

REVERBERATION

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06 page

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

MESSAGE

It gives me immense pleasure to learn that the Tourism Department of A&N Administration is celebrating "World Tourism Day-2021" in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Since 1980, the 27th of September is celebrated as "World Tourism Day" which marks the day the statute of the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) came into force. The day is commemorated every year to foster awareness among the international community of the importance of tourism and its social, cultural, political and economic value. The theme for this year's celebration is "Tourism for Inclusive Growth."



Tourism is one of the world's most vital sectors which immensely contribute to the economic progress of a nation. The UT Administration has acknowledged tourism as a thrust area for the holistic development of the Islands. Under the aegis of Islands Development Agency (IDA) and with the cooperation of NITI Aayog, some mega tourism projects are expected to be added to the islands odyssey of success. All the upcoming projects will be ecologically sustainable and provide employment opportunities to the youth of isles. The pandemic has delayed the implementation of these projects. However, it will surely gain momentum in the days to come.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a massive social and economic impact but with the tireless efforts of all stakeholders, we have been able to control the infection of corona in the islands and reopen the tourism activities in A&N islands. This will undoubtedly help kick start the recovery and growth of the sector.

The standard operating procedures (SOPs) for carrying out various tourism related activities have been issued for strict adherence, taking into consideration the safety and wellbeing of the tourists as well as our fellow islanders. I am confident that with the concerted efforts and coordination of all stakeholders in the A&N Islands, we will surely emerge as a glittering example of safe and sustainable tourism in the country with the concept "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" (the world is one Family).

(Admiral D K Joshi)

PVSM, AVSM, YSM, NM, VSM (Retd.)

Lieutenant Governor, A & N Islands

& Vice Chairman, Islands Development Agency

Grant of Additional Scholarship to OBC students for the year 2021-22

Port Blair, Sept. 26

The Social Welfare Department has invited application for Other Backward Class students pursuing higher education in ITI, Col-

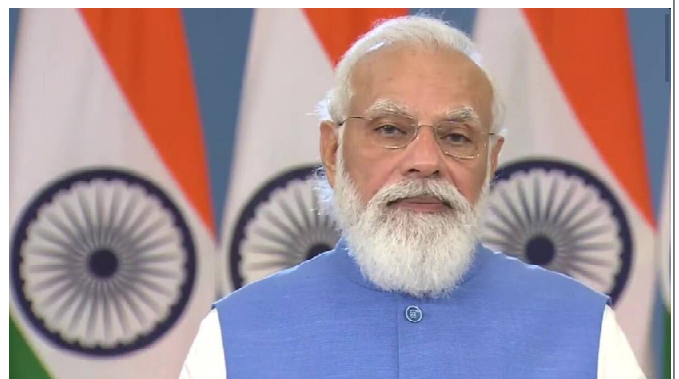
lege/University in India (Except Class XI & XII) for sanction of Additional Scholarship for the year 2021-22.

Additional Scholarship is *contd. page-2*

English rendering of PM's address in the 81st Episode of 'MANN KI BAAT'

PIB Delhi, Sept 26:

My dear countrymen, Namaskar. You are aware that for an important programme, I have to leave for America...hence I thought it would be apt to record Mann Ki Baat, prior to my departure to America. The day of Mann Ki Baat this September is important on another count, date *contd. page-3 & 4*



Three COVID patients under treatment at GB Pant Hospital and no patient is on oxygen: Director (ANIIMS)

Port Blair, Sept. 26

During the RT-PCR test conducted on 1084 passengers who arrived here yesterday, no positive case has been detected. Today, 8 flights with 1192 passengers arrived and the RT-PCR test was con-

ducted on 581 passengers and the reports are awaited.

This was disclosed by Director (ANIIMS), Dr. AK Mandal briefing media persons on COVID-19 in the conference hall of IP&T here this evening. He further said that RAT was

conducted on 221 passengers bound for North & Middle Andaman at Ferrargunj and all were found negative. Apart from this, 164 passengers travelling to & fro to Shaheed/Swaraj Dweep were tested at *contd. page-2*

MP demands concession in flight fares for senior citizens of Andaman and Nicobar Islands once in a year

Port Blair, Sept 26:

The Member of Parliament of Andaman and Nicobar Island, Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma has requested the Lt. Governor of Andaman and Nicobar Islands to provide

concession in flight fares for senior citizens of Andaman and Nicobar Islands atleast once in a year (to and fro).

In a letter addressed to the Lt. Governor, the Member of Parliament mentioned that

senior citizens across India get concession in bus fare, train-fare for inter-state as well as intra-state movement. On similar grounds, there is a concession for senior citizens *contd. page-5*

District Administration (SA) organizes open- slogan writing competition on patriotic theme

Port Blair, Sept. 26:

The District Administration, South Andaman under the leadership of Deputy Commissioner, Shri Suneel Anchipaka organized an open- slogan writing competition on patriotic theme in the

conference hall of Govt. Model Senior Secondary School, Port Blair on 25-09-21. The students of different schools of South Andaman participated in the offline & online slogan writing competition organized as part of the 'Azadi Ka Amrit

Mahotsav' which is being observed to commemorate the 75th anniversary of India's Independence.

The SDM, Shri Hari Kalikkat was the chief guest for the prize distribution ceremony *contd. page-2*



EDITORIAL

The message from Modi's visit

The India-US strategic relationship remains robust, Quad is here to stay and there is clarity about the challenge

Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi has just concluded a successful visit to the United States (US) — which had a bilateral element (he met President Joe Biden and vice-president Kamala Harris), a plurilateral element (he attended the first in-person summit of Quad leaders) and a multilateral element (he addressed the United Nations General Assembly in New York). Besides this, India's diplomatic machine was in top gear; with external affairs minister S Jaishankar meeting dozens of his counterparts from states big and small, near and far, to ensure India's outreach went beyond the great and emerging powers. There are three broad takeaways from the visit.

One, the India-US strategic relationship remains robust. The common threat of China has bound the two countries in more ways than one, from the world of intelligence-sharing and security cooperation to developing new forms of technology collaboration and supply-chain diversification and resilience. There will continue to be differences, primarily because India is an exception insofar as it is not, and will not become, a US ally — but it is now more than a friend. Partner is the chosen diplomatic term, which allows both countries room, but probably hides more than it reveals about the depths of cooperation. Two, Quad is here to stay. From a virtual to an in-person summit in six months, and from being cagey about pointing to the underlying threat that brought them together to specifically making a reference to how the group will remain undaunted by coercion, Quad has unveiled an ambitious agenda. The extent of how far the grouping will move in the military domain is unclear — but a constructive agenda on vaccines, climate, tech and supply-chains is a productive outcome.

Three, democracy brings India and the US together but is also a somewhat contested space. PM Modi claimed at UN that India is the “mother of democracy” and illustrated the democratic possibilities in India with the story of his own rise. India is right to own democracy and must internalise that this is a strategic asset. While the US recognises that India is indeed a vibrant electoral democracy, sections in the US — particularly the Left of the Democratic Party, sections of the Congress and the liberal media — have raised questions about the quality of democracy. This will remain a talking point, but will not erode the strategic character of the partnership for there are enough countervailing constituencies in the US that recognise India's value. Both Delhi and DC know there is a much bigger challenge, and clarity on the C word will prevail over debates on the D word.

Grant of Additional.... from page 1

open to all OBC category students (except those of Creamy layer i.e. Rs.8.00 lakh) notified in relation to A & N Islands. All eligible students have been advised to apply online on National Scholarship Portal through url: <http://scholarships.gov.in>.

The scholarship portal has been opened and the last date for applying online is 30th November, 2021.

Scheme details and eligibility criteria are available in the above portal under the Head ‘State Scheme’, ‘Grant of Additional Scholarship for OBC students of A & N Islands for pursuing higher studies anywhere in India after secondary level’. For any clarification, students may contact OBC Section of Directorate of Social Welfare, Goal Ghar, a press release from Directorate of Social Welfare said.

Three COVID.... from page 1

Phoenix Bay Jetty and all were found negative. At Mohanpura Bus Terminus, test was conducted on 176 passengers and all were found negative.

The Director further stated that presently, three patients are undergoing treatment at GB Pant Hospital and no patients are on oxygen. He also informed that no corona patient is admitted in COVID Care Centres.

Member of Parliament requests CS to release salary of ANCOL's Assistant Professors (on contract)

Port Blair, Sept:

The Member of Parliament of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma has requested Chief Secretary's Intervention on the issue of non release of salary for Assistant Professors of ANCOL (on contract).

In a letter addressed to the Chief Secretary, the Member of Parliament mentioned that the Assistant Professors (on Contract basis) working in Andaman College (ANCOL) since 2015 have not received their salary since last six

months, because of which these Assistant Professors are now facing hardship in running their family.

He pointed out that these Assistant Professors have to pay their monthly room rents, EMIs and support their family and as they are not receiving their monthly salary they are forced to borrow money from the market, which is further pushing them towards more problems.

The Member of Parliament mentioned that these Assistant Professors are

under tremendous mental and psychological stress because of the financial trouble they are facing and they are now unable to support their family.

Considering their hardship, the Member of Parliament requested the Chief Secretary to intervene in this matter and do the needful to release the salary of these Assistant Professors so that they can also live in the society with dignity and self respect.

A delegation of Forest Wildlife Employees Union led by its President Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma, Member of Parliament discussed various grievances and demands of the workers of the Wildlife Division with Ms. Nabanita Ganguly, IFS, the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Wildlife Division on 23.09.2021.



Major issues discussed were related to timely payment of monthly salary to the workers and preferably by 1st of every succeeding month, timely payment of pension and pensionary benefits, timely settlement of claims of the workers pertaining to Leave Travel Concession, Traveling Allowance, Medical Treatment Reimbursement, GPF Withdrawal & Advance etc., payment of Night Duty Allowance, timely & regular issue of pay slip, timely supply of raincoats & gumboots to the workers deployed on Watch & Ward duty, camping and patrolling duty, audit of the Workers' Welfare Fund etc.

After elaborate discussion, the DCF, Wildlife Division has assured the Member of Parliament that the grievances of the workers related to various service matters shall be looked into and settled expeditiously as per the provisions of the extant service rules.

District Administration (SA)..... from page 1

emony of the competition. In his brief address on the occasion, the SDM said that schools have its own attraction where the personality of each student is groomed, participation in different competitions help students to gain self-confidence. He urged the students to set a goal in life and follow it through hard work till it is achieved.

The SDM further said that year-long activities including competitions are being organized to commemorate the 75th anniversary of India's Independence. He motivated the students to actively take part in the District and UT level competitions so that they can go up to the National level competitions. He congratulated the prize winners and all the participants of slogan writing competition. The SDM along with the Assistant Commissioner (UT), Tehsildar Port Blair, Prin-



cipal Model School, gave away the prizes.

In the offline competition, Jyothica of GSSS, Mohanpura bagged the first prize while Diya Biswas of GMSSS Aberdeen and S. Priyanka of Girls' School got the second and third prize respectively besides 5 consolation prizes were also given.

Similarly, in the online competition, R. Nadeesh of Carmel Sr. Sec. School bagged the first prize while Mangri

Tigga, PST, GMS Duganabad and A. Sarika, Haddo Ward no. 1 got the second and third prize respectively besides 5 consolation prizes were also given.

‘Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav’ is a year long process and various competitions and events are held to commemorate our Independence. District Administration requests everyone to participate and make this Mahotsav truly eventful.

English rendering of PM’s address..... from page-1

wise. Routinely, we do remember a lot of days; we even celebrate myriad Days...and if you ask young sons-daughters at home, they are likely to furnish out an entire list of Days of the year with their chronological relevance! But, there is one more day that all of us must remember; this day is one that is immensely congruent to the traditions of India. It’s one that connects us with our traditions that we have been following for centuries. That is – World Rivers Day.

It has been articulated here – Pibanti Naddhah, S w a y a m e v a Naambha...meaning that rivers do not drink their own water...they give it away altruistically. For us, rivers are not mere physical entities; for us a river is a living unit...and that is exactly why we refer to rivers as Mother! Numerous festivals, festive occasions, functions of ours, occasions to rejoice take place in the very laps of these mothers.

All of you are aware—with the advent of the month of Magh, in our country, a lot of people perform Kalpvaaas on the banks of mother Ganga or other rivers for an entire month. This tradition has ceased now...but in earlier times, it was customary to remember rivers while bathing at home. This tradition of remembering rivers may have gone extinct or exists sparsely...but there used to be a great tradition that would take one on a tour across the vastness of India while bathing early morning...a cerebral pilgrimage! It used to be a source of inspiration to connect with every nook and corner of the country. And of course, in India, it has been customary to chant a Shlok while bathing:

Gange cha yamune chaiva
Godavari saraswati

Narmade Sindhu Kaveri
Jale asmin sannidhim kuru

Earlier, at our homes, the elderly in the family would make children memorise the Shlok...this also led to germinating Aastha, faith towards rivers in our country. It would inscribe an illustrated map of the great land of India on the psyche. That used to establish an emotional connect with rivers. It would result in nurturing a harmonious credence towards the very river that embodied the Mother, sentimentally as well as visually...as a way of life too! It was a way to instill ‘Sanskaar’; the value system

gamut.

Friends, now that we are discussing the significance of rivers in our country, it is but natural for everyone to raise a question...one, in fact, has the right to do so...and answering that question is our responsibility too! Anyone can question – “you are singing so many songs dedicated to rivers, referring to a river as a Mother...then why is it that the river gets polluted? Our scriptures distinctly disapprove of polluting rivers, even a bit! And our traditions have been synchronous with the thought. You know, of course, that the western region of our India, especially Gujarat and Rajasthan, suffer from scarcity of water. They face famines, many a time. Now that is why, a new tradition has developed in the social life there. For example, when it starts raining in Gujarat, Jal-Jeelani Ekadashi is celebrated there. This means, it is synonymous with what we term as ‘Catch the Rain’ in today’s times...accumulating each and every drop of water...Jal-jeelani. On similar lines, after the rains, in Bihar and other regions of the East, the great festival of Chhatth is celebrated. I hope that keeping the Chatth Pooja in mind, preparations for cleaning and repairing riverbanks and Ghats would have commenced. We can very well undertake the endeavour of cleaning rivers and freeing them of pollution with collective effort and support. The Namami Gange Mission too is making advances today...collective efforts of all, in a way, mass awareness; a mass movement has a major role to play in that.

Friends, when one is referring to the river; when Mother Ganga is being talked about, one is tempted to draw your attention to another aspect. When Namami Gange is being referred to, one thing is certain to draw your attention...especially that of the youth. These days, a special E-auction is being held. This electronic auction pertains to gifts presented to me by people from time to time. The money that accrues through this E-auction is dedicated solely to the Namami Gange Campaign. The affectionate, warm spirit, with which you present me gifts...that very sentiment gets bolstered through this campaign.

Friends, in order to rejuvenate rivers throughout the

country; in order to cleanse waters, the government and social service organizations keep undertaking one endeavour or the other. And this is not about the present day; it is going on for decades now. There are some people who have dedicated themselves to these causes. And it is this very tradition, this very endeavour, this very faith that has saved our rivers. Whenever such news come to my notice, from any corner of India, it evokes immense respect in my heart for people who embark upon such tasks...and I also feel like sharing that with you. Take a look at Vellore and Thiruvannamalai districts of Tamilnadu, whose example I wish to cite. A river named Naagnadi flows there. Years ago, the Naagnadi had all dried up. Because of that, the water level there had terribly gone down. But, the womenfolk there took up the cudgels to rejuvenate their river. And then...lo and behold – they got people connected, dug up canals through public participation, constructed check dams and recharge-wells. Friends, you too would be glad to know that today, the river is brimming with water. And truly, when a river is full of water, it lends such tranquility to the mind...I have actually, witnessed the experience...

Many of you might be aware that on the very banks of river Sabarmati, Mahatma Gandhi set up the Sabarmati Ashram...during the last few decades, the river had dried up. 6 to 8 months a year, no water was even visible there. But river Narmada and river Sabarmati were linked...today, if you go to Ahmedabad, the waters of river Sabarmati fill one’s heart with such joy! Similarly, our sisters from Tamilnadu are undertaking myriad such tasks...many such tasks are being done in various corners of the country. I know for sure that many of our saints, our gurus associated with our religious traditions are doing a lot for the sake of water and rivers, along with their spiritual pursuits...many of them are running campaigns to plant trees along riverbanks...at places, dirty water is being prevented from flowing into rivers.

Friends, when we are celebrating ‘World River Day’ today, I praise and greet all dedicated to this work. But to all people living near every river; to countrymen I will urge that

in India in all corners at least once in a year a river festival must be celebrated.

My dear countrymen, never make the mistake of treating minor issues, little things as small. Through tiny efforts, at times, very significant changes occur, and if we look towards the life of Mahatma Gandhi ji we will find every moment how even small things had so much importance and how using small issues he accomplished big resolutions. Our youth today must know how the campaign for cleanliness continuously gave energy to our freedom movement. It was Mahatma Gandhi who turned cleanliness into a mass movement.

Mahatma Gandhi had connected cleanliness to the dream of Independence. Today after so many decades, the cleanliness movement has once again connected the country to the dream of a new India. And this is also becoming a campaign to change our habits too and we must not forget that this cleanliness is a programme. This cleanliness is a responsibility of the transition of sanskar from generation to generation and when the campaign for cleanliness continues generation after generation in the entire society cleanliness as a trait gets imbibed. And that is why this is not a subject of a year or two; of one government or the other government. Generation after generation, with alertness, continually, without being tired or stopping, with high reverence we have to remain associated with cleanliness and continue the campaign for cleanliness. And I have said earlier too that this cleanliness is a great tribute by this country to revered Bapu and we have to keep paying this tribute every time; continuously.

Friends, people know that I don’t ever let go any chance to speak in connection with cleanliness and possibly that is why a listener of ‘Mann Ki Baat’, Shriman Ramesh Patel ji has written to me that learning from Bapu, in this “Amrit Mahotsav” of freedom, we should take the resolve of economic cleanliness too. The way building of toilets enhanced the dignity of poor, similarly economic cleanliness ensures rights of the poor; eases their life. You are aware of the campaign that the country started regarding Jandhan accounts. Today, because of this the

rightful money of the poor is getting credited directly into their accounts and because of this, obstacles like corruption have reduced very significantly. It is true that technology can help a lot in economic cleanliness. It is matter of delight for us that even in villages, the common person is getting connected in the direction of digital transactions through fin-tech UPI... its prevalence has begun increasing. I will tell you a figure which will make you proud; during last August, 355 crore UPI transactions took place in one month, that is more than nearly 350 crore transactions, that is, we can say that during the month of August UPI was used for digital transactions more than 350 crore times. Today, on an average, digital payments of more than 2 lakh crore Rupees is happening through UPI. Through this the economy of the country is acquiring cleanliness and transparency, and we all know that now the importance of fin-tech is increasing a lot.

Friends, Bapu had connected cleanliness with independence; the same way he had made khadi the identity of freedom. Today in the 75 th year of freedom when we are celebrating the Amrit Mahotsav of Independence, we can say with satisfaction today that our young generation today is giving khadi the place of pride that khadi had during freedom struggle. Today the production of khadi and handloom has increased multiple times and its demand too has increased. You too know that there were many such occasions when business of more than a crore rupees has been transacted in the khadi showroom in Delhi. I too would like to remind you again that on the 2 nd of October, on revered Bapu’s birth anniversary, let us together aim for another new record. In your city wherever khadi is sold, handloom is sold, handicraft is sold and now that the festival of Diwali is there.., for the festive season, every khadi, handloom, cottage industry purchase of yours should strengthen the campaign for ‘Vocal for Local’, it should break all old records.

Friends, in this period of Amrit Mahotsav, a campaign to disseminate to everyone the untold stories of the history of freedom is also going on... and for this, upcoming writers,

contd. page-4

English rendering of PM’s address.....

youth of the country and the world were called upon. For this more than 13 thousand people have registered till now and that too in 14 different languages. And for me a thing of joy also is that non-resident Indians from more than 20 countries have expressed their wish to join this campaign. There is another interesting information- more than nearly 5000 upcoming writers are searching out tales of struggle for freedom. They have taken the lead to write something on those who are unsung heroes, who are unnamed, whose names don’t appear on the pages of history, on the theme of such unsung heroes, on their lives, on those events, that is the youth of the country have decided to bring forth the history of those freedom fighters who were not even discussed during the last 75 years. I appeal to all the listeners; I appeal to all those connected with the field of education. You too motivate the youth. You too come forward and it is my firm belief that during the Amrit Mahotsav of Independence the people who are working for writing history will make history as well.

My dear countrymen, we all know about the Siachen Glacier. The cold there is so terrible that it is beyond capacity of a common person to live there. With snow spread far and wide, there is no sign of any vegetation anywhere. The temperature here dips to even minus 60 degrees. A few days ago, the feat that a team of 8 Divyang persons performed in this inaccessible region of Siachen is a matter of pride for every countryman. This team created a world record by hoisting its flag on the Kumar Post situated at an altitude of more than 15 thousand feet at the Siachen glacier.

Despite the challenges of physical ability, the feats that these Divyangs have achieved are an inspiration for the whole country and when you get to know about the members of this team, you will also be filled with courage and enthusiasm, just like I was. The names of these brave Divyangs are – Mahesh Nehra, Akshat Rawat of Uttarakhand, Pushpak Gawande of Maharashtra, Ajay Kumar of Haryana, Lobsang Chospel of Ladakh, Major Dwarkesh of Tamil Nadu, Irfan Ahmed Mir of Jammu and Kashmir and Chongjin Ingmo of Himachal Pradesh. This operation to conquer the Siachen

Glacier has been successful because of the veterans of the special forces of the Indian Army. I commend the team for this historic and unprecedented achievement. It also shows the spirit of our countrymen to tackle every challenge with a “Can Do Culture”, a “Can Do Determination” and a “Can Do Attitude”.

Friends, today many efforts are being made for the welfare of Divyangjan in the country. I got a chance to know about one such effort being made in Uttar Pradesh - “One Teacher, One Call”. This unique effort in Bareilly is showing a new path to the Divyang children. This campaign is being led by the principal of a school in Dabhaura Gangapur, Deepmala Pandey ji. During the Corona period, due to this campaign, not only did the admission of a large number of children become possible, more than 350 teachers have also joined it with a spirit of service. These teachers go from village to village calling for Divyang children, looking out for them and then ensuring their admission in one school or the other. I deeply appreciate this noble effort of Deepmala ji and her fellow teachers for the sake of Divyangjans. Every such effort in the field of education is going to shape the future of our country.

My dear countrymen, the condition of our lives today is such that the word Corona resonates in our ears many times a day... the biggest global pandemic in a hundred years, COVID-19 has taught every countryman a lot. Today there has been an increase in curiosity and awareness about Healthcare and Wellness. Traditionally natural products which are beneficial for wellness and health are available in abundance in our country. Patayat Sahu ji, who lives in Nandol, Kalahandi, Odisha, has been doing unique work in this area for years. He has planted medicinal plants on one and a half acres of land. Not only this, Sahu ji has also carried out documentation of these medicinal plants. Satish ji of Ranchi has shared another similar information to me through a letter. Satish ji has drawn my attention to an Aloe Vera Village in Jharkhand. The women of Deori village near Ranchi had undergone training in Aloe Vera cultivation from Birsra Agricultural School under the leadership of Manju Kachhap ji. After this they started cultivating aloe vera. Not

only did this farming benefit in the field of health; the income of these women also increased. They had good income even during the Covid pandemic. One of the major reasons for this was that the companies making sanitizers were buying Aloe Vera directly from them. Today a team of about forty women is involved in this work. And Aloe Vera is cultivated over many acres. Whether it is Patayat Sahu ji of Odisha or this team of women in Deori, the way they have linked agriculture with the field of health is an example in itself.

Friends, the 2nd of October also marks the birth anniversary of Lal Bahadur Shastri ji. In his memory, this day also teaches us about those who attempt new experiments in agriculture. To promote start-ups in the field of medicinal plants, an Incubator by the name of Medi-Hub TBI is operational in Anand, Gujarat. In a very short time, this Incubator associated with medicinal and aromatic plants has supported the business idea of 15 entrepreneurs. Sudha Chebrolu ji has launched her start-up only after getting the help of this Incubator. Priority is given to women in this company and they are also responsible for innovative herbal formulations. Another such entrepreneur is Subhashree ji who has also received help from this Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Incubator. Subhashree ji’s company is working in the field of herbal room and car fresheners. She has also created a herbal terrace garden which has more than 400 medicinal herbs.

Friends, the Ministry of Ayush has taken an interesting initiative to increase awareness about Medicinal and Herbal Plants among children and Professor Ayushman ji has taken the lead. It is possible that you must be wondering who Professor Ayushman is! Actually Professor Ayushman is the name of a comic book. In this, short stories have been prepared through different cartoon characters. Along with this, the usefulness of healthy medicinal plants like Aloe Vera, Tulsi, Amla, Giloy, Neem, Ashwagandha and Brahmi has been mentioned. Friends, in the current context, with the trend of people around the world regarding medicinal plants and herbal products increasing, India has immense potential. In the past, there has been a significant increase in the export of Ayurvedic and herbal products.

I urge scientists, researchers and people associated with the start-up world to pay attention to such products, which not only increase the wellness and immunity of the people, but also help in increasing the income of our farmers and youth.

Friends, moving beyond traditional farming, novel initiatives and options are being done in agriculture and are continuously creating new means of self-employment. The story of two brothers from Pulwama is also an example of this. The way Bilal Ahmed Sheikh and Munir Ahmed Sheikh found new avenues for themselves in Pulwama, Jammu and Kashmir, they are an example of New India. 39 years old Bilal Ahmed ji is highly qualified, he has obtained many degrees. He is now using his experience of higher education by launching his own start-up in agriculture. Bilal ji has installed a unit of Vermi composting at his home. The bio-fertilizer prepared from this unit has not only benefited a lot in agriculture ; it has also brought employment opportunities to the people. Every year, farmers are getting about three thousand quintals of Vermicompost from the units managed by these brothers. Today 15 people are also working in this Vermicomposting unit. A large number of people are reaching to see this unit, and most of them are young people who want to do something in the agriculture sector. The Sheikh brothers of Pulwama took a pledge to become a job creator instead of a job seeker and today they are showing a new path not only to Jammu and Kashmir, but to the people across the country as well.

My dear countrymen, the 25th of September is the birth anniversary of a great son of the country, Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay ji. Deen Dayal ji is one of the greatest thinkers of the last century. His economic philosophy, his policies aimed at empowering the society, the path of Antyodaya shown by him remain as relevant in the present context and are also inspirational. Three years ago, on his birth anniversary, the 25th of September, the world’s largest health assurance scheme – Ayushman Bharat scheme was implemented. Today, more than two and a half crore impoverished people of the country have got free treatment up to Rs 5 lakh in the hospital under the Ayushman Bharat scheme. Such a massive scheme for the

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poor is dedicated to the Antyodaya philosophy of Deen Dayal ji. If the youth of today inculcate values and ideals into their lives, it can be of great benefit to them. Once in Lucknow, Deen Dayal ji had said – “How many good things, good qualities there are – we derive all these from the society itself. We have to pay the debt of society, we must think on these lines .” That is, Deen Dayal ji taught us that we take so much from society, from the country, whatever it be, it is only because of the country ; thus we should think about how we will repay our debt towards the country. This is a significant message for today’s youth.

Friends, from the life of Deen Dayal ji, we also get a lesson to never give up. Despite the adverse political and ideological circumstances, he never wavered from the vision of a Swadeshi, home grown model for the development of India. Today many young people want to move ahead by breaking away from the oft-treaded paths. They want to do things their own way. Deen Dayal ji’s life can teach them a lot. That is why I urge our youngsters to definitely know about him.

My dear countrymen, we touched upon many topics today. Like we were discussing, the time to come is of festivals. The whole country is also going to celebrate the festival of the victory over untruth by Maryada Purushottam Shri Ram. But during this festival we have to remember about one more fight - that is the country’s fight against Corona. Team India is making new records everyday in this fight. With regards to Vaccination, the country has made many such records which are being talked about the world over. Every Indian has an important role in this fight. We have to get the vaccine administered when our turn comes, but we also have to take care that no one is left out of this circle of safety. Those around you who have not got vaccinated also have to be taken to the vaccine center. Even after getting vaccinated, the necessary protocol has to be followed. I hope that once again Team India will keep the flag flying high in this fight. Next time, we will discuss some more topics in ‘Mann Ki Baat’. Wishing you all, every countryman the best for the forthcoming festivals.

Member of Parliament requests for compensation for villagers who suffered losses due to heavy rainfall in North Andaman region

Port Blair, Sept 24:

The Member of Parliament of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma was intimated by public of North and Middle Andaman that due to heavy rain in many parts of Diglipur region on 22nd September and 23rd September 2021, there were flash floods in atleast four villages of North Andaman.

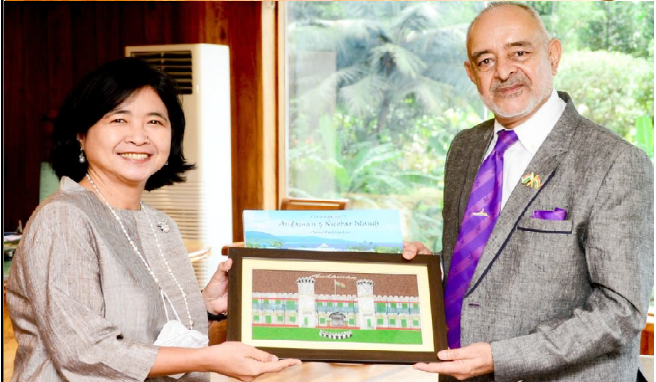
The Member of

Parliament has taken up this matter with the Chief Secretary and requested a detailed survey of losses and damages, suffered by the villagers and to release appropriate compensation for the farmers.

In a letter addressed to the Chief Secretary today the Member of Parliament today mentioned that as per calls received from villagers of Diglipur region in many places

the vegetable cultivation land got submerged in water causing loss of crops for many farmers. In some places due to the ingress of water inside houses, rice stored inside houses of villagers got damaged.

The Member of Parliament is also in constant touch with farmers and villagers of North and Middle Andaman region on this issue.



Delegation of ASEAN Heads of Missions, Their Excellencies Mr. Ramon Jr. Bagatsing, Philippines, Mr. Pham Sanh Chau, Vietnam, Mr. Ung Sean, Cambodia, Mr. Moe Kyaw Aung, Myanmar, Mr. Alaihuddin Mohd Taha, Brunei Darussalam, Ms. Pattarat Hongtong, Thailand and Mr. Bounneme Chouanghom, Laos called on Admiral D K Joshi, PVSM, AVSM, YSM, NM, VSM (Retd.), Hon'ble Lt. Governor, A&N Islands and Vice-Chairman, Islands Development Agency today at Raj Niwas. Discussed enhancement of direct trade including import of timber, steel & construction materials like sand, aggregates/stone etc. and to give impetus to Tourism, Discussed Cruise liner circuits, Chartered & Hopping flights, with incentives already in place like Zero VAT on ATF & nil landing charges, exploring further scope of cooperation and connectivity with Andaman Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

PRESS RELEASE

A delegation of Marine Works Employees' Union led by its President Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma, Member of Parliament discussed various grievances and demands of the workers of the Govt. Dockyard, with the Director of Shipping Services, A&N Administration on 24.09.2021.



Major issues discussed were related to early conduct of Works Committee election, filling up of vacant promotional posts, amendment of recruitment rules for various categories of posts as per the recommendation contained in the 7th CPC, providing wages at the rate of 1/30th of pay plus dearness allowance to the contractual employees, confirmation of service for the newly recruited employees having completed the probation period, providing safety gears to workers, providing hygienic food at Dockyard canteen as per FSSAI norms, conducting training programmes for the industrial workers, posting of regular ALWC, Upgrading dockyard dispensary and conduct of regular health checkup camps, making promotional avenue for the isolated posts, early consideration of pending cases for compassionate appointment, maintenance of staff quarters at Dollygunj, School Line,

Kadamtala, Kamorta and Marine Hill, replenishment of fire fighting equipments in accordance with the fire plan of the Govt. dockyard and other demands related to service matters.

After elaborate discussion, the Director of Shipping Services has assured the Member of Parliament that the grievances of the workers will be attended expeditiously and settled.

MP demands concession..... from page 1

in buses and boats/ships for their movement inside Andaman and Nicobar Islands but there is no concession for senior citizens in flight fares for inter-state movement from the side of A & N Administration.

The MP added that as travelling in ships is very troublesome, problematic and time consuming for old age people, journey through flights to the mainland is the only prominent and sensible option for them.

Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma mentioned that for specialized treatment, old age people often need to visit Mainland India which becomes expensive for them and their family members, considering the economic setback due to COVID-19 impact on the economy of the

entire country.

He said that not only medical emergencies but also for family matters and other emergency purposes senior citizens need to travel to the mainland but for this inter-state journey, there is no special concession in flight fares from the side of the UT Administration.

Andaman and Nicobar Islands are situated far away from Mainland India and in absence of road or rail connectivity, flights are the main mode of transport for Islanders and considering this issue the Member of Parliament requested the Lt. Governor to provide concession in flight fare for senior citizens of Andaman and Nicobar Islands atleast once in a year (to and fro) so that in case of medical

emergencies or other purposes they can easily visit mainland, without depending on others help.

The MP also suggested that for these purposes, the subsidy given to them in ship-fare can be diverted for flight ticket subsidies.

PRESS RELEASE

Shri Vishal Jolly, Former State President, BJP- A & N islands & Member Home Ministry Advisory Committee, GoI has written a letter to Chief Secretary, A & N Administration and requested to consider age limit for the post of Pharmacist under DHS as per the recruitment notice of 2018 population.

In his letter Mr. Jolly wrote that administration is filling up much awaited 28 vacant post of Pharmacist under the directorate of Health Services at-least on contractual basis. The last regular appointment was done in the year 2009 and since then no vacancy was filled. In the year 2018, administration called for the E – recruitment notice vide No. 5-88/Rect.DHS/2018-19/3525 dated 28th Sept, 2018 for 25 posts of Pharmacist. It is understood that these posts will be filled soon as well.

Further he added that delay in recruitment process has made many eligible candidates who applied in 2018 to become ineligible due to age factor and request to consider the age limit at par with the above said e-recruitment notice published in 2018, for the candidates who wish to apply for the 28 contractual post of Pharmacist which is published vide No. 5-98/Esst/DHS/2018/2930 dated 30th September 202.

This will enable many eligible youths of the island who will be deprived to apply for the contractual post which has termed 05.10.2021 as crucial date for determining the age to apply for the post he added.

Education Department to conduct door to door Educational Survey in Isles from Sept. 27

Port Blair, Sept. 26

Ministry of Education desired that a proper strategy to prevent and plan appropriate intervention against school drop outs, lower enrolments, loss of learning etc. particularly in the wake of pandemic and its after effects on social & educational fabric is to be devised. As part of this, the Department of Education, Andaman & Nicobar Administration is going to conduct a door to door (household) educational survey in this UT

to identify the age-wise population, out of school children, drop out children, migrant children, Children with Special Needs (CwSN), accessibility of digital devices and the details of children who lost their parents / guardian during pandemic COVID-19 etc. through the teachers / officials of Department of Education, A & N Administration from Sept. 27, 2021 onwards.

The Survey will be conducted under the direct supervision of Block Project

Officers and District Project Officers. Cooperation of all the line Departments to accomplish the door to door (household) educational survey in a time bound manner has already been pursued.

As such, the general public have been requested to extend all possible cooperation by providing the information/requisite data being sought by the designated enumerators visiting the houses, a press release from Education Department said.

Member of Parliament demands second shift in JNRM so that more students can get admission

Port Blair, Sept 23:

Highlighting the problems of Island youths waiting for admission in JNRM, the Member of Parliament of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma has requested the Lt. Governor of A & N Islands to start second shift in JNRM, like it was done a few years back.

In a letter addressed to the Lt. Governor, the MP mentioned that candidates who are applying for admission in JNRM are facing a major challenge as the number of aspirants, for new admission, are too high when compared to the number seats in local degree colleges.

He pointed out that this

year 2963 candidates have applied for admission in various courses of JNRM but altogether there are only 1083 seats, which means this year also nearly 1880 candidates will not get admission in JNRM.

The MP mentioned that in past Islanders have seen that hundreds of these students not getting admission in JNRM, which leads to either loss of their one year or complete break in their studies. Most of the aspirants from remote Islands hail from poor financial background and for them studying in mainland colleges, is impossible, the MP said.

He added that in recent past Islanders had seen that after intervention of Adminis-

tration the JNRM had run the college in double shift, thus doubling the number seats for aspirants and increasing their chances of admission. The double shift in JNRM was widely appreciated by students and general public.

The Member of Parliament mentioned that this year also there is tremendous rush for new admission in JNRM and seats are limited and hence considering the demand of public, the Member of Parliament requested the Lt. Governor to issue orders to restart second shift in JNRM, so that maximum number of students can get admission in JNRM and study in their dream subject in these islands.

Applications invited from farmers under RKVY projects Farmers advised to contact nearby Veterinary Hospital/Dispensary/ Livestock Farm for information

Port Blair, Sept. 26

The Directorate of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services has invited application from farmers of Andaman and Nicobar Islands for various projects under RKVY-RAFTAAR scheme 2021-22 viz. Incentive for Hygienic Pig Shelter @ 25% assistance upto max Rs 25,000/-; Incentive for construction of Cow Shelter @ 25% assistance upto max Rs. 50,000/-; Promo-

tion of Azolla as feed supplement (preparation and demonstration of Azolla tanks on departmental farms, 25% subject to maximum of Rs. 2000/- per tank assistance on preparation of 5 Azolla tank in each farmer's field). Eligible farmers have

been requested to submit their application to the nearby SVO on or before September 30, 2021. For more information contact nearby Veterinary Hospital/Dispensary/Livestock Farm, a press release from Directorate of AH&VS said

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Khatron Ke Khiladi 11 winner Arjun Bijlani says Divyanka Tripathi, Vishal Aditya Singh won too: 'In all honesty...'



Actor Arjun Bijlani has written a note of gratitude for the team of Khatron Ke Khiladi 11 and his fellow participants for making it a memorable experience. **Arjun was announced winner** of the latest season of the stunt-reality show by host and filmmaker Rohit Shetty on Sunday.

Soon after his win, the TV heartthrob took to his Instagram handle and shared a video of his winning moment. Calling the other two finalists – **Divyanka Tripathi** and Vishal Aditya Singh winners too, Arjun wrote that “what really matters is the journey on the show.”

“Winning losing toh chalte rehta hai what really matters is the journey on the show. I think we all had a great one on #khatronkekhiladi11. In all honesty I think @vishalsingh713 and @divyankatripathidahiya are also winners. Like I said the journey on this show matters. They have had an equally great one. I wana thank the stunt team of kkk for taking such good care of all of us .. a big thank you to the reality and creative team who make the show so interesting. Thank you @itsrohitshetty sir for pushing me every time and being such a great mentor. Thank you @colorstv .thank you #capetown. a big big thank you to all of you who supported me throughout my career.you all deserve that trophy.. thank you to the almighty for everything. Season 11 hamesha yaad rahega .. Ganpati bappa morya #kkk11,” Arjun’s post read.

His friends from the fraternity, including **Hina Khan**, Kishwer Merchant, Mohit Sehgal, Jasmin Bhasin, Vahbiz Dorabjee, Sonali Raut, Deepti

Bhatnagar, Rati Pandey, Aamir Ali and Dharmesh Yelande, dropped their congratulatory texts.

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