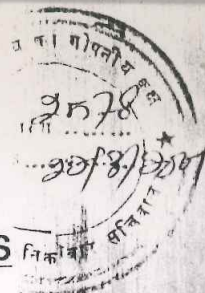


20/8/2007



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CHARTER OF DEMANDS

1. Legislation for the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

It is a long cherished dream of the people of these islands to have a legislative Assembly with Council of Ministers of their own. Many times in the past assurance had been given by the Government of India for enactment of appropriate legislation in this regard but the hopes and aspirations of islanders to have a democratic body of their own remains yet to be redeemed.

A set-up by the people's mandate was granted to the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands in the year 1981 by promulgating the Andaman and Nicobar Administrative Regulation 1981 and constituted a Pradesh Council drawing members from Panchayats and Municipality and by nomination of some persons from the Tribal communities of Nicobar Island. This regulation and the functioning of the Pradesh Council; have proved to be a success in governance till the new Panchayat and Municipal Council Regulation came into existence by making the 73rd and 74th amendment of our Constitution. Andaman and Nicobar Municipal Regulation was promulgated in the year 1994 where under a provision was made for repealing the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Administrative Regulation and with that the Constitution of Pradesh Council came to an end. This system of democracy provided to the people of Andaman and Nicobar Islands presented good governance by the elected representatives of local bodies.

The Social features and the strategic importance of these islands deserve a democratic set up not less than an Assembly and the Council of Ministers today.

2. Autonomous Tribal Council

The Tribal people of Nicobar District have been deprived of their right guaranteed under the 6th Schedule of the Constitution as they have been discriminated by introducing the three tier Panchayat Raj Systems which is allowed to be exercised non-tribals only inhabited mostly in Andaman District and Campbell Bay. For the fulfillment of the hopes and aspirations of the tribal people they should be provided with an Autonomous Council, a system considered to be more appropriate for their participation in governance at the grass-root level under Sixth Schedule of the Constitution.

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