No. 1-804/2004-TW (PF)/ 7 8

ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ADMINISTRATION

Directorate of Tribal Welfare

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Port Blair, dated the 27 January, 2006

To

The Joint Secretary, Govt. of India, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi- 110 001 (Fax. No. 011-23073160)

Sub: Ex-post-facto approval of grant-in-aid released to Nicobarese Tribal Councils for creation of community facilities for the year 2004-05 and 2005-06 - Reg.

Sir,

I am directed to invite a reference to this Administration's letter No. 1-804/2004-TW/1363 dated 10th August, 2005 (copy enclosed) followed by a reminder dated 26.12.2005 seeking ex-post facto approval of grant-in-aid of Rs. 31.22 lakh released to Nicobarese Tribal Councils for reconstruction of community facilities during the year 2004-05 in the wake of tsunami devastation of December 2004, pending approval of grant-in-aid Rules under consideration of the Govt. of India, Ministry of Tribal Affairs. In response to our proposal, the Govt. of India, Ministry of Tribal Affairs vide their letter No. 17012/2005-Schemes dated 29.6.2005 asked for certain clarification. The clarifications were furnished vide this Admn.'s letter No. 1-804/2004-TW/1363 dated 12 .8.2005 (copy enclosed), but the approval of the Govt. of India is yet to be received.

Further, there was a specific provision of Rs. 230 lakh under Annual Plan Programme of this UT for the year 2005-06, which could not be utilized for want of approved grant-in-aid Rules. However, as the grant was to be released urgently to Tribal Councils to enable them to undertake reconstruction of community facilities which were devastated by tsunami that hit these islands on 26.12.2004 apart from the taking up development works, the Administrator (Lt. Governor) has sanctioned grant-in-aid of Rs. 230 lakh to the Tribal Councils of Nicobarese subject to ex-post-facto approval to be obtained from Govt. of India, pending approval of grant-in-aid Rules, as advised by the Finance Department of A & N Administration.

In this context it may be mentioned that the Govt. of India is the authority to approve the grant-in-aid Rules and the authority to approve the grant-in-aid Rules could sanction the grant-in-aid case by case pending the notification of Rules.