ANDAMAN DAILY

News & Views from Andaman and Nicobar Islands

by NICOBAR TIMES

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BJP Organises 'Loktantra Bachao, Arajakta Hatao' Maha Rally in Diglipur

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N&M Andaman Chamber of Commerce President Speaks on Tourism and Need for Better Connectivity

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JNV Students Left Stranded at Car Nicobar Jetty for Nearly Three Hours



Car Nicobar | November 18, 2026

Students of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya (JNV), Car Nicobar, who returned from their vacation after travelling from the Southern Group of Islands, were reportedly left stranded at the jetty for nearly three hours on Tuesday due to the absence of any responsible official to receive them.

The situation was further compounded by the lack of transportation arrangements to take the students safely to their school. In the absence of official transport, the Veterinary Department and Forest Department stepped in and provided vehicles to facilitate the students' journey to the school.

The incident has raised concerns over the arrangements and coordination among the concerned authorities for the safe transportation of students returning to the island after vacations.

Ms. Roselyn Nelson expressed her appreciation for the timely assistance extended by the Veterinary Department, Forest Department and Police in ensuring that the students reached their school safely. She also called for accountability and proper arrangements to prevent the recurrence of such incidents, stressing that the safety and welfare of students must be given due priority.

State Level DISHA Meeting Held in Andaman & Nicobar Islands After 10 Years; LG Directs Time-Bound Implementation of Development Schemes



Sri Vijaya Puram | November 17, 2026

Lieutenant Governor Dr. Dinesh Sharma on Tuesday attended the State-level District Development Coordination and Monitoring Committee (DISHA) meeting of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, held at Lok Niwas, Sri Vijaya Puram, after an interval of ten years.

The meeting was chaired by Member of Parliament and Chairman of the DISHA Committee, Bishnu Pada Ray. It reviewed the progress, implementation status and future action plans of various developmental schemes and

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TO REPORT A NEWS CALL OR WHATSAPP ON 7063998178

Contd Pg1...State Level DISHA Meeting Held in Andaman & Nicobar Islands After 10 Years; LG Directs Time-Bound Implementation of Development Schemes

programmes being implemented across the Islands.

The meeting focused on assessing the actual implementation of Government schemes at the grassroots level, identifying challenges and ensuring time-bound redressal of public grievances. The Chairman called upon all departments to ensure that the benefits of Government schemes reach the last eligible beneficiary, stressing the need for transparency, regular monitoring and accountability.

He emphasised that the success of development initiatives should be assessed not merely through budget allocations or project approvals, but also through the quality, timely execution and transparent implementation of works on the ground.

During the meeting, the Lieutenant Governor directed the effective implementation of Citizen Charters covering citizen services and public welfare schemes. He also instructed departments to ensure the display of information boards at concerned offices and public places, providing details of the benefits of schemes received by citizens.

The Lieutenant Governor further directed the establishment of Vendor Zones at suitable locations for traders, street vendors and people engaged in the informal sector. He also called for the launch of the Abhyudaya Coaching Programme to strengthen students' academic preparation and enhance their employability.

Reviewing the progress of ongoing development works, Dr. Sharma directed officers to regularly monitor their physical and financial progress to ensure completion within stipulated timelines. He stressed the need for better inter-departmental coordination and time-bound resolution of bottlenecks affecting the implementation of schemes.

He also called upon officials to maintain transparency and accountability in Government functioning, ensure that scheme benefits reach eligible beneficiaries and accord priority to the prompt redressal of public grievances and suggestions.

Chief Secretary Gyanesh Bharti, Chairperson of Sri Vijaya Puram Municipal Council M. Vasantha, senior officers of the Andaman and Nicobar Administration, Deputy Commissioner, South Andaman, officers of concerned departments and other Committee members attended the meeting. Deputy Commissioners of North and Middle Andaman and Nicobar District, along with other concerned officers, participated virtually.

The meeting also witnessed detailed discussions on the progress of departmental schemes, their physical and financial status, inter-departmental coordination and measures required for future implementation.

The DISHA Committee aims to strengthen the monitoring and coordination of development initiatives within the respective constitutional roles of the Central Government, Union Territory Administration and local bodies.

At the conclusion of the meeting, all departments assured that they would prepare time-bound action plans to implement the directions issued, regularly review progress and accord priority to matters concerning public interest.



Draft Electoral Roll Published in A&N Islands; Claims and Objections Open Till December 16



Sri Vijaya Puram | November 18, 2026

The Draft Electoral Roll-2027 for the Andaman and Nicobar Islands was published on Tuesday, November 17, marking the commencement of the claims and objections period under the Special Summary Revision (SSR) of the Photo Electoral Roll with January 1, 2027, as the qualifying date.

A meeting with representatives of all recognised political parties was held under the chairmanship of Chief Electoral Officer (i/c), Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Dr. Apurva Sharma, at the conference hall of the Director of RD/PRI to discuss the revision process and publication of the integrated Draft Electoral Roll-2027.

Addressing the meeting, Dr. Sharma informed that the claims and objections period would continue until December 16, 2026. Special campaign days will be organised at all 415 polling stations across the Islands on November 21 and 22. The disposal of claims and objections is scheduled to be completed by December 28, 2026, while the final electoral roll will be published on January 4, 2027.

According to the Draft Electoral Roll-2027, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands have a total of 2,60,981 registered electors, comprising 1,31,829 male electors, 1,29,149 female electors and three third-gender electors. The gender ratio stands at 980, while the Elector Population (EP) ratio is 601. The EPIC coverage is 99.32 per cent.

The number of polling stations has increased from 411 to 415 with the creation of four new polling stations. Of these, one has been established in Diglipur Tehsil of North and Middle Andaman District, while three have been added in Ferrargunj Tehsil of South Andaman District.

Dr. Sharma appealed to representatives of recognised political parties to appoint Booth Level Agents (BLAs) for every polling station. The BLAs will work in coordination with Booth Level Officers (BLOs) during the revision period to identify eligible citizens aged 18 years and above who are yet to be enrolled in the electoral rolls, including first-time and left-out electors.

The Draft Electoral Roll-2027 was also shared with the representatives of political parties during the meeting. Their suggestions and queries were addressed by the Chief Electoral Officer. The draft roll is available on the CEO's official website, www.ceoandaman.nic.in, for verification.

Electors have been advised to check their names in the draft roll and submit the necessary applications during the claims and objections period, ending December 16, 2026. Form-6 may be

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Contd Pg4...Draft Electoral Roll Published in A&N Islands; Claims and Objections Open Till December 16

submitted for inclusion of names, Form-8 for corrections and Form-7 for deletion.

Applications can be submitted online through the ECINET mobile application or the Election Commission's website, https://voters.eci.gov.in. Electors may also submit the prescribed forms to their respective Booth Level Officers.

The Chief Electoral Officer has appealed to all eligible citizens, particularly young and first-time voters, to verify their names and ensure their enrolment within the prescribed period. He also urged political parties to extend their cooperation in identifying and facilitating the enrolment of eligible young, first-time and left-out electors.

For assistance or clarification, electors may contact their respective Booth Level Officer or call the Voter Helpline Number 1950.

Special Lok Adalat to be Held in Sri Vijaya Puram, Mayabunder and Diglipur on Nov. 21



Sri Vijaya Puram | November 17, 2026 The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Andaman and Nicobar Islands, will organise a Special Lok Adalat on November 21, 2026, at the District Court Complex in Port Blair, Sub-Divisional Court Complex in Mayabunder and Circuit Court in Diglipur.

The Special Lok Adalat will take up cases pending before different courts under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, which deals with cheque dishonour cases. Such cases will be considered for disposal through consensual settlement between the parties concerned.

Members of the public having disputes of this nature have been invited to submit their applications in writing to the Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Port Blair, on or before November 19, 2026.

The applications will be processed in advance to facilitate the hearing and settlement of disputes during the Special Lok Adalat scheduled for November 21.

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Car Nicobar Hosts Zonal Level Science, Mathematics, Art & Craft Exhibition 2026



Car Nicobar | November 17, 2026

The Education Department, Car Nicobar, organised the Zonal Level Science, Mathematics, Art & Craft Exhibition – 2026 on Tuesday at Priyadarshini Auditorium, Car Nicobar, with students from various schools participating in the event.

Mr. Amit Kale, IAS, Deputy Commissioner, Nicobar District, attended the exhibition as the chief guest, while Mr. Lionald Nicomede, Chairman, Tribal Council, Car Nicobar, was the guest of honour. Mr. John Levi, Deputy Vice Chairman, Tribal Council, was also present. Education Officer Mr. Swapan Paik welcomed the gathering.

Addressing the students, the chief guest encouraged them to develop scientific curiosity, creativity and innovative thinking. He emphasised the importance of learning through experimentation and applying knowledge to find practical solutions to real-life challenges.

A total of 21 projects from seven schools were showcased under the Upper Primary, Secondary and Senior Secondary categories, highlighting the innovative ideas and creative abilities of students.

In the Senior Secondary category, GSSS Lapathy secured first position with its project on 'Disaster Management'. GSSS Sawai secured second position for 'Carbon Purification for Factories' and third position for 'Smart Agriculture'. SSS Lapathy secured fourth position with its project on 'Carbon Purification'.

In the Secondary category, GSSS Malacca secured first position for 'Solid Waste Management', followed by GSS Arong, which secured second position for its 'Plant Science Model'. GSSS Malacca also secured third position with its 'Hydroponic Working Model'.

In the Upper Primary category, GSSS Malacca secured first position for 'Waste Animal Fats to Biogas', while GMS Tapoiming secured second position for 'Solar-Based Desalination'.

In addition, two medicinal plant exhibits from GSSS Malacca and craft items from GSSS Lapathy have been selected to represent the Car Nicobar Zone at the State Level Science, Mathematics, Art & Craft Exhibition – 2026, scheduled to be held at Sri Vijaya Puram.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by Mr. Everlyn, Vice Principal, GSSS Malacca.



ANIIMS Organises Health Camp for Chatham Saw Mill Workers; Over 100 Benefit



Sri Vijaya Puram | November 17, 2026

The Department of Community Medicine of Andaman and Nicobar Islands Institute of Medical Sciences (ANIIMS) organised a comprehensive health camp for workers of Chatham Saw Mill on October 29 as part of its efforts to extend accessible healthcare services to the working community.

More than 100 workers benefited from the camp, during which they underwent general health examinations and screenings for diabetes, hypertension, eye disorders, skin conditions and ear-related problems.

General outpatient consultations were also provided, and essential medicines were distributed free of cost to the workers.

In addition to medical examinations and treatment, individualised health education and counselling sessions were conducted based on the health conditions of the workers. The sessions focused on medication adherence, healthy lifestyle practices, preventive measures and the importance of timely medical follow-up.

Andaman Law College to Organise Poster-Making and Elocution Competitions for Constitution Day



Sri Vijaya Puram | November 17, 2026

Andaman Law College will organise poster-making and elocution competitions on November 18 and 19, respectively, as part of its Constitution Day celebrations.

The poster-making competition will be held on November 18 on the theme “My Constitution, My Pride”, while the elocution competition is scheduled for November 19 at the college auditorium.

The elocution competition will be conducted in two rounds. The topic for the preliminary round is “Contribution of Navanethem Pillay (Nobel Laureate for Peace, 2026) to Justice and International Peace.”

All college students of Andaman & Nicobar Islands have been invited to participate in the competitions. Attractive cash prizes will be awarded to the winners.

Interested students can directly report to the college auditorium on the respective dates by 10 AM, carrying their valid college identity cards.

SCPS Organises Series of Activities Across Child Care Institutions to Celebrate Children's Day



Sri Vijaya Puram | November 17, 2026

The State Child Protection Society (SCPS), Directorate of Social Welfare, organised a series of activities across Child Care Institutions (CCIs) to commemorate Children's Day, focusing on promoting creativity, talent, inclusion, environmental awareness and the holistic development of children.

As part of the celebrations, SCPS, in collaboration with Oil India Limited, organised a painting competition for children of CCI Seva Niketan and CCI Balika Niketan on November 13. The competition provided an opportunity for children to showcase their imagination, artistic abilities and individual talents through colourful paintings.

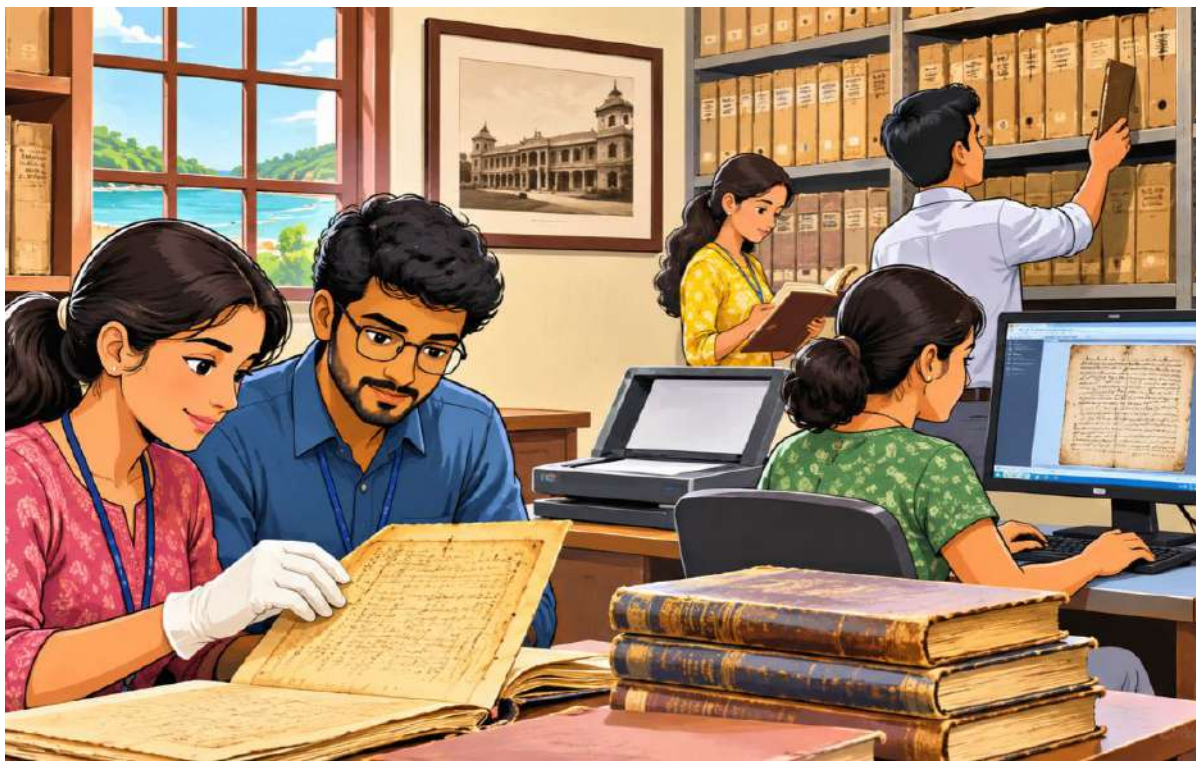
On the same day, a plantation programme was organised at a Child Care Institution under the campaign 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam'. The programme was coordinated by the Nodal Officer, Mission Vatsalya, and witnessed enthusiastic participation from children, who planted saplings as part of the initiative.

A special Children's Day programme was also organised at the Abhyuday Complex, Ferrargunj, on November 14 in collaboration with PANKH NGO and with the support of Chinmaya Yuva Kendra.

The programme was attended by Swami Sudhananda and Ms. Komal Anand, Founder President of PANKH NGO. A drawing competition titled 'Dreams Come True' was organised to encourage children to express their dreams and future aspirations through art. PANKH NGO also distributed gifts and prizes among the children.



A&N Archives Invites Applications for 10 History Graduate Internships; Offers Monthly Stipend of Rs. 10,000



Sri Vijaya Puram | November 17, 2026

The Andaman & Nicobar Archives, Secretariat, has invited applications from eligible candidates who have recently completed a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree in History for engagement as interns under its Short-Term Internship Programme for the next batch.

A total of 10 interns will be engaged for a period of three months, from December 2026 to February 2027, with a consolidated monthly stipend of Rs. 10,000 per intern, subject to the terms and conditions of the Internship Policy of the A&N Archives.

The programme aims to provide young History graduates with practical exposure and hands-on experience in archival management, preservation and conservation of historical records, cataloguing, digitisation and records management. It also seeks to familiarise them with the historical and documentary heritage of the Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

Candidates applying for the internship must hold a B.A. degree in History from a recognised university. Preference and eligibility will be governed by the provisions of the Internship Policy of the Andaman & Nicobar Archives. Applicants should also have an interest in history, archival research, preservation of historical records and documentation.

Interested and eligible candidates are required to submit their applications along with copies of educational qualification certificates, mark sheets, proof of age and other relevant documents to the Andaman & Nicobar Archives, Secretariat, Sri Vijaya Puram, on or before November 25, 2026.

Applications can be submitted in person on any working day. Candidates seeking further details or clarification regarding the application process may contact the A&N Archives, Secretariat, Sri Vijaya Puram, during office hours.



Seventh Sagarika Emporium of Industries Department Inaugurated at Haddo Wharf



Sri Vijaya Puram | November 17, 2026

The Lieutenant Governor of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Dr. Dinesh Sharma, on Tuesday inaugurated the seventh Sagarika Emporium of the Industries Department at Haddo Wharf, Sri Vijaya Puram.

The newly inaugurated emporium aims to provide a platform for local handicraft artisans, craftsmen and Self-Help Groups (SHGs) to showcase and market their products to tourists and other customers. The initiative is expected to promote traditional island art, handicrafts and locally made souvenirs while creating opportunities to enhance the income of local producers.

The Sagarika Emporium will showcase products manufactured by local artisans and SHGs, connecting tourists with the cultural heritage and distinctive craftsmanship of the Islands. The initiative is also expected to encourage local production, generate employment opportunities and strengthen the link between the tourism sector and the local economy.

On the occasion, a kiosk was also unveiled to collect experiences, suggestions and feedback from tourists. The facility will enable visitors to share their opinions, which will help the authorities identify areas for improvement in tourism facilities, local products and services.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by Member of Parliament, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Mr. Bishnu Pada Ray; Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Ms. Chanchal Yadav; Chairperson of the Municipal Council, Ms. Vasantha; Deputy Commissioner, South Andaman; Secretary (Industries); Secretary (Home); Secretary (Personnel); and senior officers of various departments.



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

CPI(M) Demands Automatic Re-enrolment of Over 54,000 Voters Excluded During SIR in A&N Islands; Walks Out After CEO Rejects Demand



Sri Vijaya Puram | November 17, 2026

The Communist Party of India (Marxist) [CPI(M)] has demanded the re-enrolment of all 54,000+ voters excluded from the electoral rolls of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands during the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) conducted in 2025-26, stating that any further revision of the electoral rolls would be meaningless unless the excluded voters are first restored.

The demand was raised by D. Ayyappan, CPI(M) Andaman and Nicobar State Secretary, and P. Sathyapal, State Secretariat Member, during a meeting of leaders of national political parties convened by the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), Andaman and Nicobar Islands, on November 17 at Sri Vijaya Puram. The meeting was convened to brief political parties on the proposed schedule for revision of electoral rolls for the Andaman and Nicobar Parliamentary Constituency.

During the meeting, the CPI(M) delegation submitted a letter to the CEO, reiterating the party's opposition to the Bihar-model Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls in the Islands. Ayyappan recalled that the party had raised its objections from the outset, including through a letter dated September 25, 2025, submitted by the CPI(M) Andaman and Nicobar State Organising Committee, expressing apprehensions that the exercise could lead to the exclusion of thousands of voters.

He stated that the party had also strongly opposed the proposed manner of conducting the SIR during subsequent meetings convened by the CEO. According to Ayyappan, the party's apprehensions were vindicated when the Election Commission of India announced that 64,014 electors, including 9,191 deceased persons, had been excluded from the electoral rolls of the Andaman and Nicobar Parliamentary Constituency following the SIR exercise.

The CPI(M) leaders further referred to media reports highlighting alleged irregularities in the exclusion of genuine voters in areas where the SIR was conducted, as well as cases pending before the Supreme Court. Ayyappan maintained that the Election Commission of India cannot remove citizens from electoral rolls without following the procedure established by law.

Referring to the Election Commission's assurance before the Supreme Court that

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excluded voters would be allowed to re-enrol through Form 6 and that no prosecution would be initiated against them, Ayyappan argued that it might not be possible for all excluded voters to individually approach the authorities and submit applications.

He therefore demanded that all 54,000+ voters excluded through the SIR be re-enrolled in the electoral rolls before undertaking any further revision.

However, after the Chief Electoral Officer declined to accept the demand, the CPI(M) delegation walked out of the meeting in protest.

ICAR-CIARI Invites Farmers, Entrepreneurs and Industries to Purchase and Commercialise Patented Technologies



Sri Vijaya Puram | November 17, 2026

The ICAR–Central Island Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR–CIARI), Sri Vijaya Puram, has invited farmers, entrepreneurs, startups, Self-Help Groups (SHGs), industries and other organisations to purchase and commercialise its patented technologies developed to simplify traditional food-processing activities, reduce manual labour, improve animal health and promote efficient use of natural resources.

The institute has developed four technologies that are available for commercialisation, including two low-cost food-processing tools designed particularly for traditional food-processing activities in tribal households, an acaricidal formulation for controlling ectoparasites in farm and pet animals, and a procedure for preparing calcium alginate from brown seaweed.

The technologies include the Dweep Nicobari Aloo Peeler, a low-cost, hand-operated tool designed to peel the uneven and rough skin of Nicobari aloo. The device simplifies the peeling process while reducing manual effort, processing time and food wastage.

Another innovation, the Dweep Pandanus Fruit Pulp Extractor, is a hand-operated stainless-steel tool developed to separate edible pulp from the

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Contd Pg12...ICAR-CIARI Invites Farmers, Entrepreneurs and Industries to Purchase and Commercialise Patented Technologies

fibrous parts of Pandanus fruits. It aims to simplify traditional food-processing activities while saving time and labour, particularly in tribal households.

The institute has also developed a formulation and method for controlling ectoparasites in farm and pet animals. The novel acaricidal formulation is designed to control ectoparasites, particularly ticks, and exhibits ovicidal, larvicidal, nymphicidal and adulticidal activities, helping control tick infestations and reduce associated losses.

The fourth technology is a procedure for preparing calcium alginate (phyco-colloid) from brown seaweed. The natural hydrogel, produced through a modified extraction process, can hold moisture up to 1.7 times its weight and gradually release water to plants. This property can help reduce water loss and improve nutrient retention in soil and other growing media.

According to ICAR–CIARI, these technologies offer opportunities for practical applications, entrepreneurship and commercial utilisation, particularly in island communities.

Interested farmers, entrepreneurs, startups, SHGs, industries and other organisations may contact the Director, ICAR–CIARI, Sri Vijaya Puram, for further details regarding the purchase and commercialisation of these technologies.

Enquiries can also be sent to director.ciari@icar.org.in.

N & M Andaman District Police Inducts Eight New PCR Vehicles to Strengthen Emergency Response



Sri Vijaya Puram | November 17, 2026

The North & Middle Andaman District Police has inducted eight new Police Control Room (PCR) vehicles to enhance police mobility, strengthen emergency response and ensure prompt assistance to the public across the district.

With the induction of these vehicles, all police stations in the district are now equipped with at least one PCR vehicle, enabling better accessibility and quicker response to public calls and emergency situations.

The new vehicles are expected to strengthen police patrolling and surveillance, facilitate timely responses to public complaints and emergencies, and help curb anti-social activities, thereby contributing to improved public safety and security.

Meanwhile, the emergency helpline 112 is now fully operational round the clock in North & Middle Andaman District. Citizens have been urged to make use of the service to seek immediate police assistance and ensure prompt response during emergencies.

