

ANDAMAN SHEEKHA

True Mirror of Andaman and Nicobar Islands

VOL: 15 | ISSUE NO: 0 | REG NO: ANDENG/2011/38184 | 04.01.2023 | WEDNESDAY | RS.2.00 | DAILY | PORT BLAIR | WWW.ANDAMANSHEEKHA.COM

Pathetic Condition of Road in Villages of Car Nicobar upsets Tribal Population

John Wilbert
& Vikramaditya
Sheekha News Service

Port Blair, Jan 03: The residents of the Car Nicobar have been facing immense difficulties for several years due to miserable road conditions in

(See page 6)



Member of Parliament sanctions Rs. 54 Lakhs for development of playground at Stewartgunj Gram Panchayat

Port Blair, Jan 03: The Member of Parliament of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma has sanctioned Rs. 54 Lakhs for the development of a playground at TankyaPahad under Stewartgunj Gram Panchayat, Ferrargunj Tehsil.

The amount has been sanctioned to promote sports and cultural activities in the region so that youths of the region can continue to keep themselves busy in constructive activities

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Residents of Port Blair and various parts of South Andaman face LPG Crisis



John Wilbert
& Vikramaditya
Sheekha News Service

again the residents of Port Blair and South Andaman region are facing a crisis of LPG cylinders as since last

Port Blair, Dec 03: Once

(See page 6)

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ONE CONVICTED FOR VIOLATING OF SECTION 9,39(3),40 (2),& 50 OF WILDLIFE (PROTECTION) ACT, 1972 BY LD. COURT OF J.M.F.C, MAYABUNDER

Port Blair, Jan 03: On 27/12/2022, the Ld. Court of JMFC, Mayabunder presided over by Shri. Arnab Roy Chowdhury convicted the accused Nikhil Sardar in connection with Range Office,

Bajalunga (C.R. No. 08/15) for violating of section 9, 39(3), 40(2) & 50 of Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 being punishable U/S 51(1) of Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 and sentenced him to suffer

Simple imprisonment for 03 years and to pay a fine of Rs. 10,000/-. The State Prosecution was conducted by the Prosecution Wing, District Administration, Mayabunder.

CPI (M) Port Blair area Committee demands steps to Arrest Price Rise

Port Blair, Jan 03: CPI (M) Port Blair Area Committee has expressed concern over the unchecked price rise of all the essential commodities in the islands. In a letter sent to the Chief Secretary, A & N Administration recently, Mrs. D. Hemlatha, Secretary, Port Blair Area Committee said that prices of all essential commodities are increasing day-by-day and there is no control over it from the side of the Administration. She said that prices of vegetables, fish, meat, milk, etc are hiked at the will and wish of the traders involved in it with the tacit support of the authorities. People especially those belonging to poorer strata of the society are unable to pull

on the days due to this unchecked price rise. The Civil Supplies Department has completely failed to arrest the spiraling prices. She informed the Chief Secretary that CPI (M) Port Blair Area Committee in its meeting held on 29th December, 2022 reviewed this situation and expressed concern over the spiraling prices and the failure on the part of the authorities to check the price rise in these islands. CPI (M) Port Blair Area Committee demanded immediate necessary action to control the prices of essential commodities which will be of immense relief to the islanders particularly poorer sections of the society.

Through another let-

ter, D. Hemlatha, Secretary, CPI (M) Port Blair Area Committee has expressed concern over the delay in disbursing the Old Age Pension and Widow Pension to the beneficiaries. In a letter sent to the Secretary (SW), Secretary Area Committee of the Party stated that Old Age Pension, Widow Pension, etc are not being disbursed to the beneficiaries on time.

There is reportedly undue delay in disbursement of these pensions by the Directorate of Social Welfare. The beneficiaries who are all poorer sections of the society are facing difficulties due to delay in disbursing their pension by the department.

(See page 6)

Advisory for Graduate students interested in studying MBA (Business Administration)

Port Blair, Jan. 3: Graduate students interested in studying MBA (Business Administration) at Pondicherry University, Port Blair campus have

been requested to meet the Coordinator, Department of Management, Pondicherry University Campus at Brookshabad on Jan. 4&5,

2023 from 10am to 5pm with all educational and other relevant documents for filling up the vacant seats through spot admission.

Awareness programmes on TB & Community Support to TB Patients

Port Blair, Jan. 3: Under National TB Elimination programme (NTEP) the State TB Unit, Port Blair organized awareness programmes on TB & Community Support to TB Patients – Ni-KshayMitra (Donor) under PradhanMantri TB Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan at Govt. Secondary School Delanipur, Govt. Secondary School Junglighat, Govt. Secondary School, South Point and Govt. Secondary School, Dairy Farm with the objective to provide additional nutrition support to TB patient and augment community involvement to



eliminate TB by 2025.

Shri Tapan Kumar Ray, IEC Officer, spoke about the transmission, clinical manifestation, prevention and control of TB, TB/HIV Co-infection, the ill-effect of alcoholism and smoking particularly in relation to the treatment of TB. He also informed about the incentives given to the patient during

the treatment under Ni-KshayPoshanYoajna and about NikshayMitra (Donor) under PradhanMantri TB Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan and requested the teachers to come forward and become Ni-kshayMitra and make this Abhiyaan a success. The gathering was also urged to propagate the message in the community.

DEATH MOURNED

The Member of Parliament of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Shri. Kuldeep Rai Sharma has deeply mourned the sad demise of Mr. Sajid Sulaiman, R/o. Round Basthi, a well-known singer of these Islands, who passed away

this morning at the ICU of G B Pant Hospital. He prayed for eternal peace for the departed soul and for enough strength for the members of the bereaved family to bear the irreparable loss.



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CAMPAIGN BY ANDAMAN SHEEKHA

IGNOU 36th Convocation Registration Open

Port Blair, Jan 03: The 36th Convocation of the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), is likely to be held in the month of January/February, 2023. Those learners who have completed their programme of study in December- 2021 and June- 2022 Term-End Examination are eligible for award of original Certificate at this Convocation. Eligible students are required to register themselves for ob-

taining the Degree/Diploma certificate and pay the requisite fee through online mode only by clicking the link: <https://onlineservices.ignou.ac.in/convocation/> or www.ignou.ac.in. The fee for obtaining the original degree/diploma certificate for Ph.D/ M.Phil/ Master Degree/Bachelor Degree/ PG Diploma/ Diploma programmes is Rs. 600/- per

certificate. For general query on the convocation, learners may contact the following number 011-29572224 and email: convocation@ignou.ac.in or contact IGNOU Regional Centre, Port Blair over Phone: 03192-242888, 03192-230111 or Email: reportblair@ignou.ac.in. A communication from the Regional Director IGNOU Regional Centre Port Blair said.

TENTATIVE LPG DISTRIBUTION SCHEDULE OF PRIYA INDANE FROM 1ST JAN TO 10TH JAN 2023

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DAY 4 DHANIKHARI, NAYAPURAM

DAY 5 HUMFRYGUNJ, NAYAPURAM

DAY 6 INDRANAGAR, DAIRYFARM

DAY 7 DAIRYFARM, TUSHNABAD, OGRABRAJ

DAY 8 SUNDAY

DAY 9 HASMATABAD, WANDOOD, L/LINE

DAY 10 WANDOOD, L/LINE

THE ABOVE MENTIONED SCHEDULE MAY VARY SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY

Seating Class Tickets for MV Sindhu for Chennai

Port Blair, Jan 03: The vessel Sindhu is scheduled to sail for Chennai on 04.01.2023 at 1600 Hrs from Haddo Wharf. Bunk Class tickets for the above sailing have already been sold out. However, considering the demand from the public to travel to Chennai by Ship, it is decided by this Directorate to issue Seating Class tickets to the passengers in the above sailing. Therefore, passengers who are intending to avail the sailing of Sindhu on 04.01.2023 may purchase the Seating Class Tickets from STARS ticketing Counters, Phoenix Bay on 04.01.2023 between 0900 Hrs to 1200 Hrs on First cum First Serve basis.

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'Outer space not wrestling ground': China's clapback to NASA official's remark

Chinese embassy's spokesperson in Washington said that the outer space is not "a wrestling ground" following remarks made by a top NASA official who said that Beijing may claim all of Moon's resources soon. The spokesperson also said that China is "actively working towards a shared future for mankind in the space". Former astronaut and current NASA administrator Bill Nelson told Politico earlier that the US needs to "watch out" for China and see to it that Beijing does not gain a foothold on the lunar service, asserting that the race between the two nations is intensifying. Bill Nelson warned that China which is engaged in a "space race" with the United States and may take hold of Moon's resource-rich areas



if Beijing gets there first. "It is a fact: we're in a space race," Bill Nelson said adding that the US "better watch out that they (China) don't get to a place on the moon under the guise of scientific research."

Responding to the remarks Liu Pengyu, the Chinese embassy's spokesperson, said, "China always advocates the peaceful use of outer space, opposes the weaponisation of and arms

race in outer space, and works actively toward building a community with a shared future for mankind in the space domain." Earlier, US military officials also said that China is militarising the space. Lieutenant general Nina Armagno had then warned that "it's entirely possible they could catch up and surpass us," adding that the "progress they've made has been stunning – stunningly fast."

Why is Japan offering families a million yen per child to leave Tokyo

In what is being seen as a major incentive, Japan's government is offering one million yen per child to families asking them to move out of greater Tokyo. The relocation fee incentive will be introduced in April this year, Guardian reported quoting Japanese media, as part of a push from the government to move people towards country's declining small towns and villages. Owing to the Covid pandemic, Tokyo's population fell for the first time last year but Japan's policymakers believe that much more needs to be done in order to lower the population density in the city. They also believe that such a move is necessary in order to encourage people to start living in "unfashionable" parts of the country which have been severely impacted by shrinking populations amid widespread migration.

The payment is an addition to almost three

million yen financial support which is already available to families for the same purpose. It will be granted to families who are living in 23 "core" wards of Tokyo and Saitama, Chiba and Kanagawa, the report said. To receive the benefits, families must move outside the greater Tokyo area, the rules state. Some could also receive the payment if the families relocate to mountainous regions, the scheme which has been joined by about 1,300 municipalities, states. Moreover, families must live in their new homes for at least five years and one member of the household must be in work or plan to open a new business during the period.

Half of the money for the scheme will come from the central government, and the other half from local municipalities, Kyodo had earlier reported.

PRESS NOTICE

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS

1-5/DB/CD-III/PP/2022-23/3080 DATED 29/12/2022

The Executive Engineer, Construction Division No. III, APWD, Prothrapur invites on behalf of President of India, online Item Rate tenders (in form of CPWD-8) from the approved and eligible experienced contractors of appropriate class of APWD and Non APWD Contractors having experience in executing the relevant magnitude of work as per CPWD works Manual and with other GOI organizations working in these islands of appropriate class of enlistment in the respective departments for the under mentioned work:-

NIT No. 33/EE/CD-III/2022-23

Name of Work:- Improvement of State Highway No. 7 (Sippighat to Manjery - 11.50 Km) from Ch: 0.00 Km to 4.00 Km (Sippighat to Nayasher) including providing various signage board and kilometer stones for the entire stretch of SH-7 (0.00 km to 11.50 km) under CD-III, APWD.

Estimated Cost	: Rs. 5,43,47,464.00
Earnest Money	: Rs. 10,86,949.00
Period of Completion	: 18 (Eighteen) Months
Bid Document Publishing Date	: 30/12/2022 (1000 hrs)
Bid Document Download/Start Date	: 31/12/2022 (1000 hrs)
Pre-Bid meeting Date	: 16/01/2023 (1000 hrs)
Bid Submission Start Date	: 17/01/2023 (1000 hrs)
Bid Submission End Date	: 01/02/2023 (1500 hrs)
Bid Opening Date	: 02/02/2023 (1500 hrs)

The Tender forms and other details can be obtained from the Web Site <https://eprocure.andaman.gov.in>.

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AUCTION NOTICE

25 Seater Bus SWARAJ MAZDA, AN-01-C-0495 of Indian Coast Guard is available for auction. Interested parties can inspect the vehicle on all working days (Monday to Friday) between 09 AM to 04 PM at Coast Guard MT Pool, Campbell Bay.

An EMD of Rs. 5,000 (Rupees Five thousand only) in the form of Demand Draft drawn from any Nationalised bank in favour of **The District Commander, CGDHQ-10, Campbell Bay** is to be submitted to District Headquarter No:10, on or before, 3 PM on 05 Jan 23. The eligible party will only be allowed to take part in the auction. The auction will be held at 03 PM on 06 Jan 23. The EMD of unsuccessful of bidders will be returned on completion of auction.

The District Commander, DHQ-10 Port Blair reserves the right to accept/reject any or all the bidders without assigning any reason thereof.

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Former RAW chief AS Dulat joins Rahul Gandhi-led 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' in Delhi

Former Research and Analysis Wing (RA&W) chief A.S. Dulat joined the Rahul Gandhi-led Bharat Jodo Yatra on Tuesday as the Congress party's walkathon makes its way through Uttar Pradesh after exiting Delhi.

"Former special director of the Indian Intelligence Bureau & former Secretary of Research and Analysis Wing (RA&W) Shri A.S. Dulat joins Rahul Gandhi during the Bharat Jodo Yatra," said the Congress while sharing an image of the two on Twitter.

Dulat joined the yatra following the recent release of his memoir 'A Life in the Shadows' on December 22. The former spymaster's memoir sheds light on his experiences as a young intelligence officer and his observations on Kashmir.

Dulat served as the head of India's external intelligence agency from 1999 to 2000. Following his retirement, he was appointed as an advisor on Kashmir in the Prime Minister's Office, where he served from January 2001 to May 2004 in the



Vajpayee government after his retirement as the RAW chief.

The yatra has seen participation from several prominent figures, such as the actor and the party chief of Makkal Needhi Maiaam, Kamal Haasan, who took part in the walkathon in Delhi on December 24.

Previously, former Reserve Bank of India (RBI) governor Raghuram Rajan joined Bharat Jodo Yatra in Rajasthan in December 2022.

The yatra is expected to travel across Uttar Pradesh over a span of three days before re-entering Haryana on January 6. Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi will join

Rahul throughout the UP leg of the Bharat Jodo Yatra.

From there, on from January 11, the yatra will enter Punjab and travel across Himachal Pradesh on January 19 before finally entering Jammu and Kashmir on the evening of January 20.

The Rahul Gandhi-led walkathon has covered 3,122 kilometres from Kanyakumari to the Red Fort in Delhi so far. Over the span of 108 days, the yatra has crossed 49 districts in nine states and one Union Territory, including Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana, and Delhi.

'Nobody can buy my brother': Priyanka praises Rahul as Bharat Jodo enters UP

As he resumed the Bharat Jodo Yatra, Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday visited a Hanuman Temple in Delhi amid huge crowds. The Congress leader was seen carrying a mace after his visit to the Marghat Hanuman Mandir of the national capital. As per Hindu beliefs, Tuesday is considered to be an auspicious day to worship Lord Hanuman. On Twitter, the grand old party shared photos of Rahul and tweeted in Hindi a popular Hindi phrase linked to Hanuman: 'Jai Bajrang Bali, Tod Nafrat ki Nali.'

Later, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra welcomed her brother in the BJP-ruled Uttar Pradesh along the Loni Border, which was once the site of huge farmer protests last year. Praising her brother, she said: "I am happy to welcome the Bharat Jodo Yatra in UP. After a foot march of 3,000

km, the Yatra has reached here. Dear brother, I am so proud of you. All forces were used against you."

Targeting businessmen Gautam Adani and Mukesh Ambani, who the Congress have often linked to the BJP, Priyanka Gandhi further said: "They were able to buy top leaders.

They were able to buy public sector units. But they could not buy my brother, and they won't be able to." Bharat Jodo Yatra started from Kanyakumari in September, and it is set to end in Srinagar later this month.

The party aims to cover more than 3,500 km in all. In Uttar Pradesh, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra is expected to cover a distance of nearly 120 km. In UP, Priyanka referred to what Rahul has been saying all along as he accused the BJP over spreading hatred. "We have to open shops to sell love everywhere," she said.

Finland to appoint interim defence minister as incumbent is on parental leave

Finland will appoint an interim defence minister on Thursday, its government said, after the serving minister announced he was taking two months off to look after his 6-month-old baby son. Defence minister Antti Kaikkonen, 48, became Finland's first male minister to take parental leave when he took two weeks off in 2020 after the birth of his eldest son.

The change of defence minister falls in the middle of Finland's bid to join the western military alliance NATO, held back by Turkish reluctance to accept Finland's and neighbouring Sweden's memberships but Kaikkonen said Finland's safety would be "in good hands" in his absence.

"Children are small for a moment only and I want to remember that also in other ways than just from pictures," Kaikkonen wrote on Twitter when he announced the plan in De-

cember.

As Finnish law does not recognise parental leave for ministers, Kaikkonen has to resign from his position, only to be re-appointed when he returns to office in March.

In his absence, lawmaker Mikko Savola will be appointed Minister of Defence, the government said. This marks the sixth time a minister has taken parental leave since the ruling centre-left coalition came to power in 2019, with four female ministers on maternity leaves of various lengths while in office.

The government, led by Social Democrat Sanna Marin who became the world's youngest serving Prime Minister when she took office at 34 in 2019, has sought to promote gender equality in Finland.

In 2020, the government decided to nearly double the length of paid paternal leave to almost seven months, in line with maternity leave. Around half can be given to the other parent.

'Rail fracture' caused Suryanagari Express derailment: Officials

Rail fracture is the probable cause of the derailment of the Suryanagari Express in which over 20 passengers suffered injuries, officials close to the development said on Tuesday. "Preliminary investigations suggest that the reason Suryanagari Express derailed in the wee hours of Monday is due to rail fracture, a condition caused during an extreme cold or heat that causes tension on tracks," a railways official told HT. As many as eleven coaches of the Bandra Terminus-Jodhpur Suryanagari Express were impacted after a derailment incident that occurred at 3.37am near Pali (between the Rajkiawas -Bomadra section of the Jodhpur division) in Rajasthan, disrupting half a dozen trains scheduled to pass through the section.

Former member traffic, Shri Prakash, termed the derailment due to rail fracture 'a serious matter' and said precautionary steps should be taken. "Derailment of a passenger train due to rail fracture is a serious matter. Rail fractures are not uncommon during extreme

temperatures, but a manual inspection is done daily in the wee hours to inspect the same. If this train was derailed due to the fracture, it implies that the fracture would not have been fresh and hence there is a need to investigate if a mandatory manual inspection was conducted on Sunday night." The derailment comes days after the Comptroller Audit General (CAG) of India report titled 'Derailment in Indian Railways' was tabled in the parliament on December 21 highlighting the major cause of the derailments due to lack of timely maintenance of the tracks. It also specified negligence on the part of zonal railways regarding track monitoring and repairing. According to the report, the zonal railways could not adhere to the timeline prescribed by the Railway Board (RB) for a schedule of the procedure for completion of enquiry in 49% of derailment cases. "The railway administration failed in achieving the important objective of monitoring the preventive action in respect of the

recommendations made by the inquiry committees as the same has not been made part of the SIMS (safety information management system), the online real-time reporting system," the CAG report stated.

The report further mentioned that the audit scrutiny of ultrasonic flaw detection (UFSD) testing of rails and welds revealed that there were shortfalls in testing during the period of four years (2017-2021). Timely testing by the USFD is expected to help in the early detection of vulnerable points and initiating necessary remedial measures, thus reducing the probability of accidents, it read. According to the report, a total of 422 derailments were attributable to the 'engineering department' and the major factor responsible for derailment was related to the 'maintenance of track' (171 cases). "IR may develop a strong monitoring mechanism to ensure timely implementation of maintenance activities by adopting fully mechanized methods of track maintenance and improved technologies," the report stated.

Condolence



All singers, musicians and local artists of Andaman and Nicobar Islands deeply mourn the sad demise of Mr. Sajid Sulaiman, R/o.Round Basthi, a well-known singer, who expired today on 03.01.2023 at morning 08.47 AM in the ICU of GB Pant Hospital.

President AATO mourns Death

Port Blair, Jan 03: Mr. Tour Operators have deeply mourned the demise of Shri M.Vinod, President of Andaman Association of Sajid Sulaiman, Resident of Round Basti, Aberdeen Bazaar, today (03/01/23) morning at GB Pant Hospital.

Pathetic Condition...

(From page 1)

several areas. The Tribal council of Car Nicobar, have appealed to the authorities to repair the road immediately.

Recently the Member of Parliament of Andaman and Nicobar Islands Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma had also raised this problem with the Lt. Governor of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

The residents claimed that they are experiencing enormous suffering as a result of the bad condition of the road and demanded immediate intervention of the Administration.

"We are continuously suffering owing to very poor road connectivity in these islands. The road has deep ditches and potholes, making our everyday travel a nightmare," said a resident of Car Nicobar.



Talking to Andaman Sheekha Daily, a member of Tribal Council of Car Nicobar said that many time the Tribal Council of Car Nicobar has requested Andaman and Nicobar Administration to immediately start the road work but till now there is no respite.

He added that many minor accidents have already

been reported due the pathetic road conditions in several villages of Car Nicobar viz Arong, Sawai, Kakana, Chuchucha, Malacca, Kinmai, Big Lapathy, Mua, Kinyuka, Teetop, Small Lapathy, Tapoiming, Tamaloo, Kimious and Perka. APWD officials or the concerned sections were unavailable for a comment in this regard.

Residents of...

(From page 1)

few weeks LPG cylinders are not being supplied regularly in several areas of Port Blair and South Andaman region.

Some residents of Port Blair told Andaman SheekhaDaily that they have not received LPG Cylinders for more than a month and if

they don't get LPG Cylinders on time, in coming days things will become difficult for them. According to insiders the delay is because of some internal issues between CCS and IOCL but this could not be established yet. When Andaman Sheekha contacted Mr. KP

Mohammad, the Secretary of CCS, he said the shortage is mainly because last month a large number of LPG Cylinders were sent to Nicobar District. He added that now distribution of LPG Cylinders in the Port Blair region has restarted and soon the problem will be resolved.

CPI (M) Port...

(From page 2)

CPI (M) Area Secretary stated that there is undue delay in processing the applications for the widow pension and old age pension at various stages in the Social Welfare Department. CPI (M)

Port Blair Area Secretary demanded to take necessary action to ensure that the old age pension and widow pension are disbursed to the beneficiaries concerned on time without any delay every month. Party re-

quested the Secretary (SW) to issue necessary instructions to the officials concerned to process the applications received for grant of widow pension/old age pension, etc immediately on receipt of it.

Subharti University Distance Education

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CONTACT US FOR BEST STUDY

9679550038/9474240877

Near: - Maricar Hospital Junglighat

TO LET

Andaman Moplah Service Organisation (AMSO) invites applications and proposals from individual/companies/ societies for renting out of space available for rent in the newly constructed administrative building of AMSO, having an area 2280 sqft (Approx) of the organisation situated at Kanyapuram, Wimberlygunj under South Andaman. For more information and collection of application, please contact: N Yousuf (President) – 9434281211/9933261441.

Abdul Siddique (General Secretary) – 9434283333/9932084444.

PLOT FOR SALE

Plot for sale at Tushnabad at Rs 4 lakh

Only 15 plots left

Single Patta will be provided

Plot for sale @ Ograbraj 200 sqm Rs 10 lakh

Only 10 plots available

Contact: Rahul Singh: 9474214859

For Sale

A Three storey Building (Top floor incomplete/ partially complete) standing on my 0.02 ha of land (House Site), situated at a footpath way, J.N. Road in front of VAN SADAN Building, HADDO is FOR SALE.

Interested buyers may contact on the Mobile phone number 9434294192 or 9434293234.

2 BHK FLAT FOR SALE

DK city Minnie Bay

2nd floor with built-up area 1195 sq feet with modern interior wardrobe, modular kitchen,

showcase with front facing balcony.

Car parking in front of the Block.

Rate 62 lacs

Note- Home Loan Not Available

Contact: 76797 02494, 9434262301

OM SAKTHI PLAZA

Vacancy For : 5 Female Staff

Address: Near Ganesh Temple, Aberdeen Bazaar

Contact: 9434281189, 9933241615.

AC REPAIR

AC servicing and repairs at home

Second hand AC selling

Contact :9679530999.