

- MEA in consultation with MHA needs to evolve a mechanism for their early deportation from the islands.
- (iii) Permanent shelters: More than 50% of the total permanent shelters especially those in the Southern group of islands are scheduled to be completed after June, 2008.
 - (iv) Shipping: Major delays have been experienced in delivery of ships and steps need to be taken to meet the large additional requirements of vessels.
 - (v) Civil Aviation: The international airport at Port Blair should be operationalised and Pawan Hans needs to complete the procurement of the two helicopters by December, 2007 and two fixed wing aircrafts by March, 2008.
 - (vi) Land: Revenue land having naturally grown trees (deemed forest) should be made available for settlement and development.
 - (vii) Drinking water: Urban areas are facing an acute shortage of drinking water as the requirement has gone up considerably. A desalination plant of 14 MLD is proposed to be set up shortly.
 - (viii) Health: There is a need to provide super specialist's at the hospital at Port Blair and Defence Minister has assured to provide some doctors from defence forces.
 - (ix) Tourism: Single window clearance should be provided for tourism projects.
 - (x) Agriculture: For the purpose of support price, Government of India may relax quality specifications for Copra and Arecanut.
 - (xi) Planning Commission is requested to constitute a committee comprising of representative from MHA, A&N Administration and concerned ministries for formulation and implementation of schemes related to tourism, fisheries, rural development and ports & shipping.

Brief statement by Member of Parliament, A&N Islands

7. Shri Manoranjan Bhakta, M.P., A&N Islands stated that IDA is a brain child of late Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi who visualized that the problems of the island territories are different from those of the main land and he was meticulous in convening its meetings regularly. Shri Bhakta expressed his gratitude to the Prime Minister for reconstituting the IDA, giving directions for holding its meetings annually and constituting a Group of Ministers on setting up a Legislative Assembly for A&N. He stated that Hon'ble Ministers of the Govt. of India had displayed their sympathy for the Islands in implementation of relief measures after the Tsunami.

8. Shri Bhakta suggested that the following points need urgent attention :

- a. Inter-Ministerial points should be monitored regularly by the Cabinet Secretary.

(Action : Cabinet Secretariat)