

proposed to form a Group-dialing scheme amongst Kamorta, Katchal, Nancowry. At Car Nicobar & Campbellbay area, where all the exchanges have been connected with OFC, there has been a remarkable improvement in Telephone service and public satisfaction.

**Internet Service not available.**

BSNL has provided Internet services to all Block HQ. ( ie, Ferrargunj, Rangat, Diglipur, Car Nicobar, Kamorta ), in addition to Dist. HQ as per the BSNL, HQ guidelines. Also far-flung Islands like Campbellbay, the Internet service have been provided. But the Islands like Katchal and Nancowry, Internet cannot be provided due to technical limitations of 7 Chl. MCPC VSAT.

**Suggestion from Hon'ble M.P. :**

**Land line Telephone services should be introduced as MARR and Inmarsat not working.**

In Port Blair and Ferrargunj, 3 Nos of MARR VPTs have already been replaced by WLL and rest 11 VPTs will be replaced by WLL by 31.01.2003. VPTs working in the areas like Baratang, Rangat, Mayabunder, Diglipur will be replaced by WLL only after the Port Blair-Diglipur OFC link is completed.

The MARR VPTs working in Katchal & Campbell Bay cannot be replaced by WLL due to the technical limitations of WLL. Hence every effort will be made for replacement, by laying U/G cables.

In 7 villages Inmarsat Telephones have already been provided. As mentioned in Point 1 (Page 1), out of 26 villages, 12 will have to be covered by Inmarsat, as these places do not justify Telephone Exchange installation because of the remoteness, scarce population and lack of infrastructure.

**Construction of Quarters for Telephone Staff.**

In Port Blair 13 Nos of Type IV quarters, 12 Nos of Type III qtrs. are under construction. In addition there is a proposal for construction of 8 Nos of type II Qtrs. We have staff Qtrs. at Car Nicobar Dist HQ. Other Exchanges in tribal areas, the staff posted are accommodated in Qtrs. allotted by A&N Admn.