

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2724
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2010
ABORIGINAL TRIBES
Mandal Shri Mangani Lal

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of islands in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands which are inhabited by the aborigines indicating the races and population of such tribes including Jarawa;
- (b) whether there are reports of attempts being made by certain foreign organisations to establish contact with these aboriginal tribes illegally;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure protection of such aborigines?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

(a): 18 islands in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands are inhabited by the aborigines. The races and population of such Aboriginal Tribes are as under:

S.No. Aboriginal Tribe Race Population

(i) Great Andamanese Negrito 50

(ii) Onges Negrito 100

(iii) Jarawas Negrito 362

(iv) Sentinelese Negrito 39]As

(v) Shompens Mongoloid]per 398]2001

(vi) Nicobarese Mongoloid 28653]census

(b): No, Madam.

(c): Does not arise in view of reply at (b) above.

(d): Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes) Regulation, 1956 was promulgated to protect the Aboriginal Tribes in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The areas inhabited by these tribes have been declared as tribal reserve. The entry into such areas by non-tribals without permit by the Statutory Authority is prohibited under the law. Land alienation is also prohibited.