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**A weekly echoing the mood of the people, comes to you on every Monday**

## PM Modi to address World Economic Forum's Davos Agenda on Monday



PTI, NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will deliver a 'State of the World' special address at the World Economic Forum's Davos Agenda on Monday via video conference, his office said.

The virtual event will be held from January 17 to 21 and will also be addressed by several Heads of State including Japanese Prime Minister Kishida Fumio, European

Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison, Indonesian President Joko Widodo, Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett, Chinese President Xi Jinping, among others.

Prime Minister Modi will deliver the 'State of the World' special address at the World Economic Forum's Davos Agenda on January 17, 2022

at 8:30 PM IST via video conferencing, the Prime Minister's Office said in a statement.

The event will also witness participation of top industry leaders, international organizations and civil society, who will deliberate on critical challenges being faced by the world today and discuss how to address them, it said.

## CS directs to conduct raid in Haddo and Junglighat on utilisation of shore power provided by ALHW to private ships

Port Blair, Jan 16:

The Chief Secretary, Andaman & Nicobar Administration, Shri Jitendra Narain today directed a team of Port Management Board, Electricity Department and DSS officials to conduct a raid in Haddo and Junglighat areas on the utilisation of shore power provided by ALHW to private ships.

The raid was conducted after it was informed that certain officials of ALHW working in the port in connivance with the ship owners were tampering with the electricity meters installed and thus, were enabling the private ship owners from paying lesser amounts as electricity bills than what was being consumed.

*contd. page-5*

## AYUSH 64 and Giloy/Samshamani Vati effective in mild to moderate cases of COVID-19

Port Blair, Jan 16:

In the wake of ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, AYUSH Ministry of Govt of India is constantly advocating the use of holistic measures including simple home remedies, lifestyle & dietary changes, Yoga & Pranayama for preventive and supportive care in COVID-19. As per the advisories of Ministry, the Immunity Building

Ayurvedic Medicines i.e. Samshamani Vati/Giloy Ghanvati, AYUSH Kwath (Kadha), Chavanprash, Ashwagandha and Homoeopathic Arsenicum Album 30 etc. are being used among the frontline workers, contacts of positive cases, cases of Influenza Like Illness (ILI), quarantined travellers,

*contd. page-5*

## A&N Police celebrates its 70<sup>th</sup> Raising Day DGP exhorts Police personnel to discharge their duties with utmost dedication & sincerity

Port Blair, Jan. 16

Commemorating their 70th Raising Day, Andaman & Nicobar Police organized a brief Ceremonial Parade today at Police Line Parade Ground while observing all COVID related guidelines. The Director General of Police, A&N Islands, Shri Satyendra Garg, in his address conveyed his

*contd. page-5*



## MP sanctions Rs. 60 Lakhs under MPLADS fund for construction of RCC Overhead water tank of 150000 Ltrs. storage capacity at Dairy Farm; Requests land from PBMC Secretary


Port Blair, Jan 16:

The Member of Parliament of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma recently met the Secretary of PBMC and requested him to allot 200 sq mtr land (of PBMC) at Dairy Farm area of Port Blair city near the water treatment plant of APWD, for construction of an RCC Overhead water tank of

150000 Ltrs. storage capacity.

The above work, with an approximate cost of Rs. 60,00,000 (Sixty Lakhs) was earlier sanctioned by the Member of Parliament for proper water supply to the residents of Dairy Farm and its adjacent areas under MPLADS so that the acute water scarcity faced every year by residents of Dairy Farm area and adjoining area could be

effectively resolved. As non-availability of sufficient land for this project was a major hurdle the Member of Parliament met with the Secretary of PBMC recently and requested him to allot 200 sq mtr land (PBMC land) near the water treatment plant of APWD, which is at the hilltop. The Secretary of PBMC reportedly assured to do the needful in this matter at the earliest.



EDITORIAL

## Inexplicable EC relaxation on hall meetings for polls

*A few clear messages and a muddled one emerged last week in the context of the upcoming elections to five states. Yogi Adityanath entered the Assembly election fray for the first time from the safest of seats in Gorakhpur, giving himself ample time to campaign extensively elsewhere in Uttar Pradesh. Though the mystery over his angling for the Ayodhya seat continues, Adityanath's X factor enthuses and worries the Big Two in the party in equal measure. If he does retain power, he would become the only UP chief minister in 35 years to get consecutive terms. And by giving close to 60% seats in UP to OBCs and Dalits, the BJP showed intent to arrest the bleeding of backward leadership in its ranks last week.*

*As for Akhilesh, he drew the BJP defectors. But giving them tickets at the expense of party aspirants or allies is not going to be easy. He has already broken off negotiations with Dalit neta Chandra Shekhar Aazad. This will be a closely fought election with slender margins of victory in various places. Aazad's ability to transfer pockets of votes could have given the SP a significant edge. In the Congress camp, after releasing a pink manifesto, Priyanka walked her talk by giving 40% seats to women in the first list, including to the mother of the Unnao rape survivor. The Congress in Punjab went largely with state unit president Navjot Singh Sidhu's choice of candidates, giving him little opportunity to crib. Where it would leave CM Charanjit Singh Channi, the new Dalit mascot of the party, remains to be seen. Channi regretting the controversial security breach during PM Narendra Modi's Punjab visit after rubbishing it initially is set to become a major poll plank. Also, AAP chief Arvind Kejriwal did a jumla by crowd sourcing ideas for his party's chief ministerial face in Punjab.*

*The questionable reading of the Covid situation came from the Election Commission, which retained its ban on poll mobilisation in most forms but allowed restricted hall meetings. How would meetings within an enclosure be safer than, say, spaced-out cycle or bike rallies? Surely common sense cannot be given a pass to celebrate the festival of democracy.*

## PBMC organizing various competitions as part of ‘Swachh Survekshan’

Port Blair, Jan 16:

As part of Swachh Survekshan 2022, flavoured with ‘Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav’, the Port Blair Municipal Council has launched various open competitions viz Jingle making, short movie, poster/drawing, murals and street play. The theme for poster/drawing, murals, short movie and street play are ‘Swachh City’. For short movie and street play competition, the participants may upload the contents in YouTube and provide link to PBMC.

The theme for making

Jingle is ‘Swachh- Sunder Port Blair’ and the duration of the Jingle should be one minute to three minute either in Hindi or English. The competition is open for all and entry is free. All stakeholders, students, citizens etc have been requested to participate in these competitions. The competition aims to showcase their creative knowledge and experience of Swachhata in their respective area. Those who intend to participate in the competition on the above themes can send their entries in the email ID: pbmc.iec@gmail.com by January 17, 2022.

## National Tourism Day on Jan. 25

### Open Digital Poster Making & Photography Competitions being organized by Tourism Deptt.

Port Blair, Jan 16:

As part of National Tourism Day (NTD) on 25th January, 2022, the Tourism Department is conducting an open Poster Making Competition and Photography Competition. The theme for Digital Poster Making Competition is 'Explore Andamans' and 'Andamans #Wild & Free Like the Sea' and the theme for Digital Photography Competition is 'Unexplored Tourism sites in rural areas of the Islands'. For poster making, 20 numbers of photos are uploaded on the link [https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1d7wbGEkUo\\_YdTWD9ncVS-osoIkFKXXPb](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1d7wbGEkUo_YdTWD9ncVS-osoIkFKXXPb). The official logo of the Tourism Department, A & N Administration (Emerald Blue and You) should be present on the poster. The candidate has to submit a declaration that the photograph submitted by him/her is original photograph shot by him/her. The same may be used along with captivating slogan for making posters. The response/contents received from participants will be uploaded in the social media accounts like Facebook/Instagram by this Directorate. The competition is open for all and entry is free, no age bar. The best may be selected on the basis of number of likes and subsequently judged by a Panel by 25th Jan, 2022. The best 3 entries in both the competitions will be suitably awarded with cash prizes. The details are as follows:

S. No.	Type of competition	Prizes	Theme
1	Poster making Competition	1 <sup>st</sup> Prize - Rs.10,000/- 2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize – Rs.5,000/- 3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize – Rs.3,000/-	1. Explore Andamans 2. Andamans #Wild & Free Like the Sea.
2	Photography Competition	1 <sup>st</sup> Prize - Rs.10,000/- 2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize – Rs.5,000/- 3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize – Rs.3,000/-	“Unexplored Tourism sites in rural areas of the Islands”

Those who intend to participate in the competition on the above themes can send their entries in the email ID: [thedirectortourism@gmail.com](mailto:thedirectortourism@gmail.com) by 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2022 by 10 am positively. The photographs should be of good quality with high resolution, which will look attractive in Facebook/Instagram. The Department may use the submitted photographs & posters for any useful purpose if found suitable and once submitted, the copyright of the submitted material shall belong to the Department.

## Zero tolerance towards corruption in any sector

### Criminal action initiated against missing fertilizers at Agriculture Sub-Depot at Ferrargunj

Case registered to unravel conspiracy & nexus between concerned officials of Department & private persons

Port Blair, Jan. 15

In line with campaign and steps taken for no-tolerance to corruption and irregular practices in the Government Departments by the A&N Administration under the guidance of the Chief Secretary, Agriculture Department has initiated action to curb such activities in the Department.

In this context, a Committee constituted under the Joint Director (Agri.) HQs detected a huge discrepancy on 12.01.2022 between the quantities of DAP (Di-ammonium Phosphate) and MOP (Muriate of Potash) fertilizers listed in the stock register and found in the physical stock at the Department's Sub-depot at Ferrargunj. The missing fertilizers details are as under:-

Sl. No.	Item	Rate Per MT	Stock as per stock book	Handed over Stock	Shortages (if any)	Amount (in Rs.)
1	DAP	22177.14	37.25 MT	21.06 MT	15.65 MT	347072.24
2	MOP	15688.00	30.00 MT	29.30 MT	0.7 MT	10981.60
					16.35 MT	358053.84

Apparently, the above discrepancy occurred due to pilferage and misappropriation in connivance and collusion of the concerned officials manning the Sub-Depot as no case of theft has neither been reported to the superior officers of the Department nor the Police.

Considering the seriousness of the issue of pilferage of fertilizers meant for small and marginal farmers by probable diversion and sale in the black market, a case has been lodged by the Department at P.S. Orgrabraj to unravel the conspiracy and nexus between the concerned officials of the Department and private persons involved in the said illegal act and to take action against the culprits.

Further, the Department has also initiated disciplinary proceedings against the delinquent officials. The Department has thus taken swift action to send a stern message to Govt. servants involved in such acts of misconduct and financial irregularities.



## NCPCR asks Yogi government to probe Darul Uloom Deoband portal for 'unlawful' fatwas



PTI, NEW DELHI: The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) asked the Uttar Pradesh government to probe Islamic seminary Darul Uloom Deoband's website for allegedly publishing "unlawful and misleading" fatwas.

The apex child rights body on Saturday also asked the state's chief secretary to block access to the website until such content is removed.

Reacting, the Students Islamic Organisation of India called it yet another attempt at targeting madrasas and their education by cherry-picking some fatwas and sensationalising them.

The NCPCR said it is acting on a complaint which alleged that the website carries a list of fatwas that are against the provisions provided under the country's law.

"Taking cognisance of the complaint u/s 13 (1) (j) of the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, after pursuing the complaint and examin-

ing the website, it was observed that the explanation and answers provided in response to issues raised by the individuals do not align with the laws and acts in the country," the NCPCR stated in the letter to the state's chief secretary.

It said such statements were contrary to the rights of children and open access to the website was harmful for them.

"Therefore, it is requested that the website of this organisation may be thoroughly examined, investigated and any such content should be immediately removed," the letter stated.

"Further, access to such website may be prevented until the removal of such content for avoiding spread and recurrence of unlawful statements and consequently preventing incidents of violence, abuse, neglect, harassment, discrimination against children," the letter read.

It also asked the state

government to take necessary action against the school for allegedly violating provisions of the Constitution of India, Indian Penal Code, Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 and Right to Education Act, 2009.

The NCPCR has directed the Uttar Pradesh government to submit its report on the action taken within 10 days.

In a statement, Fawaz Shaheen, national secretary, Students Islamic Organisation of India claimed the NCPCR's letter is yet another attempt at targeting madrasas and their education by cherry-picking some fatwas and sensationalising them.

"Fatwas are nothing but personal views of religious scholars on various matters pertaining to personal and social life.

In fact, on a given issue, the scholars often have differing opinions and none of them carry any legal sanctity or institutional approval.

People are completely free to act according to their own understanding of the religion," it said.

The SIO said it is a settled position of law in India that issues of inheritance, marriage, divorce and other personal matters, including adoption, are covered by the respective customary laws of different communities and religions.

## Over 200 illegal petition writers arrested in Assam, says CM Himanta



PTI, GUWAHATI: Over 200 illegal petition writers who allegedly seek money to write petitions and add irrelevant sections of laws while drafting them were arrested from across Assam, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said on Sunday.

Sarma, who had earlier cautioned against such illegal petition writers, said more arrests will be made soon.

"Assam Police have arrested 242 illegal petition writers since Saturday night. We can expect 20-25 more arrests shortly," the chief minister told reporters.

Such petition writers who operate outside several police stations "manipulate" petitioners by mentioning wrong sections of law in the complaints thereby making the cases "unnecessarily complicated", the chief minister said.

A police officer said that though writing a petition on behalf of another person is not

illegal, it becomes so when money is charged for it and irrelevant sections are incorporated in a complaint without the petitioner being explained about it.

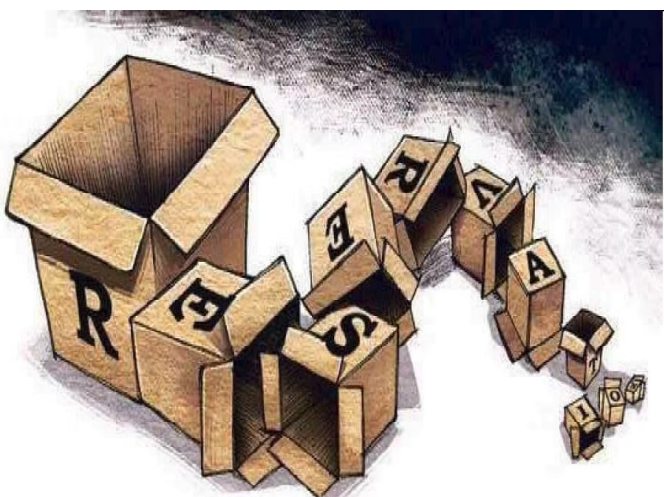
"These petition writers manipulate innocent people and also charge money for writing the petitions," he said.

The chief minister had in November warned of cracking the whip against illegal petition writers and asked the officer-in-charge of the police stations to act against them.

Sarma had pointed that it is the job of the sub-inspectors to draft the complaints, and people should not pay for the service.

A similar crackdown was undertaken in September last when over 500 alleged illegal land brokers were arrested from several areas of the state after the chief minister had directed the police to act tough against such middlemen.

## Now, 75 per cent jobs in Haryana with max Rs 30,000 pay mandatory for locals



PTI, CHANDIGARH: As the law in Haryana, that provides 75 per cent reservation in private sector to job seekers from the state came into effect, Deputy Chief Minister

Dushyant Chautala on Sunday said it will open new avenues of employment for thousands of youth.

The Haryana State Employment of Local Candidates

Act, 2020, applies to jobs offering a maximum gross monthly salary or wages of Rs 30,000 and it came into effect on Saturday.

It is a "historic day" for the youth of Haryana, Chautala said in Sirsa.

He said the labour department has also created a dedicated portal where companies in the state will have to reflect the number of vacancies and this will be constantly monitored by the government.

Violation of any provision under this Act will be a punishable offence, he cautioned, adding a helpline number has also been introduced.

Notably, providing 75 per

cent reservation in private sector jobs was a key poll promise of Chautala's Jannayak Janta Party (JJP).

In the 2019 Haryana Assembly polls, the BJP, which fell short of simple majority, formed the government in alliance with the JJP.

In November, Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar had said the Haryana State Employment of Local Candidates Act, 2020, will be made applicable with effect from January 15 this year.

Though the government had promised that the Act will apply for all jobs that offer a gross monthly salary up to Rs 50,000, it issued another notifi-

cation last year specifying that the upper cap had been reduced to Rs 30,000.

In March 2021, Haryana Governor Bandaru Dattatreya had given his assent to the Haryana State Employment of Local Candidates Bill, 2020.

The state government had last year said the said Act will be applicable to employers of private sector companies, societies, trusts, limited liability partnership firms, partnership firms and any person who employs 10 or more persons on salary, wages or other remuneration for the purpose of manufacturing, carrying on business or rendering any service in Haryana.



Admission to ANIIMS for Academic Session 2021-22 announced

# Application forms to be available through Common Admission Online Portal from Jan. 19 onwards

Port Blair, Jan. 15

Andaman & Nicobar Islands Institute of Medical Sciences (ANIIMS), Port Blair has been approved 114 MBBS seats by Ministry of Health & Family welfare (MoHFW), Govt. of India and Andaman & Nicobar Administration for the academic year 2021-22. NEET-2021 qualified students will be admitted through All India Quota Counseling and State Quota Counseling. Out of total approved 114 seats, 17 seats of All India quota will be filled by online counseling by Medical Counseling Committee (MCC), and rest of the 97 seats will be admitted under State Quota (10 EWS plus 87 Category seat).

The applications will be invited from NEET eligible candidates for admission to ANIIMS, the applicants can apply through Common Admission online Portal ([www.collegeadmission.andaman.gov.in](http://www.collegeadmission.andaman.gov.in))

Only NEET-2021 qualified students from Andaman and Nicobar Islands can apply for above mentioned 97 seats of State Quota. Remaining 17 seats of All India Quota will be filled by online counseling by Medical Counseling Committee (MCC).

The tentative timeline for the Admission process is as follows:-

Event	Date and day
Submission of duly filled application form starts on	19 <sup>th</sup> January, 2022 from 10.00 am
Last date of submission of application form	23 <sup>rd</sup> January, 2022 till 5.00pm
Publication of Provisional merit list	25 <sup>th</sup> January, 2022 at 5.00pm
Appeal & Grievance	27 <sup>th</sup> January, 2022 till 3.00pm
Display of Final Merit list	28 <sup>th</sup> January, 2022 at 5.00pm
01 <sup>st</sup> Round of Counseling	30 <sup>th</sup> & 31 <sup>st</sup> January, 2022
02 <sup>nd</sup> Round of Counseling	15 <sup>th</sup> February, 2022
Mop up Counseling	If required, will be intimated on later dates
Note: Dates of the counseling are tentative and are liable to change. Candidates are advised to check ANIIMS website and Institute Notice board regularly for updates.	

For queries, if any, candidates can contact Admission Cell of ANIIMS (03192-230258). For detailed information, refer to prospectus of ANIIMS.

# LPG distributors should provide weighing instrument to measure quantity of LPG cylinder at the time of delivery

Port Blair, Jan. 16

All LPG consumers and the authorized LPG distributors of this UT have been informed that as per the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011 framed under the Legal Metrology Act, 2009, it is mandatory for all the authorized LPG distributors to provide their delivery man a check weigher or non-automatic weighing instrument to measure or weigh the quantity of the LPG cylinder at the time of delivery.

The consumers have the right to demand weighing of LPG cylinders at the time of delivery so as to ensure exact quantity being delivered to them. The weight of a domestic LPG cylinder is weight of empty cylinder +14.2 kg of LPG filled in it with a maximum permissible error of 150 gm.

Similarly, the weight of a 19 kg commercial LPG cylinder is weight of empty cylinder +19 kg of LPG filled in it with a maximum permissible error of 1% and that for a 5kg commercial LPG Cylinder is weight of empty cylinder +5 kg of LPG filled in it with a maximum permissible error of 1.5 %. The empty weight of LPG cylinder is printed on the body of the cylinder.

The distributor shall get the weighing machine duly verified and stamped from the Legal Metrology Section functioning in the Directorate of Civil Supplies & Consumers Affairs prior to using it for any commercial transaction.

All the authorized LPG distributors have been informed to strictly comply with the rules and make necessary arrangements for weighing of LPG cylinders during delivery, failing which, strict action as per law shall be initiated against the distributor.

The Department of Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs has been relentlessly working towards safeguarding the interest of the consumers. All the consumers have been advised that any malpractice by any person/ shop/ establishment may be brought to the notice of the Department over Toll Free No. 1800-345-3197 or Telephone No. 03192-230337, a press release from Directorate of CS & CA said.

# DoE invites online applications for A & N Teacher's Award-2021

Port Blair, Jan. 16

All the eligible Teachers and Heads of School of Andaman & Nicobar Islands have been requested to apply in maximum number for Andaman & Nicobar Teacher's Award-2021. They can apply online on <https://teachersaward.andaman.gov.in> or through [www.education.andaman.gov.in](http://www.education.andaman.gov.in) upto Jan. 19, 2022 by just clicking 'Register' tab on Homepage.

For eligibility and evaluation scheme, they can go through the gazette notification available on the portal in Announcement & Notification column, a press release from Directorate of Education said.



Port Blair, 14 Jan: Admiral D K Joshi, PVSM, AVSM, YSM, NM, VSM (Retd.), Hon'ble Lt. Governor, A&N Islands and Vice-Chairman, Islands Development Agency alongwith Dr. V. Candavelou, Principal Secretary, A&N Administration participated in Video conference chaired by Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India with all States/UTs to discuss future strategies for management of emerging surge in COVID-19 cases and expediting Vaccine cover.

# Department of Agriculture providing financial assistance under RKVY-RAFTAAR for purchase of truck

Port Blair, Jan. 16

Due to scattered nature of the Islands, transportation is the major hurdle/ constraint in marketing of Agricultural produces, especially the perishable items to the Distribution Centers/ Markets. To overcome this and with the objective to provide better marketing support towards supply of good quality of fruits and vegetables, the Department of Agriculture has formulated a scheme under RKVY- RAFTAAR to provide 50% assistance upto maximum 2.5 Lakhs for purchase of truck of capacity 1.5MT - 2.0 MT.

The Department of Agriculture has invited application from Farmers / Individuals / registered SHG / Farmers Group/ FPO/ NGO/ Farmers Co-operatives for availing assistance under the scheme.

Eligible applicants have been requested to submit their application to the nearby Agriculture Sub-Depot.

For more information, the interested applicants may contact nearby Zonal Office, a press release from Department of Agriculture said.

**Garbage Complaint 24x7  
call now 03192-231179  
PBMC Control Room**



## China anti-virus measures in full force after Beijing reports positive case



BEIJING: Beijing's first reported case of the omicron variant has prompted stepped-up measures in the nation's capital, just weeks before it hosts the Winter Olympic Games.

Following the positive test announced Saturday, more than 13,000 people and all places visited by the patient over the previous days have been tested, according to state media. The person's apartment complex and workplace have been sealed off.

The infected person lives and works in the city's north-western district of Haidian and had no travel history outside of Beijing for the past two weeks, according to state media.

State media on Monday reported the capital, with its 20 million residents, was con-

sidering stronger restrictions on travel. All transit links with Tianjin have already been severed. International flights have been sharply reduced and domestic travellers have been barred if they transferred to a second location before arriving in Beijing.

No new cases were reported in Beijing on Monday, although the nearby city of Tianjin saw another 80 cases recorded over the previous 24 hours.

The Olympics open on Feb. 4, just days after the start of Lunar New Year celebrations. Athletes, officials, staff and journalists are required to enter a closed-loop bubble without outside contact and undergo daily testing.

Beijing Daily reported Sunday that the capital will require travellers to take nucleic

acid tests within 72 hours of entry starting Jan. 22. Some schools in Beijing have also closed early and moved classes online ahead of the winter holidays.

Officials across the country also urged residents to stay in their cities for the new year, instead of travelling back to their hometowns. Tourist sites, including sections of the Great Wall, have also closed amid China's "zero-COVID" policy that has seen millions of people placed under lockdowns.

The economic, logistical and psychological stresses resulting from that policy have become increasingly apparent, creating tension over how long the restrictions must remain in place.

Following three weeks of isolation, the ancient capital of Xi'an appeared to be turning a corner, with stay-at-home rules lifted on neighbourhoods determined to be virus-free.

Roughly 1,000 kilometres (600 miles) southwest of Beijing, the city of Xi'an, which has a population of 13 million and counts as a major tourist site for its famed Terracotta Warriors, has reported over 2,000 infections since December last year.

## A&N Police celebrates its 70<sup>th</sup>.....

greetings to the members of A&N Police. He lauded the services rendered by A&N Police towards the well being of society and highlighted the major achievements of A&N Police force in the past one year. Some of the achievements included successful installation of CCTV Cameras in all the 24 Police Stations of A&N Islands as per Hon'ble Supreme Court's directions and establishment of a Cyber Lab to effectively tackle cyber crimes.

On the enforcement front, apart from diligently generating awareness about COVID Appropriate Behaviour, 82,778 Challans were issued which resulted in collection of Rs. 1,81,31,900/- in fines and 70 Criminal cases were registered against the violators of the COVID guidelines. As a result of continuing crackdown on street crimes, especially

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drunken driving, over speeding, bootlegging and drug peddling, there has been a thirty nine percent (39%) reduction in IPC crimes, a fifty five percent (55%) drop in bootlegging cases, forty nine (49%) decrease in drug peddling cases and an eighteen percent (18%) drop was noticed in road accident cases in the year 2021, with respect to the previous year, 2020.

Underscoring the challenges before the Police Department, the DGP, A&N Islands exhorted the staff to discharge their duties with utmost dedication, sincerity and exhibit greater professionalism, transparency, integrity and sensitivity in their functioning in order to effectively serve the people of A&N Islands, a press release from PHQ, ANP said.

## AYUSH 64 and Giloy.....

from page-1

residents of containment zones and general public. The results of scientific research studies (with the individual formulations or composite use) conducted across the country under the aegis of AYUSH Ministry have confirmed that these medicines are safe and effective to strengthen the immunity against the COVID-2 virus.

Further, Cap AYUSH-64, a poly-herbal Ayurvedic medicine developed by Central Council of Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) have shown early and better clinical recovery in positive cases of COVID-19 apart from the reduced hospital stay without any progression of the disease to severe or critical stage. In addition, there was improvement in quality of life parameters and the drug was found

to be safe in well designed multiple clinical trials.

Similarly, Tab. Giloy / Samshamani Vati have shown better and early recovery in mild to moderate cases of COVID-19 in comparison to conventional regimen in two different clinical trials.

In awake of the present third wave of the COVID-19, the Health Department of the UT Administration is distributing the prophylactic medicines through the AYUSH Units across the Islands. People may contact nearest Govt. AYUSH centres to get the medicines for boosting immunity. Tab Samshamani Vati / AYUSH-64 have been included in the medicine kits provided to the Home isolated COVID cases through the District Administration.

## Biden, new Japanese prime minister to meet virtually Friday



WILMINGTON: President Joe Biden will meet virtually with Prime Minister Kishida Fumio of Japan on Friday, as the omicron variant of the coronavirus continues to surge around the world.

The White House said Sunday the meeting will take place to highlight the strength of the U.S.-Japan alliance. The two are looking to deepen ties in the face of China's growing economic and military clout in the region.

Kishida was elected in November and the two leaders will

be meeting for the first time. In April, Biden met in person with then-Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga, who travelled to Washington for talks.

Kishida was chosen by the Liberal Democrats as a safe, conservative choice. They had feared heavy election losses if Suga, who was highly unpopular, had stayed in office. He resigned after only a year in office as his popularity plunged over his handling of the coronavirus pandemic and his insistence on holding the Tokyo Olympics despite concerns

of a virus surge.

White House press secretary Jen Psaki said in a statement that Biden was looking forward to "working with Prime Minister Kishida to advance our shared vision for a free and open Indo-Pacific, and to expand our close cooperation on critical issues like combatting COVID-19, addressing the climate crisis, and partnering on new and emerging technologies."

## CS directs to conduct.....

from page-1

During the raid, it was noticed that there were major discrepancies in provision of shore supply connections to private ships. The matter had come to the notice of the foreman of PMB who saw that the meters installed for the ships of one particular private owner were not readable and the data was missing. Further, the meters were installed by the private ship owners themselves. It was noticed that in Phoenix

Bay, some of the energy meters provided by the ship owners were pre-programmed and not as per the Current Transformer installed. Hence, the actual billing of electrical energy being utilized was not being done. This resulted in a huge loss in revenue to the PMB. It was also noticed that an illegal shore supply connection was provided to a contractor of ALHW without the permission of PMB and because of this discrep-

ancy, there was a huge revenue loss to PMB.

The matter is being further enquired into in order to root out the source of the tampering. The Chief Secretary directed that the strictest action possible should be taken against the violators so that the menace of corruption can be weeded out and there is no revenue loss to the Administration, a press release from Secretary (Shipping/PMB) said.



# Satwik-Chirag pair claims maiden India Open title



PTI, NEW DELHI: Satwicksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty on Sunday became the first team from the country to win the Yonex-Sunrise India Open after toppling three-time world champions Mohammad Ahsan and Hendra Setiawan, here.

The world number 10 Indian pair, which had won its first Super 500 tournament in Thailand in 2019, upset the

top-seeded Indonesian pair 21-16 26-24 in 43 minutes to make a rampaging start to the new season.

Coming into the match with a 1-3 head-to-head record, Satwik and Chirag dished out a brave effort as they staved off a fightback to reign supreme in the final.

From almost missing the tournament following a false COVID positive result to win-

ning the title, it turned out to be an incredible start to 2022 for the Indian pair, which accumulated valuable ranking points ahead of a busy season, which comprises some big-ticket events such as the Commonwealth Games and Asian Games.

The Indian pair started on a positive note and even though the Indonesian combination clawed back, Satwik and Chirag ensured they are two points ahead at the first interval.

The Indians tried to engage their rivals in rallies and led 18-13 but the Indonesians reduced the deficit to 16-18 before Satwik and Chirag prevailed in the opening game.

Fast-paced but short rallies were the norm in the second game as well as Ahsan and Satiawan grabbed a three-point lead at 9-6 early in the second

game.

But the Indian pair again ensured they have the advantage at the break, grabbing a slender 11-10 lead.

Sawtik and Chirag maintained the intensity in the rallies after the break to lead 15-13.

The world number two again drew parity at 17-17 but Satwik and Chirag moved to 19-17 when Ahsan erred at net.

But Chirag went long next as it was 19-19.

Indonesian managed to move to a game point with a tap by Ahsan.

What followed next was the frequent exchange of points as both India and Indonesia earned and squandered their advantage positions in equal measure.

After a fierce battle, it was the Indian pair who showed better nerves to emerge victori-

ous with Indonesia squandering five-game points.

Satwik and Chirag had won the Thailand Open Super 500 title in 2019, besides reaching the finals at French Open Super 750 the same year.

The duo also claimed the silver medal at the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games, besides winning the Hyderabad Open Super 100 and finishing runners-up at Syed Modi International in 2018.

Satwik and Chirag also played a crucial role in India earning the historic mixed team gold medal in the 2018 Commonwealth Games.

The Indian pair also had qualified for the Tokyo Olympics last year but couldn't cross the group stage despite winning two out of three games.

# Australia beats England by 146 runs, completes 4-0 Ashes win



HOBART: Australia completed a dominant 4-0 Ashes series victory over England on Sunday by winning the fifth day-night test by 146 runs with two days to spare.

England set a target of 271 for victory, crashed to 124 all out in the last session on the third day at Hobart, losing 10 wickets for 56 after Zak Crawley (36) and Rory Burns (26) combined in the best opening stand of the series by putting on 68 runs.

Fast bowlers Scott Boland (3-18) and Cameron Green (3-21) made an impact in their first Ashes series by sharing six wickets on a lively greenish wicket as England crumbled against pace for the second time in the match after being dismissed for 188 in the first innings in reply to Australia's score of 303.

Australia skipper Pat Cummins also had an impact in his second spell to finish with 3-42 on an eventful day that saw 17 wickets tumble for the

second successive day in the game. Cummins, who grabbed the last two wickets off three balls, led from the front in his first series as Australia captain and grabbed 21 wickets.

"It's pretty crazy, even as a professional cricketer these are the series you have in your diary a couple of years out," said Cummins. "Really feels like we are building to something big. To have someone like Cameron Green in his second year to grow as a batter and bowler as well as some of the younger players â€¦ can't wait to show our wares overseas, we really judge ourselves in all conditions."

Earlier, Australia was bowled out for 155 just after the dinner break for an overall lead of 270 runs after it resumed from an overnight 37-3.

England paceman Mark Wood snared 6-37, utilizing short-ball tactics against the Australians to perfection. Alex Carey top-scored for Australia with 49 after getting two reprieves.

"We've been outplayed in all areas and credit to Australia," said England captain Joe Root, who remained the tourists' lone fighter with 322 runs, behind only Travis Head (357) and Marnus Labuschagne (335) who led the home side.

"We've played good cricket in parts, just not been able to structure a whole game togetherâ€¦ it's pretty obvious we need to be putting more runs on the board (and) too often we've not given our bowlers enough to work."

Australia missed an early opportunity when Burns could have been out lbw in Mitchell Starc's second over, but Cummins chose not to go for a television referral as the replays suggested the ball crashing onto the top of the stumps.

Burns and Crawley showed the first real intent from any English batsmen in the series by driving off their pads against Cummins and Starc as they scored at a healthy run-rate of more than four runs an over.

But once Green was introduced at the stroke of the tea break, the tall fast bowler had Burns deflect a short delivery onto his stump as the left-hander was unsure whether to play the ball or leave it.

Green followed up on the breakthrough with two more quick wickets at the start of the last session as Dawid Malan

played onto his stumps and Crawley was brilliantly caught behind by Carey off a delivery that swung away from the right-hander and took the edge.

Boland then limited the runs through his impeccable fast bowling before claiming the wicket of skipper Root for the fourth time in the series as the ball stayed below the knee roll and crashed onto the off stump.

Boland then struck in successive overs when Sam Billings, playing in his debut test, lobbed a gentle catch to mid-on and Carey played another blinder to dismiss Chris

Woakes.

Cummins finished off the game by clean bowling Wood and Ollie Robinson as Australia recorded victory in a test match in which offspinner Nathan Lyon didn't bowl a single over.

Australia won the first three test matches before England escaped with a draw at Sydney, where the last pair of batters survived the final two overs under intense pressure in a result that eventually meant the tourists avoided a 5-0 sweep.

# Kapil Sharma's biopic titled 'Funkaar'

PTI: Comedian Kapil Sharma's biopic titled Funkaar was announced on Friday, January 14, on the occasion of Makar Sankranti. The film is being helmed by Fukrey fame Mrighdeep Singh Lamba and produced by Mahaveer Jain of Lyca Productions.

Speaking of working on the biopic, the director who is currently working on the third edition of Fukrey series said that he is looking forward to bringing to life, "India's most beloved FUNKAAR. Kapil Sharma," on screen.

Producer Mahaveer added, "Billions of people get their daily dose of dopamine, courtesy Kapil



Sharma. We all need love, life, and laughter. We are proud to present comedy superstar Kapil Sharma's untold story on the big screen, in a big way." On the work front, Kapil Sharma will soon be seen in the Netflix special titled Kapil Sharma: I'm Not Done Yet. It is set to be released on January 28.