reservation in constituting tribal councils as stipulated in the Regulation, 2009 on the ground that the election process would politicize the tribal community, bring divisions and ultimately destroy their social cohesion and unity including the Tuhet structure (community living through extended family). They have demanded that the Nicobar District should be included in the sixth schedule to the Constitution.

In fact the Administration has already requested the Central Govt to exempt the tribes from payment of Income Tax, by including them under the sixth schedule to the Constitution. The matter is under examination with the Ministry of Home Affairs. It is high time that a positive decision is taken by the Govt of India to protect the social and cultural identity of the tribal community and also meet the aspirations of the younger generation of the indigenous community. The concerns of the strategic sensitivity of the islands are being well met by the presence of adequate security apparatus of the Administration supported by the Andaman Nicobar Command (ANC). It is felt necessary to consider the demand of the Nicobari tribal community for inclusion in the sixth schedule favorably.

Submitted please.

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