



ANDAMAN Chronicle

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The Daily Diary of the Islands



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Jarawa Facts

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

Your Nature Guide

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 store 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.

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

People's Voice

Amit Shah ji ko chahiye tha N&M Andaman tak gaadi mein jana ... Tab ja ke ye National Highway theek hoga

- A Citizen



I strongly recommend imposing GST, road tax... on padayatras!

74th Republic Day celebrated with Gaiety & Patriotic Fervour in Isles

Port Blair, Jan 27: Impressive parade, colourful cultural programme, presentation of medals and Lt Governor's Commendation Certificates marked 74th Republic Day celebration in A&N Islands yesterday. The main function for the Republic Day was held at Marina Park road stretch wherein the Hon'ble Lt Governor, A&N Islands & Vice Chairman, Islands Development Agency, Admiral DK Joshi, PVSM, AVSM, YSM, NM, VSM (Retd.) unfurled the National Tricolour. The function was attended among others by Member of Parliament, Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma, Chief Secretary, A&N Administration, Shri Keshav



Chandra, IAS, DGP, Shri Neeraj Thakur, IPS, senior Officers of Defence & Civil Administration and public representatives. In his Republic Day address to the

Islanders at Marina Park road stretch, the Lt Governor while greeting the Islanders on the auspicious occasion of 74th Republic Day said, "This is an occasion to renew our

commitments to our fundamental duties along with the fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution. As the nation is celebrating 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav', I pay my heartfelt tributes to the heroes of the freedom struggle, whose sacrifices and untiring efforts have established our nation as a strong Republic". "This year, the Republic Day celebration is special because on 23rd January, on the occasion of 126th Birth Anniversary of Netaji which is observed as Parakram Diwas, Honorable Prime Minister of India named 21 Islands after Param Vir Chakra Awardees and announced the setting up of

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Andaman and Nicobar Command Celebrates Republic Day

Port Blair, Jan 27: A ceremonial parade was conducted to commemorate 74th Republic Day on 26 Jan 2023 at Marina Park Road, Port Blair, Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The parade was reviewed by Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor Admiral DK Joshi, PVSM, AVSM, YSM, VSM, NM (Retd), the Chief Guest. The parade was led by Lt Cdr Rohul Rana Ameen of the Andaman and Nicobar Command and comprised contingents from Army,



Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard and A&N Police.

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North & Middle Andaman District Police Observed Police Raising Week

Port Blair, Jan 27: The Andaman and Nicobar Police celebrated a week long programmes on the occasion of Police Raising Day from 16th to 22nd January, 2023. To mark the occasion, various programmes were organized by the Police Stations of North & Middle Andaman District. As part of the celebration, cleanliness drives were organized at all premises of Police Station.



To facilitate senior citizens all Police Stations of the district organized door to door basic medical checkup with the help of health workers.

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CITU Demands Bonus for All Daily Rated Mazdoors of APWD

Port Blair, Jan 27: CITU-affiliated Andaman Sarvajanik Nirman Vibhag Mazdoor Sangh has demanded bonus to all daily rated mazdoors working in the APWD without any discrimination. In a letter addressed to the Chief Engineer, APWD, Shri SP Kalairajan, General Secretary, ASNVMS drew the attention of the Chief Engineer

to the letter dated 20th January, 2023 sent to all the Executive Engineers of APWD by EO to Chief Engineer forwarding therewith a copy of the letter dated 18th January, 2023 received from the Deputy Secretary (PWD), A & N Administration on the issue of grant of bonus. In the said letter, the Administration has conveyed the

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ANTCC Launches 'Haath Se Haath Jodo Abhiyan' in South Andaman



Port Blair, Jan 27: The Andaman Nicobar Territorial Congress Committee (ANTCC) President, Mr. Rangalal Halder launched 'Haath Se Haath Jodo Abhiyan' on 26th January 2023 from Aberdeen Bazaar in presence of several Congress party leaders and Public.

During the campaign, Halder along with party workers visited 100 houses in Aberdeen Bazaar (North Block) and held interaction with people on Local, State and National issues. The

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13 School Students from A&N Participate in 11th National School Chess Championship



Port Blair, Jan 27: The 11th National Schools Chess Championship 2023 began at Hosur, Tamil Nadu today morning. The championship is being held for school Children of various category viz Under 07, U-09, U-11, U-13, U-15 & U-17 Boys & Girls for five days from 27.01.2023 to 31.01.2023 over 9 rounds in classical mode.

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Success is not an activity but a process ...

BBC Doc on PM Modi

The aftermath of the release of a BBC documentary on the Gujarat pogrom of 2002, which questions the actions taken by the then Gujarat government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, can only be termed as yet another rendition of the 'Streisand effect'. After issuing directions to disable access to the first episode on websites using emergency powers under the IT Rules, 2021 and Section 69A of the IT Act, 2000, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MIB) also blocked over 50 tweets with a link to the documentary. But this only resulted in citizens gaining access through screenings and shares over smartphones — akin to how the suppression of information has the unintended consequences of raising more awareness, or the 'Streisand effect'. Other actions such as the police detention of 13 students at Jamia Millia Islamia University, Delhi, on the pretext that they were about to have a screening were an overkill and amounted to an abuse of power. It goes without saying that the government should not arbitrarily block the dissemination of media content just because it is critical of the regime. Its justification to use emergency powers to block access to the documentary, as being propagandist and of a colonial mindset, does not hold water if it is seen in the continuum of coverage of the pogrom and the aftermath. In any case, propaganda should be countered by propaganda, and not censorship.

The events that led to the pogrom, the horrific crimes, the callousness of the then regime and the lack of sufficient recourse to law and order steps, have all been well recorded and commented upon in the Indian press. The BBC documentary is just another media investigation into a portion of India's history that changed the course of the polity not just in Gujarat but also elsewhere. The online blocking of the first episode using emergency powers cannot be justified on the basis provided by the MIB that it is "propagandist", and only reflects a recent tendency to utilise IT rules to assert executive power rather than address this as a free speech issue. The IT rules were amended in February 2021 to allow for increased government control over online news publications — actions that are now being heard in courts. Recent High Court orders have also weighed in on the need to protect free speech and have stayed the government's moves to control freedom of expression on digital platforms. In its actions, a clear case can be made that the central government is more keen on blocking critical content than using the IT rules to regulate hate speech and misinformation — the true bane of the digital media ecosystem today.

BOB'S BANTER

BY ROBERT CLEMENTS



Adulation, Checks, and Balances..!

No man is a god!

When man comes to power, he comes with a suitcase full of weaknesses, and one of them is adulation! Which man doesn't love to hear the roar of a crowd as he walks on stage? Which man doesn't love seeing looks of adoration on the faces of his admirers, and when those admirers turn from hundreds to thousands to millions, then they crowd out the faces of those who are not under his spell!

And slowly, the leader who at first may have been discerning, stops looking beyond the crowd around him, and assumes the praise and worship he receives from around, is of the whole world!

It isn't!

Just beyond that same crowd of adorers, are millions who are not emotionlessly moved, ones who are thinkers and ones who have questions. Questions that remain unanswered as the much-adulated man now has big blinkers on his eyes.

These blinkers can lead to his downfall, unless he heeds some checks and balances that are there to help him or her.

These checks and balances come in the form of unusual, and very 'rabid appearing attacks', or so the great man or woman thinks, because to them, the only reason for such vicious attacks could be jealousy, hatred or some form of external stimuli; not for a moment does he or she think that these TV talks, documentaries or foreign data, are

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anything but fictitious, because he has closed his mind to everything but his or her venerated coterie, big or small that surrounds them.

This happened to Rahul's father, Rajiv, who, surrounded by 'yes' men, did not see the real India, which the son through his padayatra is now seeing. And his father, who came to power with a two-third majority gambled it away and lost the next election. Warning bells are ringing today as according to today's Indian Express newspaper, 'US research firm, Hindenburg, alleges stock manipulation in billionaire Adani's group'!

It is important that one heeds these checks and balances, which come very often from distant shores, because those in the same country, as was seen in Sri Lanka, are afraid to voice their opinions. Data, showing corruption rising, statistics mentioning poverty growing, TV documentaries asking about atrocities committed, should not be disregarded or banned, but should be addressed. And when addressed, comes to birth a true leader.

That true leader knows that to truly show leadership he now has to win over those who have been hurt, quite often by his previous march to victory.

But to be remembered as a leader and statesman he has to remove his self-blinding 'adulation filled' blinkers!

There's no other way. These checks and balances have to be heeded, have to be handled, hands on. And that handling or not handling, showcases a real leader!

Heed the checks and balances don't ban them sir..!

bobsbanter@gmail.com

Andaman and Nicobar Command Celebrates Republic Day

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The parade witnessed unfurling of the National Flag by the Chief Guest. Each parade contingent was represented by one officer, one Junior Commissioned Officer and fifteen other Ranks. Joint Band of Indian

Army and Indian Navy were in attendance during the parade along with buglers. The pride and josh of all participating contingents reflected a high level of integration and discipline.

The day concluded with a spectacular illumination of

ships of Indian Navy, Coast Guard, DSS and Marine Police at anchorage off Marina Flag Post. The ships were 'Dressed Overall' during the day and fired colourful flares and switched on contour illumination lights at sunset.

13 School Students from A&N Participate in 11th National School Chess Championship

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More than 1500 players from various schools across India are participating in the prestigious event in which 13 players from different schools of Andaman & Nicobar Islands are enthusiastically participating in different age groups viz. R Kashthuri Bhai of GDMS Port Blair in under

17 Girls, Chittiboina Mageswari of GMSSS Port Blair in under 13 Girls, Krishnapriya Rajesh of Sagritara School in under 09 Girls and D Charvi of VKV Lamblane Port Blair in Under 07 Girls.

Similarly in boys section, A Chirag Kumar of Naval Children School in under 15

Open, P Midhun Vettaiyar, Galav Shah of Carmel Sr. Sec. School Port Blair and R Tejass of Sagritara School in Under 13 Open, J S Virat, M Tanish of VKV Lambaline & A Sharad of Sagritara School in Under 11 Open, Pranjal Sana of KV 1 in under 9 and P Joshi of St. Marys' School Mohanpura in under 07 are participating.

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All Party Meeting Organised by Director Panchayat & Municipal Elections

Port Blair, Jan 27: It is brought to the notice of all concerned that in pursuance of Notification No. 5-2/EC/A&N/2022 dated 27.01.2023 issued by Election Commission (UTs) and the same was published in the Daily Telegram and Official Gazette of Andaman & Nicobar Administration. The Director of Panchayats and Municipal Elections called for a meeting with all the political parties of A&N Islands on 27.01.2023 at 11.00 AM in the Conference hall of the District Office, South Andaman. The Director of Panchayat and Municipal Elections discussed about the Model Code of Conduct by all the political parties during the ensuing Bye-election for which polling date has been declared



on 27.02.2023 (Monday) to fill up vacant posts of Gram Panchayat Ward Members of Constituencies Hutbay-11 of Gram Panchayat Hutbay under Little Andaman Tehsil, Diglipur-3 of Gram Panchayat Diglipur under

Diglipur Tehsil and Karmatang-3 of Gram Panchayat Rampur under Mayabunder Tehsil respectively.

NPC Residential Training Program on "Performance & Financial Management for Organizational Excellence"

Port Blair, Jan 27: Performance Management is a process by which managers and employees work together to plan, monitor and review an employee's work objectives and overall contribution to the organization. More than just an annual performance review, performance management is the continuous process of setting objectives, assessing progress and providing on-going coaching and feedback to ensure that employees are meeting their objectives and career goals. Many Organizations have failed due to poor Financial Management. Good Financial Management is, therefore, essential for an organization to succeed. Financial Management training combines proven-by-practice methods with new insights and ideas that will help to set a successful financial strategy and create financial value in the organization.

Performance Measurement, together with effective Financial Management enhances the organizational management practices and performance. The training programme would help

to equip participants with skills, knowledge and attitude necessary for effective and systematic together, in management and organizational excellence helps ensure that resources are well managed and judiciously used.

In an effort to upgrade the skills of various officials from Central & State Government Departments, Academic Institutions, PSUs, etc., National Productivity Council (NPC) a national level organization under Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India organizing various Residential Training Programs in different locations throughout the Country. Economic Services Group of NPC will be conducting one such Residential Training Program on "Performance & Financial Management for Organizational Excellence" scheduled from Jan.30-Feb.03, 2023 at Port Blair, A&N Islands. There will be around 13 participants from

different Ministries, Corporations and various other Centre and State Departments.

Shri Rajesh Sund, Director (Economic Services), NPC, who is coordinator of the program and also faculty for Financial Management has specified that this Training Program has been conceptualized with the objective that participants will get insight into Performance Management in relation to Strategic, Organizational & Administrative Context and Developing of Balance Score Card. Apart from this, there will be sessions on Decision Making regarding estimating investments, leading and directing teams. Participants will also be enable the use of qualitative and quantitative tools and measures to distinguish the key financial risks, valuation techniques and tools for learning & developing unique strategies, implement correctly and set financial targets.

AATO Celebrates Republic Day at Corbyn's Cove beach

Port Blair, Jan 27: Andaman Association of Tour Operators celebrated India's 74th Republic Day in a befitting manner at Corbyn's Cove beach.

President of AATO Shri. M. Vinod unfurled the National Flag followed by the National Anthem. A large number of Water Sports Operators, local

residents and duty staff deployed at the beach took part in the ceremony. AATO members distributed sweets to all those present. Speaking on the occasion Shri.M.Vinod congratulated all islanders and tourists on India's 74th Republic Day.



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Health, Science /Tech

Forget Your Charging Woes: Here are the Best GaN Chargers you Can Buy

January 27: With the ever-increasing power needs and the number of gadgets that people have on them at any given time, standard chargers do not fit the bill anymore, especially when you travel a lot. Using multiple chargers together can be cumbersome as well – picture your bedside table absolutely crowded with chargers for your various devices. It's not a pleasant sight at all. Fixing these troubles are multi-port GaN chargers. These bricks not just bundle all your chargers into a single unit, but are also quite powerful despite their miniature sizes, helping juice up your devices to the brim in no time. Today, we take a look at what GaN chargers exactly are and some of the best ones you can buy.

GaN stands for Gallium Nitride, and chargers that make use of this semiconductor are three times as efficient as standard silicon-based chargers. They're also much more portable and better at handling heat, allowing them to support much higher wattages while maintaining a small size. While GaN chargers are pricier than their silicon counterparts, the benefits make them worth getting. If you're looking to buy a GaN charger to fast charge your phone, then keep in mind that while plenty of devices do support the PD (Power Delivery) standard, not all of them charge at their maximum supported speeds. For that, you'd have to use the stock charging brick.

This Belkin brick makes for a perfect first GaN charger. It can charge two compatible devices at the same time with its dual USB-C ports. It lets you access up to 65W using a single USB-C port or 45W + 20W when using both. In-built PPS technology ensures that your devices only get the amount of power that they can handle. Belkin claims that with USB-C PD 3.0 enabled, charging an iPhone 13 to 50% takes just 28 minutes and a Samsung Galaxy S21+ takes 27 minutes to charge up to 50% from 0%. But perhaps the best part is the 2-year warranty for the charger and a Connected Equipment warranty worth Rs. 1,50,000. You can purchase the Belkin 65W GaN dual USB-C PD charger from Amazon for Rs 3,999.

If the Belkin is too low-key for your affairs, then the Zeus with its four ports and whopping 270W output should suffice. The company claims the charger is the "world's smallest" among its kind. Weight stands at 320g. It comes with a 140W USB-C Power Delivery 3.0 PPS port, two 100W USB-C Power Delivery 3.0 PPS ports, and a 22.5W USB-A port. These, the company claims, can power 3 laptops simultaneously. The product is still in its fundraising stage on Indiegogo but you can order it right now for Rs 10,479 through the same site. Deliveries are expected to be from May 2023 onwards.

74th Republic Day celebrated with Gaiety & Patriotic Fervour in Isles

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grand Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Memorial at NSCB Dweep.” With the naming of these 21 Islands after Param Vir Chakra Awardees, the resolve of “India First” and “Nation first” has now been immortalized forever in the name of these Islands.

Emphasizing on the immense potential and opportunities in Andamans, Lt Governor mentioned that Hon’ble Prime Minister had said that just as these Islands had given a new direction to the freedom struggle in the past, in the future, they would also give a new impetus to the country’s development. Andaman is such a land where there is a wonderful confluence of water, nature, environment, effort, bravery, tradition, tourism, enlightenment, heritage, culture and inspiration. The Lt Governor said, under the guidance of Hon’ble Prime Minister and through the Island Development Agency (IDA), this strategically important group of Islands has progressed rapidly in the last 5 years towards becoming a Global Growth Destination.

The Lt Governor mentioned that the Islands have made significant progress last year. The Lt Governor informed that A&N Islands was declared as the first ‘Swachh Sujal Pradesh’ of the country, which is a matter of great pride for all of us, he said, adding that with the active cooperation of public participation and PRI members, A&N Islands got the first prize in the category of small States/Union Territories in the ‘Swachh Survekshan Grameen -2022’ while South Andaman District was awarded as the First Ranked District in the Union Territory category. For these achievements, the Lt Governor congratulated the Islanders.

Highlighting the projects completed under IDA, the Lt Governor stated that despite the geographical distance of the Islands from the mainland, logistical challenges and constraints such as COVID, 14 out of 44 (32 per cent) IDA projects have been completed. The CANI Submarine OFC project with an investment of approximately Rs.1300 crore is proving to be a game changer for IT related activities. Projects like ‘Azad Hind Fauj Setu’ on Humphry Strait with an investment of Rs 200 crore and 20 MW Solar Power Projects in the direction of sustainable green energy with an investment of approximately Rs. 140 crore have further propelled the pace of development.

Mentioning about the ongoing IDA projects, the Lt Governor said that 26 projects (approx. 60 per cent) are headed towards early completion and will add new dimensions to the progress of the Islands. Among these, the work of 50 MW LNG Power Plant with an investment of Rs 1650 crore and Floating Solar Panels on Kalpong river in Diglipur with an investment of Rs 27 crore are in progress. These projects are important in line with sustainable development through clean and green energy. The Lt Governor stated that 85% work of the new airport terminal at Port Blair has been completed and is progressing towards early completion. In Shibpur’s INS Kohassa, with an investment of more than Rs. 200 crores, the development of passenger terminal and other basic facilities for civil operations, as well as the work of runway extension is in progress, so that all types of aircraft can operate from Shibpur.

Informing about several ambitious projects under IDA which are awaiting clearances, the Lt Governor said, the preliminary costing for various projects has been done and the process for obtaining Clearances, Consultancy Reports, DPR (Detailed Project Reports), EIA etc. are at various stages of completion.

Under the direction of Honorable Prime Minister, the Lt Governor informed that approval for investment of about Rs. 72,600 crore for the ambitious Great Nicobar Project has been accorded. This investment will pave the way for execution of many visionary projects in Great Nicobar such as International Container Transshipment Terminal, Greenfield International Airport, Power Plant and Township which will make A&N Islands as an ‘Economic Hub’ in the progress of the nation. Taking the development steps forward, it has been decided that ‘Expression of Interest’ for the ICTT Phase-1 in Great Nicobar Island with an investment of about Rs 18,000 crore will be floated this month itself. Along with establishing India’s supremacy in the Indo-Pacific region, this project will prove to be a milestone for the nation’s economic and social progress, the Lt Governor remarked.

The Lt Governor informed that the proposal for expansion and modernization of helicopter fleet is in the stage of approval. Under Regional Connectivity Scheme (UDAN scheme), he said, the routes

for operating Sea Plane service between Port Blair, Swaraj Dweep, Shaheed Dweep and Long Island have been identified. To start this service, the Ministry of Civil Aviation has given Letter of Award to the selected Airline Operator through bids. For the construction of Water Aerodromes, the work for obtaining Environment and CRZ Clearance is going on.

Speaking about the intangibles projects under IDA, the Lt Governor said, there are many projects which come under the category of Policy Decisions and whose intangible benefits will have a multifarious effect on the economy and prove to be the benchmark for the all-round development of the Islands in the days to come. The initiatives include lifting of Restricted Area Permit for 30 Islands, provision for Visa-on-Arrival/e-visa facility which have proved beneficial for boosting tourism. Furthermore, to encourage developmental activities in small Islands, the ‘No Development Zone’ has been reduced from 50 meters to 20 metres. Similarly, to increase exports of Fisheries and Marine Products, the Island Administration is taking initiative to establish trade link with South-East Asian countries.

Under non IDA Projects, the Lt Governor stated that in the last 5 years, many projects of infrastructure, connectivity, tourism, hospitality and development have been implemented independently by the Administration which are either completed or in various stages of completion. Under this, to improve Inter-Island connectivity, Sindhu and M.V. Nalanda have been included in the shipping fleet with an investment of Rs. 475 crores. Apart from this, in the financial year 2022-23, works and projects worth about Rs. 460 crores approximately have also been approved by the Administration and are in different stages of progress. The Lt Governor said, an investment amounting to approximately Rs. 90,000 crore has been ensured by IDA and Administration for various infrastructure, development, tourism, hospitality and connectivity projects, which are either completed or in various stages of completion. Such huge investment in the development of the Islands is not only unprecedented but also historic.

The Lt Governor remarked that it is also heartening to note that recently, three Police personnel of A&N Police have been awarded ‘Police Medals for Meritorious

Service’ and two other Officers were also conferred ‘Prestigious Union Home Minister’s Medal for Excellence in Police Training’.

The Lt Governor extended his best wishes to the Marching Contingents, school children and other participants of the cultural programme. He also congratulated all the award winners and hoped that their commitment towards social service will become stronger and stronger. The Lt Governor also expressed his gratitude to the Honorable Member of Parliament, PRI members, elected representatives of various parties and all those who extended their cooperation to the Administration. He also expressed his gratitude to the Andaman and Nicobar Command under the leadership of CINCAN, who have always cooperated with

the Civil Administration whenever needed. The Lt Governor also appreciated the tireless efforts being made by the Administration under the leadership of the Chief Secretary.

“On behalf of the entire Islanders, I express my heartfelt gratitude to the Honorable Prime Minister, under whose visionary leadership, our Islands is ready to play the role of an important, powerful engine of growth and economic driver in the nation’s progress”, he said. Concluding his address, the Lt Governor assured that he and his Administration is fully committed for the all-round development of the Islands in realizing the dream of #NewIndia, making the country a 5 Trillion Plus Economy and achieving a leading position in the category of developed countries in which #NewAndamans could play its role effectively.

North & Middle Andaman District Police Observed Police Raising Week

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As a mark of observation, Essay/Drawing competition were organised at school and Nukkad Natak were also organized on the topic POCSO, Cyber Crime, Drug Abuse and Domestic Violence for awareness of school students. During the

occasion fruit bearing saplings were planted by all Police Stations. Further, various awareness programmes/bike rally were also organized by the Police Stations displaying banners to sensitize the local youths about Drug Abuse, Traffic rules and regulations, ATM fraud and Cybercrime etc.

ANTCC Launches ‘Haath Se Haath Jodo Abhiyan’ in South Andaman

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issues such as increasing crimes against women and attempts to save the culprits, the ever increasing prices, rising unemployment, the recruitment scams in different departments, the backdoor appointments in the Islands and the poor economy of the country was discussed in the campaign.

The ANTCC President exhorted the party cadre to take the message of Rahul Gandhi’s Bharat Jodo Yatra to every household in every village and city through the ‘Haath Se Haath Jodo Abhiyan’. He said that the party cadre, through ‘Haath Se Haath Jodo Abhiyan’, would reach every household to explain the contribution of the Congress party in nation building besides exposing the failures of BJP.

Halder further said that hundreds of youth, especially from the City of Port Blair, have announced their

support for the campaign. We are planning to reach every household during the two-month-long campaign. This will help us not only connect the people with the Congress party but also in getting a broader knowledge of the problem being faced by the people in each area. Based on the inputs received during the ‘Haath Se Haath Jodo Abhiyan’ we will formulate a strategy to strengthen ourselves in Islands in the future.”

The entire programme was organized by the Youth Congress Ex-Secretary Mr. Sadab Riaz and saw presence of leaders like City Congress President Shri. Mohd. Zubair City Congress General-Secretary Raj Reddy, NSUI State President Mr. M. A Sajid, Zilla Parishad Members, Ms. Mariyam Bibi, Shri A.U.T. Ummer, Smti. Rajni, Pramukh-Ferrargunj Tehsil Smt. Padmavati and other Party Workers Present.

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CITU Demands Bonus for All Daily Rated Mazdoors of APWD

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approval for grant of adhoc bonus to those DRMs who have been benefitted with 1/30th of pay plus DA in terms of OM No. 289 dated 22.09.2017 against the existing vacancies of WC Beldar and Khallasi of APWD.

Shri Kalairajan has pointed that there is no mention about the grant of adhoc bonus only to 1/30th of pay plus category daily rated workers, in the orders issued by the Govt. of India till October, 2022. Restricting the benefit of bonus only to a section of workers is against the order of the Govt. of India on the subject of grant of Non-PLB (Adhoc bonus). Shri Kalairajan further drew the attention of the Chief Engineer to the settlement judgement of the Hon'ble Lok Adalat and High Court on this issue in which no distinction was drawn between the 1/30th category employees and others. The case is still pending in the Hon'ble High Court.

ASNVMS has also drew the attention of the Chief Engineer to the judgement dated 19th December, 2022 in MA 09 of 2020 (Lt Governor & others-vs- ASNVMS & Others) of the Division Bench of Hon'ble High Court at Calcutta, sitting Circuit at Port Blair. The Hon'ble High Court has ordered that all the daily rated mazdoors working under the A & N Administration are eligible for the 1/30th of pay plus DA benefits with effect from 22nd September, 2017. Shri Kalairajan said that since there is no stay on the said judgement of the Division Bench, the Administration has to implement the directions contained in the said judgement. In this way, all the DRMs working in the APWD are eligible for bonus.

Shri Kalairajan further told the Chief Engineer that the CITU-affiliated ASNVMS has been taking up the issue of grant of adhoc bonus to all the Daily Rated Mazdoors working in APWD since 2015 but the APWD has always been opposing it without any reason. He referred to the latest

agitation conducted by the ASNVMS the 3-day mass demonstration in front of APWD Headquarters from 19th to 21st October, 2022. The agitation was called off on an assurance given by the Commissioner-cum-Secretary (PWD) that all the DRMs working in APWD will be granted Adhoc bonus.

Shri Kalairajan urged the Chief Engineer, APWD to take up the matter with the A & N Administration to re-consider the decision to grant the adhoc bonus only to a section of DRMs, leaving behind others as there is no specific direction in the Govt. of India's orders issued during 2018, 2019 and 2022 and also on the basis of the judgement dated 19th December, 2022 of the Division Bench of Hon'ble High Court. He further urged the Chief Engineer to pursue the matter with the A & N Administration to extend the benefit of adhoc bonus to all DRMs working in the APWD as has been done in various other departments under the Administration including Secretariat.

ANTCC Celebrates 74th Republic Day of India

Port Blair, Jan 27: Along with the entire Nation, the Andaman Nicobar Territorial Congress Committee celebrated the 74th Republic Day 26th January 2023 at Gandhi Bhavan, Port Blair in a befitting manner.

PCC President, Shri. Rangalal Halder unfurled the National Tricolor at 7:45 AM followed by National Anthem by all the office bearers of Pradesh Congress Committee, District Congress, Block Congress, City Congress and Frontal Organizations viz. Youth Congress, Mahila Congress, Seva Dal, NSUI, INTUC, PRI members, All cells and general public.

The Freedom Fighters were especially remembered on the occasion for their incomparable courage and contributions towards



building a Democratic Nation.

Halder said that on this day in the year 1950 the Indian Constitution came into force which made India a sovereign, socialist, secular, democratic

republic with a parliamentary system of government. He expressed the need for every islander to imbibe the spirit enshrined in the preamble of Indian Constitution and to work for development of these islands, maintaining social harmony, peace and tranquillity.

He further said that the Indian constitution is unique, which takes care and respects the aspirations of every caste, religion and guarantees for equal rights.

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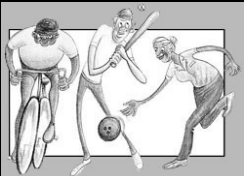
IGNOU Launches MA. Environmental Studies Programme

Port Blair, Jan 27: IGNOU has launched MA. Environmental studies programme from January 2023 session. This programme aims to generate awareness on a wide variety of environmental concerns. In line with NEP-2022, the programme will be offered with modular approach. The learners after completing the first year course of study will be eligible to receive Post Graduate Diploma in Environmental Studies. The

programme will have lateral entry & exit. After completing the programme, learners will be able to play decisive roles in addressing the environmental and sustainability concerns in India and across the world.

For more details, please refer to the IGNOU Common prospectus. The admission link is <http://ignouadmission.samarth.edu.in> or contact IGNOU, Regional Centre, Port Blair over Phone: 03192-242888 or 03192-230111 or Email to rcportblair@ignou.ac.in.

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



SPORTS

IND vs NZ 1st T20I: Captain's Choice- Shubman Gill

January 27: 'No', came the swift response on the mention of Prithvi Shaw getting a start in the eleven on his return to the India squad for the three-match T20I series against New Zealand, that starts in Ranchi on Friday.

India's T20 captain Hardik Pandya was clear about who would open for his side. Shubman Gill, in sublime, has a clear headway over Shaw, who last featured for his country 17 months ago. "Shubman (Gill) has done well. He'll start. It isn't even about giving him an opportunity as he has been batting well and was already in the team before," he asserted.

Gill displayed otherworldly form with the bat as he scored 360 runs in the recently concluded ODI series against the Black Caps. A record joint-highest figure he shares with Pakistan captain Babar Azam. After nine innings so far across formats in 2023, Gill leads the run scoring tally in international cricket with 625, including a fifty, two centuries and a double hundred.

He, though, has not set the shortest format fire for his country. In three T20Is, all against Sri Lanka in the recent

series, he has only managed 58 runs. But he was in red-hot form in the IPL, peeling off 483 runs at a strike rate of 132.32 and wrapping up the title for Gujarat Titans with a six.

Shaw, who captained Gill during India's 2018 U19 World Cup triumph, has been in red-hot form across formats this domestic season for Mumbai, which paved his way back into the national side. In the ongoing Ranji Trophy season, Shaw registered a second highest score in the tournament's history (379). Also 23, the opener was Mumbai's highest run-scorer in the 2022 Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy triumph, striking at 181.42. At IPL 2022, Shaw scored 193 Powerplay runs in the nine innings this season, at 9.57 runs an over, a rate brisker than any of his Indian counterparts. He, though, could only manage 283 runs in 10 outings. He last played for India during the 2021 tour of Sri Lanka and has only made one T20I outing for the men in blue despite his reputation as a quickfire run scorer.

With senior players including Rohit Sharma and KL Rahul hinted to have been out of the T20 schemes and Ruturaj Gaikwad ruled out of the series owing to a



wrist injury, Shaw may yet get to feature in the format.

Even though southpaw Ishan Kishan starts the series as a first-choice opener alongside Gill, Hardik indicated that he does not buy too much into the left-right combination theory. "It doesn't matter whether it is left-right or right-right," he said. "The best players will get to play no matter if they are left or right handed."

On stepping up as India's new ball bowler Hardik said: "I have always enjoyed bowling with the new ball. For quite a number of years whenever I bowl in the nets, I pick the new ball. I am used to the old ball so I don't feel the need to practice with the old ball as much. It has helped in match situations."

"With our two main bowlers rested in the last game, I had to be ready. But (it) has never been about pressure, half of the time pressure is gone if you prepare well," he added.

India vs New Zealand, 1st T20I tip-off XI: Will Spin Twins Reunite? Fiery Umran Malik to Get a Game

January 27: India vs New Zealand, 1st T20I Predicted XI: India are set to take on New Zealand in a three-match series beginning on Friday at the Jharkhand State Cricket Association Stadium in Ranchi.

Hardik Pandya, who led the men in blue to a 2-1 series win over Sri Lanka earlier this month, is back leading the T20 side with some regulars and fringe players in the squad.

The likes of Shubman Gill, Suryakumar Yadav, Ishan Kishan and Kuldeep Yadav will get an extended run before they assemble for Test series camp at Nagpur from February 2.

The Jharkhand State Cricket Association Stadium in Ranchi has hosted three T20 games so far and teams bowling first have won two of them.

Mumbai opener Prithvi Shaw returns to the side but Pandya won't be tempted to fiddle his set opening combination of Gill and wicketkeeper batter Ishan Kishan. Pandya was clear about who would open for his side. Shubman Gill, in sublime, has a clear headway over Shaw, who last featured for his country 17 months ago. "Shubman (Gill) has done well. He'll start. It isn't even about giving him an opportunity as he has been batting well and was already in the team before," he asserted.

In the last ODI, India had got a chance to witness 'Kul-Cha' in action after a long time but come the T20s, India may have to fret over the inclusion of either Kuldeep Yadav or Yuzvendra Chahal. Chahal has been the preferred option in the format and in the absence of Axar Patel

it remains to be seen if the leg-spinner is persisted. Left-arm pacer Arshdeep Singh, who had a series to forget against Sri Lanka would look to come up with a tidy show. Shivam Mavi and Umran Malik are likely to be the other options in pace. With the Arshdeep bowling medium pace and generating swing, Malik's inclusion adds a different dimension to the bowling as he regularly bowls around the 150 kmph mark. India vs New Zealand, 1st T20I Weather Report: The weather in Ranchi is clear with no possibility of rain and hence we should have a full game

India vs New Zealand, 1st T20I Pitch Report: The Ranchi surface has generally been helpful for spinners but with the dew factor coming into play, team winning the toss may bowl first.

India vs New Zealand, 1st T20I Predicted XI:

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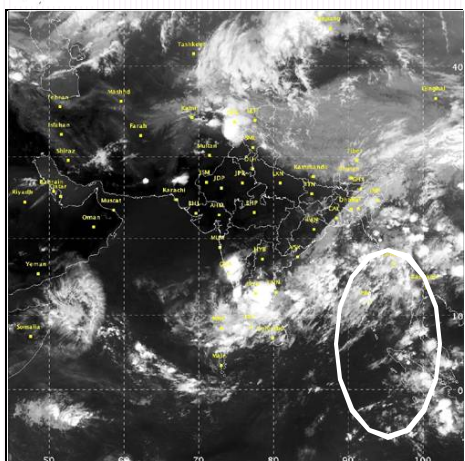
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Fire Service:	101
Ambulance:	102
DC Control Room:	1070
Shipping:	245555
Postal :	232346, 232890
Children:	1098
Women:	244701
Coast Guard for	1554
Search & Rescue (SAR)	
Coast Guard RHQ:	232681
Coastal Security	1093
State Control Room:	1077, 238880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

Emergency Operation Centres (EOCs)

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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: 30.6 °C	Min.: 23.4 °C
Relative Humidity: 0830 Hrs: 73%	1730 Hrs: 67%
Sunrise: 0544 Hrs.	Sunset: 1720 Hrs.
Rainfall upto 0830 Hrs (Last 24 Hrs.):	000.0 mm
Rainfall upto 1730 Hrs (Last 24 Hrs.):	000.0 mm
Total Rainfall (From Jan 1, 2023 till date):	003.5 mm

Forecast

Partially Cloudy sky and Thunder/ lightning is likely over Port Blair. Maximum and Minimum temperature will be around 31°C and 24°C respectively on Saturday 28/01/2023.

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