

## SPEECH OF HON'BLE ADMINISTRATOR

HON'BLE PRESIDENT OF INDIA, HON'BLE SPOUSE OF THE PRESIDENT, DISTINGUISHED DIGNITARIES, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

IT IS AN HONOUR AND PLEASURE FOR LAKSHADWEEP ISLANDS TO RECEIVE THE HON'BLE PRESIDENT OF INDIA TODAY AT KAVARATTI, THE CAPITAL. WE ARE INDEED VERY GRATEFUL TO THE HON'BLE PRESIDENT FOR TAKING TIME OUT OF HER VERY BUSY SCHEDULE TO GRACE THE ISLANDS AND GIVE HER BLESSINGS.

IN THE PAST, 3 PRESIDENTS OF INDIA HAVE VISITED LAKSHADWEEP. DR. RAJENDRA PRASAD CAME IN FEBRUARY 1956, DR. GYANI ZAIL SINGH IN OCTOBER 1985 AND SHRI. R. VENKATARAMAN IN DECEMBER, 1989. THE VISIT OF THE HON'BLE PRESIDENT OF INDIA TODAY HAS INDEED COME AFTER 20 YEARS, AND WILL LEAVE ITS INDELIBLE MARK FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ISLANDS IN FUTURE.

THE HON'BLE PRESIDENT HAS INAUGURATED THE INTENSIVE CARE UNIT AT INDIRA GANDHI HOSPITAL, WHICH WILL BE A SIGNIFICANT VALUE ADDITION TO THE HOSPITAL FOR TREATMENT OF CRITICAL CASES. WITH THE INAUGURATION OF THE CRUCIAL E-GOVERNANCE PROJECT OF SWAN TODAY, THE HON'BLE PRESIDENT WILL SET THE TONE FOR E-GOVERNANCE IN ALL THE ISLANDS, TO ENSURE CONNECTIVITY, FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THESE FAR FLUNG DISTANT ISLANDS.

CLIMATE CHANGE IS THE BIG CHALLENGE HERE AND I REQUEST THE HON'BLE PRESIDENT TO KINDLY SEE IF AN OBSERVATORY FOR MONITORING OCEAN CURRENTS, ON THE LINES OF ANDAMAN ISLANDS CAN BE SET UP IN LAKSHADWEEP, SO THAT THE EARLY WARNING SIGNALS ARE POSSIBLE, TO PREVENT ANY POTENTIAL DAMAGE.

MAY I NOW REQUEST THE HON'BLE PRESIDENT TO KINDLY INAUGURATE THE SWAN PROJECT. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.