

~~have been recommended as~~

### 3. Funding of Tribal Councils like Zilla Parishad :

A draft Tribal Council Regulation for formation of an Autonomous Tribal Council for Nicobar Islands has been formulated and forwarded to the Tribal Leaders in Nicobar for their comments. The Administration has been interacting with the Tribal Leaders from time to time to ascertain their views on the proposed Regulation, but they are yet to give any response.

There are altogether seven Tribal Councils namely- Car Nicobar, Chowra, Terresa, Katchal, Kondul, Pillobhabi and Nancowry in Nicobars District. As per the recommendation of the District Planning Committee vide minutes of its meeting held on 04/06/2002 to discuss the draft Annual Plan 2002-03 under Sector - "Welfare of STs, SCs and OBCs", the Tribal Councils are to be provided with grant-in-aid to take up the developmental works in the tribal area like PRIs in the non-tribal area.

Accordingly a scheme with an outlay of Rs.50 lakh for the Tenth Five Year Plan has been formulated to provide grant-in-aid to the Tribal Councils. Under the Annual Plan 2002-03 a provision of Rs. 10 lakh has been made towards grant-in-aid to the Tribal Councils. The draft grant-in-aid rules have been framed and referred to the GOI, Ministry of Tribal Affairs for approval as the pattern of assistance to any grantee institution is required to be approved by the Ministry of Finance as per the General Financial Rules.

The draft grant-in-aid rules are yet to be approved by the GOI. Pending approval of the draft grant-in-aid Rules there is a proposal to provide the adhoc grant-in-aid to the Tribal Councils, for which necessary proposal has been called for from the Tribal Councils through the Deputy Commissioner, Nicobars District.

(T4-OBC)