

Sl. No. 11CD

अण्डमान तथा निकोबार प्रशासन
सचिवालय

पोर्ट ब्लेयर - 744 101

ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ADMINISTRATION
SECRETARIAT
Port Blair - 744 101

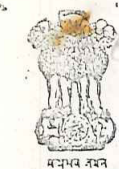
Phone : Off : 33113

Res : 30368

Fax : 03192 - 35412

D.O.No.1-566/2000-TW/829

Date: 4th Sept., 2000.



Nutan Guha Biswas,

Secretary (Tribal Welfare)

Dear

Kindly refer to Ministry's DO No. 20012/38/99-TDB dated 25.2.2000 regarding procurement and marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) and Surplus Agricultural Produce (SAP) grown / collected by the tribal people by Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Ltd. (TRIFED).

As the tribals of this UT are not collecting MFP in surplus, necessitating commercial transaction, there is no necessity of inducting TRIFED to take up procurement of MFP.

With regard to SAP it is stated that the tribals particularly the Nicobarese, produce mainly copra and betel-nut. There are primary cooperative societies for every village in the tribal area of Nicobars District and they are affiliated to apex societies viz. Ellon Hinengo Ltd. (EHL), Car-Nicobar and Manula Mathai Ltd. (MML), Nancowry. These societies have been handling procurement and marketing of SAP such as copra and betel nut grown by the tribals. There has been a sharp decline in the market price of copra and betel nut due to slump of these communities in the market. Consequently the tribal growers have been hit hard economically. This administration, therefore, took up the proposal with the GOI, Ministry of Agriculture for fixing support price for copra and betel nut. In the wake of the above proposal, the GOI has fixed support price of copra at Rs. 2800/- per quintal for one year and directed NAFED to take up procurement of copra from the tribal cooperatives societies. Accordingly, NAFED has come forward to procure copra @ Rs. 2800/- per quintal from the respective societies and an agreement to this effect has already been executed between NAFED and the cooperative societies concerned. The cooperative societies have already started procurement of copra from the tribal growers. Now the tribal growers are getting Rs. 2800/- per quintal for copra produced by them.

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