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G.C. Joshi Spl. Secy (TW)

D.O. No. 1-804/2004-TW / 1581 ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ADMINSITRATION SECRETARIAT

Port Blair, dated the 25 October, 2005

Dear Sir,

The following proposals are pending with the GOI, Ministry of Tribal Affairs:-

- Ex-post-facto approval for release of grant-in-aid of Rs. 31.22 lakh to the Nicobarese Tribal Council during the financial year 2004-05 referred-vide this Admn's letter No. 1-804/2004-TW/1071 dated 24 march 2005 followed by the letter No. 1-804-TW/1097 dated 15 April 2005. (copies enclosed);
- 2. Approval of revised draft rules governing grant-in-aid to the Nicobarese Tribal Councils referred vide this Admn's letter N. 1-904/2004-TW/1263 dated 30 June 05 at page 1523/c followed by reminders dated 12.8.05 and 1910.05(copies enclosed);

With regard to release of grant-in-aid to the Nicobarese Tribal Councils for the current financial year (2005-06), it is stated that there is a specific provision of Rs. 230 lakh under Annual Plan, 2005-06. We had moved a proposal for release of the above amount as grant-in-aid to the Tribal Councils, but the Finance Department of this Admn. has declined to concur with the proposal in the absence of the approved grant-in-aid rules. The Tribal Councils urgently need funds to carry out reconstruction of tsunami damages and developmental activities in their area, but we are unable to release the grant-in-aid for want of the approved Rules.