

(7) We are to initiate action to achieve the target fixed relating to survey of the facilities existing in Nicobars District under scheme No.1 and construction of a Ashram for the tribal women at Katchal under scheme No. 6 included under Annual Plan (2002-2003).

(8) May please refer to scheme No. 1 (relevant portion of the scheme is placed at pages 6-9/C) under Sector – “welfare of SCs, STs & OBCs”, which provide, among other things, survey and collection of data about facilities / problems existing in Nicobars District, so as to fix up the priorities for development. The unemployed Nicobari youths are to be engaged for such a survey. A specific provision of Rs. 0.50 lakh has been made to meet the expenditure for the survey during current financial year(2002-03). The survey could be conducted Island-wise to collect requisite data. The following format is devised to be used for collection of the data.

**Format:**

Sl.No	Name of the Island	Facilities / problems	Whether existing or not	Number, if existing	Remarks.
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(9) We may, therefore, request the DC, Nicobars to organize the above survey and collect the requisite data, if approved.

(10) May kindly refer to scheme No. 6 - ‘Establishment of Ashram at District and Town Level’ with an outlay Rs. 12.50 lakh included under Annual Plan 2002-03 under Sector- “Welfare of SCs, STs & OBCs” ( The relevant portion of the scheme is placed at pages10-11/C). The scheme envisages construction of Ashram at different places in Nicobars District to provide accommodation to the tribals particularly the tribal women coming from rural area for various works. One such Ashram is already under construction at Kamorta and nearing completion.

(11) As mentioned in the scheme ( Please refer to portion highlighted at page 10/C), it was decided in the inter-active session between the Senior Officers of the Administration and the representatives of Tribal Councils held on 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> August, 2001 at Megapode Nest, Port Blair one Ashram is to be established at Katchal during the Annual Plan (2002-03), but no specific fund has been provided. Anyway, the proposed Ashram could be on the same pattern as one is under construction at Katchal. The requisite fund could be provided under the Annual Plan (2003-2004).

(12) In the first instance we will require suitable land at Katchal for undertaking construction of the Ashram. So we may request DC, Nicobars and AC, Nancowry to select suitable land at Katchal in consultation with the Tribal Council and hand over to APWD, so that APWD could be asked to prepare drawing and estimate for construction of Ashram at Katchal, if approved.