

		Lakshadweep to discuss all issues related to civil aviation placed before the Standing committee meeting of IDA. Issues if any requiring a decision by the IDA will be placed before the IDA meeting
18. Construction of Greenfield Airstrip at Androth  UTLMP. Lakshadweep	A Greenfield Airstrip at Androth is required for augmenting the transportation facilities between the islands, which would be useful for both the local people as well as tourists and also for evacuation in case of a calamity. Among the Lakshadweep group of islands, Androth is the nearest island to the mainland. Land earmarked for the purpose has been identified by the local people and they have consented to give this land for the purpose. Administrator has also visited the site, which required 25, 000 coconut trees to be cut. Airport Authority of India (AAI) may be instructed to survey the land urgently so that land acquisition process could be initiated.  Similarly, a new airport should also be set up in Minicoy islands.  These airports should be equipped with the latest technology suitable for the island.  Indian Navy/ Coast Guard has taken possession of the land for construction airstrip at Minicoy, as the Airport Authority of India (AAI) did not find the land feasible for a civil airport.	It was decided that Member-Secretary, Planning Commission will hold a meeting with the Secretaries of Ministry of Civil Aviation, Tourism, Defence, Expenditure, Chief Secretary, ANI and Administrator, Lakshadweep to discuss all issues related to civil aviation placed before the Standing committee meeting of IDA. Issues if any requiring a decision by the IDA will be placed before the IDA meeting
19. Extension of runway at Agatti  UTL	After discussion between UT Administration and Airport Authority of India, the latter has submitted a Plan which is under examination by UTL Administration. The Plan involves extension of airstrip to an adjoining uninhabited island which is likely to affect the turtles in the sea.  Administration has requested AAI to obtain environmental clearance for the project.  Very slow progress has been made on this point discussed at the IDA Meeting held on 19.1.09.	It was decided that Member-Secretary, Planning Commission will hold a meeting with the Secretaries of Ministry of Civil Aviation, Tourism, Defence, Expenditure, Chief Secretary, ANI and Administrator, Lakshadweep to discuss all issues related to civil aviation placed before the Standing committee meeting of IDA. Issues if any requiring a decision by the IDA will be placed before the IDA meeting