

(151) This is regarding implementation of the "Andaman & Nicobar Islands (Tribal Council Regulation), 2009."

(152) The Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Tribal Councils) Regulation, 2009 envisages two tier system with (i) Village Councils (ii) Islands Councils formulated by the Andaman & Nicobar Administration on the pattern of A & N Islands Panchayat Regulation, 1994 to introduce Panchayati Raj amongst the Nicobarese tribe has been promulgated by the President under article 240 of the Constitution of India and the same has been published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II Section 1. No. 56 dated 31.12.2009. It has also been republished in the Andaman & Nicobar Gazette for the general public to provide greater autonomy to the traditional Tribal Councils of Nicobarese to manage their affairs.

(153) In order to implement the "Andaman & Nicobar Islands (Tribal Council Regulation, 2009", draft Electoral Rules was prepared and the same was sent to the Deputy Commissioner, Nicobar District with the request to obtain the opinion and suggestions from all the Tribal Councils of Nicobarese.

(154) There are seven Tribal Councils in the Nicobar District viz. (i) Car Nicobar, the Harminder Bay village situated at Little Andaman habited by the Nicobarese is also coming under jurisdiction of the Tribal Council Car Nicobar (ii) Nancowry, (iii) Kamorta, (iv) Katchal, (v) Teresa, (vi) Chowra and (vii) Great & Little Nicobar.

(155) Out of seven Tribal Councils, the Tribal Council of Katchal has shown their unwillingness to accept the Tribal Council Regulation 2009 and consent of the Chairperson, Tribal Council, Chowra on implementation of Regulation is still awaited.

(156) It is therefore proposed that we may request the Deputy Commissioner, Nicobar Dist. to convene a meeting of all the Seven Tribal Councils and apprise them about the merits of implementation of Tribal Council Regulation, 2009, the Draft Electoral Rules devolution of powers & election pattern proposed under the rules and its consequent benefits which will be gained by the tribals in terms of social and economic development of the tribal community.

(157) Subject to approval, a fair letter is submitted for perusal and approval please.

RO

JRO *alr*

(158) *Ac (TW) submitted for kind appraisal of chief Secretary, A & N Administration.*

*Dir (TW) ADL*  
*Sec (TW)*

*P. disms. L*  
*2/2*