

ANDAMAN SHEEKHA

True Mirror of Andaman and Nicobar Islands

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SpiceJet flight reaches Port Blair without loading baggage of 39 passengers

John Wilbert & Vikramaditya
Sheekha News Service

Port Blair, Jan 09: A SpiceJet flight today reached Port Blair at around 1210 hrs but soon after landing at Port Blair, nearly 39 passengers

were told that their baggage were not loaded in the flight at Kolkata due to safety reasons.

When fuming passengers raised questions the CISF Team responded and with the help of staff of concerned airlines, pacified the

passengers with an assurance that their baggage will come to Port Blair after 04 days NOTAM closer at the Airport for runway recarpeting works. The CISF Team and APD faced the anger of the fuming passengers, who

(See page 6)

Death of Young a Girl at G B Pant Hospital; Hindu Rastriya Shakti calls for a mass protest

Vikramaditya
Sheekha News Service

Port Blair, Jan 09: The Hindu Rastriya Shakti today called for a mass protest on 11 January 2023 at 2.00 PM, which according to HRS, will be organised in front of the Cel-

lular Jail on the issue of death of a young girl at G B Pant Hospital today due to alleged negligence.

Talking to media today Mr. RakeshwarLall, St. President, HRS and Mr. Angshuman Roy, St. President,

(See page 2)

Member of Parliament calls on Home Minister of India Mr. Amit Shah and highlights crucial issues of Andaman and Nicobar Islands

Port Blair, Jan 09: The Member of Parliament of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Mr. Kuldeep Rai

Sharma today called on the Home Minister of India, Mr. Amit Shah at New Delhi and

(See page 5)

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Grant of Non-Productivity Linked Bonus (Ad-hoc Bonus) to DRMs – Intimation of Gate Protest

Port Blair, Jan 09: The APWD Karmachari Sangh (AKS) Affiliated with Andaman Nicobar Rajya Karmachari Mahasangh, BMS wrote a letter to the Chief Engineer, APWD, Port Blair. In continuation to various letter correspondences made for release of Non-Productivity Linked Bonus (Ad-hoc Bonus) to DRMs working under the establishments of APWD, A&N Administration.

AKS mentioned, the demand is genuine and in compliance with OM of the Ministry of Finance,

Deptt. Of Expenditure vide No. 7/24/2007/EIII (A) dated 16.10.2022 (copy enclosed). It is pertinent to mention that, other Departments/establishments under A&N Administration had already been granted to all their eligible DRMs in compliance with the said OM. The department of APWD disregarding above said OM had rejected the claims of the eligible DRMs for release of Non-Productivity Linked Bonus (Ad-hoc Bonus). The APWD Karmachari Sangh once again requested to release

the Non-Productivity Linked Bonus (Ad-hoc Bonus) for the FY 2022-23 to all the eligible DRMs working under your establishments as per the direction of GoI.

A P W D Karmachari Sangh mentioned, if the department did not take some positive initiatives to release the said bonus to the DRMs within 07 days, The APWD Karmachari Sangh (AKS) will be forced to conduct Gate Protest from 16th Jan, 2023 (03.00 pm) after duty hours.

Natural Farming Awareness Programme

Port Blair, Jan 09: Awareness programme on Natural Farming was organized by ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Central Island Agricultural Research Institute at Lalpahar Community Hall on 06.01.2023. Mrs. Chaitali Roy, Panchayat Samiti, Chouldhari graced the occasion as chief guest. She advised the farming community to produce quality farm products without using chemical fertilizers and pesticides. Thus, naturally produced farm products are very good for the health of people as well as the soil and environment. Mrs. Purnima Sarkar and Mrs. Surobala Mistry, PRI members of Lalpahar also presented on this occasion and motivated the farming community. Dr. Y Ramakrishna, Principal Scientist & Head discussed natural farming practices and encouraged farmers to adopt



these practices on a cluster basis and maintain soil health for production and consumption of quality produce in isles. He appealed to farmers to use local seeds and planting materials, integration of crops, trees and livestock, intercropping and crop rotations. Dr N. Bommayasamy, SMS (Agro./Agrl.Extn.) explained that natural farming drastically reduced the cost of production by replacing the

chemical fertilizers and pesticides and encouraged on farm production of Ghanajeevamrut, Beejamrut, Jeevamurt, agniastara, bhramastara, neemastara etc, and adoption of intercropping with leguminous vegetables. He stressed to adopt mulching with crop residues which reduces soil temperature and also improves soil moisture and in turn helps in soil mi-

(See page 4)

Change in Sailing Programme of MV Swaraj Dweep

Port Blair, Jan 09: Due to Administrative reasons the scheduled departure time of the vessel MV Swaraj Dweep for Chennai on 10.01.2023 (under voyage No. 1028) has been revised. Now the vessel will sail for Chennai on the same day at 1600 Hrs instead of 1000 Hrs from Haddo Wharf. Inconvenience caused to the passengers is regretted.

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➤ **ADMISSION GOING ON JANUARY - 2023 BATCH.**
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Death of...

(From page 1)

Yuva Morcha, HRS today expressed serious concerns over the healthcare system of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, which they claimed is not up to the mark, even to save patients of serious accident cases. The HRS team requested each and every Islander to come forward and stand united to raise their

voice against the management of the Health Department of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The HRS team also urged all people of Andaman and Nicobar Islands to join the protest and stand unitedly to demand a better Health Care System in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

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Motivational Lecture and Sports Day Conducted During NCC Camp



Port Blair, Jan 09: The combined annual training camp for Senior Division/Senior Wing

Army and Naval NCC cadets has been in progress at JNRM, Port Blair since 04

Jan 23. A lecture was conducted by Advocate (See page 4)

Open Badminton Tournament at Chouldari

Port Blair, Jan 09: An open tournament was organized by Mr. Kaushik Pahari & Mr. Nabajit Mistry at Chouldari community hall from 7 Jan to 8 Jan 2023. Winners of the Tournament were
 In Singles Tournament
 Winner Mr. P. Surya
 (See page 4)



IGNOU Invites Admission for MBA Specialization Programmes

Port Blair, Jan 09: The School of Management Studies, Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), New Delhi is inviting for admission for MBA specialization programmes like; Master of Business Administration in Financial Management (MBAFM), Human Resource Management (MBAHM), Marketing Management (MBAMM) and Operations Management (MBAOM). Further IGNOU has also launched 4 PG Diploma Programme in Management. Interested students can enroll for PG Diploma in Specializations in Human Re-
 (See page 4)

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"The American Dream Powered by Inclusion, Diversity, and Your Aspirations": U.S. Consulate General Chennai's American Center Returns to the Chennai Book Fair

CHENNAI, JANUARY 9: The American Center Chennai, formerly known as the American Cultural Center and the American Library, has been an integral part of Chennai's cultural and literary landscape for the last 76 years. The American Center will be present at stall number F57 at the 46th Chennai Book Fair 2023 being held at the YMCA in Chennai. The American Center stall will be at the book fair through the last day of the event (January 22).

As U.S. civil rights activist Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday falls on January 16, the American Center will celebrate his legacy throughout its presence at the Book Fair by focusing on the theme, "The American Dream powered by Inclusion, Diversity, and your Aspirations."

The American Center stall will highlight education and exchange opportunities in the United States, as well as introduce the Center's resources and programming available to stu-

dents, researchers, and faculty. The American Center's library has a collection of 15,000 books and vast multimedia and e-resources.

Programming at the Book Fair will include writing and slam poetry competitions for students, discussion groups with the English teaching community, book readings and storytelling sessions for young children, a series of book talks that showcase the work of Fulbrighters, and other exchange program alumni. The creative competitions are aimed at encouraging participants to reflect on the values of inclusivity and diversity. Top entries will stand a chance to showcase their work at the American Center and get a chance to participate in creative writing workshops organized by the American Center.

The American Center's presence at the book fair is also reflective of the Center's new mission "to challenge, inspire, and empower the next generation of Indian and American changemakers through innovative, inclusive,

and transformative dialogues and programs that showcase the true spirit, opportunity, and promise of America."

United States Acting Consul General of Chennai Ramon Menendez-Carreira inaugurated the American Center stall in the presence of Public Affairs Officer Jennifer Bullock on Saturday, January 7.

According to Mr. Menendez-Carreira, "We are excited to be back once again at the Chennai Book Fair!

With the American Center's new mission now in place, the Chennai Book Fair is an excellent opportunity for us to reconnect with our old friends and celebrate our relationship with the people of Chennai by being present at one of the city's most signature events. Through our presence here we aim to showcase the value of cultural and educational exchanges, promote opportunities for young people that will help them realize their aspirations, and inspire book fair visitors to celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr.'s legacy by reimagining the future they want to see."

Kremlin says new Western armoured vehicles for Ukraine will 'deepen suffering'

The Kremlin said on Monday that new deliveries of Western weapons, including French-made armoured vehicles, to Kyiv would "deepen the suffering of the Ukrainian people" and would not change the course of the conflict.

France and Germany announced last week that they would send light combat vehicles to Ukraine, ramping up their military support for Kyiv. The United States said it would also provide armoured fighting vehicles to Ukraine.

"This supply will not be able to change anything", Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters on Monday.

"These supplies can only add to the pain of the Ukrainian people and prolong their suffering. They are not capable of stopping us from achieving the goals of the special military operation," Peskov said.

Ukraine, which has



scored some battlefield successes since Russian forces invaded last February, has asked Western allies for heavier weapons and air defences as it seeks to tip the balance of the conflict, now in its 11th month, further in its favour.

The Kremlin also said on Monday that despite France's decision to send more weapons to Kyiv, Moscow appreciated President Emmanuel Macron's contribution towards maintaining dialogue between the West and Russia. (Russian President Vladimir Putin and Macron

maintain contact, there are pauses in the dialogue, but during previous stages that contact was quite useful and constructive, despite all the differences," Peskov said.

Macron was criticised in Ukraine and in some Western capitals for holding hours-long phone calls with Putin in the early weeks of Russia's invasion.

Just last month Macron was rebuked by the Baltic states for saying the West should consider Russia's need for "security guarantees" in any future talks to end the fighting.

Germany has no current plans to send Leopard 2 tanks to Ukraine



Germany has no current plans to send Leopard 2 tanks to Ukraine, a government spokesperson told a regular briefing on Monday. Germany last week announced it was sending Marder fighting vehicles to Kyiv, answering

calls for more heavy weapons to repel Russian forces. Germany's economy minister also said Berlin cannot rule out the delivery of the Leopard tanks, which are heavier fighting vehicles than the Marders.

IGNOU Invites...

(From page 3)

source Management (PGDHRM), Financial Management (PGDFM), Marketing Management (PGDMM) and Marketing Management (PGDOM). The programmes are offered in English Medium only and the eligibility for enrolling the course is bachelor degree with at least 50% marks (45% in case of candidates belonging to reserved category). The Admissions for above programmes are going now for January 2023 session and the application form is to be

filled through online mode only. Interested candidates can register for the programme at the official website <https://ignouadmission.samarth.edu.in> or contact IGNOU Port Blair Regional Centre, Port Blair over phone: 03192-242888/03192-230111 or Email: rportblair@ignou.ac.in for further assistance.

A communication from the Regional Director, IGNOU, Port Blair Regional Centre said.

Open Badminton...

(From page 3)

kumar Runner up- Mr. Alok Bora
Doubles Tournament Winner: Mr. Alok bora & Mr. Suresh baro
Runner-up Mr. P. Surya

kumar & Mr. Vadivelan
Prizes were distributed by Chief Guest Mrs. Tapasi Saha (Pradhan Chouldari) and Guest of Honor Mr. D.N Madhu.

Motivational Lec...

(From page 3)

Priyadharshni Rahul on 06 Jan 22. She is a member of NCC Alumni Association and practices at the Supreme Court of India. Ms. Priyadharshni briefed the cadets about the merits of being associated with NCC and gave a brief overview on 'Politics as a Career'.

The cadets participated in a variety of games during the Annual Sports Day

which was celebrated on 07 Jan at JNRM. The events included track and field games, tug of war, kho-kho and volleyball. On Monday, a lecture was conducted by A & N Forest Department, during which the cadets were briefed about precautions and first aid associated with snake bites. The cadets also had a practical exposure to handling live snakes.



Member of...

highlighted some of the most crucial issues of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

The issues which have been highlighted by the Member of Parliament are as follows

100% job reservation for Domicile of the Islands in Government appointment under UT Administration of Andaman and Nicobar Islands:

The Member of Parliament informed the Home Minister that in Andaman and Nicobar Islands one of the major concerns for the Islanders particularly for the youths is lack of sufficient employment opportunities in the region especially given the high literacy rate among the Islands’ population. He said that there are around 10,000 vacant posts in Andaman and Nicobar Islands which need to be filled up as early as possible.

He mentioned about the very recent decision of the Central Government to extend 100% job reservation in public appointments to the local residents of the newly created Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and that of Ladakh in their respective Union Territories. For the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir the reservation has been implemented by an order of MHA issued on April 3, 2020, which provides protection to the domiciles of the UT of Jammu and Kashmir to “any post” in the government including senior level positions in Group A and Group B category. A similar order for public appointments in the Union Territory of Ladakh was issued through its Lieutenant Governor on 08.06.2021 stating that “No person shall be qualified for appointment to the service unless the person is a resident of the Union Territory of Ladakh.”

Taking into cognizance of the above made submission, the Member of Parliament requested to grant 100% job reservation for the domiciles of Andaman and Nicobar Islands in public appointments for jobs meant for the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands in the fashion similar to the decision taken in respect of the newly created Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. Alternatively 100% job reservation for the domiciles of A & N Islands may be enacted under “The Public Employment (Requirement as to Residents) Act 1957.

Construction of bridge over sea connecting Chatham and Bamboo Flat:

The Member of Parliament informed the Hon’ble Home Minister that there is an eminent need for constructing a

bridge from Chatham Island to Bambooflat to facilitate uninterrupted and fast movement of men and materials through road transport which is presently being carried out by means of boats and vehicle ferries. Construction of said bridge will also save the recurring expenditure now being incurred on operation and maintenance of the boats/vehicle ferries and port infrastructure.

Setting up of Central University in A&N Islands:

Presently, the Institutions of higher education in the Islands are affiliated to the Puducherry Central University. Increase in number of higher educational institutions from the lone Jawaharlall Nehru Rajkeeya Mahavidyalaya (JNRM) to 06 (six) numbers consisting of Degree Engineering College, Medical College and Law College, besides 02 (two) Degree Colleges has necessitated the need to have a separate Central University for Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

Upgrading Medical Science Education and treatment facilities:

He informed the Home Minister that the present medical treatment facilities in Andaman & Nicobar Islands are far below average and the Islanders have to travel either to Chennai or Kolkata if any major treatment is required which is beyond the reach of economically weaker sections of the society. The Member of Parliament requested to set up AIIMS in Andaman and Nicobar Islands so that the Islanders can avail top class medical science education and medical treatment facilities. Moreover, ANIMS which is imparting UG courses in medical science needs to be upgraded to PG level.

Setting up of Women college in Andaman and Nicobar Islands:

As there is no women college in the Islands; setting up of women college will also add to higher education among women.

Setting up of Women commission in Andaman and Nicobar Islands:

As there is no women commission in Andaman and Nicobar Islands; setting up of women commission will also add to the empowerment of women in the Islands.

Creation of Andaman and Nicobar Public Service Commission:

Presently, direct recruitment to all gazetted posts belonging to the UT Administration of the A&N Islands are filled by the UPSC on all India selection basis which deprive the educated youths of the Islands of their legitimate right to serve the Islands.

The candidates from mainland of India selected to the posts

of UT Cadre of the A&N Administration consider their postings as stepping stones in their career advancements and relinquish the job as soon as they get postings in mainland India. Hence, creation of Andaman & Nicobar Public Service Commission will put an end to this fiasco and will provide opportunity to well educated youths of the Islands in the UT Civil and Public Service, Medical Services, Engineering Services etc.

Establishment of IT park in A&N Islands:

Unemployment is the major concern for the Islanders, hence to solve the unemployment problems of the youths of the Islands and also to protect the environment, it is proposed to make Andaman and Nicobar Islands an Information Technology hub with the development of Business Process Outsourcing (BPOs)/Call Centres/ Software Park under schemes like Digital India, Scheme for promotion of IT & ITeS industries. Andaman and Nicobar Islands will be conducive for fast pace development as an IT Hub/IT Park due to its strategic location and proximity to several South East Asian countries like Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Myanmar etc. Such a step will be a big boost to employment generation, revenue generation and holistic development of Andaman and Nicobar Islands and will also aid the Act East Policy of the Government of India.

He demanded that for this purpose approximately 3000 Acres of land may be earmarked with a budgetary provision of Rs.10,000 Crores for the project which will solve unemployment issues and generate revenue.

Laying of 2nd OFC line from Diglipur to Puri, Odisha :

At present the internet facilities in Andaman & Nicobar Islands are provided through the Submarine Optical Fibre Cable System (CANI) laid between Chennai and Port Blair which has facilitated high speed and reliable connectivity in the Islands.

But he said that even a single day of breakdown of CANI OFC would prove costly for the industry against temporary outages and connectivity failures.

In view of the above, if a parallel net connectivity to Andaman & Nicobar Islands through undersea OFC cable between Diglipur Islands in North Andaman and Puri in Odisha is provided, it will ensure uninterrupted connectivity even if the other grid fails due to any reason.

Subsidy in airfare for the Islanders between mainland

and Andaman & Nicobar Islands:

Andaman & Nicobar Islands being distantly located from the mainland of India and situated in the Bay of Bengal is circumstanced with various limitations and one such being the mode of transportation/ communication between Island and mainland and its high cost.

The Member of Parliament requested the Hon’ble Home Minister to extend subsidies in the airfare on the lines of North East India to residents of Andaman and Nicobar Islands and also to the tourists visiting the Islands to promote tourism.

Ideally, airfare of Rs.5000 for Port Blair– Chennai/ Kolkata/ Visakhapatnam would be reasonable for the Islanders and justified for the Airlines too.

Setting up of Fisheries College in Andaman & Nicobar Islands:

The Andaman & Nicobar Islands have vast potential for fisheries development in view of its coastal length of about 1,962 km which is approximately 1/3rd of total coastal length of India and Continental shelf area of 35,000 Sq Km. The Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) around these islands is about 6,00,000 Sq Km with an estimated Fishery potential is 2.43 lakh MT which is around 6% of our Country’s total Fishery Potential. Of this 2.43 lakh MT, the coastal Tuna has the potential for the harvest upto 1 (one) lakh MT and Oceanic tuna and Tuna like fishes upto 0.82 lakh MT per annum.

Augmentation of Fish production and to harvest the untapped fishery resources is possible by setting up a Fisheries college in Andaman & Nicobar Islands which can produce professionals having knowledge in fish harvesting, processing, production, marketing and other fishing practices in the field of capture fishing and aquaculture.

Shipbuilding/Ship Repairing yard in Andaman and Nicobar Islands:

Unemployment is the biggest issue of Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Shipping is one of the most natural sectors. Hence clubbing both will mutually resolve issues. Setting up of shipbuilding/Ship repairing yards in Andaman and Nicobar Islands will generate employment and revenue.

Promotion of tourism with innovation:

Andaman and Nicobar Islands are heavily dependent upon tourism because of its scenic beauty and geographical location. Unfortunately, A & N Islands have half-year

tourism as the remaining half-year is monsoon season. Hence introducing and promoting monsoon tourism will not only provide a unique tourism experience to the tourists but will also extend half-year tourism to full-year tourism. Also needed to promote tourism through Marine, Adventure, Culinary, Eco, World War II Tourism and Cultural Tourism along with establishment of Freedom Struggle Tourism at various places in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Creation of Assembly for the A&N Islands:

The people of Andaman and Nicobar islands, various political parties, associations and civil societies are continuously demanding for full-fledged democratic rights for the Islanders as being enjoyed by the people in other parts of India.

The Member of Parliament requested the Hon’ble Home Minister to recommend the Government of India to enact an appropriate legislation to constitute a Legislative Assembly on the lines of Puducherry with the Council of Ministers so that hopes, aspirations and democratic rights of the people of Andaman and Nicobar Islands are fulfilled. In the interim as stop-gap measures, the Pradesh Council which used to function in these Islands may be restored with executive powers.

Other crucial issues which were highlighted in front of the Hon’ble Home Minister were:

- Regularisation of excess land of Pre 1961, Old inhabitants, settlers and providing land to landless Islanders and regularise encroachment prior to 2012
- Resettlement of Tamil settlers of Katchal Island:
- Relief to Tsunami affected farmers:
- Grant 1/30th Pay + DA to the left out 3000 DRMs out of 7000 DRMs under the concept of “Equal Pay for Equal Work”
- Regularisation of services of DRM/ Casual /Adhoc and Contract employees working under A&N Administration for more than 10 years:
- Enhancement of pension/Allowances for Oldage/ Widows/ Destitute women/ Divyangs to Rs.5000/- per month:
- Grant of Unemployment Allowance to the Unemployed youths:
- To extend Minimum Support Price (MSP) for Arecanut (supari) and paddy
- Resumption of air service between Port Blair and Car Nicobar:
- International Flights from Veer Savarkar International Airport, Port Blair:
- Anganwadi and ASHA workers payment needs to be increased.

Prakash Purab of Dhan Dhan Sri Guru Gobind Singh Sahib Celebrated

Port Blair, Jan 09: Prakash Purab Of Sahib-e-Kamaal Dhan Dhan Sri Guru Gobind Singh Sahib ji was celebrated with great enthusiasm at Police Gurudwara Sahib with special Katha conducted by Kathavaahak Bhai Mandeep Singh Mureed. Guru Ka langar was also served to the devotees.



SpiceJet flight...

(From page 1)

were questioning how they would manage their stay in Andaman and Nicobar Islands without their baggage. The passengers demanded an

immediate solution. It is learnt that the Manager of SpiceJet also tried to contact the head office for arranging ferry flights for shifting of their

check-in luggage. As per sources the concerned airlines later reportedly agreed to give compensation to all 39 passengers.



No. TN-DB/SAD/2022-23/53 dt.06/01/2023

TENDER NOTICE

The Executive Engineer, South Andaman Division, APWD, Port Blair invites on behalf of President of India, online Item Rate bid from the approved and eligible contractors of the Andaman PWD or all contractors irrespective of their enlistment in APWD or any other Govt. Department subject to the condition that they have experience on executing the similar magnitude of work as per CPWD Works Manual and with other GOI organizations in these islands and do not have any adverse remarks:-

1. NIT No.51/EE/SAD/APWD/2022-23, Tender ID: 2022_APWD_8823_1, Name of work: Resurfacing of road from Teal House to Chatham Police Station. Estimated Cost: ₹2,93,16,405/-, Earnest Money Deposit: ₹5,86,328/-, Time of completion: 06 (Six) Months. & Last time and date of submission of bid: 23/01/2023 (1500 hrs).
2. NIT No.52/EE/SAD/APWD/2022-23, Tender ID: 2022_APWD_8824_1, Name of work: Resurfacing and improvement of road leading from Raj Niwas Annex (Carbyn's Cove) to Austinabad junction (1.510 Km). Estimated Cost: ₹2,14,76,312/-, Earnest Money Deposit: ₹4,29,526/-, Time of completion: 06 (Six) Months. & Last time and date of submission of bid: 23/01/2023 (1500 hrs)

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

Advertisement ID: 9551
2023/MediaRelease/32

Executive Engineer,
SAD, A.P.W.D., Port Blair.

LOST

Local Certificate, Name - G. Baby Rani, D/o - Kama Raju, address: Lillypur near van sadan, Haddo, Port Blair, S/Andaman, Pincode: 744102. Local certificate No: 012559. Contact no.9476074195, 7063961997.

Natural Farming...

(From page 1)

Microbial diversity, water absorption and nutrient availability to crops. Dr. B.K. Nanda, SMS (Agrl.Engg.) enlighten the employment opportunities in natural farming and water management practices. As part of the programme, demonstrations on ghanjeevamrut, jeevamrut were prepared by the participants. A total of 82 participants participated and benefited in this programme.

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9679550038, 9474240877.

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