

ANDAMAN SHEEKHA

True Mirror of Andaman and Nicobar Islands

VOL: 15 | ISSUE NO: 10 | REG NO: ANDENG/2011/38184 | 12.01.2023 | THURSDAY | RS.2.00 | DAILY | PORT BLAIR | WWW.ANDAMANSHEEKHA.COM

Old Glory of Republic Day Parade to Return this Year

Vikramaditya
Sheekha News Service

Port Blair, Jan 11: Long back the state function of Republic Day, including, Republic Day parade used to be
(See page 2)



South Andaman Police arrests Habitual Burglar and Hands Over Recovered Jewellery Articles worth around Rs 11 Lakhs to Its Owners



Port Blair, Jan 11: On 12/09/ No. 80/2022 U/s 457/380 Bambooflat against unknown 2022 a burglary case vide FIR IPC was registered at PS
(See page 6)

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Protest by Public against poor Health Care System of Andaman and Nicobar Islands



Vikramaditya
Sheekha News Service

Port Blair, Jan 11: Today at around 1400 hrs nearly 250 people of South Andaman

(See page 6)

Media team meet Chief Secretary Secretary (IP&T) directed to resolve two issues concerning media within 5-6 days

Port Blair, Jan 11: The Chief Secretary, A&N Islands, Mr. Keshav Chandra on Wednesday said that media is part of the administrative setup and various departments of the administration should work in tandem with the media for proper dissemination of various developmental activities carried out by the different departments working under UT administration.

He said this while interacting with a media team at his chamber today. The



media team comprising of Mr. K Ganeshan, President DNA & Chief Editor, The Andaman Express and Mr. Vijay Kumar Roy, Editor-in-Chief, The

Echo of India met Mr. Keshav Chandra and apprised him about issues concerning the local media here. (See page 6)

South Andaman Police Confiscates 158 Pieces of Padauk worth Rs 3 Lakh

Port Blair, Jan 11: Bambooflat police busted an illegal timber smuggling racket and detained two persons engaged in the illegal smuggling. On 10/01/2023, an information was received that one person namely Hussain R/o Azad Nagar is gathering large amounts of illegal padauk timber. Upon this, a raiding team composed of SI Tejeshwar Rao, HCs R.K. Rathore, Ashok Roy, Sanjit Surin and PC Molina were constituted by the SHO Bambooflat K. Abdul Nasir. The team acted

swiftly and conducted raids in the premises of Hussain, R/o Azad Nagar, Stwertgunj. During the search, 158 pieces of Padauk (worth Rs. 3 Lakh) which were being smuggled illegally were recovered. Subsequently, M. Hussain, S/o Late M Ummer, 42 yrs, R/o Azad Nagar and Ismail Mondal, S/o Musharaf Hussain, 38 yrs, R/o Model Village were detained U/s 52 of Indian Forest Act 1927 and the illegal timber were seized. Later on, the detained persons along with timber were

handed over to Range Officer, Mannarghat Range after observing all codal formalities for further necessary action.

The entire operation was conducted under the supervision of SDPO Bambooflat Mr. Arshdeep Singh Panwar, DANIPS. The general public is requested to share information pertaining to any crime or other illegal activities to police at 112, 03192-232100 & 03192-233077. The identity of the informant will be kept secret.

(From page 1)

Old Glory...

organised on the road leading to Dharamshala from Girls' School Junction. The Parade, used to start from the JNRM area, used to end at Fire Service Headquarter. The Parade used to pass through Aberdeen Bazaar, giving a large number of public to witness the Republic Day Parade.

Nearly two decades back the venue was shifted inside Netaji Stadium, restrict-

ing the mega event in a very confined area.

Thanks to the visit of VVIP for whom mega structures are being built inside Netaji Stadium, this year the Republic Day Parade will probably be organized on the road leading to Dharamshala from Girls' School Junction, which will certainly bring back old glory of Andaman's Republic Day Parade.

Presently authorities

are busy in constructing two sheds for Senior Officers and VIPs and the podium from where the Lt. Governor of ANI will probably take salute from the marching contingents and address our Islands on Republic Day.

Although officials are avoiding to comment officially on this issue, this move will be a welcome change for the grand Republic Day Celebration.

GREETINGS

My greetings to all the youths of Andaman and Nicobar Islands on the occasion of National Youth Day.

As we all know National Youth Day (NYD) is held every year on 12th January to observe the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda, it is a day of great inspiration for every Indian youth.

Even today everyone considers Swami Vivekananda as a true Global Youth Icon. His emphasis on building a New India has been a source of inspiration for our youths. This is the reason why millions of people are still following the teachings of Swami Vivekananda in every sector of life.

Through his teachings, he wanted to imbibe the young minds with the power to recognize internal strengths and have an optimistic outlook on life.

Once again, on National Youth Day, I urge all youths of Andaman and Nicobar Islands to devote themselves for the development of our Islands and also for building a strong nation. I also urge all youths to take good care of their own health and help needy and poor people whenever they get an opportunity.

On this day I also urge all youths to stay away from drugs and other social evils and contribute their time in teaching unprivileged people following the motive of each one teach one, which will not only increase the overall literacy rate of these islands but also will enlighten our own society with knowledge and wisdom.

Kuldeep Rai Sharma,
Member of Parliament,
Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

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DIET in collaboration with Humane Touch conducts an Awareness Program on Social Issues for DIET Trainees

Port Blair, Jan 11: A one day workshop on awareness program on Social Issues was organized by DIET along with Humane Touch for the trainees of DIET at DIET auditorium on 10th January 2023 at 9:00 AM.

Dr. Mitesh Behari, a well-known Psychiatrist of the Island was the chief guest on this (See page 4)



Empowerment of Women through Self Employment Program Organized at Sippighat Community Hall

Port Blair, Jan 11: Unnati with the support of NABARD and in association with Sippighat Gram Panchayat organized an awareness programme on 10-01-2023 at Sippighat Community Hall for empowerment of women through self employment programme by making them self reliant women groups i.e. Self Help (See page 4)



Arrival of MV Sindhu

Port Blair, Jan 11: Director of shipping service is informing, the Vessel Sindhu sailed from Chennai is expected to arrive at Port Blair on 13.01.2023 at 0600 Hrs.

She has on board: - Total passenger: 189 adults + 01 infant

Total cargo: Nil

On arrival the vessel will be berthed at Haddo Wharf and Passengers will be disembarked immediately.

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Indo-Canadian in country's top 25 most wanted arrested

Canadian law enforcement has arrested an Indo-Canadian, considered among the country's top 25 most wanted fugitives, the Surrey detachment of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) said in a statement on Tuesday.

Amarjit Singh Rai was arrested from a residence in the town in the Metro Vancouver region of the province of British Columbia. He was wanted in relation to 17 charges stemming from an investigation that began in August 2019.

The Surrey RCMP said that through investigation, they were able to confirm he was inside a residence and "was taken into police custody without incident".

He was transported to Surrey RCMP cells and will remain in custody awaiting his next court appearance.

Rai had earlier been arrested in April 2021 by Surrey RCMP Strike Force Target Team (SFTT)



for an outstanding warrant pertaining to the August 2019 investigation. He was released by the courts on May 7, 2021 with conditions.

A release in January last year stated that it was "alleged that Amardip Singh Rai failed to appear for a subsequent court date and therefore a warrant was issued for his arrest".

He faced multiple charges including those related to sexual assault, confining a person without lawful authority, two counts of assault with a weapon, three counts of possession of a controlled substance and nine firearms charges.

While seeking the public's assistance in locating him, Rai was described as a 42-year-old male, 5'11, slim built with brown eyes, black hair and often sporting facial hair. He has several tattoos including that of a tiger on his chest. However, members of the public were also cautioned not to approach him and to call police immediately.

Rai was featured on the Canada-wide Bolo Program's Top 25 Wanted across the country. The programme launches amplification campaigns to seek the public's cooperation in finding fugitives.

Situation in annexed regions in Ukraine "difficult": Russian president Putin

Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Wednesday that the situation in the areas of Ukraine that Russia says

it has annexed was "difficult in places". However, Putin, speaking at a televised meeting with officials, said Russia had all the re-

sources it needed to improve life in the four Ukrainian regions that Moscow unilaterally claimed to have annexed in September.

Empowerment of... (From page 3)

Groups, Self Help Group Union, Self Help Group Federation and Joint Liability Group. At the outset Mrs. Jyothi Pradhan Sippighat Gram Panchayat welcomed the gathering and said awareness is a key to empowerment. She said that she requested Unnati to organize this function for empowering members of Self Help Groups and appealed participants to clarify their doubts through this awareness programme and take part actively in the retrofitting awareness programme to work in a mission mood to make women group self reliant of Panchayat so that may not stay behind in empowering women groups.

Mr. C. Mohammed President Unnati said that in recent days govt. is focusing on the development and empowerment of women through various programmes for the benefits of the women and also to enhance their capacity building and skill up-gradation. He added that same is evident from the speech of Prime Minister in the National Conference of Chief Secretaries on 06-01-2022 in which he specifically urged to give priority on women empowerment and MSME to improve their socio-economic conditions and now women can also avail overdraft facilities under PMJDY and financial assistance under PMEGP for dairy poultry, aquaculture including bee-keeping. He urged the Self Help Group members to avail these opportunity extended

facilities by the government. President Unnati further said that the Rural Development Department recently started formation of Self Help Group Federation in all Gram Panchayats and CRPs are actively engaged in the formation of Federation which would provide women group members to address social and economic issues collectively and also to access and manage external funds and bring cohesiveness among members for facilitating income generating activities. The 3 tier organization structure of Self Help Groups are groups at village level, union at Panchayat level and Federation at Block level and their functions and role were also elaborated besides other women related schemes and flagship programmes of the government. Followed by question and answers. Few participants interested to avail Mudra loan were advised to furnish the details to Pradhan for pursuing the matter with the concerned financial institution. During interaction participants showed interest in undergoing training in coconut and marine based products which they can avail with the help of the Industry Department.

Unnati is thankful to Sippighat Gram Panchayat, CRP and representatives of Self Help Groups for their support, cooperation and active participation.

DIET in collab... (From page 3)

occasion. He spoke on the topic of Social evil and mental health. In his address, he gave more stress on mental health as it is essential and that those living with mental health issues are deserving of care, understanding, compassion, and pathways to hope, healing, recovery, and fulfillment.

Dr. Mohd. Shafique of PHC, Garacharma was the guest of honor on this occasion. Ashwini, Yoga instructor, PHC Garacharma while addressing the students highlighted the importance of yoga in helping to improve mental and physical health in various ways. Yoga strengthens parts of the brain that play a key role in memory, attention, awareness, thought,

and language.

P Mujib Rehman, Executive member, Humane Touch spoke on moral values and ethics. While speaking on this occasion he asked students to bring morality and spirituality in their life which will keep them away from social evils. The members of Humane Touch screened a documentary 'Mind Matters' which highlights the importance of mental health in the Islands. The students also gave their feedback regarding the workshop. Dr. AK Chaurasia welcomed the dignitaries to the one day workshop. Principal, DIET presented the bouquet to all the speakers. The workshop concluded with a vote of thanks by Mr. Govind Raju.

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS

The Executive Engineer, Panchayati Raj Institution, South Andaman Division-I on behalf of Pradhan, Gram Panchayat, Namunaghar invites online item rate tender (in CPWD form-8) from bonafide and experienced contractors of appropriate class of APWD, MES, ALHW & P&T for the below mentioned work.

1. NIT NO. EE/PRI/SAD-I/RR/2022-23/93 **Name of Work:** - Construction of Rural Road from Subal Das Paddy field to Sankar Lal house at Ward No. 05 under Gram Panchayat Namunaghar. **Estimated Cost Rs:** - 12, 62,853/- **Earnest Money Deposit:** - 25,257/- **Time of Completion:** - Six (06) Months, **Tender Fee:** - `500/- & last date & time of submission of bid: - 24/01/2023 (1500 hrs)

The tender forms and other details can be obtained from the website <https://eprocure.andaman.gov.in>.

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Uganda declares end of Ebola outbreak after 42 days with no active cases

Uganda on Wednesday declared the end of a nearly four-month Ebola outbreak that it briefly struggled to contain but was then able to swiftly bring under control despite the absence of a proven vaccine against the viral strain in question. "We have successfully controlled the spread of Ebola in Uganda," Health Minister Jane Ruth Aceng said during a ceremony to mark the outbreak's end.

Aceng said this was Uganda's eighth Ebola outbreak since 2000, when the country recorded its first and most deadly one that killed more than half of the 425 people it infected.

The latest outbreak killed 55 of the 143 people infected since September, according to health ministry figures. Six of the fatalities were health workers.

Wednesday's declaration followed Uganda's completion of 42 days with no active cases, which represents two full incubation periods of the virus.

In the early weeks of the outbreak, cases spread beyond the epicentre of Mubende, 150 km (90 miles) west of the capital Kampala, to several other districts, including Kampala. The director-general of the World

Health Organization (WHO), Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, praised Uganda for its response to the virus.

"Uganda has shown that Ebola can be defeated when the whole system works together, from having an alert system in place, to finding and caring for people affected and their contacts, to gaining the full participation of affected communities in the response," he said in a statement.

Uganda's President Yoweri Museveni said a two-week delay in declaring the outbreak after the first probable death from Ebola meant "the opportunity for immediate quarantine of contacts was lost".

But health officials were able to turn the tide on the disease by November after imposing a lockdown on affected districts. Ebola spreads through contact with the bodily fluids of an infected person and has a fatality rate of about 50%. More than 11,300 people died during the 2013-2016 outbreak in West Africa.

Unlike the more common strain of the virus, Ebola Zaire, which has been behind several recent epidemics in neighbouring Democratic Republic of Congo, the strain behind Uganda's outbreak, Ebola Sudan, has no proven



vaccine.

Even so, experts said Uganda's experience battling previous outbreaks of Ebola and its viral cousin Marburg helped its response.

Uganda's speed in ultimately containing cases, however, meant planned trials of vaccine candidates never got off the ground.

In December, Uganda received three vaccines - one by the University of Oxford and Serum Institute of India, another by the Sabin Vaccine Institute and a third by Merck - for use vaccinating people in contact with confirmed cases. But by that point, there were no new cases. The WHO said experts would meet on Jan. 12 to discuss the next steps for the vaccines. Sabin chief executive Amy Finan said preparing for the trials had nevertheless taught health officials lessons for rolling out a trial in the future, including how to engage with communities. "Hopefully we won't have another outbreak soon, but if we do, we'll be better prepared than ever for it," she told Reuters.

Children are increasingly prescribed antipsychotics: UK study

Strong psychiatric drugs used to control hallucinations and delusions are being prescribed more often for children in the UK, a trend that has experts concerned about safety and appropriateness. The proportion of youngsters being prescribed antipsychotics in England has doubled over the past two decades, raising concerns about the potential long-term effects of such medications, according to University of Manchester researchers who examined prescribing trends at selected general practices in England. While the overall percentage is relatively small, the increasing use of antipsychotics is a cause for concern given that their safety in children and adolescents has not been established, according to the researchers. Haloperidol and chlorpromazine were among



the antipsychotics that were prescribed.

"We do not think the changes in prescribing necessarily relate to changes in clinical need," said Matthias Pierce, senior research fellow at the University of Manchester's Centre for Women's Mental Health and one of the authors of the study. "It may be more likely to reflect changes in prescribing practice by clinicians." Antipsychotic drugs are often used in adults to treat mental illnesses such as schizophrenia, but can be

linked with side effects like sexual dysfunction, infertility and weight gain leading to diabetes.

Among the 7.2 million children and adolescents in the study sample, twice as many boys received antipsychotic prescriptions as girls for almost every year during the 2000-2019 study period. Girls were most likely to have eating disorders, while boys were more likely to have attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder, according to the study published in the Lancet Psychiatry.

Pakistan reports \$9.7 billion in global pledges for flood aid: PM Shahbaz Sharif

Pakistan's prime minister said Wednesday that several countries and some of the world's institutions have pledged \$9.7 billion to help his country rebuild from the summer's catastrophic flood that killed 1,739 people. Premier Shahbaz Sharif said U.N. Secretary-General António Guterres fought for the flood victims "like a Pakistani" during a recent fundraising conference in Geneva.

At a news conference in Islamabad, Sharif pledged transparency when the money is spent, and added that the government would try to prevent a repeat of last summer's deluge. At one point, one-third of the impoverished country was under water, a "doomsday before the doomsday" of Earth's changing climate.

The floods destroyed more than 2 million homes and caused more than \$30 billion in damage. Previously, Pakistan said that it needed \$16.3 billion for reconstruction and that the country would cover al-

most half of that amount. For the rest, the country sought donations. Sharif said the response to Pakistan's appeal in Geneva was beyond his expectation. He said the Saudi government has indicated that it will invest \$10 billion in Pakistan apart from depositing \$2 billion with the country's central bank, a move that experts say would boost Pakistan's fragile economy.

Sharif said he will also travel to the United Arab Emirates on Thursday on a two-day official visit.

However, such U.N. pledging conferences often draw promises of big sums from governments, international organizations and other donors, but the pledges aren't always fulfilled.

Pakistani authorities say thousands of flood victims are still living in open areas.

Pakistan plays a negligible role in global warming and emits less than 1% of heat-trapping carbon dioxide. But like other developing countries, it has been vulnerable to climate-induced damage, experts say.

1,230 flights across US 'delayed' after major system failure: Reports

Hundreds of flights across the United States have been affected after the Federal Aviation Administration or FAA suffered a catastrophic system error sparking travel chaos for thousands of passengers, international media reported. News agency Reuters reported that the US Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) system that alerts pilots and other flight personnel about hazards or any changes to airport facility services and relevant procedures was not processing updated information, adding that the civil aviation regulator's website showed on Wednesday.

In an advisory, the FAA said its NOTAM (Notice to Air Missions) system had "failed". There was no immediate estimate for when it would be back, the website showed, though NOTAMs issued before the outage were still viewable. A total of 1,230 flights were delayed within, into or out of the United States as of 7.19 am ET (1219 GMT), flight tracking website FlightAware showed, without citing reasons. Another 103 within, into or out of the country were also cancelled. The

agency said in a tweet that it was working on restoring its Notice to Air Missions System.

"We are performing final validation checks and reloading the system now," the FAA said. "Operations across the National Airspace System are affected." The FAA is working to restore what is known as the Notice to Air Missions System. What is NOTAM?

NOTAMs used to be available through a hotline but that was phased out with the internet. The alerts span from mundane information about construction at airports to urgent flight restrictions or broken equipment. A NOTAM is a notice containing information essential to personnel concerned with flight operations, but not known far enough in advance to be publicised by other means. Information can go up to 200 pages for long-haul international flights and may include items such as runway closures, general bird hazard warnings, or low-altitude construction obstacles. The agency said that it would provide frequent updates as it made progress.

NBC News citing a source reported that all flights in the US were grounded following the incident.

Protest by...

District gathered near the Directorate of Health, Port Blair and staged a protest against DHS and ANIIMS for alleged mismanagement in Health Services.

The protest was led by Mr. V K Abdul Aziz (Zilla Parishad Member), Mr T Yaghambaram (Pradhan), Mr Angshuman Roy, Mr RakeshwarLall, Mr Sunil Gupta, Miss Seema Kumari, Mr Abdul

Majeed, Mr Hemant Kumar Dhingra, Mr Rajesh Kumar Lall, SmtiMinoti Biswas, Mr Sanjay Kumar. During the protest JNRM Students and many other social workers of these Islands were also present.

The social workers and general public spoke about the problem faced by islanders in the health sector.

Around 1545 hrs, the Director of Health & ANIIMS interacted with the public. Later the Secretary (Health) allowed 11 people to meet and submit their demands/suggestions.

A memorandum signed by a large number of Islanders was later handed over to the Secretary of Health by the delegation. The Dharna was called off at 1800 hrs.

(From page 2)

Media team...

The media team raised two vital issues in front of the Chief Secretary. Firstly reallocation of media room in the Directorate of IP&T to media persons. The media room was allotted to the local media persons during the tenure of former Lt Governor, Mr. IP Gupta.

However, during the Covid-19 pandemic, this room was taken back by IP&T for office use. The second issue was enhancing the subscription of IP&T enlisted newspapers to 50 copies each. Before the outbreak of Covid-

19 pandemic, IP&T used to subscribe 50 copies of local newspapers. But during the pandemic and as part of austerity measures, the subscription of local newspapers by IP&T were restricted to 11 copies each.

After hearing both the issues, the Chief Secretary on the spot directed the Secretary, IP&T to resolve both the issues of the media within 5-6 days. On being asked about his experience and vision for the Islands, the Chief Secretary lauded the peace loving people of the is-

lands, living in perfect peace and harmony.

These Islands represent mini-India in a true sense, Mr. Chandra said. About his vision for the development of the islands, a dynamic Chief Secretary said that he wanted to bring a lot of economic prosperity to the Andaman & Nicobar Islands. In achieving the goal, he sees the enormous potential in the fisheries sector which tapped in the right earnest can bring a lot of development and prosperity for the people of the islands.

(From page 2)

South Andaman...

person on the complaint of Mr. Abdul Aziz, Rtd. Assistant Secretary, R/o Kadakachang for theft of gold ornaments worth Rs. 14 lakhs approximately from his house. Working professionally, on 12/12/2022 accused person T. Papa Rao @ Raja S/o Mr. T. Chander Rao, 34 Yrs, R/o Ferrargunj was arrested and gold ornaments weighing around 172 gms were recovered.

Further, the above accused was also found involved in a Burglary case registered at PS Humfrygunj vide crime No. 81/2022 dated 29/10/2022 U/s 380/454 IPC regarding theft of 03 gold finger rings, 02 pairs gold earrings, 02 pairs of silver anklet, 02 Nos ATM card and Rs. 5000/- cash from the house of Mr. S Arul R/o Sippighat. The accused person was arrested by PS Humfrygunj staff within 24 hours and the stolen articles i.e. 02 gold rings weighing 6.56 grams and 01 pair silver anklet weighing 64.61 grams and cash Rs.582/- were recovered from the house of the accused at Ferrargunj. Later, the accused person was sent to ju-

dicial custody.

Subsequently, the release order for the stolen gold articles was obtained from the court of CJM, Port Blair and on 11/01/2023 the stolen articles were handed over by the Superintendent of Police, South Andaman District, Mr.Kalaivanan R, IPS, S D P O BambooflatMr.Arshdeep Singh Panwar, DANIPS, SHO Bambooflat Insp K. Abdul Nasir & SHO Humfrygunj, SI Gaurav Banerjee to its owners 1) Mr. K. Abdul Aziz, Rtd. Assistant

Secretary, R/o Kadakachang and 2) S Arul S/o Late T. Sondiyago, (60) yrs, DRM in Sippighat Panchayat R/o Sippighat near GMS Sippighat. The owners expressed their gratitude and appreciated the efforts of police in nabbing the accused and recovering the gold.

The general public is requested to share information pertaining to any crime or other illegal activities to police at 112, 03192-232100 & 03192-233077. The identity of the informant will be kept secret.

(From page 1)

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