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BJP & INC Demands Ship to Transport Stranded Islanders to Campbell Bay



Tarun Karthick
Port Blair, 16 June 2021

Mr. Sanjay Kumar Singh, State Vice President of Bharatiya Janata Party, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Mr. D Jayaraman, State Vice President, Andaman and Nicobar Territorial Congress Committee have demanded ship to transport stranded Islanders of Campbell Bay back to their homes.

Both the leaders have written letters to the Secretary (Shipping), Andaman and Nicobar Administration and explained to him the problems being faced by the residents of Campbell Bay who are stranded in South Andaman District.

The last ship to Campbell Bay, Great Nicobar sailed in the first week of May 2021 and ever since then the residents of Great Nicobar are stuck in South Andaman. These residents of Great Nicobar stuck in South Andaman are facing problems in even finding accommodations for themselves. Some of them are on mercy of their relatives and friends and don't want to become a burden on them for too long.

Nicobar Times has also received several calls from the stranded residents of Great Nicobar who pleaded with us to do something for them. Andaman and Nicobar Administration

should consider the plight of these stranded residents of Great Nicobar and consider to schedule sailing of a ship for them to reach their homes.

The primary rationale behind restricting the shipping services is keeping the Islanders of remote Islands safe from the clutches of COVID-19. Proper quarantine rules are in place, in Islands of Nicobar District and further the Administration should also consider testing the incoming passengers before de-quarantining them and their families after the home isolation period, to make sure they are not infected.

Nicobar District has not reported any COVID-19 cases in the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic and precautions are necessary to maintain the COVID free status. It is also important that the residents are allowed to travel back to their homes so that they can unite with their families and stay comfortably during this time when restrictions are in place everywhere to control the spread of COVID-19.

A favourable decision in the interest of the stranded Islanders should be taken by the Administration with all precautions, so that both the safety of the residents of remote Islands as well as the problems being faced by the stranded Islanders are addressed.

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EHL Starts Campaign to Provide Relief to Needy Nicobarese at South Andaman



Dilip Tirkey
Port Blair, 16 June 2021

Ellon Hinengo Limited, Central Tribal Cooperative Society has started a campaign to help the needy Nicobarese who are stranded or residing at South Andaman District. The campaign was started today in the presence of Mr. Suneel Anchipaka, IAS, Deputy Commissioner of South Andaman District.

Team EHL under the leadership of Mr. Amin Moosa, MD, EHL will be distributing ration kits to the needy people from the Nicobarese Community

everyday. 40 ration kits were distributed today and Team EHL has worked very hard to procure and pack the ration kits.

There are hundreds of residents of Southern Group of Islands who are stuck in South Andaman and many of them are from the Nicobarese Community. The initiative of EHL will ease the lives of the people from Nicobarese Community stranded at Port Blair.

Team EHL should be lauded for their efforts to provide relief to the Nicobarese Tribal Community.



PICTURE SHOWS A DYSFUNCTIONAL COMMUNITY HAND WASHING UNIT RIGHT IN THE PRIME AREA OF ZERO POINT, CAMPBELL BAY, GREAT NICOBAR

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Ajoy Bairagi Requests DC South Andaman to Revise Time Frame for Lockdown Relaxation



Rohit Kumar

Port Blair, 16 June 2021

Mr. Ajoy Bairagi, State President, Bharatiya Janata Party, Andaman and Nicobar Islands has written a letter to the Deputy Commissioner, South Andaman District requesting him to ease the restrictions and provide a more favourable and accessible time for general public to avail essential services.

In his letter Mr.. Ajoy Bairagi has mentioned that the general public of South Andaman District has been facing lockdown for last three weeks and the lockdown has been extended for another week now. He added that the Islanders have acknowledged the importance of lockdown and are fully abiding by it.

He further added that as the result of the collective efforts, the number of cases have also come down considerably. He further mentioned that the residents were hoping for some relaxations which

was not given to them.

Shri. Ajoy Bairagi further added that the timings for essential shops have now been changed from 6 Am - 8 Am to 6 Am - 10 Am, and the changed time frame is illogical and inconvenient.

He further added that the Daily Wage Earners, Barbers, Construction Workers, Tourism Industry etc. is the worst affected and they are the ones still suffering. He also mentioned that the general public is losing its cool because of the continued restrictions even when the pandemic is under control.

He requested the Deputy Commissioner, South Andaman to look into the issue and do the needful to provide relief to the general public. He further added that the time frame for relaxations may be changed to 8:00 Am to 1:00 Pm, which is deemed as more favourable and accessible time for the general public.

Details of Movement by E-Pass Holders are now Being Recorded at Check Points



Rohit Kumar

Port Blair, 16 June 2021

Andaman and Nicobar Police has now started recording details of movement of all e-pass holders at various checkpoints across South Andaman. E-Pass or movement pass of everyone passing through the check posts are being strictly checked and the details are being noted.

Earlier many instances of misuse of E-Passes were reported and now A & N Police is strictly checking all details of the E-Pass including

the routes on which one is allowed to move.

Yesterday a case had come to light where a truck had reached Ponghy Chuang area of Port Blair without a valid E-Pass for sanitisation. The truck was later taken to the Police Station after the objection of the Ex-Councillor of the area.

Strictly Checking the E-Pass of those passing through each check point and noting the details will ensure that E-Passes are not misused by the residents.

MP Takes Stock of Major Water Projects Proposed for the Islands



Akash Minj

Port Blair, 16 June 2021

Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma, Member of Parliament, A & N Islands along with Mr. K Ganeshan, Ex-Chairperson, PBMC met Secretary, APWD and discussed major water projects proposed in the islands.

He informed the Secretary about the difficulties faced by the residents due to the water crisis in six Municipal Wards, particularly during the dry season. He also requested the Secretary, APWD for completing the repair works of pipelines damaged due to the Dairy Farm Culvert Project. The Secretary, APWD informed the MP that out of the two pipelines damaged at the culvert project site, repair work of one pipeline is already completed and repair work of another pipeline is under progress which will also be completed shortly.

Secretary APWD further informed the MP that once the work is completed residents will face no water problems. She further informed that

work is progressing at a fast pace and is likely to be completed soon.

On the proposed major water projects, she informed that the submarine pipeline laying work in the Rutland water supply project between Phongi Balu at Chidiya Tapu and Rut Land will start shortly as experts from mainland are expected to arrive in the islands shortly. In the same manner, works for the Flat Bay water project will also commence soon as the team of experts have already submitted their final reports and sanctions have been obtained.

She also informed that directions have been issued to various Panchayats in the islands to undertake de-silting works of various water sources, including ring wells. Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma has requested the Secretary to expedite all the water projects so that the residents of the islands do not have to face water crisis in the summer months when the demand for water is more and supply is not sufficient.

All Villages of Little Andaman Tehsil Declared as Containment Zone



Rohit Kumar

Port Blair, 16 June 2021

District Magistrate, South Andaman has declared all villages under Little Andaman Tehsil as Containment Zone through order no. 759, issued on 16th June 2021. The orders have been issued after detection of a number of COVID-19 cases from the above mentioned areas.

Only essential activities shall be allowed in the containment zones. Strict perimeter control will be ensured and there shall be no movement of people in or out of the containment zone except for medical emergencies and for maintaining supply of essential goods and services. There shall be intensive house to house surveillance by surveillance teams formed for the

purpose. Testing shall be carried out in containment zones as per prescribed protocol. Listing of contacts shall be carried out in respect of all persons found positive, along with their tracking, identification, quarantine and follow up of contacts for 14 days. 80% of contacts are to be traced in 72 hours. Surveillance of ILI/SARI cases shall be carried out in health facilities or outreach mobile units or through fever clinics in the buffer zones.

21 COVID positive cases were detected from Little Andaman when people were tested through RAT for travelling to Port Blair by M.V Kalighat. District Administration on 15 June 2021 had also collected samples for RT-PCR from Little Andaman which was transported to Port Blair through helicopter.



**Always Wear a Mask
and
Wash Your Hands Frequently**

