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Minutes of review meeting held in the conference hall, Secretariat on
07/12/2012 at 0930 hrs

List of participants is enclosed as Annexure

At the outset, the Secretary (TW) welcomed all the Officers to the meeting and informed that he accompanied by several Officers of the A&N Administration visited Strait Island on 30/06/2012 to take a stock of the situation. The demands of the tribes were submitted in his tour report.

The Hon'ble Lt Governor while approving the tour note expressed his desire that all the departments should complete their tasks on priority and Secretary (TW) to visit in the last week of August and put up a report. Based on the above directions, this meeting has been convened to review the situation. The Secretary (TW) took up the pending issues one by one.

- a) **Mobile connectivity:-** The AAJVS In-Charge, Strait Island informed to the members that mobile connectivity from BSNL Tower situated at South Creek in Baratang is available at Strait Island in a fixed location. She requested that range of the tower may be increased so that mobile connectivity is easily accessible to the tribes and the Government servants.

The General Manager, BSNL, Port Blair stated that range of the tower cannot be increased as it would also increase the level of radiation. Instead he would explore the possibility to erect a booster at Strait Island to strengthen the signal reception. He assured that technicians of BSNL shall be depute to test check the booster immediately and if it works, BSNL shall install a booster within 31st December 2012.

AAJVS was directed to send a letter to BSNL for erection of boosters at Strait Island to strengthen mobile connectivity.

(Action: BSNL / AAJVS)

- b) **Construction of new jetty:-** The Executive Engineer, Andaman Lakshadweep Harbour works informed that Estimates for construction of new jetty at Strait Island for an amount of RS.577.00 lakhs has been prepared. The total length of new jetty would be 21 meters with 41 meters mooring area. This would cater berthing requirement of all the speed boats. He added that the alignment of the jetty has been changed as per the actual requirement. Processing and finalization of tenders documents will take 3 to 4 months and actual execution works shall commence by 1st April 2013. Execution time is 24 months.

(Action: ALHW)