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15. Administrator, Lakshadweep stated that NIOT, Chennai had set up a Low Temperature Thermal Desalination Plant for providing drinking water in Kavaratti but was reluctant to set up additional plants which it had agreed in a MOU with the Administration. After a brief discussion, Home Minister and Minister of Science and Technology directed that NIOT should set up the three plants for which funds had been released by the UT Admn. and the additional plants may be set up by the Admn. through a private vendor, as the technology for these plants was not a proprietary technology.

16. Secretary, Planning Commission suggested that Skill Development of local youth needs to be planned in advance so that unemployed youth of ANI are able to take advantage of the employment opportunities expected to arise in sectors which are being promoted viz. tourism, fisheries, shipping services, security forces etc.

Decisions at the IDA Meeting

17. Prime Minister directed that a Committee of Secretaries under Cabinet Secretary should review and fix timelines for early finalization of issues raised at the IDA meeting and on those discussed at the last IDA which are yet to be finalized, including the following:-

Points related to ANI

- (a) Early resolution of disputed revenue land wrongly classified as "deemed forests" in an area which is already 90% under forests
- (b) completion of houses for Tsunami victims
- (c) consideration of feasibility of establishment of one Central University in ANI from the 14 Central Universities announced by the Government;
- (b) filling up vacancies of teachers and lecturers in educational institutions ;
- (c) tapping the fisheries potential;
- (d) more funds to PRI's for taking up development works like road construction;
- (e) construction of three new bridges;
- (f) development of eco tourism;
- (g) regularization of 500 daily rate works in Electricity Department of ANI Administration ;
- h) approval by MoUD to Rutland Project involving laying of submarine pipelines;
- (j) posting of medical Specialists of CHS by Ministry of Health;
- ✓ (j) expedite construction of roads in Great Nicobar by Border Roads Organization;
- (k) accord approval for laying of submarine cable to promote IT and ITeS,