

6

Member (KK) offered to examine the matter regarding tariff and concerns raised by the MP regarding tariff hike before the IDA meeting.

[Action to be taken by the UT Administration]

Management of Shipping

The Lakshadweep Development Corporation (LDCL) manages 24 shipping vessels; 4 more are being added next year. It has limited capacity to manage such a large fleet. UT Lakshadweep vessels were earlier managed by Shipping Corporation of India which was later taken over by the Administration. The vulnerability of UT Lakshadweep on issues relating to shipping was recently exposed due to the strike of the shipping officers on-board UTL vessels. To maintain reliable connectivity, Cochin Shipyard may be asked to take over the maintenance of UTL vessels and SCI may be asked to supply officers to UTL ships. The crew will continue to be supplied by LDCL from amongst the Islanders.

The Advisor, Ministry of Shipping said that it has not received any proposal regarding this issue and would take it up immediately upon receipt of the same.

Secretary Planning Commission said that since the matter has been raised in this forum, Ministry of Shipping should ask the requisite details from the UT Lakshadweep Administration and start work on the project expeditiously.

[Action to be taken by Ministry of Shipping]

Powers to PRIs

In line with the 73rd Constitutional Amendment, the UTL has devolved many powers to PRIs including the complete management of activities of five departments. In order to make them effective instruments of self-governance, Ministry of Panchayati Raj may be asked to send a team to Lakshadweep to assist in effective devolution.

Member (KK) asked the UT Lakshadweep to send a copy of the proposal sent to the Ministry of Panchayati Raj to the Planning Commission as well.

[Action by Ministry of Panchayati Raj]

ATR on 13th Meeting of Standing Committee of IDA

Secretary, Planning Commission informed the Standing Committee that she had taken a meeting on the ATR with the officers of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep and different Ministries. The progress on the major pending issues was as follows: