

17/47

7		<p>Chapter VIII relating to constitution of the District Council has been proposed to deleted by the A&N Administration while constitution of DPC has been proposed. Since the population of Nicobar District is very small, it is desirable to have only a two-tier system. Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj is of the view that a District Council should be constituted as per the provisions proposed by MHA and this can perform the functions of DPC. Having Islands Councils may not be necessary in view of the small population.</p>	<p>While providing for two tier system in the proposed Regulation, the traditional setup of the Nicobari Tribe as well as the geography of Nicobar group of Islands has been kept in mind. This two tier system has evolved over the years. Both Village Councils and Island level Councils are part of the traditional Nicobari setup, so this Administration feels that it should be retained. Besides, the Tribal leaders have not supported the concept of a District Council and are keen on a two tier system which reflects the already existing Village Council and Island Council. The Tribal identity is strong at the Village and the Island level and not at the District level, because of the geographical spread of the Islands.</p>
	<p>94. (1) The Election Commission shall comprise the Election Commissioner appointed by the President of India under the Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Panchayat) Regulation 1994 and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Municipal) Regulation, 1994 in whom the superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of electoral rolls for, and the conduct of elections to the Village Councils and Island Councils in the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, under this Regulation, shall be vested.</p>	<p>Joint Secretary (Panchayat) A & N Administration Section 94 (1) "The superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of Electoral Rolls for, and the conduct of, all elections to the Village Councils and Island Councils in the UT of Andaman & Nicobar Islands shall be vested in the Election Commission appointed under section 185 of the A & N Islands (Panchayats) Regulation, 1994 and the Election Commissioner appointed under the section shall be deemed to be the Election Commissioner for the purposes of this Regulation."</p>	<p>This is accepted and appropriate modification has been made in the Draft Regulation.</p>