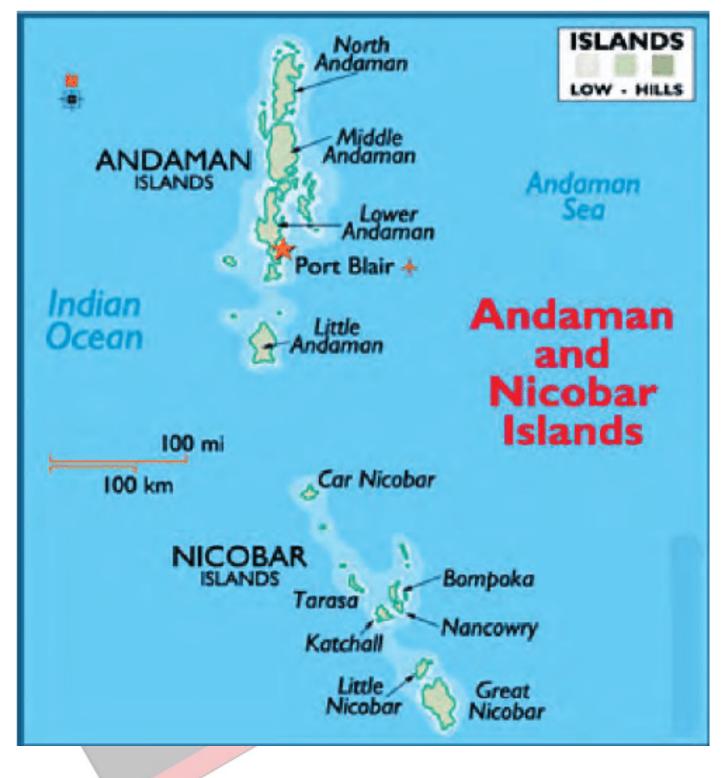
Tuna Export Hub in Andaman & Nicobar Islands

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 **vascular system**, 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 Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups: Great Andamanese, Jarwas, Onges, Shompens and North Sentinelese.



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

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