

## Anganwadi centre in dilapidated state

Diglipur, September 22 : Around 40sq.mtr of land was surrendered by Smti. Sukhi Paul for construction of Anganwadi centre in Subhasgram village of Ward number 03 in Diglipur area in 2019. Currently the Anganwadi centre is functioning in a small structure. This place is in dilapidated state and may collapse at any time. This is a temporary structure covered by roofing sheets from all sides. District administration needs to step in to ensure that the land allotted for construction of Anganwadi centre is utilised for construction of a new building at the earliest.



## Roads go missing from many parts of South Andaman- LG's intervention



Port Blair, September 22 : The road from Ferrargunj to Wimberlygunj junction is in very bad shape. This road is an important road connecting nearby villages. In most of the areas road is missing. Muddy road resembles a ploughed field. Minor accidents here is an routine affair. This is not one off situation. On a recent visit to many thickly populated villages of South Andaman, this editor had personally seen the plight of major Roads maintained by APWD. Almost all the roads are in battered shape. Some are in beyond repairable condition. In some places patch work is being carried out, which is not of much



use in the current weather condition. People residing in remote villages of South Andaman had demanded immediate intervention of the Administrator to restore the road in such a way that it can be utilised in all weather

conditions. There is demand for construction of rubberized roads, which is capable of surviving in adverse rainy condition. A surprise visit by Lt. Governor will result in positive response from bureaucracy.

## Release of Musical Video Album 'Jo tu na mila'



The final date of release of the most awaited Romantic musical video "JO TU NA MILA" is to be held on 24th September 2021. The Full Video of the single track is going to be released on very popular National Label of

our country "HSR Entertainment Youth Channel" introducing Zayed Khan and Shilindhara as lead actors. "Music and Lyrics is by Zayed Khan. "Executive Producer is Mahindar Prashad. "It is shot in Andaman

Islands. The launching and on screen release function is going to be held on 24th September 2021.

## Diglipur residents demand regular boat service from Port Blair

Diglipur, September 22 : Recent downpour had exposed the corruption involved in construction of National Highway and State highways. Andaman Trunk road connecting South Andaman and North and Middle Andaman had gone missing in many areas resulting in travel through this road a cumbersome job. Seriously ill patients and pregnant ladies doesn't prefer to travel by road in the current scenario. Due to non-availability of regular boat service to Port Blair, these patients are left to suffer. The inclement weather had



often resulted in cancellation of Helicopter service as well. Under these circumstances people of Diglipur area had demanded regular scheduled boat service from Port Blair to Diglipur on a particular day of the week. Speaking to this weekly local

residents had expressed their concern over non transportation of farm products to Port Blair on regular basis due to non availability of regular boat service. There is demand for regular boat service until the situation of ATR improves.

## Indifferent behavior of Food Inspector

Rangat, September 22 : A Food Inspector posted in Rangat is said to be behaving indifferently with the people of the area. People in this area depends on different Computer Shops for filling up online applications. This lady

officer is very particular that all the online applications regarding her department is filled up through one particular shop. Those who bring in a slip from this shop stating that the application is filled up from here is given priority and rest are

driven away stating one or the other reason. Residents here are agitated by such an action of this Food Safety Officer. There is growing demand for action against this officer dealing with public in a biased manner.

## Passenger safety at risk

Port Blair, September 22 : There are reports that passengers who travelled to Port Blair from Chennai by Airindia flight on 20/09/2021 were not provided with none of the Covid protection gears like face shield, face mask, sanitisers etc. As the flight was full to capacity, social distancing norm was also not followed. Inside sources reveals that most of the private airlines have also done away with the system of providing covid safety gears. Few passengers complained that the toilet block inside VSI airport was kept closed in arrival terminal so that passengers are rushed to ITF ground for RTPCR test without any delay. At ITF ground, the passengers are kept waiting for 1-2 hours waiting for their luggage. Speaking to this weekly few of the passengers expressed their resentment over treating passengers as cattles. One of them on condition of anonymity said, "Why we are not allowed to collect our baggages from Airport itself before leaving for ITF ground? This would ensure there is no delay in leaving for home after RTPCR test". It is noticed that administration is also



not disclosing the name of Airline and seat number while disclosing the Covid data daily. This creates unnecessary dilemma among passengers who had travelled on different flights without following adequate Covid protocol in a closed air conditioned environment for more than two hours with those having Covid.



On the occasion of National Nutritional Month various competitions were held in Diglipur by CHC Diglipur.





## EDITORIAL

## 7th Pay Commission: पेंशनर्स के लिए बड़ी खुशखबरी! DR में 356 फीसदी का इजाफा, जानिए कब से होगा लागू



**7th Pay Commission:** सरकार ने 18 नवंबर 1960 से 31 दिसंबर 1985 के बीच रिटायर हुए कर्मचारियों के लिए डीआर में बड़ी राहत दी है। इसके तहत 312 फीसदी से 356 फीसदी कर दिया है। डिपार्टमेंट ऑफ पेंशन एंड पेंशनर्स वेलफेयर ने दी जानकारी।

नई दिल्ली: **7th Pay Commission:** रिटायर्ड केंद्रीय कर्मचारियों के लिए खुशखबरी है। डिपार्टमेंट ऑफ पेंशन एंड पेंशनर्स वेलफेयर (Department of Pension and Pensioners\* Welfare) ने 20 सितंबर को एक मेमोरेण्डम जारी कर बड़ी जानकारी है। सीपीएफ बेनिफिशरीज जो जीवित हैं उनका डीआर 312 परसेंट से बढ़ा कर अब 356 फीसदी (DR Hike) कर दिया गया है। इसका लाभ उन्हें मिलेगा जो लोग 18 नवंबर 1960 से 31 दिसंबर 1985 के बीच रिटायर हुए हैं।

यानी त्योहारी सीजन के पहले पेंशनर्स की बल्ले-बल्ले हो गई है। इसी के साथ आपको बता दें कि रिटायर्ड कर्मचारियों को रिवाइज्ड डीआर (DR Hike) 1 जुलाई 2021 से दिया जाएगा। 1 जनवरी 2020, 1 जुलाई 2020, 1 जनवरी 2021 से सीपीएफ लाभार्थियों की तीन किस्में बाकी थीं।

5वें सीपीसी सीरीज के तहत लिया गया फैसला

विभाग की तरफ से दी गई जानकारी के अनुसार, सीपीएफ बेनिफिशरीज के लिए एक्स ग्रेशिया अमाउंट बढ़ाने का फैसला 5वें सीपीसी सीरीज के तहत हुआ है। यह नियम 1 जुलाई 2021 से लागू हो चुका है। सीपीएफ बेनिफिशरीज के ग्रुप ए, बी, सी और डी के अंतर्गत 3000, 1000, 750 और 650 रुपये के आधार पर एक्स ग्रेशिया अमाउंट दिया जाता है। यह रूल 4 जून 2013 से है। अब पेंशनर्स का डीआर यानी महंगाई राहत 312 फीसदी से बढ़ाकर 356 फीसदी का दिया है। इसके अलावा रिटायर्ड कर्मचारियों की एक अन्य श्रेणी के लिए डीआर को 304 फीसदी से 348 फीसदी किया गया है। यानी दिवाली के पहले ही पेंशनर्स के लिए रोशनी या गई है।

जिस लाभार्थी की विधवा और बच्चों को प्रत्येक माह 645 रुपए का एक्स ग्रेशिया दी जाती है। यह रूल उन लोगों के लिए है जो

1 जनवरी 1986 से पहले रिटायर हुए लोगों पर विधवा और बच्चों को प्रत्येक माह 645 रुपये का एक्स ग्रेशिया मिलता है, उन सभी पर यह नियम लागू होता है। इसके अलावा सीपीएफ फायदों के साथ जो सरकारी कर्मचारी 18 नवंबर 1960 से पहले रिटायर हो गए थे और वे 654, 659, 703 और 965 रुपए एक्स ग्रेशिया की कैटगरी में हैं, उन्हें 348 फीसदी मिलेगा।

हाल में डीए और डीआर में हुआ है इजाफा

लंबे समय के इंतजार के बाद, केंद्र सरकार ने महंगाई भत्ता और महंगाई राहत को बढ़ाया है। जो एक जुलाई 2021 से लागू कर दिया गया है। यह इजाफा बेसिक पेंशन में किया गया है। आपको बता दें कि पहले डीए 17 फीसदी था, जिसे बढ़ाकर 28 फीसदी कर दिया गया है। इसके साथ ही डीआर में भी इजाफा किया गया है, इसे भी 17 फीसदी से 28 फीसदी कर दिया गया है।



*Admiral D K Joshi, PVSM, AVSM, YSM, NM, VSM (Retd.), Hon'ble Lt. Governor, A&N Islands and Vice-Chairman, Islands Development Agency along with Shri Jitendra Narain, Chief Secretary, A&N Administration attended the Video Conference chaired by Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, Hon'ble Union Minister for Civil Aviation, GoI to discuss various aviation issues viz. New Greenfield Airports, International Air Connectivity, Water Aerodromes, Sea Plane Operations, Inter - island Heli operations etc in the Islands.*

## Member of Parliament demands to make Dialysis unit of Bambooflat CHC operational and allowing overage candidates to apply for the post of Contract Staff Nurses in Ayush

Port Blair, Sept 22: The Member of Parliament of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Mr Kuldeep Rai Sharma today met the Principal Secretary of Health Department with several crucial issues related to health sector. During the Meeting the Member of Parliament informed the Principal Secretary that the dialysis unit of Bambooflat CHC is nonoperational at present, because of which total 22 dialysis patients of the region are going through huge mental and physical pain. The MP informed that as the vehicle ferry vessels between Bambooflat and Chatham are not allowing four wheelers, the

patients are facing difficulties in reaching Port Blair from Bambooflat for dialysis. The Member of Parliament suggested that certain parts, needed to make the dialysis unit operational once again, is available in the OT unit of the hospital, which is also not operational. Hence he requested the Principal Secretary to use those parts of OT unit in the dialysis unit and make the dialysis unit operational again. The MP requested the Principal Secretary to anyhow make the dialysis unit operational to bring relief for all 22 dialysis patient of the region.

On the matter of appointment of Staff Nurses in Ayush, the Member of Parliament requested the Principal Secretary to allow all eligible candidates who have crossed their age to apply for the post, as the posts are on contract basis. He said that many candidates for the Staff Nurse post, who have crossed their age, have worked dedicatedly in past in Health Sector, even during the time of the first and second waves of COVID-19 and hence they should also be given equal opportunity to apply for the post. The Principal Secretary assured to Member of Parliament to do needful in this regard.



It is notified for the information of all concerned that the Electricity Department, A&N Administration will be imparting training under the Apprentices (Amendment) Act 1961 as Amended in 1973, 1986 and 2014 in the following disciplines for the year 2021-2022, to the local candidates possessing Degree, Diploma or ITI courses in the respective category.

One Seventh of the total vacancies are reserved for ST Candidates. If ST Candidates are not available, these reserved vacancies will be filled up by candidates from General Category as per rules in force.

1. Candidates who possess Degree or Diploma in **Electrical/ Mechanical/ Electrical Electronics Engineering** from a recognized institute are eligible for Graduate Diploma Apprenticeship Training.
2. Candidates who possess ITI Certificate under above mentioned discipline from recognized institute are eligible for ITI Apprenticeship Training.
3. The candidate who had already been trained under this scheme or having job experience for a period of one year or more is not eligible in terms of the prescribed rules.
4. The candidates who had already undergone apprenticeship under this Act/Govt. India's scheme and in whose case the contract of apprenticeship was terminated for any reasons what so ever shall not be eligible.
5. The candidates could get himself/herself enrolled/registered with this scheme within a specified period of three years after passing qualifying examination

1. The engagement as apprentice will be purely for training for the period specified above and will be terminated on completion. The engagement, apprentice is only temporary and shall not lead to absorption. The Electricity Department does not give any commitment on providing permanent/temporary employment to apprentices on successful completion of training period.
2. During the period under apprenticeship training the trainee will be attached to any of the Power House/T&D Sub-Division/Workshop at different island of the Electricity Department and will be under Administrative control of the Superintending Engineer, Electricity Department.

Sl.	Discipline	Stipend
1	Graduate Apprentices	Rs. 651 per day
2	Diploma Apprentices	Rs. 508 per day
3	Lineman (5 Candidates)	1 <sup>st</sup> Year- Rs. 356 per day 2 <sup>nd</sup> Year - Rs. 406 per day
4	Fitter, Electrician & Mechanic (MV)	Rs. 356 per day

Steps for applying:

- Graduate / Diploma candidate fulfilling the eligibility criteria shall log on to [www.mhrdnats.gov.in](http://www.mhrdnats.gov.in) and enroll.
- ITI candidate fulfilling the eligibility criteria shall log on to [www.apprenticeshipindia.org](http://www.apprenticeshipindia.org) and enroll.
- Before filling the application online, candidate has to ensure that he /she is fulfilling the advertising specifications.
- All the candidates are advised to fill all the relevant information and upload all the necessary documents. Incomplete profiles may not be accepted.**

The candidates after completing all the formalities need to apply to the Superintending Engineer, Electricity Department, Port Blair in the duly filled format as attached as **annexure-A** along with self attested copy of testimonials (**Educational Qualification, Proof of age, local certificate/ST certificate, employment registration card,Aadhar card and PAN card**).

Electricity Department reserves the right for final appointments of the candidates as per its discretion, without any further notice and without assigning any reasons thereof.

- E. Providing the apprenticeship training by this administration does not mean any guarantee for claiming by any reason or so for employment in the Electricity Department after completion of the said training.
- F. The applications should reach the office of the Superintending Engineer, Electricity Department, by 30/09/2021. However, the application shall also be accepted after the due date, subject to vacancy.
- G. Selected candidates shall be engaged as an apprentice anywhere in all three districts of A&N Islands.
- Selected candidates for apprenticeship training in the Electricity Department will be guided by the provisions of the apprentice Amendment Act, 1973, 1986 and 2014 and they will have to enter into an apprentice training contract with the Board of Training (Eastern Region) and the department.
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(बीअजीत कुमार- B Ajit Kumar)  
Superintending Engineer

Port Blair, Sept 22: Nehru Yuva Kendra organised Fit India freedom run 2.0 in collaboration with WITH YOU (NGO) at Bambooflat on 18.09.2021. The run started from Bambooflat jetty to GSS School, Bambooflat. The pledge was administered to the participants by Miss V K Mariyam Bibi, President, WITH YOU, (NGO). Thereafter Mr. Sameer, SHO, Bambooflat who was the Chief Guest had flagged off the rally. Certificates were distributed to all the participants in a function held in the conference hall of GSSS Bambooflat. Smti Shoba, Principal of GSS School, Bambooflat, Mr. Sundaram, ex zilla Parishad member, Shorepoint, Smti Rasheeda ex Pradhan, Hopetown, Mr. Rajkumar, Chairman SMC and Mr. Purusotham, Nation Chess orbiter also Graced the occasion and encouraged the students to do the exercise daily atleast for half an hour so that they can stay fit and healthy. Mr. Samsuddin, NGO volunteer proposed the vote of thanks.

Port Blair, Sept 22: NSUI State President Mr. M.A Sajid on Monday wrote a letter to the Education Minister of India Mr. Dharmendra Pradhan seeking reservation of one seat for PhD aspirants of Andaman & Nicobar Islands in all specialization at Central Universities of India. In his letter, Mr. Sajid stated that “there are no universities or colleges established in Islands which offer PhD courses in full time mode which enables our students to rely on mainland institutions for quality higher education”. He further stated that, “In developing UT’s like Andaman & Nicobar Islands, where there is a gap in higher-education sector, there is also a broad need for increased PhD’s both in academia and in industries centered on research and innovation”. He mentioned that, “Qualifying University Entrance exam and securing seat for PhD courses at Central University is obviously a tough proposition for Island’s graduates considering the fact of educational backwardness in the Islands”. Hence, he requested the Education Minister to provide one seat reservation for Islander students.

Port Blair, Sept 22: Today at around 9.30 AM dozens of villagers of Habdipur area gathered at Habdipur Junction and staged protest against Administration for pathetic roads in their area. The protest was led by Mr. Anand Amrit Raj, ex-Upadhyaksh SAMZ. According to villagers due to land slide following heavy rain, a culvert suffered damages and the village road is in bad shape because of which, school students now have to walk 2 KM to get bus for schools. Villagers alleged that the said road from Tushnabad to Ranchi Basti was reportedly repaired in 2010, last time. As per details at around 10.00 AM Tehsildar, Ferrargunj reached the spot and convinced the villagers and assured them to start the construction of Culvert and start road repair works from 22 September onwards, following which the Dharna was called off at 11.15 AM.

<p>The Member of Parliament has lauded the hard work and efforts taken by Dr. A.K. Mandal, Director, ANIIMS and his team in successfully getting the recognition of ANIIMS, Port Blair under the Pondicherry University from the National Medical Council/ Medical Council of India, for annual intake of 114 seats for the academic year 2021-22.</p> <p>This recognition is given year to year hence, it take a month or so</p>	<p>to start internship program. Keeping this in view the Director had applied for recognition much before the final exams. But the application for recognition can only be entertained after provisional pass certificate issued by Pondicherry University which came in the mid of Aug 2021.</p> <p>However, the Director &amp; his team made a relentless effort due to which the recognition by NMC was given so quickly.</p>	<p>The Member of Parliament appreciated the team for stationing 02 of their senior faculties at Delhi for almost 04 weeks to relentlessly pursue out the matter.</p> <p>All this hard workS and efforts taken have resulted in the recognition for which the Member of Parliament appreciate and thank the Director, ANIIMS &amp; his team of faculty.</p>
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Port Blair, Sept 22: The Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) Cell of JNRM in collaboration with State Health Agency, Andaman & Nicobar Administration organised an awareness programme on Ayushman Bharat- Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY). Dr.H.K.Sharma, Principal, JNRM while speaking on the occasion highlighted the Ayushman Bharat being a flagship programme of Government of India, strive hard to achieve the vision of Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Mr.K.Vivek, IEC Manager, State Health Agency briefly explained about the components under AB-PMJAY and being the largest health assurance scheme in the world this Yojana aims at providing a health cover of Rs. 5 lakhs per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization. The households included under AB-PMJAY are based on criteria of Socio-Economic Caste Census 2011 (SECC 2011) for rural and urban areas respectively, he added. Dr.K.Venkatesan, Co-ordinator, Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) has underscored Ayushman Bharat is an attempt to move from sectoral and segmented approach of health service delivery to a comprehensive need-based health care service and this scheme aims to undertake path breaking interventions to holistically address the healthcare system. Earlier Dr.Rekha Kumari, Resource Person, Department of Home Science welcomed the gathering while Smt.Poonam Singh and Ms.Binku Mondal, Resource Persons proposed vote of thanks. Later, essay competition on AB-PMJAY organised and altogether 50 students took part in the programme.



## Poshan Maah 2021 by Clinical Research Unit (H),

Port Blair, Sept 22: Clinical Research Unit (H), Port Blair under Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy, Ministry of AYUSH is actively carrying out Poshan Maah 2021 activities under Rashtriya Poshan Abhiyan 2021 with the theme "Suposhit Bharat".

As a part of observance under the program, a Plantation drive is carried out in the Unit premises and saplings of plants having higher nutritive and medicinal value were planted.

Health talks were conducted and patients visiting OPD were given information about the importance of nutritional aspects of the locally available foods, healthy and unhealthy foods and nutritional needs for different age groups through pictorial depiction by charts, banners etc. Special emphasis was laid for children, adolescents, pregnant and lactating women. Anthropometric measurements (weight and height) were taken for children for identification of malnutrition and nutritional deficiencies especially iron deficiency anemia.

A special awareness camp is organised at the Office of Deputy Commandant, CISF, Haddo, Port Blair on 18.09.2021 for the Jawans and their families

focussing on the nutrition and importance of inculcation of locally available nutritional foods and vegetables in diet. Sh. Jitender Jatoliya, Deputy Commandment welcomed and felicitated Dr Uttam Singh, Incharge, RO(H), S-1, CRU(H) Port Blair and highlighted the importance of holistic health through nutrition viewpoint to the gathering. Smt. Kalpana Verma, Hindi Translator, Indian Audit and Accounts Deptt, Port Blair also enlightened the gathering and gave her views on importance of diet and healthy lifestyle especially for females and adolescent girls.

Practical Demonstrations were given through charts, locally available foods and vegetables and other food items having nutritive value by Dr Uttam Singh, RO(H), S-1 and Dr Rohit Paul, JRF, CRU(H), Port Blair. Healthy tips were given to the participating Jawans and their families for remaining healthy and AYUSH Prophylactic measures were also discussed as a immunity boosting measures during the COVID19 pandemic. Approx 50-60 jawans and their family members joined the programme following COVID19 appropriate behaviour and Homoeopathic immunity boosting medicine

Arsenicum album 30 were also distributed to the participants. Bilingual Handouts in Hindi and English were also distributed to the each family members emphasising on adoption of healthy diet and lifestyle modulation through Yoga and AYUSH pathies.

Nutritional awareness session was also conducted at Bhatu Basti, Ward no 24 Aagwanwadi targeting the pregnant, lactating mothers and children below 5 yrs of age for addressing the common nutritional deficiencies like anemia, balanced nutritional requirements, incorporating local nutritional foods and malnutrition. Around 25-30 females participated in the awareness session. Techniques of hand washing and maintaining hygiene was also discussed to be followed during COVID 19 pandemic and taking AYUSH prophylactic measures for boosting immunity levels. Nutritional food was also provided to the participants and Aaganwadi workers.

More activities will be planned and observed in the upcoming weeks by the Unit as per the Rashtriya Poshan Maah 2021 calendar.

## MP demands more Vehicle Ferry Vessels between Chatham and Bambooflat and more normal Ferry between Marine and Bambooflat

Port Blair, Sept 22: Highlighting the problems being faced by people of Bambooflat, Wimberlygunj, Hope Town, Stewartgunj, Shore Point, Panighat, Mannarghat, Wright Myo, Shoal Bay and nearby areas, the Member of Parliament of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma has demanded more Vehicle Ferry Vessels between Chatham and Bambooflat and more normal Ferry between Marine and Bambooflat.

In a letter sent to the Chief Secretary the Member of Parliament mentioned that a large population of the South Andaman region resides in Bambooflat, Wimberlygunj, Hope Town, Stewartgunj, Shore Point, Panighat, Mannarghat, Wright Myo, Shoal Bay and nearby areas and for them vehicle ferry vessels are the shortest mean to reach Port Blair city with their vehicles for various purposes like Office works, Education, Medical needs, day-to-day works etc.

But presently due to shortage of vehicle ferry vessels, now the sailings of vehicle ferry vessels between Chatham and Bambooflat have been reduced considerably.

The MP added that although in peak hours services of two vehicle-ferry vessels have been provided but in the daytime, only one vehicle ferry is being operated between Bambooflat and Chatham. Moreover, transfer of four-wheelers on vehicle ferry has been totally prohibited for reason unknown, which is causing huge inconvenience to daily commuters.

The MP pointed out that people of Bambooflat, Wimberlygunj, Hope Town, Stewartgunj, Shore Point, Panighat, Mannarghat, Wright Myo, Shoal Bay and nearby areas, with four-wheelers, who have to come to Port Blair for urgent works are now unable to reach Port Blair by vehicle ferry and hence they have to take the longer road-route, which is not only time consuming but also painful, because of horrible road conditions. Adding to this the normal ferry service between Marine and Bambooflat has also been reduced considerably causing hardship for office going staffs, people who are working in private business houses and shops.

Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma mentioned that now to avail ordinary ferry these people have

to come all the way to Chatham from Aberdeen Bazaar area, which is again both, time-consuming and expensive.

Considering all these problems being faced by people of Bambooflat, Wimberlygunj, Hope Town, Stewartgunj, Shore Point, Panighat, Mannarghat, Wright Myo, Shoal Bay and nearby areas, the Member of Parliament requested the CS to provide more vehicle ferry vessels from early morning to late night between Chatham and Bambooflat and also I request you to kindly increase the number of normal ferry vessels between Marine and Bambooflat, especially during the starting and closing of business hours, so that the daily earners, who are working in shops, hotels, restaurants, construction sites etc. can avail ferry for Bambooflat from Marine Jetty.

The MP also requested the CS to issue necessary directions to the Directorate of Shipping Services to repair all the vehicle ferry vessels, which are non-operational for a long time for minor faults and to keep these vehicle ferry vessels on stand-by for emergency deployment.

## AYUSH Unit, Mayabunder celebrates "Rashtriya Poshan Maah"

Port Blair, Sept 22: An Informative Awareness Programme and a Drawing Competition on "Rashtriya Poshan Maah" 2021 was held among the children on the Importance of Nutrition for Healthy life on 18th of August, 2021 in the premises of Lugyi Memorial Hall, Webi, Mayabunder through AYUSH Unit, Dr.R.P.Hospital, Mayabunder. Mr. S.Jaladharan, Tehsildar, Mayabunder and Smti.Naw Ahmay, Retd. Head Mistress, Mayabunder was the Chief Guest of the Event.

During the Programme, Dr.Priyanka Iqbal (Ayurveda), G D M O ( A y u r v e d a ), Dr.R.P.Hospital, Mayabunder urged the Children to follow a Healthy lifestyle with Nutritional supplements which helps in the enhancement of proper growth and development during the Childhood. Prizes were distributed to the winners. Yoga Session took place through Smti.Puja Kumari, Yoga Instructor, Dr.R.P.Hospital, Mayabunder among the Children. Various Asanas were performed by the Children. Fruits,

Vegetables, Nuts and other nutritional supplements were also displayed. During the Programme, the Home Remedies to boost up Rogapratirodhakshamta (Immunity) was also explained. Children enthusiastically participated in the Drawing Competition as well as Yoga session. Interactive session was held where Tehsildar, shared his views. The SOP guidelines for COVID-19 issued by the Govt of India/Andaman Administration was strictly followed in the entire Programme.

## Member of Parliament demands extension of permit period for all the Tourist Vehicles to 31st March 2022

The Member of Parliament of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma today called on the Chief Secretary, Mr. Jitendra Narain and requested him to extend the permit period for all the Tourist Vehicles to 31st March 2022.

During the meeting he mentioned that because of Covid-19 Pandemic and lockdowns, the Tourism Industry of Andaman Nicobar Island suffered a heavy blow.

He added that one of the sections in Andaman Nicobar Tourism Industry, the vehicle Drivers and owners who have taken loans from banks to operate tourist vehicles have especially suffered heavy financial loss during this crisis time because in the last one

and half year, they couldn't operate their tourist vehicles.

The Member of Parliament mentioned that now, the fitness period of tourist vehicles is going to expire on 30 September 2021 after which tourist vehicle owners have to apply for fresh fitness and for this entire process, they will have to pay nearly Rs. 35,000 to Rs. 50,000 for fitness of their vehicles.

Considering the last one and half year, which was a severe loss period, it is impossible for any of the tourist vehicle owners to pay such a huge amount for renewal of tourist permit, the MP mentioned.

He added that most of these tourist vehicle operators had

taken loans from the banks and are under tremendous pressure from banks to pay the EMIs, adding to that they are facing a huge challenge to run their family in this present situation. Many of these tourist vehicle drivers and owners are unable to pay room rent and going through extreme financial crisis.

Considering all these problems the Member of Parliament requested the Chief Secretary to extend the permit period for all the Tourist vehicles to 31st March 2022 so that in this coming tourist season, these tour vehicle operators can earn some amount and pay for the renewable of fitness after 31st March 2022.

## HADDO THEFT CASE CRACKED BY PS CHATHAM STAFF WITHIN 48 HOURS

In continuation of the zero tolerance policy against any kind of crime, PS Chatham staff have cracked the Haddo house theft case within 48 hours and recovered 40 grams of gold ornaments worth Rs. 1.7 lakhs.

On 18/09/2021, a case vide FIR No. 17/21 U/s 454/380 IPC was registered at PS Chatham and investigation was entrusted to SI Subham Ghosh of PS Chatham. The case was initially a blind case

of theft of 40 grams of gold ornaments from the house of a doctor in Sunder colony Haddo. However, working professionally, the team collected technical evidences in the form of CCTV footages and identified the accused who was a relative of the complainant. The team of PS Chatham lead by SI Subham Ghosh, PCs Santosh Kumar and Bipul Halder cracked the theft case within 48 hours resulting in

100% recovery of the gold ornaments worth 1.7 lakhs. The accused person Y Augustin S/o Late Y. Anbu (29) yrs R/o Haddo Ward No. 1 was arrested on 20th September, 2021 in connection with the case.

The general public is requested to share information pertaining to any crime or other illegal activities to Police at 112, 03192-232100 & 03192-233077. The identity of the informant will be kept secret.

## Spices for Better Profits and Health ICAR-CIARI Demonstrates Scientific Spices Cultivation to SHGs

Port Blair, Sept 22: A demonstration programme on Cultivation of spices as profitable inter crops was organized under All India Coordinated Research Project on Palms Projection September 18, 2021. Spices are amongst the most suitable crops for commercial scale cultivation in the islands. However, technological interventions are required to get the produce of desirable quality. During the inaugural programme, Dr. E.B. Chakurkar, Director, ICAR-CIARI, emphasized upon adoption of scientific practices for reaping maximum benefits from spices cultivation. He suggested the participants to undertake value addition of produce for improving the profitability of the sector. Considering the issues faced in marketing, he urged the youth to play pivotal role by utilizing the

digital tools and platforms. Dr. Ajit Arun Waman, Scientist in Charge of the Project, explained potential of various herbal, rhizomatous and tree spices as intercropped and sole crops in the islands. He emphasized on use of improved varieties of spices for getting produce of uniform quality. Various propagation techniques such as cuttage, marcottage, serpentine propagation and graftage, which are adopted for multiplication of various spices were demonstrated in the Horticultural Plants Propagation Unit of the Institute. Participants were educated about scientific practices for production and processing of cinnamon, lemon grass, long pepper, Indian bay leaf, woody pepper, black pepper and bush pepper. Field visits in the experimental gardens of coconut and arecanut based

cropping systems involving spices were also made for the benefit of the stakeholders.

Considering the importance of spices in home remedies and in the preparation of decoctions/kadha for improving the immunity during COVID-19 pandemic, use of various spices was also explained to the participants. Promotion of spices based herbal teas such as lemon grass, pepper etc. in the islands could not only help the small growers in getting the revenues but would also open up healthy options to the consumers, Dr. Ajit said. At the end, planting material of various spices was distributed for encouraging participants to take up cultivation of spices. The programme was attended by participants from three self-help groups from South Andaman along with island youth.

## RAT passengers found COVID-19 negative : Director IP&T

Port Blair, Sep 22: The Director IP&T, Mr. Alok Kumar, (DANICS) informed today that nine flights with 1257 passengers arrived today at Port Blair Airport and all passengers have undergone RT-PCR test, the results for today's RT-PCR are awaited. While addressing the COVID-19 media briefing today at IP&T Conference hall he pointed out that for passengers who arrived yesterday (Saturday), no passenger was found COVID-19 positive at the RT-PCR test.

The Director further informed that 332 persons (travelers) bound for N&M Andaman were tested at Ferrargunj in which all persons were tested COVID-19 negative during Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) and altogether 191 people were tested at Phoenix Bay in which all were found COVID-19 negative during Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) and at Mohanpura Bus stand 221 RAT were conducted in which all were found COVID-19 negative. "At Phoenix Bay jetty, 84 passengers travelling to Swaraj Dweep were tested in which all

were found Covid-19 negative during Rapid Antigen Test (RAT)", he said.

"Today a total of 83 doses of vaccine were provided to eligible beneficiaries among which 50 persons were of the 18-44 year age group," he added. Later Deputy Director GB Pant Hospital, Dr. Amitabha De informed that at GB Pant Hospital only one COVID-19 patient is admitted who is on oxygen support, Whereas no asymptomatic patient is at Covid Care Center, he added.