

Great Nicobar Mega-Project: Key Details and Strategic Significance

Ground construction activities for the ₹172,000-crore Great Nicobar Island mega-development project are set to commence.

A holistic infrastructure initiative comprising an International Container Transshipment Terminal, greenfield airport, power plant, and township on Great Nicobar Island.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- The development plan encompasses a total area of **16,610 hectares** phased through the target year **2047**.
- Great Nicobar Island** is situated within **Seismic Zone V**, representing India's highest seismic risk classification.
- The project's flagship component is an International Container Transshipment Terminal (**ICTT**) located at **Galathea Bay**.
- The transshipment port is planned to handle a capacity of **14.2 million TEUs** upon full development.
- Galathea Bay lies just **40 nautical miles** away from the **Strait of Malacca**, one of the world's busiest maritime trade corridors.
- The project includes a greenfield international airport designed to accommodate up to **10 million annual passengers**.

STATICS & SYLLABUS FOCUS

Ten Degree Channel separates the Andaman Group of Islands from the Nicobar Group of Islands in the Bay of Bengal.

Indira Point, located on the southern tip of **Great Nicobar Island**, is the southernmost point of Indian Territory.

Galathea National Park and **Campbell Bay National Park** are the two prominent national parks located on Great Nicobar Island.

Great Nicobar Biosphere Reserve was added to **UNESCO's** World Network of Biosphere Reserves in the year **2013**.

Six Degree Channel (Great Channel) separates Great Nicobar Island from the **Sumatra Island** of Indonesia.

The **Shompen** and Nicobarese tribes are the indigenous Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (**PVTGs**) inhabiting Great Nicobar.

Barren Island, situated in the Andaman Sea, holds South Asia's and India's only **active volcano**.

REVISION FLASHCARD

Galathea Bay ICTT lies 40 nautical miles from Malacca Strait in Seismic Zone V with 14.2M TEU planned capacity.

Syllabus Relevance: Highly critical for Unit 3 Geography questions concerning Andaman & Nicobar geography, channels, and port infrastructure.

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