

**SPEECH OF HON'BLE ADMINISTRATOR IN THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT VIGYAN BHAWAN ON 27/12/2012.**

\*\*\*\*\*

Hon'ble Prime Minister Sir, Hon'ble Home Minister, Hon'ble Cabinet Ministers, Hon'ble Chief Ministers, Hon'ble Administrators, Secretaries to Govt. of India, Chief Secretaries, Secretaries and other Senior Govt. Officers present in this meeting.

2. The U. T. Administration of Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli is thankful to the Planning Commission, Govt. of India for preparing an excellent draft for the 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan. We believe that this will prove to be a harbinger of growth for Energy, Transport, Health & Education sectors. It will enable the nation to face the challenges of urbanisation, rural transformation, poverty alleviation and issues related to inclusive growth for all.

3. As you are aware, Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli are two small Union Territories located in the western part of the country.

Daman & Diu

With a population as per 2011 Census of 2,42,911 (1,50,100 males and 92,811 females), Daman & Diu an area of 112 sq.km. and comprises of two districts viz. (1) Daman and (2) Diu. Daman district is surrounded by Valsad District of Gujarat while Diu District is an island near Una District of Gujarat State.

Dadra & Nagar Haveli :

The Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli has a population, as per 2011 Census, of 3,42,853 (1,93,178 males and 1,49,675 females) with an area of 491 sq.km. and comprises two enclaves viz. (1) Dadra and (2) Nagar Haveli. The territory is bounded by Valsad District of Gujarat and Thane District of Maharashtra.

When these territories became part of India in 1961 these were considered to be among the most backward parts of the country in terms of socio-economic development. The Government of India announced certain tax concessions for these territories in late 1980s. Thereafter, these territories witnessed tremendous industrial development which was followed by significant improvement in social development & health indicators such as poverty ratio, literacy rate, infant mortality rate, maternal mortality rate, death rate, expected life at birth, child nutrition, health of pregnant and lactating mothers etc. At present, all these indicators in both the UTs are much above the national level. The Administration is committed to improve these socio-economic indicators further.

4. **Sir**, the Planning Commission had earmarked ₹ 900 crores for Daman and Diu and ₹ 1300 crores for Dadra & Nagar Haveli in the 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan. However, actual allocation during the 11<sup>th</sup> Plan was lower at about ₹ 850 crores for Daman and Diu and ₹ 991 crores for Dadra & Nagar Haveli. We have been able to spend almost 100% of the Plan Outlays allocated during the 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan. Sir, I am pleased to inform this august gathering that the Balance of Current Revenue which forms the basis for allocation of Plan outlay has remained positive during the 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan in both the UTs. This makes a strong case for increasing plan outlays for these UTs in the 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan. Being Union Territories without legislature, the UT Administration is totally dependent on Govt. of India for allocation of funds. It is the perception of the people that funds allocated have not been commensurate with the actual needs of these UTs. There is an

urgency for improving the infrastructure to sustain industrial development, to realize the tourism potential of these UTs as well as meet the growing aspirations of the people.

I am thankful to Planning Commission, Ministry of Home Affairs and Govt. of India for allocation of ₹ 568.25 Cr. against the plan proposal of ₹ 1246.00 Cr. to UT of Daman & Diu and ₹ 607.68 Cr. against Plan proposal of ₹ 1600.50 Cr. to UT of Dadra & Nagar Haveli during 1<sup>st</sup> year of 12<sup>th</sup> five year Plan. The Plan proposal during 12<sup>th</sup> Plan period are as under:

Year	Total Plan Proposals(₹ in crore)	
	Daman & Diu	Dadra & Nagar Haveli
2012-13	1246.13	1600.50
2013-14	1199.95	1200.00
2014-15	1006.21	1250.00
2015-16	906.54	1300.00
2016-17	930.16	1392.53
<b>Total</b>	<b>5288.99</b>	<b>6743.03</b>

5. As mentioned above, Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli had witnessed tremendous growth in industrial activity after the tax concessions were announced in mid eighties. Now, when these concessions are coming to an end, most of the industrial units are finding themselves at the crossroads, and are in need of organic growth to sustain themselves. The capital investment of around ₹ 50,000 crores, made by these industrial units, needs to be protected. In absence of tax concessions, the competitiveness can be increased only by way of improving infrastructure related to roads, power, water supply and transportation.

6. **Sir**, the industrialization in its wake has brought in unplanned urbanization in these UTs. The urban infrastructure too has not kept pace due to paucity of funds. There has been no planned sewerage system in any of the urban areas of these two territories. We have prepared a comprehensive plan for underground sewerage system as well as for water supply for all the urban areas.

7. The water supply project for Silvassa Municipal area was pending for several years for Standing Finance Committee clearance in the Ministry of Urban Development. The project was initiated in the year 2006 under UIDSSMT but due to procedural delays in technical evaluations and financial clearance the project cost had to be revised twice. We are thankful to the Ministry for clearing the project recently.

8. A comprehensive study has also been carried out for the UT of Dadra & Nagar Haveli to address the issue of water supply in a holistic manner. This integrated water management plan would need about ₹ 290 crores for implementation in a phased manner. If this plan is implemented the problem of drinking water throughout the UT of Dadra & Nagar Haveli including for meeting the needs of the industry can be taken care of till the year 2040. The proposal, technically vetted by IIT Mumbai, is submitted to Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation, Government of India. With these projects coming up we hope to fulfill the demand for drinking water in the UT.

9. An ambitious water supply project for Daman Municipal area, which was pending in the Ministry of Rural Development, has also recently been cleared. This project envisages drawing water from Madhuban dam through pipeline and taking it to different water treatment plants in Daman. The project cost exceeds ₹ 45 crores. The most acute problem, so far as water supply is concerned, is in the beautiful island town of Diu which lies in a rain shadow zone. The ground water has gone down to 500 feet. Our proposal for taking water from Sardar Sarovar Dam through pipeline to Diu has been recently approved by the Ministry of Rural Development. The cost of this project is around ₹ 32 crores. The aforesaid two projects will be able to meet the drinking water supply problems upto 2040 in U. T. of Daman & Diu.

10. For all these projects and also to improve and replace old distribution and treatment system, we would need about ₹ 200 crores in the 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan for Dadra & Nagar Haveli and ₹ 100 crores for Daman & Diu.

11. **Sir**, we do not have our own power generation. The power requirement is met from the allocation of power from the central sector generating stations. The allocation of power to Dadra & Nagar Haveli is 567 MW during peak hours and 483 MW during off-peak hours. For Daman & Diu, it is 252 MW during peak hours and 274 MW during off peak hours. We have our own bilateral agreements with NSPCL, Bhilai for 170 MW for these UTs. However, the present arrangement is not adequate for the total requirement of the industries. We have taken up the matter with the Ministry of Power several times. However, till now we have not seen improvement in the situation. I would like to add here that our T&D losses are one of the lowest in the country at about 8%. Our tariff rate at around ₹ 4.5 per unit of power for industrial consumers and ₹ 2 for domestic consumers, again are one of the lowest tariff rates in the western region.

12. To take care of the power requirements of our industrial units, we are working on a multi pronged strategy. On the one hand we are trying to procure power through short term and mid-term power purchase agreements. We have received NOC from Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Power for Corporatorization for Distribution Function of the Electricity Department of UT of Dadra & Nagar Haveli which will be made effective within the next few months.

13. **Sir**, even if we are in a position to procure power through PPAs, we are in the dire need of funds for strengthening and upgrading our distribution and transmission system so that the additional load of power is distributed to the consumers with utmost efficiency. We have to upgrade existing sub-stations and distribution lines. We also have to set up new power sub-stations and especially lay new distribution lines in both these territories. Moreover, to reduce T&D losses further and to improve aesthetics of our urban areas, we are planning to lay underground cables. Some areas of Daman have already been covered during 11<sup>th</sup> Plan. Considering our plans and ongoing works in the power sector, we request that funds to the tune of ₹ 500 crores for Dadra & Nagar Haveli and ₹ 400 crores for Daman & Diu be earmarked in the 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan for upgrading power infrastructure and related facilities.

14. **Sir**, there is no PNG (Piped Natural Gas) facility available in both the UTs. either for domestic or for industrial uses. However, this facility is available in neighbouring States of Gujarat and Maharashtra. The UT Administration has taken up the matter with PNG&RB as well as Ministry of Petroleum and Gas, Government

of India. Through this august forum, I request that the Gas Connectivity to these territories is expedited.

15. **Sir**, the next most important bottleneck to industrial growth is inadequacy of road infrastructure. Unfortunately, decades after integration into the Indian Union, none of these UTs have got any National Highway connectivity. The Administration has submitted a proposal to the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways for providing National Highway connectivity through National Highway-8. The proposed alignments would pass through the States of Gujarat and Maharashtra. The total stretch of the road from NH-8 to Daman would be around 24 kms. and for Dadra & Nagar Haveli it would be around 43 kms. I request Hon'ble Chief Ministers of Maharashtra and Gujarat to give their NOCs to the Ministry so that our proposals could be considered. The proposed highway connectivity to Dadra & Nagar Haveli would be of immense benefit to the tribal population of Thane district. Similarly, the proposed alignment for Daman will take away the pressure of heavy traffic from Vapi town. We hope that adequate provisions would be made in the 12<sup>th</sup> Plan by the Planning Commission for this purpose.

16. There has been a long felt need for constructing a Ring Road in Silvassa town area which has witnessed tremendous growth in population in the past decade. The proposal has been hanging fire for the past 14 years. I am thankful to the Planning Commission who have approved this project during the Working Group discussions in the month of June 2011. The total stretch of this road would be around 11.30 kms. We are in the process of acquiring land for this project. We would need about ₹ 75 crores for acquisition of land and another ₹ 110 crores for construction of roads and bridges. Besides, keeping in view of the industrial growth in UT of Dadra & Nagar Haveli, it is planned to construct an **Outer Ring Road** by linking all the major Patelads and industrial centres. We also have to improve road network within the two UTs which is in dire straits. Roads in most of the industrial estates are in really a bad shape. We have therefore, planned to upgrade the existing road network as well as construction of new roads for improving the connectivity. We have also planned to construct 19 bridges on various rivers and one cable stayed bridge on Damanganga river. An allocation of ₹ 1000 crores for U. T. of Daman & Diu & ₹ 600 crores for U. T. of Dadra & Nagar Haveli will be needed during 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan period for this purpose.

17. The thrust of 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan has been social inclusion coupled with provision of improved livelihood opportunities. In both these UTs, tremendous job opportunities have been created by the industrial sector. As I mentioned earlier, most of the industries are now at a saturation point. We therefore, have to look for other sectors for creating job opportunity for the local people whose aspirational levels are also increasing because of spread of education. Both these UTs have tremendous potential for development of tourism sector. This however, will depend upon improved connectivity and the development of Tourism spots and adventure and eco tourism in the area. We are planning for a mega tourism park under the PPP mode, in the picturesque hills of Dudhani near Madhuban Dam. We are in the process of harnessing tourism potential in UT of Daman & Diu. Indian Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) has been requested to prepare detail DPR for light and sound show at Diu. The fort in Daman is one of the remnants of the **Portuguese heritage and a major tourist attraction**. We are in the process of developing the surrounding area of **Daman Fort**. The UT Administration is making a detailed project for River Front development for Damanganga river in Dadra & Nagar Haveli.

Government land has also been identified for construction of Science Centre, Science Park and a State Museum in the UT of Dadra & Nagar Haveli. An Allocation of ₹ 175 Crore for Daman & Diu and ₹ 250 Crore for Dadra & Nagar Haveli will be required for development of tourism in these territories during 12<sup>th</sup> Plan Period.

18. **Sir**, Diu is a beautiful island with white sand beaches and quite close to Somnath Temple, Gir Forest, Junagadh and Dilwara Jain Temples. We have already taken up the matter with the Tourism Department of Govt. of Gujarat to make Diu a part of their Junagadh circuit. However, true tourism potential of Diu can be realized only when rail connectivity is provided to Diu. I, therefore, request Hon'ble Union Railway Minister to extend the railway line from Veraval to Ghoghla. Daman also has got beautiful beaches on the western coast. The sea based tourism can be given a big fillip if Diu and Daman are linked through sea route. We are thankful to the Planning Commission who have agreed to our proposal this year for dredging of the mouth of Damanganga river. A token provision has also been made in our Annual Plan for this purpose. We are planning to use this opportunity for developing a minor port so that the sand which is dredged is also put to a better use. This can enable berthing facilities for cruise ships who can start operations between Daman and Diu. The NIO, Goa is carrying out a technical study and as per the report of NIO, work will be taken up during 12<sup>th</sup> Plan Period. We request that provision of funds to the tune of ₹ 400 crores be made in the 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan for this purpose also.

19. Both the UTs have limited cultivable land, and most is rainfed. The agricultural sector is bogged down with typical problems like small and fragmented size of holdings, sub-optimal use of chemicals and fertilizers, subsistence nature of agriculture etc. There is limited irrigation potential. The existing irrigation potential available to us from Madhuban Dam is also not fully utilized due to poor maintenance of canal system by the Irrigation Deptt. of Gujarat Govt. We have now ourselves taken up the repair and maintenance of canal network. For augmentation of irrigation facilities, laying of canals and their repairs and maintenance we would need around ₹ 30 crores for Daman & Diu and ₹ 60 crores for Dadra & Nagar Haveli during the 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan. We are encouraging the farmers to take up horticultural crops. We are also encouraging them to conserve soil and water and use high yielding varieties of seeds. We have been insisting that our Lead Banks provide 100 percent coverage of farmers under the Kisan Credit Card scheme. Only a high growth of agriculture sector to cater coupled with realizing the tourism potential and organic growth of industrial units would cater to increased employment opportunities for growing young and educated population of the territories.

20. **Sir**, we are fully committed to implement all the flagship programmes of the Govt. of India. We have significantly improved implementation of many schemes during the current financial year. For example, under the National Social Assistance Programme, the number of beneficiaries which were only 902 in Dadra & Nagar Haveli in 2010-11, may cross 9000 during 2012-13. Similarly, in Daman & Diu the number of beneficiaries are likely to increased from 1207 (2011-12) to 5000 in 2012-13. We are simultaneously ensuring financial inclusion. No-frill bank accounts have been opened for a large number of beneficiaries in Dadra & Nagar Haveli. The amount is directly credited to their accounts through ECS. Payments can be drawn by poor uneducated tribal beneficiaries in their village at their door step through banking correspondents. The same exercise is being executed in Daman & Diu also and we hope to complete this within a month. Our aim is to ensure 100 percent

coverage of all eligible persons. Moreover, considering the plight of senior citizens, we are planning to build some Old Age Homes with recreation facilities. To provide for increasing life expectancy of senior citizens, we are also planning to implement health insurance schemes for poorer and BPL categories of population. For implementation of all these schemes, an additional allocation of ₹ 300 crores is required for U. T. of Daman & Diu and ₹ 400 crores is required for U. T. of Dadra & Nagar Haveli during 12<sup>th</sup> five year Plan period.

21. **Sir**, an educated citizen is an asset to the nation. Our endeavour in both the UTs is to fully implement Right to Education Act 2005. Our performance in Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan is also exemplary. We are proud that we have received the recognition at the national level by fetching Decadal Literacy Award, 2011 for Dadra & Nagar Haveli. There was no government college in Dadra & Nagar Haveli even after 57 years of liberation. This year we have set up a government degree college by the name of Silvassa Institute for Higher Learning with two streams of Arts and Commerce. The Hon'ble Minister of State for Home Shri Mullapally Ramachandran had inaugurated this college in an existing school building on 25<sup>th</sup> July, 2011. He also laid the foundation stone for the college building as well as for the Auditorium. From academic session 2012-13, **Science stream** has also been established in the College. For construction of new College building, the design is frozen and tender has already been floated. We intend to build a state of the art campus which can cater to 2000 students. For this purpose we would need an allocation of ₹ 80 crores. We also have to upgrade & expand physical infrastructure for primary and secondary level education.

There is no degree college available in Diu District which is about 740 km. away from Daman and children have to travel to Gujarat for College education. The Administration proposes to start a **new college at Diu** from academic year 2013-14.

Knowledge of computers and information technology is important area of learning for the students. To motivate the students towards information technology and computers, the UT Administration is in the process of formulation of **Laptop Scheme** for meritorious and college going students

We therefore request that an amount of ₹ 350 crores for Dadra & Nagar Haveli and ₹ 200 crores for Daman & Diu be earmarked in the 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan for the education sector.

22. **Sir**, a healthy person is also equally important for the overall development of the nation. In both the territories, we have effectively implemented National Rural Health Mission. We have put in place state of the art medical facilities in Shri Vinoba Bhave Civil Hospital in Dadra & Nagar Haveli and also in Civil Hospital in Daman. We are planning to further improve health infrastructure at the hospital by building a 200 bedded multi specialty, state of the art facility with ultra modern OPD block. The Planning Commission has already given its approval and token provision has also been made in the plan. A proposal is presently under consideration of the Ministry of Health for technical and financial clearance of the project.

It is also planned to construct new 100 bedded hospital by upgrading the existing CHC Khanvel for providing quality health care services to the tribal population. It is also planned to establish a Medical college in UT of Dadra & Nagar Haveli since there is no Medical College available in the UT of Dadra & Nagar Haveli.

We, therefore, request that a provision of around ₹ 500 crores for Dadra & Nagar Haveli and another ₹ 250 crores for upgradation and expansion of existing civil hospital in Daman be made in the 12<sup>th</sup> Plan.

23. **Sir**, I have very broadly indicated sector specific needs with some details of individual projects. At an aggregate level, we have estimated that our requirements for Plan funds during the 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan will be ₹ 5000 crores for Daman & Diu and ₹ 6700 crores for Dadra & Nagar Haveli.

24. **Sir**, I would like to touch upon some administrative issues also. Under the Right to Education Act, the Appropriate Government for these UTs is the Ministry of Human Resource Development. The Administrator of the UTs needs to be declared the Appropriate Government for smooth and effective implementation of the Act. Sir, overall literacy rate for these UTs is better than All India Average. We are however, lacking in technical education. We request Ministry of Human Resource Development to increase the number of seats allocated to the students of the UTs in MBBS and Engineering courses so as to fill up the gap in technical education. At present, we do not have any medical and engineering college. We are however, proposing to convert the existing Polytechnic in both the UTs into Institute for Engineering and Technology through a registered society so that qualified faculty could be recruited easily and modernization and upgradation of facilities is also taken up. At present we are handicapped because we can neither amend or frame recruitment rules nor can we recruit faculty at our level.

25. **Sir**, we are unable to fill up large number of vacancies in important departments like health and education because all our proposals for framing/amending recruitment rules remain pending with UPSC or with respective Ministries. It is our earnest request that the authority for approval of recruitment rules for group 'A' and 'B' gazetted posts be delegated to the Administrator of these territories and the ban on creation of the posts for essential services like education and health be lifted immediately.

26. **Sir**, I would like to point out another constraint of inadequate manpower with the UTs of Daman, Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli. Though these UTs are small in size, yet the work at Secretariat level is almost similar in volume to any other State Secretariat. In fact, during the last two decades various development activities have increased. Also a substantial increase has taken place in population, industrial activities and socio economic activities like education, health, social security, welfare, etc. I earnestly request the Ministry of Home Affairs and other Ministries to take a considered view in sanctioning creation of posts for the UTs at Secretariat as well as in the field departments like Health, Education, Transport, Tourism etc.

27. I thank the Planning Commission for providing me this opportunity to highlight the specific issues of the UTs of Daman, Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli. I would also like to thank the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Hon'ble Home Minister, Hon'ble Cabinet Ministers, Hon'ble Chief Ministers, Secretaries to Govt. of India, Chief Secretaries and Administrators and other officers present in this meeting for giving me a patient hearing.

**Jai Hind.**