

## **AN INDUSTRY-INSTITUTE INTERACTION MEET**

**At Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Govt. Polytechnic**

An Industries-Institute Interaction Meet was held in the conference hall of Dr.B.R.Ambedkar Govt. Polytechnic on 14<sup>th</sup> August 2007. The Commissioner-cum-Secretary (Edn. & Tech.), Shri Janak Digal inaugurated the meet as the chief guest. The meet was jointly organized by the Board of Practical Training, (BOPT) GoI (Eastern Region) Kolkata and the Dr.B.R.A Govt. Polytechnic Port Blair.

Addressing the function, Shri Digal underlined the need for providing technical training according to the local requirement and manpower demands in these islands. The 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan have given emphasis on the development and exploitation of fisheries sector, high value agriculture and ecotourism, the thrust areas that will provide more employment opportunity for the islanders and better economic growth of the islands as well, he said. He suggested that the Polytechnic and ITI should take initiative for planning new technical courses in tune with the technical manpower demands of these islands.

Referring to industries sector, the chief guest said that maximum of the small industries here are wood-based which face the problems of raw materials. As such, alternative activities are to be identified and the students need to be motivated towards them. Poultry and Dairy farming have good scope in these islands and technical training in these fields should be made available for the youth of the islands, he said

Highlighting the significance of the meet, and the need for implementation of Apprentices Act through multimedia presentation the Director BOPT, Shri S.M.Sundaram informed that technical education should not be limited merely to classroom situation but the apprentices should be exposed to the working condition of any establishment-be it industries, offices, and the like. By providing apprenticeship they will gain experience and technical knowledge in the respective fields of works, he said.

In his welcome address on the occasion, the Principal BRA Polytechnic, Shri Utpal Sharma informed that the objective of the meet was to reduce the gap between industries and institutes by discussing threadbare various issues and exchange views on the implementation of the Apprentices Act. It will also provide opportunity for the participants to understand more about the Act, he said.

About 20 participants from different departments, Central Govt. establishment and private organizations attended the meet.