



Chapter VII

RECENT MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

Airport Extension: The length of the airport runway has been extended from 6000 ft. to 11000 ft to make it fit for landing of wide-bodied aircraft like Airbus. It will be operational in the near future.

Jetties: Mus jetty wharf and breakwater at Car Nicobar constructed at a cost of Rs 85 crores have recently been inaugurated.

Shipping: 16 vessels of different categories have been acquired by the Administration in the last 4 years. This is exclusive of a 1200 passenger cum 1500 Tonne cargo vessel built by M/s Hindusthan Shipyard – M.V Swaraj Dweep.

Power: A 50 KWP Grid connected Solar PV Power Plant has been made operational at Neil Island. A 20 MW power station at Bambooflat commenced operation under a power purchase agreement between M/s Surya Chakra Power Project and the Administration.

Bridges: An RCC Bridge across Austin Creek constructed at a cost of Rs 8.83 crores has been inaugurated.

Identity Cards: Of the 3,69,390 islanders enumerated, 2,72,728 have been found eligible for Islanders Identity Card. Of these 1,40,654 have been issued

cards. Out of a total electoral roll of 2,30,555 photo identity cards have been issued to 1,95,070 persons.

Medals: During the period 1987 to 2002, 22 medals were bagged by sportspersons in International level competition and 333 medal bagged in National levels.

Health: No case of Diphtheria has been reported. No case of polio has been reported in the last 16 years. Incidence of whooping cough is negligible and only 15 cases of measles have been reported in the last 2 years.

Registration of Births and Deaths: There is 100% registration of birth events. The urban birth registration center has been computerized from 2nd December 2002.

Helicopter Services: The much awaited inter-island helicopter service by Pawan Hans was launched by the Hon'ble Lt. Governor Shri N.N. Jha on 17th May 2003 and regular service started from 19th May 2003.

Shipping: Order for a new 500-passenger vessel has been placed on M/s ABG Shipyard, Surat in April 2003.

Medicinal Plants Board: A Medicinal Plants Board has been set up in May, 2003.

Fishing: Approval has been granted for a fish-landing center at Junglighat jetty at Port Blair.

Water Supply: A decision has been taken in principle for raising the height of Dhanikhari Dam by 5 mtrs to augment the water supply in Port Blair. DPR is being prepared.

Fresh Water Supply: It is proposed to develop a fresh water lake by connecting the crown point of Flat Bay to Mithakhari by an embankment. Environmental clearance for the same has been obtained.

IDA Meeting: The Xth meeting of the Island Development Authority under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Prime Minister was held on 19th January, 2003 at Port Blair. The IDA identified high value agriculture, fisheries and tourism as developmental thrust areas and a Standing Committee of Secretaries has been constituted for the purpose. The Administration has actively participated in preparation of cabinet notes for the purpose of including/obtaining clearance of the Committee of Secretaries and the matters are in the final stages of taking proposals to Cabinet for implementation.