

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HOME MINISTER'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE UNION TERRITORY OF THE ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS HELD ON 5TH MARCH, 2001 AT PORT BLAIR.

The list of persons, who attended the meeting is enclosed at Annexure-I.

At the outset, the Lt. Governor accorded a hearty welcome to the Hon'ble Home Minister and the Members of HMAC. In the welcome address, the LG raised the issues related to shipping, power, education, etc. and also referred to certain pending matters with the Government.

AGENDA NO.1 Perspective plan of shipping requirements of Andaman and Nicobar Islands:

1.1 Issues raised

1.1.1 By Lt. Governor:

- The construction of 400-Passenger ship, under construction at Hooghly Dock (HDPEL) needs to be expedited. For this a technical committee needs to be constituted to determine the revised cost as well as the time frame for completion apart from certification issues.
- These islands need high speed boats to save the journey time. A proposal for acquisition of two catamarans and a high speed ship for 500 passengers has been forwarded to the Ministry of Surface Transport.
- Keeping in view the requirement of southern group of islands, where big ships cannot come to the shore in the absence of jetties, the Administration is contemplating procurement of self-propelled barges. A proposal in this regard will be included in the Annual Plan 2001-2002.
- The construction of jetty at Campbell Bay costing Rs.18 crores needs to be expedited as this is required for enabling the passengers to disembark safely from the bigger ships.