



ANDAMAN Chronicle

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The Daily Diary of the Islands



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Jarawa Facts

The Jarawa move around the forest in groups of 40 or 50 people. They build small temporary huts whilst on the move, and also build large huts where several families live together. They collect honey, roots and berries, hunt pigs and monitor lizards, and catch fish with spears.

Your Nature Guide

Plankton: This is a term used to describe the smelters, free floating plants and animals, which just drift along with the winds and currents. Some plankton have a limited swimming ability and can migrate daily in a vertical direction. Plankton are an important source of food for many sea animals.

There are two types of plankton. Phytoplankton, which are microscopic plant plankton, and Zooplankton, which are larger animals plankton. Phytoplankton are amongst the most productive food manufacturers of the seas.

Bigger Plants: Amongst the other plants are the Algae that are of different colours-green, red and brown. Some algae are edible (for humans) and a good source of protein. Most make very good fertilizer if spread in the garden or farm. Bigger algae are called seaweeds.

The oceans also have grasses growing in them. Eelgrass is a very common one found in our seas. It is grazed on by dugongs and green sea turtles.

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

People's Voice

Ek taraf Pradhan Mantri ka logon ke liye Schemes aur ek taraf Banks ka rejection ... Kaise Implement hoga logon ke liye ye saara schemes agar aise chalta raha toh???

- A Citizen



75% attendance in Parliament should be made compulsory for contesting next elections!

Non-Profit Organisation Mantra4change Supports PHC Radhanagar in Improving its Infrastructure

Donates Kits and Equipment Worth Rs. 10 Lakhs

Port Blair, Dec. 17: A not for profit organisation Mantra4change from Bangalore has donated kits and equipment worth Rs. 10 Lakhs to the Health Department of Andaman & Nicobar Islands. The donation is being sent to the remotest Primary Health Centre at Radhanagar in Diglipur and is expected to improve the infrastructure out there.

A flag off event was organised today near Netaji Stadium, wherein the Director of Health Services, Dr. Munni Singhania graced the occasion as the chief guest while Dr. Avijit Roy, Dy Director and Nodal Officer COVID-19 A&N

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Member of Parliament Requests CS to Schedule Sailing of Passenger Vessels for Nicobar District atleast Four Times in a Month

Port Blair, Dec. 17: The Member of Parliament, Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma has requested the Chief Secretary of A&N Administration to direct the concerned department to schedule sailing of passenger vessels for Nicobar District atleast four times in a month. He also requested that the schedule be published well in advance so that

people can plan medical treatment and mainland journey accordingly.

In a letter addressed to the Chief Secretary, the Member of Parliament mentioned that the people living in Great Nicobar Islands have been finding themselves totally isolated due

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LG Attends Meeting with Civil Aviation Ministry on Operationalization of Seaplanes



Port Blair, Dec. 17: Admiral D K Joshi, PVS, AVS, YS, NM, VSM (Retd.), Hon'ble Lt. Governor, A&N Islands and Vice-Chairman, Islands Development Agency chaired a video conference alongwith Shri Jitendra Narain, Chief Secretary, A&N Administration with team of Ministry of Civil Aviation & other senior officers of Airport Authority of India/ Director General of Civil Aviation, India led by Smti Usha Padhee, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India for operationalization of Seaplanes in the country.

ANTCC Delegation Resolves Issues of Kayaking Operators by Meeting DCSA

Port Blair, Dec. 17: The delegation of Andaman & Nicobar Territorial Congress Committee (ANTCC) on Friday called on the Deputy Commissioner, South Andaman Mr. Suneel Anchi paka IAS to apprise him about the issues faced by Kayaking operators of A&N Islands. The delegation included ANTCC Campaign Committee Chairman Shri. G Bhasker, DCC President, Shri. V.K Abdul Aziz and the members of A&N Kayaking Association. The delegation also met the Director of Tourism to enlighten him about the same issue.



After listening to the genuine issues of Kayaking operators, Shri. Suneel Anchi paka took necessary measures and resolved the issues immediately by coordinating with the Director of Tourism. The delegation of ANTCC and members of A&N Kayaking Association expressed their heartfelt gratitude towards the DC & Director of Tourism for the prompt solution to their distress.

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ANDAMAN Chronicle

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*Life has no Remote Control. Get up
and Change it Yourself.*

Wrong forum

India's negative vote at the UN Security Council (UNSC) on a draft resolution on climate change is a reflection of its long-held opposition to expanding the UNSC's mandate into areas that are already being dealt with by other multinational fora. The resolution, piloted by Ireland and Niger and which had the support of a majority of the UNSC members, was voted down by India and Russia — it has veto powers — while China abstained. Their position is that the UNSC's primary responsibility is "maintenance of international peace and security" and climate change-related issues are outside its ambit. But the supporters of the resolution argue that the climate is creating security risks in the world, which will exacerbate in the future with water shortage, migration and a destruction of livelihoods. Germany had circulated a similar draft last year which was never put to vote in the Security Council as the Trump administration opposed it. Now, with support from the Biden administration, the developed world is pushing to include what they call "climate security" in the agenda of the UNSC. While the urgency to take action to tackle climate change is appreciated, the attempt to securitise the climate agenda could have unintended consequences. Bringing the issue under the UNSC will also give more powers to the world's industrialised countries, which hold a veto power, to decide on future action on climate-related security issues.

Currently, all matters related to climate change are being discussed in the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), a specialised agency. And with over 190 members, its framework has made progress in tackling climate change. It is this process that led to the Kyoto Protocol, the Paris Agreement and the recent COP26 summit, and has put in place an international approach to combat global climate change. Sure, there is valid criticism that decision making at UNFCCC conferences is slow and there has to be faster collective action to tackle climate change and associated challenges. But the solution is not outsourcing decision making to the five permanent members of the UNSC. Also, it is wrong to look at climate change through the prism of security. Each nation faces different challenges in transitioning into a greener economy. As India's Permanent Representative at the UN T.S. Tirumurti pointed out, the developed countries, all big polluters, have not met the promises they made with regard to climate action. The least developed and developing countries should be encouraged to keep the promises they made with financial assistance. This needs to be a collective process and the best way is through the UNFCCC, where decisions made are by consensus. The UNFCCC should not only make sure that the promises made by member countries, especially the powerful ones, in previous conferences are kept but also expand the scope of discussions to include climate-related security issues.

BOB'S BANTER

BY ROBERT CLEMENTS



Fear Is The Key..!

There are no cockroaches in Manhattan, where I am at the moment, at least they are not as visible or apparent as they are back home, but here, nearly every train, subway or metro, bus and even taxis carry a message about how the cockroach is lurking, waiting, behind sinks, between boards, and under sofas, just waiting to catch you unaware! All the ads talk about, is being prepared with some spray, pesticide or other, and the people wait, spray in hand for that poor brown winged fellow to appear and yet I say, there are no cockroaches I've seen!

I'd gone to a mall yesterday and found toothpicks being sold, mentioning some disease or other you could get by not using a toothpick of the highest brand! Imagine even that simple piece of wood you shoved so gracelessly between your teeth had some with intentions to tear your precious teeth apart!

And the public read the advertising, fall victim to the marketing strategies and buy them in thousands!

Fear is the key!

Fear is also the key that drives some of our silly insecurities. Just as the New Yorker stands spray gun in hand waiting for hidden cockroaches, we do the same: Our fears over trivialities are many!

Don't trust people of another faith because he might steal your sister or daughter, say the politicians, and we start distrusting our best friends, thinking they have some magical power over our women!



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Don't trust the orphanage round the corner because they only want to convert children, and we stop donating money to some home who are saving children from the streets!

Or it could be insecurities and baggage we've had from childhood; scared of new places, new jobs, scared about making friends, and we stand gun in hand or maybe with childhood toothpick preventing ourselves from moving forward or trusting someone!

What we need to do is address these fear filled statements: Open that hidden board in your bathroom, see whether a cockroach lurks, and you may be pleasantly surprised to find there's nothing there!

So throw out the gun!

The same with politically motivated fears: Address them! Do you really think your daughter or sister is going to run away with anybody or everybody just because the clever politician says so? Don't you think you've educated her enough to have a mind of her own?

Don't you think that new job gives you fresh opportunities, could change your life and take you places? Or maybe it's going to a new city to join a good college? Just go!

Stop looking at those cockroach ads, stop listening to people who ignite fear through clever words. Fear is the key used by them.

Throw that key away and step into a 'free from fear' country..!

bobsbanter@gmail.com

Member of Parliament Requests CS to Schedule Sailing of Passenger Vessels for Nicobar District atleast Four Times in a Month

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scheduling only one passenger ship in the last nearly 26 days.

He pointed out that after a gap of nearly 16 days MV Sindhu had reached Campbell Bay on 6th December 2021 after which no ship schedule has been published for Campbell Bay. Before MV Sindhu, MV Kalighat had reached Campbell Bay on 20 November 2021.

The Member of Parliament highlighted that a large number of residents of Great Nicobar are presently stranded at Port Blair, many of whom are patients and attendants who have come for treatment in Port Blair while many others have reached Port Blair from mainland and are not able to reach back to Great Nicobar.

He added that similarly, there are stranded

passengers for other remote Islands of Nicobar District too, who are waiting for a sailing schedule for Nicobar District.

The Member of Parliament mentioned that in normal cases four to five passenger ships used to be scheduled for Campbell Bay in a month but now hardly two ships are being scheduled for Campbell Bay which is causing great inconvenience to the public.

Congress Delegation Meet CGM BSNL, Raise Issues Being Faced by the Islanders

Port Blair, Dec. 17: The delegation of Andaman & Nicobar Territorial Congress Committee (ANTCC) today called on the CGM, BSNL to notify him about the issues faced by residents of Shoal Bay 8 due to non-availability of BSNL tower in their area.

Led by Party President, Shri. Rangalal Halder the delegation included ANTCC Campaign Committee Chairman Shri. G Bhasker and DCC President, Shri. V.K Abdul Aziz. The delegation submitted a memorandum of their demands to the CGM. They said the ongoing digital divide during the time of pandemic is adversely impacting the functioning of daily life works of peoples residing in Shoal Bay 8.

The CGM assured the delegation that a new BSNL tower will be fixed at Shoal Bay 8 by 10th of January 2022. The delegation also briefed the CGM about the poor internet



connectivity at North & Middle Andaman, unavailability of Simcards at Wimberligunj Exchange and pending arrears in payment of contractual workers in BSNL.

The CGM has assured to fix all the internet related obstacles in North & Middle Andaman within a short period of time, while

he guaranteed to provide adequate Sim cards at Wimberligunj Exchange within 20th December, 2021 and to clear all payment arrears by the end of this month. The Congress leaders thanked the CGM for his prompt attention to these matters.

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Non-Profit Organisation Mantra4change Supports PHC Radhanagar in Improving its Infrastructure

Donates Kits and Equipment Worth Rs. 10 Lakhs

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Islands was the guest of honour.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Puneet from Mantra4change explained that as a part of its continued efforts to work on COVID relief work, Mantra4change are setting up oxygenated beds in the hilly and remotely inaccessible areas along the international borders of India. This Mantra4change is setting up 5 beds in the northernmost region of Andaman Island i.e. Radha Nagar PHC of Diglipur district in the UT of Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

The PHC will be enabled to a plug and play infrastructure with power backup. This initiative is supported by Ashraya Hastha Trust – A philanthropic organisation run by one of the Co-founders of Infosys – Mr. K. Dinesh. The total donation is worth over INR 10,00,000/- (Ten lakh Rupees).

Puneet also said that this is just a small initiative to begin with. Mantra4change will be supporting the Andaman & Nicobar Administration in a big way. They had planned to

donate a sea ambulance but then decided to discuss the requirements from the Health Services.

Meanwhile, Dr. Munni Singhania requested the NGO to arrange form specialists and super specialists who come can come to the islands for supporting specialised treatments. She explained that there are super specialists and specialists visiting the islands from branded hospitals but their intentions remain with business. If super specialists and specialists come with the intention of helping the islanders, it would be a good gesture and much beneficial for the people. Mr. Puneet agreed to the point raised by the DHS and assured that such programmes will be arranged in future.

Dr. Avijit Roy suggested Mantra4change to support the islanders who are being sent to the mainland hospitals under Ayushman Bharat Scheme. They are forced to pay for the tests and also require

to stay in the mainland for follow ups, which makes things difficult for them. If Mantra4change can support the logistic requirements of such islanders, it will be a good gesture from the NGO, he said.

Mantra4change is a not-for-profit organisation that is currently working on education and COVID relief. The NGO has worked very closely with various departments of government supporting various COVID relief activities.

Mantra4change has so far distributed around 10,000+ ration kits, fed around 50,000 people and sent more than 3,000 migrant workers back to their natives. It has supported 9 COVID designated hospitals, 21 PHC's and ICMR Belgaum with critical medical consumables and set up around 100+ oxygenated beds across rural areas spanning in 7 states of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Tamilnadu, Assam, Nagaland and Manipur.

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Health, Science /Tech

Two Common Drugs Found Effective Against COVID-19, in Early Testing

Washington, Dec. 16: Two over-the-counter drugs have been found to inhibit the replication of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, in preliminary tests, according to a study.

Researchers from the University of Florida in the U.S. noted that the combination includes diphenhydramine, an antihistamine used for allergy symptoms.

When paired with lactoferrin, a protein found in cow and human milk, the compounds were found to hinder SARS-CoV-2 during tests in monkey cells and human lung cells, they said.

Lactoferrin is commonly used as a supplement to treat stomach and intestinal ulcers, among other uses, according to the researchers.

"We found out why certain drugs are active against the virus that causes COVID-19. Then, we found an antiviral combination that can be effective, economical and has a long history of safety," said David A Ostrov, an associate professor at the University of Florida.

In lab tests on human and monkey cells, the combination of drugs was particularly potent, the researchers said.

Individually, the two compounds each inhibited SARS-CoV-2 virus replication by about 30%, they said, adding that together, they reduced virus replication by 99%.

The findings, published in the journal Pathogens, are a first step in developing a formulation that could be used to accelerate COVID-19 recovery.

Additional research into the compounds' effectiveness for COVID-19 prevention is already under way in mouse models, the researchers said.

To establish their findings, they focussed on proteins expressed in human cells known as sigma receptors.

In COVID-19 cases, the virus "hijacks" stress-response machinery, including sigma receptors, in order to replicate in the body, according to the researchers.

Interfering with that signalling appears to be the key to inhibiting the virus's potency, they said.

"We now know the detailed mechanism of how certain drugs inhibit SARS-CoV-2 infection," Mr. Ostrov said.

Data from the experiments show that a highly specific sigma receptor binding drug candidate and formulated combinations of over-the-counter products have the potential to inhibit virus infection and decrease recovery time from COVID-19, the researchers said.

While the findings are encouraging, Mr. Ostrov cautions against self-medicating with either diphenhydramine or lactoferrin as a COVID-19 prevention or treatment.

PRESS NOTE

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for filling up various posts on contract basis under the Scheme: National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR) in the Department of Social Welfare, A & N Administration.

About National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR): The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has formulated a National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR) for the period 2018 – 2025 which aims at reduction of adverse consequences of drug abuse through a multi-prolonged strategy involving education, de-addiction and rehabilitation of affected individuals and their families.

Scope of Work:

a) Implementation of Action Plan for De-Addiction and Rehabilitation at the UT Level;

b) Hand holding and guidance of all implementing agencies in the field;

c) Close and regular monitoring of all facilities/projects/programmes through visits all over the UT and generation of requisite reports;

d) Follow up and liaison with all stakeholders, partners and experts including GOI for trouble shooting and expediting recommendations/clearances/ approvals;

e) Any other task related to Drug Abuse Prevention that is assigned from time to time.

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	No. of Post	Qualification	Desirable	Monthly emoluments
1	Project Coordinator	01	• Post Graduate with 05 years experience.	• Ability to successfully handle multiple tasks within a team environment.	Rs. 50,000/- per month (All inclusive)
2	Project Assistant	01	• Post Graduate with 03 years experience.	• Attention to detail and problem solving skills. • Good oral and written communication.	Rs. 30,000/- per month (All inclusive)

Interested candidates are advised to submit their detailed resume in the prescribed format alongwith supporting documents with a covering letter addressed to Director (Social Welfare), Directorate of Social Welfare, Goalghar, Port Blair or mail to: directorsw4@gmail.com latest by **5.00 pm on 29th December, 2021**.

Candidates must apply for any one prescribed post above. The eligible candidates will be informed about the date and time of interview through phone or email mentioned in the application. The list of eligible candidates for interview will also be displayed in the Notice Board of the Directorate of Social Welfare, Goalghar.

• Applications received after due date will not be accepted.

• The applicant from Nicobar district may attend the interview online due to transportation issues.

• The candidates who do not fulfill any criteria shall not be invited for interview.

Terms and conditions:-

1. The appointment will be purely on contract basis initially for a period of eleven months which can be extended for further period based on the performance and instruction issued by the Ministry.

2. The candidates will not have any right to claim for regular employment.

3. No TA, DA will be paid for attending the interview.

4. The selected candidate shall be responsible for the implementation of the UT Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction functioning under Prohibition Cell, Department of Social Welfare, A & N Administration.

5. The Secretary (SW), A & N Administration has the rights to accept/reject any application without assigning any reason and no correspondence in this matter will be entertained.

Director (SW)

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APPLICATION FOR THE POST OF		
1	Name of Candidate (IN BLOCK LETTERS)	
2	Name of Father/Husband	
3	Date of Birth (Proof to be enclosed)	
4	Nationality	
5	Residential Address with Mobile No. & Email	
6	Educational Qualification along with experience details (Proof to be enclosed)	

DECLARATION

I do hereby declare that the information given above is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that in the event of any information stated above being false or incorrect or my ineligibility being detected after the appointment, my candidature/ appointment is liable to be cancelled/ terminated.

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Appeal!

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Let's pledge to make our Islands COVID Free!

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HRS Raises Issue of Filling up of Ex- Cadre Posts by Promotion before PM Modi

Port Blair, Dec. 17: The President, Hindu Rashtra Shakti, Shri Rakeshwar Lall has raised the issue of filling of Ex-Cadre Posts by promotion of Local Feeder Grade Officers with the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi.

Lall in his letter to PM Modi informed that there is no single DANICS Officer from A & N Islands, due to non-timely promotion of Local Feeder Grade Officers even after completion of more than 2 (two) decades in Feeder Grade Posts. Such situation is noticed first time

in the history of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Moreover there are 04 Nos Ex-Cadre posts under A & N Administration viz.

- 1) Executive Secretary, AAJVS, Port Blair,
- 2) Project Officer, ITDP, Car Nicobar,
- 3) DRCS, Port Blair,
- 4) Deputy Director, Civil Supplies, Port Blair.

However, these posts are lying vacant since long time but they are managed by giving

additional charges to the Entry Grade DANICS Officers, which affects the promotional avenues of deserving local Feeder Grade Officers and due to non-promotion, they are disheartened and feel neglected and thus, frustrated.

The HRS President called upon the PM to look into the said genuine grievances of Islands' Feeder Grade officers and do the needful to promote the eligible feeder grade officers against the said Ex-Cadre posts of A & N Administration at the earliest, please.

Ministry of Jal Shakti launches Swachh Survekshan Grameen (SSG) 2021



Port Blair, Dec. 17: The Ministry of Jal Shakti, Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Govt. of India has launched the Swachh Survekshan Grameen – 2021, a survey of cleanliness, hygiene and sanitation to boost the government's push for Open Defecation Free (ODF) Plus status for villages and shall guide the ranking of all Districts of India on the basis of quantitative and qualitative sanitation (Swachhtha) parameters.

The Swachh Survekshan Grameen 2021 shall support the States/UTs to accelerate ODF Plus interventions and increase momentum for improving ODF Sustainability as well as Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM) activities across the villages in the country. Earlier the Survekshan was held in 2018 and 2019. The focus areas of Swachh Survekshan Grameen (SSG) – 2021 are Solid and Liquid Waste Management, Menstrual Hygiene Management, ODF sustainability and ODF

implementation and are broadly classified into three parts - Service Level Progress, Direct Observation and Citizen Feedback.

As part of Swachh Survekshan Grameen, 17,475 villages in 698 Districts across the country will be covered. 87,250 public places namely schools, anganwadis, public health centres, haat/bazaars/religious places in these villages will be visited for survey. Around 1,74,750 Households will be interviewed for their feedback on SBM related issues. Also, citizens will be mobilised to provide feedback on sanitation related issues online using an application developed for the purpose.

Under Citizen Feedback component, the Ministry has launched a SSG Citizen Feedback Mobile Application available in playstore, wherein, feedback from the Citizens shall be obtained

on the above focus areas. The Mobile Applications seeks answers from citizens in Yes/No format for five pre-developed questions.

The UT of Andaman and Nicobar Islands has also launched the Survekshan in the rural parts of the islands. Active awareness programmes to mobilize the rural mass on the various focus areas aspects of SSG-2021 and Door to Door mobilization of all rural households are being undertaken by the Department under the overall supervision and direction of State Mission Director, SBM-G.

The Secretary (RD/Panchayat) has exhorted all citizens to come forward and participate in the Swachh Survekshan Grameen – 2021 and implored that SSG is not just a ranking exercise but has been a vehicle for creating a Janandolan (people's movement).

Further details of the SSG-2021 can be availed from the nearest Gram Panchayat.

Vaccination Drive in A&N Islands

Port Blair, Dec. 17: A total of 5,83,983 beneficiaries have been vaccinated so far in A & N Islands, out of the target beneficiaries of 2,86,600 (approx.). A total of 1,77,136 eligible people in the age group of 18 to 44 years have been vaccinated till date. A total of 1512 people were vaccinated today in A & N Islands.

1444 beneficiaries were vaccinated in South Andaman District, out of which 51 beneficiaries were in the age group of 18-44 years. Similarly, 68 beneficiaries were vaccinated in North & Middle Andaman District out of which 4 beneficiaries were in the age group of 18-44.

CONDOLENCE



Shri Vishal Jolly, National Executive Member, BJP & Former State President Bharatiya Janata Party, A & N Islands has condoled the demise of Mr. Aman Krishna, S/o Navin Krishna resident of Biggi Line, who died in a tragic road accident today. Mr. Jolly prayed for eternal peace for the departed soul and for enough strength for the members of the bereaved family to bear the irreparable loss.

Condolence

Shri. Rakeshwar Lall, State President and Members of Hindu Rashtra Shakti expressed deep sadness at the passing away of Shri Aman Krishna (Age 23 yrs), S/o Shri Navin Krishna, Resident of Biggiline, Port Blair breathed his last today (17/12/2021). May his soul rest in peace.

CONDOLENCE

Shri Rakeshwar Lall, State President and Smti Minati Biswas, State President, Mahila Morcha along with all members of Hindu Rashtra Shakti have deeply mourned the untimely demises of Shri Baidyanath Bose, 60 yrs, R/o Wandoor.

The Hindu Rashtra Shakti of Andaman and Nicobar Islands prayed to the Almighty to give eternal peace to the departed soul and courage to the bereaved family members to bear the irreparable loss.

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

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SPORTS

Asian Champions Trophy | Harmanpreet's Double Strike Hands India 3-1 win over Pakistan

Dhaka Vice-captain Harmanpreet Singh scored a brace as Olympic bronze-medallists India defeated arch-rivals Pakistan 3-1 to register their second consecutive win and virtually qualify for the semifinals of the Asian Champions Trophy men's hockey tournament here on Friday.

Harmanpreet (8th, 53rd minutes) converted two penalty corners, while comeback-man Akashdeep Singh, who couldn't make the Tokyo Olympics squad, found the net from a field effort in the 42nd minute for his second goal of the tournament.

Pakistan's lone goal was scored by Junaid Manzoor in the 45th minute.

It was India's second win in the tournament after their 9-0 drubbing of hosts Bangladesh, while Pakistan are still winless, having drawn goal-less against Japan in their opening match.

India had earlier drawn 2-2 against Korea in their tournament opener.

India are currently leading the points table with seven points from three games and will take on Japan in their last round-robin match of the five-team tournament on Sunday.

Pakistan, meanwhile, have just one point from two games.

India and Pakistan were the joint winners in the last edition of the tournament in Muscat after the final was washed out.

The Indians completely dominated possession in the first two quarters while Pakistan preferred to sit back. But they defended admirably save for Harmanpreet's lone strike.

The play was mostly on the Pakistan half in the first two quarters as Indians pressed hard from the onset and created a couple of chances but credit must go to goalkeeper Mazar Abbas who was brilliant overall.

But expectedly, it was India who took the lead in the eighth minute when Harmanpreet converted the team's first



penalty corner with a powerful low flick to the left of the Pakistan goalie.

Four minutes later, skipper Manpreet Singh's deflection from outside the circle was saved by an alert Abbas.

The second quarter continued in the same manner as India made numerous inroads but the Pakistan defence was up to the task.

While Pakistan defence stood out, the team's forward line looked unimpressive as it failed to register a single shot on the goal or secure a penalty corner. Leading 1-0 at half time, the Indians kept up the pressure on the Pakistan goal and increased their lead in the 42nd minute when Akashdeep slapped in Sumit's drive from the left flank with a reverse hit.

But the fighting Pakistanis didn't give up hope and upped their game from hereon, reducing the margin 27 seconds from the end of the third quarter through Manzoor's diving deflection from Abdul Rana's pass.

If the first three quarters belonged to India, Pakistan gave Manpreet and his men a run for their money in the final quarter, which produced end-to-end enthralling hockey.

Pumped up by the goal, Pakistan went on the offensive and secured their first penalty corner of the tournament in the 47th minute, which was rejected after India asked for the referral.

Pakistan didn't lose hope and continued to press hard and secured two more penalty corners in quick succession but young Indian custodian Suraj Karkera made two brilliant saves to keep his side's lead intact.

In between, India secured their second penalty corner and once again Harmanpreet was precision personified with his drag-flick.

India earned another penalty corner just three minutes from the final hooter but Varun Kumar's effort was saved by the Pakistan goalkeeper.

FLAT FOR SALE

2BHK Flat at Loknath Colony, near Govt. Polytechnic, Dollygunj is available for sale. Interested parties may contact 7063990929 between 8.00 am to 8.00 pm

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Helpline Numbers

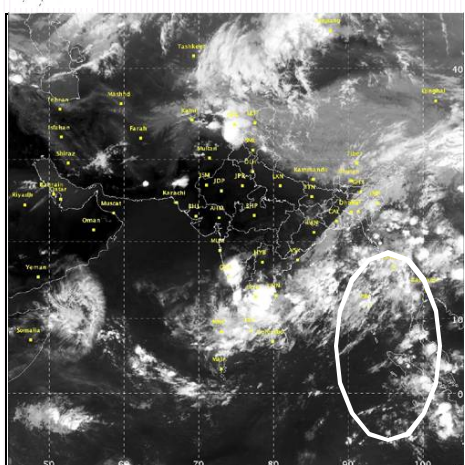
Police Control Room:	100
Fire Service:	101
Ambulance:	102
DC Control Room:	1070
Shipping:	245555
Postal :	232346, 232890
Children:	1098
Women:	244701
Coast Guard for	1554
Search & Rescue (SAR)	
Coast Guard RHQ:	232681
Coastal Security	1093
State Control Room:	1077, 238880
PBMC Control Room:	245798
Kisan 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: 29.9 °C	Min.: 26.3 °C
Relative Humidity: 0830 Hrs: 60% 1730 Hrs: 75%	
Sunrise: 0533 Hrs.	Sunset: 1659 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, 2020 till date):	3453.2 mm

Forecast

Dry weather most likely over Port Blair. Maximum and Minimum temperature will be around 30°C and 26°C respectively on Saturday 18/12/2021

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