

PRESS NOTE

Steps Taken to Strengthen Port Operations: Tender Floated for Tug Services

The Ports of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands handle Passenger Vessels, Cargo Ships, Inter-Island Ferries and visiting Naval and Coast Guard Vessels. Tugs play a critical role in ensuring safe, efficient and reliable port operations in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, owing to the unique geographical, environmental and operational conditions of the region.

Given the remoteness of the Islands from the mainland, uninterrupted port operations are vital for the movement of essential commodities, fuel, construction material and emergency supplies. In view of the increasing maritime traffic and strategic importance of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, adequate tug availability is essential for maintaining operational efficiency, safety and continuity of port services. At present, Port Operations are supported by one departmental Tug, with additional assistance from Naval Tugs resulting in operational constraints.. There has been a persistent demand from Port users for augmentation of Tug services at the Ports of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Accordingly, Port Management Board, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, has floated a tender for the Supply, Manning, Operation and Maintenance of one Tug for a period of three (03) years. The proposed engagement of an additional Tug is intended to strengthen Port operational capacity, reduce vessel waiting time and enhance overall service delivery.

The tender has been floated in accordance with established procurement procedures and is available on the e-Procurement portals www.eprocure.andamannicobar.gov.in and www.eprocure.gov.in. The scheduled date of opening of bids is 10.01.2026.

The Port Management Board remains committed to ensuring safe, reliable and efficient Port Operations and continue to take necessary measures to address operational requirements in a timely manner.