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treatment are required to take ticket fare equivalent to six seats. These patients are manually lifted to the air craft, which is very cumbersome.

Demand- Stretcher patient be extended the facility of one ticket fare for being air lifted to mainland hospitals for treatment as is the case for North Easter states. Ambu-lift facilities be provided at Port Blair hospital for stretcher patients to be boarded on air crafts.

XII. Providing National Highway status to the entire stretch of Andaman Trunk road -

Seg (Pw3)
CS, mms

The Andaman Trunk road stretches from Port Blair to Diglipur passing through South Andaman, Baratang, Middle Andaman and North Andaman islands over a length of 333 km. In order to facilitate construction and maintenance govt. of India had notified the entire 333 kms as National Highway on 25th February 2004. Later, 106 kms of the road were taken off the national highway status, thereby restricting upgradation and development to only 227 kms whereas the 106 kms can be subjected to repair and maintenance only. The A&N Islands situated in the middle of the Indian Ocean, 1200 kms away from the cost line of mainland India is a strategically located territory in the military sense apart from providing a huge additional EEZ in the Indian Ocean according to Maritime convention. North of the Andaman islands, China has set up a amilitary air base, harbour facility and all other military infrastructure for facilitating aircraft and water craft berthing on the Myanmar owned Coco islands. The Indian territory of Andaman islands, however, is faced with all other considerations making it extremely difficult to develop civilian as well as military amenities. The Andaman Trunk road is a vital link with the northern most part of the islands, which is vulnerable to the Chinese presence in Coco islands. The road may facilitate vital link to military presence in the northern part of Andamans and, therefore, imperative that the road be upgraded and maintained for swift movement of the vehicles from Port Blair to Northern parts.

Demand - The two stretches between 61-104 kms in south Andaman and 142-155 kms in Middle Andaman, which have been left out from upgradation and maintenance treatments prescribed for National Highways since August 2005 are in a state of neglect for the last six years. National Highway status be restored immediately on these stretches and upgradation and maintenance work of NH status be initiated without delay.