



No. 24-1/PWD/2003

**Andaman & Nicobar Administration
Secretariat**

Port Blair dated 18th March 2004

CIRCULAR

Sub: Use of appropriate building materials and design for buildings

In view of the limited availability of timber and building materials like sand and stone in these islands and in view of the recommendations of the Prof. Shekhar Singh Commission, it has been decided that all departments, undertaking construction of buildings may construct suitably designed buildings appropriate to the local environment.

2. Prof. Shekhar Singh had recommended adoption of "the wood and bamboo based 'Assam type' construction, which is both less timber intensive and safer in earthquakes than the present all timber or RCC buildings." (Recommendation No.9) The Supreme Court in its judgment dated 7-5-2000 (IA No.502/2002 in the Writ Petition (Civil) No.202/1995 Godavarman -Vs- Union of India) had generally accepted the report of Prof. Shekhar Singh.

3. Therefore in the light of above, all departments including APWD may resort to appropriate building designs and practices instead of continuing with greater use of RCC. The departments should also adopt technologies for cost effective earthquake resistant buildings and designs which reduce the requirement of power (less energy intensive) and reduce damage due to rain and corrosive environment.

This issues with the approval of the Lt. Governor.

To

1. All Commissioners/Secretaries, A&N Administration.
2. All Spl. Secy /Dy. Secy /Asstt. Secy, A&N Administration
3. All HODs, A&N Administration, Port Blair

Secretary (PWD)

18/3/04

Secretary (PWD)