



# ANDAMAN Chronicle

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The Daily Diary of the Islands



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PORT BLAIR, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2022 RNI REGN. No. ANDENG/2006/19155 :: PAGES : 6 :: Rs. 3/-

## Jarawa Facts

The Jarawa resisted contact with the growing numbers of Indian settlers on their islands until 1998. Now, they are under serious threat. Poachers are camping for days at a time in their forest, hunting the animals they depend on and bringing disease, violence and exploitation.

## Your Nature Guide

**The Oceanic Giant Wheel:** How does the complex web of life in the sea sustain itself? Who eats what? What happens when plants and animals die?

Marine plants convert the inorganic nutrients available in the sea into organic matter and atone it. These are eaten by the vegetarian forms of life, which in turn are eaten by the carnivores. When they die, the plants and animals of the sunlight zone start sinking down towards the ocean floor. They gradually decomposed along the way. Nutrients locked away in their body tissues are released.

Some remains of dead plants and animals reach the deeper oceans and are fed on by the scavenger animals (like the deep water sharks) living there. Even wastes from animals in the surface waters provide nutrients for the animals living in the deep sea. This entire downward movement of organic debris recycles the nutrients that are gradually carried back to the surface to be used by the plants there to make food.

**Treasured Islands - By Sunita Rao. Courtesy: Kalpavriksh, ANET (MCBT)**

## People's Voice

Jo bhi ho, magar ye fir se Lock Down na karwa de ... Bhook aur udhaari se log jaada marenge agar ye Lock Down hua toh ...

- A Citizen



**It's not scam money... this ₹100 crore was deposited into my account due to an error by the bank!**

## Lt. Governor to Hoist National Flag on 30<sup>th</sup> Dec to Commemorate First Flag Hoisting by Netaji

**Port Blair, Dec. 28:** Admiral DK Joshi, PVSM, AVSM, YSM, NM, VSM (Retd.), Hon'ble Lt Governor, A&N Islands and Vice-Chairman, Islands Development Agency will hoist the National Flag at Flag Point on 30th December, 2022 at 8 am to commemorate

the First Flag Hoisting by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in the year 1943.

In this regard, the A&N Administration has chalked out befitting programmes ensuring Jan Bhagidari at Block, District and UT level. These programmes are being

organized as part of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'. The programmes highlighting the contribution of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and INA in the freedom struggle is being organized by respective Deputy Commissioners throughout

the Islands involving schools, PRIs and others from December 28 to Dec. 30, 2022. All Islanders have been requested to participate in these events.

## Minister of State Health & Family Welfare Monitors Mock Drill on COVID-19 at GB Pant

**Port Blair, Dec. 28:** Under nation wide mock drill, Minister of State, Health and Family Welfare Dr. Bharati Pravin Pawar inspected the current medical infrastructure and preparedness to deal with Covid\_19 emergency at G B Pant Hospital, Port Blair, Andaman and Nicobar Islands on 27<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2022.

The Minister visited the ICU, OPD ward, dispensary and medical oxygen plant at the hospital premises and also met the patients. She also took



stock of hospital's functionality and current available facilities.

Continued on P4

## Pre-Jamboree Residential Camp Organised by Bharat Scouts and Guides

**Port Blair, Dec. 28:** A five days Pre-Jamboree Residential Camp was organized by Bharat Scouts and Guides Unit of the Department of Education, A&N Administration at GSS Junglighat from Dec. 22 to 26, 2022 in which 64 Scouts and Guides students and 12 Teachers participated. They will also attend National Level Jamboree to be held at Pali, Jodhpur, Rajasthan from Jan. 4 to 10, 2023.

The grand campfire and closing ceremony of the Residential Camp was held yesterday. Shri Aditya Kumar Jha, Director (Education)



graced the occasion as the chief guest. Senior Officers of the Department of Education also attended the campfire.

The Director (Education) blessed the students for their participation at National Level Jamboree and appreciated the efforts taken by the Scout Masters and Guide

Continued on P2

## Jolly Takes up Concerns of Nicobar Islanders Regarding Shipping Services with Chief Secretary

**Port Blair, Dec. 28:** Shri Vishal Jolly, National Executive Member BJP has written a letter to Chief Secretary, A&N Administration on issues pertaining to extremely poor shipping services which are seriously affecting the lives of people belonging to Southern groups of Islands, especially Katchal, Teresa, Chowra & Nancowry group of Islands.

Mentioning his recently concluded tour to Nicobar District, Jolly reported in his letter that two

vessels/boats namely M. V. Galathiya and M. V. Barren, which were used for voyages/passenger sailings in the Nancowry group of Islands are out of service due to its poor & pathetic conditions and therefore there is neither any vehicle ferry nor any ferry boat available for Nancowry groups of Islands.

It was further reported that the newly build vessels namely M. V. Nalanda and M. V. Sindhu are not berthing at Katchal Jetty although all the facilities

Continued on P2

## Art Exhibition 'Nirvah' on 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> Dec.

**Port Blair, Dec. 28:** An art exhibition Shri Chanchal Singha Roy titled, 'Nirvah', will take place on the 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2022 from 4:30pm to 8pm at the 'Art Gallery & Studio', Gandhi Park, Port Blair.

The exhibition is open for the general public in the above given timings.

## 1<sup>st</sup> War of Knights Gets Underway at Kolkata



**Port Blair, Dec. 28:** The 1<sup>st</sup> War of Knights Open International FIDE Rating Chess Tournament 2022 begins yesterday the 26th December 2022 at Sonarpur, Kolkata, West Bengal.

Around 240 players across India & abroad are participating in the event in which 2 young budding chess players, (one Boy & one Girl) from Andaman & Nicobar Islands viz Shrihaan Karmarkar, a student of class III, KV-2 Port Blair, and Anuva Majumdar, a student of Carmel Sr. Sec. School Port Blair are taking part in the event.

The tournament will be held for 6 days over 9 rounds under Swiss System in Classical time control from 26th December 2022 to 31st December 2022.

## Mela Moments Photography Contest as Part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

**Port Blair, Dec. 28:** Mela Moments Photography Contest is being organized by Ministry of Culture, New Delhi in partnership with MyGov as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. The contest will run from Sharad Navarathri to Chaitra Navarathri (March 31, 2023). Every month, three best photos will be awarded under following categories with a cash prize.

i. Mela vibes which is an ode to unique & colourful nature of Indian fairs.

ii. Chatori Gully which celebrates best mela food.

iii. Mela Faces which captures the happy faces / portraits from fair visits.

iv. Mela stalls showcasing best of items displayed in fairs.

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# ANDAMAN Chronicle

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*Success is not an activity but a process ...*

## Scaling up the Pace of COVID-19 Genome Sequencing

Three years after strict enforcement of its Zero-COVID strategy, China abandoned it abruptly, leading to a jump in cases each day — an estimated 250 million people were infected in 20 days in December, according to the media, overwhelming hospitals and crematoria. Based on 30 genome sequences deposited between October and December and 14 genome sequences in December alone from China, the BF.7 appears to be the dominant variant. Though this variant was found in many countries, including India, months ago, there is fear that the uncontrolled spread of the virus in China may result in newer variants with an even higher transmissibility. For instance, the BF.7 sub-lineage with three additional immune escape mutations already seen in other variants has been found in some people arriving from China; these mutations may increase transmissibility further but will not increase disease severity. With a case surge in a few more countries, India has taken the right and proactive measures to be ready for any eventuality. With over 90% of the adult population already fully vaccinated by July this year, over one-fourth of adults also boosted, and a large percentage of the population also naturally infected, the chances of India witnessing large-scale deaths as seen during the second wave last year from existing variants are slim. In fact, given that a large percentage of the population enjoys hybrid immunity from vaccination and natural infection leading to all Omicron sub-lineages causing only a mild disease, the focus in India should not be on daily new infections but only on any increase in hospitalisations, particularly ICU admissions.

It is, therefore, not surprising that the Health Ministry has urged States to only ramp up genome sequencing (and not increase testing) to track new variants as the virus evolves by accumulating mutations. The pace of genome sequencing in India has to be scaled up soon after a dramatic slowdown this year. The Government in an effort to minimise the chances of the spread of new variants has introduced 2% random post-arrival sampling of international passengers and mandatory RT-PCR tests for arrivals from China and four other countries. The Ministry has also advised States to ensure uninterrupted supply of medical oxygen and conduct a drill in health facilities to ensure operational readiness. With seven COVID-19 vaccines, including the intranasal vaccine, manufactured using different vaccine platforms approved for use, India is vaccine self-sufficient. Besides homologous boosters, a couple of vaccines have got approval as a heterologous booster dose too. On the antiviral front, a Hyderabad-based company recently received WHO's prequalification for a generic version of Pfizer's COVID-19 oral antiviral drug, Paxlovid.

## BOB'S BANTER

BY ROBERT CLEMENTS



### My Nose, Her Cheeks..!

Today, they're five years old! And I reproduce what I wrote of them when they surfaced on earth:

There's two young men, twins, who've come into my life, and as I hold either one or the other of my daughter's newborns in my hands, I hear voices, "He's got your nose Bob!" or "He's got his daughter's cheeks!" There are some who swear they look exactly like their father, and others sigh and whisper, "Aren't they so cute!"

In fact, I must admit I joined the vanity brigade when I suddenly left the room, stood in front of a bathroom mirror and came back and announced to my wife and all in the room, "I think one of them has my smile!" Never mind that nobody gushed or exclaimed, "Yes Bob, you're right!" It's just that as I held them this morning, helping in their feed, I suddenly understood, and told the two, "What's inside dear boys is what matters!"

I'm not sure they understood, poor mites, hearing me growl such truths to them, but someday I'm going to tell them this, you guys, you might have the smoothest smile, the cutest chin, the most fancied face, but it doesn't matter, it's the inside, that counts!

And maybe they'll turn to me puzzled and ask, "But how would anybody see what's inside grandpa?"

"By the way it comes outside!" I'll tell them.

'Your calm inside can bring peace to those around you. Your sense of justice in your heart will make your friends know how fair you are. Your strong feelings of love will make you loyal to those you're close to. It's the inside my little fellows that matters.'



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I walk to the mirror again, and stare at it, but this time I don't look to see whether the smile is the same as that of the two little chaps. I stare at the mirror and wonder what those around me see, and suddenly I'm not too happy with the man in the mirror.

I walk back to the two little fellows who look back at me. "I pray," I tell them, "That you face challenges as you grow up, and as you face and surmount each obstacle, determination and resolve will form your features!"

"I pray," I tell them, "That you will learn to taste both defeat and victory, and that in defeat you will learn to bounce back and fight again, in victory, you'll both learn to be gracious to those you have won over!"

I look at them and continue, "And may your jaw and cheekbone show proudly those episodes of winning and losing, and that your mouths smile in the face of adversity!"

I hear voices, I hear them say, "He's got Bob's cheeks!" "No, it's his father's chin!" I smile and turn my face to the One above and whisper, "Build them oh Lord, that what's inside will be beautiful to you..!"

Today on their fifth birthday, I realize He's doing just that..!

[bobsbanter@gmail.com](mailto:bobsbanter@gmail.com)

## Jolly Takes up Concerns of Nicobar Islanders Regarding Shipping Services

**Continued from Page 1**  
are available for a smooth berthing at Katchal Jetty.

It was also pointed out that good vessels are not used for providing services at southern group of Islands & sailings of ships are usually irregular in these Islands.

It was further highlighted that the tribal people residing at Nicobar group of Islands culturally and traditionally requires to transport cattle from one Island to another and there are presently no ships/boats available through which the same could be transported. Accordingly, he

demanding that at least one Ferry and one Vehicle Ferry Boat be provided on urgent basis for Nancowry Group of Islands and good condition vessels namely M. V. Nalanda and M. V. Sindhu be instructed to berth at Katchal Jetty at the earliest.

Further he demanded that the sailings of vessels namely M. V. Nalanda and M. V. Sindhu in all ports from Hut Bay, Car Nicobar, Chowra, Terrasa, Katchal and Kamorta Islands be compulsorily scheduled on regular basis, at least thrice in each & every month,

round the year. Also demanded that either new vessels be purchased or the available old vessels be modified & renovated in such a manner that it becomes fit & capable to carry & transport cattle.

Speed boats compulsorily schedule every alternative days between Kamorta and Katchal also added his letter.

Concluding in his letter he requested the Chief Secretary A & N Administration to sort out these issues at the earliest, in the interest of welfare of people belonging to these Islands.

## Pre-Jamboree Residential Camp Organised by Bharat Scouts and Guides

**Continued from Page 1**  
Captains in training the students during the Pre-Jamboree Camp. He has directed the escort teachers to ensure that all the COVID-19 Protocol is observed during

their journey and stay in the Camp. Shri K. Subramani, Secretary (Scouts) presented a brief report about the preparation of National Jamboree.

The Scouts and Guides presented various cultural programmes and innovative Scouts / Guides activities to the gathering on this occasion.



ENTERTAINMENT

Tollywood: Driven by Success

December 28: 2022 has been a tough year for leading ladies in Tollywood. Top actresses like Rashmika Mandanna, Pooja Hegde, etc., had a bad year as their films weren't successful. However, we also saw some brilliant performances. In a year when most films were rejected by audiences, there was little to celebrate. But if there was any glimmer of sunshine it was the rise of a few actresses

**Mrunal Thakur**

When Mrunal Thakur's name was announced as the leading lady in Sita Ramam, many were surprised with her casting. But the audience couldn't stop raving about her stellar performance of Sita post the film's release in August. Mrunal won instant applause for bringing gravitas to her character. When asked Mrunal to comment on the success, she says that she couldn't have gotten a better birthday gift than the film's super success. "It was Sita who chose Mrunal and not the other way," Mrunal smiles, adding that she was overwhelmed with the love and appreciation that was poured. "Characters like Sita come your way once in a decade, and I couldn't have asked for a better debut in Tollywood."

Interestingly, Anupama Parameswaran has had three releases this year! She started off the year with Rowdy Boys. But it was Karthikeya 2 that saw her showcase her acting chops! Having done a few roles, Anupama shares that her role in Karthikeya 2 made her realise how she had evolved as an actor and a person.

"I loved the journey of Karthikeya 2 so much that when the shooting was over, I felt very disappointed," shares Anupama, adding that the success of the film gave her new enthusiasm. The actress adds that she believes in going hatke films that challenge her to do better. "The costumes I sport,

my hairdo, and the body language in the film resembles the real me. So I thoroughly enjoyed playing the part."

Anupama likes to be part of content-driven films, and as such she had to let go a few offers for Karthikeya 2. Her transformation from being a chubby girl to sporting a lean look was appreciated. "I have realised that mental well-being reflects on our physical health," she replies, adding, "I am game to experiment with roles in various languages because it'll give you the opportunity to play diverse roles," says Anupama who also starred in 18 Pages which was released a few days ago.

A pageant winner, Meenakshi Chaudhary was new to films and debuted in Tollywood this year with Ravi Teja-starrer Khiladi. While she was able to make some noise with the film, it was HIT 2, released earlier this month, that made the audience take notice of her work. The actress states that she is still discovering and learning the ropes of the industry. "Yes, it's been a great year for me; all thanks to the Telugu audience," thanks Meenakshi, recalling on a lighter note that she shot both her films during Covid.

"I think in every actor's journey there's one film that will change their journey forever. That's what happened to me with HIT 2. It has introduced me to a new set of audiences

who applauded my performance. My career dynamics have changed with HIT 2," Meenakshi acknowledges, adding the film was such a big hit that people will start taking notice of her subsequent films too.

What's even more exciting according to her was that her one and half year journey has started post Covid. "I am doing five films and have seen so much in a short span of journey," she asserts.

In the year, Samantha has been in the news for her personal reasons rather than filmy. But she did not let her personal life affect her work. The actress has shown great character to bounce back and find success at the box office. She has had two releases this year — Kaathuvaakula Rendu Kaadhal (in Tamil) and Yashoda (Telugu-Tamil). The latter became a super hit and further strengthened her ability to shoulder films. With her ability to pull off female-centric films, Sam has been in a phase of her career where she can choose!

Sam was diagnosed with Myositis and is undergoing treatment on one side, but she continues to surprise the audience with her genre of films. While Yashoda was a film that was about surrogacy, her upcoming film Shakuntalam is a costume drama, and Khushi is a contemporary love story. She wows the audience with her uncanny knack to transform into the character she plays.

Andaman Chronicle invites articles, feature and opinions from our esteemed readers. Your write-ups can be mailed to the Editor through the ID [denisgiles@yahoo.com](mailto:denisgiles@yahoo.com)



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Health, Science /Tech

### Genome Valley Gets Animal Resource Unit

**December 28: HYDERABAD:** With the Centre promoting indigenous research across segments, especially



during the Covid-19 pandemic, India no longer needs to wait for five to 10 years for vaccines and medicines to reach its people, observed Union health minister, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya while inaugurating ICMR-national animal resource facility for biomedical research (NARFBR) at Genome Valley on Saturday.

"Many of the country's scientists being associated with the world's top research institutes is proof of the tremendous talent pool that exists in India. All that our brilliant minds need are perfect professional pushes and Aatmanirbhar campaign is all about that," he added.

Calling India as the pharma capital of the world, Dr Mansukh said that ethical clinical trials at ICMR-NARFBR have the potential to make India a key global player in biomedical research in the 21st century and give fillip to the nation's health and welfare. He was hopeful that NARFBR will give a boost to India's Onehealth approach.

NARFBR is an apex facility which will facilitate ethical care and welfare of laboratory animals during research. It will not just cater to ethical animal studies but will also help in capacity building of new researchers. This will ensure processes for pre-clinical testing of new drugs, vaccines and diagnostics within the country along with quality assurance checks.

Labour minister C. Malla Reddy, was present on the occasion along with Dr Ramchandra S.G., director NARFBR and Dr. Rajiv Bahl, director general of ICMR.

Caption: Union health minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya and state industries minister C. Malla Reddy going around the newly inaugurated ICMR-national animal resource facility for biomedical research at Genome Valley in the city on Saturday.

## Bairagi Requests Chief Secretary to Arrange Sailing for Vizag

**Port Blair, Dec. 28:** A large number of people from Telugu Community had approached Shri Ajoy Bairagi, State Presidents, BJP requesting to arrange a sailing of Ship from Port Blair to Vizag in the first week of January, 2023. January 14<sup>th</sup>

being the Makar Shankranti, the Telugu community residing in the Islands would like to visit their Home Town at Andhra Pradesh to celebrate the Telugu New Year.

Keeping in view of the sentiments expressed by the

Telugu Community, Bairagi has requested the Chief Secretary, A&N Administration that a special sailing may be arranged in the first week of January 2023.

## IGNOU Admission Open For January 2023 Session

**Port Blair, Dec. 28:** Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), announces fresh Admissions to January Academic session commencing from 28<sup>th</sup> December 2022. IGNOU offering variety of academic programmes through its network of Study Centres located across in Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The admission is open for the academic programmes like, Bachelors, Masters, PG

Diploma, Diploma & Certificate Programmes in both online and offline mode. For Online admission visit at <https://ignouadmission.samarthedu.in/>.

The prospective applicants who are interested to submit the admission form through offline mode can submit their offline application at Regional Centre, Port Blair. For more details, regarding the programmes, fees,

duration, visit IGNOU Website – [www.ignou.ac.in](http://www.ignou.ac.in) or contact IGNOU Regional Centre, Port Blair over Phone: 03192-242888, 03192-230111 or E m a i l : [rcportblair@ignou.ac.in](mailto:rcportblair@ignou.ac.in) or any of its Study Centres functional at Port Blair, Mayabunder, Hut Bay, Car Nicobar, Nancowrie & Campbell Bay. The Last Date for submission of admission form is 31st January, 2023.

## Bairgai Request for Reservation or Inclusion of Additional Marks for Home Guard Volunteers for the post of Police Constable

**Port Blair, Dec. 28:** The Home Guards (Non-Regular) those who have been working for more than 03 years under Andaman & Nicobar Police, may be given equal

opportunity as par with NCC C certificate holders who are given the additional 02 marks at the time of recruitment for the posts of Police Constable, requested

Shri Ajoy Bairagi, State President, BJP in a letter marked to the Lt. Governor with copies to the Chief Secretary and the Director General of Police.

### PRESS NOTICE NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS 1-5/DB/CD-III/PP/2022-23/3053 DATED 26/12/2022

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 Mannual and with other GOI organizations working in these islands of appropriate class of enlistment in the respective departments for the under mentioned work:-

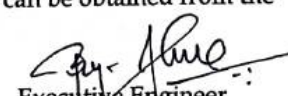
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**Name of Work:-** Periodic renewal of rural road from Dhanikari junction to Manglutan Junction for a length of 2.35 km including 01 No. Box culvert of size 1x1m and CC drain for the length of 250 mtr. under AE-II, CD-III, Prothrapur.

Estimated Cost	: Rs. 2,25,71,868.00
Earnest Money	: Rs. 4,51,437.00
Period of Completion	: 03 (Three) Months
Bid Document Publishing Date	: 27/12/2022 (1000 hrs)
Bid Document Download/Start Date	: 28/12/2022 (1000 hrs)
Pre-Bid meeting Date	: 16/01/2023 (1000 hrs)
Bid Submission Start Date	: 17/01/2023 (1000 hrs)
Bid Submission End Date	: 30/01/2023 (1500 hrs)
Bid Opening Date	: 31/01/2023 (1500 hrs)

The Tender forms and other details can be obtained from the Web Site

<https://eprocure.andman.gov.in>.

  
Executive Engineer,  
Construction Division No. III  
APWD, Prothrapur

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2022/MediaRelease/1132

20

In the draft recruitment rules, for the posts of Police Constable 02 marks has been included for NCC certificate holders but no weightage has been given to the Home Guards in the said draft recruitment rules, who have been performing their duties equivalent to Police Constables from many years.

In Police recruitment, many states provide reservation for special categories in which Home Guard personnel have been included. Bairagi requested that necessary provision for reservation in police constable recruitment or additional marks as given for NCC certificate holder may be extended to the Home Guard volunteers as well and the same may kindly be incorporated in the draft Recruitment Rule published for the post of Police constable in Andaman & Nicobar Police.

## Islanders Requested to Install Mausam and Damini Lightning Apps

**Port Blair, Dec. 28:** Andaman & Nicobar Islands are prone to Geological and Hydro-meteorological disasters. These Islands also falls in cyclogenesis zone and significant number of cyclones gets generated every year in the Andaman Sea. Heavy rainfall due to monsoon leads to localized flooding also occurs frequently in low lying areas. To provide localised information about such Natural Phenomena various mobile applications have been developed.

MAUSAM, a Mobile App of the India Meteorological Department (IMD) is providing seamless and user-friendly access to

weather products available on <https://mausam.imd.gov.in/>. Users can access observed weather forecasts, radar images and be proactively warned of impending weather events.

Damini Lightning Apps has also been developed by IITM-Pune and ESSO where monitoring of all lightning activity happening specifically in India and alert is generated, if lightning happens nearby through GPS notification under 20KM and 40KM.

All residents of A&N Islands have been requested to download the MAUSAM App and Damini Lightning App from the Google PlayStore or IOS and install the same in mobiles to get timely information.

## Applications invited from Cultural Organisations to Participate in ITF 22-23

**Port Blair, Dec. 28:** The Island Tourism Festival is scheduled to be held in January 2023. The Department of Art & Culture, A&N Administration in collaboration with Department of IP&T will be organizing cultural programmes in the main venue and other venues in South Andaman District and North & Middle and Nicobar District during the festival.

In this context, the Department of Art & Culture has invited applications from the local registered Cultural Organizations. Interested Cultural

Organizations may apply in the prescribed application format enclosing details of programmes. The Cultural Organizations should prepare a minimum of three or more number of programmes so that the Programme Selection Committee can have different options for selection. The prescribed format can be collected from the Directorate of Art & Culture at Cellular Jail Complex, Port Blair. Application format can also be downloaded from [www.andaman.gov.in](http://www.andaman.gov.in). The last date for submission of application in the prescribed form is 5th January, 2023.

## Minister of State Health & Family Welfare Monitors Mock Drill on COVID-19 at GB Pant

**Continued from Page 1**

The MoS made an appeal not to panic and informed that government is closely monitoring the COVID19 situation in the country and appropriate steps to be taken within time. She also urged to follow COVID Appropriate Behaviour and do not pay heed to misinformation.

The MoS praised the availability of having free

medicines to patients at the hospital. She also issued necessary directions for improvement of hospital functionalities.

MoS, Health & Family Welfare, Dr. Bharatippawar inspected the current medical infrastructure & preparedness to deal with Covid\_19 emergency at G B Pant Hospital, Port Blair, A&N Islands, under nationwide mock drill.

## Mela Moments Photography Contest as Part o Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav

**Continued from Page 1**

The top 3 winners (every month) under each category will get a chance to win prizes of Rs. 10,000 (1st winner), Rs. 7500/- (2nd winner), and Rs. 5000/- (3rd winner). The grand finale winners in each category will get a chance to win Rs. 1,00,000 (1st winner), Rs. 75,000/- (2nd winner), and Rs. 50,000/-

(3rd winner). Winners of campaign will be featured on Social Media handles of Ministry of Culture. The winning pictures will be exhibited in galleries of Lalit Kala Akademi.

Interested persons may participate in the programme. For more information, the website of Ministry of Culture may be seen.



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\*Prices are inclusive of taxes  
\*\* Kids include all children between 5-12 years.





THE PEARL  
PRESENTS

# 2023

## NEW YEAR NIGAMA NIGHT

31 DEC 07:30PM ONWARDS  
DJ | STARTERS | LAVISH BUFFET | COCKTAILS | MOCKTAILS | DRINKS AND ON  
Dress code that matches Neon

\*LIMITED ENTRIES

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HOTEL THE PEARL  
Dairyfarm, Port Blair, S/Andaman





HOTEL BELL ELITE  
PRESENTS

# 2023 Golden Night

DRESS CODE THAT MATCHES GOLD | 07:30PM, ONWARDS

31 DEC  
DJ | RAPPING | DANCE | STARTERS | LAVISH BUFFET  
COCKTAILS | MOCKTAILS | DRINKS AND ON

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HOTEL BELL ELITE  
Gurudwara Lane, Port Blair, S/Andaman

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### Free Aurveda Health Camp at Car Nicobar

Port Blair, Dec. 28: A team of Doctors (Ayurveda) and Para Medical Staff of Regional Ayurveda Research Institute (RARI), a unit of CCRAS under Ministry of AYUSH, Port Blair will be conduct free Ayurveda Health Camp and Survey at Chuckchucha village of Car Nicobar Island from Dec. 28, 2022 to Jan. 11, 2023.

### Firing Practice by Indian Army

Port Blair, Dec. 28: Firing practice by Indian Army will be carried out at Nariyal Bageecha, Brichgunj on Dec. 30 & 31, 2022 from 3 pm to 5 pm. Safe flying height is above 300 mtr AMSL. All concerned have been warned to keep themselves and their vessels/ fishing boat away from the firing range during the above mentioned date and time.



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# SPORTS

## Lionel Messi's Room in Qatar University to be Transformed into Museum

**December 28 :** Lionel Messi will be getting a dedicated miniature museum in Qatar as the room he stayed in will be transformed into one, Qatar University said on Tuesday, according to El Graphico.

The University of Qatar published a series of photos of the rooms where the Argentine National Team stayed and in the last post announced that room B201 used by the Argentine captain will become a museum.

The University of Qatar was the haven for the Argentina squad during their entire stay in Doha and it has not yet been revealed if the museum will operate from the same complex or be moved elsewhere in the campus. On December 18, Messi ended his long wait for the World Cup title in one of the most memorable finals in



history. Messi was at his most inspirational, scoring two goals to take his total for the tournament to seven and delivering his country's third World Cup triumph as Argentina beat France 4-2 on penalties after a 3-3 draw through extra time. But Kylian

Mbappe made him work hard for the trophy he has long craved by scoring a hat trick, including two goals in 97 seconds late in regulation to pull France back from 2-0 down. The France forward evened the score again after Messi put Argentina back in front in extra time. Ultimately, it was Messi's World Cup to raise.

## Rishabh Pant not Included for Sri Lanka ODIs, T20s

**December 28:** In a clear indication of where the team is heading, the senior national selection committee in its final meeting to pick the squad for India limited-overs series against Sri Lanka have named Hardik Pandya as vice-captain for the ODIs as he continues to lead in T20s.

Similarly, Sanju Samson has been dropped from the ODI squad, but has been included in the T20s, meaning he is unlikely to be in the scheme of things for the World Cup next year. KL Rahul and Ishan Kishan have been named as wicketkeepers for the ODIs.

Interestingly, there is no place for Rishabh Pant in both the squads. The press release issued by the BCCI didn't clarify if Pant was injured, rested or dropped. The Delhi wicketkeeper in fact missed the ODIs against Bangladesh after the BCCI decided to rest him ahead of the two-match Test series. The other notable omission is that of pacer Bhuvneshwar Kumar.

While experienced players Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli and Rahul didn't find a space in the T20I squad, they all have been included for the ODI series that begins on



January 10. All-rounder Ravindra Jadeja, who underwent a knee surgery, along with pacer Jasprit Bumrah, who missed the T20 World Cup with back injury, have not been included in both the squads. The only surprise call is that of Shivam Mavi, who received his maiden call-up to the national squad. The 24-year-old UP pacer has been included for the three-match T20I series beginning in Mumbai on January 3.

While Washington Sundar, Axar Patel and Yuzvendra Chahal are part of both the squads, Kuldeep Yadav finds place only in the ODI side. Despite eye-catching T20 numbers Mumbai's

Prithvi Shaw failed to make the cut as the selectors went with Ruturaj Gaikwad as one of the three openers alongside Kishan and Shubman Gill. India's failure to make most of the powerplay overs has been a cause of concern and Shaw, despite having an incredible T20 strike-rate of 151.67 has been over-looked once again. T20I: Pandya (C), Kishan (wk), Gaikwad, Gill, Suryakumar (VC), Hooda, Tripathi, Samson, Washington, Chahal, Axar, Arshdeep, Harshal, Umran, Mavi, Mukesh. ODIs: Rohit (C), Gill, Kohli, Suryakumar, Shreyas, Rahul (wk), Kishan (wk), Pandya (VC), Washington, Chahal, Kuldeep, Axar, Shami, Siraj, Umran, Arshdeep.

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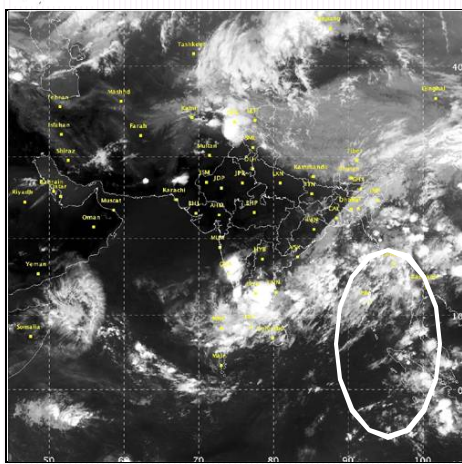
Police Control Room:	100
Fire Service:	101
Ambulance:	102
DC Control Room:	1070
Shipping:	245555
Postal :	232346, 232890
Children:	1098
Women:	244701
Coast Guard for	1554
Search & Rescue (SAR)	
Coast Guard RHQ:	232681
Coastal Security	1093
State Control Room:	1077, 238880
PBMC Control Room:	245798
Kisan Call Centre:	1551
Wildlife Control Room::	245229, 200661, 200754

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District Control Room:	03192-238881
EOC (Campbell Bay):	03193-264020
EOC (Kamorta):	03193-263222
EOC (N&M):	03192-262960
EOC (Hut Bay):	03192-284014



## Weather



Max. Temp: 29.9 °C	Min.: 26.0 °C
Relative Humidity: 0830 Hrs: 64% 1730 Hrs: 68%	
Sunrise: 0538 Hrs.	Sunset: 1705 Hrs.
Rainfall upto 0830 Hrs (Last 24 Hrs.):	000.0 mm
Rainfall upto 1730 Hrs (Last 24 Hrs.):	000.0 mm
Total Rainfall (From Jan 1, 2022 till date):	2585.2 mm

### Forecast

The weather will be dry over Port Blair. Maximum and Minimum temperature will be around 30.0°C and 25.0°C respectively on Thursday 29/12/2022.

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