

12 MAY 2025 | MONDAY | SRI VIJAYA PURAM | WWW.NICOBARTIMES.COM

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Copper Wire Theft Foiled at NLC Solar Plant in Garacharma; Four Accused Caught, Stolen Property Worth Rs. 2 Lakh Recovered



Tarun Karthick
Sri Vijaya Puram,
12 May 2025

In a swift response by the staff of NLC Solar Power Plant and the police, a theft attempt involving copper wires at the Garacharma-based plant was foiled on Saturday. Four individuals were apprehended for allegedly breaking into the premises of the PSU-run solar power plant and attempting to steal copper by burning insulated wires connected to the solar panels.

As per the FIR lodged at Pahargaon Police Station, the incident occurred around 11:30 AM when a technician at the NLC Solar Plant noticed a person

burning wires on the premises. The technician immediately alerted the Site Incharge, Mr. M Govinathan, who rushed to the location. Upon reaching the site, Govinathan found that the staff—Sandeep Mondal, Srisanth, Aseem Boro, Karthick Raja, and Praveen—had detained one of the suspects at the scene.

Upon asking, the accused revealed his identity and named three accomplices. He admitted that the group had entered the plant premises with the intent of stealing copper from the solar panel wires. The accused disclosed that they were burning the wires to extract and sell the copper. This act of mischief resulted in an estimated financial loss of 2 lakh to

the public sector unit.

According to a post on X by Andaman and Nicobar Police, all four accused have been apprehended, and the stolen property worth approximately Rs. 2 lakh has been recovered.

The case has been registered under the following sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023 and related laws:

- Section 329(3) of BNS, 2023.
- Section 305(e) of BNS, 2023
- Section 324(5) of BNS, 2023
- Section 3(5) of BNS, 2023
- Section 3(2)(a) of the Public Property (Prevention of Damage) Act, 1984

Murder Reported in Remote Lauki Nallah No. 3 in Billiground; Neighbour Accused of Killing Kishore Tete



Tarun Karthick
Sri Vijaya Puram,
12 May 2025

A murder has been reported from the remote locality of Lauki Nallah No. 3 in Billiground, shaking the otherwise quiet village. According to an FIR lodged at Billiground Police Station, a local resident, Kishore Tete, was found dead in the courtyard of a neighbour's house late on the night of May 6.

The complainant, stated in her report that she and her younger daughter were home when they heard unusual sounds outside around 10 PM. Upon stepping out with a torch, they discovered Kishore Tete lying unconscious, bleeding from the head. Moments later, she saw a neighbour, Alok Sureng, standing nearby in an allegedly intoxicated state. When she confronted him, he reportedly

said, "I have killed Kishore Tete."

Frightened, she called for help from nearby residents. As people began gathering, Alok allegedly fled toward a nearby drain. When the neighbours checked Kishore Tete for signs of life, they found he was no longer breathing.

Due to unavailability of mobile network connectivity in the area, the complainant requested the villagers to anyhow report the incident to the police. The FIR notes that the murder may have occurred following some dispute. The police have registered a case under Section 103(1) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023, which deals with murder.

This report is based on the contents of the FIR registered with the Billiground Police Station.

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Beach Cleanup Drive Organised at Bharatpur Beach in Shaheed Dweep to Promote Sustainable Tourism



Tarun Karthick

**Sri Vijaya Puram,
12 May 2025**

India Tourism (Sri Vijaya Puram), Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, in collaboration with the Andaman Association of Tour Operators (AATO) and Kachrewaale Foundation, organised a beach

cleanup drive at Bharatpur Beach in Shaheed Dweep on Friday, under the ongoing national cleanliness campaign. The initiative aimed to promote sustainability and responsible tourism in the islands.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from a wide range of

stakeholders, including members of the local panchayat (PRI), tourism professionals, Makruzz staff, lifeguards, volunteers, and visiting tourists. Together, they undertook efforts to restore and maintain the pristine beauty of one of Shaheed Dweep's most frequented beaches.

Addressing the participants, Mr. N. Velmurugan, Assistant Director of India Tourism, highlighted the significance of community-led cleanliness drives in preserving the ecological integrity of the Andaman Islands. He also underlined the role of

such initiatives in enhancing the overall tourism experience. AATO President Mr. M. Vinod expressed his appreciation to India Tourism, the Kachrewaale Foundation, and all volunteers involved in the drive. He reaffirmed AATO's commitment to working collaboratively with government agencies and civil society groups to advance sustainable tourism practices in the region.

Ms. Garima Poonia of Kachrewaale Foundation shared details of the organisation's waste management approach, natural

in noting that all non-recyclable waste collected during the drive would be transported to the mainland for proper disposal. She emphasized the Foundation's pledge to ensure zero local dumping, thereby contributing to more responsible tourism and waste management models in the islands. The cleanup concluded with a strong message of environmental stewardship and community collaboration, reinforcing the collective commitment of all partners to protect and preserve the islands' heritage.



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Directorate of Sports Organises 'Fitness-for-All' 5 Km Run and 3 Km Walkathon at Sri Vijaya Puram



Tarun Karthick
Sri Vijaya Puram,
12 May 2025

In a vibrant celebration of health and community spirit, the Directorate of Sports, Andaman and Nicobar Administration,

successfully organized a 5 Km Run and a 3 Km Walkathon on the morning of May 11, 2025. The event, held under the banner 'Fitness-for-All', witnessed enthusiastic participation from hundreds of citizens from across the islands.

Flagged off by the Chief Secretary of A&N Administration, Dr. Chandra Bhushan Kumar, IAS, who also took part in the 5 Km Run, the initiative aimed to promote a healthier lifestyle and foster a culture of fitness among islanders. Several senior officers

from the administration also joined the run, highlighting the administration's commitment to wellness and public engagement.

Participants assembled at their

designated starting points as early as 5 AM. The 5 Km Run began from Chatham Bridge (Saw Mill Gate), while the 3 Km Walkathon, dedicated to participants aged above 50, commenced from Phoenix Bay Power House Chowk. Both routes concluded at the iconic Netaji Stadium, after passing through prominent landmarks such as Sea Shore Road, Megapode Junction, Clock Tower, and Gandhi Statue.

The event drew participants of all ages — men, women, and children — many of whom arrived in dedicated fitness attire, contributing to the high-energy, community-focused atmosphere. The Directorate of Sports ensured well-coordinated logistics and safety measures to facilitate a smooth and enjoyable experience for all.

Following the event, medals were awarded to the winners of both the 5 Km Run and 3 Km Walkathon. The medals were distributed by Chief Secretary Dr. Chandra Bhushan Kumar, Director General of Police Mr. Hargobinder Singh Dhaliwal, and other senior officers of the A&N Administration.

The successful conduct of the event reaffirmed the Administration's ongoing efforts to encourage fitness and unity among residents of the islands.

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Vehicle Owners Urged to Update Aadhaar-Linked Mobile Numbers on Vahan Portal to Avoid Missing Critical Alerts Including E-Challan Notices



or missing contact information.

According to officials, the absence of current mobile numbers in the transport database has led to vehicle owners missing out on vital updates, potentially resulting in penalties or lapses in compliance with statutory requirements.

To address the issue, Pollution Under Control Centres (PUCCs) have also been requested to verify that the vehicle owner's Aadhaar-linked mobile number is updated in the Vahan portal before providing services.

The move aims to streamline communication and enhance service delivery by ensuring that all digital alerts and reminders reach vehicle owners promptly.

Tarun Karthick
Sri Vijaya Puram,
12 May 2025

Vehicle owners have been urged to update their Aadhaar-linked mobile numbers in the Vahan portal to ensure timely receipt of crucial alerts and notices related to their vehicles. Authorities have expressed concern over the growing number of instances where important notifications — including reminders for Pollution Under Control Certificates (PUC), insurance renewals, e-Challan notices, and tax defaults — are not being delivered due to outdated

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A family of four is shown in a summer setting. A woman in a floral dress and sunglasses stands next to a man in a yellow striped shirt and light blue shorts. Two children, a girl in a white dress and sunglasses holding a drink, and a boy in a white shirt and blue shorts, are also present. They are standing on a light blue platform next to a pool of water.

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Heavy Rain, Thunderstorms & Swell Waves Forecast for Nicobar Islands



winds (30–40 km/h) and lightning.

On May 15, thunderstorms with similar wind speeds and lightning are expected to continue at isolated places in the region.

In addition, swell waves with heights between 1.1 and 1.3 meters and a period of 16 to 21 seconds have been predicted until 11:30 PM on May 12. There is a possibility of wave surges, prompting authorities to advise fishing boats to operate with utmost caution. People engaging in recreational activities near the shore have also been urged to exercise due care.

Vikas Kumar
Sri Vijaya Puram,
12 May 2025

a weather alert for the Nicobar Islands, forecast, heavy rain predicting heavy rainfall ranging between 7 to 11 cm is likely at one or two locations across the coming days. According to the Nicobar Islands on May 13 and 14. These areas may also experience thunderstorms accompanied by gusty

Authorities have issued the



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Awareness Programme on Mission Shakti and MGNREGA Schemes Held at Wandoor



programme was to raise awareness regarding the Sambal and Samarthya schemes, which include the One Stop Center, Women Helpline, and other empowerment initiatives. Additionally, the session aimed at promoting empowerment generation through MGNREGA, a national rural employment guarantee scheme.

Mr. G. Prabhu, Assistant Engineer, and Mr. Wilson Raj, Programme Officer of MGNREGA from Ferrargunj Block, spoke about the benefits and implementation of MGNREGA in the region. Ms. Hemlatha, Gender Specialist, provided insights into the Mission Shakti Scheme, emphasizing its role in women's empowerment and welfare.

Tarun Karthick

Sri Vijaya Puram,

12 May 2025

of Women, under the Social Welfare Department, organized an awareness programme at the Panchayat Hall in Wandoor recently. The event, in

collaboration with the Department of Rural Development and Gram Panchayat Wandoor, aimed to inform local residents about the

various welfare schemes available under Mission Shakti and MGNREGA. The primary focus of the

The session concluded with an interactive discussion among the participants, fostering engagement and addressing any queries regarding the schemes.

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Awareness Programme on Drug Abuse Held at Calicut Gram Panchayat under Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan



on the harmful effects of alcohol, tobacco, and drug abuse, emphasising their impact on individual health, family relationships, and overall social well-being. Speakers underscored the close link between substance abuse, criminal activities, and public safety concerns.

Alongside awareness, the session also delved into the rehabilitation process, the social challenges associated with addiction, and effective strategies for prevention and community involvement.

Participants were also made aware of the various support systems and services available to individuals and families dealing with substance abuse issues.

Tarun Karthick
Sri Vijaya Puram,
12 May 2025

abuse and prevention organized by the Integrated Rehabilitation Centre for Addicts (IRCA). The programme aimed to educate the community on drug abuse and prevention organized by the Integrated Rehabilitation Centre for Addicts (IRCA). The programme aimed to educate the community on drug abuse and prevention organized by the Integrated Rehabilitation Centre for Addicts (IRCA).

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PM-KISAN 20th Installment Likely in June; Govt Launches Nationwide Campaign to Ensure Farmer Coverage



Narendra Modi. The 20th installment, covering the April–July 2025 period, is tentatively scheduled for release in June.

To receive the upcoming installment, beneficiaries are urged to ensure completion of three key requirements: land record seeding, e-KYC (electronic Know Your Customer), and bank account seeding with Aadhaar. Farmers who fail to complete these steps by May 31, 2025, may face delays or non-receipt of funds.

Farmers who have not yet enrolled in the scheme are encouraged to visit their respective Gram Panchayats during the campaign period with necessary documents, including latest land records, bank passbook, Aadhaar card, and ration card.

For assistance, beneficiaries can contact the nearest Zonal Agriculture Office or field extension staff from the Agriculture Department. Authorities have also advised farmers to use only the official PM-KISAN website and mobile app for self-registration and e-KYC, cautioning against the use of unauthorized third-party applications.

Tarun Karthick
Sri Vijaya Puram,
12 May 2025

The Government of India has launched a month-long saturation campaign under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman

Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme to ensure that no eligible farmer is left out of receiving benefits. The campaign, which began on May 1 and will continue until May 31, 2025, aims to identify and register all eligible but excluded farmers across the

Under the PM-KISAN scheme, launched in the financial year 2018–19, eligible farmer families receive financial assistance of 6,000 annually, disbursed in three equal installments of 2,000 every

four months. The scheme is fully funded by the central government.

As of now, 19 installments have been released, with the latest disbursed on February 24, 2025. by Prime Minister

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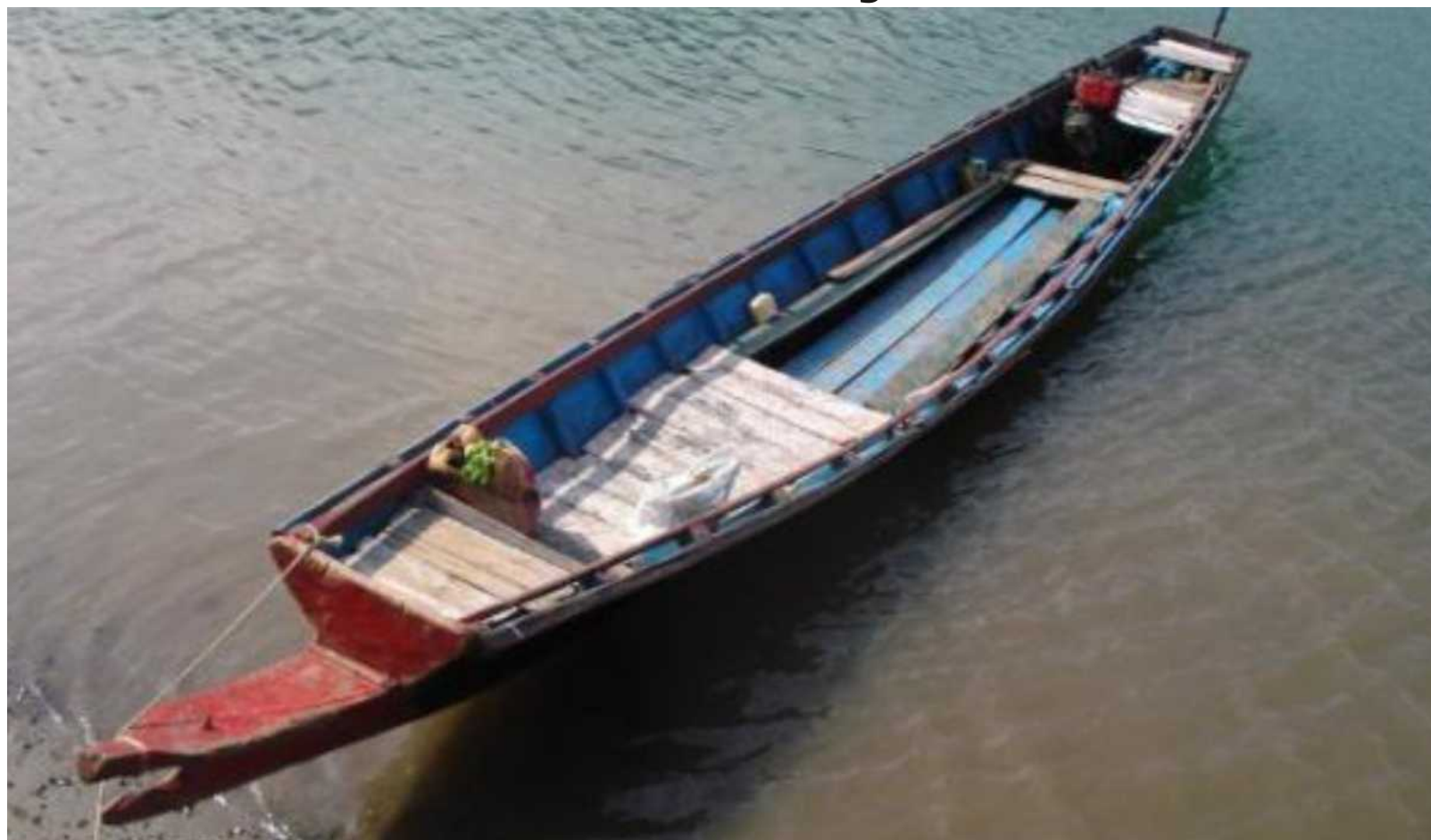
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Fisheries Department Invites Applications for Boat Subsidy Scheme



Tarun Karthick
Sri Vijaya Puram,
12 May 2025

The Department of Fisheries, Andaman and Nicobar Administration, has announced

the implementation of a subsidy production by supporting scheme under the UT Plan bonafide fishers, Scheduled titled 'Subsidy for Construction/ Tribe members, local Purchase of Motorized/ unemployed youth, Mechanized Fishing Boats' for entrepreneurs, and fisheries the financial year 2025–26. The cooperative societies across the initiative aims to boost fish the Islands.

Under the scheme, financial assistance will be provided as follows:

- General Fishers/Local Unemployed Youth/Entrepreneurs/Fisheries

Cooperative Societies: Eligible for a subsidy of 50% of the unit cost, as fixed by the Department.

- Scheduled Tribes and Tribal Cooperative Societies: Eligible for an enhanced subsidy of 75% of the unit cost.

Applications are invited from residents of both Municipal and Tribal areas of the A&N Islands who are interested in constructing or purchasing motorized/mechanized fishing boats under this scheme.

Interested individuals and organizations can obtain application forms and detailed guidelines from the Directorate of Fisheries, Zonal Fisheries Offices in South Andaman and Nicobar, or the nearest Fisheries Sub-Stations. Forms and information are also available on the official A&N Administration website: www.andaman.gov.in.

The last date for submission of completed applications is May 31, 2025.



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