

NICOBAR TIMES

**INTERACTIVE
NEWSLETTER**

30/06/2022

**A Compilation
of News
Stories
Published on
Nicobar Times**



Introduction

The elements in this PDF are clickable and will enhance your overall experience

Go back and click on the social buttons on the first page.

Or

Click on the button below to download the Nicobar Times Mobile App

[Download
Nicobar Times
Mobile App](#)



**You can
advertise here.
Click on the
button below.**

**CLICK TO
ENQUIRE**



7063998178

NEWS COVERED

Patients Suffering Due to Discontinuation of Free Air Travel for Referred Patients from Remote Islands to Port Blair

Scarcity of LPG Refills at Kamorta; Aslam Majid Demands Immediate Dispatch of Cylinders

Scuffle at Gandhi Bhavan Leads to Suspension of Two Congress Leaders

S U Maheswar Rao Attends NFDB Meeting at Hyderabad, Highlights Important Issues of Fishermen Community.

Patients Suffering Due to Discontinuation of Free Air Travel for Referred Patients from Remote Islands to Port Blair



Patients Suffering Due to Discontinuation of Free Air Travel for Referred Patients from Remote Islands to Port Blair

[READ STORY ON WEBSITE](#)



Tarun Karthick

Tarun Karthick

Campbell Bay, 29 June 2022

The discontinuance of free air travel for patients referred to Port Blair from Remote Islands for emergency surgeries, specialised medical attention/care etc. is becoming a major cause of suffering for the general public.

Islanders and non-Islanders from the low-income group find it very difficult to pay for helicopter fares to travel from remote Islands to Port Blair upon referral by a doctor.

The worst sufferers are the residents of the Nicobar Group of Islands as the helicopter fare from Islands like Great Nicobar/Nancowry to Port Blair is the highest because of the distance.

Earlier, Administration used to bear the full cost of air travel for referred patients from Remote Islands to Port Blair. The patient and one attender had to pay nothing and could just simply avail the service when the doctor referred them to Port Blair by air.

Later, Administration allowed just the patient to

travel for free and the attender had to pay for the fare. Subsequently, the facility was disallowed for non-tribal patients and only tribals could avail the free air travel upon referral.

The Administration later disallowed free air travel upon referral even for tribal patients.

The helicopter fare from Campbell Bay to Port Blair is Rs. 5350/- for Islanders and Rs. 13400/- for non-Islanders. Similarly, the helicopter fare from Kamorta to Port Blair is Rs. 4350/- for Islanders and Rs. 10800/- for non-Islanders.

During emergencies, the families of patients from lower-income groups find it very difficult to arrange funds to facilitate the travel of the patients.

In many instances, patients delay their travel to Port Blair against the recommendation of the doctor just because of financial difficulties.

Enabling free air travel for referred patients was very beneficial for the residents of the remote Islands, especially for the residents from the lower-income group. General Public and Political leaders have time and again demanded

restarting the free air travel for patients, but their demands have only fallen on deaf ears.

The kind of suffering the families of the patients go through cannot be expressed in words, it can only be felt when one experiences it firsthand.

A desperate mother cries as she fails to arrange money for the airfare to get her seriously ill son to Port Blair. A young son delaying the travel of her seriously ill mother to Port Blair. There are hundreds of people who have suffered because of the discontinuation of free air travel for referred

patients from Remote Islands to Port Blair.

Many suffering patients have received help from relatives, politicians and the community. What is a better use of the thousands of crores pumped into Andaman and Nicobar Islands every year by the Central Government, if the poor patients cannot be helped?

Travel by air for these referred patients from Remote Islands is not a luxury but a desperate need. Specialised medical care is not available in the remote Islands and people have no choice but to

visit Port Blair for surgeries and advanced treatment.

It would be difficult for many on Govt. Salaries to understand the importance of providing free air travel to Port Blair for patients from remote Islands and they may deem it unnecessary and an unjustified use of the Govt. funds. A few thousand bucks don't seem much to those earning handsomely, but it is important to remember that many poor people still survive on the meagre old age pension paid by the state.

Administration should be commended for facilitating

emergency evacuations for patients when regular air travel is not available, but its policy of withdrawing the free travel to Port Blair for patients of remote Islands should be equally condemned.





**You can
advertise here.
Click on the
button below.**

**CLICK TO
ENQUIRE**



7063998178

Scarcity of LPG Refills at Kamorta; Aslam Majid Demands Immediate Dispatch of Cylinders



[READ STORY ON WEBSITE](#)



[Tarun Karthick](#)

Tarun Karthick

Campbell Bay, 29 June 2022

There is a scarcity of LPG refills at Kamorta due to which the general public, Govt. Servants and Defence personnel are suffering.

Aslam Majid, First Captain, Kamorta informed Nicobar Times that the Tribal Development Cooperative Society Ltd. ordered delivery of 1000 LPG Cylinders and even paid for it, but only 400 cylinders were received in the last consignment.

Mr. Majid further informed that the reason for the scarcity of LPG Refills is the short supply of cylinders by IOCL.

He further informed that the remote Islanders are made to suffer unnecessarily and demanded that delivery of cylinders to rural distributors should be prioritised.

Mr. Majid demanded that LPG cylinders should be immediately dispatched for Kamorta to put an end to the sufferings of the general public, Govt. Servants and Defence Personnel.





**You can
advertise here.
Click on the
button below.**

**CLICK TO
ENQUIRE**



7063998178

Scuffle at Gandhi Bhavan Leads to Suspension of Two Congress Leaders



Scuffle at Gandhi Bhavan Leads to Suspension of Two Congress Leaders

[READ STORY ON WEBSITE](#)



[Rohit Kumar](#)

Rohit Kumar

Port Blair, 29 June 2022

A scuffle took place at Gandhi Bhavan today during the process of disposal of Claims and Objections related to Internal Organisational Elections.

Mr. Rangalal Halder, President, Andaman and Nicobar Territorial Congress Committee later sent a note to the media informing that he has suspended two congress leaders for 06 years from the party.

Mr. Rangalal Halder mentioned in his note that the incident has given a wrong impression and created a bad name for the party.

The two suspended leaders are Mr. Ganesh Acharya and Mr. Abdul Islam.

Sources have informed that the Congress leaders also broke some laptops during the scuffle.





**You can
advertise here.
Click on the
button below.**

**CLICK TO
ENQUIRE**



7063998178

S U Maheswar Rao Attends NFDB Meeting at Hyderabad, Highlights Important Issues of Fishermen Community



[READ STORY ON WEBSITE](#)



[Rohit Kumar](#)

Rohit Kumar

Port Blair, 29 June 2022

Mr. S.U.Maheswar Rao, Governing Body Member, National Fisheries Development Board is in Hyderabad to attend meetings with the appointed Non-Official members of the Governing Body of NFBD. 14 State Governing Body Members have attended the said meetings wherein discussions on several developmental projects were held. Mr. S U Maheswar Rao submitted a

memorandum before the NFDB highlighting some major issues of the fishermen of A & N Islands.

Some major issues highlighted during the meeting by Mr. S U Maheshwar Rao includes:

- Creation of Infrastructures like Ice Plant/Cold Storage/Refrigerated Vehicle / Insulated Vehicle under PMMSY.

- Nutritional and livelihood support for fishers during lean period and also during cyclone.

- Construction of Modern Fish Market at Bathu Basti with all facilities for wholesale and retail marketing.

- Construction of 20 Nos. of Fish Vending Kiosks in the first phase at various location of Municipal area for the women beneficiaries.

- Construction of Jetty for Fishermen at Dugnabad Area.

- Establishment of Ice Plant of capacity 1000 blocks & Cold Storage (100 MT) per day to overcome the acute shortage of Ice Blocks & Cold Storage for the Fishermen/Fish Vendor/Fish Exporters of Port Blair.

- Inclusion of Fishermen Community of Andaman & Nicobar Islands under OBC and BPL Category.

- Issuance of Permit to the South Andaman Fishermen for carrying fishing activities in North & Middle Andaman by passing through Baratang creek (nallah).

- Re-launch of the scheme “Fishermen Modern village” in these Islands under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana.

- Construction of Traditional Bonga Dingy under UT Plan Scheme instead of model Wooden FRP Craft approved by the Director of Fisheries.

- Sanction of Working Capital Loan to the Fisheries Cooperatives Societies of Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

- Starting Aqua Culture farming in North & Middle Andaman.





**You can
advertise here.
Click on the
button below.**

**CLICK TO
ENQUIRE**



7063998178

**PLEASE GIVE US
YOUR FEEDBACK.**

**Click the Button
Below**





**To register a
Grievance
related to
violation of the
'Code of Ethics'
visit the
Grievance
Section on our
Website**