

Yachting news from Andaman Islands, India

[Angelos Restanis](#) - 14 October 2016, 00:04

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PORT BLAIR, India - Managing Director of **Asia Pacific Superyachts Andaman Islands & India**, Mr.**R. Rathnam**, recently met with the Minister of Tourism, Art & Culture of the Government of India, Dr.**Mahesh Sharma** regarding easing visits in the yachting and tourism sectors. The meeting and discussion concerned government support in providing an e-Visa facility for the Andaman Islands to help in growing Yacht and Cruise tourism in the Andamans.

Joining the gentleman was Mr. **M. Vinod**, State Convener of Tourism, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, also serving as the President of the Andaman Association of Tour Operators, the group that organized the meeting with the Minister.

The discussion concerned the introduction of an e-Visa facility in the seaport and airport of Port Blair, India with the purpose of awarding arriving foreigners with a visa upon arrival.

Mr. Rathnam reports Dr. Mahesh was very happy to know there are direct arrivals in the Andaman and as a result of the meeting, will now recommend to extend this facility in the Andamans.

"This will give a great boost to the yacht tourism and cruise tourism to Andaman and Nicobar Islands", comments Mr. Rathnam, adding; "Now the yachts must apply for their visa(s) in their home country. This makes it very difficult for the yachts to visit the Andaman Islands. Once the e-Visa facility is extended it will be a great boost for yacht tourism and cruise tourism in the Andaman Islands."

The good news will be welcomed by yachts and superyachts from the far corners of the globe, interested in cruising the many beautiful islands and attractions of the Andaman Islands from Port

Blair. "We'll keep our clients and others interested in the Andamans advised of the progress and development of e-Visa facilities in the Andamans", concluded Mr. Rathnam.

Photo caption (left to right): Asia Pacific Superyachts Andaman Islands Managing Director, Mr. R. Rathnam; Minister of Tourism, Art & Culture of the Government of India, Dr. Mahesh Sharma; Mr. M. Vinod, State Convener of Tourism, Andaman and Nicobar Islands & President of the Andaman Association of Tour Operators