



Department of Industries (उद्योग विभाग)

Andaman and Nicobar Administration



QUARTERLY

(February – April 2025)

Newsletter

Explore the vibrant progress and empowering initiatives undertaken from February – April 2025



2nd
Edition

Monday 17th May, 2025





**Building
Capacity,**



**Fostering
Innovation,**



**Streamlining
Business.**

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

Key Highlights



PM Vishwakarma
2309
Beneficiaries Enrolled



Women in Business
30
Women-Led Startups



Startup Ecosystem
72
Startups Recognized
by DPIIT



Community Engagement
267+
Students on Educational Tours



Skill Development
242
In Year-long Training



Market Support
₹1.68 Cr+
Marketing Assistance Sales

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.





Task Force Visit on Compliance Reduction & Deregulation

Driving Ease of Doing Business

Reinforcing the Administration's commitment to enhancing the ease of doing business, Shri Vijay Kumar, Chairman Inland Waterways Authority of India and the designated Task Force Member for A&N Islands, visited Sri Vijaya Puram on March 22nd, 2025.

He was accompanied by a high-level team of 06 officers representing key government bodies, including the Cabinet Secretariat, DPIIT, MSME, and NITI Aayog, highlighting the national importance placed on this initiative.

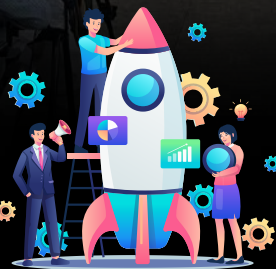
Constituted on January 24, 2025, under the chairpersonship of the Cabinet Secretary, the Task Force on Compliance Reduction and Deregulation was formed to identify and address regulatory burdens hindering economic activity. It had identified 23 Priority Areas spanning critical sectors such as Land Use, Building & Construction, Labour, Overarching Priorities, and Utilities & Permissions, and shared these in a dedicated docket for A&N.

During their visit, the Task Force Member and his team engaged in crucial discussions with line departments and stakeholders from the A&N Islands. The focus was intently on reviewing these identified Priority Areas and collaboratively charting the way forward for effective Compliance Reduction and Deregulation, aiming to create a more investor-friendly and efficient business climate.





Startup 20 Pitching 25



Fostering Innovation

The Directorate of Industries championed the spirit of innovation by organizing "Startup Pitching 2025" on February 20th, 2025, at the Conference Hall.

This dynamic event served as a crucial platform for aspiring entrepreneurs, students, and youths from across the Islands to showcase their creativity and problem-solving skills. Around 100 participants, including students from Higher Education Institutes such as JNRM, Tagore Govt. College of Engineering, ITI, DBRAIT, and Pondicherry University Andaman Campus, as well as local entrepreneurs and youths, attended.

The Directorate of Industries championed the spirit of innovation by organizing "Startup Pitching 2025" on February 20th, 2025, at the Conference Hall.



The event featured engaging Pitching Sessions on Innovative Ideas, where participants presented their solutions to real-life problems.

It also included a stimulating Pitching Competition focused on Logo, Slogans, and Promotional Videos, encouraging participants to refine their branding and communication strategies.

Startup Pitching 2025 successfully brought together some of the most promising ideas and entrepreneurial spirits, highlighting the potential for innovation within the Islands.

Andaman Food Tech Conclave

Boosting Industry Focus

Organized on February 21st, 2025, at Hotel Sinclairs Bay View, the “Andaman Food Tech Conclave” brought a sharp focus to a vital sector for the Islands.

The Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC), Kolkata, under the support of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Government of India, associated with the Directorate of Industries, A&N Administration, organized this significant event.

The conclave served as a crucial platform, bringing together approximately 142 participants including industry experts, stakeholders, and entrepreneurs. Its primary aim was to brainstorm and deliberate on the significant scope and opportunities available within the Food Processing sector in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

The event was inaugurated by Ms. Pallavi Sarkar, IAS, Secretary (Agri/Fisheries/VS&AH), Andaman & Nicobar Administration, underscoring the Administration's support for this key industry.

The Conclave facilitated valuable discussions, fostering collaboration and identifying pathways for growth and value addition in the region's food sector.



International Women's Day

Empowering Communities

On March 8th, 2025, the Industries Department hosted a vibrant celebration of International Women's Day in its Conference Hall, honoring the significant contributions of women in entrepreneurship and self-employment. The event was graced by Shri Rakesh Das, Director of Industries (Chief Guest), Shri Mohd. Ishaque, Deputy Director, and Ms. Sunita Kumari, Deputy Director (Special Guests).

A key highlight was the inspiring session where three successful women entrepreneurs shared their journeys, detailing how they established ventures through schemes like PMEGP, PMFME, and the Startup scheme. Their powerful stories served as motivation for attendees.

Director Shri Rakesh Das lauded their resilience and emphasized the crucial role of women entrepreneurs, reiterating the Department's commitment to support. The celebration also included engaging activities and cultural performances, making the event both informative and enjoyable. Ms. Meera Nambiar, ACF, concluded with encouragement for women to pursue their business dreams.





Quarterly Review

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.



(February - April 2025)



Scheme Implementation & Outreach

Efforts to connect communities with government schemes and facilitate business growth continued through targeted awareness campaigns and camps.

Throughout the quarter, the Department significantly intensified efforts to connect citizens and businesses with vital government schemes.

Extensive awareness campaigns for initiatives like PM Vishwakarma were conducted across numerous villages and locations, complementing targeted programs for MSMEs and general multi-scheme promotion.

These outreach activities facilitated enrollment and informed beneficiaries about available support, contributing to the growth in scheme participation figures, such as the over 2300 PM Vishwakarma enrollments recorded by the end of April.



Scheme Implementation & Outreach

February 2025

PM Vishwakarma Outreach in Nicobar

Extensive awareness campaigns were conducted in villages across Car Nicobar, including

- Small Lapathy (Feb 3),
- Big Lapathy (Feb 4),
- Tapoiming (Feb 5 & 18),
- Tamaloo (Feb 7), and
- Malacca (Feb 13),

connecting tribal communities with the scheme. (Involved Fisheries Dept, VLW, ITI staff).



MSME Competitive (LEAN) Awareness

Programs held at Diglipur Extn Office (Feb 13, 63 entrepreneurs) and Directorate of Industries (Feb 19, 102 participants), promoting competitiveness for MSMEs.



Total Feb Awareness Programs

Total Feb Awareness Programs (N&M Andaman & Nicobar Dists) are 18 programs reaching 676 participants.



Scheme Implementation & Outreach

March 2025

Multi-Scheme Awareness Program

An Awareness cum Motivation Programme covering various essential schemes (skill development, PMEGP, PM Vishwakarma, PMFME, marketing assistance) was organized on March 13th at Ratri Niwas, Haddo (57 participants incl. SHG members), in association with SVPMC, Coir Board, DIC, MSME-DI, and NGOs.



April 2025

PM Vishwakarma Special Enrollment Camp

Organized at AC Office, Rangat (Apr 17), facilitating enrollment and online registration for Vishwakarmas.



PM Vishwakarma Awareness Programs

Continued outreach included sessions at

- 📍 Naveen Nagar GP (Apr 7, 16 participants),
- 📍 Rangat (Apr 17, 45 participants),
- 📍 Mayabunder (Apr 21, 32 participants), and
- 📍 Diglipur-Subhashgram GP (Apr 22, 84 participants).





Skill Development & Training

The Department delivered a wide array of training programs, building practical skills and creating livelihood opportunities across various sectors.

Building capacity and empowering individuals through practical skills remained a central focus throughout the quarter.




A diverse portfolio of short-term training programs was delivered across the Islands, covering traditional crafts like handicrafts, value-added processes in food production, and essential livelihood skills such as poultry/dairy farming.

These initiatives reached hundreds of participants, complementing the ongoing year-long conventional industrial training programs which continue to equip 242 candidates with foundational skills in various trades, preparing them for employment and entrepreneurship.



February 2025

Trainings

1.  **Handicrafts (Coconut Shell):** 15-day training began Feb 11th at Tushnabad GP (21 trainees).
2.  **Food & Vegetable Value Addition:** Two-day trainings held at Diglipur Extn Office (Feb 14-15, 25 women, UTATMA/Agri Dept) and Nishchintapur, Diglipur (Feb 27-28, approx. 26 participants, UT ATMA).
3.  **Cane & Bamboo Handicraft:** Two-day training took place Feb 27-28th at Tushnabad GP (22 candidates, UT ATMA/Agri Dept).








March 2025

Trainings

1.  **Handicrafts (Tushnabad):** 15-day program concluded Mar 3rd, with valedictory Mar 4th (21 trainees).
2.  **Poultry/Dairy Training Felicitations:** 60 trainees (trained Jan-Feb) received certificates on Mar 5th.
3.  **Vocational Education Training:** One-day training on Mar 17th for 25 Special Educators/BRPs/PSRTs.
4.  **Fruit Pickle Training:** A 2-day program held Mar 17-18th at Harminder Bay, Little Andaman (assoc with ATMA).
5.  **Coconut Shell Handicraft (Sippighat):** 2-day training on Mar 10-11th (20 candidates, UT ATMA/Agri Dept).
6.  **Handicrafts (Namunaghar):** A 15-day program commenced Mar 17th (18 participants).
7.  **Coconut Shell Training (School):** One-day training at PM Sree Govt. Sr. Sec. School Subhashgram, Diglipur (Mar 12, 78 students, Bagless day).



Trainings

1.  **Namunaghar Handicrafts Training:** The 15-day program concluded on Apr 7th (20 trainees).
2.  **Academia-Industry Linkage (JNRM Students):** A 3-day training on Coconut Shell, Wooden, Cane & Bamboo Craft commenced Apr 7th at Dte Conference Hall for JNRM BA Pol Sci students (75 students daily).
3.  **Kanyapuram Handicrafts Training:** A new 15-day program commenced on Apr 16th (35 trainees).
4.  **PM Vishwakarma Training (ITI Dollygunj):** Training provided on Apr 16th to 08 trainees in Cane & Bamboo and Coconut Shell trades.
5.  **Conventional Training (Ongoing):** 242 candidates undergoing year-long training at centres in Sri Vijaya Puram, Bakultala, Diglipur, Hutbay, Car Nicobar (Wood Working, General Engineering, Cane/Bamboo, Coir, Tailoring).





Community Engagement & Awareness

Connecting with and inspiring the community, particularly the youth, remained a focus throughout the quarter.

Direct engagement with the community was a key focus, involving initiatives to connect with and inspire citizens across the Islands.

Educational tours provided valuable exposure to the industrial sector for over 267 students, broadening their career horizons and nurturing future aspirations.

Vibrant events like the Basanti Mela also served as important platforms to showcase local talent and promote products made by local artisans, fostering a stronger connection between the department's work and the community it serves.



Community Engagement & Awareness

March 2025

Educational Tours

1. **Educational Tours:** School students visited industries facilities: Govt. Sr. Sec. School Parangara, Diglipur (Mar 10, 30 students), Govt. Sr. Sec. School Ramkrishna Pur, Little Andaman (Mar 22, 115 students), Govt. Secondary, Harminder Bay Little Andaman (Mar 22, 26 students).
2. **Total March Educational Tours:** 267 students visited facilities.



April 2025

Basanti Mela, Diglipur

1. Held Apr 3rd –8th, showcasing local handicrafts, herbal products, and Khadi goods, inaugurated by Smti Sulochana Devi (Dy Education Officer).





Operational & Safety Milestones

Ensuring preparedness and compliance with directives was a key operational highlight.

Ensuring preparedness and operational readiness was a key highlight throughout the quarter.

Adhering to the Administration's directives, a crucial Earthquake and Fire Safety Drill was successfully conducted, involving active participation from department staff to reinforce safety protocols and readiness for potential emergencies.

This reflected the department's commitment to maintaining a secure working environment.



Operational & Safety Milestones

March 2025

Earthquake and Fire Safety Drill

Conducted Mar 12th at the Directorate of Industries by Dte of Disaster Management, with active Industries Dept staff participation, in accordance with the Chief Secretary's directive for quarterly mock drills.



Quarterly Snapshots

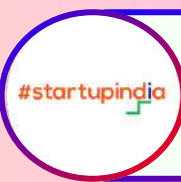
Detailed statistics reflecting the progress and reach of various schemes and programs during the quarter.

February Snapshot



PM Vishwakarma Scheme Status

- Total Enrolled Beneficiaries : **2226**
- Level-3 Approved Applicants : **732**
- Trained & Certified Beneficiaries : **406**



Startups Recognized by DPIIT

- Total Recognized : **70**
- Women-led : **30**



Marketing Assistance

- Units/Artisans Assisted : **96**
- Total Sales Value : **Rs. 66.88 Lakhs**



PMEGP Sanctions

- Bank Sanctioned Applications : **10**
- Total Project Cost : **Rs. 74.49 Lakhs**
- Margin Money Subsidy Amount : **Rs. 16.61 Lakhs**

March Snapshot



PM Vishwakarma Scheme Status

- Total Enrolled Beneficiaries : **2234**
- Level-3 Approved Applicants : **742**
- Trained & Certified Beneficiaries : **422**



Startups Recognized by DPIIT

- Total Recognized : **70**
- Women-led : **30**



Marketing Assistance

- Units/Artisans Assisted : **96**
- Total Sales Value : **Rs. 61.52 Lakhs**



PMEGP Sanctions

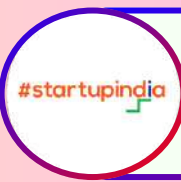
- Bank Sanctioned Applications : **05**
- Total Project Cost : **Rs. 39.53 Lakhs**

April Snapshot



PM Vishwakarma Scheme Status

- Total Enrolled Beneficiaries : **2309**
- Level-3 Approved Applicants : **840**
- Trained & Certified Beneficiaries : **438**



Startups Recognized by DPIIT

- Total Recognized : **72**
- Women-led : **30**



Marketing Assistance

- Units/Artisans Assisted : **96**
- Total Sales Value : **Rs. 40.26 Lakhs**

Highlights

RAMP Composite Competitiveness Awareness Workshop held

Sri Vijaya Puram, Mar. 17

The Ministry of MSME, Government of India, in association with the Department of Industries, A&N Administration, organized a Composite Competitiveness Awareness Workshop under the World Bank supported Central Sector Scheme 'Raising & Accelerating MSME Performance' (RAMP Programme). The RAMP Programme aims to address the challenges faced by MSMEs by way of series of interventions, including new sub schemes launched under the Programme.

The workshop aimed to raise the awareness of various initiatives for the Ministry of MSME, which include the existing schemes of the Ministry like MSME Champions Scheme, National SC/ST Hub Scheme etc. as well as the new initiatives launched under the RAMP Programme, which include - MSE Green Investment and Financing for Transformation (MSE GIFT), MSE Scheme for Promotion and Investment in Circular Economy (MSE SPICE), MSME Trade Enablement and Marketing (TEAM) initiative, Scheme on Online Dispute Resolution for Delayed Payments and other efforts supported under RAMP like TreDS and ESG etc.

The event saw active participation from large number of MSMEs, industry associations, Central and State Government, Banks and financial institutions. The representatives from NSIC, Quality Council of India, InvoiceMART etc.



made presentations on various schemes/initiatives.

Shri Vinamra Mishra, Director, Ministry of MSME, GoI informed that the composite awareness workshop is a part of 'Sarkar Aapke Dwar' outreach and that the Ministry's initiatives are being implemented for providing support to MSMEs through digital and technological solutions for increasing access to credit, market, technology, addressing the issue of delayed payments and greening of MSMEs. Further, he informed about various schemes being implemented by the Ministry for improving competitiveness of MSMEs, particularly the MSME Champions Scheme and emphasized the need to promote new ideas through Hackathons and promotion of commercialization of Intellectual Property.

Dr. Milan Sharma, National PMU Head for RAMP Programme emphasized the need to bring more and more women into the folds of formalization, so as to enable them to avail benefits available under various schemes, particularly the ones focusing on women. She also emphasized the need for providing MSMEs

access to digital commerce and addressed the gathering about the MSME TEAM Initiative and how it can enhance access to digital market for MSMEs through ONDC. She also highlighted the new Schemes for Greening and Circularity launched under the RAMP Programme and benefits available under them.

Shri K. Chandrasekharan, President, Andaman & Nicobar Chamber of Commerce & Industry addressed the gathering and assured support of the MSMEs. He appreciated the Ministry's effort for generating awareness about various initiatives related to MSMEs and the support provided to MSMEs under RAMP in Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

Shri Rakesh Das, Director, Department of Industries, Andaman & Nicobar Administration appreciated the efforts taken by the Ministry of MSME under RAMP Programme and urged the participants to collaborate and take advantage of the initiatives of the Ministry under the RAMP Programme for enabling dynamic growth of MSMEs, a press release from Department of Industries said.

A&NI KVIB and AH&VS organised Skill Development training on Poultry/Dairy farming

Trainees encouraged to take advantage of PMEGP & PMFME Scheme for entrepreneurial ventures

Sri Vijaya Puram, Mar. 9

The Khadi and Village Industries Board, in collaboration with the Directorate of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services (AH&VS), conducted a one-month Skill Development Training on Poultry and Dairy Farming for beneficiaries from South and North & Middle Andaman districts. The training, which commenced on 20th January, 2025, concluded on 19th February, 2025. The curriculum included both theoretical and practical training components. Senior Veterinary Officers from AH&VS Training Centres at Dollygunj, Port Mout, and Hutbay provided expert guidance to the



participants. As part of the training, beneficiaries were taken on field trips to various farms for gaining hands-on experience in poultry and dairy farming.

To mark the successful completion of the training, a valedictory programme was held on March 5 in the Conference Hall, Directorate of Industries, Sri Vijaya Puram. Shri Rakesh Das, Director of Industries and Member Secretary, A&NI KVIB, attended the event.

Directorate of Industries, were the special guests. Dr. V. Subramaniam, Senior Veterinary Officer (SVO), AH&VS and Dr. Negia Nazatha N. Areng, AH&VS, were also present on the occasion.

In his address, Shri Rakesh Das encouraged the trainees to take advantage of the Prime

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Industries Deptt. to impart free Vocational Training in Handicrafts during summer vacation for students

Sri Vijaya Puram, Apr.13

The Department of Industries, A&N Administration has invited all school students from Class IX to XII to explore the vibrant world of handicrafts through free 15-day Vocational Training Program, focusing on Coconut Shell, Wooden, and Cane & Bamboo Craft.

This program offers hands-on training from expert artisans and master craftsman. The

training is scheduled from 1st May to 15th May, 2025.

With limited seats available, this is an incredible opportunity for students to learn and grow. To register, students may submit their application at the Directorate of Industries, Udyog Parisar, Middle Point, Sri Vijaya Puram. The last date for submission is April 21, 2025, a press release from Industries Deptt. said.

Empowering Local Communities: Directorate of Industries conducts Handicrafts Training

Sri Vijaya Puram, Apr. 7

The Directorate of Industries, A&N Administration, successfully conducted a 15-day short-term skill development training program on 'Handicrafts (Coconut Shell, Wooden, and Cane & Bamboo Products)' at Namanghar Gram Panchayat from March 17 to April 7, 2025. The initiative aimed to equip participants with essential skills and knowledge in handicrafts, fostering self-employment opportunities and contributing to the local economy.

The valedictory function held today was graced by PRI members, with Shri Y. Venkateshwar Pradhan of Gram Panchayat



by the Directorate of Industries for aligning training with local initiatives, promote market demands, and generate employment. A total of 20 trainees participated in the program, showcasing their dedication to learning and applying practical skills.

This program underscores the Administration's commitment to empowering local communities through skill development and promoting economic self-reliance, a press release from

Directorate of Industries conducts Handicrafts Skill Development Training at Kanyapuram GP



Sri Vijaya Puram, May 5

The Directorate of Industries, A&N Administration organized a 15-day short-term skill development training program on Handicrafts (Coconut Shell, Wooden, and Cane & Bamboo Products) at Kanyapuram Gram Panchayat from 16th April to 5th May, 2025. A total of 35 trainees participated in the program,

gaining essential skills and hands-on experience in crafting handicrafts. This initiative aimed to promote self-employment and boost the local economy by empowering artisans with market-relevant expertise.

The valedictory function was graced by Shri P Abdul Basheer, Pradhan of Kanyapuram Gram

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Directorate of Industries launches 3-Day Skill Development Training Program for students of JNRM

Sri Vijaya Puram, Apr. 8

The Directorate of Industries, A&N Administration has commenced a three-day short-term skill development training program on 'Coconut Shell, Wooden, and Cane & Bamboo Craft' from April 7, 2025 for the students of BA Political Science (First and Second Year) from Jawaharlal Nehru Rajkanya Mahavidyalaya, Sri Vijaya Puram in the Conference Hall of Directorate of Industries, Middle Point.

The initiative aims to equip students with



practical skills in traditional craft-making, fostering creativity and self-reliance while promoting the rich cultural heritage of A&N Islands. Each day, 75 students are participating in hands-on training sessions conducted by experienced trainers,

specializing in coconut shell artistry, wooden crafts and cane & bamboo works. The Instructors/Trainers from the Directorate of Industries emphasized the importance of skill development in empowering youth and enhancing their

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Empowering future leaders: Industries Department hosts startup pitching 2025

Sri Vijaya Puram, Feb. 20

In yet another step towards empowering the students of Higher Education Institutions, the Directorate of Industries in association with Higher Education Institutions, organized an event namely Startup Pitching 2025, in the Conference Hall of Directorate of Industries.

About 120 students from different disciplines from various colleges participated. The event provided a platform to the students, entrepreneurs and youths to pitch their innovative ideas relevant to real life problems and solutions of these Islands.



The inauguration session began with insightful remarks and examples of successful startups by Shri Rakesh Das, Director of Industries. Shri Nodal Officer of Startup India, DBRAIT emphasized on identifying the problems and challenges that can impact sustainability of a successful startup. The Technical sessions commenced with a presentation on 'Understanding the Basics of Pitching' by Smriti Nazima Parveen, State Data Project Manager (SOVTECH). This was followed by

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Directorate of Industries launches... (Contd. from page 1)

employability. They also highlighted how such programs contribute to preserving indigenous crafts and promoting sustainable livelihoods in the Islands, a press release from Directorate of Industries said.



DEPARTMENT OF
INDUSTRIES

उद्योग
विभाग

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