

ANDAMAN SHEEKHA

True Mirror of Andaman and Nicobar Islands

VOL: 14 | ISSUE NO: 289 | REG NO: ANDENG/2011/38184 | 22.12.2022 | THURSDAY | RS.2.00 | DAILY | PORT BLAIR | WWW.ANDAMANSHEEKHA.COM

Closure of one Cash Counter of SBI Baratang leaves customers in Distress

Ganesh & John Wilbert
Sheekha News Service

Baratang, Dec 21: The State Bank of India at Nilambur Branch, Baratang, the lone bank in the entire Baratang region attracts a huge crowd on a daily basis. Earlier the

(See page 5)



AATO Delegation meets Lt. Governor, discuss various issues Concerning Tourism in A&N Islands

Port Blair, Dec 21: A delegation of AATO led by Mr. Mohan Vinod, President, Mr. Vivek Singh, Vice President and Mr. Saikat Biswas, Joint Secretary called on Lt. Governor A&N Islands Admiral D K Joshi, PVSM, AVSM, YSM, NM, VSM

(Retd.) at Raj Niwas today. The delegation discussed various issues concerning the tourism industry in A&N Islands.

Mr. Vinod submitted a representation to the Lt. Governor requesting formation of a tourism co-

ordination committee involving stakeholders and various departments of A&N Administration. He also requested HLG to ease out registration and renewal procedures of I. V. boats, Parasailing boats and other

(See page 5)

Member of Parliament Demands Central University in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

Port Blair, Dec 21: Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma, Member of Parliament, Andaman & Nicobar Islands has demanded for a Central University in Andaman & Nicobar Islands for which he has moved a private member's bill in the Parliament on 9-12-2022

(See page 6)

DIAL: 03192-237777/246666 *Haywizz* Where else

Free HOME DELIVERY

INDIAN / CHINESE / TANDOORI CUISINE *T & C APPLY

#36 MA ROAD, PHOENIX BAY HAYWIZZ PORT BLAIR

naturals
India's No.1 hair & beauty salon

GET US TO YOUR DOORSTEP
WITH JUST A CALL! **US FOR HOME SERVICE**

9531837777 / 7695040077
Free Pick & Drop

Hurry up Elves!
When it's gone, it's gone

Get latest & trendy collections for **Men, Women & Kids** from leading fashion store of town.

Christmas
And Happy New Year

G's Goenka's

Aberdeen Bazaar +91 96091 73339
Bathu Basti +91 96091 48001
Bambooflat +91 96090 17300
Diglipur +91 96091 13009

Mahindra Rise

YOUR HAPPY NEW YEAR STARTS NOW.
VALID TILL 31st DECEMBER 2022.

MARAZZO **BOLERO NEO** **BOLERO** **XUV 300** **THAR**

BENEFITS UPTO ₹1,40,000.00 **BENEFITS UPTO ₹95,000.00** **BENEFITS UPTO ₹75,000.00** **BENEFITS UPTO ₹1,40,000.00** **BENEFITS UPTO ₹20,000.00**

JADWET TRADING COMPANY
Mahindra & Mahindra Vehicle Division, ATR Road, Port Blair

7601094094

YESHUVA TRAINING ACADEMY Pvt. Ltd
NEAR MUBARAK MALL, JUNGLGHAT, PORT BLAIR. 744 103
Ph. No. 9476092535; 9933274252; 9476060793

Admission Starts For Following Skill Courses Offered by NDA Govt. of India & All India Paramedical Council

| S.No | COURSE NAME | DURATION | QUALIFI |
|------|-------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. | AIRPORT MANAGEMENT | 1YEAR | 10 TH / 12 TH |
| 2. | AIR & SEA CARGO MANAGEMENT | 1YEAR | 10 TH / 12 TH |
| 3. | AIRHOSTESS TRAINING | 1YEAR | 10 TH / 12 TH |
| 4. | CABIN CREW MANAGEMENT | 1YEAR | 10 TH / 12 TH |
| 5. | PRE - PRIMARY EDUCATION | 1YEAR | 10 TH / 12 TH |
| 6. | PRIMARY EDUCATION | 1YEAR | 10 TH / 12 TH |
| 7. | X - RAY TECHNOLOGY | 1YEAR | 10 TH / 12 TH |
| 8. | SANITARY INSPECTOR | 1YEAR | 10 TH / 12 TH |
| 9. | MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIAN | 2YEARS | 12 TH |
| 10. | OPERATION THEATER ASSISTANT | 2YEARS | 12 TH |
| 11. | AIRFARE & TICKETING | 6MONTHS | 10 TH |
| 12. | AIRPORT GROUND STAFF TRAINING | 6MONTHS | 10 TH |

➤ **ADMISSION GOING ON JANUARY - 2023 BATCH.**
➤ **ADMISSION FORM SUBMISSION LAST DATE 28/12/2022.**
➤ **FOR INTER ISLAND STUDENTS ONLINE CLASSES ALSO AVAILABLE**

600 Litres of illicit Liquor destroyed by Police at Shyam Kund Village Area

John Wilbert

Sheekha News Service

Port Blair, Dec 21: On 19/12/22, based on credible information, a jungle search was conducted by the raiding team of Police Station Rangat at the Shyam Kund Village. During the search, 600 litres of illicit liquor was found in the forest area of Shyam Kund village. As per details all



the illicit Lehan, which kept in 60 tins and other articles were destroyed on the spot as per procedure.

Theft Case Solved Promptly Within 06 Hours by PS Diglipur

Port Blair, Dec 21: The team of PS Diglipur once again cracked a blind theft case within 06 hours of registration of the case and arrested 02 accused namely Bijoy Kumar Biswas, S/o Mr. Bidhuth Biswas and Khitish Mondal, S/o Late Nikhil Mondal both residents of Krishnapuri village near Nikhil Medical, Diglipur. On 20/11/22 a theft case was reported at PS Diglipur where 03 Nos. batteries were stolen from 03 trucks parked at different locations of Diglipur. A case was registered and a team was constituted by Inspr. Vikash Singh, SHO PS Diglipur, consisting of Inspr. Kabita Kirtonia, PC. Devsai, PC. Abubacker Siddique, PC. Santosh Lal and PC. Sameresh Mistry. The team immediately activated the informers and checked all available local CCTV footage and cross checked with the local garbage collectors related to



suspicious movements at night. Also various scrap dealers examined & based on the quick human intelligence gathering, 02 accused were apprehended and after sustained interrogation stolen batteries were recovered which was stolen on the intervening night of 19/12/22 and 20/12/22. The accused sold the stolen batteries in a nearby scrap yard and the owner who purchased the stolen property was apprehended. The whole exercise took place under the command

of Mr. Lakshya Pandey, DANIPS, SDPO Diglipur and overall supervision of Mrs. Geetanjali Khandelwal, IPS, Superintendent of Police, N & M Andaman District.

The general public is requested to pass and share any credible information pertaining to any crime or illegal activities to their nearest police station or over phone No. 100, 112 & 30192 273344. The identity of the informers will be kept secret and will also be suitably rewarded.

3rd Gram Sabha was held at Shivapuram Community Hall

Port Blair, Dec 21: On 21st of December, the 3rd Gram Sabha was held at Shivapuram Community Hall under the Chairmanship of Pradhan of GP Shivapuram Mr. Venkateswar Rao. Chief Guest of the Gram Sabha was Mr. Vaibhav Rikari, the Assistant Commissioner of Mayabunder and Rangat.

Mr. Vaibhav Rikari was welcomed by female PRI members.

Mr. Venkateswar Rao addressed the Line departments. The Assistant Commissioner in his speech explained why it is necessary to attend Gram Sabha like this.

After his speech the Assistant Commissioner interacted with the residents of Shivapuram where the general public raised various local issues. The Assistant Commissioner assured nec-

essary action.

The Agenda of the Gram Sabha was to finalize the GPDP 2023-2024. Many issues in the local area were put forth to the Assistant Commissioner along with the proposal of conducting revenue camps. The Pradhan GPSP thanked the officials of all the line departments and as well as the villagers, who attended the 3rd Gram Sabha.

Get the latest in Mehendi Fashion!

SOURAV MEHANDI ARTIST

Get ready for your wedding!

BOOK NOW

9531844731
9679519497

MANUFACTURER & SUPPLIER OF PAPER PRODUCTS

✓ **SHOPPING BAGS** - For Cloth Shops, Bakery, Restaurants, Electronics Shop, Grocery Shop etc.

✓ **CAKE BAGS**

✓ **Cobra file/File cover & Lifafa**



TRUST BY 80+ BUSINESSES

LOCALLY MANUFACTURE

MAINLAND RATE

GoM REGISTERED

9474200352
03192203469

A TATA PRODUCT

May your celebrations be painted in all shades of jolly

Wishing you a very *Merry Christmas!*

TANISHQ

★ **UPTO 20% OFF** on making charges of gold jewellery and on diamond jewellery value

★ **GET 100%*** exchange value on your old gold valid on 22kt and above, bought from any jeweller

QUIT SMOKING TODAY

SMOKING & PASSIVE SMOKING CAUSES CANCER

CAMPAIGN BY ANDAMAN SHEEKHA

Lord Sri Veer Hanuman Jayanthi Celebration

Port Blair, Dec 21: Sri Veer Hanuman Temple Trust, Aberdeen Bazar, Port Blair is going to celebrate Lord Sri Veer Hanuman Jayanthi on 23.12.2022, which will start with Sudersan Homam at 8.00 am, Abhisekh from 10.00 am to 11.30 am followed by Aarti and Annadaanam / Bhog from 12.00 am to 3.00 pm. And at 5.00 pm. Lord Sri Veer Hanuman Utsava Moorthy

City Procession will start from Temple and be routed via Golghar, Delanipur, Phoenix bay and Aberdeen Bazaar to the temple. On 24.12.2022 "Pushpanjali Puja" will be performed in the temple at 5.00 pm followed by a Cultural programme at 6.00 pm. All devotees are cordially invited to take part generously in the Puja celebrations and City procession of Lord Sri Veer Hanuman.

Beijing facing spike in severe Covid cases, says leading respiratory expert

Beijing is likely to see an increase in severe Covid-19 cases over the next two weeks, a leading Chinese respiratory specialist warned on Tuesday, as the capital continues to battle rising infections following the abrupt withdrawal of stringent 'zero-Covid' policies in early December. Respiratory disease expert Wang Guangfa warned that medical infra-

structure in Beijing faces "additional stress" and advised the government to quickly add intensive care unit (ICU) beds in hospitals, predicting a possible increase in the number of Covid-related deaths in the days ahead if that's not done, according to report in the state-run Global Times.

"We must act
(See page 4)

ICAR-KVK, Port Blair Organized Awareness Programme on Natural Farming

Port Blair, Dec 21: ICAR-KVK, CIARI, Port Blair organized an awareness programme of natural farming at Community Hall, Maglutan village on 20.12.2022 under the scaling of Natural farming through Krishi Vigyan Kendras. Dr Y Ramakrishna, Principal Scientist & Head inaugurated the programme. He highlighted various ill-effects of indiscriminate use of agrochemicals and inorganic fertilizers in soil health and soil microbial diversity. He enlightens the importance of natural farming by which drastically reduced crop production cost



through replacing the inorganic fertilizers and plant protection chemical by use of own farm production like Beejamrut, Jeevamrut, live mulch through intercropping &

crop residue mulch and moist root zone. Dr N. Bommayasamy, SMS (Agro./Agrl.Extn.) dealt with the difference of organic and natural farming practices, manage-
(See page 4)

Rayhaan Pasha Appreciates Chief Secretary on behalf of Tribal Community

Port Blair, Dec 21: The President of Nicobar Youth Association Mr. Rayhaan Pasha on behalf of tribal community of Nicobar District appreciated the Chief Secretary for issuing circular dated 20th Decem-

ber 2022 to make A & N Administration easily accessible for the general public as well as tribal. Now it is only because of the Chief Secretary Mr. Keshav Chandra IAS that tribal living at the far-flung

area/remote islands that often come to Port Blair will be able to present their problem/ Grievances for redressal to the Administration. The tribal will remain grateful to the Chief Secretary & A & N Administration.

Christmas Season
Icy Spicy Presents
SUGAR FREE and EGGLESS Plum Cakes

Call Or Whatsapp Icy Spicy:
9932081444 / 9932080104

Our Outlets:
Junglghat, Garacharma, Minnie Bay

BRAND HUB MEN'S WEAR

Shirt, Jeans Pant, Formal Pants, T-Shirt

SPECIAL OFFER FOR Merry Christmas Happy New Year

25% Discount

19 Dec to 01 Jan 2023

ADDRESS: DELANIPUR OPP. BUS STOP, 1ST FLOOR SHOP NO 2, PORT BLAIR-744102. PH-9474217046

Christmas SALE

Nebuliser

10% DISCOUNT

Available at:
Tarang Trades
Middle Point
Beside, Hotel Shompen

Phone- 03192 232929

Happy New Year CELL: 9434281189, 9933241615

OM SHAKTI PLAZA

Discount

YOUR FAVORITE COSMETICS FANCY SHOP

RENTAL GOLD COVERING SET AVAILABLE

BABULINE, ABERDEEN BAZAAR, PORT BLAIR, ANDAMAN 744101

A BIGGEST COSMETICS SHOWROOM AT BABULINE

Change in sailing schedule of various vessels

Port Blair, Dec 21: This is for the information of the passengers that due to technical reasons this Directorate postponed the sailing programme of MV Campbell Bay for Little Andaman on 21st & 23rd December, 2022. In view of delay in repair works on board MV Campbell Bay to facilitate the passenger bound to travel to Little Andaman, the following arrangements have been made by this Directorate.

Now, the vessel MV Bharat Seema will sail for Little Andaman on 22.12.2022 at 0700 Hrs from Haddo Wharf and will sail back to Port Blair on the same day at 2100 Hrs from Little Andaman. Passengers those who are holding their tickets of MV Campbell Bay for 21st Dec., sailing are advised to

surrender the same and avail MV Bharat Seema by obtaining fresh ticket at Haddo Wharf (Gate No. 3) on 22.12.2022 which will be issued on first come first server basis.

Similarly, the vessel Nalanda will sail for Little Andaman on 24.12.2022 at 2100 Hrs from Haddo Wharf and will sail for Port Blair on 25.12.2022 at 0800 Hrs from Little Andaman. Passengers those who are holding their tickets of MV Campbell Bay for 23rd December, 2022 are advised to cancel their tickets and get fresh ticket of Nalanda from STARS Ticketing Counter, Phoenix Bay from 22.12.2022 onwards.

Further to inform that, the schedule of MV Bharat Seema for Car Nicobar via Little Andaman on 23.12.2022 and back to

Port Blair on 24.12.2022 has been postponed by a day. Now the vessel will sail for Car Nicobar via Little Andaman on 24.12.2022 at 0700 Hrs from Haddo Wharf and will sail for Port Blair on 25.12.2022 at 1200 Hrs directly from Car Nicobar.

The schedule of MV Campbell Bay for Campbell Bay via Nancowry on 27.12.2022 and her return voyage from Campbell Bay to Port Blair on 29.12.2022 has been cancelled. Fresh date of sailing for Campbell Bay via Nancowry will be announced shortly.

Inconvenience caused to the passengers is regretted. Passengers can also get update/status from the Information Counter at Phoenix Bay by using the Number 03192 -245555/ 232714 & TOLL FREE NUMBER 18003452714.

(From page 3)

ICAR-KVK, Port...

ment of crop pests by using *Neemastra*, *Bhramastra* and *Agnistra* and application of sour curd. Application of ghanjeevamrut and jeevamrut helps in improving the soil health and soil biological activity by providing nutrients. Experts

demonstrated the method of preparation of *ghanjeevamrut*, *jeevamrut* during the programme. ICAR-KVK, Port Blair distributed jeevamrut preparation kits to participants. Fifty three farmers and farm women participated and ben-

efited in this programme. The programme was concluded with Mrs. Snehalata, farm women. The programme was organized under supervision and guidance of Dr Eaknath B. Chakurkar, Director, ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair.

Beijing facing...

quickly and prepare fever clinics, emergency and severe treatment resources," Wang from the Peking University First Hospital, told the newspaper on Tuesday.

Beijing's elderly with comorbidities are particularly at risk of suffering from a severe Covid-19 infection. The city of 22 million people has over 4.41 million residents above 60 years and over 3.1 million residents above 65 years, according to official data from 2021. Wang suggested "each ICU bed should be linked to a competent doctor and 2.5 to 3 nurses capable of treating critical cases", the report said.

Officially, around seven people have died of Covid-19 in China since Sunday, including at least two in Beijing, a statistic met with scepticism given how rapidly the outbreak has spread in the past two weeks. Reports from other populous cities like Guangzhou in the south and Hangzhou in the east have also said the number of

people coming to fever clinics is increasing every day.

According to a forecast by Wang, the Covid-19 peak in China will "last till the end of Spring Festival (Lunar New Year) which will fall on January 22 and that life would gradually return to normal around the end of February and the beginning of March", the report said. Wang's analysis of how Covid waves will hit China mirrors what Wu Zunyou, chief epidemiologist at the Chinese Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, has said.

Wu predicted that China would experience three waves of Covid infections this winter with the first wave already underway.

Wu, according to news website Caixin, sees the first wave of infections running from now until mid-January, followed by a second wave from late January to mid-February, triggered by the movement of people ahead of next month's Lunar New Year holiday.

"The third wave will

last from late February to mid-March, as people return to work after the weeklong holiday, the senior health official said," Caixin reported.

Hundreds of millions of Chinese will travel across China from their workplaces to their hometowns and back in the run-up to and the end of the holidays in a 40-day period. Given that the national health commission (NHC) has ended mass testing and counting the number of asymptomatic cases, it is already impossible to calculate the number of new infections, with the confusion - and scepticism - only expected to increase in the coming weeks as millions begin to travel.

The shortage of rapid antigen test (RAT) kits across the country, including in Beijing, continued on Wednesday, making it impossible for many suffering from fever, cold and respiratory discomfort to actually diagnose if they were infected with Covid-19 or not.

China, meanwhile, said Wednesday that not a

AFFIDAVIT

By this deed I, the undersigned **ASHOK MONDAL**, S/o **SHYAM CHARAN MONDAL** and previously called **ASHOK KUMAR MONDAL**, S/o **SHYAM CH MONDAL**, doing private worker and presently residing at Mohanpura village under Mayabunder Tehsil, North & Middle Andaman District, Andaman & Nicobar Island -744202 solemnly declare:-

That for and on behalf of myself, my parents, my wife, my children and remitter issue wholly renounce/ relinquish and abandon the use of my former name/ surname of **ASHOK KUMAR MONDAL**, S/o **SHYAM CH MONDAL** and in place thereof I do hereby assume from this date the name/surname **ASHOK MONDAL**, S/o **SHYAM CHARAN MONDAL** which is applicable for all official and passport purpose.

That the above said statements are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Deponent

Charles Sobhraj, French serial killer, to be released after 19 years in Nepal jail

The Nepal Supreme Court has ordered the release of French serial killer Charles Sobhraj after 19 years in jail on the ground of his age. Charles has been in a Nepal jail since 2003 on charges of murdering two American tourists. The top court also ordered his deportation within 15 days of his release. "He will be deported within 15 days. From the jail, they will send him to the immigration office which will be a cell. They are processing his deportation and he could go much earlier," Sobhraj's lawyer Lok Bhakt Rana said.

Sobhraj, a Frenchman of Indian and Vietnamese parentage, was charged with

using a fake passport to enter Nepal and killing two backpackers in 1975, US citizen Connie Jo Boronich, 29, and his girlfriend Canadian Laurent Carrière, 26. He was spotted outside a casino in Nepal on September 1, 2003, after a newspaper published his photograph. After his arrest, the police filed two separate murder cases against him on charges of murdering the couple in 1975 in Kathmandu and Bhaktapur. He had been serving 21-year imprisonment in Kathmandu's Central Jail, 20 years for murdering the US citizen and one year and a fine of ?2,000 for using a fake passport.

(From page 3)

single person had died of Covid-19 on Tuesday, a day after changing the criteria for recording virus deaths.

The new rule stipulates that only those who had directly died of respiratory failure caused by the Covid-19 virus would be counted under Covid death statistics.

"The (new) definition that focuses on respiratory failure (which develops when the lungs can't get enough oxygen into the

blood) will miss a large number of Covid deaths," Yanzhong Huang, a senior fellow for global health at the New York-based Council on Foreign Relations, told AFP.

"The new definition is a reversal of the international norm adopted since mid-April during the Shanghai outbreak, which counts a Covid death as anyone who died with Covid," he added.

Death Mourned

Port Blair, Dec 21: CPI (M) Andaman & Nicobar State Organising Committee mourn the sudden demise of Mr. PG Haridas, retired Office Superintendent, A & N Administration at District Hospital, Garacharma today

(21.12.2022). He was 75 years old. CPI (M) conveys its deepest condolences to the bereaved family members. His body will be taken for funeral from his house at Teylorabad at 11.30 a.m. on 22nd December, 2022.



Narendra Modi is 'father of New India', Gandhi is...': Amruta Fadnavis

Amruta Fadnavis - the wife of Maharashtra deputy chief minister Devendra Fadnavis - on Wednesday called prime minister Narendra Modi 'the father of new India' after she was questioned over a 2019 tweet in which she called him 'the father of our country'. "We have two 'rashtra pita'... Narendra Modi is the father of New India and Mahatma Gandhi is the father of the nation of earlier times," she was quoted by a Marathi news website.

In 2019, on Modi's birthday, she said: "... wishing the father of our country, Narendra Modi ji, a very happy birthday - who inspires us to work relentlessly to betterment of the society." Wishing the Father of our Country @narendramodi ji a very Happy Birthday - who inspires us to work relentlessly towards the betterment of the society.

Today's remark was slammed by Congress leader Yashomati Thakur, who said that 'people following the BJP and RSS ideology... trying to kill Gandhiji again and again'. "They keep



doing such things as they are obsessed with changing history by repeating lies and maligning great people like Gandhiji," Thakur said.

The row over Amruta Fadnavis' remark comes as the BJP and the Shiv Sena faction led by chief minister Eknath Shinde clash with the opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi over controversial comments about Chhatrapati Shivaji by governor BS Koshiyari. Meanwhile, in response to a different query at the same event (in Nagpur), Amruta Fadnavis said, "I never make political statements. I'm not even interested... common people don't troll me over my statements. Those are supporters of the NCP or Shiv Sena. I do not give much importance to them and am not afraid of them. I fear only my

mother and mother-in-law."

"I cannot devote all my time to politics. So I don't want to join politics now. However, those who work 24 hours, who give 24 hours to politics, should be made chief minister," she said. Fadnavis' husband, the deputy chief minister, was chief minister of Maharashtra till the BJP was defeated in the last Assembly election.

He made his comeback after the party supported the Shinde-led Sena faction in its rebellion against former chief minister Uddhav Thackeray. Fadnavis was widely expected to become chief minister again after Thackeray resigned, but the BJP opted to allow Shinde the top post and persuaded their leader to take the No 2 job.



Port Blair, Dec 21: Group of Indian Defence Accounts Service (IDAS) Probationers of 2021 batch, as part of their Tri-Services Command attachment to Andaman & Nicobar Command called on Admiral D K Joshi, PVSM, AVSM, YSM, NM, VSM (Retd.), the Lt Governor, A&N Islands and Vice-Chairman, Islands Development Agency, today at Raj Niwas.

AATO DELEGATION... (From page 1)

water sports activities.

Lt. Governor apprised the delegation about various initiatives of NITI Ayog & A&N Administration with regard to development of tourism in these islands.

He also assured all

possible assistance to tourism stakeholders in smooth operations of tourism related activities in these islands. Mr. M. Vinod expressed sincere gratitude to Lt. Governor for meeting the delegation amidst his busy schedule.

Gujarat high court notice to Oreva group's Ajanta over Morbi tragedy

The Gujarat high court on Wednesday issued notice to Ajanta Manufacturing Pvt Ltd of the Oreva group in connection to the Morbi bridge collapse tragedy on October 30 in which 135 people lost their lives. The firm was awarded work for maintenance, repair and operation of the British era footbridge over the Machchu river by the Morbi municipality. A bench of chief justice Aravind Kumar and justice Ashutosh Shastri told the company to file its response by January 19, the next date for the hearing. The order was issued following a request by Dilipbhai Chavada of Ahmedabad who lost his brother and sister-in-law in the tragedy, who underlined that the Ajanta-Oreva group should be made a party and ordered to pay compensation since it was given the contract by the

civic authority. It also alleged that there were technical and procedural lapses in the agreement signed between Morbi municipality and the Oreva group. A preliminary report of the Special Investigation Team (SIT) constituted by the Gujarat government to investigate the bridge collapse was also submitted to the court at a previous hearing. In its order of December 12, the high court noted that the SIT report disclosed that out of a total of 49 wires that were clubbed together in 7 strands to form cable, "22 were corroded which would indicate that those wires were already broken before the incident. The remaining 27 wires are said to have recently broken. It would also indicate that no load test or structural test was conducted before permitting that opening of the bridge and repair work was completed on October 25 and bridge was opened on October 26".

The bridge was re-opened on October 26 by Oreva Group promoter Jaysukh Patel and his family after it was closed for maintenance and repairs for about seven months.

An FIR filed by the police at Morbi 'B' division police station on October 31 does not name Oreva and its promoters. It has shown "agencies responsible for maintenance and management of the hanging bridge" as the main accused, along with others whose names emerged during the course of investigation. Police arrested nine people, including two ticket-booking clerks, three security guards, two Oreva group managers and two private contractors hired for the repair and renovation of the bridge. The state government has suspended Sandipsinh Zala, the then chief officer of the Morbi municipality, who signed the MoU with the private firm.

Closure of one... (From page 1)

bank used to have two cash counters to handle the pressure of customers but without notice one cash counter has been kept close, resulting in huge rush inside the bank.

Talking to Andaman Sheekha one villager said that due to only one operational cash counter people are facing huge inconvenience. He said that Government effectively forced poor citizens into the banking system by linking some welfare benefits to bank accounts but now villagers have ended up stuck in long queues. Although a lot of services are offered in digital mode by SBI through ATMs, often it

has been seen that the ATM of Baratang remains out of order. Moreover, a large number of people of Baratang region do not know how to use the digital service of SBI through ATMs.

When Andaman Sheekha contacted a senior officer of State Bank of India at Port Blair he said that the SBI main branch has no information about Baratang Branch functioning with only one cash counter. "We will talk with the concerned bank manager, maybe due to staff shortage they have cut one cash counter," he added. The officer also assured to sort-out the problem as soon as possible.



IV boats to be shifted to Junglighat Jetty

Port Blair Dec. 21: In connection with the observance of Tsunami anniversary on Dec 26, 2022, all IV boats plying from Rajiv Gandhi Water Sports Complex have been directed to shift from Aberdeen Jetty to Junglighat Jetty on Dec.25, 2022 by 1700 hrs

positively. No vessel will be permitted to ply/anchor in the area between Netaji Subash Chandra Bose Island and Aberdeen Jetty off Marina Park on Dec.26. Normal ferry service thereafter can be resumed from Aberdeen Jetty on Dec.27onwards.

Similarly, all owners of Jetski scooters have also been directed to park their Jetski scooters at parking place by 1700 hrs on Dec.25, 2022. No water sports activities will be permitted on Dec.26, 2022 from Aberdeen Jetty.

Rozgar evam Sawrojgar Mela

Port Blair, Dec. 21: The A&N Islands Khadi & Village Industries Board jointly with the Industries Department & Employment Exchange and Rural Development, A&N Administration will be organizing a 'Rozgar evam Sawrojgar Mela' in association with like-minded agencies implementing Govt. sponsored schemes for providing career guidance. The programme will be held on Dec. 28, 2022 in the Multipurpose Hall of Subash Gram, Diglipur, North Andaman from 10 am to 4

pm.

The main objective of the Rozgar mela is to provide a platform between the self-employment implementing Departments, private employers, and job seekers to set up their livelihood venture duly availing benefits of Govt. sponsored schemes or placement in private sector.

During the programme, information kiosks separately for each participating Department and Banks will be setup to disseminate information to the interested beneficiaries on

the formalities / procedure for application submission and benefits of the various schemes being implemented by the respective Departments.

As a part of the programme, the Employment Exchange will organizing a placement drive for the job seekers in the private sector firms on the spot.

Unemployed youth have been requested to attend the programme and make optimum utilization of the services being provided by the Govt. Departments.

Firing Practice

Port Blair, Dec. 21: Firing practice by Indian Navy will be carried out on NSCB Island on Jan. 5 & 6, 2023 from 3.30 pm to

5.30 pm. The safe flying height is 7000 Mtr AMSL. All concerned have been warned to keep themselves and their vessels/fish-

ing boat away from the firing range during the above mentioned dates and time, a press release from Indian Navy said.

Member of...

(Friday).

Mr. Sharma said that the Islands have a literacy rate of 86.27% which is higher than the National average of 74.04%. With such a high rate of literacy it is imperative that the islands must have a central university to provide quality secondary education to its bright young population.

This will also create greater job specialization and aid in the carrying out of quality research. Mr. Sharma highlighted that presently, the Institutions of higher education in the Islands are affiliated to the Puducherry Central University.

Increase in the number of higher educational institutions from the lone Jawaharlal Nehru Rajkeeya Mahavidyalaya (JNRM) to three degree colleges, one medical college, one engineering college, two polytechnic, two ITIs, one law college, one B.Ed. college, one DIET, one vocational training institute, one department of ocean studies and marine biology, one de-

partment of coastal disaster management, one nursing, one ANM in which more than 3059 students pass every year, which has necessitated the need to have a separate Central University for Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

Mr. Sharma emphasized that the absence of a full-fledged University in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands is depriving the local students belonging to poor or marginalized sections of the society since they have very limited higher educational opportunities in the Islands and have to travel to mainland for higher education purpose which is a costly affair and difficult to bear.

In order to realize the true potential of students of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, there is an eminent requirement to establish a Central University in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

According to Mr. Sharma, a Central University is necessary to revolutionize Higher Education and to provide a level playing field to the

students of the Islands in comparison with other Union Territories like Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Delhi, Puducherry, Chandigarh who have their own Universities.

The Central University will enable the introduction of several new courses in the field of Marine Biology, Forest, Fisheries, Tribal Culture, Environment and many others. This will also facilitate socioeconomic development of the A&N Islands and will also generate more employment opportunities for the Islanders.

Mr. Sharma further pointed out that Central University will provide employment to the local youths including tribals but this Central University will create an educational hub in the islands which will also generate revenue as the Islands will soon be open to South Eastern Asian countries. Students from South East Asian countries like Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, and Myanmar (Burma) will come to Andaman and Nicobar Islands for higher education.

PLOT FOR SALE

Plot for sale at Tushnabad at Rs 4 lakh

Only 15 plots left

Single Patta will be provided

Plot for sale @ Ograbraj 200 sqm Rs 10 lakh

Only 10 plots available

Contact: Rahul Singh: 9474214859

WANTED

Receptionist / Front Office Executive: Qualified candidates with experience or freshers willing to work / learn in a team.

Contact : Hotel Serene Palace

Shadipur 8900982065 / 9933216297

GOOD NEWS!

On public demand

EXHIBITION & SALES

EVENING MARKET first of its' kind Now, extended upto 29th December 2022

Daily 2 PM onwards at TIRANGA PARK

Aberdeen Bazaar Port Blair

25 days - 22 stalls and hundreds of Christmas gifts, House hold items, , toys handi-crafts, Ready Made garments, bed sheets, textiles, electronic Items and many more and with fibulas discount on selected items

M 9933267919 9933267920

WANTED

Staff wanted for Upcoming Restaurant .

Waiters/ Steward - 2

Cook Indian /Chinese/tandoor – 1

Continental Cook - 1

Assistant cook – 1

Dishwasher -1

Only genuine candidates contact.

Contact- 9679518982, 9474237754

Admission to 2 yrs Pre-Sea Training for Diploma Holders

Port Blair, Dec. 21: The application form for new admission to 2 yrs Pre-Sea Training for Diploma Holders (Post Diploma in marine Engineering course) at Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Institute of Technology (DBRAIT) is available at the Maritime Section of DBRAIT. The last date for submission of filled in application form is Dec 30, 2022. This course is duly approved by DG Shipping, Mumbai and is a residential

course. This course is of 24 months duration and the entry qualification is Diploma in Mechanical/Electrical/EEE/Diploma Ship Building Engineering with 50% marks in final year of the Diploma and 50% marks in English, either in Class X or XII. For further details about the course, fees structure, etc., candidates may contact to the Maritime Section of DBRAIT during working hours (Mob- 9679553501 / 9933224884).