

Concept Note

Andaman Ideas Summit 2026

Toward a Viksit Bharat: Harnessing the Blue Water Economy

Sri Vijaya Puram, Andaman and Nicobar Islands

Date to be announced soon

The Andaman and Nicobar Islands are increasingly emerging as a critical geography in India's maritime and strategic imagination. Located close to the Malacca Strait and along some of the busiest sea lanes in the world, the islands occupy a position of enormous strategic and economic importance in the Bay of Bengal and the wider Indo-Pacific region.

For decades, however, the islands have remained largely peripheral to India's mainstream economic planning, with discussions on development often limited to tourism and administrative governance. In recent years this narrative has begun to change. As India expands its maritime outlook and strengthens its Indo-Pacific engagement, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands are being viewed through a wider strategic and economic lens.

Questions of maritime logistics, port infrastructure, coastal supply chains, regional connectivity, tourism development and environmental sustainability are increasingly shaping the policy conversation around the islands. At the same time, their strategic role in safeguarding India's maritime interests and monitoring critical sea lanes has grown significantly in the evolving geopolitical environment.

It is within this context that the **Andaman Ideas Summit 2026** is being conceived as a first-of-its-kind policy forum in the islands dedicated to examining the region's long-term development trajectory. The summit seeks to create a platform for informed dialogue among policymakers, infrastructure leaders, maritime experts, industry participants, investors and development practitioners on how the islands can play a larger role in India's economic and strategic future.

The summit is designed to move beyond conventional discussions on tourism and instead place the islands within the broader framework of India's maritime economy and blue water strategy. The conversations will examine how infrastructure investments, shipping networks, logistics corridors, tourism development and sustainable environmental practices can be aligned to unlock the islands' full potential.

A key objective of the summit is to explore how the Andaman and Nicobar Islands can emerge as an important node in India's maritime economy. Their proximity to major international shipping routes, their strategic location within the Bay of Bengal and their potential for tourism, marine resources and logistics services offer opportunities that remain largely underexplored.

The summit will therefore focus on several key areas of discussion. These include maritime logistics and regional connectivity, the development of port-led infrastructure and coastal supply chains, sustainable tourism and environmental resilience, blue economy opportunities and trade linkages, and the strategic and defence dimensions of the islands within India's Indo-Pacific framework. The discussions will also examine governance models and policy approaches suited to island territories.

The Andaman Ideas Summit will bring together a curated group of policymakers, industry leaders, infrastructure developers, logistics stakeholders, maritime strategists, defence experts, investors and researchers engaged in shaping India's maritime and island development agenda. Participation in the summit will be by invitation.

As India moves toward the vision of **Viksit Bharat**, the role of maritime infrastructure, coastal economies and regional connectivity is expected to grow significantly. The Andaman and Nicobar Islands, because of their geography and strategic relevance, are uniquely positioned to become an important part of this transformation.

The **Andaman Ideas Summit 2026** seeks to initiate a serious and forward-looking conversation on how this potential can be realised through thoughtful policy design, strategic investment and collaborative dialogue.

Further details about the summit, participation and concept framework are available at <https://andamanideas.com/>.

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