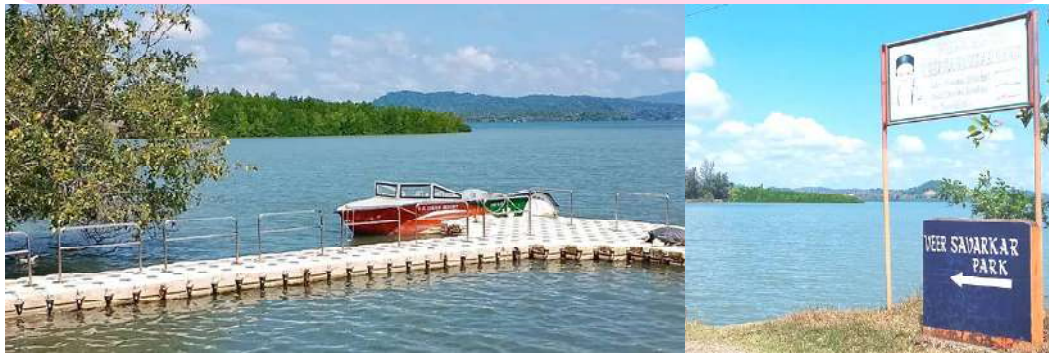


## Tourism Department must take measures to promote and develop Chouldary Creek: Former Chouldary Pradhan



**Sarthak Kanjilal & Vikramaditya**  
Sheekha News Service

Port Blair, October 27: Already established with two floating Jetties and Kayaking facilities, the scenic Chouldary Creek isn't getting

(See page 6)

## Defunct lifts become increasing source of harassment for patients at G B Pant Hospital



**John Wilbert & Rabindranath Biswas**  
Sheekha News Service

Port Blair, Oct 28: Non-functioning of lifts in the

main building of the GB Pant Hospital is causing huge inconvenience for patients, especially old, female and stretcher

(See page 6)

## CPI (M) Expresses Concern Over Increase in Frequency and Duration of Power Disruption

Port Blair, Oct 28: CPI (M) has expressed concern over the sudden increase in the frequency and duration of power disruption occurring at Port Blair and rural South Andaman during the last few days. In a letter sent to the Chief Secretary, Andaman & Nicobar Administration, Mr. D. Ayyappan, Secretary, CPI (M) A & N State Organising Committee drew the attention of the Chief Secretary to the frequent disruption in the power supply occurring at Port Blair and South Andaman areas since last more than one year.

However, it has been noticed that the frequency and duration of power disruption have suddenly increased during the last few days, he said in the letter. Half of the day time, there is no electricity in the Port Blair town and rural South Andaman areas. People from all walks of lives are suffering due to this increased power disruption particularly during day time.

Mr. Ayyappan in-

(See page 6)

## Ajoy Bairagi makes BJP's Stand Clear in alleged Gang-Rape case, demands Free and Fair Investigation



**John Wilbert**  
Sheekha News Service

Bairagi, the BJP State President today said the BJP unit of Andaman and Nicobar Is-

Port Blair, Oct 28: Mr. Ajoy

(See page 2)

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## PM Modi's message on fake news, and 'gun-totting, pen-wielding' Naxalism

Huge chaos can be triggered across the country with a small piece of fake news, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Friday as he addressed a "Chintan Shivir" of state home ministers.

"We have to keep educating people. Any information they come across, they should think 100 times before

(See page 5)



## As Elon Musk takes over Twitter, minister says: 'Our rules remain the same'

Rules for social media platforms won't change even as Elon Musk takes over Twitter in a \$44 billion deal after months of uncertainty, Rajeev Chandrasekhar, minister of state for electronics and information technology, has suggested. "Our rules and laws for intermediaries remain the same regardless of who owns the platforms. So, the expectation of compliance with Indian laws and rules remains," he was quoted as saying by news agency

Reuters.

As Elon Musk - the world's richest person - completes the acquisition in one of the biggest deals that the tech industry has seen in recent times, he is expected to do away with permanent bans on users among other key decisions, reports said.

When asked what the government thought about the ban on Twitter for individuals such as Bollywood actor Kangana Ranaut, the minister just said the country's new

amended IT rules would be released soon.

Ranaut, who was banned from Twitter last year for violating the platform's rules, has applauded the Twitter takeover and urged Musk to restore her account.

Twitter had earlier this year moved the Karnataka High Court against the government's orders on the takedown of posts and accounts following an escalation of a fight be-

(See page 5)

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## Kerala court sentences man to 20-year jail term for sexual assaulting minor girl

A 48-year-old man has been sentenced to 20 years imprisonment by a Kerala court for sexually assaulting a minor girl at his residence in Nattukal area of Palakkad district of the state.

Pattambi Fast Track Special Court Judge Satish Kumar also imposed a fine of one lakh on the convict and directed that the amount, if recovered, be paid to the victim who was seven years old at the time of the sexual assault in 2020, special public prosecutor Nisha Vijayakumar said.



The prosecutor said that the accused had taken the minor girl to his home on the pretext of playing with her. On reaching home, he sexually assaulted the girl, the prosecutor said.

She also said 15 witnesses were examined and 17 documents were perused by the special court before finding the accused guilty.

## Ajoy Bairagi...

(From page 1)

lands demands free and fair investigation in the case of alleged gang rape, filled against former Chief Secretary of Andaman and Nicobar Administration.

Regarding presence of Mr. Dipak Kr. Jha, a BJP worker at airport and his move to prevent media person from performing their duties at the Airport, Mr. Bairagisaid that BJP party has nothing to do with it.

Addressing a Press Conference today Mr. Bairagi made the party's stand clear and said that Mr. Dipak Kr. Jha may have per-

sonal relations with Mr. Jitender Narainand the "party has nothing to do with it".

Besides, Mr. Bairagi further made it clear that Mr. Dipak Kr. Jha is not holding any post in the BJP and the Core Committee of the party will decide what course of action would be taken to this effect.

Mr. Bairagi also condemned the action of authorities in preventing media persons from performing their duties. He assured that BJP is standing with media persons.

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## Last Date for IGNOU Admission Extended

Port Blair, Oct 28: ignouadmission.samarth.edu.in. The last date for Fresh Admission for PG and UG Programmes (except certificate and semester-based Programmes) in Indira Gandhi National Open University's for July 2022 session is further extended up to 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2022. For Online admission, please log on -https://

For more details, visit IGNOU Website- www.ignou.ac.in or for offline admission contact IGNOU Regional Centre, Port Blair overPhone: 03192-242888, 03192-230111 or Email: rportblair@ignou.ac.in. A communication from the Regional Director, IGNOU Regional Centre, Port Blair said.

## Clean India 2.0 Organise by Nehru Yuva Kendra Rangat



Port Blair, Oct 28: Nehru Yuva Kendra Rangat in collaboration with Mahatma Gandhi Govt. College Mayabunder organized a clean India 2.0 Programme at Mayabunder

from Mayabunder jetty to Fish Market on 27.10.2022. In which 45 participants were participated. The main objective of the Clean India

programme are to organize cleaning of public spaces and households across all the districts of the country from 1st October, 2022 to 31st October, (See page 4)

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## KVK-CIARI, South Andaman Organizes Exposure Visit for Students

Port Blair, Oct 28: Exposure visit for teacher trainees of U.G. Ed. III year students from Tagore Govt. College of Education was organized by The ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, South Andaman, on 27th Oct 2022 at KVK, Sippighat. As part of the curriculum field visit was organized with the objective to cre-

ate awareness among students regarding various activities of KVK and also to discuss in detail different sustainable income generating opportunities available for the youth of Andaman. The students were exposed to demonstration units at KVK like kitchen garden, vermicompost unit, mush-



room spawn production unit, (See page 4)

## Voluntary Blood Donation Camp at Pondicherry University Campus, Port Blair

Port Blair, Oct 28: Andaman & Nicobar AIDS Control Society (ANACS) coordinated the Voluntary Blood Donation camp which was organized by Pondicherry University, Brookshabad, Chakkargaon, Port Blair in coordination with G. B. Pant Hospital, Port Blair on 28/10/2022 at Pondicherry University campus. A total of 35 units of blood were donated by voluntary donors.

The Blood Donation was facilitated by Dr. Shahina Mustaqim, Grade -II, Microbiologist, C.H.S and Medical Officer i/c, Blood Bank, G. B. Pant Hospital, Port Blair. The donors were examined for their eligibility to do-



nate blood and briefed the donors on various aspects and importance of blood donation. Mr. K. A. Jayaraj, Asst. Professor & Nodal Officer, RRC, Pondicherry University, Brookshabad, Chakkargaon, Port Blair to organize the camp and made arrangements 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' certificates were also distributed to the voluntary donors.

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## Tribal Council Car Nicobar and Nicobarese Teachers Hosted a Befitting Farewell to Dr. J.D Singh

Port Blair, Oct 28: The Tribal Council Car Nicobar and Nicobarese teachers hosted a befitting farewell to Dr. J.D Singh, Retired Principal Tagore Govt. College of Education along with his family on his superannuation at Primary School Kinyukia Car Nicobar on 27th October 2022. On this occasion a small cultural programme was presented by the teachers and children. Earlier Mr. H Nathaniel Education Officer Car Nicobar welcomed the Chief Guest and other dignitaries. Mr. Derick Jacob, First Headman Kinyuka Village represented Tribal Council has spoken praise worthy of Dr.



J.D Singh, Retired Principal Tagore Govt. College of Education and extended the heartiest thanks and gratitude for guiding the Nicobarese youths and encouraging them to join and complete higher education in general and teacher education in particular. Speaking on the occasion of Dr. J.D Singh has expressed his thanks and gratitude to the tribal council and Nicoabrese teachers for recognizing his service. He further collected the services of various Nicoabrese teachers who had encouraged many others to join the stream of teacher education. Mr. Peter, Retired Principal proposed a vote of thanks.

pressed his thanks and gratitude to the tribal council and Nicoabrese teachers for recognizing his service. He further collected the services of various Nicoabrese teachers who had encouraged many others to join the stream of teacher education. Mr. Peter, Retired Principal proposed a vote of thanks.

## Nancy Pelosi's husband assaulted at home during break-in, now in hospital

An intruder attacked the husband of the US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi after breaking into their home in San Francisco on Friday, her office said, leaving him needing hospital treatment.

"Early this morning, an assailant broke into the Pelosi residence in San Francisco and violently assaulted Mr. Pelosi," the Democratic leader's spokesman Drew Hammill said in a statement.

"The assailant is

in custody and the motivation for the attack is under investigation. Mr. Pelosi was taken to the hospital, where he is receiving excellent medical care and is expected to make a full recovery."

It was not immediately clear if the attack was politically motivated. The speaker, who is second in line to the presidency, was not in San Francisco at the time.

The attack caps a tumultuous year for her 82-year-old venture capitalist



husband, who was convicted of drink driving after an accident in May and sentenced to five days in jail."The speaker and her family are grateful to the first responders and medical professionals involved, and request privacy at this time," Hammill said.

## Clean India...

2022 involve all segments of society, Government organization including PRIs and Nongovernment organization, to instill awareness and feeling of pride among citizens to keep their surroundings clean and waste free. Along with this, the campaign will give the mantra of "Swachh Kaal: Amrit Kaal" and make this pro-

gram a People's Movement through Jan Bhagidari

Before the beginning of the programme Mr. Sukharanjan Biswas, Deputy Director (I/C) NYK Rangat brief about the clean India programme. After that clean India programme was started from Mayabunder jetty. All the participants were collecting

the plastic waste items, garbage from both the road side and concluding the programme at Fish Market Mayabunder.

At the end of the programme refreshment was given to all the participants and vote of thanks proposed by Mr. Sukharanjan Biswas, Deputy Director (I/C) NYK Rangat.

(From page 3)

## KVK-CIARI...

organic mushroom cultivation, beekeeping, various value-added products of locally available fruits, fishpond, hatchery unit etc. Dr B.K Nanda, SMS (Agriculture Engg) welcome the gathering and explained in detail about the roles and responsibilities of KVK. Dr N. Bommayasamy, SMS

(Agronomy) delivered a lecture on the "Economic importance of Apiculture". Dr Pooja Kapoor, SMS (Home Sc) discussed about "Value Addition in locally available fruits and vegetables for enterprise development". Dr. Nitu Sindhu, Woman Scientist (DST) highlighted about "Tissue culture technology for spawn produc-

tion and mushroom cultivation". A total of 102 students and six staff members participated and benefited from the programme. The programme was organized under the guidance and supervision of Dr Eaknath B. Chakurkar, Director CIARI, Port Blair and Dr. Y. Ramakrishna, Pr. Scientist & Head, KVK.

(From page 3)

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## 'Yai akhiri mulakat hogi': Ladakh man overwhelmed after meeting Rajnath Singh

Defence minister Rajnath Singh was thanked by a Ladakh man Friday after he inaugurated a 120-metre bridge over the Shyok river to provide armed forces round-the-clock access to the union territory's Daulat Beg Oldi sector, which lies along the Line of Actual Control (LAC). Singh was presiding over the inauguration of a bridge over the river; the bridge was built at an altitude of 14,000 feet.

The defence minister also inaugurated 74 other strategically important infrastructure projects, for which also he received thanks from the elderly Ladakhi native. In a video shared by news agency ANI, the man is overwhelmed with emotion after meeting Rajnath Singh and expresses his gratitude for development initiatives in the UT. He also recalls issues local people had to deal with as a result of the lack of development. "I want to thank you from the bottom of



my heart for launching development projects for our benefit. We have previously suffered a lot of challenges owing to the same," he said. "Maybe this is the last time I am meeting you, but I do feel extremely special." To this Rajnath Singh replies, "You have to live more..."

Other projects inaugurated include two helipads and a carbon-neutral habitat. Twenty of these are Border Roads Organisation (BRO) projects in Jammu and Kashmir. Another 18 are in Ladakh and Arunachal Pradesh, with 14 in Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and

Rajasthan, and five in Uttarakhand. They have been constructed at a cost of Rs 2,180 cr.

After inaugurating the project, Singh asserted the lack of infrastructure development in decades post-independence was a big reason behind the rise of terrorism in J&K.

Singh appreciated BRO's determination in achieving the feat despite challenging weather conditions. He said the projects will bolster the country's defence readiness and also ensure economic development of border areas.

## 'BJP not involved in poaching TRS MLAs': Leader's oath at shrine amid row

A BJP leader on Friday shared a video of himself taking an oath at the Yadagirigutta Sri Lakshminarasimha Swamy Temple in Telangana as he stressed that his party was not involved in the alleged poaching of the MLAs of the ruling Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS). "In the holy abode of Yadadri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy, swore that BJP is not involved in the alleged poaching of 4 TRS MLAs," tweeted Bandi Sanjay Kumar, the BJP's Telangana chief, along with the video. His party colleague - Vishnu Vardhan Reddy, BJP state general secretary, Andhra Pradesh - also tweeted the clip. And in the post was a dare for the ruling party in the state. "Telangana BJP President Shri bandisanjay\_bjp mgaru swore to Yadadri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy that BJP is not involved in the poaching of TRS MLAs. I dare Telangana CMO KTRTRS family to do the same in their "alleged" involvement in Delhi liquor scam (sic)," he

wrote. The tweets come amid a row over the claims of the poaching attempts. Earlier this week, the Cyberabad Police had held three men with "large amount of cash" that was allegedly meant to lure the legislators. "We took three people - Nanda Kumar, owner of Deccan Pride Hotel in Hyderabad, Swami Ramachandra Bharati alias S Satish Sharma from Faridabad near Delhi and Simha Yajulu from Tirupati - into custody. We also seized huge amount of cash from them," Cyberabad police commissioner Stephen Raveendra said, HT had reported. "It was the four MLAs who gave us information about the covert operation. They told us that they were contacted by certain people who asked them to defect from the TRS and join the BJP. In return, they were offered prominent posts, contracts and huge cash," he further added. Amid the controversy, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi alleged a collusion on Thursday. "Both these parties are involved in toppling of governments. They only help each other," he told a briefing.

## As Elon Musk...

(From page 2)

tween the government and the social media firm. In 2021, the Centre had sought a number of posts in connection with the then-ongoing farmers' agitation to be pulled down. While Twitter mostly complied, it did not act on several accounts and posts, especially those of politicians and mediapersons.

The government in June this year also "served a letter setting out serious

consequences of non-compliance, including, but not limited to, criminal proceedings against Twitter's chief compliance officer, and granted last opportunity to comply..." a person familiar with the matter had told Hindustan Times at the time. The company was also warned that it may lose its so-called safe harbour status, which gives it immunity for the content posted by users on its platform, if the compliance orders were not met.

## PM Modi's...

(From page 2)

forwarding it. There are always ways to verify things. If you keep browsing, you would know," the prime minister said during a virtual address.

"Technology plays a big role in this. We have to raise a technological barrier to stop the flow of fake news," PM Modi underlined, as he also spoke about "smart technology for a smarter law and order system".

In Union Home Minister Amit Shah's presence, PM Modi also stressed upon the "anti-national forces". "Bandook wala bhi hai aur kalam wala bhi hai. Naxalwaad (There is Naxalism linked to gun, and that linked to the the pen)." He was addressing the

"Chintan Shivir" (brain-storming session) of state home ministers. where he said that governments have been working in this area for long. "We have to find a solution to this. We have to defeat Naxalism in all forms. They are trying to mislead the youth.. Just the way we have focused on the Naxal-hit areas, they are also trying to expand their intellectual influence.

This can lead to increasing differences between communities and can hamper thought processes. It can lead to huge damage in coming years," PM Modi stressed. Enter Phone Number & Age to Check Eligibility for Rs 1 Cr In a suggestion to the states, PM Modi also mooted the idea of "One Nation, One Uniform" for police personnel across the states during the briefing.

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## CPI (M) Expresses...

(From page 1)

formed the Chief Secretary that various examinations in the schools for all classes of students (1<sup>st</sup> term examinations, 2nd periodical examinations and half yearly examinations) are currently underway and students find it difficult to properly attend the examinations due to the frequent power cuts.

He further said that competitive examinations for Group C posts and Group B (Non-Gazetted) posts are scheduled to be held in the next month, for which thousands of candidates are preparing. Mr. Ayyappan told the Chief Secretary that the sudden increase of power disruption is affecting their preparations adversely. Only a small number of households are having power back up at their homes whereas others

are left at the mercy of the Electricity Department. This clearly shows the inefficiency and insensitiveness of the Department.

It is regrettable that the A & N Administration has miserably failed to make alternate arrangements to provide uninterrupted power supply to a merely small population of 1.5 lakh in Port Blair and South Andaman areas. Mr. Ayyappan stated that while on the one hand, the government media like The Daily Telegrams and All India Radio are undertaking the publicity of so-called developments during the "Amrit Kal", people in these islands are facing the situation of not having power supply atleast half duration of the day-time. The situation has worsened to the extent that people have

begun to call Port Blair from "Smart City" to "Dark City".

Mr. Ayyappan stated that CPI (M) has been highlighting this most burning issue during the last 7 – 8 months and conducted a series of agitations over the failure of the Central Government and A & N Administration, demanding to ensure uninterrupted power supply, but on the contrary, situation is only deteriorating further to increase the sufferings of the people. CPI (M), therefore, requested the Chief Secretary to take all possible measures to ensure that power supply at Port Blair and rural South Andaman areas is improved during this crucial period of school examinations and thousands of candidates appearing at the competitive examinations.

## Tourism Department...

(From page 1)

enough attention from the Tourism Department to promote the location, claims the Ex-Pradhan, Chouldary Gram Panchayat, Mr. Mohan Halder.

While talking to Andaman Sheekha over the phone, the Ex-Pradhan, Chouldary Gram Panchayat, Mr. Halder said that during his tenure as Pradhan, several efforts were underway to establish Chouldary Creek as a Tourism Spot.

"Also, with continuous talks with the administration, two floating jetties were constructed, following which unemployed youths of the area invested in kayaking boats, got themselves trained, and were earning by giving guests the ride of the creek," said Mr. Halder.

According to Mr. Halder, there is a 6000 square meter huge plot of the Tourism Department near the creek wherein the department can construct a hotel, a proposal was also sent, but the file is in cold storage, Flat Bay Island which the Central Government took for Holistic development through NITI Aayog, here works like



Wooden bridge, Two toilets, Wooden Jetty, Laying of water pipeline, Electricity lines, are pending, "How come the flow of tourists will increase?" Mr. Halder questioned.

"Veer Savarkar park has been developed by panchayat with 80 number benches, five-round huts, two floating jetties, green avenues, car parking, two toilets, and 25 solar street lights, but to further develop the spot more the repeated requests to the administration in creating a boat route from Chouldary to Viper Islands for more tourist inflow, providing better lighting in the three-kilometer sea shore area, bringing in one or more restaurant in allotted land of the tourism de-

partment, some stalls to make local products like coconut shell products, sea shell products, et cetera fell in deaf ears," said Mr. Halder.

Mr. Halder further told Andaman Sheekha that there is no attractive Tourism spot in the South Andaman region like Chouldary Creek, there are many things that can be done in the area to attract tourists, if the tourism department does not focus, then already invested money for floating jetties et cetera will go waste.

He requested the Chief Secretary of the Andaman and Nicobar Administration to instruct the Tourism Department to work on developing the region for the benefit of islanders.

## Defunct lifts...

(From page 1)

patients. As per report, out of the 03 lifts, only one is functioning rest all are in defunct state since a year. As a result, the patients have to move quite a distance for scans, X-ray check-ups on the first floor to the ground floor. The other option is theramp facility at either end of the building. But women attenders of the patients find it difficult to push the patient on a stretcher which requires a couple persons to push the stretcher over such a long distance.

Another hiccup is the unavailability of sufficient number of stretchers and wheelchairs in GB Pant Hospital and which available, most of them are in pathetic condition.

"It's acute callousness on the part of the au-

thorities not to repair the lifts which went out of order years ago," rued the patients.

"It is a vexing problem of searching for wheelchairs and then pushing the patient on the ramp," lamented the patient attenders. Most alarmingly, mothers who give birth to babies by caesarean have to take the risk of developing problems in stitches while taken on stretchers/wheel chairs to the ICU for feeding the new born babes as the lifts are not functioning, said the aggrieved the attenders of the patients.

However, when contacted, the officials of GB Pant Hospital said that the repair work has been stalled due to the unavailability of spare parts and which was ordered by the Directorate of Health Services.

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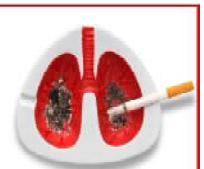
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