

Incorporated into the 10th Five Year Plan of the Tribal Welfare Department with a token allocation as suggested by Secretary (TW) above. The funds could be utilized by the Tribal Councils for all the purposes for which PRIs utilize their funds. Expenditure would be incurred with the active aid and assistance of the line departments since the Tribal Councils did not have the technical sub-structure as yet. The funds would also be auditable on a annual basis.

In this regard a representation dated 24.04.2002 has also been received from Tribal Council, Car Nicobar in which the Council has pleaded that the Tribal Councils are democratically elected bodies where elections are held periodically for a term of 4 years through process of elections by ballot and therefore the Councils are truly the peoples representative bodies. The Council has pleaded that funds to the tune of Rs. 67 crores has been year marks for the PRIs in the Andaman Distt. But the Tribal Councils who perform similar functions in their areas of operation have not been considered for devolution of funds even by the Finance Commission. This is inspite of the fact that the Councils are strong institutions of self governance from time immemorial and recognized by the local Administration. The Council has further mentioned that even Grant in aid even provided to PRIs for the purpose of Salaries and wages of employees but the Councils are denied such funds.

The Council has pleaded discrimination in the development process vis-a-vis PRIs and have stated that their legitimate rights are being ignored. The aforesaid representation has been submitted before the Chief Secretary and Lt. Governor for approval and principle to provide funds to the Tribal Councils from the Tribal Welfare Deptt. subject to normal audit as in the case of AAVS. It has been proposed by Secretary (TW) that in case the proposal is approved in principle, a detailed proposal would be submitted.

Accordingly a draft Scheme No. 9 is placed opposite for kind approval please. It is suggested that Chief Secretary as well as Hon'ble Lt. Governor may kindly be kept informed. It is possible that being a diversion from the norm and yet to be implemented any where in India it is possible that Govt. of India may have to ratify the proposal.

(Akash Mohapatra)
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(C.F.No.: T-3 NS for 10 FPP)

Secretary (Tribal Welfare) Chief Secretary
U.O. No. 1-469/2002-TW (PF-I)

of Planning and Finance Deptt
view of urgency. Approval
draft scheme may be
included in 8th plan in
will be taken before the
same is implemented

Planning
Stk
Stk/In

Cell
2001/Comm/11
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13/5/02
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