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No.1-849/2013-TW 127
ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ADMINISTRATION
DIRECTORAT OF TRIBAL WELFARE

Port Blair, dated the, 08 January, 2016.

To

The Hon'ble Member of Parliament,
A & N Constituency,
Port Blair.

Sub: Holding of elections as per A & N Islands (Tribal Council) Regulation, 2009 in Nancowry Group of Islands as demanded by all the village captains of Nancowry Group of Islands.

Respected Sir,

I am to refer to your letter No. 47/MP/ANI/TW/2015/1483 dated 24.11.2015 regarding implementation of the Regulation referred to above and inform you that draft Rules titled "A&N Islands (Tribal Councils) (Preparation of Electoral Rolls and Conduct of Elections) Rules 2011" was prepared and sent to the Deputy Commissioner, Nicobar for seeking views/suggestions of the tribal leaders in May, 2011, so that the same could be finalized with the approval of the competent authority in the Administration.

The Dy. Commissioner, Nicobar, in turn, had circulated the Draft Rules amongst the members/leaders of the traditional Tribal Councils for soliciting their views/suggestions and a campaign was also launched to educate them of the impact of the implementation of the Regulation in vernacular.

It is pertinent to mention here that some of the Tribal Councils have expressed reservation in constituting Tribal Councils as stipulated in the Regulation, 2009 and demanded to include the Tribal Areas of Nicobar under the Sixth Schedule as also for exempting the Nicobarese from payment of Income Tax at par with the Scheduled Tribes of the States included in the Sixth Schedule. The proposal for exempting the Nicobarese from the payment of Income Tax has been submitted to the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for consideration.

However, we have, again requested DC, Nicobars to furnish the views/suggestions of the members/leaders of the Tribal Council at the earliest to enable this Department to finalise the draft "A&N Islands (Tribal Councils) (Preparation of Electoral Rolls and Conduct of Elections) Rules 2011" expeditiously, so that the A & N Islands (Tribal Council) Regulation, 2009 could be implemented.

In so far as the formulation and implementation of Tribal Sub Plan are concerned, it is to mention that ITDP and ITDA comprising of the DC, Nicobar District as Chairman and Local Officers of the Line Departments and Tribal leaders as Members and the Project Officer (ITDP) as Members Secretary has since been constituted in Nicobar District where the Tribal Council functionaries viz, Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Deputy Vice

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Issued
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