

Dr. Padhmanabhan the Chief Secretary also wanted to know whether the size of the houses could be reduced so as to reduce the cost on their construction. Shri P.K. Tripathi, Development Commissioner explained that the basic idea of the scheme is to provide the beneficiaries with the building materials. The houses could be constructed within the cost as laid down by the Govt. of India if the labour was contributed by the beneficiary. Reduction in the size of house was not feasible.

2. Supply of construction materials like cement, timber steel etc. by APWD to R.D. Beneficiaries on payment in Nicobar District.

The Chief Engineer, APWD expressed the willingness of supplying construction materials like cement, timber, steel etc. by the APWD to RD beneficiaries on payment in Nicobar District. He, however, intimated that the Departmental charges is to be recovered from the beneficiaries. The Chief Secretary suggested that since the scheme was to benefit the people below poverty line, a proposal for waiving the departmental charges from the RD Beneficiaries may be sent to the Admn.

3. Supply of foodgrains to RD Beneficiaries through PDS

As regards supply of foodgrains to RD Beneficiaries through PDS, it was decided that instead of supplying rice to the beneficiaries, they may be paid the wages in cash till such time as it becomes possible to supply them rice at prevailing PDS rates.

4. Construction of office building of DRDS, Andamans

The Director(RD) appraised that earlier a decision was taken to construct the building for the Directorate of Panchayats on the land available with the District Administration including the AC(S)'s office. The DRDS and the RD were to share accommodation in the proposed building. Since the District Administration is not ready to spare the land because of exclusion of the AC(S)'s office building as decided earlier, it was, therefore, decided that the location for the proposed building will be identified by a joint inspection of the site by the DC, Andamans, Chief Engineer, APWD and the Director(Panchayat) for construction of building for the Directorate of Panchayat and in the same building

DRDS also be accommodated for which a minimum

3/-

Dir(RD)