



# ANDAMAN Chronicle

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The Daily Diary of the Islands



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## Jarawa Facts

The 950 odd - strong Jarawa, along with the other Andaman tribes the Sentinelese, the Onge and the Great Andamanese, were the sole inhabitants of the Andaman Islands until the British and then the Indians arrived. Their ancestors are thought to have been part of the first successful migrations out of Africa.

## Your Nature Guide

**Some Fish Food our Seas**  
Small pellets, beads, and other raw plastics are dumped into the ocean. Seabirds often mistake these pellets for fish eggs, fish eyes, or plankton and sometimes die from eating them.

Oil is a major killer of ocean life in large amounts. No one knows the total amounts of oil that spills into our seas from all the boats, trawlers and ships.

It is very important to remember that we have to keep the ocean clean, so we can continue to enjoy its beauty and all the many uses it provides for us. Why Water birds Don't Get Wet: Birds have a special gland called the oil gland situated near their tails. Oil from this gland is applied on the feathers with the help of their beaks. Oil and water do not mix and thus the oil prevents the birds from getting wet. This is very useful for water birds, especially the ones that dive into water to fish and get wet frequently.

**Treasured Islands - By Sunita Rao. Courtesy: Kalpavriksh, ANET (M CBT)**

## People's Voice

Accha laga ki ANIIMS me White Coat Ceremony hua. Magar jo Pass ho chuke hai, unke liye to Degree Distribution Ceremony karo ...

- A Citizen



**Coaching classes for leaders... how to answer ED questions!**

## ANIIMS Hosts White Coat Ceremony for the New MBBS-2022 Batch

### CS Keshav Chandra Inaugurates 'Healthy Campus campaign' and 'Mentorship Programme Module' on the Occasion

**Port Blair, Dec. 14:** The Andaman Nicobar Institute of Medical Sciences (ANIIMS) hosted the White Coat Ceremony for the new MBBS-2022 Batch at Dr.BR Ambedkar Auditorium today. Shri Keshav Chandra, IAS, Chief Secretary, A&N Islands graced the event as the chief guest. Shri Nikhil Kumar, IAS, Commissioner-cum-Secretary (Health) was the guest of honour. Shri Arjun Sharma, IAS, Secretary (Health), Dr. Anil Agarwal, OSD, ANIIMS, Dr Munni Singhania, Director, DHS and Dr. Pragya Sharma, Director, ANIIMS were also present on the occasion. The



White Coat Ceremony is a rite of passage for medical students, and was created by the Arnold P. Gold Foundation in 1993. During the ceremony, a white coat is placed on each student's

shoulders and Oath is recited, signifying their entrance into the medical profession.

The Chief Secretary initiated the White Coat Ceremony by placing the



White Coat on the shoulders of Ms Techa, the first girl from the Great Andamanese tribe to pursue MBBS course. All other dignitaries also

Continued on P4

## Member of Parliament Suggests Granting of Special Grade Designation to Constable and Head Constable of Andaman & Nicobar Police

**Port Blair, Dec. 14:** The Member of Parliament, Shri. Kuldeep Rai Sharma has suggested the Hon'ble Lt. Governor of Andaman & Nicobar Islands to grant Special Grade Designation to Constables and Head Constables of Andaman and Nicobar Police for motivating them and also to address the issue of existing stagnation at the rank of Constables and Head Constables of Andaman & Nicobar Police on the same lines as done by Delhi Police.

Appreciating the crucial role of Andaman & Nicobar Police in maintaining Law & Order in the entire territory, the Member of Parliament informed the Lt. Governor that there is stagnation at the rank of Constable and Head Constable in Andaman & Nicobar Police. As per rule, the qualifying service for promotion to the next rank is five years for both the ranks but as on date it is taking more than 30 years for a Constable to get

Continued on P4

## Education Office Diglipur Conducts Brainstorming Session with Pradhans

### Better coordination between PRIs and schools stressed upon to tackle issues of drug menace among students

**Diglipur, Dec. 14:** To share and solve the issues related to the school students, a meeting was convened by the Deputy Education Officer at the conference hall of the office, involving the Gram Panchayat Pradhans and the Head of the Institutions of the different schools of Diglipur zone today. Welcoming the Pradhans and PRI representatives, the Deputy Education Officer, Shri R.P. Pandey briefed about the recent achievements made by the students at the state level in Kala Utsav, Energy conservation competitions, and academics. He elaborated the key features of the PM-SHREE programme of the Government, launched recently for the schools. Appreciating the gesture of the



Pradhans for coming positively for the meeting, he said that they can help the school authorities in tackling the menace of drug abuse among the students.

Expressing concerns over the surge in the drugs cases among some of the school going students, the Pradhan of the Subhash Gram Panchayat, Shri P.R.Singaram said that due to

Continued on P4

## Bharat Seema Berths at Katchal for the First Time



**Katchal, Dec. 14:** It was a treat for the islanders of Katchal, when MV Bharat Seema berthed at the island for the first time ever. The scene was of festivity, when the Tribal leaders waited at the Jetty to welcome the crew and the Captain of the vessel.

The leaders welcomed the crew and the Captain by garlanding them. It was also a gesture of gratitude by the islanders who see a new hope with the berthing of Bharat Seema in their remote island, which is also known to have had the first sun rays of the millennium 2000.

## DGP Confers Disc & Commendation Certificate to Three Home Guards

**Port Blair, Dec. 14:** It is a matter of great honour and pride for A&N Home Guard Organization that three (03) of its Home Guard Personnel have been awarded prestigious 'DG Disc (Bronze) and Commendation Certificate' for their illustrious and unblemished service on the occasion of 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Day of Civil Defense & Home Guard on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022 by the Director General -Fire Service, Civil Defense & Home Guards.

HG(R)/53 Sree Kumar of A & N Home Guard Organization.

HG(R)/78 G Sunil Kumar of A & N Home Guard Organization.

HG(R)/432 K Amina of A & N Home Guard Organization.

Sh. Neeraj Thakur, IPS, DGP, A&N Islands complimented all the awardees for the distinctions conferred on them and bringing honour to A&N Home Guard Organization. He wished them success in their future career.

# ANDAMAN Chronicle

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*Success is not an activity but a process ...*

## Gujarat as a Model

Bhupendra Patel, who on Monday took oath as Gujarat Chief Minister for a second term, is the third person to succeed Narendra Modi in the State. Mr. Patel enjoys the complete confidence of Mr. Modi, whose popularity won the day for the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in the recent Assembly elections. Mr. Patel's role in the campaign was limited, but now into his second term, the pressure is on him to emerge as a leader of his own standing. The new Council of Ministers has 16 members, representing various communities and regions of the State. Three are Patidars, five are from the Other Backward Classes, two are Kolis, one each from Brahmin, Jain and Rajput communities, two from the tribal communities, and one from the Scheduled Castes. Six of the Ministers are from Saurashtra, four from the south, and three each from the central and northern regions of the State. At least four defectors from the Congress have found a place. The BJP's massive victory masked, but did not possibly erase, public resentment regarding corruption and inflation, which several pre-poll surveys recorded. Gujarat continues to attract investment, with the proactive help of the Centre, where two leaders from the State hold sway, i.e., Mr. Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah. But that alone will not suffice and the new government already has its plate full.

Tackling unemployment rates must be high priority, particularly in the rural areas and the tribal belt of the State. Ensuring transparency in governance is an immediate challenge for the new government. The weakening of state capacity due to contract employment has aggravated governance challenges in recent years. In the social sector, education, health and nutrition, spending and outcomes are not commensurate with the State's status of prosperity. This may have contributed to the penetration of the Aam Aadmi Party in the tribal belt where people experience a distance from Gujarat's famed growth model. Economic development has remained robust under BJP rule, but the benefits have been largely cornered by the upper segments of society, mostly upper castes and a few powerful sections of the OBCs. In terms of per capita Net State Domestic Product, Gujarat is among the better States, and is ranked sixth (2020-21). But the State being ranked 26 among 30 States in stunting (2019-20), and on several other parameters, tells a story of persistent underdevelopment. Mr. Patel should use the renewed political mandate to craft a more empathetic governance model for Gujarat.

## BOB'S BANTER

BY ROBERT CLEMENTS



### Stand Out, Be Different..!

A couple of years ago as a member of an international social organization the club had a problem in hand and a decision had to be made. The committee that met were divided on how to handle the issue and a vote was called for. Each member was asked for his opinion and they gave it till they came to Mr. Bhagat. "What is your decision Mr. Bhagat?" I asked.

"I go with the majority," said Bhagat (name changed) with a smile. I have never forgotten Mr. Bhagat.

One man who loved the color yellow had yellow carpets, yellow furniture, yellow drapes, yellow walls and even yellow appliances in his yellow kitchen. He slept in a yellow bed with yellow covers and worse yellow pajamas. He got sick. You guessed ... yellow jaundice.

He called a doctor who came to his apartment building. The manager told him he'd have no trouble finding the right one. "You just go down the hall and come to a yellow door," he said. "That's the one."

In a few moments the doctor was back. The apartment manager asked, "Were you able to help him?"

The doctor replied, "Help him! I couldn't even FIND him!"

It's not a good idea to blend too closely with your surroundings is it?

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And yet there are people who don't blend with their surroundings; who stand out in a crowd; who don't vote with the majority:

A Miami mother came to the police and spilled out cash and coins totaling \$19.53. A young boy turned in 85 cents. After two days, they were the only people to return money scooped up from an armored truck that toppled on an overpass and rained more than half a million dollars onto the street below.

Police said that witnesses reported seeing rush-hour commuters loading money into their cars and driving off while two of the truck workers lay bleeding. Police had pleaded with residents to return the money, but got nothing but laughter until a mother and a boy came in and returned all they had picked up.

In a world that seemed to think alike, two people had a different idea. They were not painted with the same brush as everyone else. They were different!

Most people talk about values – what we believe to be right and wrong. But whether or not we realize it, we all LIVE our true values. It is our actions, more than our words that will show what we truly believe.

A 11-year-old boy who returned 85 cents because he felt "it was wrong for me to keep anything," stood out from the crowd. And a mother who wanted to teach her children to do the right thing set an example they will never forget.

How would you like to be known?

Like a spineless Mr. Bhagat or as someone who stands out and is different?

[bobsbanter@gmail.com](mailto:bobsbanter@gmail.com)

## SIE Organises Three-Day Workshop for Identified Mentors

**Port Blair, Dec. 14:** The State Institute of Education, Port Blair in collaboration with State Project Management Unit (SPMU), NIPUN Bharat, Samagra Shiksha organized a three-day workshop for identified mentors under BRC South Andaman from Dec. 12 to 14, 2022 in the conference Hall of Shiksha Sadan. The workshop was intended to equip teachers in the area of NIPUN Bharat Mission implementation in the Islands which is a very vital component of National Education Policy 2020. All the teachers teaching in FLN Grades (Foundational Grades)

have already been mapped under the mentor-mentee scheme to achieve the set target by 2026-27. To make the workshop more lively and participatory, the mentors were divided into four groups viz. 'Kabil', 'Saksham', 'Kaushal' and 'Gunvaan' and they participated in all group activities and mock sessions with great enthusiasm. A daily online quiz was also conducted in which Group 'Gunvaan' was adjudged as the best-performing group.

During the valedictory function, Shri R K Singh, Principal, SIE/ State Nodal

Officer, NIPUN Bharat Mission emphasized on the role of FLN grade teachers in the teaching-learning scenario as without their active support, the mission won't get its right path to move forward smoothly. He urged all the teachers to work with full vigour, innovativeness, and with intrinsic motivation, so as to make the teaching-learning process more joyful in all the schools. He also gave away the participation certificate to all the mentors during the function.

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## ENTERTAINMENT

## 'RRR' Nominated for Golden Globe Best Picture Non-English Language

**December 14: NEW DELHI:** S S Rajamouli's period action film "RRR" has been nominated for a Golden Globe Award in the best picture non-English language category.

The Hollywood Foreign Press Association (HFPA) shared the announcement on Monday evening on the official Twitter page of the Golden Globe Awards.

"RRR", a pan-India blockbuster, will face off with Korean romantic mystery film "Decision To Leave", German anti-war drama "All Quiet on the Western Front", Argentine historical



drama "Argentina, 1985", and French-Dutch coming-of-age drama "Close". "Congratulations to the nominees for Best Picture - Non-English

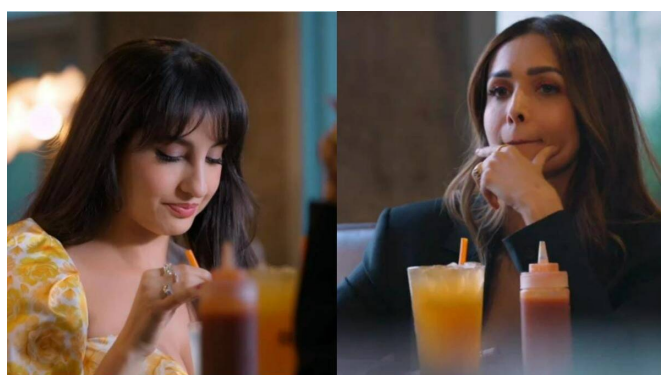
Language - All Quiet on the Western Front, Argentina, 1985, Close, Decision to Leave, RRR #GoldenGlobes," the tweet read.

## Nora Fatehi Opens up to Malaika Arora About the Constant 'Disrespectful' Comparisons Between them: 'It Takes Away from the Things I am Doing...'

**December 14:** In the latest episode of Moving In With Malaika, Malaika Arora and Nora Fatehi discussed the constant speculated rivalry between them, and how they are invariably pitted against each other. During the episode, Nora admitted that she found this kind of conversation particularly disrespectful. Both the stars are prolific dancers, and have judged several reality shows together.

Nora said, "Malaika has done things I could never do—you are part of the growing legacy of Bollywood, that was a golden time. We talk about the time; we don't talk about today. It's not just disrespectful for you, it's disrespectful for me, because it takes away from the things that I am doing." Nora added that people 'water down' their identities.

Malaika Arora explained, "If I was on a show, they would make sure Nora was on the show. I figured it was a constant thing that everyone was trying to pit us against each other and putting us on the show." Malaika further told Nora



Fatehi that people look for ways to 'shove' her out. When Nora asked Malaika if she ever felt bad, she answered, "I'm human at the end of the day. There are days at the end of the day when I say, 'Oh that job could have been mine and now someone else has it.' That happens all the time. Things like that can break you. You know that someone out there is prettier and younger, and you have to deal with that."

However, Malaika maintained that she has seen girls come and go, but she has managed to stay. She further asked Nora if she ever subconsciously tried to mould herself after being compared to her. Nora answered that she has her own identity and she never thought that she was going down Malaika's trajectory. "When they compare, I think if I went through half the shit that you went through in your career, I would want people to salute me."

**Andaman Chronicle invites articles, feature and opinions from our esteemed readers. Your write-ups can be mailed to the Editor through the ID [denisgiles@yahoo.com](mailto:denisgiles@yahoo.com)**

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## Health, Science /Tech

### US Scientists Achieve Breakthrough in Mimicking Sun to Fuse Atoms

**December 14: Los Angeles:** Scientists in California have made a key breakthrough in nuclear fusion, a technology with the potential to transform the global energy landscape.

Researchers at the US Department of Energy's Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory near San Francisco were able to produce a fusion reaction that generated more energy than it consumed, according to a person familiar with the research who requested anonymity to discuss results that have not yet been fully disclosed in public.

Fusion is the same process that powers stars and the achievement is a major milestone that shows it may eventually be possible to tame the energy of the sun to create a commercial power plant on Earth. Though that is still many years away, the technology offers the promise of abundant carbon-free electricity.

In the experiment, lasers were used to bombard hydrogen isotopes held in a superheated plasma state in order to fuse them into helium, releasing a neutron and carbon-free energy in the process.

The breakthrough "could be a game changer for the world," said Representative Ted Lieu, a California Democrat.

Scientists have been experimenting with the technology for decades, but tests typically require enormous amounts of power. Generating a fusion reaction that puts out more energy than it consumes — technically called a net-energy gain — has been elusive.

The reaction produced about 2.5 megajoules of energy compared to the 2.1 megajoules used to power the lasers, according to the Financial Times, which earlier reported the results.

The technology has drawn billions in investments from backers including Jeff Bezos, Bill Gates and Peter Thiel. In recent years, it also started to win support from sovereign wealth funds, national development banks and venture capitalists, a sign that the industry is starting to look more seriously at the concept. A spokeswoman for the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory said the analysis was still ongoing and it would share more details Tuesday. While the results represent a breakthrough, it's still a long way to creating a viable technology, let alone delivering enough clean energy to help wean the world off fossil fuels and limit climate change. The technology is different from fission, which is now widely used in commercial nuclear power plants. Fission creates energy by splitting atoms, but also produces radioactive waste. It has been commercially available for decades and still produces only 10% of the world's power, far less than coal and gas.

Fusion's potential market share would also be challenged by solar and wind power, both of which are cheaper and have mature supply chains. Their main drawback — intermittent generation — is being addressed by a rapidly growing battery storage industry.

## ANIIMS Hosts White Coat Ceremony for the New MBBS-2022 Batch

**Continued from Page 1** participated in giving White Coats to the students.

Addressing the gathering, the Chief Secretary described the White Coat ceremony as a momentous occasion and also an amazing tradition, which has been started by ANIIMS for the students. As years go by, this initiative will assume greater heights and more glory, the Chief Secretary said adding that not only our country but entire humanity will feel proud of the doctors produced by ANIIMS.

The Chief Secretary stated that in the field of medicine, doctor is not only a profession, but is regarded as shadow of God and one must strive to imbibe good qualities. Referring to the students of 2022 batch, the Chief Secretary mentioned that on completion of the degree, they will become bold and confident, ready to serve the people. He said, the faculty members will not only teach the nuances of medicine but also teach the students how to become good human beings by imparting the qualities of empathy, pragmatism, honesty and charity.

The Chief Secretary remarked that the aim is not to have an Institute which simply confers degrees, but which produces good doctors as well as good human beings. The priceless moment in a doctor's life is when he is revered and appreciated by

people for saving precious lives.

The Chief Secretary also inaugurated the 'Healthy Campus campaign' and 'Mentorship Programme Module' on the occasion. This campaign aims to provide a healthy learning and living environment to help students in their academic and co-curricular activities, thereby contributing towards complete personality development.

Speaking as the guest of honor, Shri Nikhil Kumar, IAS, Commissioner-cum-Secretary (Health) described the occasion as auspicious which signifies student's entry into the medical profession. For the first time, this White Coat ceremony has been organized for the students of ANIIMS which, he said, is a watershed movement in the professional lives and service of every doctor. The White Coat Ceremony is not simply a rite of passage for medical students, but it's a symbolic and constant reminder of the professional duties towards parents, patients, communities, he said. "This ceremony also reminds the doctor to keep the patients interest above their own interest", the Commissioner-cum-Secretary (Health) said. He further stated that Medicine is not merely a profession, but it's a service to fellow citizens,

community and entire humanity. By donning this coat, he said, doctors also take on the sacred responsibilities associated with this noble profession.

In his address, the Secretary (Health), Shri Arjun Sharma said, today marks the official beginning of the 2022 batch of ANIIMS. This will be 5 year long course, which will have both intensive and extensive medical learning, practical, field visits and wholesome experience for the students. He further stated that ANIIMS as an Institute have seen 7 batches and this one is the 8th one. Two batches have already passed out from ANIIMS. The Secretary said, we have the best faculty in this region and urged the students to learn and imbibe as much as they can during their 5 year long course.

In her welcome address, the Director, ANIIMS, Dr Pragya Sharma said, it's a pleasure to see the students commencing their journey not only in the college but also in their professional career. She also congratulated each student for accomplishing an exciting milestone in their life.

Parents of the new batch students and faculty members were also present for the ceremony. The program concluded with physician's pledge and vote of thanks delivered by Dean (Academics) Dr. Ashok K Dubey.

## Education Office Diglipur Conducts Brainstorming Session with Pradhans

**Continued from Page 1** less exposure to sports activities the students become vulnerable to drugs, especially the illicit Ganja. The school should engage the students in creative activities, so that their energy remains channelized in a constructive direction. The Physical Education teachers have a greater role to play in transforming the minds of the students and keeping them involved in sports activities, Shri Singaram said. The Pradhan of the R.K Gram Panchayat, Shri Shyamal Bhowmick too emphasized the need to put a check on the conduct of the students, bringing them inside the perimeter of discipline. He said that the Physical Education Teachers have to discharge their duties more efficiently to deal with the students psychologically to instil discipline and Educational values. He said the parents should keep vigil on the activities of their children and be in touch with the school.

Showing Apprehensions over the decline in the number of students in the Bangla medium schools, the Pradhan of Madhupur Panchayat, Shri Shymal Debnath said that there is a trend being seen among the parents of admitting their children in the English medium private schools. He demanded to start English medium Government Primary schools, keeping Bangla as one of the compulsory subjects. He stressed upon the need to improve the quality of the Government schools, so that the parents get encouraged to enroll their children in these schools.

Contradicting the suggestions of converting Bangla medium school into English medium, the PRI Member from Khudiram Pur, Shri K.V. Raj said that learning in his own mother tongue makes the child more efficient and it helps him to be rooted with his rich tradition and culture. He said that the efforts should be to improve the quality of Education instead of converting the medium to English.

Calling it wastage of Government money the Pradhan of Laxmipur, Shri Sujan Kumar Das said that there are many Government teachers' quarters lying vacant for many years in Laxmipur.

The representative of Ramnagar Panchayat showing his displeasure over the teachers' quarters remaining unused said that it's unfortunate that the condition of the quarters is deteriorating, being

neglected and remaining vacant for a long time.

The lady Pradhan of Kishorinagar, Smti Rita Dhali raised her demand of upgrading the Parangara School to Senior Secondary level. The Pradhan of Radhanagar, Smti Neelima Samaddar and the representative of Nabagram too joined her, highlighting the shortage of teachers in the schools of their respective areas. The Shibpur Pradhan Shri Neelu too wanted to upgrade the school of his area to senior secondary level. He said, nowadays a lot of paperwork has made the teachers overburdened and the classroom teaching is sidelined somewhere, which is a very worried state in schools.

The Incharge of the Model School Sitanagar said that the students coming from Kalighat area are forced to wait for hours at times, due to the late arrival of the bus on their return journey to home from the school. He asked the PRIs to talk to the authorities to provide school bus on time.

The Principal of the Keralapuram School, Shri B.V.R Reddy in his address said that the students give excuses in the name of online classes and are often found misusing the facilities. It is also noticed that many students have developed the habit of playing online gambling using their mobiles, which must be discouraged. Calling upon the Pradhans, Shri Reddy said that they should also take the responsibilities of the students of their area, interacting with them periodically, knowing about the social or personal problems being faced by them. Shri Reddy said that there should be a healthy atmosphere at home, so that the children learn positive attributes.

The DEO Shri R.P. Pandey, replying to the PRIs said that the department is committed to provide qualitative Education to the students and the demands related to schools' infrastructures and other facilities are being fulfilled on priority. He had already taken up the issues at the higher level and hoped for positive results soon. All the PRIs in one voice said that they would help in all possible manner for the better education of their children.

Proposing the vote of thanks to the Pradhans and the other PRI members, for their participation, the Principal of the Subhashgram School, Shri M. Nehru said that together the society and the school can bring remarkable reforms in making school Education successful in achieving its goals. The head of the family should create a conducive environment at home, encouraging the children to imbibe moral values to become good human beings, he said.

All the Pradhans of the 15 Panchayats and the other members of the Panchayati Raj Institutions participated in this brainstorming meeting held today.

## Member of Parliament Suggests Granting of Special Grade Designation to Constable and Head Constable of Andaman & Nicobar Police

**Continued from Page 1** promoted to the rank of Head Constable.

He said that the morale of any force depends upon the motivation and motivation of its manpower and timely promotion are the two of the key factors for any uniformed force.

The Member of Parliament pointed out that in its communication dated 27/06/2017 addressed to the Director General of Police of all States/UT, the Director-General BPR&D, Ministry of Home Affairs has endorsed the move

of Delhi Police to grant Special Grade Designation to its Constables and Head Constables, which has resulted in motivation of staff without any financial implications.

He added that as per a circular dated 04/11/2016 issued by Delhi Police, a constable who has completed 15 years of service as on the first January of calendar year and has been granted first financial upgradation (MACP) shall be designated as Head Constable (Special Grade). Similarly, Constable

or Head Constable who has completed 25 years of service in the cadre as on first January of the calendar year and he has been granted first and second financial upgradation (MACP) shall be designated Assistant Sub-Inspector (Special Grade).

On similar grounds, the Member of Parliament suggested granting Special Grade Designation to Constables and Head Constables of Andaman & Nicobar Police.

## Rescheduling of MLII-104 and BNS-042 Courses Exam of IGNOU

**Port Blair, Dec. 14:** The Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) TEE December-2022 examination of the Course MLII-104 and BNS-042 held on December 12, 2022 (morning session) and BNS-042 held on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022 (Afternoon session) conducted at Exam Centres has been cancelled

due to unforeseen circumstances. The exam for these courses has been rescheduled again on 05<sup>th</sup> January 2023 in the morning session (BNS-043) and afternoon session (MLII-104). The revised hall ticket for these courses will be uploaded in the IGNOU website: [www.ignou.ac.in](http://www.ignou.ac.in).

The learners appeared for the MLII-104 and BNS-042 exam are advised to download the revised hall ticket to reappear the exam on the scheduled date. For more details, visit IGNOU Regional Centre, Port Blair or contact over Phone: 03192-242888, 03192-230111 or Email: [rcportblair@ignou.ac.in](mailto:rcportblair@ignou.ac.in).



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## Rajnath Singh Tells Parliament that Army Thwarted Chinese PLA Attempt in Yangtse area

**December 14: NEW DELHI:** Defence minister Rajnath Singh on Tuesday told Parliament that the Indian Army had thwarted the Chinese People's Liberation Army's (PLA) attempt to "change the status quo" in the Yangtse area of Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh and forced them to move back to their posts.

Sources said the Chinese tried to capture a peak in the sector that is at 17,000 feet and overlooks the Chinese position, which gives India an advantage. The Chinese intrusion attempt was met with stiff resistance by two Indian Army units who chased them well into their side. A few Indian soldiers were also injured in the physical clash.

The Indian Air Force was also forced to scramble its fighter jets in the last few weeks in the sector after Chinese drones were found moving closer to the LAC.

"On 09 December 2022, PLA troops tried to transgress the LAC in the Yangtse area of Tawang sector and unilaterally change the status quo. The Chinese attempt was contested by our troops in a firm and resolute manner," Singh said in identical statements in the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on Tuesday afternoon.

He said that the face-off led to a physical scuffle in which the Indian Army bravely prevented the PLA from transgressing into Indian territory and compelled them to return to their posts. "The scuffle led to injuries to a few personnel on both sides. I



wish to share with this House that there are no fatalities or serious casualties on our side," said Singh.

He said that due to timely intervention of Indian military commanders, PLA soldiers went back to their locations.

"As a follow-up of the incident, the local commander in the area held a flag meeting with his counterpart on 11 December 2022 to discuss the issue in accordance with established mechanisms. The Chinese side was asked to refrain from such actions and maintain peace and tranquility along the border," said the defence minister. He informed Parliament that the issue had also been taken up with the Chinese side through diplomatic channels.

"I would like to assure this House that our forces are committed to protecting our territorial integrity and will continue to thwart any attempt made on it," said Singh. The defence minister said that he was confident that House "will stand united in supporting our soldiers in their brave effort".

Earlier in the morning, the defence minister had a meeting with the Chief of Defence Staff and the three service chiefs where the emerging situation along the LAC with China was

discussed. Since the military stand-off with China in May 2020, the Indian Army has increased its force deployment all along the LAC and has maintained a high level of alert.

Meanwhile, the Chinese PLA's Western Theatre Command spokesperson on Tuesday claimed that its border troops were on a routine patrol on the Chinese side of the LAC in the eastern section of the China-India border on Friday when Indian troops "illegally crossed the line and blocked the Chinese forces."

The spokesperson added: "The PLA dealt with the situation with professional, standard and powerful measures and stabilised the situation. The two sides have now disengaged from contact." Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin said during a routine press briefing in Beijing that the situation at the India-China border was "generally stable" and both sides have been maintaining open communication on border-related issues through diplomatic and military channels. This is the first big clash between the Indian Army and PLA soldiers at the LAC after the Galwan Valley incident on June 15, 2020, in which 20 Indian soldiers were killed.

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**APOLLO CLINIC**

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## Open Mic for Local Talents on 17<sup>th</sup> Dec

**Port Blair, Dec. 14:** First time an Open Mic for local talents of Port Blair is being organized on 17<sup>th</sup> Dec 2022. The Open Mic will be held at Flag Point, South Point from 3.00 pm to 5:30 pm.

Any person irrespective of age who are into poetry, music, solo/mono act, ventriloquism, dance, singing, story-telling and interested in showcasing their talent can participate in the event.

For registration contact Dollzie at 9160885588. The registration can also be done through the following link [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf7R5YtVESPEeKURXbtQdUI\\_Cp1nTU3rv0PUO8pWyyzqub0g/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf7R5YtVESPEeKURXbtQdUI_Cp1nTU3rv0PUO8pWyyzqub0g/viewform?usp=sf_link)

## Rains Predicted Over Nicobar Islands

**Port Blair, Dec. 14:** As per Indian Meteorological Department's weather forecast, heavy rain (07-11 cm) is likely to occur at one or two places over Nicobar Islands on Dec. 15. Due to squally weather over South Andaman Sea, wind speed reaching 40-50 kmph is likely to prevail over South Andaman Sea till Dec. 15. Fishermen have been advised not to venture into South Andaman Sea Dec. 15, 2022.

For further enquiries / information, one may contact helpline of State Emergency Operation Centre at Helpline No. 1070 & District Emergency Operation Centre at Helpline No. 1077. For any assistance, call Coast Guard, SAR Agency at Toll Free No. 1554.

## Road to Remain Close for Vehicular Movements

**Port Blair, Dec. 14:** The road portion from Teal House Junction to Chatham Foreshore Road is closed for all the vehicular movements for 10 days w.e.f. 13.12.2022. Hence, all the vehicles will be diverted through Haddo and Chatham Road, a notification issued by DM (SA) said.

## Firing Practice by Indian Army

**Port Blair, Dec. 14:** Firing practice will be carried out by Indian Army on Dec. 20 & 21 from 1 pm to 5 pm. All the concerned have been warned to keep themselves and their vessels/ fishing boat away from the firing range during above mentioned date and time, a notification issued by DM (SA) said.





# SPORTS

## India Brace for Trial by Spin as Two-Test Series Against Bangladesh Begins

**December 14:** In many ways, Test cricket in Bangladesh is almost like a throwback to the 1990s era in India. Bereft of fast bowlers, they depend a lot on spinners to get the job done on black soil pitches which tend to be on the slower side. Touring sides don't need to think a lot about what to expect in Bangladesh. You get what you expect, but once on the field, it doesn't get any easier for the opposition.

Mehidy Hasan, Taijul Islam and Shakib Al Hasan may not have the guile and mastery of Ravichandran Ashwin, Nathan Lyons or Ravindra Jadeja. Neither are they in the mould of their predecessors Mohammad Rafique and Abdur Razzak, operating within limitations. Instead the trio possess the right armoury to ace the conditions, which are not the easiest to adapt to. Despite having a crowded pool of spinners – especially of the left-arm variety – they are still a bit old-school in the sense that there is no mystery to any of them.

But ask any touring batsmen what it is to face the Bangladesh spinners. Over after over, with crowded men around and a talkative wicketkeeper – be it Mushfiquur Rahim or Nurul Hasan – who resorts to an exaggerated reaction every time a batsman chooses to let go a delivery that is close to the stumps or when one of them gets just the right amount of turn to take the ball away from the bat, they can hear the decibel levels rise around them.

Those plenty of “ooohs, aaaahs, ekta ball (one ball)” from the crowded men around the bat can seed plenty of doubt in a batsman's mind. And in conditions where they have literally grown up and are confident enough to take on any team, they don't rely so much on flight or dip. Instead they operate on a line where batsmen have no choice but to play.

From the time India last toured Bangladesh (2015), the hosts have achieved memorable Test wins against England and Australia. And in each of those, their spinners were the



architects. “They are very accurate in their own conditions,” Sridharan Sriram, who coached Bangladesh at the recent T20 World Cup in Australia, told The Indian Express. “They know the right seam angles that they need to bowl in those conditions and know the pitches blindfolded. So the key to their performance at home is that they read their conditions pretty well and know how to adapt to them quickly.” The slow pitches are challenging for touring teams also thanks to the unpredictability in bounce. The trajectory of the spinners keeps varying, and if one is not patient enough and commits to a shot early, the ball could take an eternity to arrive and make one end up looking silly. If a batsman believes he has got used to the pace and adjusts accordingly, the spinners may slip in that odd quicker delivery that doesn't turn and carries on with the angle and hits the pad or the stumps. And to make matters more complicated, their spinners also rely on different seam positions, which makes the challenge a mystery to crack.

“They are cagey in the way they bowl in those conditions. They undercut, skid the odd one and even spin the odd one. That sort of trajectory (low) and seam position suit those conditions more than anywhere else in the world. They are black soil wickets, the ball keeps low, grips, turns slowly and the odd one just skids. There is a lot of natural variation that happens off the surface. The pitches are similar to what you find in Kolkata – where the water retention is not

great so it gets dry quickly. If the odd one hits a grassy patch, it just skids on. If it hits a dry area, it will hold, stick on to the surface and straighten. That sort of seam position with a lower-arm trajectory is a good way to bowl on those pitches,” elaborated Sriram on what makes the Bangladesh spin unit click in home conditions.

Gill, Shreyas the key

For India, this will be a stern test. While there is much to write home about their ability to withstand quality pace, what also holds true is that they tend to struggle on such pitches. Even in home conditions, whenever they have opted for turning tracks, their batting unit has struggled and have only trumped the opponents as a result of having a superior spin attack in Ashwin, Jadeja and Axar Patel.

In that sense, the presence of Shubman Gill and Shreyas Iyer will offer the batting unit something different. Gill, who is expected to open the batting in the first Test in Chattogram alongside stand-in captain KL Rahul in Rohit Sharma's absence, uses his feet against spinners and has a natural attacking instinct. Shreyas, on the other hand, may still struggle against short-pitched deliveries, but is easily one of the best Indian batsmen against spinners. Like Gill, he uses his feet and doesn't hesitate to go for aerial shots. With Cheteshwar Pujara and Virat Kohli having a tendency to get into a shell against spinners, the younger duo would definitely offer something different.

With the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium usually on the flatter side, India are yet to decide whether to go with three pacers or three spinners.

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### Helpline Numbers

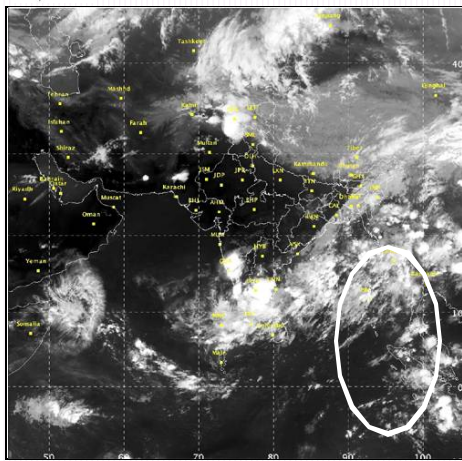
Police Control Room:	100
Fire Service:	101
Ambulance:	102
DC Control Room:	1070
Shipping:	245555
Postal :	232346, 232890
Children:	1098
Women:	244701
Coast Guard for	1554
Search & Rescue (SAR)	
Coast Guard RHQ:	232681
Coastal Security	1093
State Control Room:	1077, 238880
PBMC Control Room:	245798
Kisan Call Centre:	1551
Wildlife Control Room: :	245229, 200661, 200754

### Emergency Operation Centres (EOCs)

State Control Room:	03192- 238880 (Tele- Fax), 1070 (Helpline).
District Control Room:	03192-238881
EOC (Campbell Bay):	03193-264020
EOC (Kamorta):	03193-263222
EOC (N&M):	03192-262960
EOC (Hut Bay):	03192-284014



### Weather



Max. Temp: 30.2 °C	Min.: 26.2 °C
Relative Humidity: 0830 Hrs: 65% 1730 Hrs: 74%	
Sunrise: 0531 Hrs.	Sunset: 1658 Hrs.
Rainfall upto 0830 Hrs (Last 24 Hrs.):	000.0 mm
Rainfall upto 1730 Hrs (Last 24 Hrs.):	000.0 mm
Total Rainfall (From Jan 1, 2022 till date):	2366.7 mm

### Forecast

Partially Cloudy sky and Thunder is likely over Port Blair. Maximum and Minimum temperature will be around 31°C and 25°C respectively on Thursday 15/12/2022.

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