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

Port Blair, dated the, 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 ~~directed~~ ^{refer to your} to ~~invite a reference to~~ letter No. 47/MP/ANI/TW/2015/1483 dated 24.11.2015 on the above mentioned subject. ^{and}

~~In this context, it is stated~~ that to implement the Regulation, a draft of the 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, Nicobars/ for seeking views/suggestions of the tribal leaders way back in May'2011, before they could be finalized and approved from the Hon'ble Lt.Governor, A & N Islands.

The DC, Nicobars ^{circulate} in turn, ^{has} circulated the ^{draft} rules amongst the members/leaders of the traditional Tribal Councils to elicit ^{their} views/suggestions. ~~Even~~ ^{and} a campaign was ^{also} launched to educate the tribals about the ~~impact~~ ^{importance} of the implementation Regulation in vernacular following coming into force the Rules.

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 Nicobars ~~Tribal Area~~ ^{Tribal Area} under the Sixth Schedule ~~and~~ ^{also} for exempting the Nicobarse from ~~the~~ payment of Income Tax ~~at~~ ^{at} par with Scheduled Tribes of States included in the Sixth Schedule. The proposal for exempting the Nicobarse from the payment of Income Tax has been submitted to the Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Tribal Affairs for consideration.

However, we have requested ~~the~~ 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