







The more you enjoy putting in good efforts, the greater will be your happiness of receiving the fruits of those efforts.

Rotary Club of Port Blair NextGen formed

Port Blair Sept 16: The Rotary Club of Port Blair Next Gen has been recently formed as part of district 329 of Rotary International . Shri Paramanthaman Divv a Prasad has been appointed as its Charter President, Ms. Jy oshita Anand as its Charter Secretary, and Shri Damodaran as its Charter Treasurer. Rotary is an Organization provide humanitarian service encourage high ethical standard in all v ocations and help build goodwil and peace in the world. The Rotary Club of PortBlair NextGen has over 20 members from all walks of life and few prominent islanders. Apart from this four committee chairs have also been appointed which includes Zeenat Jadwet and Ebrahim Jadwet

After MP raising bus trips, street lights issues with concerned authorities, basic facilities provided to villagers



under South Andaman District with the Transport authorities, STS has now started bus services in this route. now started busservices in this route.

It may be recalled that due to no bus
trip in the Namunaghar to
Shatainkhari route, residents have
been facing problems. There was
heavyrush of passengers in this route and non-availability of bus services has been causing a lot of inconvenience to the commuters in

expressed their gratitude to the Member of Parliament, Shri Kuldeep

In the same manner, residents of Ranchi Basti (quarry Basti) in the Shatainkhari have brought to the notice of the MP about non-functioning of street lights in their village. The MP immediately took up the matter with the concerned authorities in the Electricity "This area has been facing problems for the past many years. Despite complaints, due to the lackadisical approach of the offician on attention was paid to the grievances of the public. However, when the issue was brought to the notice of our MP, Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma, he immediately tookup the issuewith the oncerned with offices. issue with the concerned authand as a result the area has now been



Several islands in Nancowry groups lack proper mobile connectivity

World aims at 5G but Katchal, Chowra & Teressa islands struggle for 2G connectivity

advancement in telecommunication, GOI has provided ample infra and GUI has provided ample intra and resources to telecom service providers in the country to ensure uninterrupted 24X7 telecom connectivity to every citizen of the country. To overcome connectivity issues in isles, GOI is facilitating telecom operators by all means. But sheer negligence dragsfar flung islands to frequent blackout in terms of mobile connectivity.

the Nancowry group of islands have been facing almost zero mobile been racing almost zero mobile connectivity due to reasons better known to operators. The world is eyeing towards 56 but islands are struggling for 2G connectivity. The Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) assured residents of Katchal islands that soon 2G facilities will be made. that soon 3G facilities will be made available for them. Instead of up-gradation, poor residents are made to

island was completely cut-off from other islands due to total collapse of telecom connectivity. Somehow the link was restored, butone assessed the reason for blackout and measures for non-repetition of the same in future.

Petitions to several authorities and voices at appropriate levels failed to yield any response and residents of these islands are forced to live with poor or zero mobile connectivity.

MP demands filling up of all vacant posts of Principals, Vice Principals, Head Masters and Teachers

filling up of all vacant posts of Principals, Vice Principals, Head Masters and Teachers in the Department. During the meeting, the Member of Parliament added that almost all schools are running w ithout a Principal and many schools are running w ithout Vice Principal and Head Master, w hich is adversely impacting the entire education system and also the management of all schools. Such vacancies have also become a major hindrance for the promotion and professional growth of the teachers,

huge number of vacant posts of teachers in the Education Department while thousands of qualified vouths in Andaman are waiting for vears for these iobs. Not only this, the shortage of teachers in jobs. Not only this, in eshortage or trachers in various schools will certainly impactifle quality of education, for which students offitese slands will suffer greatly. Pointing out all these issues, the Member of Parliament demanded immediate filling up of all vacant posts of Principals, Vice Principals, Head Masshrs and teachers.

Man Saved by Police Personnel

Port Blair Sept 16: On 15/09/ 2021 at around 1800 hrs an information was received at PS Chatham that one person was drowning near Chatham See Shore. Immediately PC/1306 A Abdul Sameer, posted at PS Chatham, who was on duty, jumped into the water to save the man inspite of darkness and bad weather. After some time, one un-indentified fisherman also joined him and both See...Page 02

Heavy rain floods Port Blair airport, Operations unaffected



MP launches Andaman Oxygenator (Portable Oxygen Concentrator)

Port Blair Sept 16: Andaman Oxygenator developed by ICMR scientist Dr. N Muruganandam with Mr. Vinod Kumar, Kakolil trade agency and Mr. C P Sajeev, Port hdustry was formally launched by the P Sajeev, Port noustry was formally launched by the Honorable Member of Parliament Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma, who was the chief guest on the event of Engineer's Day celebration. Device was formally displayed and a detailed presentation was give indusing the Engineer's Day celebration on 15th September 2021. at Andaman and Lakshdweep Harbour Works



Port Blair Sept 16: Constant and heavy rain since Wednesday morning has resulted in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands' Veer Sav arkar International Airport here getting waterlogged.

According to reports, despite waterlogging, flights operations are un affected. Airport authorities reportedly tried to get excess water out of the airport premises and check for waterlogging around the landing

As per weather monitoring websites, the heavy showers are likely to continue for next week





ANTCC President visits Ward No-1



Port Blair Sept 16: The newly Halder assured to work for the appointed ANTCC, President, developmentofthe blands with the Shri. Rang Lal Halder visited helpoffe Member of Palament Shri. Congress Committee office, wardno Kuldeep Rai Sharma anddo curbest 1, He has been honoured by Shri. Sh

Youth awareness programme on cooperatives by NCUI

India, Cooperative Education Field Project (Ministry of Cooperation) A&N Unit continuing its efforts to

Port Blair Sept 16: The strengthen cooperative movement National Cooperative Union of in this Island through organizing seminars, workshops, cooperative education programmes as well as



EDITORIAL

🗷 The Andaman EXPRESS

A notable omission

Elsa Schiaparelli, who dominated the fashion world between the two World Wars, famously said, "In difficult times, fashion is always outrageous." The talian designer's words may have resonated with those who gathered at the Met Gala on September 13, even as the world beyond the Met Gala on September 13, even as the world beyond the red carpet grappled with the Covid pandemic, political and economic instability and climate emergency. Known for its mix of haute coulture and weirdness, the Gala's red carpet this year featured some of the most jaw-dropping looks seen recently. Kim Kardashian's black full-bodysuit which covered even her face, popstar Lil Nas X's three-stage costume and singer Billie Eilish's throwback to Hollywood's Golden Era— all created an escapist fantasy.

But meall will created on the evening mostly as political

Golden Era — all created an escapist fantasy. But reality did intrude on the evening, mostly as political statements via fashion, such as politician Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez's gown, which declared "Tax the Rich". Rights for women, the LGBTQI+ community, BIPOC, animals — causes of all kinds got a shout-out. One cause, however, that got a mere whisper of support was that of the Afghan people. Huma Abedin, former aide to Hillary Clinton, wore the "memorial blue" ribbon for 911 with the flags of the US and Afghanistan over it, conveying her hope that "we will not forget what the people of Afghanistan are facing as they go through this monumental and uncertain time". As the theme of the evening was inward-looking — "American Independence" — it may have been too much to expect attention for the fate of the Afghans. Never mind that one of the evening's attendess and wearing a gown that of the evening's attendees and wearing a gown that demanded, in big, bold letters, "Equal Rights for Women," was politician Carolyn Maloney who, in 2001, had worn a burqa to the House of Representatives and supported the invasion of Afghanistan in the name of its women.

Youth awareness..
skill development training programme for promotion of various income generating activities. With income generating activities. With its aim the NCUI, Field Project, Port Blair has organized a "Youth awareness programme on cooperatives" at Namuna Ghar Panchayathall bday on 16.09.2021. Dr. L. B. Singh, Senior scientist, Kichbi Kruse Koode, Par Blair Kichbi Kruse Koode, Par Blair Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Port Blair was the Chief guest on the was the Chief guest on the occasion. In his address he said that the concept of cooperative is very much important, It can play a vital role for socio-economic uplitment ofpeople. He expressed his hospings through the office. is happiness towards the active efforts taken by NCUI, Coop. Edn. Field Project, A&N Unit for creating awareness among the y ouths about this valuable concept.
Welcoming the gathering Shri.
Surendra Nath Singh, Project
officer, NCUI has said that
cooperative itself have the power
of that the work records together for of unity to work people together for achieving similar goal. He emphasize the youth of the area to organize cooperatives for their

Bittu S Nathan, Inspector of Cooperative Societies (Cooperative Department) highlighted the historical moments of cooperatives. He said that the success of cooperative is only depends on active participation of its members and good its members and good governance. Shri Mohd. Saffique ex. Pradhan, Mitha Khari Gram ex. Pradnan, Mitha Khari Gram Panchay at in his address said that cooperative have encouraged the youths and provided the better platform of self employ ment opportunities in the rural area, we have to enroll more youths in the cooperative fold for their better upliftment. Smt. Prethima, Ex. Pradhan, Namuna Ghar Gram Panchay at and Shri Naresh Ram. Cooperative Edn. Instructor, NCUI Field Project, Port Blair also delivered their speeches on the subject. 30 Youth of the area were

from... Page 01

Drowning Man.,

of them after cutting the rope of a boar anchored there, rowed to the spot and rescued the person. Thereafter, the rescued person was immediately shifted to G.B. Pant Hospital for treatment with the support of PCR Vehicle. The person was identified as P Chandran S/o Late Pitchai (45

MP launches Andaman. components of the device is designed and fabricated in Andaman

Island.
This Equipment could be manufactured in Andaman under the Atmanirb ar Andaman Ahiy aan to meetthe Atmanirbahr Bharat Abhyan scheme, and the technology is available on free of cost for the interested to manufactures.

It would be a pride to our Islands if a medical device gets manufactured in our Islands under MAKE in India. Keeping in view of the pastexperience from the second e of the COVID19 pandemic the predicted Third wave of the

from... Page 01

Buniy adabad. The constable along with the Fisherman (who left without intimating his details) have shown exemplary act of bravery and humanity to save the life of a human. South Andaman Police appreciates the actof both these persons.

participated in the programme. The

programme was coordinated by Smti. Sunila Kumari, Lady

Mobiliser NCUI Port Blair

from... Page 01

COVID19 pandemic, this Oxygen Concentrator would help in overcoming any shortage of oxy gen supplies in these islands.

All the dignitaries have appreciated the efforts of the team for bringing the pride movement for the people of this island. The chief guest appreciated all the team members for the contribution to develop the oxygen concentrator. And a special appreciation to Dr. N Muruganandam, Scientist C. ICMR RMRC, who was also worked as frontline worker in two different pandemic ie., COVID19 pandemic and Swine-flu pandemic.

Last date for IGNOU admission extended till 23rd Sept

Port Blair Sept 16: social distancing norms. For more The last date for admission in Indira details, visit IGNOU Website Gandhi National Open University's for July 2021, is extended upto 23rd September, 2021 without upto 23th September, 2021 without any late fees. For Online admission, log on - https:// ignouadmission.samarth.edu.in and for Offline Admissions, Forms can be collected from Regional Centre Office at Mohanpura during working hours ensuring

www.ignou.ac.in or contac IGNOU Regional Centre. Port IGNOU Regional Centre, Port Blair, Kannada Sangha Building, Near Syndicate Bank, Mohanpura, Port Blair. Phone: 03192-242888 or 0 3 1 9 2 - 2 3 0 11 1 1, Email: reportblair@ignou.ac.in. A communication from the Regional Director, IGNOU Regional Centre, Port Blair said.

BANGLADESH'S NEW PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION LAW: DOOR AJAR FOR MISUSE

In a forward-looking m ove, the governmenthas set out to form a law for personal data protection fashioned on the EU's momentus General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) as it looks to make Bangladesh fit for the

digital age.

Like the GDPR, the law would

certain state agencies like the law enforcement

law enforcement agencies are to complying with the law for functions of the government." The Daily Star has a copy of the draft law prepared in Novemberlast year. "The problem in the draft law is that it leaves loopholes for the government agencies which will holly the whole purpose of the law," said Md Saimum Reza Talukder, an advocate who specialises in law, privacy and digital technologies. For example, the law will not be applicable for government agencies building a case against someone under the existing laws of the land. In other words, someone being

In other words, someone being ecuted under any law will not have the right to data protection, meaning the spectre of the contentious Digital SecurityAct (DSA) --where digitaldata is the main evidence used -- would continue to loom large.

The DSA has been routinely abused to target journalists and muzzle colline dissent.
The law is being drafted fordata protection, privacy and to control social media, said Mustafa Jabbar, minister of post telecommunication.

telecommunication.
"I want this law," he said.
The Director General of the
Digital Security Agency will be



investigating violations, levying fines and ensuring overall compliance—and

investigating violations, levying fines and ensuring overal compliance – and will be exempted from prosecution along with employees of the Data Protection Office for violations to be considered as "done ingood faith". "If the DG or Data Protection Officeis indemnified against any such prosecution, it contradicts the constitution, which guarantees the fundamental right of equality before the law. This provision cannot be expected in a democratic society," Talkuder said.

As per the proposed act, it will be mandatory for private and public organisations to appoint or designate individuals as data controllers and data

protection officers.

The data protection officer is a person appointed by the data controller

to make sure that the relevant data protection laws are being followed.

A data controller is defined as the person responsible for collecting or processing (or supervising the processing) of personal data.

For the government, this could be a law enforcement officer, for a non-governmental organisation, it could be the person in charge of supervising beneficiary data or even the power to therevee and give mandatory directions to all data controllers and data processors.

processors.

The draft contains a

provision that will enable the government to officially government to officially publish pazetles exempting certain data controllers or class of data controllers from having to follow any provision of the law. With exemplish escion, it is completely exempting government agencies, or state forces who are functioning as data controllers.

This consoled with the fact that

datacontrolers.

This coupled with the fact that the DG is indemnified from facing prosecution for such directions takes away checks and balances from the perspective of administrative law and inght also hamper institutional autonomy, he said.

"The government's law enforcement mechanisms never hesitated to weaponise such laws before, 'said-aheem Hussain, a tech policy specialist and en associate

policy specialist and an associate professor at Arizona State University, who chairs the school's Global Technology and Development post-

graduate programme. The law gives the citizen the right to know about what kind of data is

being collected about them, and whether any data profile is being created, but it exempts cases in which "processing is necessary for functions of the government". In another section, the draft law

In andher section, the draft law says personal data can only be processed incompliance with the law, but will not be applicable "for compliance with any legal obligation to which the data controller is the shired."

to winch the data continuer is the subject. Another touchy feature of the draft law - which is present in the GDPR - is that foreign organisations with a branch, agency or even a single piece of equipment in Bangdadeshwill have to comply and fall under the jurisdiction of the DG. The nexcallatal of Banghafeshi.

The personal data of Bangladeshi

The personaldata of Bangladesn: citizens must stay in the country. The draft says citizens must be notified via written notice about any cross-border transfer of personal data being carried out and that the data being carried out and that the data controller carrior transfer any personal data to a place outside Bangladesh unless the government gives permission.

data to a place outside Bangladesh unless the government gives permission.

This means development partners, foreign NGOs and international human rights organisations as well as foreign banks kee Sandard Chartered and HSBC will have to localise data within the Bangladeshtermiory.

This might be problematic, according to Blukder.

This might also be problematic if the government requires the development partners, INGOs, and international human rights organisations to localise data within Bangladesh tiertory. Complance with other regional and international pessonal data protection principles will be an issue then "said Talukder.

Last month, Zunaid Ahmed Palak, state minister for information and communication technology, told The Daily Star that the law is being formulated to ensure that data of the people of Bangladesh stay within the country and that all foreign organisations must comply with it.

"Orelse, they will not be allowed to operate in Bangladesh," he said.

While such an uncompromising stance can work for the EU, it can backfire for Bangladesh." —a country in direneed of foreign direct investment and receives a rather modest sum every ear.

In 2020, Bangladesh received about \$2.6 billion in FDI, down 10.8 percent year—nyear, according to data

percent year-on-year, according to data from the Bangladesh Bank.

from the Bangladesh Bank.
Closs-border transfer of detathet
serve the "strategic interests" of the
country however are exempt from this,
which begs the question what
constitutes a strategic interest.
Once the draft bill is finalised, it
ill be put up for public debate and
then changed further.
The provisions for foreign entities
might not stay in the final version for
the law be areas the one were of the

the law because the government does not want to impact the FDI flow in any

not wait to impose a con-way, he said.

"This provision has been rejected by the higher levels. We do not have the leverage required to make foreign companies comply with this. It is crucial for the country to attract foreign incompant"

investment."

Quizzed about the exemptions left for government agencies and whether they will remain in the final draft, he said he was unsure.

"We have observed over 130 laws from a cross the world, and they all have similar provisions for law enforcement agencies," he added.

SA Police Recovers Missing Minor Boy Within 36 Hours After He Went Missing

Port Blair Sept 16: On 14/ 09/2021, a case was registered at PS Aberdeen under relevant at PS Aberdeen under relevant section of kidnapping and due to the extensive efforts of the Investigating officer, SI Regan Isaac under the direction of Insp. K. Joju, SHO PS Aberdeen, the minor boy has been recovered within 36 hours of time after

investigation was entrusted to SI was closed since the lockdown.

On 13/09/2021, the minor Acting swiftly, the Investigating boy went to Aberdeen Bazaar but Officer made extensive efforts to he did not return home till alte recover the minor boy by night. Accordingly, as per the analyzing various CCTV statement of the local guardian of footages and examining the the missing minor boy, a case vide Fix No. 120/21 dated 14/ promptaction, the minor boy was 09/2021, U/s 363 IPC has been recovered on 15/09/2021 from a registered at PS A berdeen. The lodge at Aberdeen Bazaar, which

Ine minor boy had isolated himself in the said lodge due to personal issues. Further investigation is going on. The general public is hereby requested to keep watch over their kids to avoid any untow and incidents and also requested to incidents and also requested to pass on information with Police in case of missing to 100, 112

Counseling for admission of four years course at TGCE today

counseling for admission to Four Years Integrated Course in Education viz. B.A.B.Ed. (English), Education vtz. B.A.B.Ed. (English), B.A.B.Ed. (Hindi), B.A.B.Ed. (History) B.Sc.B.Ed. (Computer Science) and B.Sc.B.Ed. (Maths) in Tagore Government College of Education, Port Blair will be held on September 17 at 9.30 am in Tagore

carniciaes have been requested to abend the counseling asper the above schedule. The category-wise final list of candidates applied for admission to the above courses has already been published after attending to the claims and objections on September 1,0000 and 1 8, 2021 and is available at http:// collegeadmission.andaman.gov .in/

Port Blair Sept 16: The for B.Sc.B.Ed. at 11 am. The aspring session scheduled on September nseling for admission to Four cardidates have been requested to 17, 2021 shall be given admission 11, 2uz i snail o given admission on the same day and classes shall begin immediably from the next day. Those who fail to attend the counselling session, in time, will not be considered for admission to the course and next eligible candidate in the merit list will be considered for admission. Auditorium. The counseling for admission to different subjects in Candidates selected for admission to uter islands is unable to attend by A.B.Ed. will start 49.30 am and to hese courses during counseling the counseling due to sudden

breakdown of transportation, they hav e been requested to intim at their position over telephone in any one of the giv en Mobile No. 9434282037, 9434280223 so that their claim for admission can be protected during counseling. Such information should reach to these phone numbers by 9.30 am on September 17, 2021. If no information is received, the next eligible candidate will be considered for admission.

How will Zomato co-founder Gaurav Gupta's exit affect the company?

It is hard to speculate the main cause of exit of Zomato's co-founder Gaurav Gupta, coming as it is at a time when the company wentpublic barely a few months ago. Gupta was the face of Zomato's IPO and his departue, though in mostprobable terms must have been brew ing for a long time, is not a good developmentfor the company. developmentfor the company.

Experts feel thatan IPO entails much more

Experts feel hatan iPO entails much more public scrutiny and an effort bw and sincreasing politability and hence hecompany cannotkeep burning cash like a start-up any lorger.

Zomato had apparently reported a consolidated bas of Rs 356, 2 core during the 0.1 ending June 30, 2021. The company had posted a loss of Rs 99, 8 crore in the same period a year ago. Zomato's bolt revenue from operations had, how ever, jumped to Rs 844.4 crore during the quarter when compared to Rs 266 crore in the corresponding period last year. 266 crore in the corresponding period last year

"It is difficult to speculate on the cause of the ex it of Gaurav Gupta. It is not clear if the

other founders made significant efforts to retain

him. Overall, it is a negative development for

the company, particularly when the company

is embarking on the grocery market which

requires huge cash burns. In such a phase, all hands should be on deck," observed Alok Shende of Ascentius Consulting.

Experts believe that though the exit of Gupta will leave a temporary vacuum across Zomato, no organisation is dependenton a single person. The show mustgo on "The few steps taken by the company in the recent past like shutting off the grocery delivery business, nutraceuticals business, international expansion and a few others seem like they are in the right and a two viers's seen like they are in the light direction. How ever, this is where public scutility and the focus on profilebility comes into picture. Now, the company needs to do this whether they like it or not They can't keep burning cash like a start-up any more," pointed out Sathy a Pramod, CEO Kayess Square Consulling Private Limited.

Pramod observed that more accountability and a shifttowards profitability augurs well for the organisation in the long run. "When you have a stake in an established player like Grofers, why do you need to reinvent the wheel.

Apparently, most of the businesses had been conceptualised by the GG (Gupta) as he is fondly called across Zomato and this could be

something which he probably could not be happy about. How ever, nothing happens instantaneously as we know in organisations decisions take some time, "he said.

The exit of Gupta will create a void and a sense of instability within Zomaba and outside as he was handling several aspects of the husiness and was involved in sharing many was involved in sharing many. as he was handling several aspects of the business and was involved in shaping many critical aspects of the organisation. "There will be a few changes in the ways forward in Zomato. These changes could be in domains as critical as organisation culture to tactics in sates, marketing, supply chain and many more, said Adily a Naray an Mishra, director and CEO of CIEL HR Services.

This is not the first time that a co-founder has left an entity after reaching a certain size and shape. "There are examples right from iconic companies like Infosys to recent ones like infosys to recent ones like

companies like Infosys to recent ones like Grofers. Their beliefs in the fundamentals of the business model remain intact and the market continues to recognize those. Though some of their new initiatives have been shelved for Zomato, they would continue their focus on value creation and stabilise the operations soon," added

Greetings

Shri Ajoy Bairagi, State President, Bharatiy aJanata Party, Andaman & Nicobar Islands extended his heartfelt wishes to all

Islanders on the auspicious occasion of Vishwakarma Puja. Vishwakarma Puja, also know nas VishwakarmaJay anf, is an Vishwakarma Puja, alsoknow nas Vishwakarma.layanfi, is an important festival celebrated by the Hindu community. On this day, the divine architect or he architect of the Gods, Lord Vishwakarma is worshipped. The festival is primarily observed by shops, factories, and industries. On this occasion, workers of factories and industrial areas worship their tools and offer prayers to Lord Vishwakarma to keep their lividinoods secure. They pray for the smooth functioning of machines and refrain formusing their tools on the day of Vishwakarma Puja.

PS Diglipur Team Seize Venison

Port Blair Sept 16: On 15/09/2021 credible information was received from reliable source that few persons are transporting venison in a cargo vehicle at Shyam Nagar area. Upon this, a team of PS in a cargo venicle at Sny am Nagar area. Upon mis, a beam or tre-Diglipur consisting Inspr. Stallin N.S., SHO PS Diglipur, HC/938 Mohan Rao, PC/2868 Nity anand Baroi, PC/540 Prince Ch. Das and CT/161 Madfuscodan rushed to the suspected area at Shy am Nagar and intercepted the said cargo vehicle (M/Bokro Pck tup Van) and recovered a blue cobured gunny bag containing 14 Kgs venion and arrested Ob person on the sportnamely 1) Pshir Khogen Biswas Driver of Pick-tup Van 2) Subhankar Mazumdar 3) Basudev Mondal 4) Prosantili Riveas St Illam Kr. Das and (8) Vargan Biswas Aller 4) Prosanjit Biswas 5) Úttam Kr. Das and 6) Swapan Biswas. After 4) Prosanit ciswas 5) utam kr. Das and 6) Swapan biswas. Ame to beserving all codal formalities, the saced articles were handedover to forest officials for further necessary action. The whole operation was conducted under the supervision of Shri R.K. Sharma, SDPO(Diglipur). The general public is requested to pass on credible information regarding any illegal activities to the mobile numbers 8000910218 & 95318562819474222107. The identity of the informers will be kept secret and will also be suitably rewarded.

ANTCC President condoles demise

Port Blair Sept 16: Shri Rangalal Halder, President, Andaman & Nicobar Terribrial Congress Cammittee along with senior leaders of the Congress party and its forhalongarizations have deeply mourned the demises of Shri Ashubash Biswas s/go Late Aditya Biswas, age 54 years, Deputy Ranger off-orest department Rio Rampur, Middle Andaman who passed away on 15.09 2021. They pray ed to Amighty Drive Jobband Paracet has department and Congress to the Progress of the to give eternal peace to the departed soul and courage to the bereaved family to bear the irreparable loss.

Vaccination drive continuing smoothly in ANI

Port Blair Sept 16: The vacchation drive is continuing smoothly in A&N Islands. As per data available, a blat of 39,7,355 beneficiaries have been vaccinated so far in A&N Islands, out of the target beneficiaries of 2, 81,603 (approx.). A total of 3801 people were vaccinated yesterday in A&N Islands. A total of 1,60,706 eligible people in the age group of 18 b 44 years have been vaccinated till dated 15-09-2021. 2607 beneficiaries were vaccinated in South Adaman District and further 1001 beneficiaries were in the age. Andaman District, out of which 1091 beneficiaries were in the age group of 18-44 years. Similarly, 656 beneficiaries were vaccinated in North & Middle Andaman District out of which 73 beneficiaries were in the age group of 18.44. 538 beneficiaries were vaccinated in Nicoba District out of which 7 beneficiaries were in the age group of 18-44.

17.09.2021 Friday Port Blair

Govt relief a boost for Vodafone Idea, sizeable tariff hikes key for long-term sustainability

sigh of relief following the much-awaited announcement of the relief package for the telecom sector by the government. The package which includes a four-year moratorium on dues which includes a rour-year monaunum on uses and rationalisation of the definition of adjusted gross revenue (AGR), which will now exclude non-telecom revenue of companies, is expected to benefit Vodabne tleathe most blown away the clouds of uncertainty over its

"This (moratorium and redefining of AGR) will immediately ease out the stress on the cash flows of the telcos to a great extent especially Vodafone Idea," Vipula Sharma, director – ratings

Vodabneldea," Vipula Sharma, director –rafings at Blickwork Ratings said.

Last year the Supreme Court had dealt a big blow to the incumbent telecom companies like VIL and Bharff Airtel when it ruled in fav our of the government over the definition of AGR. Later, it also turned down the petitions of telecom companies that had sought recalculation of AGR companies that rais soughtrecacculation or Arist dues. VIL, which had a gross debt of Rs. 191 lakh crore as of June 30, 2021 was the most impacted. The debt includes deferred spectrum pay ment obligations of Rs. 1.06 lakh crore and AGR liability of Rs. 62, 180 crore, according to the company's stock exchange filings. Its debt from banks and financial institutions stood at Rs 23,400 crore. In contrast, the cash and cash equivalents stood at just Rs 920 crore.

equivalents stood at just ks 920 crore.

The company had b shell out around Rs 8,000-9,000 crore towards the AGR payments by March 31, 2022 and over Rs 15,000 crore during 2022-23 owards the spectrum payments, pointed Sharma. "The moratorium will help the company in conserving the liquidity, which in turn can be used for debtrepay ments and capex requirements," Sharma added.

requirements, Samina acode.

VIL has been intalks for some time now to raise funds, but with the uncertainties around its future prospects, no investor had come forward to stike a deal. Thegovernments relief package should come as a breather now, for the existing promoters as well as any potential investor. The government has also allowed 100 per centforeign direct investment in telecom via the automatic route, which should also help attract new

investors in the sector.

The other measures include annual compounding of interest rates on dues, instead of monthly compounding, the spectrum auctions

will now be for 30 years from 20 years and there will also be no penalties on dues. "The package provides huge relief to VIL forthe next four years as the annual cash outgo to the next four years as the annual cash outgo towards government dues will reduce from 82, 25,300 crore to Rs 3,100 crore, with an option of converting the same into equity for the government," said analysts at Emkay Global Financial Services.

While the government's relief measures are surely a much needed lifeline for the sector,

importantly for VIL, the Emkay analysts do point that the annual pay out to the government is likely to increase is used to the source from the financial year 2027

Day anand Mittal, analy st at JM Financial Lay anano mutai, analy star Jwn Financial Institutional Securities noted that the morabrium willimprove VIL's cash flow by Rs 9,100 crore in the current financial year, while over FY2023-2026, the cash flow is likely to improve by Rs 24,900 crore annually.

While the relief gives VIL a much needed breather, it could help Bharti Airtel in terms of debtrepay ments and more investments in capex

ocorepaymens are noneinvestements incaper.

"While Bharti has sufficientificiality to meet near-term payments, the Rs 11,500 crore b Rs 13,000 crore extra cash flow per annum over FY23-26 could provide Bharti with more leway to either pay down the debt or utilise for faster capex ramp up in 56/f fibre-to-the-home and heave fortifit the leadership amonst tremium. hence fortify the leadership amongst premium cusbmers," said Mital.

For VIL, the longer term concerns do remain. "The moratorium helps to solve the remain. * The moratorium helps to solve the immediate liquidity wees of VII., but is tallooning debt and annual EMI after four years will be difficult to address, * said analysts at Motlal Oswal Financial Services. The government has tried to cushion this by offering an option to convert the interest

componentaccrued during the moratorium period into equity. But, the Motilal Oswal analysts note that VIL's interest component will be huge at

around Rs 50,000 crore against its current market capitalisation of Rs 39,000 crore.

"Hence, the conversion of interestacciued in bequity could have a significant impact on the shareholding," the analysts said

So, despite the relief, telecom companies will have to raise tariffs sizeably, which will be essential to make additional investments in essential to make a adultional investments in strengthening the existing infrastructure and making investments towards 5G. Companies that opt for the moratorium also need to pay interest atthe rate of the marginal cost offunds based lending rate (MCLR) plus 2 per cent. "Despite immediate cash outgo relief, telcos would still need to raise tariffs for sustainable improvements in cash flows," said Nitesh Jain

improvements in cash flows, said Nitesh Jan, director, CRISIL Ratings.

In the last few months, there has been someselective increase in base prepad tariffs. But, a broad-based tariff hike in the prepaid segmentlast happened only in December 2019. VIL has been among the weakest in terms of average revenue per user (ARPU); it has an ARPU of Rs 104, compared with Bharti Airtel's ARPU of Rs 146 and Reliance Jio's Rs 138. We expect telcos to raise tariffs by at least 20 per cent equiv alent to a Rs 25-30 increase in monthly ARPU by the end of this fiscal and dial up the sector's return on capital employ ed from a paltry 3 per cent last fiscal to 8 per cent next fiscal," said Jain.

The Emkay analysts have factored in 15-18 per centlariff hikes in the second half of the year ending March 2022. Mittal of JM Financial feels, the government needs to implement more reforms like introduction of a floor tariff across the sector or setting up a mechanism to ensure tarif hikes are taken in a sustainable manner going forward.

The other major concern for VIL has

been its continued decline in subscribers and will need to take measures to strengthen its network and in turn stem the subscriber outflow. Vodafone Idea's shares subscriberoution. Voidanne lidea s shales were trading 15 per cent higher in the morning trade at Rs 10,23. As of Wednesday's close, the stock had gained 46 per centhis month. Bharti Artel, which had gained 9 per cent in the same period, was down 0.2 per cent to Rs 724 on Thursday morning. Reliance Industries was also drown 0.1 per cent to Rs. was also down 0.1 per cent to Rs 2,376.65.



AFFIDAVIT

The Andaman Express 05

I Smti Maya Rani Paul w/o Late Nikunja Paul, R/o Talbagan village, under Diglipur Tehsil in North Andaman, do hereby solemnly solemnly affirm and declare the following :-

That, my husband had been expired on 20/04/2019 he left behind myself & 04 others family member. The particulars of family details

ı				
l	SL	NAME	AGE/DATE	RELATION
l	No		OF BIRTH	SHIP
	1	Smti Maya Rani Paul	54 years	wife
	2	Smti Radha Rani Samadder	33 years	Daughter
l	3	Shri Nithin Paul	31 years	Son
	4	Smti Binda Paul	28 years	Daughter
l	5	Smti Asha Rani Paul	24 years	Daughter

The above statement is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief

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NOW, AN AI PLATFORM TO SPEED

One of the most time-consuming part in making a vaccine is to identify the right target. Or the right protein in a pathogen which can stimulate the immune system to start making the right antibodies. A joint team of Indian and US scientists have announced the successful development of an artificial intelligence-powered platform, which can speed up the identification of this target from a few years to a matter of

days.

Researchers from Amity
University (Noida) and BaylorCollege
ofMedicine (BCM-Houston, USA) have
developed an AI platform to find
clinically important vaccine targets and
epitopes that speed up the vaccine
destination process for death infectious designing process for deadly infectious diseases such as COVID-19 and

Chagas disease.
The results of this study have been published in UK-based journal called

Scientific Reports and PubMed, titled 'Identification of vaccine targets in pathogens and design of a vaccine using computational approaches" with Dr Kam al Rawal, scientist, associate Dr Kam al Kawal, scientist, associate professor and project director, Amity Institute of Biotechnology, Amity University, as the lead author. The platform, called Vaxi-AI, has been tested on 40 different pathogens, including SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19), Miscach estimate the way leaf. (TD) Mycobacterium tuberculosis (TB)

Myco bacterium twoercurosis (1B), Vibro c'holerae (cholera) and Plasmodium falciparum (malaria). The research was supported by the Kleberg Foundation, USA, and Baylor College of Medicine, with a total grant of USD 1.9 million. Most of the research work was done in India over four years.

"We are talking to biotech companies to include this AI platform in their next generation of vaccine

development programmes,' THE WEEK. "This identification process will speed up vaccine development by two to three vaccine development by two to three years, the cost of making them will come down and they will yield better, next-generation vaccines which can significantly reduce side effects and breakthrough infections." He also said that Al will encourage rational vaccine designing methods.

To validate the Al system, the seam shortlisted over 335 experimentally.

To validate the AI system, the team shortlisted over 335 experimentally verified antigens belonging to 40 different pathogens and found their system was correctly predicting most of them with reasonable accuracy. These examples also include targets from FDA approved/marketed vaccines. The next line of action is to inject mice with these computer. inject mice with these computer suggested vaccines to demonstrate that suggested vaccines to demonstrate that the designed vaccines are non-toxic and sufficiently im muno genic (produce enough antibodies) before entering into clinical trials. To help other biologists working in the area of immunology and vaccines, Rawal has created a cloud-based convention. based server which can be used by the researchers across the world to analyse researchers across the world to analyse their proteins and genes as potential vaccine targets. In the wake of emergence of delta variant of COVID-19, the team is also engaging with various pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies for customised deployment for commercial scale application to develop new vaccines against emerging infectious



NEW ROLE FOR DHON!? MSD TO B OF DEFENCE PANEL TO REVIEW NCC

Day's after Mahendra Singh Dhoniwas appointed Team hdia's menbr forthe upcoming T20 World Cup, the former skipper is learnt to have been given anothernew role, albeit off the cricket field.

The Union defence ministry said on Thursday that it has constituted a high-level expert committee, under the chairmanship confirmer, under the chairmanship of former MP Baijay ant Panda, for a comprehensive review of the National Cadet Corps (NCC). Dhoni and Mahindra group

man Anand Mahindra will be rank in the Army.

ong the members of the mittee.

Dhoni is paratrooper of the Dhoni is paratrooper of the Cup semifinal loss to New chairman Anand Mahindra will be among the members of the

Territory Army unit of the Indian Army's Parachute Regiment, and is an honorary Lt Colonel. He had also undergone training under the Para Brigade in 2015.

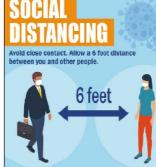
Indian military gives honorary ranks to people to recognise their contribution to their fields. Sachin Tendulkar is an honorary group captain of the Indian Air Force and Kapil Dev, ace-shooter Abhinav Bindra and politicians such as Sachin Pilot and Rao Birender Singh have been given honorary



SELF AND OTHERS

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Printed & Published by Anand Ganeshan on behalf of The Andaman Express New spapers Private Limited Printed at Finded at unised by Principal Consistential FBI and gymnastics officials turned a 'blind eye' to sexual abuse: Simone Biles

Olympic gold medalist Simone Biles told Congress through tears Wednesday that the FBI and gymnastics officials turned a "blind ey e" to USA Gymnastics team doctor Larry Nassar"s sex ual abuse of her and hundreds of

Riles told the Senate Judiciary Committee that enough is enough as she and three other US gymnasts spoke instark emotional terms about the lasting toll Nassar's crimes have taken on their lives.

The 2016 Olympic champion and a fivetime world champion — widely considered to be the greatest gymnast of all time — said that she "can imagine no place that I would be less combrable right now than siting here in front of you." She declared herselfa survivor of sexual

"I blame Larry Nassar and I also blame an entire system that enabled and perpetrated his abuse," Biles said. She said USA Gymnastics and the United States Olympic Gymnastics and the United States Olympic and Paraly mpic Committee "knew that I was abused by theirofficial team doctor long before I was ever made aw are of their know ladge." Biles said a message needs to be sent: "If you allow a predator to harm children, the

consequences will be swift and severe. Enough is enough." An internal investigation by the Justice Department released in July said that the FBI made fundamental errors in the probe and did not treat the case with the "utmost reported the allegations to the FBI's field office

in Indianapolis in 2015.

The FBI has acknowledged its own conduct was inex cusable. At least 40 girls and women said they were molested after the FBI had been made aw are of the problem. Maroney said the FBI minimized and disregarded the aftershe reported Nassar and said the BBI minimized and disregarded the said the FBI minimized and disregarded the said the sagency delayed the investigation as other gymnasts were abused.

w ere abused.

"Ithink for so long all of us questioned, just because someone else wasn't fully validating us, that we doubted what happened to us,"

Maroney said.

"And I think that makes the healing process take binger."

Biles and Maroney were joined by Aly Raisman, another Olympic gold medallist, and gymnast Maggie Nichols. Raisman said it "disgusts me" that they are still looking for answers six years after the original allegations against Nassar were reported.

"We just can't fix a problem we don't undersland, and we can'tundersland the problem unless and until we have all of the facts," Raisman said, noting the traumatic effect the abuse has had on all of them.

"Being here today is taking everything I have," she said. "My main concernis I hope I hav ethe energy to just walk out of here. I don"t think people realize how much it affects us. Biles acknowledged in January 2018

ary 2018 that

were abused by Nassar. She is the only one of the witnesses who competed in the 2020 Toky o Olympics — held this year after a one-year delay due to the coronavirus pandemic — but removed herself from the team finals to focus on her mental health

She returned to earn a bronz e medal on beam but bild the committee the lingering trauma from her abuse at the hands of Nassar play ed a factor in her decision to opt out of several compettions

Democratic and Republican senators ex pressed disgust over the case and said they would continue to investigate. Senate Judiciary

would continue to investigate. Serate Judicary Committee Chairman Richard Durbin, D-III, said it was among the most compelling and hearthreaking testimony he had ever heard. The inspector general's office found that "despite the extraordinarily serious nature" of the claims against Nassar, FBI officials in Indianapolis did not respond with the "utmost seriousness and urgancy that the allenations."

Indianapoils dur notrespond with the "umost seriousness and urgency that the allegations deserved and required."

The watchdog in westigation also found that when the FBI's Indianapolis field office's handling of the matter came under scrutiny, officials there did not take any responsibility for the misterious and assi is presponsibility. for the missteps and gave incomplete and for the missteps and gave incompete and inaccurate information to internal FBI inquiries to make it look like they had been diligent in their investigation. The FBI rebuked its own employ sees who failed to act in the case and said it "should not have happened."

PВ



Public Grievance Cell, Delanipur. (Free Service) Advisor: K. Ganeshan Time: 8.00 a.m. to 8.30 a.m. & 7.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. Phone: 03192 - 230442 / 9434280981