

**A Weekly with a difference, comes to you on every Thursday**

## *A Bus stop converted into Auto stand*



Port Blair, September 29 : There is a Bus Stand opposite to Shadipur School. It is very close to Shadipur junction. Here PBMC had made a stage which occupies major part of the roadside. Vegetable vendors occupy both sides of this Bus Stand. Fish vendors occupy the

space in front Shadipur School. This leads to total traffic chaos during morning and evening hours. Now few Auto drivers have made the available space in front of the Bus stop, their personal domain. They do not allow even buses to stop here. Buses are forced to stop in the middle of the road

resulting in total stoppage of traffic on this stretch whenever a bus halts here.

Local residents are totally agitated over this uncanny attitude of officials of PBMC and State Transport Authority who had time and again failed to deliver.

## *Customers harassed*



Port Blair, September 29 : There are two Diesel dispensing machines in ANIIDCO Petrol pump at Goalghar. One of it is not working for the past many days. So, practically there is only one machine to dispense diesel. Now it is noticed that instead of dispensing diesel to vehicles

standing in long queues, the staff posted here is busy filling drums laden on jeeps and trucks. Sometimes even oil tankers are seen filling from this pump. Many a times government vehicles are also seen filling diesel from ANIIDCO Pump. In the current scenario, the customers feel

harassed. It will be ideal if both the Diesel dispensing machines are made operational for the convenience of the public, or else allot separate time for those procuring diesel in drums for stocking purpose.

## *MP requests to repair roads of A & N Islands to bring relief for Islanders*

Port Blair, September 29 : The Member of Parliament of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma today requested the Chief Secretary of Andaman and Nicobar Administration to take some immediate measures to repair the roads so that it brings some relief to the people of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. In a letter addressed to the Chief Secretary the Member of Parliament today mentioned that

the condition of the roads in these Islands is becoming worse since last one year. He added that almost all roads of PBMC, Zilla Parishads, State Highways and National Highways are equally damaged and full of potholes causing enormous problems to the people of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, especially the old age people, children and medical patients etc. The MP mentioned that as Pachayats, Zilla Parishads and

PBMC are being run without a head the situation has become further worse.

He added that roads are a basic necessity, which is required for the growth of any society but in Andaman and Nicobar Islands since last nearly one year it has been observed that the condition of roads has become so bad that people are now scared to use the roads.

## *Flashing light missing from Lighthouse*



Port Blair, September 29 : Once upon a time North Bay Lighthouse was used for guiding ships towards the port. It acted as a warning about the proximity of landfall for those ships entering the port. It is a known fact that lighthouse helps ships get a navigational fix. There are 'flashing lights' and 'occluding

lights" in lighthouses. Each Lighthouse has a unique timing of flashing/occluding which identifies the lighthouse. Lighthouses have an important role in navigation of ships. The importance of lighthouses is that they help the ships out at sea to find the harbour safely, especially when there are rocks which the ships may bump

into. For the past few days, the North Bay Lighthouse does not have focusing light rotating all around this Light House helping in navigation of ships. In the prevailing weather condition there is every chance that bad climate may result in any untoward incident.

## *Member of Parliament Demands atleast two ferry vessels each for Swaraj Dweep and Shaheed Dweep on daily basis*

Port Blair, September 29 : The Member of Parliament of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma today requested the Chief Secretary of Andaman and Nicobar Administration to operate atleast two ferry vessels each for Swaraj Dweep and Shaheed Dweep on daily basis.

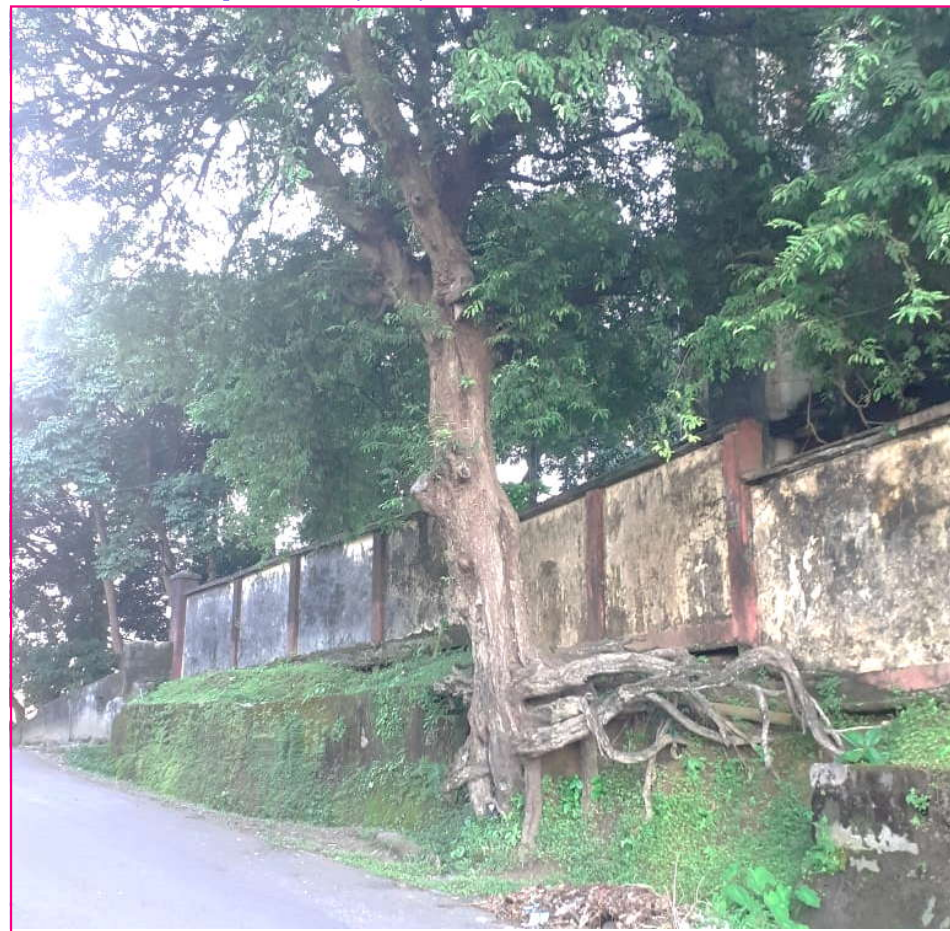
In a letter addressed to the Chief Secretary, the Member of Parliament today mentioned that after the reopening of Tourism, slowly a large number of Tourists are now reaching Andaman but due to less number of vessels for Shaheed Dweep and Swaraj Dweep, they are struggling to visit these two Tourist Hotspots.

This is not only causing inconvenience to the visiting Tourists but also causing loss to the people associated with Tourism Business in Swaraj Dweep and Shaheed Dweep. These people have already suffered heavy losses during the first and second waves of COVID-19 and now when there is a chance to earn some revenue, due to lack of sufficient number of ferry vessels, they are again suffering losses.

Adding to this, the common Islanders of Shaheed Dweep and Swaraj Dweep need to come to Port Blair for various needs viz treatment, education and other day to day works but due to lack

of sufficient number of ships they are also finding it difficult to get tickets for the ferry vessels. Now, when the demand for tickets is more due to the pressure of tourism, common Islanders are also demanding more ferry vessels for Shaheed Dweep and Swaraj Dweep.

Looking at problems being faced by Islanders and visiting tourists, the Member of the Parliament requested the Chief Secretary to issue necessary directions to the Directorate of Shipping Services to operate atleast two ferry vessels each for Swaraj Dweep and Shaheed Dweep on daily basis.



*A Tamarind tree near PBMC water tank at South Point with exposed roots endangering the life of road users and nearby residents.*





## EDITORIAL

**चुनाव की आहट के साथ हुई राजनीतिक सरगमियां तेज**

एक अनुमान के अनुसार नवंबर के अंतिम सप्ताह या फिर दिसंबर के पहले हफ्ते में अंडमान-निकोबार द्वीप समूह में नगर पालिका तथा पंचायत का चुनाव प्रशासन करा सकता है।

चुनावों की आहट के साथ ही द्वीप समूह में स्थित सभी राजनीतिक पार्टियों के नेता सक्रिय नजर आने लगे हैं विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में टीकाकरण शिविर आयोजित कर बैनरों में अपना अपना फोटो

बड़ा-बड़ा करके छाप रहे हैं जैसा की टीकाकरण के लिए वैक्सीन उनके अपने जेब से मंगाया गया है।

इसी प्रकार बड़े बड़े नेताओं के जन्म दिन मानाने के नाम पर भी कुछ राजनीतिक पार्टियों के द्वारा जनता के बीच में अपनी छवि सुधारने के लिए पौधा रोपण जैसे कार्यक्रम आयोजित किया जा रहा है।

आगामी नगर पालिका तथा पंचायत के चुनावों को देखते हुए जनता भी इन राजनेताओं से आर-पार की लड़ाई के मूड में नजर आ रहे हैं। प्राप्त जानकारी के अनुसार इन चुनावों में द्वीप समूह के कई ज्वलंत मुद्दे छाया रहने की उम्मीद है। आम जनता का कहना है की पूरे द्वीप समूह में सड़क है ही नहीं मगर किसी भी राजनीतिक पार्टी के नेताओं में हिम्मत नहीं है कि आलोचिनी या एन एच -४ के खिलाफ एक शब्द भी बोले।

आज द्वीप समूह के युवाओं को ऑन लाईन भर्ती की वजह से भारी नुकसान उठाना पड़ रहा है और गैर द्वीप वासी यहां पर आकर सरकारी नौकरी में कब्जा कर रहे हैं इस मामले पर भी जनता राजनीतिक नेताओं से सवाल-जवाब करने के मूड में नजर आ रहे हैं।

अब देखना ये होगा की राजनीतिक पार्टियों के द्वारा जनता को अपनी ओर आकर्षित करने के लिए कौन-कौन से लोक लुभावनी वादा किया जाता है।

### **MP requests Chief Secretary to withdraw the system of seeking permission from DC, NMA for travelling to South Andaman from North and Middle Andaman**

The Member of Parliament of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma today requested the Chief Secretary to withdraw the system of seeking permission from DC, N&M Andaman for travelling to South Andaman from North and Middle Andaman District. In a letter addressed to the Chief Secretary, the Member of Parliament mentioned that certain restrictions imposed on Islanders during the second wave of COVID-19 are still continuing, which are causing great troubles to the Islanders. He pointed out that one such restriction was to seek permission from the Deputy Commissioner of North and Middle Andaman for

traveling to South Andaman from North and Middle Andaman, which has become a constant source of harassment for people of North and Middle Andaman. The MP mentioned that Andaman and Nicobar Islands have a negligible number of COVID-19 patients and there are hardly any COVID-19 cases in North and Middle Andaman and hence seeking permission from DC, N&M Andaman, every time for travelling to South Andaman, is unnecessary. Moreover, for villagers living in remote pockets of North and Middle Andaman, it becomes too difficult to find someone to write an application on their behalf for a movement permit.

He added that in other cases of urgency like attending funerals, medical cases, court cases the process of seeking permission for the movement, causes further agony for the Islanders. Considering all these issues the Member of Parliament requested the Chief Secretary to withdraw the system of seeking permission from DC, N&M Andaman for travelling to South Andaman from North and Middle Andaman region and allow people to travel to South Andaman as per their own convenience and time, without any restriction, as it was the case before the second wave of COVID-19.

## MESSAGE

It gives me immense pleasure to learn that the Tourism Department of A&N Administration is celebrating "World Tourism Day-2021" in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Since 1980, the 27th of September is celebrated as "World Tourism Day" which marks the day the statute of the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) came into force. The day is commemorated every year to foster awareness among the international community of the importance of tourism and its social, cultural, political and economic value. The theme for this year's celebration is "Tourism for Inclusive Growth."

Tourism is one of the world's most vital sectors which immensely contribute to the economic progress of a nation. The UT Administration has acknowledged tourism as a thrust area for the holistic development of the Islands. Under the aegis of Islands Development Agency (IDA) and with the cooperation of NITI Aayog, some mega tourism projects are expected to be added to the islands odyssey of success. All the upcoming projects will be ecologically sustainable and provide employment opportunities to the youth of islands. The pandemic has delayed the implementation of these projects. However, it will surely gain momentum in the days to come.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a massive social and economic impact but with the tireless efforts of all stakeholders, we have been able to control the infection of corona in the islands and reopen the tourism activities in A&N islands. This will undoubtedly help kick start the recovery and growth of the sector.

The standard operating procedures (SOPs) for carrying out various tourism related activities have been issued for strict adherence, taking into consideration the safety and wellbeing of the tourists as well as our fellow islanders. I am confident that with the concerted efforts and coordination of all stakeholders in the A&N Islands, we will surely emerge as a glittering example of safe and sustainable tourism in the country with the concept "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" (the world is one Family).

Sd/-

(Admiral D K Joshi)

PVSM, AVSM, YSM, NM, VSM (Retd.)

Lieutenant Governor, A &amp; N Islands

&amp; Vice Chairman, Islands Development Agency



**Delegation of ASEAN Heads of Missions, Their Excellencies Mr. Ramon Jr. Bagatsing, Philippines, Mr. Pham Sanh Chau, Vietnam, Mr. Ung Sean, Cambodia, Mr. Moe Kyaw Aung, Myanmar, Mr. Alaihuddin Mohd Taha, Brunei Darussalam, Ms. Pattarat Hongtong, Thailand and Mr. Bounneme Chouanghom, Laos called on Admiral D K Joshi, PVSM, AVSM, YSM, NM, VSM (Retd.), Hon'ble Lt. Governor, A&N Islands and Vice-Chairman, Islands Development Agency today at Raj Niwas. Discussed enhancement of direct trade including import of timber, steel & construction materials like sand, aggregates/stone etc. and to give impetus to Tourism, Discussed Cruise liner circuits, Chartered & Hopping flights, with incentives already in place like Zero VAT on ATF & nil landing charges, exploring further scope of cooperation and connectivity with Andaman Chamber of Commerce and Industry.**



## Shri V K Abdul Aziz requests APWD to Solve water crisis of Kadakachang.



On receiving the complaint from the villagers of Kadakachang that they are facing acute water crisis. Shri V.K.Abdul Aziz, social worker, Brindaban immediately rushed at the site and tried to know their grievances at the ground level and found that water pipe line busted leading to heavy wastage of water. After getting the

detail facts Shri V K Abdul Aziz immediately contacted to Shri Saha Devan, Junior Engineer and briefed about the grievances of the people of the area.

The Junior Engineer immediately inspected the area along with Shri V K Abdul Aziz.

The villagers said that earlier they had informed many persons to

solve their problems but nothing happened. All men and Women of the area blessed Shri V K Abdul Aziz for this humanitarian gesture.

Shri V K Abdul Aziz expressing gratitude to Shri Saha Devan, Junior Engineer, they assured within 08 hours issue of water crisis solve in top priority basis

## Fire Severely Damages Two Shops at Zero Point, Campbell Bay

Port Blair, Sept 27: Yesterday night around 11:30 PM a fire accident took place at Zero Point, Campbell Bay, which caused severe damages in two shops Viz. Manju General Store and Kali General Store.

The fire was first sighted by police personnel, who were on duty at Zero Point, immediately they informed the Fire Brigade and

called the owner of Kali General Store, Mr. P.R Singh.

On getting information the shopkeepers and his family members along with the police personnel tried to control the fire by pouring water.

As per sources the fire started from plastic baskets kept in front of Manju General Store and suddenly it entered the shop

premises and by the time Fire Brigade reached, it entered the Kali General Stores. Fire caused huge damages in both the shops. After the Fire Brigade reached the spot, the Fire Service team immediately controlled the situation. More details are awaited.

## M. Veeranna, State President, BMS participates in 5 day Abhyas Varg

Port Blair, Sept 29: The National Committee of Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh has conducted 5 days Abhyas Varg at Thengadi Bhawan, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. The Varg was for all State Presidents, State General Secretary, State Organising Secretary, Deputy Organising Secretary and Finance Secretary. The Abhyas Varg was started on 19th Sept. 2021 and concluded on 23rd Sept. 2021 in which the National Leaders of RSS Mr. Dr. Manmohan Vaidya ji, Sah

Sarkaryavah (Joint General Secretary), V Bhaigai ji, Sah-Sarkaryavah (Joint General Secretary), RSS, Aravind Moghe ji, Sama Bal Reddy ji along with other national leaders of Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh Mr. Hiranmany Pandya ji, National President, Binoy Kumar Sinha, National General Secretary, B. Surendran ji, National Organising Secretary and 8 Zonal Organising Secretaries were attended with all State / UTs representatives.

The Abhyas Varg was organising for Karyakartha Nirman with Nation Building motto. The varg included various topics on organised and unorganised sectors with interactive sessions on new labour laws and other organisational issues with special emphasis on developing Women Leadership.

The 5 day Abhyas Varg at Bhopal was participated by Mr. M. Veeranna, State President, BMS, A & N Islands from this Union Territory.

## RESCUE & RELIEF OPERATION BY INDIAN COAST GUARD IN INUNDATED AREA OF RK GRAM, DIGLIPUR INDUCED BY FLASH FLOODS

As a result of continuous heavy down pour in North Andaman since evening of 22 Sep 21, low lying area of RK Gram in Diglipur witnessed flash floods on 23 Sep 21. On request of local administration, the Indian Coast Guard District Headquarters at Diglipur in a swift operation in conjunction with Department of Revenue and Forest mobilized its resources for rescue and relief of people in inundated areas. One Gemini each of Indian Coast Guard and Revenue department was launched with ICG divers and rescue team embarked. The operation which commenced at 1700 hours continued till 1930 hours on 23 Sep 21 and a total of 19 stranded people including aged people, ladies and kids were rescued. One Coast Guard ambulance with medical team was kept stand-by on-scene to mitigate any medical emergency.



## NSUI pays surprise visit to JNRM boys' hostel; interacts with students, listens grievances

Port Blair, Sept 29: To have on-the-spot feel of the functioning of JNRM boys' hostel, the NSUI delegation on Monday visited their premises to personally experience the problems and also to find a suitable immediate solution.

The delegation went to hostel following the direction of PCC President Mr. Rangalal Halder and guidance of PCC Campaign Committee Chairman Mr. G. Bhasker. The NSUI delegation was led by its State President Mr. M.A Sajid. He was accompanied by NSUI State General Secretary Mr. Vishal Din, NSUI Active Member Mr. Arbindo

Mridha and other leaders.

During the visit, Mr. Sajid reviewed the status of facilities being extended to the students in the hostel, besides interacting with the students. The hostel residents apprised him of various general and hostel related issues. The NSUI leaders went around the hostel rooms, kitchen, storeroom, toilet and inspected the facilities. The students residing in the JNRM boys' hostel complained that they have to regularly deal with ill-maintained building and lack of basic amenities. The students alleged that the electrical equipments and devices of hostel

are in bad condition. Further, the students demanded provision of geysers in the washrooms.

Mr. Sajid assured the students that the grievances and suggestions put forth by them with regard to further streamlining of the hostel would get due consideration at appropriate level. Mr. Sajid encouraged the senior hostellers to not get indulged in ragging and to create a cordial environment with their juniors in hostel. He further gave his contact number to all hostellers and advised them to inform about any drug substance being brought or supplied by anyone inside hostel.

## Fire Severely Damages Two Shops at Zero Point, Campbell Bay

Port Blair, Sept 29: Fit India Freedom Run was held in Little Andaman, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, which was organized by Nehru Yuva Kendra in association with Hindu Rashtra Shakti

In the beginning, Smti Sima Sarkar, State Vice President (Mahila Morcha) spoke about Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay. The Guests, members of HRS & participants paid tribute to Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay.

The Hindu Rashtra Shakti team of V.K.Pur committee members of Little Andaman organized many events at Vivekanandapur village at 4pm, where about 38 members attended the event with much enthusiasm. Major support was accorded by the self help groups. Many senior citizens who are also HRS members viz Mr. Debrata Sarkar, Mr. Parimol Roy, Mr. Pema Roy, Mr. Tushar Biswas, Mr. Dheraj Raftan, Mrs. Santoshi Roy, Mr. Balay

Mondal, Mr. Mangal, Mr. Biswajit Paul, Mr. Ashim Baroi, Mrs. Ashalata Mondal, Mrs. Bionta Biswas, Mr. Subankar Mondal and Mr. Biswajit Biswas took participation. The Hindu Rashtra Shakti played a vital role in making the whole event a grand success. Concluding the even the participants were given "Certificate of Participation".

## Voluntary Blood Donation Camp at "INHS Dhanvantri" Port Blair

Port Blair, Sept 29: Andaman & Nicobar AIDS Control Society (ANACS) coordinated the voluntary Blood Donation camp which was jointly organized by INHS Dhanvantari and Blood Bank, G.B. Pant Hospital, Port Blair on 24th September 2021 at INHS Dhanvantri, Minne Bay, Port Blair. A total of 93 Defence personnel from various units were voluntarily donated blood and participated for this noble cause. The camp was organized under the leadership of Dr M. Joy, Project Director, A & N AIDS Control Society and Director, State Blood Transfusion Council, A & N Islands. Surg. Capt. GK Shreeram, VSM, Commanding Officer, INHS Dhanvantri inaugurated the

camp. Speaking on the occasion he said that during these unprecedented times of Covid-19 affecting the Islands, hospitals are running short of blood and INHS Dhanvantri organized this blood donation camp as an effort to support the blood bank of these Island.

The Blood Donation was facilitated by the Dr. N. R. Kodhandram, Deputy Director (Blood Safety)/ Chief Medical Officer (NFSG). The donors were examined for their eligibility to donate blood and briefed the donors on various aspect and importance of blood donation. Voluntary Blood donation is the best way to celebrate any occasion. Blood has no replacement and is the best gift

to mankind. He motivated all voluntary blood donors to donate blood fearlessly in the forthcoming camp with all covid-19 protocols. Komala SB, Sqn Ldr, Medical Officer i/c Pathology & BTD for Commanding Officer, INHS Dhanvantri, Port Blair to organized the camp and made arrangement for conducting the camp successfully.

The technical team from Blood Bank, G.B. Pant Hospital, Port Blair and A & N AIDS Control Society ensured that the donated blood units are screened for the blood transmissible diseases. They also examined the donors for eligibility. Donors certificate were also distributed to the voluntary donors.



No. DB-TN/PBSD/2021-22/2661  
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER  
PORT BLAIR SOUTH DIVISION  
APWD, PORT BLAIR

Dated 27/09/2021

### Notice Inviting e- Tender

The Executive Engineer, Port Blair South Division, A.P.W.D., Port Blair on behalf of President of India invites online Item rate bids from contractors of APWD or any other Govt. Department irrespective of their enlistment subject to condition that they have experience on executing the relevant magnitude of work as per CPWD Works Manual and with other GOI organizations in these Islands and do not have any adverse remarks –

**NIT No** : 44/EE/PBSD/2021-22  
**Name of work** : Upkeep and maintenance of Raj Niwas.  
**Sub work** : Repair and renovation of existing Kitchen at Raj Niwas and installation of SS Kitchen cupboard and accessories under PBSB, Port Blair.

**Estimated Cost** : ₹27,26,789/-

**Time of completion** : 02 (Two) Months

Last date and time of submission of Bid : 11/10/2021 15:00 Hrs.

Last date and time of opening of Bid : 12/10/2021 10:00 Hrs.

The tender forms and other details can be obtained from the website <https://eprocure.andaman.gov.in> 8063



## EYE CAMP 2021



Port Blair 29 Sep 21. An Eye Camp was organized on 26 Sep 21 at 1000 hrs by Coast Guard Wives Welfare Association, headed by President Tatrakshika (A&N), Mrs Savvitaa Rajaputhran and co-ordinated by Health co-ordinator Mrs. Sucharita Sitaram and health member Mrs. Saranya Keerthi for Coast Guard fraternity in Haddo complex. Dr. Rohindra Lall, an alumni of prestigious AIIMS, New Delhi and founder of Rohin's Eye Hospital at Port Blair along with his good lady Mrs.

Anuradha Lall conducted this eye camp. The camp witnessed whole hearted participation from Coast Guard fraternity including family members.

Due to COVID-19, in last two years focus has shifted to digital means and there is a sharp increase in our screen time, due to virtual/online classes and work from home. The main goal of this eye camp was to check students who were exposed to longer screen time during online classes and ladies who were working from home and also to

educate them on measures to keep eyes safe and protected.

The renowned ophthalmologist Dr Rohindra Lall examined the personnel and addressed the problem of rise in complaints of eye issues, which was followed by a thorough and complete eye checkup. Among the total strength of 93 personnel, 23 personnel were advised spectacles out of which 08 patients were below 25 years of age. The eye camp proved very beneficial for the personnel and families.

## ANTCC Campaign Committee Chairman visits Landslide Affected area of Delanipur

Port Blair, Sept 29: ANTCC Campaign Committee Chairman Mr. TSG Bhasker on Tuesday visited the landslide affected area at Widows Colony, AIR Road, Delanipur that has been battered by torrential rainfall.

He was accompanied by PBMC Ex-Councillor Mr. Sanjay Meshak, District Youth Congress President Mr. K.T Nambi, A&N Ranchi Association Secretary Mr. Sebastian Tirkey, social workers Mr. K. Ibrahim and Mr. Abdul Rehman.

Mr. Bhasker assessed the damages caused by landslide and interacted with the residents and took note of their grievances and demands. He also assured them to provide all required help from the Congress Party.

Mr. Bhasker requested the District Administration to carry out a detailed assessment of the damages and disburse the ex-gratia to the landslide victims immediately. He also encouraged the District Administration and the relief machinery to work

dedicatedly for the victims so that they can return back to their normal lives at the earliest.

Further, he urged the District Administration to construct a retaining wall from the hill side to stop the landslides in future. He advised the residents of the area to take precautions and be vigilant during the ongoing monsoon. He also thanked the local people for being well composed and coordinated during the occurrence of landslide further avoiding any casualties.



**Mr. Mochammad Rizki Safary, charged affairs Republic of Indonesia to India called on Admiral D K Joshi, PVSM, AVSM, YSM, NM, VSM (Retd.), Hon'ble Lt. Governor, A&N Islands and Vice-Chairman, Islands Development Agency today at Raj Niwas. Discussed follow up measures subsequent to the visit of 24 member Indonesian delegation led by His Excellency Mr. Iriansyah, Governor Aceh during February 2020 to promote tourism & trade, import of quarry products, construction materials, cement, stone aggregate and pre-fab structures. Improved Air/Sea connectivity, Yacht Tourism, processing of raw materials, Free Trade Zone, fishing etc. and ongoing infra development projects in the Islands were also reviewed.**

## MESSAGE

It gives me immense pleasure to know that "World Rabies Day" is being observed throughout the Andaman and Nicobar Islands on 28th September, 2021 along with the rest of the world. The day marks the anniversary of Louis Pasteur's death, the French chemist and microbiologist, who developed the first rabies vaccine. This day is celebrated to raise awareness about the impact of rabies on humans and animals, provide information and advise on how to prevent the disease and take efforts to control rabies. The theme for World Rabies Day 2021 is "Rabies: Facts, not Fear". World Rabies Day is a day of activism and awareness. It is an opportunity for us to join the global movement to put an end to suffering caused due to rabies by organizing or taking part in a World Rabies Day event.

Rabies is 99.9% fatal, but is also 100% preventable. Eliminating the disease by vaccinating dogs protects them and stops transmission to people. It is significant here to mention that Andaman and Nicobar Islands is the only region in the India which is still free from the disease. We can continue to maintain this position in future by maintaining strict quarantine and disease surveillance. It is essential for the veterinary professionals to increase awareness of rabies prevention and control in communities including education and information on responsible pet ownership, about the benefits of rabies vaccination for animals, humans, and public health.

I extend my best wishes towards this endeavour.

Sd/-

(Admiral D K Joshi)

PVSM, AVSM, YSM, NM, VSM (Retd)

Lieutenant Governor Andaman and Nicobar Islands  
& Vice-Chairman, Islands Development Agency

## Essay and illustrations competition on Nature in Danger by INTACH

Port Blair, Sept 28: INTACH (Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage) conducts national level competitions every year. An essay and illustrations competition on Nature in Danger was held last year.

In spite of the pandemic Kendriya Vidyalaya II not only participated but also bagged the Regional

Winner Award. M. Neshitha of Class VIII was declared the Regional Winner from amongst nearly 15000 participants from across the country. A trophy was awarded to her by Convenor INTACH A and N Chapter, Ms. Samhita Veda Acharya and Shri. Abhijit Agarwal, Member INTACH, in

the presence of Shri Vijay Kumar, Principal KV II.

Certificates of Appreciation and INTACH Newsletters were also given to the 12 other participants. INTACH A and N Chapter expressed gratitude to the School and Principal in particular for their participation.