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No. 1-505/98-TW/ 20
Andaman and Nicobar Administration
Directorate of Tribal Welfare
Secretariat Complex, Port Blair – 744 101
e-mail : directortw@yahoo.co.in
Fax No.: 03192-31639

Port Blair, dated the ~~December 2001~~

4th Jan. 2002

To

Shri. Samir Acharya
The Indian National Trust for Art & Culture Heritage
Middle Point
Port Blair – 744101

Sir,

I am directed to refer your letter dated 12th October 2001 addressed to Secretary (Education & Tribal Welfare), A&N Administration regarding extending Panchayati Raj System to the tribal areas of Nicobars, and to say that your suggestion whether the Act namely – Provisions of the Panchayat (extension to the scheduled areas) Act, 1996 is applicable to the tribal areas of the A&N Islands has been examined in consultation with the law department of this Administration and found that the above Act is applicable to the scheduled areas only, which are determined by the President of India by an order in this behalf. As the tribal areas of this UT have not been notified as scheduled areas under the Constitution of India by the President, the Act is not applicable.

However under the provisions of the A&N Islands (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes) Regulation 1956 the tribal areas inhabited by the Scheduled Tribes of this UT have been declared as reserved areas.

With regard to extension of Panchayati Raj System it is further stated that there is a proposal to form an Autonomous District Council for Nicobars, for which draft Act has been formulated by the Deputy Commissioner, Nicobars and referred to the Tribal Council, Car Nicobar to ascertain its opinion.

Yours faithfully,

Research Officer (TW)
C.F.No.14-03

g/c.

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