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Residents of Campbell Bay Advocate Against Immediate Scheduling of Passenger Vessel



Tarun Karthick
Campbell Bay, 17 June 2021

The recent detection of a large number of COVID-19 cases in Little Andaman is very concerning for the residents living in the remote Islands of Southern Group. Nicobar District has been completely COVID-19 free in the second wave of the pandemic. The residents of Campbell Bay who were requesting ships for the stranded passengers of the Island until yesterday, are now advocating against scheduling of any ship for Great Nicobar.

Nicobar Times spoke to a large number of residents of Campbell Bay and barring a small fraction of those whose immediate relatives are stranded in South Andaman, all others are of the view that no ship should be scheduled for Campbell Bay anytime soon. Many of the residents are of the view that Andaman and Nicobar Administration should help the stranded Islanders of the remote islands by providing them with food and accommodation in hostels and other public facilities at South Andaman.

Nicobar Times also spoke to various political leaders of different political parties active in Great Nicobar and all of them were of the view that ships should not be scheduled for Campbell Bay at this time, when a large number of positive cases have been detected in Little Andaman. Some of the political leaders also told Nicobar Times that they will call up the Deputy Commissioner of Nicobar District and inform him about the views of the general public of Campbell Bay.

Very basic healthcare facilities are available in the remote Islands of Nicobar District and a large scale outbreak of COVID-19 will be very difficult to manage. Serious patients will have to be airlifted to Port Blair and during monsoon often helicopters are not able to reach the Island due to inclement weather.

Many of the residents are also concerned about their livelihood. Nicobar District is under restrictions since a long period of time and because of which a majority of the residents are not able to earn. The residents were hoping for

considerable relaxation in the coming days since the whole district has remained COVID-19 free in the second wave of the pandemic. Residents fear that if the stranded passengers are transported to Campbell Bay and if COVID-19 cases are detected in the Island, they will not be able to earn for a long period of time because containment measures will be taken and more restrictions will be enforced.

One businessman on condition of anonymity, told Nicobar Times that because of a few hundred stranded residents, thousand of other residents will have to face restrictions and will lose their livelihoods. He added that the Administration should think of providing them some relief and they should be transported back only when the situation completely normalises.

Another resident told Nicobar Times that a list of stranded passengers should be prepared and they should be institutionally quarantined for a considerable period of time before being allowed to travel to Campbell Bay. He further added that after reaching Campbell Bay these passengers should again be institutionally quarantined and tests should be conducted on each one of them before being de-quarantined. Only some residents whose relatives are stranded in Port Blair advocated for immediate sailing of the ship.

Residents of Campbell Bay are very concerned about the COVID-19 situation prevailing in South Andaman District and the recent detection of a large number of COVID-19 cases from Little Andaman has forced them to introspect their stand on transportation of stranded Islanders back to Campbell Bay. Local political leaders of Campbell Bay have also changed their views on transportation of the stranded Islanders after a large number of COVID-19 cases were detected in Little Andaman.

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Ajoy Bairagi Writes to J.P Nadda; Seeks Speeding Up of COVID-19 Vaccination in the Islands

Ajoy Bairagi Writes to J.P Nadda; Seeks Speeding Up of COVID-19 Vaccination in the Islands

Rohit Kumar
Port Blair, 17 June 2021

Mr. Ajoy Bairagi, State President, Bharatiya Janata Party, Andaman and Nicobar Islands has written a letter to Mr. J.P Nadda, National President, Bharatiya Janata Party informing him about various issues pertaining to Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Mr. Ajoy Bairagi informed the National President of Bharatiya Janata Party that Andaman and Nicobar Islands has a distinct geography, which poses different challenges and limitations. He further added that Mr.Narendra

Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India has started the world's largest vaccination drive which is being executed in the best possible way.

He further thanked the Govt. of India for supporting the needs of the far flung Islands during this pandemic. He also added that the Vaccination Drive is being executed well by Andaman and Nicobar Administration and the Islanders are also cooperating in the best possible way.

He also informed the National President of Bharatiya Janata Party that the local

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Vishal Jolly Bats for MSMEs of A & N Islands

Vishal Jolly Bats for MSMEs of A & N Islands



Rohit Kumar
Port Blair, 17 June 2021

Mr. Vishal Jolly, Former State President, Bharatiya Janata Party, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Member of Home Ministry Advisory Committee has written individual letters to Mr. Nitin Gadkari, Hon'ble Minister of MSME; Mr. G Kishan Reddy, Hon'ble Minister of State for Home Affairs; and Mr. Prahlad Singh Patel, Hon'ble Minister of State for Tourism (Independent Charge) requesting them to direct A & N Administration to comply with JERC's order dated 2nd December 2020.

The Hon'ble Chairperson, Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission (JERC) for Goa & UTs on 2nd December 2020 had ordered that MSMEs having Udyam Registration including hospitality sector shall be charged for electricity at

Industrial rates in A & N islands.

Mr. Vishal Jolly further informed the Ministers that in contravention of the JERC's order the Electricity Department of Andaman and Nicobar Administration has handed MSMEs a rude shock by charging them at commercial rates. He further added that the MSMEs have also been threatened with power disconnection in case they fail to pay their bills at commercial rates.

He further wrote that the Govt. of India has taken several steps to mitigate the impact of pandemic by waiver of property tax, discount in power tariffs etc. but Andaman and Nicobar Administration instead of providing any relief is making it hard for the MSMEs (including tourism and allied sectors of the Island) to survive by increasing the electricity tariff by nearly 100%.

16,110 Beneficiaries Aged 18+ Vaccinated in the Islands till 17 June



Tarun Karthick
Campbell Bay, 17 June 2021

The vaccination drive is continuing smoothly in A&N Islands. As per the data received from Health Department, a total of 1,35,860 beneficiaries have been vaccinated so far in A&N Islands. Total 1138 people were vaccinated today in A&N Islands. 16,110 beneficiaries aged 18+

have been vaccinated in the Islands till today. 677 beneficiaries were vaccinated in South Andaman District today, out of which, 568 were in the age group of 18-44 years. In N&M Andaman, 299 beneficiaries in the age group of 18-44 were vaccinated. In Nicobar District, 162 beneficiaries in the age group of 18-44 years were vaccinated.

Contd from Page 1- Ajoy Bairagi.

unit of the party took part in Vaccination Drive & Relief Operations very actively.

He further informed the National President that considerable part of Andaman and Nicobar Islands is under lockdown from the last three weeks and the lockdown has been further extended for another one week. He added that essential services and shops have been allowed to operate within a particular timeframe but many other sectors are badly affected since they have been ordered to keep shut. Mr. Ajoy Bairagi further explained to

the BJP National President that Daily Wage Earners, Barbers, Construction Workers, Tourism Sector etc. are the worst affected. He added that the needy persons from the above mentioned sectors have already exhausted all their savings and are running from pillar to post to satisfy their need for food and accommodation. He also mentioned that thousands of families are on the verge of collapse and they are anyhow fighting for their survival.

He requested the National President of Bharatiya Janata Party to instruct the concerned authority to speed up the vaccination drive in the Island so that all sectors can be opened soon and the restrictions can be eased.

अण्डमान तथा निकोबार प्रशासन
ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ADMINISTRATION
सचिवालय / SECRETARIAT

HEALTH BULLETIN FOR CONTAINMENT OF
नोवल कोरोनावायरस रोग (COVID-19)

(No. 444/ 17th June 2021)

COVID-19 STATUS OF ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS AS ON 17.06.2021

> Status of Cases:

Details of Second wave since: 01.03.2021	
Active new cases in last 24 Hours	29
Discharges in last 24 hours	25
Total confirmed cases	2341
Total Discharges	2172
Total Active cases as on date	104
Total deaths	65

Cumulative since March 2020

Details	On 16 th June 2021	On 17 th June 2021	Total
Confirmed Cases	7306	29	7335
Cured/Discharged from Hospital	7079	25	7104
Death	127	00	127

> Clinical Management of Cases:

Name of District	Isolation Beds Available	Occupied	Vacant
North & Middle Andaman	286	03	283
South Andaman	5583	101	5482
Nicobar	507	00	507
Total	6376	104	6272

Total 02 containment zones formed in South Andaman District

24x7 CONTROL ROOM NUMBERS: 240126/ 232102 / 1077 / 1070

> Status of Sample and Testing:

Total Samples sent till date	399580
Total Reports received till date	399580
Total Pending Reports	0
Rate of Testing Per Million	998950
Cumulative Test Positivity Rate	1.84%

> Vaccination status:

Total population	4,00,000	
Target Beneficiaries	2,81,603 (Approx.)	
Cumulative beneficiaries vaccinated so far	135860	
Cumulative beneficiaries vaccinated with 1 st Dose so far	118351	42.03
Cumulative beneficiaries vaccinated with 2 nd Dose so far	17509	14.79
% of population vaccinated	--	29.59

> Passengers screened at VSI Airport & Haddo Wharf

Details	From 25 th May 2020 to 16 th June 2021	On 17 th June 2021	Total
Incoming passengers			
a) VSI Airport	247370	323	247693
b) Haddo Wharf	1032	0	1032
Outward passengers			
a) VSI Airport	259878	314	260192
b) Haddo Wharf	928	0	928

(On 17.06.2021, 315 passengers were retested by RTPCR at Airport)