

(5) (14)

EPDP apart from SCs from West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, UP, Bihar etc.

Demand- Persons from such backward classes recognised as SC in the states of mainland be recognised as SC in the A&N Islands also.

- X. **Free supply of 10 kgs of rice to BPL card holders** – There are about 28000 BPL card holders in the Andaman and Nicobar islands. The UT Admn. of Pudducherry has approved scheme for free supply of 10 kgs of rice to BPL card holders and has notified the same as a Rule.

Demand – Rule be notified approving a scheme for free supply of 10 kgs. of rice every month to BPL ration card holders in the UT of A&N Islands.

XI. **Improvement of health care facilities –**

a) **posting of Specialists** – Of the 23 posts of specialists in the GB Pant hospital, Port Blair only 8 posts are filled. Temporary arrangements for specialists on duty-cum-tour given respite for short period of 2-3 months.

Demand- Steps be taken to appoint regular specialists in the vacant posts in GB Pant hospital, the only referral hospital in A&N Islands. The Govt. may consider compulsory posting of specialists from central health services for minimum 2 year tenures in the GB Pant Hospital, Port Blair as an interim measure.

- b) **Establishment of super specialities** in GB Pant hospital – The only referral hospital of A&N Islands, Serving a population of more than 4 lakhs in lacking in super speciality services. This results in large number of patients being referred to hospitals in mainland involving heavy expenditure for patients.

Demand – Though interim measures such as tie-ups with hospitals in the mainland have been taken for visiting super specialists, posts of super specialists like Cardiologists, neurologists, nephrologists etc. Be created with ancillary facilities in the GB Pant Hospital, Port Blair and personnel appointed without delay.

- c) **Reduction in air fare for stretcher patients, provision of ambu-lift** at Port Blair air port – Stretcher patients being airlifted to mainland hospitals for