

- iii) The Masters of the ships shall also be involved in the raid operation.
- iv) The Police Officers of the rank of Sub-Inspector and above shall be authorised to enter into the ship for surprise checks. They shall be either in uniform or shall be in possession of Identity Cards.

The DSS said that he would discuss this matter with the Masters of the vessels and advise them suitably to extend all cooperation in preventing liquor from going to the Tribal areas.

Superintendent of Police (AP) said the passengers at Car Nicobar are embarking and disembarking in mid-stream through the help of boat and pantoon and the ship ladder. The distance between the ship ladder and pantoon was too much and there was a lot of difficulty in embarkation and disembarkation particularly for ladies and aged passengers. Some suggestions for modifications to the ladder had been forwarded to DSS. These were adopted by several private vessels. After discussions it was decided that the DSS would look into this problem and see whether a ladder with hinges from ship right down to the pantoon or boat could be provided for easier embarkation and disembarkation of passengers. He was also requested to see whether there could be any alternative solution to this difficulty.

The Superintendent of Police (AP) said that as per reports reaching the Headquarters, shells were being exported to mainland from Mayabunder. SS(Home) informed that large scale unauthorised collection of shells was reportedly being done in the Islands which should be checked. She informed that rates of shells were being revised and that thereafter the zones would be auctioned which would help check unauthorised collection of shells to some extent. She further said that a meeting had already been held to enforce and regulate the provision of the A&N Shell Fishing Rules. The Fisheries Officers, designated under the Act/Rules were being reminded of their role in this regard. DSS & Police Deptt. should take stricter action to prevent exploitation of shell fish.

The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair and a discussion to review the position after a month.

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