

27. Sri Lankan repatriates be shifted from Katchal to Little Andaman and be given

homesteads at the location of office and crushing plant of red oil palm plantation after phasing out red oil palm plantation; some of these repatriates be engaged in the development of arboriculture and native forests in the area. Alternatively, these people be given a package as per Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy of Government of India and be given options to stay in the islands or move to the mainland.

28. The relocation of housing sites to elevated portions of the islands from flat lands near the coastal zone, particularly in earthquake and tsunami effected areas, is not ecologically sustainable and is also against wishes of local people. It may be noted that the Nicobarese's plantations and their piggeries are located along the coast but relocation of their homesteads at elevated portions make it necessary to have land transport system which will lead to further fragmentation of forests. The ANI Administration may review its decision to relocate tsunami affected villages far away from their original habitats.

29. The carrying capacity studies carried out so far do not reflect the ground reality in terms of resource availability, population growth and ecological sensitivity, as these studies have taken agricultural productivity or sea resources into account only. An integrated carrying capacity studies should be carried out at the earliest. Further, a multidisciplinary integrated Island management system should be evolved to address the problem of resource-use conflict and to provide policy orientation to control the impacts of human intervention on the physical environment of the Islands.

Regulation of migrants:

30. The Government of India should evolve appropriate strategy or policy to check the influx of people from the mainland to the fragile island ecosystems where the linkages between island ecosystems services and people are weakened due to human pressures resulting in their vulnerability.