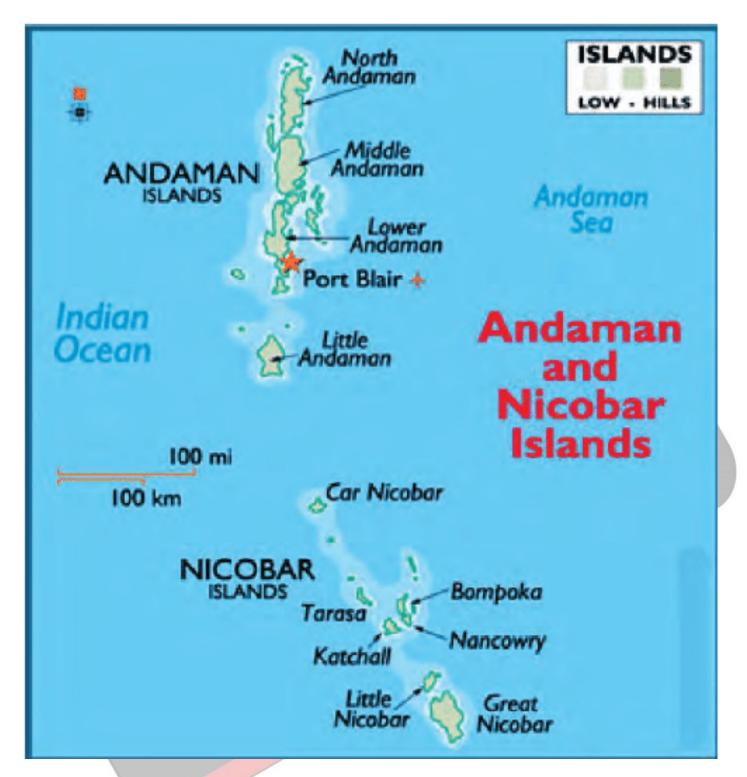


Tuna Export Hub in Andaman & Nicobar Islands

Source: TH

Recently, the **Fisheries Department** plans to develop the **Andaman and Nicobar (A&N) Islands** as a tuna export hub.

- The global tuna market is worth USD 41.94 billion and the **Indian Ocean** is considered the **second-largest tuna region**, producing **21% of the world's tuna.**
 - As per <u>Marine Products Export Development Authority</u>, India's tuna exports surged by 31.83% in 2023-24, (valued at USD 87.96 million).
- The majority of the market is made up of four tuna species namely, **Skipjack**, **Yellowfin**, **Bigeye**, and **Albacore**.
 - Due to their <u>vascular system</u>, tunas can uniquely maintain their body temperature above the surrounding water, often between 5 to 12 °C (higher than the ambient temperature).
- A&N Islands:
 - This comprises of two island groups (Andman Islands and the Nicobar Islands)
 which separates the Andaman Sea to the east from the Indian Ocean.
 - The **Ten Degree Channel** is a narrow strait that separates both the group of Islands.
 - Indira Point (situated on Great Nicobar Island) is the southernmost tip of the Nicobar Islands.
 - The ANI is home to 5 <u>Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups</u>: Great Andamanese, Jarwas, Onges, Shompens and North Sentinelese.



Read more: Andaman and Nicobar Islands to be Maritime and Startup Hub

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