



# ANDAMAN Chronicle

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The Daily Diary of the Islands



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## Jarawa Facts

The Jarawa resisted contact with the growing numbers of Indian settlers on their islands until 1998. Now, they are under serious threat. Poachers are camping for days at a time in their forest, hunting the animals they depend on and bringing disease, violence and exploitation.

## Your Nature Guide

**The Oceanic Giant Wheel:** How does the complex web of life in the sea sustain itself? Who eats what? What happens when plants and animals die?

Marine plants convert the inorganic nutrients available in the sea into organic matter and atone it. These are eaten by the vegetarian forms of life, which in turn are eaten by the carnivores. When they die, the plants and animals of the sunlight zone start sinking down towards the ocean floor. They gradually decomposed along the way. Nutrients locked away in their body tissues are released.

Some remains of dead plants and animals reach the deeper oceans and are fed on by the scavenger animals (like the deep water sharks) living there. Even wastes from animals in the surface waters provide nutrients for the animals living in the deep sea. This entire downward movement of organic debris recycles the nutrients that are gradually carried back to the surface to be used by the plants there to make food.

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

## People's Voice

Essential Commodities ka Price kya, aisa kaun sa cheej hai jo Checked hai Andaman mein Tourism Sports Activities ke alawa ...

- A Citizen



These were my New Year resolutions!

## CPI (M) Expresses Concern Over Unchecked Price Rise of All Essential Commodities in the Isles

**Port Blair, Jan 3:** CPI (M) Port Blair Area Committee has expressed concern over the unchecked price rise of all the essential commodities in the islands. In a letter sent to the Chief Secretary, A & N Administration recently, Smt D. Hemlatha, Secretary, Port Blair Area Committee said that prices of all essential commodities are increasing day-by-day and there is no control over it from the side of the Administration. She said that prices of vegetables, fish, meat, milk, etc are hiked at the will and wish of the traders involved in it with the tacit support of the

authorities. People especially those belonging to poorer strata of the society are unable to pull on the days due to this unchecked price rise. Civil Supplies Department has completely failed to arrest the spiraling prices. She informed the Chief Secretary that CPI (M) Port Blair Area Committee in its meeting held on 29th December, 2022 reviewed this situation and expressed concern over the spiraling prices and the failure on the part of the authorities to check the price rise in these islands.

CPI (M) Port Blair Area Committee demanded to take immediate necessary action to control the prices of essential commodities which will be of immense relief to the islanders particularly poorer sections of the society.

Through another letter, D. Hemlatha, Secretary, CPI (M) Port Blair Area Committee has expressed concern over the delay in disbursing the Old Age Pension and Widow Pension to the beneficiaries. In a letter sent to the Secretary (SW), Secretary Area Committee of the Party

stated that Old Age Pension, Widow Pension, etc are not being disbursed to the beneficiaries on time. There is reportedly undue delay in disbursement of these pensions by the Directorate of Social Welfare. The beneficiaries who are all poorer sections of the society are facing difficulties due to delay in disbursing their pension by the department. CPI (M) Area Secretary stated that there is undue delay in processing the applications for the widow pension and old age pension at various stages in the Social

Continued on P2

## Member of Parliament Sanctions Rs. 54 Lakhs for Development of Playground at Stewartgunj

**Port Blair, Jan 3:** The Member of Parliament, Shri. Kuldeep Rai Sharma has sanctioned Rs. 54 Lakhs for the development of a playground at Tankya Pahad under Stewartgunj Gram Panchayat, Ferrargunj Tehsil.

The amount has been sanctioned to promote sports and cultural activities in the region so that youths of the region can continue to keep themselves busy in constructive activities.

## Awareness Programmes on TB & Community Support to TB Patients Organised

**Port Blair, Jan. 3:** Under National TB Elimination programme (NTEP) the State TB Unit, Port Blair organized awareness programmes on TB & Community Support to TB Patients - Ni-Kshay Mitra (Donor) under Pradhan Mantri TB Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan at Govt. Secondary School Delanipur, Govt. Secondary School Junglighat, Govt. Secondary School, South Point and Govt. Secondary School, Dairy Farm with the objective to provide additional nutrition support to TB patient and augment community involvement to eliminate TB by 2025.

Shri Tapan Kumar Ray, IEC Officer, spoke about the transmission, clinical



manifestation, prevention and control of TB, TB/HIV Co-infection, the ill-effect of alcoholism and smoking particularly in relation to the treatment of TB. He also informed about the incentives given to the patient during the treatment under Ni-Kshay Poshan Yojana and about Nikshay Mitra (Donor) under Pradhan Mantri TB Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan and requested the teachers to come forward and become Nikshay Mitra and make this Abhiyaan a success.

The gathering was also urged to propagate the message in the community.

## Seats for MBA Available at Pondicherry University

**Port Blair, Jan. 3:** Graduate students interested in studying MBA (Business Administration) at Pondicherry University, Port Blair campus have been requested to meet the Coordinator, Department of Management, Pondicherry University Campus at Brookshabad on Jan. 4 & 5, 2023 from 10 am to 5 pm with all educational and other relevant documents for filling up the vacant seats through spot admission.

## MP Mourns Demise

**Port Blair, Jan 3:** The Member of Parliament of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Shri. Kuldeep Rai Sharma has deeply mourned the sad demise of Mr. Sajid Sulaiman, R/o. Round Basthi, a well-known singer of these Islands, who passed away this morning at the ICU of G B Pant Hospital. He prayed for eternal peace for the departed soul and for enough strength for the members of the bereaved family to bear the irreparable loss.

## Registration Opens for 36<sup>th</sup> Convocation of IGNOU

**Port Blair, Jan 3:** The 36<sup>th</sup> Convocation of the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), is likely to be held in the month of January/February, 2023. Those learners who have completed their programme of study in December- 2021 and June- 2022 Term-End Examination are eligible for award of original Certificate at this Convocation. Eligible students are required to register themselves for obtaining the Degree/Diploma certificate and pay the requisite fee through online mode only by clicking the link: <https://onlineservices.ignou.ac.in/convocation/>

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# ANDAMAN Chronicle

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

## GST Revenues in December

At almost ₹ 1.5 lakh crore, Goods and Services Tax (GST) inflows in December 2022 signal a recovery of sorts from November, when revenues fell to a three-month low. November 2022 revenues were 10.9% higher than a year ago, but still marked the slowest growth since June 2021. December's revenues were 2.5% higher than November and reflected a 15.2% year-on-year uptick. While the ₹ 1,49,507 crore GST kitty in December is the third highest since the beginning of the indirect tax regime in July 2017, it may be more noteworthy than previous records. First, as these taxes are linked to economic activity undertaken in November, they indicate that factories and service providers were busier than they were in October, impacted little by post-festival consumer fatigue. Second, on the two other occasions that GST revenues were higher — ₹ 1.67 lakh crore in April 2022 and almost ₹ 1.52 lakh crore in October — the numbers were boosted by taxpayers' financial year-end reconciliations and pre-festive spending or stocking up, respectively. This was not the case in December. Arguments that high inflation bolstered these numbers are only partly tenable — headline inflation dipped to an 11-month low of 5.9% in November, services inflation was flat sequentially, and goods inflation was 6.2%, which is high but far lower than previous months. So, if inflation did nudge up revenues, it did not play any more of a role in December than it did in earlier months when price rise was higher.

From what is known so far, the eight core sectors rebounded to grow 5.4% in November from a mere 0.9% in October, when industrial output tanked an alarming 4%. While November's industrial production levels will only be known later this month, the GST revenues indicate that the demand for both goods and services held up. As North Block mandarins enter the last lap of curating the Union Budget, the latest GST print should provide some hope while working out the fiscal glide path and revenue aspirations for the coming year. Not only have GST collections been over ₹ 1.4 lakh crore for 10 straight months, December's healthy inflows lift up the average monthly intake of 2022-23 to ₹ 1.49 lakh crore. But there is little room for complacency — any slackening in economic activity due to global headwinds could drag down revenues too. The GST Council, which met briefly last month after a long break but left critical reforms hanging, must be convened soon after the Budget — not just to help sustain revenue inflows, but also to aim to rake in more from a rationalised rate structure which brings all the presently excluded items into the One Nation, One Tax ambit.

## BOB'S BANTER

BY ROBERT CLEMENTS



### One Broken Tile..!

It could have either been a careless mason, or that the area under the tile was crumbling and had to be broken. And so, broken it was. Not just the area beneath the tile, but the tile also. The mason did his job, plastered the area underneath that needed reinforcing and then asked me if I had a similar spare tile to replace the one he'd broken.

"No!" I said, after searching my loft and terrace, "Looks like I didn't keep any when I fixed the kitchen ten years ago!"

The mason and I looked at each other helplessly. We knew that, that particular design would not be found in the market. Clever tile manufacturers change their design every few years so that leaves it impossible to do a patch up job later, and if a pipe is leaking in the bathroom, and you need to unearth it from behind a tile, then it means changing the tiling for the whole bathroom.

Plumbers love this, and a small job turns into a huge one for them.

I looked at the missing tile and realized I would soon have to spend a fortune, if I didn't come up with an idea.

"Okay!" I told the mason finally, "Remove the whole line of tiles!"

"But the rest are okay sir!" he said, looking at me with a crestfallen face.

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The rest of the tiles along the line were removed and I told the painter to level the place and paint the whole area.

I looked at the broken tile and decided there was a lesson here. Just because of one bad tile all the others had to be removed, which meant that one person in a group who was not up to the mark, had faults or could not control his or her habits, could let the whole team down.

"Choose your friends carefully," whispered the other tiles staring listlessly from a sack they had been dumped into, before making their way to the garbage dump, "If we had known this tile had rot beneath his glamorous smooth face, would we have ever included him with us?"

I look at good people who were being influenced by one bad person, and finally the whole group falls because of wrong policies and thinking. Political parties which are going into disrepute because of one bad leader!

The fresh coat of paint the painter applied to where the tiles had been, buried the tale of what was before, and I knew history buried such groups that had broken tiles in them. "What happened to such and such an organization?" asks a person coming in from another country.

"Oh, their leader was caught with his hands in the cookie jar!" we tell him, "And that was the end of his group!"

One broken tile is all you need..!

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

## CPI (M) Expresses Concern Over Unchecked Price Rise of All Essential Commodities in the Isles

**Continued from Page 1**  
Welfare Department. CPI (M) Port Blair Area Secretary demanded to take necessary action to ensure that the old age pension and widow pension are disbursed to the

beneficiaries concerned on time without any delay every month. Party requested the Secretary (SW) to issue necessary instructions to the officials concerned to process the

applications received for grant of widow pension/old age pension, etc immediately on receipt of it.

## Registration Opens for 36<sup>th</sup> Convocation of IGNOU

**Continued from Page 1**  
or [www.ignou.ac.in](http://www.ignou.ac.in). The fee for obtaining the original degree/diploma certificate for Ph.D/ M.Phil/ Master Degree/Bachelor Degree/ PG Diploma/ Diploma

programmes is Rs. 600/- per certificate. For general query on the convocation, learners may contact the following number 011-29572224 and email: [convocation@ignou.ac.in](mailto:convocation@ignou.ac.in)

or contact IGNOU Regional Centre, Port Blair over Phone: 03192-242888, 03192-230111 or Email: [rcportblair@ignou.ac.in](mailto:rcportblair@ignou.ac.in).



## ENTERTAINMENT

### 'Pushpa: The Rise' Raises 10 Million Rubles at Russia Box Office

**January 3: MUMBAI:** Allu Arjun-starrer "Pushpa: The Rise" has collected over 10 million Rubles at the box office in Russia, the makers said on Monday.

The Telugu blockbuster released in Russian language in 774 screens across the country on December 8, said Mythri Movie Makers on its official Twitter page.

"#PushpaTheRise is a RAGE in Russia. 25 days and counting of successful run in 774 screens with a collection of over 10M Rubles," the production banner said in the tweet.

Ten million Rubles amount to approximately Rs 13 crore.

Also starring Rashmika Mandanna, "Pushpa: The Rise" depicts the rise of a low



wage labourer (Arjun) in the smuggling syndicate of red sandalwood, a rare wood that grows only in the Seshachalam Hills of Andhra Pradesh state.

It released in India in association with Muttamsetty Media on December 17, 2021 and went on to become one of the biggest money-spinners of the year

earning over Rs 350 crore. The film also opened the fifth edition of the Indian Film Festival in Russia on December 1. Arjun, Rashmika, director Sukumar Bandreddi, producer Ravi Sankar and music composer DSP had attended the gala in Russia.

A sequel, titled "Pushpa: The Rule", is under production.

### Ridhi Dogra Says She Can't Play 'Glamour Prop' and Give People Chance 'to Ogle at Me': 'Will be a Nuisance on Sets Where I'm Needed to be That'

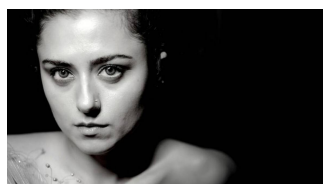
**January 3:** After more than a decade in the industry, featuring in varied roles and experimenting across formats, actor Ridhi Dogra's belief in the kind of work she doesn't want to do has only been strengthened. There is a line that the actor says she won't cross, and it is that of creative choices which ride on objectification of women.

Ridhi, a widely successful name on TV, made a switch to OTT with works like the acclaimed Voot series *Asur* and *The Married Woman*. She is currently seen on the second season of TVF's *Pitchers* and will also be seen making her film debut with her upcoming *Lakadbagha*. But the actor tells indianexpress.com, that her professional growth is not coming at a cost of her ethics, which dictate her to be mindful of the kind of women she plays on screen. "The one thing that I'm understanding quite clearly about me... What I'm completely against is any sort of repression and objectification. I'm not interested in that, not interested in showing you my perfect body unless the characters demand it. Unless it's a nautch girl whose life we are following, like a *Chameli* or a *Chandni* bar. "I don't want to do item songs or music videos where I'm in skimpy clothes unless there's a story

to it. Because it's not me as a person, as a girl, I'll find it hypocritical if I do it because I can't handle women being ogled at, can't handle repression of women. I can't be in a music video where I give 20 million people a chance to ogle at me," Ridhi says.

The actor insists she doesn't judge those who choose to do it. They may have their reasons to feature in content she doesn't align with, Ridhi says, but that doesn't tempt her to take the plunge herself. "Some people like to dress up, some like to dance. I love dancing and dressing up, but I've had this problem with item songs. I've an aversion to them, even watching them as much as they are great and songs are lovely and everyone looks beautiful. But I can't be a glamour prop, I'll be too much of a nuisance on sets because I'll ask so many intelligent questions. People are happier not having me on a set like that because I'll question everything."

The actor says her learnings were cemented right from her early TV days, where she worked with "intelligent people", who she could have meaningful conversations with. In 2023, Ridhi hopes to continue to



collaborate with people, "who will invest their time and energy in."

"But if I'm creating nuisance for you, if you've decided this is what you want to do and I'm coming and intellectualising something then it's better I'm not a part of that. I don't want to come in anyone's way of wanting to do anything. If you ask me, 'Would you do a music video where you've to wear less clothes?' "I would, if there's something to it. Otherwise, I'll try my best to cover up. I'll show however much I want to show not for the sake of you wanting it like that," she added. "When I had stopped doing TV, I was writing, learning the craft of storytelling, dialogue writing, script writing with a director. I also did a course in experiential therapy. I became an actor because I'm an observant person and my choices have shown me who I am. In your 20s, you're just going about life, doing the things coming your way, but as you grow older you realise more and more who you are," she concludes.

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### Health, Science /Tech

### Samsung Galaxy F04 to Launch on January 4 in India: Check Specs and Price



**January 3:** Samsung has confirmed that it will be bringing the Galaxy F04 to the Indian market. The South Korean smartphone manufacturer will launch the phone on January 4 at 12 PM as a Flipkart-exclusive device.

Powered by the MediaTek Helio P35 chipset, the Galaxy F04 will feature a 6.5-inch HD+ LCD display with a refresh rate of 60Hz. Samsung says the device will have 8GB of RAM when RAM Plus is enabled. The company has also confirmed that the phone will get two OS updates and come with Android 12 out of the box, hence, it will receive both Android 13 and Android 14 updates.

The back of the phone sports a dual camera setup that consists of a 13MP primary shooter backed by a 2MP sensor. On the front, you get a 5MP selfie camera housed in a waterdrop notch at the top. Available in Jade Purple and Opal Green, the phone has a gloss back panel made out of plastic.

All of this is powered by a 5,000mAh battery which means the phone might last a day or two on a single charge. While Samsung is yet to reveal the exact price of the phone, the base variant of the Galaxy F04 will be priced under Rs 8,000. The Galaxy F04 does share a lot of things with the recently announced Galaxy M04. Hence, if you can't wait for the launch of the Galaxy F04 and want a budget Samsung smartphone, the Galaxy M04 could be a good pick.

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## The Mind's Eye



**RAJYOGI  
BRAHMAKUMAR  
NIKUNJ JI**

### ENDEAVOUR TO END ALL CONFLICTS

All conflicts  
ensue from  
improper or  
incorrect  
relations with  
one's own self  
and also with  
others.

It is a known fact that all religions, philosophies, social, economic and political theories, psychological systems, etc. are based on a particular interpretation or understanding of history. This itself is untenable or erroneous and, so, these systems cannot trace and understand correctly the historical roots of the problems or conflicts. In that case, how can then they eradicate conflicts? If they had understood the genesis and pathology rightly, then they should have been able to resolve or reduce conflicts. Similarly all religions, philosophies, etc. are based on some presumptions which themselves have not been validated by rational or practical proof. These presumptions or presuppositions are themselves in conflict with those of other religions, philosophies, etc. So, instead of solving, they add to conflicts. It needs to be understood that every conflict can be ended, narrowed or reduced by appealing to a value but, if that value is not accepted on good reason and good faith by those systems or methodologies, the conflicts too in the outer world cannot be ended. For example, if a system of thought does not invariably adopt non-violence in its methods and instead, is based on the belief that violence is justified to end violence and to establish peace, how can it establish an order of non-violence? People expect the state to end many conflicts but if the state is itself an instrument of coercion and violence, then how can it end conflicts? Moreover, one important thing is that all conflicts ensue from improper or incorrect relations with one's own self and also with others. They are also due to clash of ego or self-interests. So, if these problems of ego and selfishness are not solved, how can the conflicts at other levels and in other forms be resolved? The system and method, applied as solution, should be such as do not give rise to another problem, even if they solve one or some of the problems. Otherwise, it would mean only replacing the problems. Moreover, all problems and conflicts have to be dealt with together and simultaneously, else they will remain because they are so intermingled that many will remain if one of them remains. It is in this context that we should understand the importance of true spiritual knowledge imparted by Supreme, Value System and interpretation of history and an all-out methodical effort as it does not have these flaws. Such a four-fold endeavour, under Supreme's direct and indirect guidance alone can and will end all conflicts forever and can and will usher in the proverbial Golden Age.



(nikunjji@gmail.com --- www.brahmakumaris.com)  
(Writer is a spiritual educator & popular columnist  
for publications across India, Nepal & UK)

## Sarpanchs Issue Ultimatum to TS Government for Central Funds



**January 3:**  
**HYDERABAD:** While TPCC president A. Revanth Reddy and several Congress leaders were arrested on Monday, sarpanchs from across the political spectrum in several districts issued an ultimatum to the Telangana government to return Central funds that were meant for them within a week, or they would take to the streets and hold a "Chalo Pragathi Bhavan" protest to press their demand.

Hundreds of sarpanchs have tendered their resignation to the BRS in protest against the alleged diversion of the Central funds meant for gram panchayats, and few hundreds have threatened to quit the party if the government fails to return the funds within a week.

Sarpanchs claim that the government owed each gram panchayat up to '20 lakh and that they had to spend their own money on village development because the government diverted the funds that it received from the Centre for the purpose.

This diversion of funds had left them in debt, they claimed. The state government had failed to release funds for six months, and sarpanchs said they had to raise funds on their own to pay salaries for sanitation staff in villages, to undertake development activities such as Haritha Haram, Prakruthi Vanam, road laying and maintenance, sanitation activities, and so on.

They claimed that all sarpanches in the state fell into a "debt trap" as they raised funds through private lenders and mortgaged their properties to undertake village development activities.

When the Centre last week credited the Finance Commission grants

directly into the bank accounts of gram panchayats, the state government fraudulently diverted the amount into its accounts without their notice instead of clearing pending bills, sarpanchs alleged.

They claimed that the government had diverted Central funds to pay Rythu Bandhu funds and began disbursing the amount to farmers from December 28.

"To prevent diversion of Central funds, the central government directly credited funds in the bank accounts of gram panchayats. Only sarpanches and upa sarpanches have power to withdraw these funds online through digital signatures. But panchayat secretaries misused our digital signatures and transferred the funds to state government accounts without our notice. This amounts to financial fraud and cyber crime," remarked Satyanarayana Reddy, president, Telangana Panchayat Raj Chamber.

He said they would file cases against district collectors, district and mandal level panchayat officers and also panchayat secretaries in all the police stations and also lodge complaints with various investigation agencies for "stealing our digital signatures and funds".

Countering the claims of sarpanches, minister for panchayat raj Errabelli Dayakar Rao accused the BJP of provoking sarpanches against the state government.

"The state government has the power to utilise central funds as per the TS Panchayat Raj Act. The funds were used to pay the power bill arrears of gram panchayats which have accumulated over the years. Gram panchayats are facing a fund crunch due to the Centre stopping funds since April. It started releasing the funds only recently. The state government on the other hand is releasing funds regularly to gram panchayats. I appeal to sarpanches not to fall into BJP's trap," Dayakar Rao said.

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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Applications are invited from retired officials, below the age of 65 years as on 01.01.2023 for engagement as consultant on contract basis in State authority known as (State Compensatory Afforestation fund management and planning authority) (CAMPA). Interested candidates fulfilling the following eligibility criteria may submit their resume along with copy of PPO and details of last pay drawn on or before 26.01.2023 to the Chief Executive Officer (State CAMPA), office of the APCCF (CRZ&FC), Van Sadan, Haddo, Port Blair.

Eligibility Criteria:-

- 1. Should have dealt with account related matters in any Central/State Government Department or autonomous bodies/PSUs.
- 2. Should have at least 05 years experience in preparation of proforma accounts/ commercial accounts of any government department/corporation/ PSUs/autonomous body.
- 3. Should have working knowledge of computers including operation of software’s like MS Word, MS Excel, MS Access, etc.

The selection of candidates will be done by a Screening cum Selection Committee constituted by the Administration keeping in view the Job requirement and after assessing their knowledge and experience in the concerned field.

The selected candidate shall be engaged as consultant purely on contract basis initially for a period of 06 months to be extended further subject to approval of competent authority and satisfactory performance on a fixed monthly remuneration i.e., on the last pay drawn minus pension drawn basis. He/She shall not be eligible for any other allowances viz. HRA/TA/SCA/ ISDA etc. or any other facility extended to regular government employees but will be eligible for 08 days leave in a calendar year on pro-rata basis. No remuneration for the period of absence in excess of the admissible leave will be paid. His/Her services can be terminated at any time by giving 15 days written notice in writing without assigning the reason thereof by the competent authority.

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# SPORTS

## Surya's Set to Dazzle Home Crowd in T20 vs Lanka – his First Game at Wankhede Since International Debut

**January 3:** THE walk from the dressing room to the ground felt different this time. All his life, Suryakumar Yadav had wanted to walk in a blue jersey at the Wankhede Stadium. The day finally arrived in 2023, 12 years after his first-class debut.

As he came down the stairs, there were officials whom he had seen while growing up, grounds men whom he had seen over the last decade, and a few fans who waited to take his pictures. Yadav acknowledged everyone.

"Hello Sir," was the common greeting to his seniors. To the world, he is SKY, but in this corner of the world, he is just Surya. The world is amazed by his skills but many here aren't. Here, one finds people saying 'I told you he will play for India.'

"He met us like he normally does. He might have become a big star, but his feet are grounded. Look how he met people here. He met everyone like he does with a smile and laugh. He hasn't changed a bit," says former Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA) joint secretary Unmesh Khanvilkar.

Wankhede has been home for Yadav. In two years since making his India debut, he has been appointed vice-captain of the team. His phone is buzzing with ticket requests, and he hasn't got time to respond to all of them. His family will surely be one among thousands in the stands. And if a few MCA officials are to be believed, SKY's the crowd puller for Tuesday's first India-Sri Lanka T20 International. After the Ranji Trophy game a few days ago, Yadav said it was the realisation of a dream to play for India, and he had looked forward to playing in India colours at his home ground. "Who doesn't want to play at home in India colours! While growing up, I always dreamt of playing at Wankhede Stadium and imagined walking down those stairs to the ground. I have done that in the IPL but it will be a different experience altogether with the Indian team," he said. Vilas Godbole, who was coach of the Mumbai under-22



team a decade ago, recalls how he had whispered in the teenaged Yadav's ears that he will play for India one day. "He was very talented then too, now we can argue that he should have played for India earlier but the way he came back was remarkable. I saw him playing reverse-sweeps to medium pacers. I have seen (Sunil) Gavaskar-(Sachin) Tendulkar closely but never saw someone so special," Godbole says.

Godbole has seen giants over several generations at the Wankhede. He has seen the transition and change in Mumbai's batting gharana (school). Now it's Yadav who is carrying the legacy. The best of Mumbai batsmen have their own unique features, but Yadav is probably the only one who can be called a 360-degree player.

Yadav's confidence reminds Godbole of the late Vijay Manjrekar. "He (Manjrekar) carried that arrogance and confidence while batting. The best players set the tone of the game. They know where the bowlers are going to bowl. This is the hallmark of a great batsman. Gavaskar had it, Tendulkar had it, and now I can see it in Surya. They know where the bowler is going to bowl. Surya is more dangerous, as he can hit behind the wicket too," he adds. Mumbai and the world have accepted his style of batting. The North Stand gang isn't the same anymore. Former Delhi pacer Shakti Singh once recalled how he had to face the wrath of Mumbai fans when he played a scoop during a game in the 1990s.

"As I was walking back, a few regulars seated near the dressing area said, 'just f\*\*k off. Don't spoil our cricket.' They were angry because I played that type of shot. Now it's a revolution," Singh quips.

Yadav's has been a great success story. A few years ago, he was sacked as Mumbai captain mid-season, and a time came when the selectors felt he hadn't done enough even to make it to the playing XI. He fought through it all.

After the Ranji Trophy game last week, a few fans waited for him outside the MCA-BKC ground. One of them rushed towards his car and asked for a selfie. Yadav obliged and the fan said "I have bowled to you at your ground." The 32-year-old replied, "Arre wah, bhai sab theek hai na (Wow! All ok, brother)? Let me come out."

A few metres away at the signal, a Mumbai Police escort car made a sudden halt. The cops requested for a selfie, and Yadav obliged them too. "Kya din aagaya hai bhai, dekh raha hai na Binod (See how times have changed)," he said in a happy tone. His teammate and friend Sarfaraz Khan reaffirmed that success has not gone to his head. Whenever Yadav arrives, Khan will greet him: "Dekho dekho, sher aaya (look, the tiger is here)." "I asked him what it means to play at his home ground and he said it's a dream come true. After the T20 World Cup, I wanted to see if he would mingle with us like he used to before. Players change after playing a few games for India, but he hasn't. We are in the same hotel as the Indian team and he came to our room last night for a timepass. So I salute him," Khan said.

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### Helpline Numbers

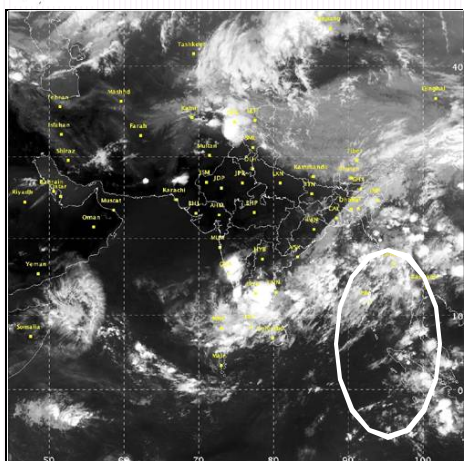
Police Control Room:	100
Fire Service:	101
Ambulance:	102
DC Control Room:	1070
Shipping:	245555
Postal :	232346, 232890
Children:	1098
Women:	244701
Coast Guard for	1554
Search & Rescue (SAR)	
Coast Guard RHQ:	232681
Coastal Security	1093
State Control Room:	1077, 238880
PBMC Control Room:	245798
Kisan 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: 30.0 °C	Min.: 24.8 °C
Relative Humidity: 0830 Hrs: 60%	1730 Hrs: 70%
Sunrise: 0540 Hrs.	Sunset: 1708 Hrs.
Rainfall upto 0830 Hrs (Last 24 Hrs.):	000.5 mm
Rainfall upto 1730 Hrs (Last 24 Hrs.):	000.0 mm
Total Rainfall (From Jan 1, 2023 till date):	003.5 mm

### Forecast

Partially Cloudy sky and Thunder/Light Rain is likely over Port Blair. Maximum and Minimum temperature will be around 30°C and 24°C respectively on Wednesday 04/01/2023.

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