

No.5-6/PS/CB/2022/ 51
पंचायत समिति का कार्यालय
OFFICE OF THE PANCHAYAT SAMITI
कैंपबेल बे/CAMPBELL BAY

Dated 25th July 2022

To,
Hon'ble Lt. Governor,
Andaman and Nicobar Islands,
Raj Nivas,
Port Blair

Chief Secretary,
Andaman and Nicobar Administration
Secretariat,
Port Blair

Secretary (APWD),
Andaman and Nicobar Administration,
Port Blair

Deputy Commissioner,
Nicobar District,
Car Nicobar

Chief Engineer,
Andaman Public Works Department,
Nirman Bhavan,
Port Blair

Assistant Commissioner,
Campbell Bay,
Great Nicobar

Subject: Pathetic condition of SH-2 resulting in the residents deciding to forbid any vehicles carrying men and materials for BRO, APWD and other Govt Departments from plying on the road after 15 Days. Request to start pothole repair and re-carpeting work on the 23 Km of road (SH-2) in pathetic state.

Respected Sir,

Greetings from Campbell Bay, Great Nicobar. I wish to bring to your notice that the residents of Great Nicobar especially from the villages of Laxmi Nagar, Gandhi Nagar and Shastri Nagar are facing a lot of difficulties because of the bad condition of State Highway - 2 (North-South Road) connecting the Headquarter area of Campbell Bay to the southernmost settlement Shastri Nagar.

Contd..2/-



Sir, the Tsunami of 2004 had washed away the old North-South Road and a new one was constructed post Tsunami by the Border Roads Organisation. The new road till Shastri Nagar was completely handed over to APWD in the year 2011.

From 2011 till this date, APWD has only been able to properly maintain just 12 Km of the road out of the total of 35 Km. Nothing has been done except pothole filling in the left-out stretch of 23 Km of road.

Sir, the maintenance of the 12 Km of road has been undertaken as Improvement, widening and maintenance work, because of which a large expenditure was incurred by the department.

State Highway-2 was designed for very meagre traffic initially, but ever since Border Road Organisation started expanding the road to Indira Point beyond 35 Km the work required transportation of a large quantity of construction materials.

The transportation of lakhs of cubic meters of materials for the expansion of the road to Indira Point through SH-2 has led to heavy load and traffic on the road, which in turn became the reason for heavy damage to the road.

APWD has reportedly sent several estimates for the improvement, widening and maintenance of the left-out stretch of State Highway-2, but the estimate is not getting approval from the higher authorities because of the requirement of a considerable amount of funds.

Sir, the repair and maintenance of State Highway-2 without the widening of the road will incur a maximum expense of Rupees Eight Crores, if the work only involves the component of potholes repair and re-carpeting

If APWD only undertakes the work of pothole repair and re-carpeting on the left-out stretch of SH-2 which is in a pathetic state, the exchequer will save a lot of funds and the villagers will also be relieved.

Sir, because of severely damaged SH-2 the residents are facing losses and threat of accidents. Further, the public assets like buses are also getting damaged. The old buses with STS Unit, Campbell Bay have been severely damaged and two buses have been provided to the STS Unit recently have also deteriorated due to the condition of the road. Departments of Andaman and Nicobar Administration are also not able to provide proper services to the residents because of the bad condition of SH-2.

The damages to SH-2 only occurred because of the transportation of materials for the expansion of the road beyond 35 Km up to Indira Point. Border Roads Organisation is responsible for the expansion of the road and it has spent hundreds of crores on the expansion work.

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It is requested that adequate funds be made available to APWD by the Administration for the maintenance of SH-2. If the administration cannot spare Rupees Eight Crores required for potholes repair and re-carpeting of SH-2, then the Border Roads Organisation should be requested to handover the required funds to APWD for the maintenance of the road, as the pathetic condition of the road is the result of material transportation for BRO.

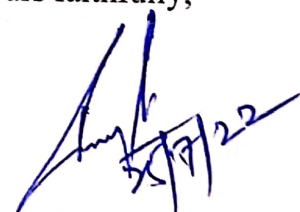
Sir, the general public of Great Nicobar is fed-up with the pathetic condition of SH-2 and has made it clear that it won't wait anymore for the road to be repaired. The public has decided to stop the movement of all commercial vehicles transporting men and materials for BRO, APWD and any other Govt. Department from plying on SH-2 if proper repair and maintenance of the road is not started by the authorities within 15 days.

Sir, if the general public stops the transportation of men and materials for BRO, APWD and other Govt. Departments, it will have serious implications on the development of the Island. Moreover, the people of Great Nicobar are outraged for years due to the deteriorating condition of the road which has resulted in several accidents as well as loss to the people because of damage to vehicles.

I request you to please take necessary action for starting the pothole repair and maintenance work on the left-out stretch of 23 Kms of SH-2 (in pathetic state).

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,



Pramukh,
Panchayat Samiti,
Campbell Bay