8.   Information Technology

8.1   Issues raised by Lt. Governor:

•   A proposal for installation of V-SAT based Community Information Centres at 26 locations in this territory was sent to the Ministry of Information Technology on the pattern of what is being extended to the North Eastern States. That Ministry had also approved the same, in principle, but the Planning Commission has not agreed to the same. The conditions prevailing in these islands are as difficult, if not more, as in the North Eastern States and setting up of C.I.Cs in this Territory is a must, for which support of Ministry of Home Affairs is required. These C.I.Cs will not only provide Internet connectivity to far off and remote places, but will also be an alternate mode of communication to the Administration and the people.

9.   Strengthening of Police Force

9.1   Issues raised by Lt. Governor:

•   Proposal regarding strengthening of police force needs to be expedited.

10.   Statehood for the Territory

10.1   Issues raised by Shri Manoranjan Bhakta:

•   It was pointed out that in the absence of a Legislative Assembly, the people of this Territory are not participating in the election of the President or in the election of Members of Rajya Sabha and are thus being discriminated vis-à-vis those of other parts of the country. Hence, there is a need to provide a Legislative Assembly to this Territory.

11.   More autonomy to Tribal Council

11.1   Issue raised by Shri Manoranjan Bhakta