

DATE: 05.06.2002

Shri. P.K. Singh, Chief Executive Officer welcomed the DPC Members and Officials of the Administration for the second day meeting. Further, he stated that the total allocation for the Shipping Sector proposed was Rs. 9506 Lakhs but the Planning Branch of Administration has allocated Rs. 6100 Lakhs. Thereafter, the proceeding started. (The list of participants enclosed separately at page No. 24)

SHIPPING

The Hon'ble MP said that already he had a discussion with Shri. Bedi, Director and handed over a Note to him. He wanted know whether all his points have been included in the Plan. The DSS replied in positive.

Scheme No. 1: The Hon'ble MP stated that a meeting was held for Shipping Sector with the Director of Shipping Services where matters regarding improvement of mainland-islands ships and for manning and operation etc. were discussed threadbare. Further, he pointed out that under the improvement of mainland island transport, the provision for 500 PAX come cargo vessel is Rs. 2390 Lakhs. He advised that Rs. 800 Lakhs might be kept as provision for 1st stage payment as the EFC is to be done by December only.

Shri. Pradeep Singh, Commn-cum-Secretary (Shipping) stated that SCI will be privatized this year and the private parties may raise their rates. We are looking for one ship for sale to private party and take it from them on charter.

Smti. Kumari Raghavan, Up-Adhyaksha explained the problem of passengers of Campbell Bay because they are not getting vessels in time, not getting tickets etc. At present, only one vessel M.V. Sentinel is plying in Southern Group of Islands upto Campbell Bay. Earlier, there was a proposal to station 02 Nos 100 passengers' vessels at Campbell Bay, which will sail upto Car Nicobar.

The Director of Shipping Services intimated that at present 02 Nos Passengers Vessels namely MV Baratang & MV Rangat are stationed at Nancowry. In which, MV Rangat is meant for Campbell Bay, which has been stationed at Nancowry due to monsoon weather. The sailing programmes of these vessels are fixed by the Deputy Commissioner, Car Nicobar, Assistant Commissioner, Nancowry & Assistant Commissioner, Campbell Bay. The MV Chowra & MV Sentinel has arrived in 1984 and now these are sent to repairing and refit in order to make it sea worthy. The Department has ordered for a 400 capacity vessel in 1987 & another 400 capacity vessel in 1999. But both have not arrived yet. Due to monsoon now, MV Dering cannot sail to Southern Group of Islands. MV Chowra is under refit now as soon as it will be ready, MV Sentinel will go for refitting. At present, MV Sentinel is making 3 trips in a month. In the mean time, the department has sent MV Swarajdweep to southern groups but due to vacation it is on teachers sailing. As soon as summer vacation ends both MV Harshavardhana and MV Swarajdweep will be sent to southern group as and when there will be urgency. Hence, it is temporary problem.

Shri. Ebrahim Ali Hussain, Member wanted clarification about MV Baratang & MV Rangat. MV Rangat was available upto 9th & 10th May 2002 at Car Nicobar and sent back to Port Blair, which needs to be checked out by the DSS. He further added there was a proposal to station 06 Nos vessels in Nicobar District @ 2 each at Car Nicobar, Noncowry & Campbell Bay. Meanwhile, MV Shompen has come back to Port Blair from Nicobar District and stationed at Port Blair.