

Scuba divers from the *Infiniti* Live-aboard rescue fishing boat & crew off a remote island in the Andamans

April 28th, 2016 : Last week, professional scuba divers the *Infiniti* live-aboard, India's pioneering scuba diving yacht, rescued a fishing boat that had become adrift and drifted all the way to Barren Island, a remote island in the Andamans. The island is completely uninhabited & hosts an active volcano which is currently erupting dramatically with smoke and flashes of hot lava. The island is remote, far away from Port Blair or any other island and hardly anyone ventures in those waters.

Barren Island is mainly of interest to scuba divers as the waters around it feature unique topographic features, lush corals, superior visibility & exotic marine life such as whales, manta rays, dolphins, sharks and more. However, due to remoteness of the island, dayboats venture here only rarely. The island is accessible to divers mainly via a live-aboard yacht (i.e. a large yacht with all facilities to stay on it for several days at a time). There is only one such live-aboard that operates scuba diving trips in the Andaman Islands – the *Infiniti* live-aboard.

Fishing boat MV Powmay had departed Mayabunder for fishing on April 17th, 2016 but suffered an engine failure and drifted to Barren Island, with seven fishermen onboard. For days, they did not see any other vessel and were getting more and more lost in the Andaman Sea which stretches upto Myanmar and Thailand.

Fortunately for MV Powmay and the stranded fishermen, the *Infiniti* live-aboard was on a dive trip to Barren Island with a group of divers from America. The onboard dive team of the *Infiniti* comprises of professional divers who are trained in rescue, including underwater rescue and first aid. The *Infiniti* team spotted the drifting fishing vessel that had been adrift for several days, and assured them of help. Using sophisticated onboard communication electronics, they made contact with MRCC at Port Blair and arranged for an Indian Coast Guard ship to be deployed to tow the fishing boat & its crew back to Mayabunder safely.

Speaking about the incident, Sunil Bakshi, founder & CEO of the *Infiniti* said, "the fishermen were extremely relieved that the *Infiniti* came to Barren Island that day. They had been adrift at sea for several days which is a harrowing ordeal for anyone and especially in the remote islands where there are usually no boats. I am glad that we were able to help them out."

About the *Infiniti*: The *Infiniti* is India's pioneering scuba diving live-aboard (yacht) operating dive trips in the Andaman Islands. The 135 feet long yacht has four decks and is equipped with all facilities for a comfortable stay for groups upto 12 including spacious guest rooms, lounges, sun decks, kitchen, dining room, bathrooms etc. The *Infiniti* specializes in scuba diving with all equipment & an expert dive team; and hosts divers from all over the world. Diving the

remote Andaman Islands with the *Infiniti* live-aboard is among top 20 experiences of India.

For more details, visit: www.InfinitiLiveAboard.com