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c) Creation of Additional Posts:

38. Hon'ble MP referred to the problem of educated unemployment in the islands and difficulties in creating additional posts.

39. Joint Secretary, MHA, felt that to tackle the problem of educated employment, it is important to create opportunities within and outside the Islands by exploiting fisheries potential and promoting tourism sector.

40. Administrator, Lakshadweep informed that virtually every family of the islands is involved in fisheries and for the development of this sector, ICAR had prepared a Perspective Plan for Lakshadweep. The plan involves expenditure of Rs. 190 crores, for phased development in 6-7 years and emphasises strengthening the data collection, upgradation in fishing crafts, fish aggregating devices etc. Forward and backward linkages need to be provided along with technical and vocational training.

41. As regards Tourism sector, Administrator, Lakshadweep, informed that instead of concentrating on Resort Tourism, emphasis is on Cruise tourism as the islands are of small size and it would not be advisable to strain their fragile and meager resources. Employment opportunities for locals are being created in transportation of tourists, providing local food, handicrafts, souvenirs, water leisure activities e.g. diving and snorkeling, sailing on local boat, traditional fishing activities etc. It is estimated that on an average a cruise tourist was spending between Rs. 1200-1500 per day.

42. Deputy Chairman suggested that the cost of raw material for the items which the cruise tourists purchase is quite small and items can be imported from the mainland and the value addition may be provided by the local people. Administrator, Lakshadweep informed that the islanders are slowly understanding the techniques of marketing for cruise tourists and slowly achieving a level of maturity. On the observation of Member (SH) regarding environmental impact of the tourist activities, he informed that Administration is keeping a check, especially on dumping of garbage and it is the responsibility of the Cruise Company to take the garbage back with them and the price of loading and collection of garbage is borne by the Cruise Company.

d) Schedule Tribe Certificates

43. MP Lakshadweep requested for a decision on this long pending issue. Administrator, Lakshadweep indicated that a constitutional amendment is needed because as per the existing order, if a child is born to the parents belonging to Lakshadweep, outside Lakshadweep, even due to medical complications, he/she is not eligible for the ST Certificate.

44. Joint Secretary (UT), MHA informed that Home Ministry has fully endorsed the need for an amendment and has suggested that the formulation may be done by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs informed that the matter is being processed. Administrator, Lakshadweep pointed