



**ADDRESS OF**

**ADMINISTRATOR**

**DAMAN & DIU AND DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI**

**ON THE**

**53<sup>rd</sup> LIBERATION DAY OF DAMAN & DIU**

**DECEMBER 19, 2013**

Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Daman & Diu

President, Daman District Panchayat,

President, Daman Municipal Council,

Development Commissioner,

Inspector General of Police,

Principal District and Sessions Judge

All Secretaries to the UT Administration of Daman & Diu,

Collector, Daman,

Chief Judicial Magistrate (Senior Division),

Judicial Magistrate (First Class),

Respected Ex. M.Ps. Shri Dahyabhai Patel, Shri Gopalbhai Tandel &

Shri Devjibhai Tandel,

Freedom Fighters of Daman & Diu,

Presidents & Representatives of all Political Parties,

Elected representatives,

Government officers,

Industrialists present today,

Representatives of media,

Ladies & Gentlemen,

and dear Children.

On the occasion of 53<sup>rd</sup> Liberation Day of Daman & Diu, I convey my heartiest greetings and best wishes to the people of the territory. Today, we must pause and acknowledge the enormous contribution of the freedom fighters and Indian soldiers who made the liberation possible. I pay my humble tributes to each of them.

The territory has made great progress since joining the Indian mainstream, especially since becoming a separate U.T. after statehood of Goa. Today, I would like to highlight some of recent developments and progress we have made in different areas.

**Infrastructure (Roads/Bridges/Buildings/Water Supply):**

We continue to focus on infrastructure in the territory. In Daman, construction of two bridges at Patalia and Bamanpuja are in progress and are expected to be completed in the next three to five months. The Detailed Project Report for the cable stayed bridge, which will cost about Rs.102 crore, has been received and a proposal is being submitted to Government of India this week for sanction. The design of a new bridge for Coastal Highway on Damanganga has been completed and the proposal is being sent to Government of India this week for its approval. A consultant has also been appointed to design the new pedestrian bridge linking Moti Daman and Nani Daman. The construction of Zari and Magarwada bridges in Daman are still pending for approval of Government of India.

For Diu, we are issuing the work order for construction of the new parallel Ghoghla bridge at cost of around Rs. 35 crore. The design of a new bridge across Tad creek is in progress and we hope to issue the tender for construction of this bridge by January and start work by March, 2014.

In addition, strengthening and widening of roads and building works at a cost of over Rs.290 crore is also in progress in both districts.

The work of construction of new Govt. office building at Bhenslore, Daman has been started at a cost of Rs.4.5 crore. In addition, construction of head office and central store buildings of electricity department, Lekha building for accounts office and a new building at Nani Daman Circuit house premises are being started immediately at a cost of Rs. 22 crore.

The water pipeline projects to bring water from Madhuban Dam to Dabel, Dunetha and Magarwada are in progress at a cost of Rs. 49 crore. The water treatment project at Dunetha has been started at the cost of Rs. 17 crore which is expected to be completed by middle of next year. Projects for increasing water treatment capacity at Dabel and Magarwada are also in progress at a cost of Rs.40 crore. Work of augmentation of Diu water supply from Sardar Sarovar Dam has been awarded at a cost of around Rs. 35 crore which is expected to be completed by middle of 2015.

#### **Sewerage and Solid Waste Management:**

The Administration believes that proper underground sewerage system is essential for all urban areas. The project for underground sewerage system for Moti Daman has already been sanctioned which is to be implemented by Daman Municipal Council. Construction of underground sewerage system for Diu is being sanctioned shortly at a cost of around Rs.30 crore. We have also initiated the project of designing the sewerage system for Nani Daman as well as Bhimpore, Dunetha, Dabel, Marward, Kadaiya and Kachigam.

The consultant's report for a solid waste management project covering entire Daman has been received and is being examined. Similarly,

the solid waste management project for entire Diu has been formulated and will be finalized shortly at an estimated cost of around Rs. 19 crore.

**Education:**

Education is one of my most important focus areas as I believe that our future depends on how well our children develop. We have recently completed the recruitment process of 260 teachers on contract basis which is a significant milestone in ensuring quality education.

As you are aware, we had formulated the scheme of providing free laptops to the students of class 11 and first year polytechnic students. We have named this scheme as “UDAAN” and placed the order with the manufacturer. The delivery of laptops under the scheme is expected shortly and we hope to start their distribution to the students in January.

The Sarvottam project for improvement of quality of education is progressing very well in 20 Higher Secondary Schools in the territory. All these schools are witnessing a significant improvement in infrastructure and procedures. We have now decided to rename these schools as ‘Government Sarvottam Schools’ in an effort to differentiate them in attainment of a level of quality which can serve as a model for others. Under this new initiative, all Sarvottam schools will be equipped with the best of infrastructure, technology, participation by parents and several other features. We have also decided to add 10 Upper Primary Schools in Daman and 10 in Diu to this Sarvottam initiative in the current academic year.

The first Polytechnic in Diu will be started from the next academic year 2014-15 with an intake of 30 students in each of four diploma courses. I am also happy to announce that we plan to start the first engineering college in the territory, called Daman College of Engineering from the

academic year 2014-15. This College will be started in the existing campus of Government Polytechnic, Daman where an additional building is proposed to be constructed. The design of the education hub in Diu, which includes Diu College, Diu Polytechnic and Food & Catering Institute is being finalized shortly for which a record number of 37 architects from all over India have submitted their designs.

**Health:**

On Independence Day this year, I had announced the details of Sanjeevani Swasthya Bima Yojana which will provide health cover to all BPL and poor families with income upto Rs.1 lakh per year in the UT. I am delighted to inform you that we are starting the scheme from today, through a public sector insurance company. The company has already set up a call-centre 24/7 and is setting up enrolment centers for the scheme in both Daman and Diu from next week. All eligible persons can approach these enrolment centers within the next three months and obtain the health insurance card, on the spot, which will enable them to avail the health insurance facilities from empanelled hospitals in Mumbai, Surat, Vapi, Ahmedabad, etc. This scheme provides health insurance cover of Rs.2 lakh to each family as well as extends accident and death insurance of Rs.1 lakh per person. Due to our transparent tender process, the annual premium for this coverage is finalized at only Rs.431/- per family. While the Government will bear this cost for all BPL and poor families, I request every other resident of the territory to also join the scheme by paying this nominal cost which is much lower than the market rate for such insurance. I would like to especially request all the industrial units, hotels and other establishments in the territory to cover their employees under this scheme so that we can

set an example for the entire country as far as health insurance is concerned.

Another area where public has been facing hardship is availability of specialist doctors in the U.T. Some of the super specialist services like cardiology and nephrology have already been started in Government Hospital, Daman through an agreement with Wockhardt Hospital. We are trying to start these services, as well as services like Gynaecology & Orthopedics in Government Hospital, Diu.

**Energy:**

We are undertaking several projects for increasing and strengthening the electricity network in the territory. A new 66/11 KV Sub-Station with a capacity of 30 MW is under construction at Kachigam/Zari at a cost of Rs.9.1 crore. The capacity of Magarwada Sub-Station is being enhanced from 160 MVA to 220 MVA at a cost of Rs. 9.78 crore. The tender process for establishment of 1 MW Solar Plant in Daman and 3 MW in Diu is in progress and we hope to implement these projects within next 6 months.

**Fisheries:**

To improve infrastructure for fisheries sector, fishing platforms/jetties of 431 meters length are under construction at a cost of Rs.6.25 crore in various villages of Diu.

A new scheme for one time subsidy on LPG based OBM Engine for traditional fishermen of Diu has already been implemented. We have sanctioned subsidy of Rs. 54 lakh for 45 fishermen last week. In addition, financial assistance has been provided to 575 fishermen in the U.T. under various plan schemes so far in the current financial year.

I am happy that 55 Diu fishermen rejoined their families after being released on 24<sup>th</sup> August, 2013 by Pakistan. We are taking up the issue of all other Diu fishermen in Pakistani Jails with Government of India for their early release.

This year we had doubled the assistance that we provide to their families from Rs. 50 per day to Rs. 100 per day. This amount will again be doubled to Rs. 200 per day from April 2014, which is a measure of our commitment to help the distressed families of such fishermen. In addition, as requested by Diu fishermen community, such financial assistance will now be available even if a person is unfortunately apprehended for the second time or more.

**Social Welfare:**

We are implementing various welfare schemes that touch the daily lives of vulnerable sections of society. Under the Integrated Child Development scheme, supplementary nutrition is being provided to over 7500 children of age group 0 to 6 years through 102 Anganwadis in Daman & Diu. Over 1900 pregnant and lactating mothers are being given supplementary nutrition and Iron & Folic Acid tablets in the neighborhood Anganwadis.

Pre-matric and post-matric scholarships are being given to students of SC/ ST, OBC and Minority communities. About 4600 parents of SC/ST boys and girls students of class I to X are being provided cash incentive so that they are also encouraged to educate their children.

Land has been identified for setting up of women, girls and boys hostels to provide residence facility to needy as well as destitute persons. A dedicated 181 helpline for women in distress is being started shortly.



Senior citizens constitute another important segment of our society. During 1-7 October, Buzurg Samman Saptah was celebrated where special camps for their health check and issue of ADHAR Card were organized.

Under the Govt of India's Swatantrata Sainani Sanmaan Pension Scheme, pension of Rs 12000/= per month is being given to 15 Freedom Fighters. 23 other Freedom Fighters of this UT are being provided pension of Rs.4000/- per month from the UT funds.

As promised, I have constituted an Advisory Committee relating to minorities, and its first meeting is being held next week.

**Tourism:**

We are giving a lot of emphasis on development and promotion of tourism in both Daman & Diu. We organized the first ever Daman Heritage Festival in Moti Daman in October, 2013 where world renowned Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia and Sushri Rama Vaidyanathan performed to a packed audience. This festival has set a high standard for all such events in the future. We plan to organize this festival every year for attracting tourists to Daman.

We are designing good kiosks at Jampore and Devka beaches of Daman which will be leased out every season. We intend to establish good facilities like drinking water, toilets and changing rooms at every beach in the UT for the convenience of the tourists. We have sanctioned projects for restoration and conservation of Panikotha and St.Thomas Church in Diu. An international standard cycle track is already under construction in Diu by which we intend to promote eco-tourism in the territory. A heritage walkway has been constructed from Chandikamata temple to Zampa in Diu at a cost of Rs. 2 crore. We are also starting the promotion of the territory

as a tourism destination. A renowned advertising agency has been appointed which is now working out details of the promotional campaign to be started in the next 2-3 months.

**National Food Security Act:**

We have issued the draft criteria for identification of beneficiaries for implementation of the National Food Security Act in the U.T. Subsidized food grains will soon be provided to about 1.19 lakh people in the territory as per the provisions of the Act.

**Information Technology:**

We have awarded the work for establishment of UT Wide Area Network at a cost of Rs. 16.5 crore which will link all important Government Offices. The tender for the UT Data Center is being finalized soon. We are establishing 4 common Service Centers shortly which will enable people to access various Government services at a single point.

**Connectivity:**

As all of you are aware, Daman and Diu districts have not been linked with air travel in the last 50 years. To make this long cherished dream of people possible, we have decided in consultation with public representatives, to build a civil terminal at Daman airport to enable starting of commercial flights. We are also intending to float a tender shortly for selecting the airline which will link Daman and Diu with each other as well as with Mumbai and Ahmedabad or Vadodara.

I also propose to link Daman and Diu by catamaran services in the next financial year.

**Local Bodies:**

Local bodies in the territory continue to work on various development projects and schemes for benefit of the people, in addition to distributing pensions to over 9000 senior citizens, widows and the disabled persons.

The new Diu District Panchayat has taken up its role very effectively with 18.83 core allotted to it for various infrastructure and development works. Rs.4 crore has been utilized by it so far for various projects while work of Rs.55 lakh has been tendered for renovation of school buildings. The District Panchayat is also initiating the project for beautification of Pothiadada beach near Nagoa and construction of new road from Nagoa beach to Khodidhar beach.

Daman District Panchayat has already completed 262 works for Rs.17.21 crore and is further taking up another 150 works for Rs.40.5 core in the current financial year. This includes an excellent project for construction of toilets for children with special needs at 54 schools in Daman. In addition, 90 SC/ST families has been sanctioned financial assistance for construction or repair of their houses.

Diu Municipal Council has been very proactive in taking up infrastructure and tourism projects of long term nature like Solid Waste Management project and Sewerage system in Diu. It has already utilized Rs.8.6 crore for development of roads, buildings and other projects and completed its new office building made at a cost of Rs.2.65 crore. It is also taking up several landmark projects of tourism, sports and public utility nature.

Daman Municipal Council has completed a number of projects at a cost of Rs.9.38 crore and currently executing 13 projects at a cost of Rs.3.26

crore. It is also taking up another 30 projects at a cost of Rs.26 crore, including a modern fish market at Nani Daman.

**Police & Fire Services:**

Law and order situation continues to be under control in the territory, and all the major reported crimes have been solved. The UT Administration is in process of beefing up its Coastal Security and in this direction, construction of Coastal Police Station at Vanakbara, Diu and police jetty at Moti Daman are going to be completed soon. With a view to further strengthen the preventive-policing in the UT, Automatic License Plate Recognizers (ALPR) have been procured for Daman and are being installed at various border entry and exit points. In Diu, some CCTV-cameras have been installed recently at various vulnerable places.

As you are aware, 126 residents of Daman and Diu, including 27 women, have been appointed recently as police constables. We are also completing the process of recruitment of firemen shortly.

**Conclusion:**

Before I end, I would like to again congratulate the people of Daman & Diu on this 53<sup>rd</sup> liberation day.

We are making tremendous strides in all sectors and have significant projects and plans on anvil. I acknowledge the invaluable support that we have received from all the public representatives as well as the public, and hope that such support will continue in the future.

Let us work together to achieve our vision of becoming the best State or UT in the country.

.... Jai Hind ....