

PUC is a DO letter dated 12th May'2014 received from the Election Commissioner for UT's, Govt. of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi addressed to the Hon'ble Lt. Governor, A & N Islands with regard to publishing of the draft Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Tribal Council) (Preparation of Electoral Rolls and conduct of Election) Rules 2011 to operationalise the Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Tribal Council) Regulation, 2009. She has suggested sustained and concerted efforts to assure the tribal chiefs of the benefits that would accrue through devolution of funds and greater participation in Local Self Governance need to be made to operationalise the Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Tribal Council) Regulation, 2009.

In this context, it is submitted that to implement the Regulation, a draft of the rules titled Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Tribal Councils) (Preparation of Electoral Rolls and Conduct of Elections) Rules 2011 was prepared and sent to the Deputy Commissioner, Nicobars for seeking the views/suggestions of the tribal leaders way back in May'2011 before they could be finalized and got approved from the Hon'ble Lt. Governor, A & N Islands. The Deputy Commissioner, Nicobar in turn, circulated the rules to elicit views/suggestions of the traditional Tribal Council/Tribal Leaders. Even a campaign was launched to educate the tribals about the impact of the implementation of Regulation in vernacular following coming into force the Rules.

In the meanwhile, the Members of the Tribal Council of Nicobarese have demanded to include the Nicobars tribal area under Sixth Schedule and also for exempting the Nicobarese from the payment of Income Tax on par with the Scheduled Tribes of states included in the Sixth Schedule, in response to which the Administration has decided that the DC, Nicobar alongwith the representative of Tribal Councils may make a visit to the Autonomous District Council of the North East States to have a better understanding of the concept of Sixth Schedule. With regard to exemption from the Income Tax the Administration has submitted the proposal to the Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Tribal Affairs for consideration.

Further it is submitted that still the Nicobarese are following their traditional pattern of election for election of the Members Tribal Council.

Submitted for perusal please.

Director (TW)

Amrutha
23/05/14

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22/5/14
JRO

*Secy (TW) (12) pl prepare draft reply to
UT Election Commr.*

Di (as) *Amrutha*
27/05/14
26/5/14

J/R.B.

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सचिव (विधि) का नि. प्र. अनुमति
Personal Section of Secretary (Law)/T.W.
श.स. प्र.सं. / R D No. 20
दिनांक / Date. 26-5-2014

254/DTW
23/5/14