

VISIT OF A TEAM OF SENIOR OFFICERS TO SOUTHERN GROUP OF ISLANDS FROM 2ND TO 9TH APRIL 2001

As desired by Hon'ble Lt Governor, a team of senior officers toured the southern group of islands from 2nd to 9th April 2001. Shri Pradeep Singh, Commissioner-cum-Secretary (Planning/PWD) was leader of the team. The other members of the team included Shri Arun Goyal, Secretary (Edn/Ind/TW etc), Dr A Arya, DIG, Shri RK Singh, CE, APWD, Shri Sanjeev Kumar, Dy Commissioner, Car Nicobar and most of the Heads of Departments. The list of team members is at Annexure - 'A'

Shri BP Ray, Hon'ble MP also accompanied the team. The Team visited various places in different islands which included Hut Bay, Chowra, Terressa, Bompoka, Katchal, Dering, Pilpillow, Kamorta, Kakana, Trinket, Tapong, Nancowry, Pilomilo, Campbell Bay, Pilobabhi and Car Nicobar. Lis of main tribal leaders met during the visit is at Annexure - 'B'

The visit had the prime objective of providing officers with an opportunity to familiarize themselves with the ground realities in the southern group of islands and to interact with the tribal councils, local leaders for initiating/undertaking various developmental activities during the Tenth Five Year Plan.

The visit was extremely useful and provided inputs to different HODs on felt needs of the people in remote islands. It also provided an opportunity to the team members to appreciate the difficulties being faced by the villagers and staff members in these islands.

The team was of the view that such visits should be repeated at regular intervals. However, the size of the team should be smaller in view of frequent trans-shipments required from larger vessel to smaller dinghies. If team size is large, considerable time is wasted in these trans-shipments. The tour was extremely educative and it is felt that all tenure officers should be sent for such a visit within three months of their joining of their posting to islands.