

due to cost of operations. However, the Ministry of Civil Aviation has shared the proposal with the Indian carriers to explore the possibility of starting international operations to/from Port Blair. However, LG, Andaman & Nicobar Islands expressed his views to operate a flight either from Kolkata or from Chennai via Port Blair to Phuket on trial basis for 3 to 4 months and it will definitely give positive result. The representative of MoCA stated that this proposition can be considered on VGF.

(Action : Ministry of Civil Aviation)

22. Regularization of flight fare by the concerned ministry. Introduction of cargo flight from Chennai & Kolkata. Frequency can be worked out by the A&N Administration. Speeding of international Air Port.

The Committee was apprised that the number and frequency of flights to Port Blair have increased with introduction of flights by Vistara and Indigo airline. This has led to competitive scenario and slashing down of airfare on mainland-island sector. Further, the introduction of cargo flights by any airline completely depends on the airlines commercial viability. The representative of MoC intimated the Committee that work has started for development of existing airport as International airport which is likely to be completed by 2020.

23. Issue of permits to the islanders for lifting of sea sand.

The representative of the MoEF&CC apprised the Committee that the issue would be sorted out and necessary permits would be granted immediately, in line with the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court and MoEF&CC.

(Action: UT Administration: MoEF&CC)

24. Construction work of ANIIMS building with all facilities should be expedited and completed within the current financial year (2017-18).

The Committee was apprised that Construction works of ANIIMS building with all facilities are at different stages of progress. Considering the voluminous work, it is unlikely to be completed in the current financial year. The Committee noted.

(Action: UT Administration)

25. In view of the litigations pending in the High Court, a regular bench of the Calcutta High Court should be made available at Port Blair

The Committee was apprised that the number of pending cases compared to other states is very less. It was felt that there is no need for a full fledged High Court Bench at Port Blair at this stage. The Committee noted.

26. Introduction of 'Smart Classes' in all the Govt. Schools.

The Committee was apprised that Smart Classes are being created in phased manner in different schools. The Committee noted.