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Minutes of the Eleventh meeting of the Island Development Authority (IDA)
held on 15th June, 2007, New Delhi

The Eleventh meeting of the Island Development Authority (IDA) was held under the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 15th June, 2007 at 7, Race Course Road, New Delhi. A list of participants is at Annex.

Welcome address by Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission

2. Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission welcomed the participants at the IDA meeting. He emphasized the importance of the IDA and indicated that in addition to tourism, civil aviation, drinking water, shipping and fisheries, a presentation each by the two Union Territory Administration and a short presentation on Tsunami Rehabilitation Programme were listed on the agenda.

Opening remarks by Prime Minister

3. Prime Minister stated that Lakshdweep and Andaman & Nicobar Islands should get the attention they deserve and the IDA provides the means for effective intervention in their orderly functioning. He highlighted that our islands have very special problems which are not always appreciated. We need to take care of their fragile environment and both Planning Commission and other wings of the Government have a special responsibility to meet the livelihood needs of the people and to preserve their heritage. He directed that the IDA should meet once a year as it offers a unique opportunity to the Central Government to take appropriate steps for the development of the islands. He offered a special welcome to MPs and stated that he attached great importance to their views.

Agenda item No. 1 & 2:

Confirmation of minutes of the Tenth meeting of the IDA and action taken on the decisions of the tenth meeting of the IDA.

4. The minutes were confirmed and the action taken was noted.

Agenda item no. 3:

Development programmes of Lakshadweep

5. Administrator, Lakshdweep made a presentation on the development programmes of Lakshdweep. He highlighted the following points:

- (i) Shipping: The far-sighted perspective plan on shipping was now showing results. Two inter-island high speed vessels have been launched recently, three 150 passenger vessels are waiting to be launched, three 50 passenger vessels are in advance stage of completion, one 10 tonne Bullard Tug was delivered in May, 2006 and contract has been signed for two 250 passenger vessel. However, a