81:010:18(B)

ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ADMINISTRATION <u>Directorate of Tribal Welfare</u>

This is regarding grant of financial assistance to EHL, Car Nicobar to meet the cost of 770 tones of copra costing approximately Rs. 2.18 crore. The above stock of copra is reported to have accumulated with the tribal co-operative Societies since 08/2001 due to suspension of procurement of copra by the NAFED.

The Tribal Welfare Department is required to find out the possibility of making available fund to defray the cost of copra accumulated with the Coop. Societies at the prescribed price under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme.

There is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme viz. Grants - in to state Tribal Co-op. Corporations and other such organizations dealing in collection and marketing of minor forest produces (a copy of the Scheme is enclosed), but the EHL is not dealing in collection and marketing of Minor Forest Produces, instead it is dealing in marketing of Agricultural produces like Copra and bettle nut of the tribals. However, the Govt. of India could be asked to extend the coverage of scheme for procurement and marketing of coconut and bettle nut as a special case in view of the fact that the tribals are hard-pressed economically.

Under this scheme the Govt. of India, Ministry of Tribal Affairs provide 100% grant-in-aid. The refore, the Co-operative Department may send a proposal with full justification to Govt. of India for sanction of GA to EHL to the tune of Rs. 2.18 Crore towards procurement and marketing of copra of the tribal growers.

Encl.: A/A

Research Officer (TW)
(C.F No.: T2-2022)

Director (TW)

R.C.S

U. O. No.: 1-566/2000-TW/

Date: 26/09/2001

Sery (IW) RCS.