

Ref. No. BTFBO/2017/80

Date: 20th September, 2017

The Chief Secretary
Andaman & Nicobar Administration
Secretariat
Port Blair-744101

Sub: Closure of ATR and introducing of alternative sea route to Baratang for tourists-Regarding.

Sir,

With due respect and humble submission, we would like to highlight the following few lines for your kind consideration and favourable action please:-

As per the reliable sources we came to know that, the A & N Administration is going to closure Andaman Trunk Road and introducing of alternative sea route to Baratang for visitors and tourists in the first week of October, 2017.

As you are well aware that, the people of Baratang Island had purchased the FRP Boats under the scheme of **Start Up India, Pradhan Mantri Employment Guarantee programme and personal loan** and more than **hundreds of FRP Boats**. The livelihood of the stake holders will definitely be affected as hundreds of employment youths and who have been purchased tourists vehicles through Bank loans use drive their vehicles on Port Blair route for their livelihood will also be affected very badly.

That you are well aware of the shortage of Govt. Ferries in present days and it is very difficult to trust that the Govt. which is short of boats will operate for Baratang continuously. The Introduction of boat service will definitely create chaos among the visiting tourists who will not able to visit Baratang due to shortage of boat and the flow of tourists will definitely decrease for North & Middle Andaman. And will bring a bad reputation to the tourism industry as well as the stake holders also affected very badly.

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