## ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ADMINISTRATION DIRECTORATE OF TRIBAL WELFARE

Ref: PP2-5/C (PUC)

This is a joint representation of the Chairman, Tribal Council, Car Nicobar and the Chairman, Tribal Council, Nanworie regarding various issues concerning the Nicobarese tribals. The minutes dated 28/11/2013 recorded on the PUC by the Commission-cum-Secretary (TW) are reproduced below:-

"Tribal Council members meet Hon'ble LG today
Discussed with Shri. Rasheed. He is going to convey some
suggestions regarding amendments to the 2009 Regulation.
In the mean time we can go ahead with Tribal Council
(Preparation of Electoral Rolls and conduct of Elections)
Rules. Please let me know the status. Status Report may
be furnished for apprising Hon'ble LG by December, 10"

The demand of Nicobarese tribes for Autonomous District Councils on the pattern of the States of North Eastern Region of the Country under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution was taken up with the Govt of India and it was also discussed in the 12th IDA meeting held on 19th January, 2009 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, however, it was decided to have the matter examined by the MHA, as per the demand of the then Member of Parliament, A&N Islands. Accordingly, the issue was examined by MHA and it was not agreed to grant sixth schedule status to the Nicobarese tribe due to unique position (sensitive strategic location) of the A&N islands. Instead MHA suggested to set up a Tribal Council without effecting large scale change in the traditional set up and yet formalization of an Advisory System to evolve sense of participation for development of their area. Accordingly the A & N Islands Tribal Council) Regulation, 2009 promulgated by the President of India has come into force

To implement the Regulation, a draft of the rules titled "Andaman & Nicobar Islands (Tribal Councils) (Preparation of Electoral Rolls and Conduct of Elections)" Rules 2011 was prepared and sent to the Deputy Commissioner (Nicobar District) for wider consultation with the tribal leaders way back in May, 2011) before they could be finalized and got approved from the Hon'ble LG, A & N Islands. The DC (N) in turn, circulated the Rules to elicit views / suggestions of the traditional Tribal Councils/Tribal Leaders. Even a campaign was launched to educate the tribals about the impact of implementation of Regulation in vernacular following coming into force the Rules. However, the tribal leaders have expressed their reservations in the instant representation.

Submitted please.

AC(TW)

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