



Department of Industries (उद्योग विभाग)

Andaman and Nicobar Administration



QUARTERLY

(Nov 2025 – Jan 2026)

Newsletter

Explore the vibrant progress and empowering initiatives undertaken from November 2025 – January 2026



4th
Edition



MISSION FOR WOMEN

with MSME

Cluster

ed by

a Rahat

airperson

mission for

November 20

00 PM

DISASTER P

& PUNAM



CELEBRATION OF INNOVATION

STARTING

ON & P

W. D



SCOVER ANDHRA



Building Capacity,



FOSTERING INNOVATION

With a vision for empowering communities and driving industrial growth, the **Industries Department** made significant strides from **November 2025 to January 2026**.

Key Highlights

 <p>PM Vishwakarma 3286 Beneficiaries Enrolled</p>	 <p>Women in Business 39 Women-Led Startups</p>
 <p>Startup Ecosystem 91 Startups Recognized by DPIIT</p>	 <p>Community Engagement 591 Students on Educational Tours</p>
 <p>Skill Development 242 In Year-long Training</p>	 <p>Market Support 334.37 lakhs Marketing Assistance Sales</p>

From expanding scheme outreach and boosting local crafts to driving policy reforms and inspiring future generations, the quarter saw dedicated efforts towards a more prosperous and resilient industrial sector.





Composite Workshop

MSME

The Hon'ble Union Minister for MSME, Shri Jitan Ram Manjhi, visited the Andaman & Nicobar Islands and chaired a Review and Awareness Programme on 06 January 2026 to assess the progress and impact of MSME initiatives in the Union Territory.

On the occasion, the A&N Administration considered M/s KPMG as the State Programme Implementation Unit (SPIU) for implementing the Strategic Investment Plan under the RAMP Scheme, and the Hon'ble Minister handed over the Letter of Consideration.

Addressing the gathering, the Minister highlighted the crucial role of MSMEs in achieving the vision of Viksit Bharat @ 2047 and reaffirmed the Government of India's commitment to strengthening MSME growth and entrepreneurship in the Islands.





ANI Stall Inaugurated at IITF-2025

IITF INAUGURATION

The Directorate of Industries, A&N Administration participated in the India International Trade Fair (IITF)-2025, being held from 14.11.2025 to 27.11.2025 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.

The Department showcased a wide range of local products from the Andaman & Nicobar Islands, including GI-tagged products, tribal handicrafts, virgin coconut oil, and other handicrafts crafted by local artisans at the A&N Islands Pavilion.

The A&N Islands Pavilion was inaugurated on 15.11.2025 by the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of Andaman & Nicobar Islands in the presence of the Commissioner-cum-Secretary (Industries), A&N Administration. On the same occasion, Admiral D. K. Joshi, PVSM, AVSM, YSM, NM, VSM (Retd.) inaugurated the ANI stall at IITF-2025.





INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE
WOMAN FARMER
2026



Republic Day 2026 Highlights

77th Republic Day Celebration

77th Republic Day Celebrations – Winner of Tableaux 2026

As part of the 77th Republic Day celebrations, the Directorate of Industries, A&N Administration participated in the Republic Day Parade 2026 held at Marina Park, Sri Vijaya Puram, with a departmental tableau based on the theme “Sagarika Emporium: Providing Marketing Assistance to GI Products.”

The Industries Department tableau was adjudged the Best Tableau of the Republic Day Parade 2026. The winner’s trophy was received by Shri Atul Soni, DANICS, Director of Industries, along with his team, from Admiral D. K. Joshi, PVSM, AVSM, YSM, NM, VSM (Retd.), Hon’ble Lieutenant Governor, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, in recognition of the Department’s outstanding presentation.





Championing Women's Empowerment

Empowering Women

As part of the visit of the National Commission for Women (NCW) delegation to the Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Smti. Vijaya Rahatkar, Chairperson, NCW, along with other dignitaries, visited ANE-Sagarika.



National Commission of Women

The delegation appreciated the wide range of handcrafted local products displayed, highlighting the skill and craftsmanship of local artisans.





INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE
WOMAN FARMER
2026



Industries Department's ITF Triumph

First Prize at ITF Car Nicobar



The Department of Industries, A&N Administration actively participated in ITF Mela 2025 held at Sri Vijaya Puram, showcasing its initiatives and products through the Industries Department Pavilion.



At ITF 2025, Car Nicobar, the Extension Office, Car Nicobar of the Department of Industries secured First Prize in the Stalls Category, earning recognition for its outstanding presentation and display. This achievement reflects the Department's commitment to promoting local industries and artisan products in the region.





INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE
WOMAN FARMER
2026



CELEBRATION OF INNOVATION MONTH

Igniting Young Innovators

Startup Hackathon & Pitching Competition

The Celebration of Innovation Month was organized as a two-day programme from 30 Jan to 31st Jan 2026, during which five colleges participated, and students showcased their innovative startup ideas by presenting them before the jury; the event concluded with the award of first, second, and third positions to the best ideas in recognition of creativity, innovation, and entrepreneurial potential.



Directorate of Industries hosts Hackathon and Startup Pitching Competition for Island students TGCE and Pondicherry University Teams won the first & second prizes respectively

Vijaya Puram, Jan. 31
The Directorate of Industries, Government of Tamil Nadu, successfully concluded its Hackathon and Startup Pitching Competition today, with a grand valedictory function. The two-day event, held on January 30-31, featured presentations by students from Higher Education Institutes across the islands, showcasing innovative solutions to local challenges, fostering the spirit of entrepreneurship under the aegis of the Startup India, Make in India campaign.



Education (Hriday Das, C. Mohammed Ishaque and Samrat Dasgupta). Teams from Pondicherry University (Ales Jaisne, Ms. Nalli Akanksha, Manoj Kumar, Praveen S and Shashank Singh) and Team from Jawaharlal Nehru Rajkanya Mahavidyalaya (Ms. Deepika Baraik and Tarun Saha). The winners received certificates recognizing their innovative ideas and solutions toward island sustainability.





Bharat Parv 2025

Admiral D. K. Joshi, PVSM, AVSM, YSM, NM, VSM (Retd.) participated in the Bharat Parv 2025 event held at Ekta Nagar, Kevadia, Gujarat, commemorating the 150th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the Iron Man of India, and Bhagwan Birsa Munda, celebrating the harmony of national unity, culture, and diversity.

The Industries Department, A&N Administration participated in the event at the Statue of Unity, Gujarat, from 01.11.2025 to 15.11.2025, showcasing a wide array of local products, including GI-tagged products, tribal handicrafts, virgin coconut oil, and other handicrafts crafted by local artisans.

The A&N Pavilion received distinguished visitors when the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of A&N Islands and the First Lady visited on 14.11.2025, appreciating the rich cultural heritage and craftsmanship of the islands.



Diglipur Mela Achievement

Diglipur Vikas Mela 2025

The Directorate of Industries, A&N Administration participated in Diglipur Vikas Mela 2025 (8-14 Dec) and showcased handicrafts, including products made from industrial waste. The departmental stall, inaugurated by the Deputy Commissioner, North & Middle Andaman, secured 2nd position in the Best Departmental Stall category, recognizing the Department's promotion of local craftsmanship and innovation.





Promoting Local Craftsmanship

Subash Mela 2026 Bakultala

The Chief Guest evaluated the products and appreciated the efforts of the staff of the Extension Office, commending their dedication in promoting local craftsmanship and innovative products.

The Extension Office, Industries Department, Bakultala set up a departmental stall at Subash Mela 2026, showcasing a wide range of handicrafts and other merchandise for retail sale. The stall was inaugurated on 25.01.2026 by the Assistant Commissioner, Rangat, in the presence of the Block Development Officer, CD Block Rangat, and the Pradhan, GP Bakultala.





Additional Highlights

Beyond the featured events, the Industries Department continued its broad range of activities across scheme implementation, skill development, community engagement, and operational milestones throughout the quarter.





Scheme Implementation & Outreach

The Department continued its efforts to connect communities with government schemes and support business growth through focused awareness campaigns and outreach camps. During the quarter, these initiatives were further strengthened to ensure citizens and businesses were well-informed about vital government programs.



As part of the **Khadi Mahotsav** celebrations, **A&NIKVIB** organized a Khadi promotion event at **Jawaharlal Nehru Rajkeeya Mahavidyalaya (JNRM)**. The program aimed to engage students and raise awareness about the historical and cultural significance of Khadi—from its role in India’s freedom movement to its evolution as a sustainable fabric in modern fashion.





Skill Development & Training

During the quarter, the Department conducted a wide range of training programs aimed at enhancing practical skills and creating sustainable livelihood opportunities across various sectors. Capacity-building and skill empowerment remained a key focus throughout.

A diverse portfolio of short-term training initiatives was implemented across the Islands, encompassing traditional crafts like handicrafts, value-added food processing techniques, and essential livelihood skills such as poultry and dairy farming. These programs complemented the ongoing year-long industrial training courses, providing participants with both foundational knowledge and hands-on experience to strengthen their employability and entrepreneurial potential.



Skill Development & Training



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE
WOMAN FARMER
2026



November 2025

Trainings

- **Training Conducted:** Skill Development on Coconut Shell, Wooden, Cane, and Bamboo Handicrafts at Burmanallah Gram Panchayat, South Andaman.
- **Duration & Participants:** 24th October – 7th November 2025; 30 trainees successfully completed the program.
- **Objective:** To enhance practical handicraft skills and promote livelihood opportunities.



December 2025

Trainings

- ✂️ A 15-day short-term skill development training program on handicrafts, focusing on coconut shell, wood, cane, and bamboo products, commenced on 23rd December 2025 at Guptapara Panchayat with 20 trainees in the presence of the Pradhan. The program aims to polish and refine participants' skills, promoting self-employment and supporting local economic growth.
- ✂️ The Directorate of Industries organized a one-week coir handicrafts training from 15th to 24th December 2025 for 17 women from SHGs in Rangat Bay and Nimbutala villages, following suggestions of the District Planning Committee, N&M Andaman.
- ✂️ 1 day orientation training programme was organized at Gram Panchayat, Shoal Bay for SHG member organized by NGO and NABARD. The initiatives and schemes of Industries Department were disseminated at during the programme.



Skill Development & Training

January 2026

Trainings

A 15-day handicraft training on coconut shell, wood, cane, and bamboo products was held at Guptapara Panchayat from 23.12.2025 to 09.01.2026, training 22 participants in the presence of the Pradhan to boost skills for self-employment and local economic growth.



A 2-day training program on Virgin Coconut Oil was conducted by the Extension Office of the Industries Department at Diglipur for the Agro Women Multipurpose Society on 07.01.2026 and 08.01.2026, with 11 participants.





INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE
WOMAN FARMER
2026



Community Engagement & Awareness

“Engaging the community, with a special focus on youth, remained a priority throughout the quarter.”

Direct community engagement remained a key focus, with initiatives designed to connect and inspire citizens across the Islands. **Educational tours** offered students valuable exposure to the industrial sector, broadening career horizons and nurturing future aspirations. Events like the **Basanti Mela** provided vibrant platforms to showcase **local talent and promote artisan-made products, strengthening the bond** between the department’s initiatives and the communities it serves.





Community Engagement & Awareness

November 2025

Educational Tours

An exposure visit of 69 students of class I to V from GPS Anna Nagar, Hutbay was conducted at Extension Office, Hutbay on 15th November 2025.



December 2025

Educational Tours

A group of 50 students from Government Model Senior Secondary School, Sri Vijaya Puram, accompanied by two teachers, visited the Industries Department's Training Centre at Sri Vijaya Puram on 22nd December 2025, where they were exposed to skill development facilities in carpentry, general engineering, and cane & bamboo trades.



December 2025

Educational Tours

30 students from Government Middle School, Dignabad, visited the Industries Department Training Centre at Sri Vijaya Puram on 23rd December 2025, where they gained exposure to skill development trades such as carpentry, general engineering, and cane & bamboo crafts.



44 students from Govt Secondary School, Shoal Bay made an exposure visit on 22nd November 2025 to ANE-Sagarika and Training Centre of Industries Department at Udyog Parisar, Middle Point.



January 2026

Educational Tours

A group of 43 students from Government Senior Secondary School, R.K. Pur, Hutbay, accompanied by three teachers, visited the Departmental Training Centre, Hutbay on 17.01.2026 and gained exposure to skill development facilities in carpentry and general engineering trades.



Quarterly Snapshots

Detailed statistics reflecting the progress and reach of various schemes and programs during the quarter.

November Snapshot



PM Vishwakarma Scheme Status

- Total Enrolled Beneficiaries : 3283
- Level-3 Approved Applicants : 1057
- Trained & Certified Beneficiaries : 588



Marketing Assistance

- Units/Artisans Assisted : 83
- Total Sales Value : **Rs. 86.17 Lakhs**



Startups Recognized by DPIIT

- Total Recognized : 84
- Women-led : 37



PMEGP Sanctions

- Bank Sanctioned Applications : **19 cases**
- Total Project Cost : **Rs. 140.21 Lakhs**
- Margin Money Subsidy Amount : **Rs. 31.24 Lakhs**

December Snapshot



PM Vishwakarma Scheme Status

- Total Enrolled Beneficiaries : 3286
- Level-3 Approved Applicants : 1057
- Trained & Certified Beneficiaries : **588**



Marketing Assistance

- Units/Artisans Assisted : 85
- Total Sales Value : **Rs. 124.55 Lakhs**



Startups Recognized by DPIIT

- Total Recognized : 86
- Women-led : 37



PMEGP Sanctions

- Bank Sanctioned Applications : **09 cases**
- Total Project Cost : **Rs. 26.24 Lakhs**
- Margin Money Subsidy Amount : **Rs. 05.38 Lakhs**

January Snapshot



PM Vishwakarma Scheme Status

- Total Enrolled Beneficiaries : **3286**
- Level-3 Approved Applicants : 1057
- Trained & Certified Beneficiaries : **588**



Marketing Assistance

- Units/Artisans Assisted : 85
- Total Sales Value : **Rs. 123.65 Lakhs**



Startups Recognized by DPIIT

- Total Recognized : 91
- Women-led : 39



PMEGP Sanctions

- Bank Sanctioned Applications : **Nil**
- Total Project Cost : **Nil**
- Margin Money Subsidy Amount : **Nil**

Hon'ble Union Minister reviews & assess progress, outreach & impact of MSME initiatives in Union Territory



Sri Vijaya Puram, Jan. 6
The Hon'ble Union Minister for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), Sri Jan Ran Mombi, is presently on an official visit to the A&N Islands. Marking his arrival, a review and awareness programme was organized today under the chairmanship of the Hon'ble Minister to review and assess the progress, outreach, and impact of MSME initiatives in the Union Territory. The programme commenced with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp, symbolizing the formal inauguration of the event. The programme was attended by senior officers from the Ministry of MSME, officials of the A&N Administration, representatives from various local Departments, financial institutions, and MSME stakeholders from across the Islands.

Addressing the gathering, the Hon'ble Minister shared his visionary thoughts aligned with the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of "Viksit Bharat @ 2047", underscoring the pivotal role of MSMEs as a key engine of economic growth, innovation, and employment generation in achieving the goal of a developed India. The Hon'ble Minister actively interacted with officials and stakeholders and enquired about the progress, challenges, and emerging opportunities for MSME development in the Islands. He emphasized the need to strengthen entrepreneurship, improve access to credit, enhance skill development, and ensure effective and timely implementation of MSME schemes to promote sustainable economic growth and employment generation in the region. The day assumed special significance with the A&N Administration considering MoU/KPMG for engagement as the State Programme Implementation Unit (SPIU) for implementation of the Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) under the Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMPE) Scheme of the Ministry of MSME, Government of India. On the occasion, the Hon'ble Minister handed over the Letter of Consideration to the representative of MoU/KPMG, marking an important milestone in strengthening MSME programme implementation and governance in the Union Territory. The visit of the Hon'ble Minister and review meeting reaffirmed the Government of India's strong commitment towards accelerating MSME growth in geographically remote regions such as the Andaman & Nicobar Islands and enhancing awareness among entrepreneurs about the benefits and opportunities offered under various MSME support programmes. Shri Vinayak Mishra, Joint Secretary, of MSME, made a detailed presentation highlighting the objectives, achievements, and impact of various flagship MSME schemes implemented across the country, with emphasis on their implementation performance in the Andaman & Nicobar. In his address, Secretary (Industries) Administration provided a comprehensive overview of the MSME ecosystem in the Islands. He highlighted the growth potential of MSMEs in the Union Territory while emphasizing the challenges faced by entrepreneurs, such as issues related to logistics, infrastructure, access, and availability of institutional support. He also sought continued support and guidance from the stakeholders.

Directorate of Industries conducts Skill Development Training on Handicrafts at Guptapara Gram Panchayat

Sri Vijaya Puram, Jan. 9
The Directorate of Industries, Andaman and Nicobar Administration, successfully conducted a 15-day short-term skill development training program on "Handicrafts (Coconut Shell, Wooden and Cane & Bamboo Products)" at Guptapara Gram Panchayat, South Andaman from 23rd December, 2025 to 9th January, 2026.



The valedictory function of the program was held today in the presence of PRI Members, with Shri Durlab Das, Pradhan, Gram Panchayat Guptapara, as the chief guest. A total of 22 trainees participated in the program to acquire basic skills and technical know-how in handicraft making, aiming to promote self-employment and strengthen the local economy.

Addressing the gathering, Shri Mohammed Ishaque, Deputy Director, Directorate of Industries, highlighted the various departmental schemes and initiatives that support training programs, promote MSME development, and facilitate local employment generation. In his address, Shri Durlab Das appreciated the efforts of the Industries Department for organizing hands on training programs that align with local resource potential and market needs. He encouraged the trainees to utilize their newly acquired skills to pursue self-employment ventures for enhancing their livelihoods and contributing to sustainable community development. The training program reflects the Administration's continued commitment to empowering rural communities through skill development, promoting traditional crafts, and advancing economic self-reliance across the Islands, a press release from Directorate of Industries said.

National Handicrafts Week celebration begins in Isle Handicraft Fair & Exhibition being organized at ANE-Sagarika to showcase vibrant diversity of local crafts & cultural traditions

Sri Vijaya Puram, Dec. 8
The National Handicrafts Week is being celebrated by Directorate of Industries in A&N Islands from Dec. 8 to 14 to honour the skill, creativity, and resilience of India's artisans. The event commemorates the invaluable contribution of craftspeople while reaffirming the nation's commitment to preserving and promoting India's rich handicraft traditions.



This campaign aims to enhance market visibility, access, and income for craftspeople while embodying the spirit of swadeshi and self-reliance. To mark the occasion, a Handicraft Fair and Exhibition being organised at the First Floor of AN Sagarika, showcasing the vibrant diversity of local crafts and cultural traditions. The event features live demonstrations by artisans, offering visitors a unique opportunity to witness traditional craftsmanship.

The event invited ideas and solutions from the students of the Higher Education Institutes of the Islands on crucial issues being faced by the UT. An overwhelming response was received and students wholeheartedly participated from various colleges including Pondicherry University-Andaman Campus, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Institute of Technology, Tagore Govt. College of Education, Andaman College (ANCOL) and Jawaharlal Nehru Rajkeeya Mahavidyalaya. The event was (Contd. on last page)

One-Week Compulsory Training Course for IFS Officers commences

Sri Vijaya Puram, Dec. 8
The one-week compulsory training course for the Indian Forest Service (IFS) officers on 'Coastal and Marine Biodiversity of Island Ecosystem' organised by the ZSI, A&N Islands got underway today at Sea Shell Coral Cove, Minnie Bay. A total of 21 IFS officers from various States and Union Territories are attending the



(Contd. on last page)

National Handicrafts Week celebration.....

(Contd. from page 1)
engage directly with creators of exquisite handmade products. The exhibition was inaugurated by Shri Atul Soni, Director of Industries, A&N Administration, in the presence of artisans, officials and visitors. The inauguration highlighted the Administration's sustained efforts to empower local craftspeople and promote Island-based handicrafts on a broader platform. Artisans and beneficiaries from ANE-Sagarika, Khadi Gramodyog Bhawan, Coir Board and the Departments of Rural Development, Panchayati Raj Institutions & Urban Local Bodies and Tribal Welfare are actively participating in the event. Their displays present an impressive blend of traditional and contemporary crafts that reflect the islands' distinctive cultural identity. The weeklong celebration stands as a tribute to the nation's master artisans, the custodians of a timeless legacy and reaffirms the collective resolve to sustain and elevate the Islands' handicraft sector for generations to come, a press release from Directorate of Industries said.



function is scheduled on 31st January, 2026

'Startup Hackathon & Pitching Competition' organized by Directorate of Industries gets underway

Sri Vijaya Puram, Jan. 30
As part of the Celebration of Innovation Month and the commemoration of 10 Years of Startup India, the Directorate of Industries, in association with the Higher Education Institutes of A&N Islands is organizing a 'Startup Hackathon & Pitching Competition' in the Conference Hall of Directorate of Industries which began today. The event invited ideas and solutions from the students of the Higher Education Institutes of the



Islands on crucial issues being faced by the UT. An overwhelming response was received and students wholeheartedly participated from various colleges including Pondicherry University-Andaman Campus, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Institute of Technology, Tagore Govt. College of Education, Andaman College (ANCOL) and Jawaharlal Nehru Rajkeeya Mahavidyalaya. The event was (Contd. on last page)

Sri Vijay In its co-cultivate reading learners, under the Educator second 7 Govt. Pr Garachai marking milestone child-fri spaces at level. Smt. A Deputy Educatio inaugura Library as

'Startup Hackathon & Pitching Competition'.....

(Contd. from page 1)
conceptualized under the guidance of Shri Atul Soni, Director of Industries, A&N Administration and was graced by the presence of Shri Ajit Anand, Deputy Director, who welcomed the participants and shared his thoughts and informed that the students building startups is a wonderful and exciting trend and motivated the students to think out of the box. He further said that groundbreaking products or services started as simple innovation by bright minds have grown as startups and are a household name today. Shri Ummer Farooque, Chief Manager, UTLBC, who was also present in the event disseminated information about the assistance provided by the Banks while Shri E. Pratap, Deputy General Manager, NABARD stated that building a startup is a challenging but rewarding experience for entrepreneurs who are passionate about their ideas and are willing to put in the hard work to make them workable. Shri Vijay Kumar, Sr. Sanitary Inspector, SVPMC motivated the students to come up with innovative solutions on waste management. The inaugural session was followed by Startup Pitching competition and the students showcased and pitched innovative solutions to the Problem statements given that included topics such as Tourist Navigation System, Waste Management at Tourist Spots and improvement in the public Toilets. Shri Mohammed Ishaque, Deputy Director, Directorate of Industries delivered the vote of thanks and encouraged the students to participate actively in the competitions. The valedictory function is scheduled on 31st January, 2026 wherein the best ideas and solutions would be acknowledged, a press release received from Directorate of Industries said.



Directorate of Industries

