## NICOBAR TIMES INTERACTIVE NEWSLETTER 04/11/2021

## A Compilation of News Stories Published on Nicobar Times



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## Fishermen Community Protests at Campbell Bay; Director Assures No Dearth of Ice Blocks







### Tarun Karthick

## CampbellBay,03November 2021

The fishermen community of Campbell Bay recently held a protest in front of the Fisheries Ice Plant at Campbell Bay against the operation of a longline boat procured by a local businessman. The members of the community alleged that if the long line boat is allowed to operate from Campbell Bay then they will face problems in procurement of Ice from the Ice plant run by the Department of Fisheries.

They further alleged that more longline boats will come to Campbell Bay for ice from different places if one boat is allowed to operate from Campbell Bay.

The members of the fishermen community were completely against the idea of a long line boat operating from Campbell Bay.

Nicobar Times spoke to the Director of Fisheries, Andaman and Nicobar Administration, who informed us that there is no dearth of ice blocks at

Campbell Bay and the requirement of the ice of the fishermen community will be fulfilled. He added that there is a wrong assertion among the members of the fishermen community that once this longline boat operates, more boats will come and they will face problems. The Director informed that the production capacity of the ice blocks will be increased as and when the demand increases by roping in the private players to operate ice plants under subsidy from various schemes of the Govt. of India.

Fisheries is one of the two backbones of the economy of Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the development of this sector determines the development of the Islands. Private players should be encouraged to enter this sector so that more employment can be generated and more revenue can be brought into the Islands.

The members of the fishermen community also fear the loss of their livelihood, which at some level is also justified. The members have been in the

trade of fishing for a long time and their complete livelihood depends on it, but arrangements can be made to ensure that their livelihood is not affected by the operation of the long line fishing boat.

Nicobar Times also visited the local Ice Plant operated by the Fisheries Department at Campbell Bay and enquired about the past average consumption of ice blocks by the fishermen community. We came to know that the average consumption of the Ice at Campbell Bay is around 22,000 Kgs per month, which translates to around 440 blocks of ice per month.

The production capacity of the Ice Plant at Campbell Bay is 180 blocks (each block of 50 Kg) of ice every three days. The figures indicate that the production capacity of the Ice Plant is well over the requirement of the fishermen community and if the plant is run at even half the capacity, it should be able to meet the requirements of both the members of the fishermen community and the new longline boat.

There are some issues like the non-availability of sufficient staff at the Ice Plant, Campbell Bay which has to be made available by the Department of Fisheries on priority to ensure that the fishermen community do not face any problems.

The demand of the fishermen community to not allow any long line boats to operate from Campbell Bay is wrong. A legally licensed longline fishing boat cannot be stopped from operating, it is against the law and the right of free trade provided by Article 301 of the Constitution of India.

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MWR - Money Within Reach Ceases Operation; Commits Fraud with Hundreds of Islanders



MWR - Money Within Reach Ceases Operation; Commits Fraud with Hundreds of Islanders





### Tarun Karthick

### Campbell Bay, 03 November 2021

Nicobar Times had earlier published an investigative story on Money Within Reach abbreviated as MWR, being a fraud company and how its members will lose money soon. We published the report on the 27th of September 2021 and now it is being reported that MWR has ceased operations and hundreds of residents from Andaman and Nicobar Islands have lost their money.

Several residents of Andaman and Nicobar Islands had invested in this fraud company hoping to earn sustained returns over time. The company had all ingredients of being fraud which the unaware residents of the Islands failed to recognise.

The story published on 27th September by Nicobar Times on MWR is available on the following link: https://nicobartimes.com/i nvestigative-stories/mwrmoney-within-reach-is-ascam-fast-spreading-in-a-nislands/ The company earlier used to lure people by offering them some amount in lieu of a few clicks on its mobile app and website, but the catch was a deposit amount that they sought from the users to upgrade their VIP level.

Earlier the company maintained a cheap website at the URL http://mwrindia.in and very recently they tried rebranding themselves as MWR Life which is already an established USA based company. Their plan was to get more people to deposit money in the name of MWR Life since it has a huge online presence.

The new URL of their website was https://mwrlife.in. Both the old and new URL of the company is currently non-functional. The company also provided its customers with an Android mobile app, which was a web view app of their website. The app is also non-functional now.

Some members of the MWR have even deposited money to the tune of lakhs of rupees and are now suffering in silence because they failed to recognise the fraud being committed with them.

Many users of MWR are contacting Nicobar Times from all over the country seeking help and some users informed us that cases against the company have been registered in some states.

The local members of the MWR from Andaman and Nicobar Islands are also visiting various police stations across the Islands to register their FIR against the fake company.

Various police stations across the Islands have reportedly sought some documents from the members of MWR like the bank statement and the members are collecting all documents, which will be submitted to the police soon to register an FIR.

It is unfortunate that the Islanders fell into the trap of this fake company and lost their money. Andaman and Nicobar Police should make it a priority to register FIR against the fake

### company.



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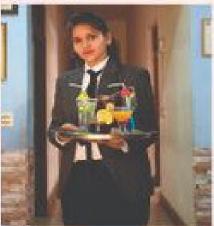
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