**Case History**
Port Blair, Andaman & Nicobar Islands

**Where:**
Andaman Electricity Department; Port Blair, Andaman & Nicobar Islands (India)

**What:**
Three 1000 kW Rental Power units with synchronizing panel

**Purpose:**
Improve power reliability and meet occasional emergency requirements

**Primary choice factors:**
Reliable source of supplementary power system that could be commissioned rapidly upon order placement

---

Local government provides more reliable power with Rental Power from Cummins Power Generation

ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS, INDIA — The Indian district of Andaman, which includes the islands of Andaman & Nicobar, depended solely on diesel power generation from generators located on individual islands. Many of the generators were manufactured by Cummins Power Generation Inc., and have been in use for years on local military installations and other parts of the islands. That is why the local government once again turned to Cummins Power Generation to meet their expanding power needs.

At one point, a power failure in the capital city of Port Blair came at an especially bad time. The power outage came during peak summer months — when the demand for power is always at its highest — because a generator set from another manufacturer failed and could not be repaired quickly. The resulting power shortage affected essential services and domestic power supplies, interrupting final examinations for school students and daily life for many of the capital’s 100,000 residents.
Not long afterward, the Andaman & Nicobar Electricity Board looked for ways to improve emergency power supplies and prevent similar failures in the future. Due to the sustained performance and prompt service it had received in the past, the board asked Cummins Power Generation to provide the equipment. In fact, Cummins Power Generation was its only choice of vendor. The utility ordered three 1000 kW Rental Power units with synchronizing panel for a six-month rental.

As soon as they were in place, the gensets were connected to the grid and put in service.

**Multiple challenges**

The request was urgent, and the demands were considerable. In addition to a specified delivery lead time of less than a month, the installation included many logistical problems. For example, the island had limited provisions for accepting shipments of heavy equipment, or for transporting it from the port to its intended location. Beyond the physical obstacles, local laws had to be overcome as well. Even though Port Blair has regular shipping connections to the mainland cities of Kolkata, Chennai and Vishakhapatnam, customs regulations did not allow container shipments larger than 20 feet.

To work around those limitations in time and space, the commissioning team cut the base rails into two pieces. This made it possible to transport the units in smaller shipping containers and reassemble them on the islands. The three gensets were leased from GOEM Powerica, Bangalore, and assembled at its Pondicherry facility. They were then packed into containers and transported to Chennai Port for shipment to Andaman Island.

**Welcome relief from an ongoing problem**

As soon as they were in place, the gensets were connected to the grid and put in service. All three began working around the clock, supplying HT power to the grid. This was welcome relief to the Andaman & Nicobar Electricity Board.

With installation and service help from Cummins Power Generation, the three gensets were able to maintain 95% uptime. Island residents, like the utility, were pleased with the reliable power supply. Both groups were sufficiently impressed with the performance of Cummins Power Generation and the gensets that they extended the original contract of six months by another four — then another four, and so on, for a total tenure of 33 months.

For more information about Rental Power or other energy solutions, contact your local Cummins Power Generation distributor or visit www.cumminspower.com/rental.