

Subject:

Para
No.

(26) In this context, it is stated that in pursuance of Rule 148 of the GFR a draft grant -in-aid rules governing grant-in-aid to the Tribal Councils have already been framed and referred to the GOI, Ministry of Tribal Affairs for approval. The GOI are being regularly pursued to expedite the approval of the rules. The DRC, New Delhi has been requested to pursue the proposal with the concerned Ministry so as to expedite. He has informed vide his letter No.12-1/2004-RC/249 dated 25.7.2005 at page 105-107/c that the proposal is under consideration of the Ministry.

(27) In this regard it may also be mentioned that during the previous financial year (2004-05) the grant-in-aid to the tune of Rs. 31.22 lakhs was released to the respective Tribal Councils as per the letter No. 17012/2/2005-S&M dated 8.2.2005 at page 18/c of the Joint Secretary, GOI, MTA, according to which the grant-in-aid is to be released to the Tribal Councils but the expenditure is to be incurred by the DC (N) on behalf of the Tribal Council as per the Govt. rules and procedures. In the same manner, it is proposed that this year too the grant-in-aid may be released to the Tribal Council of Nicobarese pending approval of the grant-in-aid rules.

(28) The DC (N) has been reminded to send Utilization Certificate in respect of grant-in-aid released last year (2004-05). In the wake of Tsunami disaster, the DC's Office, Car Nicobar is fully preoccupied with the rehabilitation activities of the affected tribal families. Even then DC (N) is being pursued regularly to send the utilization certificate. As the grant-in-aid is mainly intended for reconstruction of community facilities and the developmental works in the tribal villages following Tsunami disaster, the grant -in-aid for the current year (2005-6) may be approved, pending receipt of Unitization Certificates from DC (N).

(29) Under Annual Plan programme of sector Welfare of SCs, STs and OBCs, there is a specific provision of Rs. 230.00 lakhs for release of grant-in-aid to the Nicobarese Tribal Councils. The requirement of grant-in-aid for each Tribal Council as per the proposal received from them is discussed as under: