

tsunami-affected families in the Animal Husbandry sector. Lt. Governor indicated that at present 50% subsidy had been provided for tribals and 30% for non-tribals. The representatives from Ministry of Home Affairs and Department of Animal Husbandry suggested that this package needs to be reworked along with proper and realistic justification to support the proposal. Deputy Chairman agreed with the suggestion of MP, ANI that these issues are very complicated and meetings need to be convened regularly for resolving them. After a brief discussion, Deputy Chairman directed that on the complicated matter regarding payment of 100% subsidy for tsunami-affected families in the Animal Husbandry sector, a meeting may be convened by MHA with Department of Animal Husbandry and A & N Administration and thereafter a decision of the High Powered Committee may be solicited.

(Action: MHA)

Drinking Water

23. The LG, ANI pointed out that ten R.O. Plants ordered by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) in January 2005, to be installed by March 2005, have been lying in Andaman's since Oct 2005. The A & N Administration has not been apprised about the terms and conditions of the contract and although the contractor visits the islands, he refuses to meet the PWD. He stated that this case had created a problem of accountability of the Administration towards the people of the islands.

24. Chairman, CGWB, stated that they have been providing technical assistance to the islands regularly. CGWB was nominated as the agency to procure RO plants for the A & N Administration and these are to be commissioned by PWD. No representative of A & N Administration had attended meetings convened to resolve the problems related to the commissioning of these plants.

25. Deputy Chairman observed that drinking water was a critical issue in the islands and efforts of CGWB to address it have been woefully inadequate. He asked the Chairman, CGWB, to send to the Planning Commission a note on the status of the problem in A&N, copies of the contract for the ten R.O Plants, and the notices and minutes of the meetings convened to resolve the problem. In this context, Administrator, Lakshadweep pointed out that unless officers from the Ministries/ Departments visit the Island Territories, it would be difficult for them to understand the specific problems and unique interventions required for the islands.

(Action: Department of Drinking Water and Central Ground Water Board)

26. Deputy Chairman observed that RO plants had not been very successful and perhaps desalination plants have been more effective in the islands. He asked Department of Drinking Water to provide a Technical Note on the advantages and disadvantages, suitability of various technologies to provide drinking water in the islands, in light of our past experience.

(Action: Department of Drinking Water)