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पुलिस अधीक्षक (अग्निशमन) कार्यालय  
**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE (FIRE)**  
अंडमानतथानिकोबार द्वीपसमूह  
**Andaman & Nicobar Islands**

Port Blair, dated the 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2020.

**PRESS RELEASE**

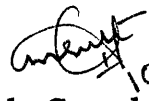
**FIRE CATASTROPHE AVERTED BY A&N FIRE SERVICE: SAVES PROPERTY WORTH CRORES.**


During the dead of the night of 9<sup>th</sup> September, 2020, the brave fire fighters of A&N Police Fire Service once again exhibited heroism in fighting the fire risking their life. On 9<sup>th</sup> September, 2020 at about 23:04 hours a fire call message was received at Fire Control Room stating that the fire broke out in a Saw Mill located near Prothrapur junction. Without losing any time, Water Tender & Water Bouzer from Fire Station Aberdeen, Marine and Garacharma were pressed into action. On reaching the spot, it was noticed that huge blaze with dense smoke was emanating from the Saw Mill viz M/s Andaman Cottage Pencil Wood Industry and therefore, additional Fire Vehicles i.e. 2 Water Tenders, Crash Tender, Water Bouzer and Water Mist from Fire Station Aberdeen, Water Tender from FS Haddo Wharf and FS Garacharma were requisitioned to augment the fire fighting operation.

The visibility was bare minimum as the saw mill was engulfed in dense smoke but the fire fighters have shown exemplary professionalism and presence of mind in dousing the fire. Breathing Apparatus sets and Disaster Management Equipment were utilised. Uninterrupted water relay to the fire vehicles was provided from the nallah adjacent to main road to replenish the tanks of conventional fire tenders. Simultaneously, the neighbouring buildings were evacuated timely to prevent any injuries or human loss.

Due to the intense efforts of staff of A&N Police Fire Service personnel, the fire was brought under control at about 01:29 hours on 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2020 after a long fire fighting operation for more than 2 ½ hours in which around 11 fire tenders including 01 Mini tender and 02 water bousers were utilised. Further, the cooling process of the remains continued till 13:25 hours of 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2020. Yet again the A&N Fire Service personnel proved their mantle by good workmanship in saving property worth crores of rupees by averting a major fire mishap in the heavily populated area.

Prima facie cause of fire appears to be short circuit. However, the technical team from Forensic Science, Electricity Dept. were requisitioned to provide their expertise to ascertain the cause of fire. The property worth Rs. 4 Crores was saved by Fire Service personnel who exhibited high sense of competence whose efforts were highly appreciated by the public and the business enterprise. Entire fire fighting operation was carried out by the staff of Fire Station Aberdeen, Marine, Chatham, Haddo Wharf and Garacharma under the supervision of Chief Fire Officer and overall supervision of Superintendent of Police (Fire), A&N Islands.

  
10/09/2020  
**(AmruthaGuguloth, IPS)**  
Superintendent of Police (Fire)  
Andaman and Nicobar Islands

  
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