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Former Home Guards Stage Protest, Demand Re-Employment in Police Force; Full Hunger Strike Planned as Agitation Enters Third Day



Tarun Karthick
Sri Vijaya Puram,
13 June 2025

In a determined show of dissent against growing unemployment and perceived injustice, a group of former Home Guards in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands have entered the third consecutive day of protest, demanding their re-employment in the Andaman and Nicobar Police. The protest, which began with a dharna and public meeting on 11th June, escalated into a relay hunger strike on 12th June, and is expected to transition into a full-fledged hunger strike from today, as per sources close to the protestors.

The agitation is being spearheaded by Mr. V. K. Abdul Aziz, an elected Zilla Parishad Member, who has long supported the former Home Guards' cause. Mr. Aziz argues that the protestors have rendered dedicated service to the police department over the years, and that many have now crossed the legal age limit for applying to government jobs. According to him, their prolonged service and lack of alternative employment opportunities warrant immediate absorption into the police force as permanent staff.

The roots of the discontent trace back to a significant precedent set more than a decade ago. In 2007, following

a judgment by the Hon'ble High Court of Calcutta, Circuit Bench at Port Blair in M.A.T. No. 25 of 2006 (Smti. Parul Debnath & Others vs. Union of India & Others), which was later upheld by the Supreme Court in 2009, the services of 325 Home Guards were regularized with retrospective effect. These appointments were made against supernumerary posts created with the approval of the Government of India, as per Order No. 3390 dated 3rd November 2009.

The court-mandated regularization of those 325 Home Guards had raised hopes among other contractually employed Home Guards that they too would

eventually be made permanent. Motivated by this belief, many individuals continued to serve under the expectation of similar absorption. However, for years, no such regularisation has taken place, leaving many in limbo—unemployed, overage for fresh recruitment, and lacking alternative skillsets.

The former Home Guards' protest also brings to light the broader issue of unemployment in the Union Territory. As per the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) Annual Report 2023–24 released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands recorded one of the highest unemployment rates in the country. The unemployment rate among those aged 15 and above rose from 9.7% in 2022–23 to 11.8% in 2023–24. More alarmingly, graduate unemployment stood at a staggering 33.4%.

In a region where even highly educated individuals are willing to accept low-level contractual government jobs, the issue of sustainable and secure employment has taken center stage. Many believe that securing any position within the government—even temporarily—could potentially lead to permanency through policy shifts or legal interventions.

The latest round of protests was reportedly triggered by the

Andaman and Nicobar Police's recent call for fresh applications for Home Guard posts. This development has been seen by the protesting former Home Guards as a betrayal, with many arguing that priority should be given to those who had already served in the role, often for years, and now find themselves unemployed.

Protesters have warned that unless their demands are addressed, they will continue their agitation and escalate it further. As of 13th June, a complete hunger strike is anticipated, demonstrating the depth of desperation and resolve among the protestors.

As of now, there has been no official response from the Andaman and Nicobar Police or the UT Administration regarding the ongoing protest or the demands raised. The protestors, however, remain steadfast and say they will not back down until they are reinstated or given an assurance of consideration.

The unfolding situation highlights the need for a broader conversation around contractual employment, age-related exclusions, and long-term policy for absorbing experienced personnel in public services within the Islands. With tensions rising and protestors preparing for an indefinite hunger strike, authorities may soon have to confront the issue head-on.



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BJP Highlights 11 Years of Governance and Welfare Initiatives During Press Conference at BJP Bhavan



Tarun Karthick
Sri Vijaya Puram,
13 June 2025

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) organized a press conference on 12th June 2025, at the BJP Bhavan, Middle Point, under the theme "Viksit Bharat Ka Amrit Kaal – 11 Saal: Seva,

Sushasan, Garib District President Mr. Kalyan", to reflect on the eleven-year journey of governance and development under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The event brought together key party leaders and members

of the media to discuss achievements and transformative initiatives undertaken by the central government over the past decade.

Addressing the gathering, Sheela Singh, National Executive Committee Member of BJP Mahila Morcha, shed light on various government schemes that have positively impacted women and rural communities, contributing to inclusive growth. Mr. Sanjay Kumar Singh, State Vice President and Programme Convenor, spoke about the significance of "Amrit Kaal"—a vision for a developed

and self-reliant India —and detailed the government's roadmap to achieving that goal. Also present was Mr. M. Vinod, State Vice President, who reiterated the party's unwavering commitment to good governance and public welfare. The conference concluded with a collective pledge by all present to continue working towards realizing the vision of a Viksit Bharat.

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This initiative aims to enhance the quality of patient care and ensure that no individual is denied urgent medical attention due to a lack of transportation. The hospital administration has urged residents to keep these numbers easily accessible and use them when faced with medical emergencies.

Tarun Karthick
Sri Vijaya Puram,
13 June 2025

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Heavy Rainfall and Thunderstorm Alert Issued for Some Areas of A&N Islands; Fishermen Advised to Stay Ashore till June 16



are likely to continue on June 14, with thunderstorms, gusty winds, and lightning predicted at one or two places across the archipelago.

In addition, squally weather with surface wind speeds of 35-45 kmph, gusting up to 55 kmph, is expected over the Andaman Sea and the surrounding areas of the islands. The sea condition is forecasted to be rough during this period.

In light of these conditions, fishermen have been strongly advised not to venture into the sea along and off the Andaman Sea and Andaman & Nicobar Islands until June 16. Authorities are closely monitoring the situation and have urged residents and seafarers to exercise caution.

Tarun Karthick
Sri Vijaya Puram,
13 June 2025

heavy rainfall and to occur at one or two 40-50 kmph and lightning thunderstorm activity over places over Andaman are also expected at the Andaman and Nicobar Island on June 13. isolated locations across the Islands. According to the Thunderstorms the Islands. forecast, heavy rain ranging accompanied by gusty between 7 to 11 cm is likely winds reaching speeds of Similar weather conditions

The authorities have issued a weather alert warning of

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A&N Administration Gears Up for 11th International Day of Yoga with Series of Events



In an effort to bring yoga closer to the people, a series of flash mobs have also been planned at prominent locations. The first will take place on June 16 at 9:30 AM at Chatham Junction and near the Gandhi Statue in Aberdeen Bazar. This will be followed by similar events at the Bathubasti Bus Stop and in front of the Social Welfare Office at Goalghar on June 17, starting at 9:30 AM.

Meanwhile, in preparation for the main event, yoga instructors from AYUSH, deployed at various wellness centres across the Islands, are conducting training sessions on the Common Yoga Protocol. These also include Beach Yoga, Y-Break sessions, specialized yoga for antenatal mothers, and regular yoga classes aimed at enhancing physical and mental well-being.

The UT Administration urges the public to participate in these events and embrace yoga as a way of life.

Tarun Karthick
Sri Vijaya Puram,
13 June 2025

(IDY), the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Administration has lined up a series of activities in the run-up to the global event on June 21, 2025. These initiatives aim to foster awareness about the benefits of yoga and encourage public participation across the Islands.

yoga session titled “Yoga Bandhan or Bonds of Yoga” at the historic National Memorial Cellular Jail, Sri Vijaya Puram, on June 14 from 7:00 AM to 8:00 AM.

In celebration of the 11th International Day of Yoga

These initiatives aim to foster awareness about the benefits of yoga and encourage public participation across the Islands.



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‘Run with Nature’ Marathon and Walkathon to be Held at Wimberlygunj on June 14

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Chunnabatta. With its scenic route along lush green landscapes and coastal vistas, the event aims to offer participants not just a test of endurance, but also an opportunity to reconnect with nature in the early morning hours.

Participation is open to all interested individuals, and the organizers have urged participants to register their names by 5:00 pm on June 13, 2025. Registrations can be done either by contacting Mr. Ghacia Uraon at 9933247987 or by submitting the online registration form available at: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScEEp0JmGwO9riMb2BZAIOmmAaslrV2yE0zY8f1KzLWazA/viewform>.

The initiative by the Deputy Education Office underscores the importance of fostering healthy lifestyles among residents while encouraging greater appreciation for the region’s natural environment. A strong turnout is expected as community members from different age groups come together to participate in this vibrant celebration of health and nature.

Tarun Karthick
Sri Vijaya Puram,
13 June 2025

fitness, environmental ‘Run with Nature’ on Saturday, June citizens.
consciousness, and community 14, 2025. The event includes a 10-
engagement, the Deputy Education kilometre open marathon for men, a
Office, Wimberlygunj, is organizing a 5-kilometre run for women, and a 4-
special outdoor fitness event titled kilometre walkathon for senior

The event will begin at 5:30 am from Chunnabatta, proceed to North Bay, and return to the starting point at

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Andaman & Nicobar Fisheries Department Invites Applications for Sea Area Leasing for Fish Culture Activities



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Application forms, along with the list of designated sea areas and detailed terms and conditions, are available on the official website of the Andaman and Nicobar Administration at www.andaman.gov.in.

Interested parties are requested to submit their completed applications, accompanied by all necessary documentation, either in person at the Directorate of Fisheries in Sri Vijaya Puram or at the Zonal Fisheries Offices located in South Andaman, North & Middle Andaman, and Nicobar. Applications can also be sent via email to dirfish.and@nic.in.

The deadline for submitting complete applications is 15th July 2025.

Tarun Karthick
Sri Vijaya Puram,
13 June 2025

Administration, has 2004. announced the invitation of applications for leasing designated sea areas for fish culture activities, as outlined in the A&N Marine Fishing Rules, such as

fish workers, fish vendors, individual entrepreneurs, private firms, Self Help Groups (SHGs), Fisheries Cooperatives, Joint Liability Groups (JLGs), and Fish

The Department of Fisheries, Andaman and Nicobar

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CRY Andaman Organizes Drawing Competition to Mark World Day Against Child Labour and Raise Awareness



participated in the competition, showcasing their artistic talents and thoughtful perspectives on the theme. The event received strong support from the school's teachers and the in-charge, who played a vital role in facilitating and encouraging student participation.

Through their drawings, the students powerfully conveyed the message that child labour denies children their fundamental rights — including access to education, safety, and a happy childhood. The competition not only highlighted the creativity of the young participants but also served as an important reminder of the urgent need to eliminate child labour and protect the rights and futures of children.

Tarun Karthick
Sri Vijaya Puram,
13 June 2025

To commemorate the World Day Against Child Labour, the CRY

Unit of Andaman Farida Bibi, CRY organized a drawing competition at the Government Girls her team, the Senior Secondary aimed to raise awareness among students about the

detrimental effects of child labour through creative expression. A total of 103 students from various age groups enthusiastically

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BJP Observes World Environment Day with Tree Plantation Drives Across A&N Islands



enthusiastic participation from BJP karyakartas throughout the Islands. Volunteers actively engaged in planting trees and spreading awareness about the importance of preserving the region's fragile ecosystem.

Addressing the gatherings, Mrs. Sheela Singh highlighted the need for collective responsibility in protecting nature and stressed the importance of safeguarding the Islands' unique biodiversity. Mr. Sanjay Kumar Singh commended the volunteers for their efforts and encouraged citizens to adopt eco-friendly practices in daily life.

The BJP reiterated its commitment to environmental conservation and sustainable development in line with the vision of Hon'ble Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi for a Swachh and Swasth Bharat.

Tarun Karthick
Sri Vijaya Puram,
13 June 2025

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Andaman and Nicobar

Islands, marked World Environment Day with a series of awareness and tree plantation drives conducted at multiple locations across the Islands on June 5. The programmes were held under the leadership of Mrs. Sheela Singh, State Incharge of the initiative and State Vice President of BJP A&N Islands, along with Mr. Sanjay Kumar

Singh, State Vice President. With a focus on this year's theme of promoting environmental awareness and sustainability, the events drew



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Interested candidates can apply online by visiting <https://ignouadmission.samarth.edu.in> until 15th July 2025.

For assistance or further information, students may reach out to the IGNOU Regional Centre, Port Blair, located at VIP Road, Opposite Air Cargo Complex, Port Blair – 744103. They can also connect via Facebook (IGNOU Regional Centre Port Blair) and Instagram (@ignourcportblair).

Contact Information: Landline: 03192-230111 / 242888 and Email: rcportblair@ignou.ac.in.

Tarun Karthick
Sri Vijaya Puram,
13 June 2025

The Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) has announced the commencement of admissions for its Open and

Distance Learning (ODL) and Online programmes for the July 2025 academic session.

A wide range of academic programmes are being offered, including Certificate, Diploma, Post-Graduate Diploma, Undergraduate, and

Postgraduate degrees in diverse disciplines such as Arts, Science, Commerce, Humanities, Journalism and Mass Communication, Computer and Information Science, Agriculture, Health Sciences, Indian and Foreign Languages, Translation

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