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No. 11023/7/99-UTL  
Government of India/Bharat Sarkar  
Ministry of Home Affairs/Grin Mantralaya



3443/Dir(T-1)  
26/12/2000  
(152)



To

The Chief Secretary,  
Andaman and Nicobar Administration,  
Port Blair.

Sub: Proposal relating to amendment of Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes) Regulation, 1956.

I am directed to refer your Administration's letter No. 7-44/98-Legal dated 12th August, 1999 on the subject mentioned above and to say that the aforesaid Regulation provides for protection of interests of socially and economically backward Aboriginal Tribes in Andaman and Nicobar Islands. It is proposed that the penal provision of fine up to Rs.1000/- which was fixed way back in 1956 is no longer sufficient and the same may be enhanced to Rs. 2000/- and the minimum period of imprisonment may be extended from one year to two years. The matter has been examined in consultation with the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs who have observed that such a minimum period of imprisonment is normally provided in the law aimed at removing social evils such as in dowry prohibition or in law aimed at protecting society from danger of Narcotics Drugs and psychotropic substances. Secondly, the proposed punishment of two years will make the offence cognizable under Criminal Procedure Court and the Police will be in a position to arrest the alleged persons.

2. In view of the above, you are requested to reconsider the aforesaid proposal in the light of the connected consequences and ensure that it meets your intentions. Please also send a statement indicating the cases booked during the last ten years; and the punishment awarded year-wise.

Yours faithfully,

*S Kumar*

(Sudesh Kumar)  
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India.  
Tele: 3011195.