ANDAMAN DAILY

News & Views from Andaman and Nicobar Islands

by NICOBAR TIMES

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BJP State President Extends Chhath Mahaparv Greetings to Islanders, Invites Them to Join Festivities

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AATO President Seeks Strict Action Against SpiceJet Over Frequent Flight Cancellations

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Three N&M Andaman Beaches Earn Blue Flag Certification, Adhyaksh Optimistic About Tourism Growth

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Andaman and Nicobar Cyclist I. S. Bridney Honoured by Lieutenant Governor for Gold Medal and National Record



Sri Vijaya Puram | November 14, 2026

Lieutenant Governor of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Dr. Dinesh Sharma, on Friday met Ms. I. S. Bridney, a young track cyclist from the islands, and presented her with a Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of her outstanding achievements in cycling.

Bridney won a Gold Medal and set a new National Record of 37.479 seconds at the 41st Sub-Junior National Track Cycling Championship, 2026. Her achievement has brought pride to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

The Lieutenant Governor appreciated her dedication and achievement, observing that her success would inspire young people, particularly girls, to pursue their ambitions and strive for excellence in sports. He also extended his best wishes to her for a bright future and success in upcoming competitions.

Coach Ms. Seema Raika, Foreign Assistant Coach from the Netherlands, Athletic Manager Mr. Suryadeep Mishra and others were present on the occasion.

1 mg Scale-Division Weighing Balances Made Mandatory for Jewellers and Precious Metal Traders Across A&N Islands



Sri Vijaya Puram | November 13, 2026

The Andaman and Nicobar Administration has made the use of precision weighing balances with a scale division of 1 milligram (1 mg) mandatory for jewellers, bullion merchants, goldsmiths, pawnbrokers and traders dealing in precious metals and stones across the Union Territory.

The Directorate of Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs (Legal Metrology Wing) has notified an amendment to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Legal Metrology (Enforcement) Rules, 2011, following directions from the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Government of India,

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Contd Pg1...1 mg Scale-Division Weighing Balances Made Mandatory for Jewellers and Precious Metal Traders Across A&N Islands

aimed at safeguarding consumer interests and ensuring accuracy in transactions involving high-value commodities.

Under the amended rules, all concerned traders must exclusively use Class I or Class II electronic or precision weighing balances having a scale division of 1 mg (0.001 g) for commercial transactions involving gold, silver, platinum and precious stones.

The Administration has also made it mandatory for every 1 mg precision balance to be verified, calibrated and stamped by the Legal Metrology Section before being put to commercial use, in accordance with Section 24 of the Legal Metrology Act, 2009.

The Legal Metrology Wing will conduct regular inspections to ensure compliance. The use of unverified weighing balances or instruments with coarser scale divisions, such as 10 mg or 100 mg, will invite penal action, including seizure of non-standard instruments and compounding or prosecution under the Legal Metrology Act, 2009.

The Department has also urged consumers to check for a valid Legal Metrology verification stamp or certificate prominently displayed at jewellery outlets and verify the 1 mg digital display reading before completing purchases.

Consumers can report violations or lodge complaints with the Directorate of Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs through its toll-free Consumer Helpline at 18003453197 or telephone number 03192-230337. Complaints can also be submitted in writing to the Department.

The Directorate of Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs conveyed the above information through a press note issued on November 13, 2026.

Andaman Cultural Festival 2026 to Showcase Art, Culture and Talent on Children's Day



Sri Vijaya Puram | November 14, 2026

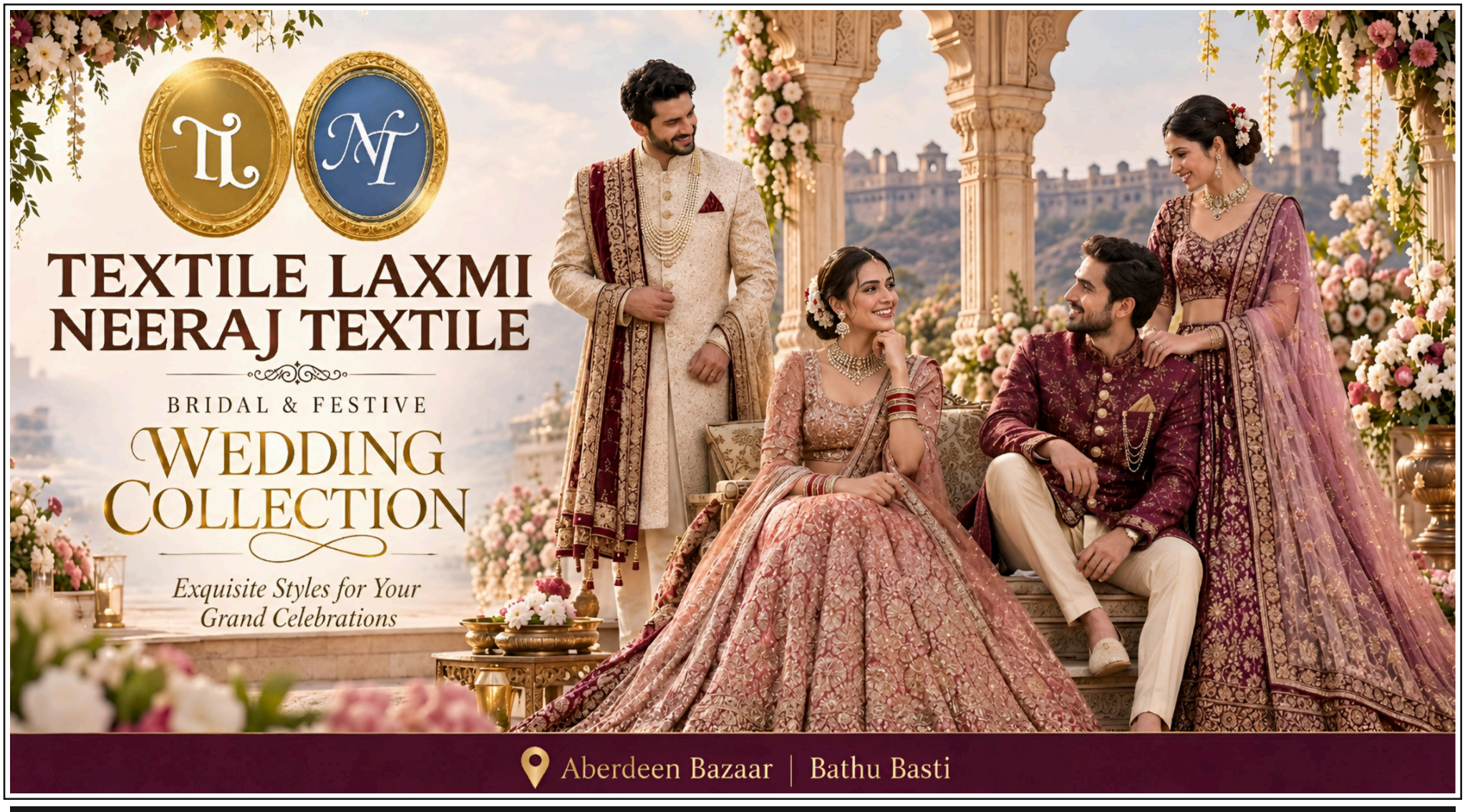
The Andaman Cultural Festival 2026 will be held on Saturday at the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Auditorium, Sri Vijaya Puram, from 2 pm to 6 pm on the occasion of Children's Day. The festival aims to provide young performers from across India an opportunity to showcase their artistic talents and cultural expressions.

The programme is being organised by the Indian Art & Culture Society in association with the Asian Countries Cultural Foundation. Presented as a Ram Setu World Event, the festival is supported by Discover Andaman Holidays Pvt. Ltd.

The festival will feature a variety of cultural performances, including dance, singing, music, drama and fashion shows. Young artists from different parts of the country are expected to participate, showcasing India's cultural diversity and artistic talent.

The initiative also seeks to encourage creativity, confidence and cultural exchange among children and young artists while providing emerging

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Contd Pg5...Andaman Cultural Festival 2026 to Showcase Art, Culture and Talent on Children's Day

performers an opportunity to present their abilities before a wider audience.

Mr. M. Vinod, President of the Andaman Association of Tour Operators, will attend the programme as the Chief Guest, while Mr. Waahid Shah, General Secretary of the Andaman & Nicobar Artist Welfare Federation, will be the Guest of Honour and Judge.

Entry to the festival will be free, and residents, families, students and visitors have been invited to attend and encourage the participating artists.

21 Women Among 29 Candidates Complete SBI RSETI's LMV Driving Training Programme



Sri Vijaya Puram | November 14, 2026

The Light Motor Vehicle (LMV) Driving Training Programme organised by the State Bank of India Rural Self Employment Training Institute (SBI RSETI), Sri Vijaya Puram, concluded on Friday with a valedictory function held at the institute's campus.

A total of 29 candidates from different parts of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands participated in the training programme, of whom 22 successfully obtained their driving licences during the course. Women accounted for the majority of participants, with 21 women candidates taking part in the programme, highlighting their growing interest in acquiring driving skills and exploring self-employment opportunities.

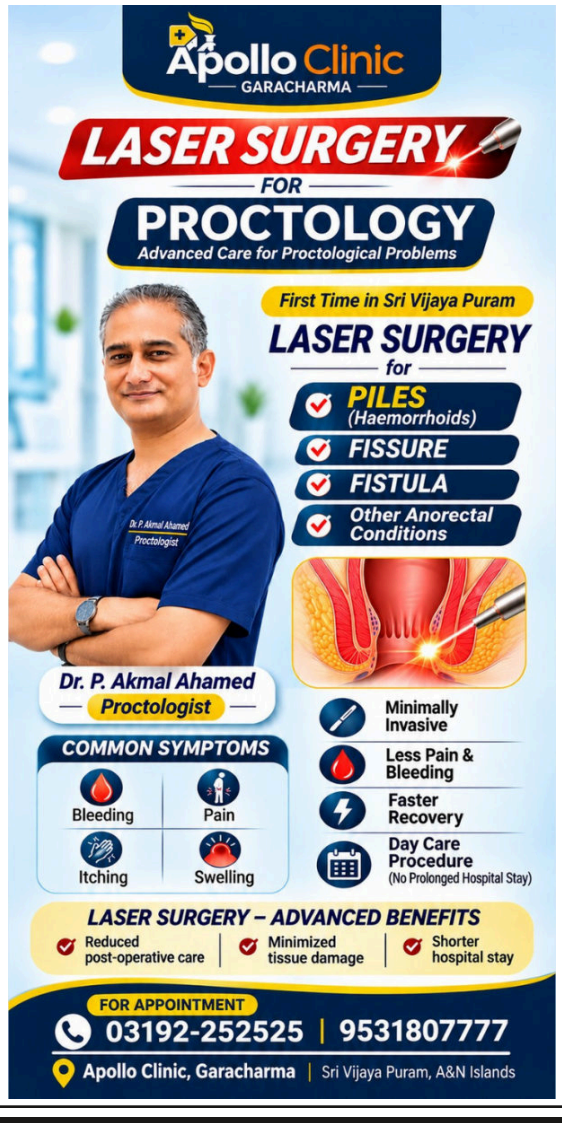
Mr. B. Binoy, Deputy Director, Directorate of Transport, attended the valedictory function as the chief guest, while Mr. Santosh Sahu, Regional Manager, State Bank of India, was the guest of honour.

Addressing the gathering, Mr. Binoy emphasised the importance of responsible road use and disciplined driving. He stressed the need to follow traffic rules and maintain road safety, and assured the trainees of all possible assistance from the Transport Department in their future endeavours.

Mr. Santosh Sahu appreciated the dedication and efforts of the trainees and congratulated those who had successfully obtained their driving licences. He said that acquiring driving skills would open up avenues for self-employment and help the trainees contribute to their family income.

The programme was also attended by Mr. P. K. Ummer Farooq, Chief Manager, UTLBC, and Mr. C. Raj, Director, SBI RSETI, Sri Vijaya Puram.

The valedictory function concluded with the dignitaries distributing driving licences and training certificates to the successful candidates.



SSS KV II, GSSS Girls Win U-17 Inter-School Volleyball Tournament Titles in South Andaman



Sri Vijaya Puram | November 14, 2026

The Inter-School Volleyball Tournament (U-17) for Boys and Girls, organised by the Sports Section of the Deputy Education Office, South Andaman, concluded on Friday at the Multipurpose Hall, Netaji Stadium, Sri Vijaya Puram.

Students from various schools functioning under the jurisdiction of the Deputy Education Office, South Andaman, participated in the tournament.

In the Boys' final, SSS KV II defeated GSSS Manglutan to emerge as champions, while in the Girls' final, GSSS Girls defeated GSSS School Line to claim the title.

During the final matches, Mr. Irshad Ahmed, Assistant Director (Sports), Directorate of Education, attended the event as the chief guest, while Mr. Bishwanath Sen, Assistant Director (Sports), SYA, was the guest of honour.

The chief guest and guest of honour felicitated the winners and runners-up in both categories with certificates, medals and trophies.

400 Vanaraja Birds Distributed Among 12 Farmers in Car Nicobar



Car Nicobar | November 14, 2026

The Department of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services (AH&VS), Andaman and Nicobar Administration, distributed 400 Vanaraja birds among 12 farmers from Small Lapathy, Big Lapathy and Tamaloo villages of Car Nicobar on Friday as part of its efforts to promote backyard poultry farming in the Nicobar district.

The birds, comprising 4-week-old chicks and 10-week-old grower birds, were distributed from the Composite Livestock Farm (CLF), Arong. They were initially received from the Central Hatchery and subsequently reared at CLF Arong, where proper brooding, management and vaccination were ensured before being handed over to the beneficiary farmers.

The initiative aims to strengthen household-level poultry production, improve the availability of eggs and meat, and provide additional income opportunities to rural households through the scientific rearing of dual-purpose birds.

Vanaraja birds are considered suitable for backyard poultry farming and are expected to contribute to the nutritional needs and livelihood opportunities of the beneficiary families.

The Department will continue to extend technical guidance, veterinary support, vaccination and healthcare assistance to the farmers to ensure proper management and rearing of the birds.



Tsunami Awareness Programmes Conducted in Tamaloo and Kinmai Villages of Car Nicobar



Car Nicobar | November 14, 2026

The Directorate of Disaster Management, Andaman and Nicobar Administration, is conducting a series of outreach activities in 30 identified coastal villages across the A&N Islands as part of the implementation of the Tsunami Ready Programme.

As part of this initiative, an Outreach Tsunami Awareness Programme was conducted on Friday at Tamaloo Community Hall, Tamaloo Village, Car Nicobar. The programme was organised by the District Emergency Operation Centre (DEOC) under the Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Nicobar District, with the objective of strengthening tsunami awareness and disaster preparedness among the local community.

A similar programme was also conducted recently at Kinmai Community Hall, covering the villages of Kinmai and Small Lapathy.

During the programmes, participants were sensitised to tsunami hazards, their causes and possible impacts, natural warning signs, early warning systems, tsunami alerts and emergency communication mechanisms.

Interactive question-and-answer sessions were also held, providing participants an opportunity to clarify their doubts and encouraging active community participation.

The Directorate of Disaster Management, A&N Administration, is conducting these outreach activities in coordination with INCOIS, Hyderabad, and the District Administrations of South Andaman, North and Middle Andaman, and Nicobar districts.

A&NCZMA Launches Official Website to Enhance Transparency and Public Access to Coastal Regulations



Sri Vijaya Puram | November 14, 2026

The Andaman and Nicobar Administration has launched the official website of the Andaman and Nicobar Coastal Zone Management Authority (A&NCZMA) to enhance transparency, improve public access to information and facilitate ease of doing business.

The website was formally launched by Chief Secretary, Andaman and Nicobar Administration and Chairman, A&NCZMA, Mr. Gyanesh Bharti, IAS, in the presence of Mr. M. Rajkumar, IFS, APCCF (CRZ & FC) and Member Secretary, A&NCZMA, Commissioner-cum-Secretary Ms. Chanchal Yadav, IAS, and other senior officials.

The website, accessible at https://anczma.andamannicobar.gov.in, provides a digital platform for citizens and stakeholders to access information about the Authority's functions and initiatives, ICRZ regulations, notifications, guidelines, orders and

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MG ANDAMAN (Legacy Automobiles Pvt. Ltd.)

SHOWROOM: MB-46, Aberdeen Bazar, Near Clock Tower, Sri Vijaya Puram - 744101

WORKSHOP: Near School Line School, School line, Sri Vijaya Puram - 744103

Contd Pg8...A&NCZMA Launches Official Website to Enhance Transparency and Public Access to Coastal Regulations

other updates.

The platform is expected to benefit project proponents, government departments, institutions and other stakeholders by making information related to coastal regulations and conservation initiatives accessible at a single location. It will also promote awareness about coastal environmental protection and sustainable development.

The Administration has encouraged citizens to actively participate in protecting the Islands' fragile coastal and marine ecosystems by staying informed and supporting responsible coastal development.

The initiative reflects the Administration's commitment to improving public service delivery through digital platforms while ensuring the sustainable protection of the Islands' ecologically sensitive coastal and marine ecosystems.

SVPMC Wins 'Promising Swachh Shehar of Union Territories' Award Under Swachh Survekshan 2025–26



Sri Vijaya Puram | November 14, 2026

Sri Vijaya Puram Municipal Council (SVPMC) has brought national recognition to the Andaman & Nicobar Islands by winning the prestigious 'Promising Swachh Shehar of Union Territories' Award under Swachh Survekshan 2025–26.

The award was presented at a ceremony held at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, on November 11.

The award was presented to the Chief Secretary, Andaman & Nicobar Administration, in the presence of Ms. Purva Garg, IAS, Secretary (Urban Development); Mr. Kamleshwar Rao S., IAS, State Mission Director (SBM-U) and Secretary, SVPMC; and Mr. Vijay Prasad Tiwari, Sanitary Officer.

The recognition marks a proud achievement for Sri Vijaya Puram Municipal Council and the Andaman & Nicobar Islands at the national level.



North & Middle Andaman Police Seize and Destroy 100 Litres of Illicit Lehan in Nimbudera



Mayabunder | November 14, 2026

North & Middle Andaman Police intensified its drive against illicit liquor activities by conducting a search operation in the forest area of Prafulla Nagar, Nimbudera, on November 13, following credible information.

A team from OP Badamnallah carried out the operation and recovered approximately 100 litres of illicit lehan and 5 litres of illicit liquor from the area.

As no claimant was found at the spot, the recovered substances, along with the materials used for their preparation and storage, were destroyed on the spot.

North & Middle Andaman Police reiterated its commitment to curbing illicit liquor activities and maintaining strict enforcement against such illegal practices. The police have also urged members of the public to share credible information to support enforcement efforts.

Fogging, Anti-Larval Spraying and Drain Cleaning Drive Begins Across SVPMC Area; Jitender Narayan Thanks CS



Sri Vijaya Puram | November 13, 2026

The Andaman and Nicobar Administration has initiated fogging, anti-larval spraying and drain cleaning activities across all municipal wards of Sri Vijaya Puram to address the growing mosquito menace, including in Dollygunj.

The initiative follows a letter submitted by Mr. Jitender Narayan, District President of the BJP's Sri Vijaya Puram District, to the Chief Secretary of the Andaman and Nicobar Administration, highlighting the mosquito menace and the need for preventive measures.

Following the intervention, the Administration has commenced fogging operations, anti-larval spraying and drain cleaning work across the municipal wards.

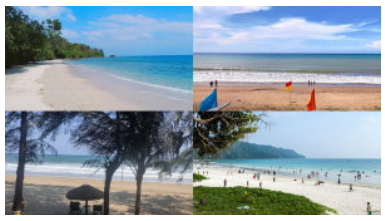
Mr. Narayan has expressed gratitude to the Chief Secretary, Andaman and Nicobar Administration; Deputy Commissioner, South Andaman, Mr. Anil Tiwari; State President of the BJP, Andaman and Nicobar Islands; and local print media organisations.

He stated that follow-up with the Administration would continue until the mosquito menace across all municipal wards is brought under control.

The initiative is being undertaken with the stated objective of promoting public health and maintaining cleanliness in the municipal areas.



AATO Welcomes Blue Flag Certification for Three More Beaches in Andaman & Nicobar Islands



Sri Vijaya Puram | November 13, 2026

The Andaman Association of Tour Operators (AATO) has congratulated the Andaman & Nicobar Administration and the Tourism Department on securing Blue Flag Certification for three additional beaches — Ramnagar Beach, Karmatang Beach and Raman Bagicha Beach. Radhanagar Beach has also successfully retained its certification.

In a statement, AATO conveyed its gratitude to the Lieutenant Governor, Prof. Dr. Dinesh Sharma, for his leadership and commitment towards strengthening sustainable tourism in the Islands. The Association also appreciated the efforts of the Administration and the Tourism Department in achieving the milestone.

With the latest certifications, the Andaman & Nicobar Islands now have four Blue Flag-certified beaches, reflecting efforts towards sustainable tourism, environmental conservation, cleanliness, safety and improved beach management.

AATO described the achievement as a significant milestone for the tourism sector, particularly in North and Middle Andaman. It stated that the certifications would help strengthen tourism promotion, create opportunities for local communities, encourage investment and attract more visitors to the Islands.

The Association also expressed its willingness to continue working with the Administration and the Tourism Department to promote the certified beaches and strengthen the Andaman & Nicobar Islands' position as a sustainable tourism destination.

Accused Sentenced to 20 Years of Rigorous Imprisonment in POCSO Case Registered at PS Kalighat



Sri Vijaya Puram | November 13, 2026

The Additional District and Sessions Judge (POCSO), Mayabunder, on November 10, 2026, convicted Sujit Mondal in a case involving the repeated sexual abuse of a minor girl, registered at Police Station Kalighat.

The case was registered vide FIR No. 58/24 dated October 26, 2024, under relevant provisions of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012, and the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023.

Upon conclusion of the trial, the Court found the accused guilty and sentenced him to 20 years of rigorous imprisonment under Section 6 of the POCSO Act, 2012. The Court also imposed a fine of ₹20,000 on him.

The conviction followed the investigation and sustained efforts of the personnel of Police Station Kalighat in pursuing the case.

