



Shompen Cast their First Vote

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For the first time **7 members** of the **Shompen tribe**, one of the [Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups \(PVTGs\)](#) residing in the Great Nicobar Island cast their votes in the Andaman and Nicobar Lok Sabha constituency.

- They are highly **isolated, semi-nomadic hunter-gatherers**. The estimated population of the **Shompen tribe** was 229 as per the 2011 Census data.
- They are known for their distinctive **unique language**, consisting of various dialects understood only within specific bands.
- The tribe's **social structure is patriarchal**, with the eldest male member overseeing family affairs. While **monogamy is common**, polygamy is also permissible.
- Five PVTGs are residing in Andamans archipelago are **Great Andamanese, Jarwas, Onges, Shompens and North Sentinelese**.
- PVTGs were originally labelled as Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs) by the **Dhebar Commission in 1973, later renamed PVTGs by the Government of India in 2006**.

Read more: [Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups \(PVTGs\)](#)

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