

Preface

The Andaman and Nicobar group of Islands consist of nearly 572 islands, rocks and islets with a total geographical area of 8,249 sq.km with 38 inhabited islands. The total provisional population according to 2001 census is 3,56,265. The decadal growth of population between 1971-81 was 63.93% while between 1981-1991 it was 48.70% and declined to 26.94% between 1991-2001. Population density is 43 persons per sq km. The rise in population can mainly be attributed to in-migration. Within the total population, the tribal population is 26,770 as per the 1991 census.

Planned development in these islands commenced in 1956. The outlay in the 2nd, 3rd, & 4th Five Year Plan was very meager and negligible infrastructure facilities could only be created. The size of the 5th & 6th Plan were also modest. The process of infrastructure development started only from 6th Five Year Plan.

The spending capacity of the Administration became substantial only from the Seventh Plan onwards when the outlay was comparable. The achievement was Rs.233.24 crores as against an outlay of Rs.285 crores. During the Eight Plan as against an initially determined outlay for the five-year period of Rs.685 crores, the actual achievement was Rs. 892.09 crores.

The performance of plan expenditure from 2nd Five Year Plan to 8th Five year plan is self explanatory.

Plan Period	Plan Putlay (Rs.in crores)	Plan Expdr. (Rs. in crores)	% age
Second Plan (1956-61)	6.03	3.64	60.50%
Third Plan(1961-66)	9.79	6.36	64.96%
Annual Plan (1966-69)	6.83	6.00	87.85%
Fourth Plan (1969-74)	14.00	14.70	105.00%
Sixth Plan 1980-85)	96.60	100.06	103.58%
Seventh Plan (1985-90)	285.00	234.091	82.42%
Annual Plan (1990-91)	97.00	94.38	97.30%
Annual Plan 1991-92)	154.50	148.85	96.14%
Eigth Plan 1992-1997)	685.00	892.09	130.23%
Ninth Plan (1997-2002)	1535.00	1747.41	113.84%

The outlay and expenditure during the years 1997-1998 to 2001-2002 are given below highlight the administration's commitment to development:

Plan Period	Agreed Outlay	Expenditure	% of Achievement
1997-1998	Rs.261.84	Rs.253.43	96.79
1981-1999	Rs.320.00	Rs.317.39	99.19
1999-2000	Rs.400.00	Rs.398.62	99.66
2000-2001	Rs.415.78	Rs.412.45	99.20
2001-2002	Rs.370.00	Rs.365.52	98.79
Total	Rs.1767.62	Rs.1747.41	98.86

During the first plan year of the 10th 5 year plan the plan expenditure was 99.76%. This achievement of plan expenditure is the highest in the country.

The total allocation for the Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-2007) as approved by the Planning Commission is Rs.2483.00 crores. Sector/sub-sector allocation of Annual Plan 2003-2004 is Rs.410.00 crores. Sector-wise distribution of revised allocation of Rs.410.00 crores for the year 2003-04 is tentatively as follows:-

(Rs. in crores)		
Sl.No.	Name of Sector	2003-2004
1.	Agriculture & Allied Activities	27.60
2.	Rural Development	29.75
3.	Irrigation & Flood Control	4.00
4.	Energy	27.00
5.	Industry & Minerals	6.00
6.	Transport	162.70
7.	Island Communication	1.50
8.	Science & Technology	0.40
9.	General Economic Services	9.70
10.	Social Services	132.20
11.	General Services	9.15
	Total	410.00

The total allocation proposed for the local self-government institutions i.e. Panchayati Raj Institutions and Municipal Council, in form of Grant-in-aid is Rs.70.55 crores, which is 17.20% of the allocation of Rs.410.00 crores. This apart, Rs.10.00 crores under PMGSY scheme has been proposed for the Zilla Parishad/PRIs.

A&N ISLANDS AT A GLANCE

Location	Bay of Bengal 92 ⁰ to 94 ⁰ East Longitude 6 ⁰ to 14 ⁰ North Latitude
Area	8.249 sq. km (Andaman –6408 sq. kms Nicobar-1841 sqm km)
Capital	Port Blair
Districts	2 (Andamans & Nicobars)
Distance	1255 kms from Kolkatta, 1190 from Chennai and 1200 kms from Vizag, 680 kms from Phuket
Attitude	Varies from Sea level to 732 metres (highest Point-Saddle Peak) in Northern Andaman near Kalipur beach
Temperature	Mean Minimum 23 ⁰ C, Mean Maximum 30 ⁰ C
Rainfall	3000 mms (May to mid-September & November to January)
Relative Humidity	70% to 99%
Total Population	3,56,265(As per provisional population Census-2001)
Literacy Rate	81.18 & (As per provisional population Census-2001)
Forest cover	92%
Best Season	October to May
Clothing	Cotton throughout the year
Language spoken	Hindi, Bengali, Malayalam, Tamil Telgu, Punjabi, Nicobarese, English.
ISD Code	+92 –3192
STD Code	03192

ACCESS

By Air:

- Port Blair is connected with Chennai and Kolkatta by air. Presently flights are operated by Alliance Air on Kolkata-Port Blair and Chennai-Port Blair Sector.
- Jet Airways operates on Chennai and Port Blair sector.

By Sea:

- Five passenger-cum-cargo vessels ply to Port Blair from Chennai, Kolkatta and Visakhapatnam/Vizag.
- 14 private cargo vessels of combined capacity of 12775 MT are also operating.