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No. 1-849/2007-TW (PF)/
ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ADMINISTRATION
Directorate of Tribal Welfare
Secretariat Complex

Port Blair, dated the 15th May, 2007

To

The Joint Secretary,
Government of India,
Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Youth Affairs & Sports and
Development of the North Eastern Region,
New Delhi- 110 001

**Sub: Introduction of Self-Government through Local Government
bodies incorporated in the Draft Regulation of the Tribal
Council - reg.**

Sir,

I am directed to refer to DO letter No. N-12012/06/P&J-696 dated 21.3.2007 of the Hon'ble Minister of Panchayati Raj, Youth Affairs & Sports and Development of the North Eastern Region, Govt. of India, New Delhi addressed to Hon'ble Home Minister, Govt. of India, New Delhi and copy among others to the Chief Secretary, A & N Islands, enclosing therewith a copy of letter dated 17.3.2007 of the Chairman, Tribal Council, Car Nicobar raising certain issues like introduction of self-Government through Local Government bodies incorporated in the Draft Regulation of the Tribal Council, 1996 and development of sports activities and culture.

.With regard to Tribal Council Regulation, it is stated that the draft Tribal Councils Regulation envisaging three-tier system with (i) Village Council (ii) Island Council and (iii) District Council was formulated on the pattern of Andaman and Nicobar Islands Panchayat Regulation, 1994 to introduce Panchayati Raj institutions among the Nicobarese tribe. The existing traditional institutions i.e., Tribal Councils and Captains system among the Nicobarese have been taken into account in the draft Regulation.

The draft was circulated among the Nicobarese traditional Tribal Councils to ascertain their views. After prolonged discussions, the Tribal Councils conveyed their consent to the draft Regulation in February, 2004. The Draft Regulation was sent to the Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India vide Administration's letter No. 1-849/2004-TW/86 dated 01.02.2006 (Copy is enclosed) for approval and promulgation under Article 240 of the Constitution.

Later Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India sought the comments / views of the Andaman & Nicobar Administration on the suggestion made by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Govt. of India who had suggested to incorporate the enabling provisions of the Panchayat (Extension to the Schedule Areas) Act, 1996 (PESA Act) in the draft Tribal Councils Regulation.