



भारतीय नौसेना

Press Release (Port Blair) - 08 Mar 11

CHARTERED FLIGHT FOR DEFENCE PERSONNEL OF ANC

With a view to improve the connectivity to mainland for defence personnel of Andaman & Nicobar Command posted in the A & N Islands, chartered flight operations between Chennai and Port Blair by Air India commenced on 07 Mar 11. The inaugural chartered flight of Air India landed at Port Blair Airport at 9:30 AM on 07 Mar 11. Brig C Sandeepkumar, VSM, Chief Staff Officer (LA&P), Andaman & Nicobar Command along with other senior officers of the ANC were present to receive the maiden chartered flight and to welcome the troops to Port Blair.

An agreement between Andaman & Nicobar Command, Ministry of Defence and Air India to provide Charter Services between Chennai and Port Blair was concluded on 07 Feb 11, following which the inaugural flight from Chennai landed at Port Blair with 144 defence personnel as passengers. A total of 24 Charter Flights will operate in a year.



Post formation of the Tri-Services Command in 2001 and subsequent developments, the strength of defence personnel in the Islands has steadily increased. As most of the defence personnel of ANC transit via Chennai for connecting trains/ flights to other parts of the country, they were finding it difficult to commute to the mainland due to limited availability of military and civil aircrafts and ships. To address this connectivity issue, a case was taken up by ANC with the Govt. of India, Ministry of Defence for provision of Charter Flight for personnel posted at A&N Islands. This is considered a significant stride forwards towards easing the inconvenience faced by defence personnel in transit to and from the islands.