

3/6

(vii) IT and other related activities be strengthened.

Ecological Security:

47. Shekhar Singh's recommendation 46 is very critical for the sustainable development of islands. Consequently, an Institute of Island Development be created immediately with the following goal:

"Development of ecologically sustainable economies for islands and conservation of their biodiversity through research and development". Such an Institute will not only fulfill the requirements envisaged in Shekhar Singh's recommendations 45 and 46, but will also formulate an integrated planning involving both development and conservation goals to make the islands' development ecologically sustainable. A centre for Biodiversity be created within the framework of the Institute to conserve and manage the rich biodiversity.

48. The ANI administration should consider incorporating environmental audit system in its major economic sectors and this will take care of Shekhar Singh's recommendations 43 and 44 for ensuring ecological security while achieving developmental goals within the carrying capacity of the Islands.

49. Environment Impact Assessment Authority for ANI be constituted for the approval of development project proposals.

50. Time-bound integrated environmental management plans be prepared.

51. A long-term population policy that is compatible for sustainable development of the islands be evolved.