are AAJVS core values as the organization continues to be 100% statutorily compliant. Being in a dynamic environment, the Finance function has been able to facilitate efficiency and effectiveness within the organization. We ensured robust –management and financial control and efficient financial analysis which have helped AAJVS optimize the welfare programs and monitor overall performance.

Planning: function has further strengthened systems and processes with a view to enable informed decisions that have far reaching impact. AAJVS's information sharing and review process with ANTRI and Tribal Welfare Department has given good results.

This enabled the management to keep a continuous and closer watch on AAJVS, its income, utilization of resources and progress against annual plans. The planning function also explored multiple models of planning for AAJVS and helped all functions to be in sync with the roadmap and did measurable goals for progress

The Andaman Adim Janjati Vikas Samiti believes to build a society that is equitable, just and provides equal opportunities to all the members of the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group's. AAJVS has a deeply rooted goal to bring about a change in the lives of PVTG communities through dedicated and hardworking staff and capacity building. Empowerment of the tribes has always been on the agenda. AAJVS has been actively involved in the organizing the Tribal communities to assert their rights of indigenous genius, equality, health, food security and secured livelihood and a respectful place in the community in particular and nation in general. The core focus areas include: empowerment and social justice, providing housing, education, safe drinking water, sanitation, health and Hygiene, child Health, right to Food, income generation schemes, plantation activities, raising kitchen garden/ horticulture, patrolling etc..

The value of education as one of the best means of bringing about socio-economic development of the Scheduled Tribes cannot be over-stressed. Educational development is a pivotal point to economic and social development, and the most effective instrument for empowering the tribals, the AAJVS makes all efforts to supplement the efforts by administering various

schemes with the objective of enhancing access to education through provision of infrastructure by way of establishment of community centres as a means of welfare delivery mechanism.

Over all the results of AAJVS operations, in the realms of socio-economic development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups are impacting their lives positively. In this successful endeavour, one should appreciate, recognize and laud the contribution made by the Members who Govern, workers who produce results and recipient communities who consume, appropriate and change to depict a model. Let us congratulate and resolve to act decisively for the future to come.

Organization setup

A. Members of General body

1	Hon'ble Lt. Governor, A&N islands	Chairman
2	Hon'ble Member of Parliament	Member
3	Adhyaksh, Zilla Parishad, South Andaman	Member
4	Representative of Ministry of Tribal Affairs	Member
5	Chief Secretary	Member
6	Principal Chief Conservator of Forest	Member
7	Director General of Police	Member
8	Development Commissioner	Member
9	Secretary (TW)	Member
10	Chairperson, State Social Welfare Advisory Board	Member
11	Deputy Commissioner South Andaman	Member
12	Deputy Commissioner Nicobars	Member
13	Deputy Commissioner North & North & Middle Andaman	Member
14	Director (TW)	Member
15	Chief Engineer APWD	Member
16	Directorate of Health Services	Member
17	Director, RMRC	Member
18	Director Education	Member
19	Superintending Anthropologist, AnSI	Member
20	Head of Office BSI	Member
21	Head of Office ZSI	Member
22	05 experts from renowned universities or colleges, NGOs or who are experts in Tribal Culture, Ethno-medicines, documentation etc, out of these 05, three are to be nominated for the Executive Council for a fixed period or a particular meeting (s)	Member
23	Executive Secretary AAJVS	Member Secretary

B. Members of Executive Council

1	Chief Secretary	Chairman
2	Principal Chief Conservator of Forest	Member
3	Secretary (TW)	Member
4	Development Commissioner	Member
5	Superintendent of Police, South Andaman District	Member
6	Chief Engineer APWD	Member
7	Director of Health Services	Member
8	Deputy Commissioner South Andaman	Member
9	Deputy Commissioner Nicobar Member	Member
10	Deputy Commissioner North & North & Middle Andaman	Member
11	Superintending Anthropologist, AnSI	Member
12	Director (TW)	Member
13	Director, RMRC	Member
14	Three experts to be nominated by the General Body of AAJVS for a period or a particular meeting	Member
15	Executive Secretary AAJVS	Member Secretary

Office Hierarchy of AAJVS:

Executive Secretary, AAJVS

Administrative Officer

Development-cum-Research Officer

Tribal Welfare Officer

Accountant

Upper Division Clerk

Annexure-2

The powers & duties of its officers and employees

Duties and responsibility of the Organization: The Organization supports for Social Protection in the discharge of the plans and policies formulated for the upliftment of the PVTG's.

Subject to the policies, general guidelines, and programme laid down by the General Body, the Executive Council shall be responsible for the management and administration of the affairs of the Samiti in accordance with the rules made thereunder for the furtherance of the objects and shall have all powers which may be necessary or expedient for the purpose, including:

- (a) To formulate and implement schemes to carry out the purposes of the Samiti;
- (b) To review and sanction budget estimates;
- (c) To sanction expenditure as may be required for the work of the Samiti;
- (d) To invest the funds of the Samiti;
- (e) To borrow on terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the Council from time to time;
- (f) To prescribe salary and conditions of service of Executive Secretary for due and proper implementation of the objects of the Samiti and the resolutions of the Executive Council that may be passed from time to time and carrying orders/directives of the President.

To cater the financial requirement of AAJVS, A & N Administration releases Grant-in-aid under the UT budget. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India, provided funds under the Conservation-cum-Development plan for development of infrastructure like water supply, health and housing facilities for the PVTG's.

Out of the five PVTGs, the Andamanese have adopted the modern way of living but still profess their traditional skill of hunting, gathering, food collection, tribal medicines etc. To preserve the tradition, habitat and life of these 05 vulnerable tribes of these Islands, the A&N Administration had notified reserved areas:

SN	NAME OF TRIBE	AREA
1	Shompen	751.07 sq. km
2	Onge	731.60 sq. km
3	Great Andamanese	6.02 sq.km
4	Jarawa	1028 sq. km
5	Sentinelese	59.67 sq. km

The procedures followed in the decision-making process, including channels of supervision and accountability

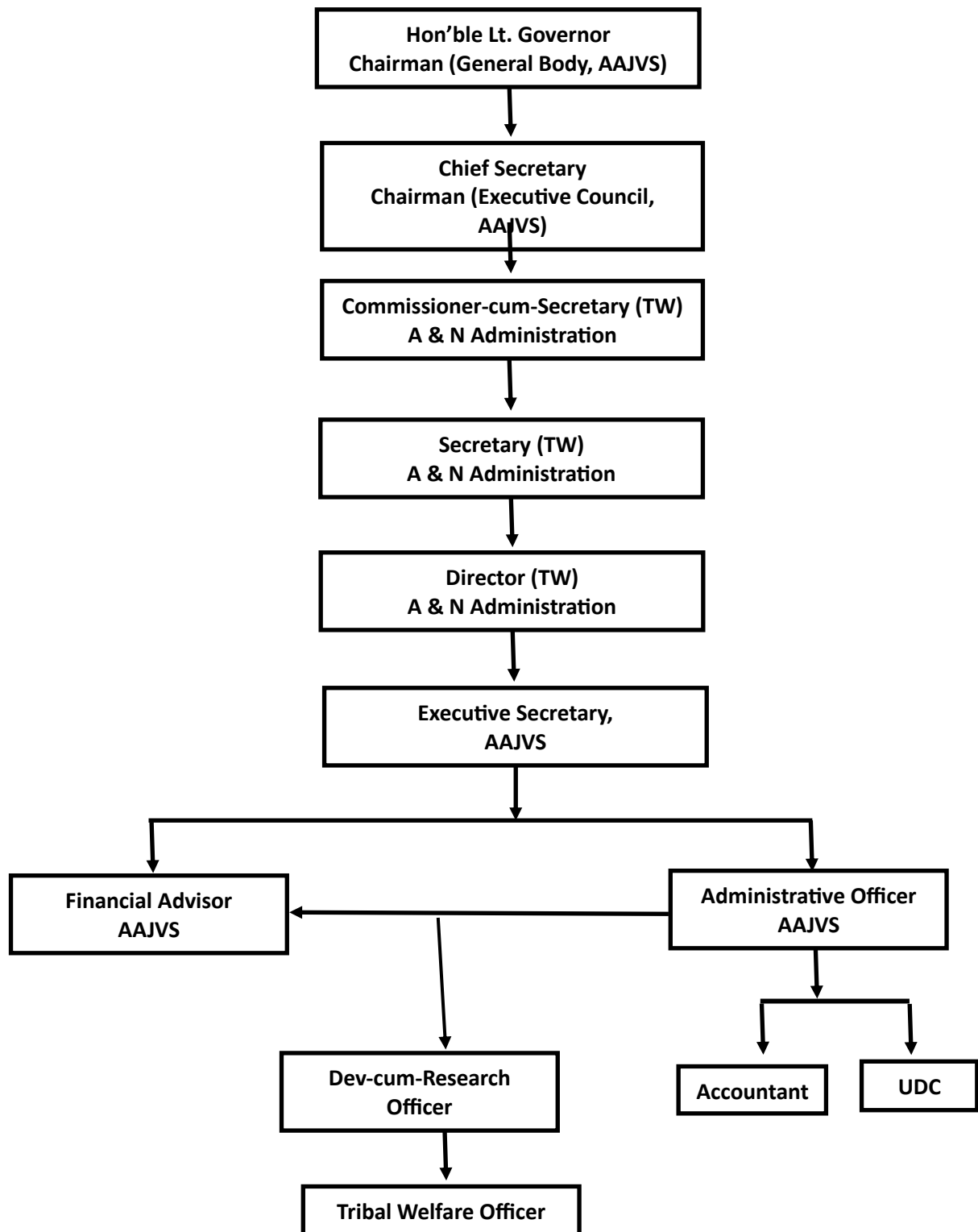
1 Policy Decision: Policy decisions are framed by the General Body. The same are regularly reviewed by both General Body & Executive Council

2 General work: Single file system is followed in AAJVS. Files dealt by the Dealing Assistants are referred to the competent authority through Accountant, Development officer and administrative officer.

3 Welfare: All policies and plans are formulated, implemented and reviewed for welfare of the PVTGs.

4 Dissemination of information: Information board for public grievance is displayed at the Directorate of Tribal Welfare. Further information boards are erected at prominent places on the Andaman Trunk Road as well all PVTGs settlements. Regular awareness messages are published through the print and electronic media.

Organization Chart of Andaman Adim Janjati Vikas Samiti (AAJVS)



Such other information as may be prescribed

A. The Shompen:-

The Shompen live in Great Nicobar Island. They are scattered in different pockets in the entire island which is divisible into various bands. Their present population is 248. Nearly 90% of the Island is declared as reserve area.

The Assistant Commissioner, Campbell Bay is the Officer-in-Charge, Shompen Hut Complex, Campbell Bay and regularly monitors all the welfare activities for the tribes. The Shompen are hunters and gatherers. They are very shy in nature and hardly can we find their female folks. The Shompen maintained ecological equilibrium with their environment for ages, despite low level of technology.

A separate policy for the welfare of the Shompen has been prepared and notified by the trio of AAJVS, Andaman & Nicobar Tribal Research and Training Institute and the Directorate of Tribal Welfare. AAJVS played a pivotal role in supporting ANTRI with vital data base and record.

The main objectives laid down for welfare of Shompen are as under:

- a) Protection of the natural habitat of Shompen Tribe so that there is no further depletion in the area notified for them.
- b) Extension of all support and assistance for their survival.
- c) Empowerment of Shompen through gradual exposure and interaction through AAJVS.
- d) Their protection from the harmful effects of exposure and contact with the outside world
- e) Preservation of the social structure, traditional mode of subsistence and cultural identity of the Shompen
- f) Provision of health care to the members of the Shompen to reduce mortality and morbidity affliction with diseases to which their systems have no immunity
- g) To protect and conserve ecology and environment of the notified Tribal Reserve for Shompen in order to enable the Shompen to practice their traditional mode of subsistence and life style;
- h) Sensitization of settlers and other non-tribal around the Shompen Tribal reserve and also personnel of govt. agencies working for their protection and welfare of the about the need to protect and preserve the primitive tribe respect and value their indigenous and unique life style.

B. The Onge: -

Presently, the Onge are 140 in number and settled in Dugong Creek, Little Andaman Island. They are hunters and food gatherers. Even though they have experienced the taste of modernization and eat food with salt and spice, they still continue their traditional habits of canoe making, fish, turtle and wild boar hunting. They collect plenty of honey during the season. To make them self-reliant, coconut plantation has been raised at Dugong Creek. They collect the nuts, make copra and sell it through their own Society i.e OMPCS Ltd to another apex level Society M/s ANCOFED Ltd.

To encourage them to adhere to their traditional and cultural life style, AAJVS needs to stress on the following issues:

- I. Imparting training on traditional art and house making. The knowledge and expertise in their traditional crafts is required to be passed on to the younger generation, so that it does not die out.
- II. Teaching Onge to be self-reliant by undertaking agricultural and horticultural activities
- III. Providing better health delivery system
- IV. Sensitizing ground workers in dealing the Onge

The following Developmental schemes are implemented for the welfare and development of the Onge tribes:-

- a) Extending health care
- b) Supply of free ration and supplementary food
- c) Providing education
- d) Supply of nutritious food for prevention of malnutrition
- e) Repair of Onge houses
- f) Providing sports items
- g) Supply of poultry birds
- h) Safe drinking water, power supply
- i) Supply of bicycles, fishing gears, agricultural tools etc.

C. The Andamanese :-

The Andamanese were more than 10000 in number but severely imparted by British policy and their number came to 19. They were settled at Strait Island by

the Administration. Presently their population is 58. There are nine members non-tribal members in the community married to the Andamanese.

The mission for the Andamanese is different from that of the other tribe-

- i) Counselling against ill effects of tobacco and alcohol
- ii) Raising vegetable / horticulture farms
- iii) Running and maintaining poultry farm
- iv) Revitalizing the culture and traditional knowhow from older Andamanese and documenting it. Exposure of younger generation to this traditional culture.
- vi) Providing quality education and sports facilities
- vii) Organizing of medical camps

23 Andamanese are employed in various departments of the A&N Administration. 18 Andamanese children are studying in various classes in Port Blair and at Strait Island. Out of the above, 14 Students are provided education in private educational institutions in Port Blair.

In order to eliminate the 'dependency Syndrome' among the Andamanese various self-sustenance activities like their coconut plantation development, vegetable cultivation, poultry unit, etc. are carried out.

D. The Jarawa :-

The Jarawas inhabit the South and Middle Andaman areas. Their present population is 640. They practice their traditional life style and culture and continue with hunting, food gathering, honey collection. An area of 1028 Sq. Km has been reserved for their subsistence from Constance Bay in South Andaman to Lewis inlet bay in Middle Andaman.

The mission for Jarawa is mainly the following:

- i) Implementation of the notified Jarawa policy
- ii) Conducting regular sensitization / awareness camps

- iii) Supply of iron tools and implements to Jarawa to persuade them not to plunder materials from nearby villages
- iv) Providing health facilities both insitu and expert medical treatment
- v) intensified patrolling and health care purposes
- vi) Maintenance of Jarawa ward at Ferrargunj, Tusnabad, Kadamtala

Three light motor vehicles, 12 motor cycles and three engine dinghies have been deployed for intensified patrolling at Tirur, Jirkatang to Middle Strait and Kadamtala areas. To implement the guidelines given in the Jarawa Policy ie., maximum autonomy, minimum contacts with non-tribal, etc, AAJVS has deployed its employees at various pockets on the ATR, Tirur, Kadamtala etc. Besides this, staff has been deployed for night patrolling in Tirur and Kadamtala area, Middle Strait and Kadamtala areas.

E. The Sentinelese: -

Sentinelese are the inhabitants of North Sentinel Island in South Andaman District. As per the prevailing policy decision, all types of contact or expeditions to North Sentinel Island have been stopped. However, patrolling is carried out by security forces to prevent poachers entering into the island.

Population of Sentinelese are estimated to be around 50. Experts have advised that the Administration has an “eyes on and hands off” policy in respect of Sentinelese. Accordingly, periodical circumnavigation of the North Sentinel Island by a special team constituted by the Administration is proposed subject to weather conditions. A new Circumnavigation protocol has been notified by the Administration for ensuing security and safety of the Sentinelese

Annexure-6

BUDGET OUTLAY 2023-24

SN	NAME OF THE SCHEME	FINANCIAL OUTLAY (2023-24) in lakhs
1	Welfare Programme of PVTGs	971.19
5	Strengthening & Maintenance of AAJVS	107.50
Total		1078.69

Annexure-4

TELEPHONE DIRECTORY AAJVS

SL	PARTICULARS	TELEPHONE NO.	EMAIL
1	EXECUTIVE SECRETARY	03192-232247	esaajvs@gmail.com
2	Administrative Officer	03192-233968	
3	Development-cum-Research Officer	03192-233054	
4	Tribal Welfare Officer, Tirur	03192-280300	
5	Tribal Welfare Officer, Jirkatang	03192-281547	
6	Tribal Welfare Officer, Kadamtala	03192-267159	
7	Tribal Welfare Officer, Campbell Bay	03193-264042	

Annexure-5

Monthly Remuneration January - 2025 [ANDAMAN ADIM JANJATI VIKAS SAMITI (AAJVS), Sri Vijaya Puram – 744101]

SN	DESIGNATION	PAY LEVEL
1.	Administrative Officer	9
2.	Dev-cum-Research Officer	8
3.	Accountant	6
4.	Tribal welfare Officer	6
5.	Pharmacist	6
6.	Light Vehicle Driver	2
7.	Engine dinghy operator	2
8.	ANM	4
9.	Sr Janjati Sevak	3
10.	Janjati Sevak	2
11.	Engine Dinghy Helper	1

अण्डमान तथा
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निकोबार राजपत्र
Nicobar Gazette

असाधारण

EXTRAORDINARY

प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित

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POLICY ON JARAWA TRIBE OF ANDAMAN ISLANDS

I. INTRODUCTION

The High Court of Calcutta (Circuit Bench at Port Blair) vide their order dated 9-4-2001 in WP No.048 of 1999 (PIL) - Ms. Shyamali Ganguly, Advocate Vs Union of India and Others, inter-alia, directed the Central Government as under:

"The Central Government through the Principal Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, within two months from the communication of this order shall form a Committee of Experts with the Lt. Governor of the Islands as the Convener, comprising of renowned Anthropologists, Sociologists, Nutrition Experts, Doctors for immediately undertaking a scientific study, research and survey in the aforesaid change in the behaviour of the Jarawas and to find out the cause of the same.....

The said Committee shall submit its report within six months from the formation of such Committee before the Central Government and Lt. Governor, A&N Islands and also shall file a copy thereof before the Circuit Bench of this Court.

Within six months thereafter the Central Government through the Home Secretary himself and the Lt. Governor of the Andaman & Nicobar Administration shall formulate a policy, plans and programmes on the aforesaid questions whether the steps should now be taken for bringing the Jarawas in the mainstream of the society or they should be left to their own way of life as before or the balance between the two should be struck following the peaceful existence theory as suggested by Mr. Awaradi in his Master Plan or any other experts. For the aforesaid purpose, the Central Government shall, arrange seminars and open discussions of the different experts, National and International on the line, Anthropologist, Sociologist and others as also individuals and non-governmental organizations having knowledge and experience in the matter inviting them by issuing public notification in widely circulated news papers and sending them letters of invitation and thereafter shall frame the policy decision within the stipulated period after deliberation and discussion on such opinions with the approval of the concerned Ministry. The Central Government shall also publish the papers, discussions and deliberation of such seminar, at its cost, for future reference.....

After formulation of such policy, the same shall be notified by the Central Government and the A&N Administration and shall also be placed before the Circuit Bench of this Hon'ble Court for appropriate order".

2. In pursuance of the aforesaid order of the Hon'ble High Court of Calcutta, a Committee of Experts was constituted by the Central Government vide the Ministry of Home Affairs' Notification No. U-14040/24/99-ANL dated the 21st July, 2001.

3. The Committee of Experts submitted its report before the Hon'ble High Court of Calcutta on 28-7-2003. As per the aforesaid directions of the Hon'ble High Court, the Central Government was required to formulate policy, plans and programmes in respect of Jarawas in consultation with the Lt. Governor, A&N Islands after organizing seminars and open discussions with the different experts, national and international, Anthropologists, Sociologists and others as also individuals and non-governmental organizations having knowledge and experience in the matter. Accordingly, the Central Government organized two such seminars one at Kolkata on 7th - 8th April, 2004 and another at Port Blair on 27th - 28th May, 2004 wherein experts, non-governmental organizations and individuals deliberated on various issues relating to the Jarawas and their well being.

4. The Central Government in the Ministry of Home Affairs considered the report of Committee of Experts vis-à-vis the views that emerged during the two seminars/open discussions organized by the Central Government on the said report of the Expert Committee in consultation with the A&N Administration and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, the administrative Ministry for the matters connected with tribes and tribal affairs.

5. The Central Government in the Ministry of Home Affairs have consequently decided to frame a policy / guidelines for the protection and welfare of the Jarawas in Andaman & Nicobar Islands with the following objectives in view:

II. OBJECTIVES

- (i) To protect the Jarawas from harmful effects of exposure and contact with the outside world while they are not physically, socially and culturally prepared for such interface;
- (ii) To preserve the social organization, mode of subsistence and cultural identity of the Jarawa community;
- (iii) To provide medical help to the Jarawas to reduce mortality and morbidity in case of their sudden affliction with diseases which their systems are unaccustomed to;
- (iv) To conserve the ecology and environment of the Jarawa Reserve Territory and strengthen support systems in order to enable the Jarawas pursue their traditional modes of subsistence and way of life; and
- (v) To sensitize settler communities around the Jarawas habitat and personnel working for the protection and preservation of the Jarawas about the need to preserve this ancient community and to value their unique culture and life styles.

III. STRATEGIES / GUIDELINES

The Central Government, with the above objectives in view, have framed the following strategies / guidelines for the protection and welfare of the Jarawas:

I. Protection of cultural Identity

- (a) The Jarawas shall be considered and treated as a unique human heritage.
- (b) A policy of maximum autonomy to the Jarawas with minimum and regulated intervention shall be adopted by the Government towards the Jarawas. There shall be no intervention in cultural life of the Jarawas and they will be left at liberty to develop according to their own genius and at their own pace. No attempts to bring them to the mainstream society against their conscious will or to rehabilitate them in separate islands / locations at this stage of their social development will be made.
- (c) The quality of intervention with Jarawas will be managed with care and sensitivity through suitably trained and re-oriented personnel, in consultation with and evaluation by anthropologists and experts. The objective will be to avoid dependency syndrome and to ensure their development as a vibrant social group. The personnel working for Jarawas would be provided with proper training and sensitization. The people of the villages near the Jarawa reserve area and other non-tribals will be sensitized regarding the rights and privileges of the Jarawas.

II. Protection of the Natural Habitat

- (a) No exploitation of natural resources within the Jarawa reserve by any non-tribal including Government agencies will be allowed. Necessary measures shall be initiated to curb even occasional extraction of resources from the Jarawa territory by the non-Jarawas. Provisions of A&N Islands (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes) Regulation, 1956 will be enforced more effectively. The A&N Islands (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes) Regulation, 1956 shall be amended to provide stringent punishment for poaching in the Jarawa territory and for exploitation of the Jarawas.
- (b) The notified Jarawa territory shall be fully and effectively demarcated and no attempt to curtail, reduce or to acquire land there from shall be made.
- (c) All encroachments in the Jarawa territory shall be removed on priority basis. Stringent arrangements to ensure that such encroachments do not take place in future will also be made.
- (d) Permanent residence of Government employees / non-tribals in the Jarawa reserve will not be allowed.
- (e) It shall be ensured that no person other than a Jarawa is allowed to enter the notified Jarawa reserve by any means unless he/she is permitted by the competent authority designated by the A&N Administration for this purpose. However, no such permission shall be granted unless the person is proceeding on bonafide work relating to the welfare of the Jarawas or protection of the area.

- (f) No tourist will be allowed to visit / interact with the Jarawas so that curious intrusions are avoided as these intrusions adversely affect their life style and health.

III. Protection of Health Status

- (a) Periodic health survey of the Jarawa community will be organized through a Standing Team of health professionals. Only cases needing intensive care will be brought to the hospital but they will be kept in separate enclosures. Appropriate food will be provided instead of the hospital meals. Whenever female Jarawas come or are brought to hospital, female Police will be posted invariably.
- (b) Medical intervention among the Jarawas, i.e., the line of treatment, use of drugs and medicines will be only on the basis of advice of experts in the relevant fields and shall be administered only when found absolutely necessary.
- (c) Medical assistance to Jarawas will be extended in their reserve area by qualified health officials as far as feasible so that all the advantages of such in-situ treatment are available to the Jarawas. Jarawa patients will be shifted to hospital only if in-situ treatment is not possible or not felt adequate to save the patient.
- (d) The traditional knowledge of Jarawas including ethno-medicine shall be preserved and documented.
- (e) Diagnostic approach, treatment regimen and prescription of drugs in case of common pattern of diseases observed amongst the Jarawas shall be standardized and documented so that experimentation by individual doctors and conflicting assessments can be avoided.
- (f) Periodic nutritional and food security surveys shall be conducted to ensure that there is adequate provision of food resources to the Jarawas and that there is no fall in nutritional standards.
- (g) The Jarawas shall not be provided food which is alien to their normal dietary habits.
- (h) Officials / workers engaged in the protection and welfare of Jarawas will be regularly screened to ensure that they are absolutely free from any communicable diseases and that they do not encourage addictive habits such as smoking and drinking amongst the Jarawa population.

IV. Regulation of traffic on Andaman Trunk Road

- (a) Traffic on Andaman Trunk Road will be regulated strictly limiting the traffic to the essential purposes of public transport, supplies and emergency evacuation of patients and to ensure that it is an innocent and harmless passage and not a source of trouble to Jarawas.
- (b) Vehicles on Andaman Trunk Road will be allowed to move only in restricted hours and in convoy under notified speed limit to avert possible road accidents and to avoid any sort of interaction of travelers with Jarawas.
- (c) Facilities for travel by boat / ship will be strengthened and transportation / travel by sea will be encouraged.
- (d) Maintenance of the Andaman Trunk Road will be carried out by a mobile maintenance team bringing men, machine and materials from Ferrargunj / Jirkatang and carry out the job only during day time.
- (e) The tourist traffic on Andaman Trunk Road will be strictly monitored to ensure that there is no interaction between the Jarawas and the tourists.

V. Codification of Jarawa language

- (a) Codification of the language of Jarawas shall be done with the advice and involvement of experts. However, continuous interaction in the name of codification of language will not be allowed. Codification of language shall be attempted by relevant experts in a discreet manner during periodic health surveys of the Jarawas.
- (b) Officials of the A&N Administration who will be coming in contact with the Jarawas particularly those of Health and Welfare Departments will be encouraged to learn the Jarawa language so that they are able to communicate with them and understand their perceptions, reactions and problems.

VI. Institutional arrangements

- (a) The A&N Administration shall be wholly and entirely responsible for the implementation of the aforesaid policy on the Jarawas. It shall lay down detailed tasks for each agency and unit of the administrative machinery and set up structures for monitoring and specific mechanism for enforcing accountability of officials in respect of tasks assigned to them in connection with protection and welfare of the Jarawas.
- (b) The Andaman Adm Janjati Vikas Samiti (AAJVS) an autonomous body will function like a trustee of the interest of the Jarawas and advise A&N Administration regarding the protection and welfare of all aboriginal tribes including the Jarawas.

- (c) The Executive Council of AAJVS assisted by experts and persons having knowledge and experience in tribal affairs under the Chairmanship of Lt. Governor will enforce and monitor implementation of the policy.
- (d) Meaningful research on the Jarawas will be allowed under the advice of AAJVS to further the understanding of their life and culture including their traditional knowledge. However, it shall be ensured strictly that the confidentiality of genetic resources on the Jarawas will be maintained and not used for commercial exploitation by any agency or organization which is not directly concerned with the welfare and protection of the Jarawas.
- (e) Periodic review of this policy will be done so that the policy is dynamic and takes into account changing needs and circumstances.

**ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ADMINISTRATION
DIRECTORATE OF TRIBAL WELFARE**

NOTIFICATION

Port Blair, dated the 22nd May, 2015.

POLICY ON SHOMPEN TRIBE OF GREAT NICOBAR ISLAND

No. 89/2015/F. No. 1-892/2009-TW/557.— The policy towards the Shompens Tribe recognizes socio-geographic variation within the community, varying requirements of different groups of Shompens, and the need to address various gaps in our understanding of this somewhat less known community. The policy seeks to ensure the social, economic and cultural integrity of the entire community. It also recognizes the need to improve the mechanisms by which the policy is implemented in response to dynamism in interaction by the Shompens with others outside their community and also within. The guiding principle for this document is to ensure the integrity of their society but without denying them basic rights to life.

Accordingly, with the approval of Government of India, Ministry of Tribal Welfare as communicated vide letter No.17014/05/2008-C&LM-II(Part) dated 10.04.2015, the Lt. Governor, Andaman and Nicobar Islands hereby makes the following scheme, namely :-

1. SHORT TITLE AND COMMENCEMENT :

- (i) These policy may be called Andaman and Nicobar Islands Shompen Policy, 2015.
- (ii) They shall come in to force from the date of publication of Official Gazette.

2. OBJECTIVES :

- 2.1 Recognize the social, ecological and economic diversity among Shompens.
- 2.2 Eliminate through phased reduction, any exploitation and unsustainable dependency.
- 2.3 Provide appropriate opportunity for health and medical requirements.
- 2.4 Ensure their integrity and well being through developing channels of communication, consultation and participation only based on their willingness.
- 2.5 Preserve and protect their cultural heritage including language.

3. THE DISTRIBUTION AND VARIATION IN REQUIREMENTS AMONG SHOMPENS :

- 3.1 The policy towards the Shompens community recognizes four distinct groups of Shompens, geographically spread on the island of Great Nicobar with varying degrees of contact. They are at (a) New Chingenhy, (b) Laful Region, (c) East-West Road Region and (d) the Kokeon/Galathea Region (map in Annexure). The policy towards the Shompens will document and respond to the variable contact and varying requirements from outside of the groups.
- 3.2 The most frequent Shompens visitors from the forested regions are those from Laful. Their frequent visitation has also raised a growing dependence on rice and other market commodities. Since these commodities are given free, there is a question of dignity to the people. The other two groups (East-West road and Kokeon/Galathea) are not as dependent, and infrequently visit the Campbell Bay settlement.
- 3.3 The most evident problem identified is the lack of sufficient information and rationale with regard to the periodic and variable contact made by some community members for articles such as rice. Also the need for rice has to be assessed in terms of nutritional loss since traditional foods are possibly abandoned.
- 3.4 Integrity of the Shompens socio-cultural well-being should be determined periodically on the basis of reducing dependence, and sustainability of any interventions that may be required from time to time.

FACILITATION FOR COMMUNITY WELL BEING (LIVELIHOOD, HEALTH AND EDUCATION) :

- 1 The Shompens families at New Chingenh are integrated with Nicobarese and are dependent on rice in the absence of their own food resources, and, therefore, are an exception. Rice and dal may continue to be distributed to New Chingenh and Laful communities. Requirements in sustainable livelihood options will include enhancing their dietary profile through land allotment for cultivation of tubers and other traditional crops through their active participation. Since these groups are known to practice arboriculture/horticulture, these should not be discontinued through free distribution of external foods.
- 4.2 For the other groups (East-West road and Kokeon/Galathea region), the degree of requirement of or dependence on rice, is not clearly established.
- 4.3 When women patients visit or are admitted in the hospital, accurate and sensitive communication between patient and doctor/medical staff will be required during their treatment. Women Andaman Adim Janjati Vikas Samiti (AAJVS) workers preferably from the Shompens community should be trained in basic medicare, and be available for such occasions. Since at present the availability of such persons from the tribe will be less, others may have to be taken.
- 4.4 The use of helicopter services for evacuations in times of emergencies will be continued as far as it is practical and when required.
- 4.5 Though most Shompens use traditional practices of healing for most common ailments, the AAJVS will ensure that a protocol for diagnosis, treatment and immunization procedures is developed by well experienced health experts. AAJVS workers should be trained to identify on visual examination of the clinical symptoms of diseases which may require medical intervention.
- 4.6 As a long terms vision toward effective communication, linguistic skill development for field staff, and the development of locally appropriate educational tools and creating awareness among Shompens children and adults will be undertaken by Andaman and Nicobar Tribal Research Institute (ANTRI) utilizing the experience in similar ventures with the Ang/Jarawa tribal community. However, before this can happen, the language skills of Tribal Welfare Staff has to be upgraded.
- 4.7 Based on the information generated and analyzed by ANTRI and health experts, health camps may be conducted only in collaboration with ANTRI and Department of Tribal Welfare by the selection of well oriented and experienced medical and welfare staff.
- 4.8 To increase awareness and equitable relations with non-Shompens, a bicultural and bilingual education programme should be tailored for Laful and New Chingenh Shompens. This may be extended, if and when required for other groups. The policy recognizes that the reduction of inequitable exchange will be an adaptive process based on learning and development of communication.

5. RESEARCH AND MAINTENANCE OF A SHOMPENS DATABASE :

- 5.1 The research driven programme for tribal welfare will be coordinated by the A&N Tribal Research Institute (ANTRI) to establish patterns of food availability, requirement and demand. The programme should seek to understand alterations in demand and supply to allow a flexible approach in catering to the welfare of these communities, without introducing any measures that bring on unsustainable dependence and/or negatively impacts their nutrition level, sense of identity and self-sufficiency.
- 5.2 Though this temporary arrangement by which the AAJVS is able to clearly establish seasonal local food availability and its non-availability (if at all), the distribution or modification in rice/dal distribution may be revisited. Other vegetables which can be cultivated may also be examined.
- 5.3 Field surveys by AAJVS should be conducted on basic research to understand social and economic practices, such as food cultivation, collection and distribution, dietary cycles, the position of women and role of men, social learning and growth among children and youth. This will also aid the development of communication, which is rudimentary at present between welfare staff and the community.

- 5.4 Traditional medicines and practices, diet value and therapeutic properties of medicinal and dietary foods will be documented and maintained as a database by ANTRI as part of the research led welfare policy. AAJVS workers should document this during their interactions. In particular, the medicines and practices which protect the people from malaria need to be documented.
- 5.5 A viable programme of action on the aspect of growing dependence on market goods primarily by Laful Shompens needs to be taken up as part of the research driven policy.
- 5.6 ANTRI will document Shompens dialect(s). These will be used for effective communication as well as conserving the traditional/oral knowledge of the community.
- 5.7 A major requirement to bridge an information-gap is the development of a 'health database' by the AAJVS for all Shompens who use the medical facilities on the island of Great Nicobar. All medical records for those Shompens who visit the Health Centre are to be maintained by the Health Centre at Campbell Bay and monitored by AAJVS Shompens Sarai. It is important to maintain the privacy of such health data.
- 5.8 A digital database has been initiated at the AAJVS Shompens Sarai at Campbell Bay to generate and maintain information on periodic visitation, medical intervention, distribution of rations or other articles. The parameters of the database have to be regularly and accurately maintained by AAJVS.
- 5.9 All data should be sensitively and ethically collected, with regard to gender, their participatory consent and in safeguarding information for bonafide use. Steps in ensuring the confidentiality of data and development of basic field research practices by AAJVS and other departmental staff are requirements in this process.
- 5.10 Monthly reports of this database need to be sent to ANTRI and AAJVS at Port Blair to archive and assess variations in interaction, while flexibly administering appropriate requirements between Shompens groups.
- 5.11 Data should not be sent by internet.

6. PROTECTION OF NATURAL HABITAT :

- 6.1 After the tsunami and rehabilitation, there is a requirement of clearly demarcating the settlement region from the Tribal Reserve. Given the possibility of encroachments, all encroachments will be removed. The area notified as a Revenue settlement area has to be mapped and clearly demarcated on the ground. This map should be made available to the Andaman Administration (AAJVS/Department of Tribal Welfare, Office of Divisional Forest Officer, Campbell Bay, Assistant Commissioner Office, Campbell Bay).
- 6.2 No eco-tourism ventures should be allowed in the regions where Shompens are known to frequent. The boundary of the eastern limit of the Tribal Reserve along the settlement region and the EW road should be clearly marked and managed for visitors to the Nature Trail maintained by the Department of Environment and Forests, A&N Administration.
- 6.3 With regard to large-scale development proposals in the future for Great Nicobar Island (such as trans-shipment/container terminal etc), the welfare and integrity of the Shompens community should be given priority and be reviewed in consultation with the Department of Tribal Welfare and Andaman Adim Janjati Vikas Samiti (AAJVS), and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- 6.4 Signages regarding legal protection vis-à-vis Andaman Nicobar Protection of Aboriginal Tribes Regulation, 1956, and informative Do's and Don'ts will be maintained at appropriate locations on Great Nicobar Island.
- 6.5 Introduction of crops or animals as a humanitarian gesture should not be undertaken by other departments or individuals as a resource augmentation exercise without availability of basic data generated first. Such efforts should be examined by the Expert Committee.

7. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS :

- 7.1 Based on the periodic review of policy implementation, the Department of Tribal Welfare, A&N Administration will be responsible for the implementation of the Shompens policy through AAJVS and ANTRI. Appropriate course correction should be carried out to achieve the overall objectives of this policy.

- 7.2 Two locations from where two groups (East-West road and Komeon/Galathea regions) emerge from the forest to the settlement are at the 16 Km East-West road and at 24 Km North-South road at Laxmi Nagar (Annexure-2). Field stations must be constructed to facilitate research as well as to monitor exploitation by non-tribals. They should be made operational with minimal accommodation for field staff and storage facilities. Other stations may be considered at Laxman beach and near the Galathea River, North-South road in effort to facilitate implementation of the policy objectives.
- 7.3 Through the research led welfare policy, the development of a sustainable mechanism of equitable exchange and communication may be undertaken to eliminate inequitable barter, exploitation and dole dependence. Some extent of market intervention through AAJVS may be taken up, if necessary.
- 7.4 A systematic process of policy implementation will be developed by field staff and the expert advisory group of the ANTRI/AAJVS based on the review of the information generated. It is envisaged that these will provide insights and understanding on who constitute the Shompens of Great Nicobar for a better grip on ensuring their socio-cultural integrity and spatial security.
- 7.5 The Ministry of Tribal Affairs will provide financial and other support for strengthening these institutions.

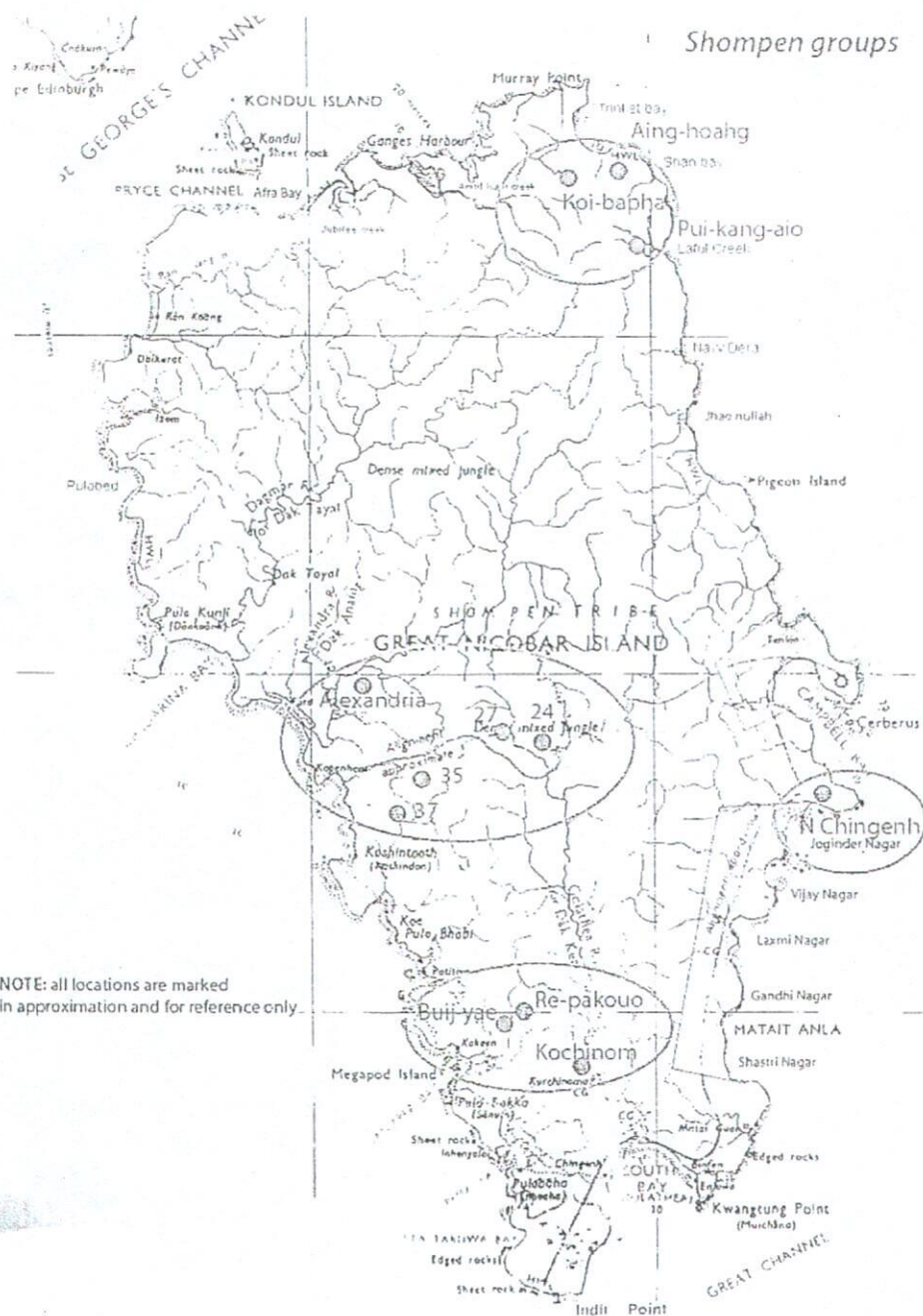
8. EXPERT COMMITTEE AND REVIEW OF POLICY :

"The Expert Committee for preparation of policies for various PVTGs of A&N Islands" under the Chairpersonship of Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs will be responsible for modification/review of the policy. The policy may be reviewed as and when required, based upon available information.

By order and in the name of the Lt. Governor,
Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

Sd./-
(D. M. Shukla)
Secretary (Tribal Welfare)
A&N Administration

Geographical spread and categorisation of groups



Proposed AAIVS field stations

