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Panchayat at the village level. Similar provision was made in the draft Tribal Council Regulation. Prima-facie we feel that the intermediate Panchayats are necessary in the Nicobar District because even in their traditional system, the Nicobarees Tribal Councils at present have two panchayats one at the village level and other at island level and there is no panchayat at District level. Needless to say that no statutory status has been given to these traditional Tribal Councils till date and therefore this Regulation has been proposed. Since islands are far flung and the islands are units of the administration in Nicobar District, we feel that intermediate panchayat are as necessary as the village panchayats and district panchayats.

B. Observations of Legislative Department in brief are:

iii) MHA to carefully examine the reasonability of introducing the proposed Regulation at the time keeping in view the level of awareness and education of the persons who shall follow these regulations.	So far this Union Territory is concerned we feel that this is the right time to notify this Regulations as the traditional tribal councils are functioning though without direct financial and administrative powers conferred upon them by the Government. The draft Tribal Council Regulation has been proposed mainly to cater the needs of Nicobarese tribe who are otherwise well educated. The literacy rate in the Nicobar District predominately inhabited by the Nicobarese is 63.08% as per the 2001 census as compared to national literacy rate of 65%.
iv) the Election Commissioner appointed under section 185 of the Andaman & Nicobar Islands (Panchayats) Regulation is empowered only in respect of Gram Panchayats, Panchayat Samitis and Zila	Provision has already been made under draft Regulation at Section 185. However, as advised by the Ministry. Suggestions have been noted and necessary action as per the advise of the law department a separate proposal for amendment will be made.