

ANDAMAN PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Andaman Public Works Department has been serving the People of Andaman and Nicobar Islands by providing basic and infrastructural support in terms of providing Drinking Water Supply, Construction of Roads & Bridges, Housing etc. Apart from these, APWD builds and maintains various Office Buildings for all the departments functioning under Andaman and Nicobar Administration, Residential Accommodation for Govt. Employees including Police Personnel, construction of various buildings for other departments including Health Centres, Hospitals. Godown for Civil Supplies, Schools & College buildings, Library etc.

ROADS AND BRIDGES: -

APWD has built and maintains more than 1232 KM of roads of which a major chunk of 665 Km forms rural road, 450 Km are trunk routes (Major District Roads) and 117 Km as urban roads (in Port Blair). The per capita road availability works out to about 3.45 Mt length of road per person, which is the highest in the country.

During the current year construction of 30 Km of black top road in various islands and 12 Km of cement concrete footpath have been taken up. Renovation and repair of various stretched of ATR and other minor district roads have been taken up.

Two foot bridges for crossing Nallahs in tribal areas of Nicobar district have been taken up. Construction of a 2mtr. wide cement concrete footpath for providing connectivity to three villages namely Kapanga, Atkona and Chowra and also for inter village connectivity in Nicobar District have been taken up. In the current year construction of 3000 mtrs of drain have been taken up. This will protect the roads and other properties and help in preventing soil erosion as well as local flooding.

The challenges faced in construction and maintenance of these roads, are a long spell of rainy season, poor quality & strength of soil, remoteness of places and non-availability of consistently good quality of construction materials in many regions. Several efforts are being taken up to overcome the practical local difficulties by adopting new techniques.

WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION: -

URBAN WATER SUPPLY

APWD supplies water to PBMC after due treatment and PBMC distributes water in Municipal localities. At present total water demand is met by Dhanikhari and Jawahar Sarovar reservoirs. The schemes of revival of Nayagaon and Chakkargaon Diggies and revival of Dilthaman tank and Fire brigade tank have been completed. Additional water about 600 MT per day will become available from these two schemes, which would provide some relief to the public during dry season. The future demand will be met by

- a). Raising the height of Dhanikhari Dam by 5 mtrs. which will augment its capacity to double the present capacity.
- b). Water from Chouldari & Indira Nallah Project will also augment the availability of water.

All the above measures will certainly alleviate water scarcity problem presently being faced by people. Adequate distribution and water treatment systems are being planned and designed.

RURAL WATER SUPPLY: -

As far as rural water supply sub-sector is concerned several efforts are being made to make the same comfortable. Out of total 502 villages, 344 Villages have been provided with drinking water supply system. The remaining are proposed to be covered during 10th Plan.

Augmentation of water for 10 PC villages in Nicobar District has been taken up during current financial year. Also construction of treatment unit at 3 places is proposed to be taken up in Nicobar District. Replacement of old worn out pipes are carried out on priority basis throughout Islands. Improvement of

water distribution system of networks in Nicobar District has been undertaken. Phase – I of Panchawati water supply scheme is under advance stage of completion. Treatment unit at Havelock is also nearing completion.

HOUSING: -

25 Type-I, 50 Type-II and 40 Type-III Qtrs. are under construction. Renovation of 20 Type-I, 30 Type-II, 4 Type-III Qtrs. is under process. Construction of additional 15 Type-I, 10 Type-II, 5 Type-III, 4 Type-V and 2 Type-VI is proposed to be taken up during current year. Preliminary works on General Pool Accommodation Quarters at Doodhline and Garacharma in Port Blair area has been started. Renovation of 50 Qtrs. of various types at Katchal and Kamorta Islands is proposed to be taken up during current year. All these efforts will certainly ease the accommodation problem of Govt. Servants. Work on 121 dwelling units for Economically weaker section will start soon.

CIVIL AVIATION: -

To facilitate fast movement of people specially in emergency, the Andaman & Nicobar Administration has started inter Islands helicopter service. Work of construction of new helipads and maintenance of old ones is being done by APWD. Construction of new helipads have been considered at East Island, Teressa and Narcondum, Pillow Millow, Kondul and Little Nicobar are proposed to be taken up. Existing helipads at Rangat & Diglipur have been improved and at Hut Bay, Havelock, Mayabunder and Indira Point are proposed to be improved. Maintenance works of existing Helipads at various Islands are being carried out extensively.

PUBLIC WORKS: -

Under the sector, construction and maintenance of Andaman Houses in Chennai, Kolkata, New Delhi has been done facilitating commuting people of these Islands. For Vishakapatnam, construction of similar Andaman House is being planned. Construction of New Guest Houses and maintenance of existing ones in different Islands are being looked after on continual basis. Apart from

this, providing technology support for investigation and testing of construction materials for the department and outside agencies, research and development activities for buildings and other civil construction materials, upgrading the existing laboratories and establishing new laboratories, training of Engineers and personnels of APWD are taken up.

Extension of Port Blair Airport: - With the growing demand in air-traffic and A & N Islands being considered as tourist destination in World Tour Map, the significance of this airport has increased to a great extent. Therefore, to meet the enhanced requirement, extension of the airstrip has been carried out with additional length of 5000 ft. by APWD. Work is almost completed. Only funnel area clearance is required which is currently being done on war footing basis. With the increased runway length, the airport will enable the bigger size aeroplanes such as Airbus, A-300 etc. to operate safely. This together with inter Islands helicopter service will tremendously boost tourism activities in these Islands including international tourist and flights. This will certainly open up new vistas of self employment opportunities to Island youths and private entrepreneurs.