

IN THE HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA
[CIRCUIT BENCH AT PORT BLAIR]

WPA/177/2025

M/s Andaman and Nicobar Seaman Union

Vs.

The Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor and others

Mr. Lokesh Chezian for the petitioner

Mr. Shatadru Chakaborty, Sr.Adv.
Mr. Rakesh Kumar
Mr. Dibesh Dwivedi ... for the respondents

March 21, 2025
[SR]
Item No.4

1. In this writ petition, the petitioner is seeking enforcement of the memorandum of agreement pertaining to the terms and conditions of the employments of Home Trade Seamen Employed on Board Inter Islands Vessels of the A & N Administration.
2. The said memorandum has been signed by the General Secretary of the Union and various authorities of the Administration. The said memorandum appears to be binding on the parties who were signatories to the memorandum dated 11th July, 2024.
3. The grievance of the petitioner is that in spite of such wage agreement, there has been no revision of the wages since 2012. The petitioner no.2 made an application under Right to Information Act, 2005 dated nil seeking certain information. The information sought and the response as communicated to the petitioner on 04.03.2025 are reproduced below:-

Information Sought for	Reply
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Kindly furnish the entire noting proceeding pertaining to file related to wage negotiation and wages of seaman in connection with Inter-Island sector dated 24.08.2024.	The file is under process
Kindly furnish the current status of wages agreement pending before the department from 08/2024 with related to revision of wage in connection with Inter-Island sector with A&N Seaman Union for the period 2012 to 2027	The file under process

4. The Assistant Marine Engineer, Public Information Officer seems to be evasive in furnishing the details although the wage agreement was concluded on 24th August,2024. The fact remains that it has not been implemented.
5. I direct the Administration to file affidavit disclosing the information as sought for dated Nil with an explanation for not enforcing the wage agreement. It is a clear infringement of the right of the crew members covered by the said wage agreement and it is expected that instead of raising technical issues, the Administration shall take positive steps to implement the memorandum of agreement at the earliest.
6. The matter shall be listed after fortnight before the next available Circuit Bench, subject to the convenience of the Bench.

(Soumen Sen, J.)