

**FREE AT YANAR TRADERS**  
**Opening**  
**BEST PRICE**

For more information, visit: [www.yanartraders.com](http://www.yanartraders.com)

**NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)**

**SAFETY MEASURES**

**Thought for today**  
**Tolerance wins the hearts of others.**

## IGNOU re-registration date extended

Port Blair, Dec 16: The website link at Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) site [www.ignou.ac.in](http://www.ignou.ac.in) is open to pay the Re-Registration fee for January, 2022 session. In IGNOU, Re-registration is the process of payment of fees for the subsequent year of study for a particular academic programme. The students are advised to log on to IGNOU site for timely payment of their 2nd year or 3rd year fees. Similarly BCA, MCA students are advised to pay the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th semester fees through online. The last date of online Re-Registration is extended upto 31st December 2021.

## DNA delegation raises media related issues before DC(SA)



Port Blair, Dec 16: A delegation of media persons consisting of Mr. K Ganeshan, President, Daily Newspaper Association (DNA Proposed), Mr. Vijay Kr. Roy, Editor-in-Chief, The Echo of India and Mr. Sanjib Kr. Roy, Andaman Sheekha on Thursday met Mr. Suneel Anchipaka, Deputy Commissioner (SA) and raised various issues concerning the local print media. They apprised the Deputy Commissioner about the issues and challenges faced by the local print media. Issues such as fast clearance of pending advertisement bills by government departments of the administration, enhanced government advertisements to local print media etc. were discussed. The Deputy Commissioner (SA) said that local media here has been playing an important role by way of raising issues concerning the general public. He assured all possible support to the media here.

## MP demands two additional power generators for Swaraj Dweep

Port Blair, Dec 16: The Member of Parliament of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma requested the Chief Secretary of Andaman and Nicobar Administration to install at least two new DG sets in the island by Administration so that sufficient power is generated in Swaraj Dweep for the general public and also for the Tourism Infrastructures. In a letter to the Chief Secretary, the Member of Parliament said that the Swaraj Dweep Island is witnessing several hour long power cuts every day and the reason behind these long power interruptions is the gap between demand and supply of total power requirement of the Island. He added that since 2018 correspondences are being made in this regard to send some additional power generators for Swaraj Dweep because the present DG sets installed in Swaraj Dweep are unable to meet the power requirements in the Island due to increase in Tourist inflow. The Member of Parliament mentioned that during Covid-19 lockdown the power requirement was low in Swaraj Dweep and hence in last one and half year the problem was not serious but with increase in number of tourist arrival, the power requirement has gone up, resulting in 7 to 8 hour long power cuts in Swaraj Dweep on daily basis. He mentioned that as Tourism is the main industry of A & N Islands and it provides thousands of jobs, this issue kindly be taken up on priority.

## BSNL upgrades Broadband plans in A & N Islands

**:: DJ Venkatesh ::**  
 \* Data of all the plans marginally increased  
 \* The Bandwidth in DSL remains upto 10Mbps while in FTTH you will get upto 300 Mbps as per plan.  
 \* The Landline call is now chargeable to other networks in DSL  
 Port Blair, Dec 16: BSNL updated Broadband plans in Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The Reformulation of existing Bharat Fibre/DSL Broadband plans was done in Andaman and Nicobar telecom circle with immediate effect. The CGMT Andaman and Nicobar circuit took up the matter for plans up-gradation on 22 Nov, 21. See... Page 02

## ANTCC celebrates 50th anniversary of Bangladesh Liberation War

Port Blair, Dec 16: The Andaman & Nicobar Territorial Congress Committee (ANTCC) celebrated the 51st anniversary of Bangladesh Liberation War 1971 during a simple yet impressive function held at Gandhi Bhawan here on Thursday. The function was organized under the chairmanship of ANTCC President Shri. Rangal Halder, ANTCC Campaign Committee Chairman Shri. TSG Bhaskar and DCC President Shri. V.K. Abdul Aziz. They paid homage to the 4,000 soldiers killed in the battle and the winners of 513 Vir Chakra, 77 Mahavir Chakra and 4 Param Vir Chakra.



## Gujarat Gov., with CIARI holds awareness on 'Zero Budget Natural Farming'



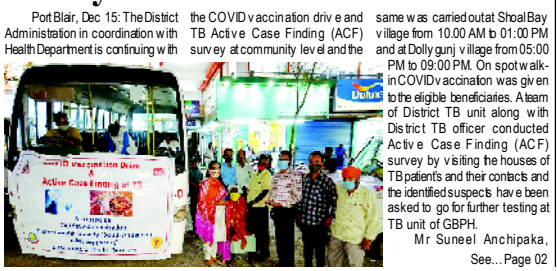
Port Blair, Dec 16: The Government of Gujarat organized three-days 'National Conference on Natural Farming (Zero Budget Natural Farming)' from 14th to 16th December, 2021, at Sardar Patel Auditorium, Amul, Anand, Gujarat. On its concluding day, Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi, addressed farmers of the country through video conference. ICAR-KVK, CIARI, Port Blair made elaborate arrangements for the island farmers to attend the programme at its various stations. In all, 105 farmers and 48 officials attended at its Research Campus, Garachampa; 86 farmers and 5 officials at KVK, Nimbudora; and 21 farmers and 2 officials at KVK, Car Nicobar. Addressing the country through video conference.

## District Consultative Committee meets



Port Blair, Dec 15: The District Consultative Committee of South Andaman District was held under the Chairmanship of Shri Suneel Anchipaka, Deputy Commissioner, South Andaman at Conference Hall, District Office to review the performance of Banks under Annual Credit Plan, Central Sponsored Schemes and Flagship Schemes of Govt. of India. The Deputy Commissioner, South Andaman advised the banks to give more thrust on Social Security Schemes (Jan Suraksha Yojna) like Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojna (PMBSY), Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojna (PMJJBY) and Atal Pension Scheme etc.

## "Har Ghar Dastak" campaign by District Administration



Port Blair, Dec 15: The District Administration in coordination with Health Department is continuing with the COVID vaccination drive and TB Active Case Finding (ACF) survey at community level and the same was carried out at Shoal Bay village from 10:00 AM to 01:00 PM and at Dollygunj village from 05:00 PM to 09:00 PM. On spot walk-in COVID vaccination was given to the eligible beneficiaries. A team of District TB unit along with District TB officer conducted Active Case Finding (ACF) survey by visiting the houses of TB patients and their contacts and the identified suspects have been asked to go for further testing at TB unit of GBPH. Mr Suneel Anchipaka, See... Page 02

## Board exams: CBSE stops physical evaluation of OMR answer sheets at centers

Port Blair, 16<sup>th</sup> Dec, 2021: The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) on Thursday classes 10 and 12 board examinations. The decision came into effect from today December 16, it said. The board, however, did not cite any reason for the sudden change in norms when the exams are underway. "The practice of evaluation on the same day in the examination centre is being stopped from December 16. All the Centre Superintendents will pack See... Page 02

## Nareish visits Govt. Secondary School Junglighat



Port Blair, Dec 16: To Check Cleanliness and Sanitation under Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Shri Nareish Chander Lal, Ambassador of swachh Bharat Mission Andaman & Nicobar Islands today visited the Govt. Secondary School Junglighat. During the visit, he interacted with the teachers and students and urged them to maintain Cleanliness at their School as well as to their respective localities. Shri Lal also urged them to follow Covid Protocol seriously to protect themselves from Corona. Talking about 'Azadi Ka See... Page 02

## Doordarshan telecast

Port Blair, Dec 16: Doordarshan Kendra here will telecast DOCTORS SPEAK Live Phone in programme on the topic "Mental health problems in children on Adolescents" tomorrow from 5 pm to 6 pm. In the programme, Dr. Kunal Kumar Baidya, will be the expert. Viewers can participate in the LIVE Phone-in programme on by dialing 247475 / 9476046367.

**T.S. Guruswamy & Son's IS NOW ONLINE**

Download our app now

STAY SAFE AT HOME GET OUR PRODUCTS AT YOUR DOORSTEPS

Free Home Delivery

For Queries 80010 50888

## "VIJAY DIWAS-2021" Celebration at Military Station Birchgunj

Port Blair, Dec 16: "Swarim Vijay Diwas 2021" was celebrated on 16 December 2021 to commemorate the splendid victory achieved by India over Pakistan 50 years ago which saw the emergence of Bangladesh as an independent nation while India rose as a regional power to reckon with. With this decisive victory over a formidable opponent the Armed Forces of India once again affirmed themselves as a strong component of National power. The 1971 Indo-Pak War began with Pakistan launching pre-emptive air strikes against 11 Indian airbases on 03 December 1971. The war was forced upon due to widespread genocide of people of East Pakistan carried out by an oppressive military regime under General Yahya Khan of Pakistan. The war, which was short and intense, was fought on both Eastern and Western fronts. The 13 days war resulted in complete surrender of Pakistan forces and the creation of Bangladesh. The Indian Armed Forces reigned supreme over the Pakistani military in the battle field. The battles fought showcased fine examples of grit, determination and bravery of our soldiers. To commemorate the occasion a befitting Guard of Honour by the Quad Service Guard was conducted to pay homage to the See... Page 02



## NYK Kamorta conducts 'Catch the Rain' Campaign



Port Blair, Dec 16: An Educational and Motivational programme on Catch the Rain Phase II campaign supported by National Water Mission was organized by Nehru Yuva Kendra, Kamorta Wednesday at Bada Enaka village in which 45 youth from different areas participated. The objective of the campaign is to make aware and educate youth leaders and volunteers on the need of water conservation, rain water harvesting, minimizing wastage and reuse of water. On the occasion Smt Helena Christopher, 1st Captain, Bada Enaka village was the chief See... Page 02

## COVID-19 Vaccination going smoothly in isles

Port Blair, Dec 16: The vaccination drive is continuing smoothly in A&N Islands. As per data available, a total of 5,80,048 beneficiaries have been vaccinated so far in A&N Islands, out of the target beneficiaries of 2,81,603 (approx.). A total of 1,77,010 eligible people in the age group of 18 to 44 years have been vaccinated till date. A total of 1813 people were vaccinated in these islands on Wednesday. 1654 beneficiaries were vaccinated in South Andaman District, out of which 60 beneficiaries were in the age group of 18-44 years. Similarly, 139 beneficiaries were vaccinated in North & Middle Andaman District out of which 5 beneficiaries were in the age group of 18-44. 20 beneficiaries were vaccinated in Nicobar District out of which 1 beneficiary was in the age group of 18-44.

# EDITORIAL

## The Andaman Express

17 December 2021

### Social-economic successes

Bangladesh, liberated from Pakistan with active assistance from India, including a military intervention under the leadership of then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, was the first new country to be created after World War II. A quarter of a century after the independence of India and creation of Pakistan, the new nation gave the lie to the claim that religion is the most irrefutable instrument for nation-building. East Pakistan, earlier East Bengal, was predominantly Muslim, but more than that, it was Bengali. Jinnah failed to grasp this, and it was during his tone deaf 1948 speech at Dhaka University, his first and last visit to East Pakistan, that the foundations of Bangladesh were laid. He accused those promoting Bengali as an official language alongside Urdu of being not just provincial but "enemies" who wanted to weaken Pakistan and enable the re-entry of East Pakistan into India. He described Urdu as the language that had been nurtured by Muslims of the sub-continent, and which "embodies the best that is in Islamic culture and Muslim tradition and is nearest to the languages used in other Islamic countries". In South Asia, after India, it was the people of East Pakistan who rejected religious nationalism, and demanded empowerment through fair political representation and access to the country's resources. On its 50th anniversary, Bangladesh is being toasted as the success story of South Asia, its economic development seen as guided and facilitated by its constitutional secularism.

What is as remarkable as the Bangladesh success story is India's role in its liberation. Despite initial differences between the Ministry of External Affairs and R&AW over the nature of the crisis between east and west Pakistan, various arms and agencies of the government as well as the political class came together under the leadership of Indira Gandhi. The country was struggling with poverty, its people were still reeling from a drought a few years earlier, the economy was in a parlous condition, the armed forces were still coming to grips with an inconclusive war with Pakistan in 1965, and national morale was yet to recover from a crippling military defeat at the hands of China in 1962. But once the plan was finalised, India's intervention in the liberation took place in stages over several months, each step timed to achieve the maximum result. The military intervention, which began on December 3 — a full scale war with Pakistan on both the eastern and western fronts, involving all three services — took less than two weeks to achieve its objectives. It remains the shortest war in history. Today, India is a far more powerful country, but seems to struggle to bring a whole-of-government approach of the 1971 kind in the framing of strategic objectives, whether it is with Afghanistan, China, or even with an old friend like Russia. Delhi also sometimes seems unmindful of the consequences of the echo and spillover of communally divisive rhetoric from domestic politics to foreign policy. A broken promise to share the Teesta waters has also undermined relations. Yet, to this day, despite the best efforts of Bangladesh's Islamist parties, there is goodwill for what India did 50 years ago. Delhi must safeguard this precious asset, and make it grow.

### ANTCC celebrates...

well as China.

Shri. Bhaskar while recalling the dynamism and contribution of Smt. Indira Gandhi advised the Congress workers and youngsters to learn more about the history of Congress and its stalwarts for the strengthening of nation and educate the masses and fight against the false propaganda of the opposition

### Gujarat Gov., with...

farmers, the Prime Minister warned against the dangers of pesticides and fertilizers which lead to increased cost of cultivation and also cause damage to human health. He expressed confidence that natural farming will benefit the small farmers who constitute 80% of total farmers in the country as they spend a lot on chemical inputs. He urged the

### District Consultative...

Yojo (APY) as these schemes are to be saturated before September 2022. He also instructed to cover all PM Kisan beneficiaries of agriculture, fisheries and animal husbandry sector under Kisan Credit Card (KCC) Schemes. The CD Ratio of the District is 51.86%,

### Naresh visits Govt. ...

Amrit Mahotsava" the SBM Ambassador emphasized to see the Cellular Jail once in a life time

### "VIJAYDIWAS-2021"

martry of 1971 war, who made the supreme sacrifice upholding the highest traditions of Indian Armed Forces. Lieutenant General Ajai Singh, AVSM, Commander-in-Chief, Andaman and Nicobar Command (CINACN) & Major General Vinay Bhagat, VSM (Ret), senior veteran laid wreaths on the occasion. Veterans of all three services from Andaman and

### from... Page 01

partes.

Senior leaders and functionaries of PCC, DCC, City Congress, BCC, NSUI, Mahila Congress, Youth Congress, Seva Dal, INTUC and other frontal organizations attended the programme in large numbers and paid floral tribute to war heroes of 1971.

### from... Page 01

State governments to make natural farming a mass movement in this Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsava by converting at least one village of every Panchayat into natural farming. The virtual programme was chaired by Dr. E.B. Chakuraj, Director, CIARI and coordinated by three KVKs of Andaman a Nicobar Islands.

### from... Page 01

which requires improvement. The meeting was attended by Mr C Raj, Chief Manager, SBI, Mr Debajyoti Datta, AGM, RBI, Mr P K Ummer Farooq, Lead Bank Manager, SBI and other officials of banks, NABARD and Govt. Department.

### from... Page 01

and learn from the sacrifice of our freedom fighters how we got the freedom.

### from... Page 01

Nicobar Islands along with Officers, JCOs, Warrant Officers, Chief Petty Officers and Other Ranks were present on the occasion. Every member of the Andaman and Nicobar Command made a solemn pledge to steadfastly protect the Nation and uphold its safety, security and integrity against threats and challenges that lay ahead.

## MAMMOTH HAL - BEL DEAL INDICATES STRONG SHIFT TOWARDS SELF RELIANCE IN DEFENCE

For Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), it was the largest avionics order ever when it received an order worth Rs 2,400 crores from Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) for the manufacture and supply of 20 types of airborne electronic systems to be fitted on fighter aircraft—LCA Tejas Mk1A.

is now the second largest defence importer as per the data on international arms transfers released by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). Saudi Arabia leads the list.

"From 2016-2020, India accounted for 9.5 percent of the total

as promote joint ventures with nations who are top weapon and military hardware manufacturers in the world. However, the fact to be addressed is that India's target of 70 per cent self-reliance in defence procurement is yet to be achieved. At present, India's self-reliance is hovering at



It also indicates a strong shift towards self-reliance in defence manufacturing or in other words Atmanirbhar Bharat in defence.

Experts with whom THE WEEK spoke pointed out that the BEL-HAL contract is one of the first steps towards addressing the Indian target of 70 per cent self-reliance. Interestingly, India

global arms imports as per the SIPRI data. The same report also revealed that the import has reduced by 33 per cent between 2011-2015 and 2016-2020. This shows that the country is slowly and steadily moving towards Atmanirbhar—the initiative by the present government to boost arms production within the country as well

around 35-40 per cent. This contract of HAL and BEL will fast-track the slow paced Atmanirbhar Bharat," said Girish Linganna, aerospace and defence expert and Managing Director, ADD Engineering India an Indo-German company.

The BEL - HAL contract is significant as it spans for five years

from 2023 to 2028 and involves supply of critical avionics Line Replaceable Units (LRUs) related to Digital Flight Control Computers, Air Data Computers, Weapon Computers, LRUs related to Radar Warning Receiver (RWR) and Head Up Display. The LRUs have also been indigenously designed and developed by Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA), DRDO Labs, Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE), Combat Aircraft Systems Development and Integration Centre (CASDIC) and Central Scientific Instruments Organisation (CSIO).

The order for the supply of Avionics Systems for 83 Tejas Mk1A fighter aircraft will be executed by two Strategic Business Units (SBUs) of BEL: Electronic Warfare and Avionics, Bengaluru, and BEL-Panchkula, Haryana. All the systems will be delivered by BEL to HAL in a ready to board condition. "BEL is all geared up to supply the critical Avionics LRUs as per the delivery schedule. We look forward

to continuing our strong partnership with HAL for more such programmes," said Anandi Ramalingam, CMD of BEL.

On the other hand, R. Madhavan, CMD of HAL said that the LCA Tejas programme is an excellent example of the synergy between Indian defence establishments such as HAL, DRDO and BEL. "The current order for the development and supply of 20 types of critical avionics LRUs for Tejas Mk1A is a shot in the arm for the Make in India and Atmanirbhar Bharat initiatives of the Government of India," remarked Madhavan.

The deliveries under 83 Tejas Mk1A order to the Indian Air Force by HAL will commence from FY 2023-24 onwards. The home grown fighter is slated to be equipped with indigenous flight control computers, air data computers which would also be supplied by BEL under this contract. These systems have been designed and developed by various labs of DRDO and Aeronautical Development Agency, Bengaluru.

## Women's Legal Marriage Age: Cabinet Clears Proposal to Increase It From 18 To 21

New Delhi, 16<sup>th</sup> Dec, 2021: More than a year after Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the plan during his Independence Day address of 2020, The Cabinet has cleared a proposal to increase the legal minimum age of marriage for women from 18 to 21 years making it equal to that of men. It has been learnt that after the Cabinet's approval, the government will introduce an amendment to the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, and therefore bring amendments to the Special Marriage Act and personal laws such as the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955.

The media reported, based on sources, that the clearance of the bill on Wednesday is based on

recommendations submitted to Niti Aayog in December 2020 by the Centre's task force, headed by Jay a Jaiyil, which was constituted to examine "matters pertaining to age of motherhood, imperatives of

age of women. At the same time, it has also sought access to schools and universities for girls, including arranging transportation facilities in the case of educational institutions being present in far-off areas.

The committee asserted sex education be formalised and introduced in the school curriculum. Training of women in polytechnic institutes, skills and business training and

lowering MMR (Maternal Mortality Rate), improvement of nutritional levels and related issues".

The committee also recommended that a comprehensive public awareness campaign should be chalked out to encourage social acceptance of the decision to raise the legal marriage

age of women. At the same time, it has also sought access to schools and universities for girls, including arranging transportation facilities in the case of educational institutions being present in far-off areas.

"If girls can show they are financially independent, parents will think twice before marrying them off early," said sources.

## Reddit files for IPO, may aim at \$15 billion valuation

Social media forum Reddit has confidentially applied to go public, the company said on Wednesday. The move comes as it raises up to \$700 million in Series F funding, with the company already valued at \$10 billion. A Reuters report said the company was aiming at a \$15 billion valuation

Reddit.com is the 20th most-visited website in the world in 2021 according to SimilarWeb. The community-driven platform allows users to create forums called "subreddits" on topics ranging from the news to country-specific forums to niche subjects. There are over 130,000 active subreddits. The

website often brands itself the "front page of the internet".

One subreddit, WallStreetBets, was at the heart of last year's incredible stock price surges of stocks like GameStop and AMC, which saw a retail investor-led movement to drive up the price. Initial response to the IPO announcement, on the subreddit, was muted, with users that a public listing would make Reddit more investor-focused, in turn leading the site to enforce stricter norms on the content its users can post.

2021 saw the company earn \$100 million in advertising revenue in Q2 for the first time, a 192 per cent increase.

The company was founded in 2005 by Steve Huffman, Aaron Swartz and Alexis Ohanian.



### BSNL upgrades Broadband -

and seek approval for reformulation under existing circle specific Broadband plans.

With FTTH, all the existing as well as the new customers in Andaman and Nicobar telecom circle will get the benefit of high-speed internet connectivity without any hindrance as per plan. The speed in DSL is still limited to 10 Mbps due to its copper wire transfer in islands.

Plan 40GB CS368 has been introduced in new islands which is applicable only for new customers, and the customers in this plan will be automatically migrated to the next higher plan, i.e., 120GB/CS330 with Rs. 799 after 6 months.

Existing Plan code CS368 of 40 GB increased to 70 GB and Bandwidth also increased to 15 Mbps from 10 Mbps, while the Plan CS330 of 60 GB increased to 120 GB and speed increased from 10

Mbps to 30 Mbps.

Plan CS341 increased 150GB to 200 with 40 Mbps bandwidth, which is the fourfold speed of DSL plan CS229 which offers 250GB but speed remains 10 Mbps. FTTH Plan CS363 increased from 225 GB to 300 Gb and speed increased to massive 80 GB up to 300 Gb. Plan CS331 10Gb per Day renamed as Plan 500 Gb with a speed of 100 Mbps.

In FTTH Plan 15GB/Day renamed as Plan 750GB with a speed of 150Mbps, Plan 25 Gb/Day renamed as Plan 1100Gb with a speed of 200Mbps, Plan 40GB/Day is now Plan 1800Gb with 250Mbps speed and Plan 50GB/Day is now Plan 2500Gb with a speed of 300Mbps.

The DSL Broadband plans for all the existing as well as new customers in Andaman & Nicobar telecom circle is also revised from

### from... Page 01

today. Although data is marginally increased unlike FTTH the Bandwidth is limited to 10 GbOnly.

DSL Plan CS240 with 30 GB increased to 50 GB and speed also increased from 4 Mbps to 10 Mbps. Plan CS241 with 60 GB increased to 150 GB and speed increased from 8 GB to 10 GB, while Plan S229 increased from 120GB to 250 GB and speed remains 10 GB. So as Plan S362 increased from 200 GB to 400GB with 24hrs unlimited free calling. While in CS240, CS241 the MCU Charges to others is 1.2 and in S229 MCU charge is 1.

Plan CS224 which was earlier available as 10Gb/Day renamed as Plan 550GB, Plan CS225 15GB/Day is now 550GB, Plan CS256GB/Day is now 1250GB, Plan 35GB/Day is now 1800GB and Plan S50GB/Day is now 3000GB

### Board exams: CBSE..

and seal the OMR sheets within 15 minutes after the examination is over in the presence of the Observer.

The Centre Superintendent and Observer will sign on the sealed parcel and will mention the time of packing also. Examination Controller Sanyam Bhargava said in a letter to affiliated schools.

"Once OMRs are packed and sealed, the same will be dispatched to the concerned regional office. After dispatch, the receipt of dispatch will also be uploaded as per practice,"

said Bhargava.

The term-1 board examination is currently going on for students of classes 10 and 12. Its an objective-type questions-based exam, for which students are given optical mark recognition (OMR) answer sheets to fill.

Until now, the OMR answer sheets were first physically evaluated at the exam centre by school teachers and then sent for a digital evaluation. However, the board has now asked for physical

### from... Page 01

evaluation to be stopped Thursday onwards for the remaining exams that will go on till 30 December.

"It is the sole responsibility of the Centre Superintendent to ensure that the examination is conducted smoothly and fairly. In case of any deviation from the safety and security of the examination, CBSE will be liable to take action against the Centre Superintendent and the school as per its affiliation and examination by e-laws of the board," the letter read.

### NYK Kamorta conducts...

guest and administered water pledge among participants. Shri M.M. Hassan, Agriculture Officer, Nancowrie spoke about the various rain water harvesting techniques to be adopted to conserve water, like roof top rain water harvesting structures, Pond, well, Check dams, recharge pits/trenches etc.

### "Har Ghar Dastak"...

Deputy Commissioner, South Andaman informed that District Administration will continue the evening mobile vaccination drive as well as TB Active Case Finding survey throughout the District till each and every eligible person vaccinated. He requested

### from... Page 01

In addition to be briefed about the schemes of Agriculture Deptt. i.e. Plant Vegetable, Fruit, Flowers and save seed campaign Vision 2047, PM Kisan Maaan Dhan Yojna, PM Kisan, Pollination Support Through Bee Keeping and Kisan Credit Card while Shri Jhwar Lal Das, DIC

### from... Page 01

the general public to avail the opportunity to vaccinate themselves with COVID vaccine and those who having fever, cough & night sweats may go for TB test at nearest Health Centre.

The Deputy Commissioner

### from... Page 01

highlighted about the importance of rain water harvesting as well as the schemes being implemented by District Industries Center. Shri Alpachia Toppo, DD (OSD), NYK, Kamorta earlier briefed about the Catch the rain campaign and proposed vote of thanks.

### from... Page 01

urged the general public of South Andaman to cooperate with the field staff during "Har Ghar Dastak" home visit campaign and also directed all commercial establishments to ensure that their staff are fully vaccinated with second COVID vaccine.

## MEA Jaishankar to host third meeting of India Central Asia Dialogue in New Delhi from 18th to 20th December

External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar will be hosting the third meeting of the India Central Asia Dialogue in New Delhi from 18th to 20th December. Foreign Ministers of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan will participate in the meeting. The second meeting was organized by India in October last year via video conferencing.

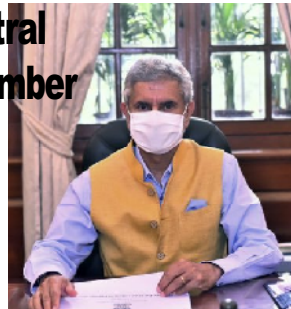
Briefing media in New Delhi this

evening, External Affairs Ministry spokespersons Arindam Bagchi said there has been an ongoing engagement between India and the five Central Asian countries over the last few years. India considers Central Asia as part of its extended neighborhood. Dr Jaishankar visited Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan and he also met Foreign Minister of Turkmenistan in October this year.

As part of the third meeting of the India Central Asia Dialogue, the ministers are expected to discuss further strengthening of relations between India and Central Asian countries with a particular focus on trade, connectivity, and development cooperation. They will also exchange views on regional and international issues of mutual interest. The Ministers are also likely to call on Prime Minister

Narendra Modi.

Replying to a query, the spokesperson said India will continue to provide humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan. He said India is committed to sending 50,000 metric tonnes of wheat to Afghanistan. He also added that New Delhi is in touch with Pakistan authorities on modalities of shipment of this wheat to Afghanistan through land route.





## IN CONVERSATION

## NASA PROBE HAS ENTERED THE SUN'S HOTTEST ATMOSPHERE

The Parker Solar Probe has officially "touched" the sun, flown through the outer atmosphere of the Sun or corona. Three years after launch and decades after the first conception, Parker has finally arrived. The NASA spacecraft actually flew through the unexplored corona in April during the spacecraft's eighth close approach to the sun. Scientists said it took a few months to get the data back and then several more months to confirm.

Parker was 13 million kilometers from the center of the Sun when it first crossed the jagged, uneven boundary between the solar atmosphere and outgoing solar wind. The spacecraft dipped in and out of the corona at least three times, each a smooth transition,

according to scientists. For the first time in history, a spacecraft has sampled particles and magnetic fields in the superheated corona.

During the flyby, Parker Solar Probe passed into and out of the corona several times. Preliminary data suggest Parker also dipped into the corona during its ninth close approach in August, but scientists said more analyses are needed. It made its 10th close approach last month. The spacecraft will pass close by the Sun 24 times, drawing ever closer to the Sun and diving deeper into the corona until its grand finale orbit in 2025.

The announcement of the spacecraft's passing the Corona was made at the 2021 American

Geophysical Union Fall Meeting in New Orleans on Tuesday. The findings were also published by the American Physical Society.

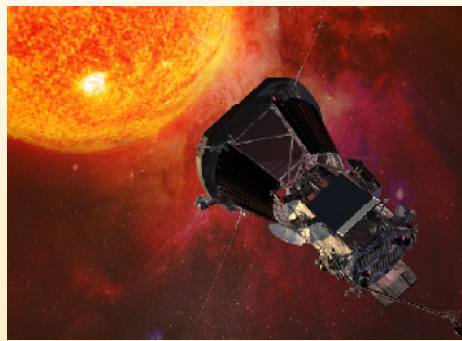
The Sun lacks a solid surface and the corona, which is hotter than the surface of the Sun is where the action is; exploring this magnetically intense region up close can help scientists better understand solar outbursts that can interfere with life on Earth.

A thermal shield made of carbon-composite material that can withstand up to 1377 degrees Celsius is protecting the spacecraft and all the equipment inside it.

"The first and most dramatic time we were below for a bout five hours... Now you might think five hours, that doesn't sound big," the University of Michigan's Justin Kasper told reporters. But he noted that Parker was moving so fast it covered a vast distance during that time, tearing along at more than 100 kilometers per second.

The outer region of space is dominated by solar wind and the size of the corona is also driven by solar activity. As the Sun's 11-year activity cycle—the solar cycle—ramps up, the outer edge of the corona will expand, giving Parker Solar Probe a greater chance of being inside the corona for longer periods of time.

Future coronal excursions will help scientists better understand the origin of the solar wind and how it is heated and accelerated out into space, said project scientist Nour Rao of Johns Hopkins University.



## Amid surging tensions with Russia, EU leaders meet former Soviet nation heads

Amid rising tensions with Russia, European Union leaders met with heads of state from former Soviet Union, including Ukraine, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and Moldova. They pledged to deepen political, trade, energy and cultural ties. The president of Belarus, Alexander Lukashenko, boycotted the forum.

All these nations share borders with Russia and are strategically important energy hubs, as well as with the 27-nation EU.

Amid the frostiness over Russian troop-buildup along the Ukrainian border, Chinese President Xi Jinping and Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin held a virtual summit as part of their efforts to build a strategic alliance against the increasing

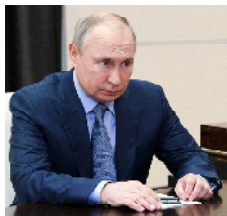
adversity against them from the United States and the European Union. The video summit took place in the immediate backdrop of tensions in recent weeks

Russia has denied any plans to attack Ukraine and blamed Kyiv for its own military build-up in the war-torn country. The summit took place about eight days after Putin had a similar virtual meeting with US President Joe Biden on December 7.

The head of the European Union's executive commission had warned Russia that the bloc has a battery of additional sanctions ready if Moscow decides to invade neighboring

Ukraine. European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said that beyond scaling up and expanding existing sanctions, the EU can adopt

"unprecedented measures with serious consequences for Russia". Von der Leyen told the European Parliament that there are already economic sanctions in place targeting Russia's finance, energy and sectors because of its annexation of Ukraine's Crimea Peninsula in 2014 and actions since that the West sees as increasingly aggressive. She did not elaborate what form any new sanctions would take. Germany's new chancellor, Olaf Scholz, reinforced von der Leyen's message Wednesday, telling the lower house of the German parliament that any violation of territorial integrity will have its price, a high price, and we will speak with one voice on this together with our European partners and our trans-Atlantic allies.



## MOS HOME ABUSES JOURNOS OVER QUESTION ON JAILED SON



OPEN SECRET

## No statements or presser; BCCI will deal with it: Ganguly declines comment on Kohli's bombshell PC

KOLKATA: A day after India Test captain Virat Kohli triggered a storm by publicly contradicting him, BCCI president Sourav Ganguly refused to comment on the matter, saying the Board will deal with it.

Kohli, during his pre-departure press conference ahead of the tour of South Africa, said that he was never asked to stay on as T20 skipper when he made his intent clear on relinquishing the post.

"No statements, no press conference. We will deal with it, leave it to (the) BCCI," Ganguly told local media persons on Thursday.

There was talk of BCCI asking chairman of selectors Chetan Sharma to address the media after Kohli's explosive press conference but the Board eventually refrained



from making any counter statements. Kohli's comments on Wednesday brought to fore the underlying tension in his equation with the administrators.

Whatever was said about the communication that happened about the decision that was made was inaccurate," Kohli had said with obvious reference to Ganguly's

statement.

"When I left the T20 captaincy, I had first approached BCCI and I informed them of my decision and I laid down my point of view in front of them (office bearers)."

"I gave the reasons why I wanted to quit T20 captaincy and my view point was received very nicely. There was no offence, no hesitation and not for once was I told that 'you should not leave T20 captaincy'," he had asserted. Earlier, Ganguly, in an interview to PTI, said that he had spoken to Kohli and told him that two captains in the white ball format was not something that the selectors wanted as there would be "too much of leadership." Rohit Sharma is now the sole white-ball captain and has also been made Kohli's deputy in the Test format.

## Team India lands in South Africa for Test series

The Indian cricket team, led by skipper Virat Kohli, landed here on Thursday for the three-match Test series against South Africa, beginning December 26 at Centurion.

"Touchdown South Africa," the BCCI posted on its official Twitter handle along with pictures of team members, including Test specialist Cheteshwar Pujara, Shardul Thakur and Shreyas Iyer among others.

The Kohli-led Test side had departed from Mumbai for the tour that also includes three ODIs in January.

Given the threat posed by the new COVID-19 variant Omicron, the tour's T20 matches have been postponed for now and the two teams will stay in a bio-bubble for the duration of the series.



Star opener and newly appointed white ball captain Rohit Sharma has been ruled out after sustaining a left hamstring injury

during a training session in Mumbai. He was replaced by talented Gujarat opener Priyank Panchal. The side's build-up to the

series has been marred by controversies surrounding captaincy and the issue snowballed into a major controversy on Wednesday when Kohli said that the Board's assertion of trying to stop him from giving up T20 captaincy was "inaccurate."

He stepped down as T20 captain after the disastrous World Cup campaign in the UAE and was subsequently removed as ODI captain earlier this month.

While the series-opener will be hosted by Centurion, the other two Tests will be played at Johannesburg and Cape Town respectively.

The Test team's vice captain is yet to be announced after Rohit's injury. He had replaced a woefully out of form Ajinkya Rahane.

## Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)

**Symptoms:**  
fever, many nose, cough and sore throat, loss of taste and smell, severe breathing difficulties. Symptoms may develop within 14 days after exposure.

**Protect yourself from getting COVID-19**  
Washing your hands frequently with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand rub.  
Avoiding touching eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hand.  
Avoiding close contact with people who have fever and coughing.  
When coughing and sneezing cover your mouth and nose with flexed elbow or tissue.  
Throw tissues into closed bin immediately after use.  
If you suspect you may have COVID-19, contact +856-26-5506677 (Lao and English), +856-26-5506677.

**10 TIPS TO PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS DO NOT RISK YOUR LIFE**

1. Avoid going to crowded places and public transport.
2. Avoid going to crowded places and public transport.
3. Avoid going to crowded places and public transport.
4. Avoid going to crowded places and public transport.
5. Avoid going to crowded places and public transport.
6. Avoid going to crowded places and public transport.
7. Avoid going to crowded places and public transport.
8. Avoid going to crowded places and public transport.
9. Avoid going to crowded places and public transport.
10. Avoid going to crowded places and public transport.

**10 TIPS TO PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS DO NOT RISK YOUR LIFE**

1. Avoid going to crowded places and public transport.
2. Avoid going to crowded places and public transport.
3. Avoid going to crowded places and public transport.
4. Avoid going to crowded places and public transport.
5. Avoid going to crowded places and public transport.
6. Avoid going to crowded places and public transport.
7. Avoid going to crowded places and public transport.
8. Avoid going to crowded places and public transport.
9. Avoid going to crowded places and public transport.
10. Avoid going to crowded places and public transport.

GSTIN : 35ADNPR0886912L Ph : 03192-248886  
Cell : 9932080266, 9434281886

## JAI HIND ENTERPRISE

**ELECTRICALS, ELECTRONICS AND HOME APPLIANCES**

dolphy LARSEN & TOUBRO LIMITED orient electric POLAR  
POLYCARB FANS Hawkins MODIS PRECISION  
ANCHOR USHA  
CIE Opp. Directorate of Social Welfare  
Goal Ghar, Port Blair - 744 102, S/Andaman