



# ANDAMAN Chronicle

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The Daily Diary of the Islands



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## Jarawa Facts

The Jarawa move around the forest in groups of 40 or 50 people. They build small temporary huts whilst on the move, and also build large huts where several families live together. They collect honey, roots and berries, hunt pigs and monitor lizards, and catch fish with spears.

## Your Nature Guide

**Plankton:** This is a term used to describe the smelters, free floating plants and animals, which just drift along with the winds and currents. Some plankton have a limited swimming ability and can migrate daily in a vertical direction. Plankton are an important source of food for many sea animals.

There are two types of plankton Phytoplankton, which are microscopic plant plankton, and Zooplankton, which are larger animals plankton. Phytoplankton are amongst the most productive food manufacturers of the seas.

**Bigger Plants:** Amongst the other plants are the Algae that are of different colours-green, red and brown. Some algae are edible (for humans) and a good source of protein. Most make very good fertilizer if spread in the garden or farm. Bigger algae are called seaweeds.

The oceans also have grasses growing in them. Eelgrass is a very common one found in our seas. It is grazed on by dugongs and green sea turtles.

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

## People's Voice

Ek taraf Pradhan Mantri ka logon ke liye Schemes aur ek taraf Banks ka rejection ... Kaise Implement hoga logon ke liye ye saara schemes agar aise chalta raha toh???

- A Citizen



**75% attendance in Parliament should be made compulsory for contesting next elections!**

## Member of Parliament Requests Chief Secretary to Send Technicians to Swaraj Dweep to Repair Ice Plant of ANIIDCO

**Port Blair, Dec. 16:** The lone Member of Parliament of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma has requested the Chief Secretary of A & N Administration to direct ANIIDCO to send some technicians to Swaraj Dweep immediately to repair ANIIDCO's Ice Plant so that fishermen of the Island can get Ice Blocks easily.

In a letter addressed to the Chief Secretary, the Member of Parliament pointed out that Tourism is the main source of income in Swaraj Dweep Island for Islanders and apart from this a large number of people are dependent on fisheries for their livelihood.

He added that as the Ice Plant of ANIIDCO is out of order the Islanders, who are

involved in fishing, are unable to go for deep sea fishing and also are unable to preserve their catch for a long time for selling in the local market. This is causing loss to the local fishermen of Swaraj Dweep Island.

The Member of Parliament mentioned that the repair of the Ice Plant is important so that the fishermen brothers of Swaraj Dweep can carry

outfishing in a professional manner and the huge demand for fish in the local market, is also fulfilled.

He added that availability of fresh fish is not only important for the public but also the Tourism Industry will also be largely benefitted with this.

## Anti-Poaching Team Apprehends 10 Mayanmarese Nationals who Illegally Entered the Indian Territorial Waters

**Port Blair, Dec. 16:** Swiftly acting on information, the joint anti-poaching team comprising of Police, AAJVS and Forest staff apprehended 10 Mayanmarese Nationals who had illegally entered into the Indian territorial waters, along with their boat near Bada Balu, a Jarawa Reserve Area and recovered 500 Kgs of Sea cucumber, fishing materials, boat assemblies, Binocular, Compass, Diving equipments, HSD oil, ration articles from them.

On 14/12/2021 credible information was received by HC Mintu Kumar Dey I/c JPP Tirur No. 4 that few fishermen had sighted Mayanmarese dinghy near Hiren Tikrey. Immediately, a search team comprising of ASI Muthu Kannan, HC/V. Henthoo, PCs Pabitra Sikari, Pabitra Bepari, Davidson, HG/Sukhdev Biswas with arms & ammunition and other assets and 02 staff from AAJVS and 03 Staff from Forest department was constituted

Cont inued on P2

## "Vijay Diwas-2021" Celebration at Military Station Birchgunj



**Port Blair, Dec 16:** "Swarnim Vijay Diwas 2021" was celebrated on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021 to commemorate the splendid victory achieved by India over Pakistan 50 years ago, which saw the emergence of Bangladesh as an independent nation while India rose as a regional power to reckon with. With this decisive victory over a formidable

Cont inued on P5

## ANTCC Celebrates 51<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of Bangladesh Liberation War of 1971



**Port Blair, Dec. 16:** The Andaman & Nicobar Territorial Congress Committee (ANTCC) celebrated the 51<sup>st</sup> anniversary of Bangladesh Liberation War 1971 during a simple yet impressive function held at Gandhi Bhawan here on Thursday. The function was organized under the chairmanship of ANTCC President Shri.

Cont inued on P5

## DNA Delegation Raises Media Related Issues Before DC(SA)

**Port Blair, Dec 16:** A delegation of media persons consisting of Mr. K Ganeshan, President, Daily Newspaper Association (DNA Proposed), Mr. Vijay Kr. Roy, Editor-in-Chief, The Echo of India and Mr. Sanjib Kr. Roy, Andaman Sheekha on Thursday met Mr. Suneel Anchipaka, Deputy Commissioner (SA) and raised various issues concerning the local print media. They apprised the



Deputy Commissioner about the issues and challenges faced by the local print media. Issues such as fast clearance of pending advertisement bills by government

Cont inued on P4

## Central Executive Committee of NGOA Express Concern Over Working of ANI Administration

**Port Blair, Dec. 16:** The Central Executive Committee meeting of the Non-Gazetted Govt. Officers' Association held recently at Port Blair expressed concern over the delay in promotion of AC Cadre employees under A & N Administration. The meeting also discussed various other issues

pertaining to the Education Department like declaration of Summer Vacation for schools, leave related issues and various anomalies in the seniority list published recently without proper updation. It was decided to augment the activities of the Association in coming days.

Cont inued on P3

# ANDAMAN Chronicle

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*Life has no Remote Control. Get up  
and Change it Yourself.*

## Securing the Young

The Pune-based Serum Institute of India (SII) has said that it will be ready with vaccines for children in the next six months. This follows claims earlier this year that it will be ready with the vaccine, Covovax, for adults by October; but, so far, no approval has been forthcoming from the Drugs Controller General of India. Covovax is SII's brand name for Novavax, the recombinant nanoparticle protein-based vaccine developed by the U.S.-based Novavax Inc., and this will be an important vaccine to watch out for because it will roll out from the SII stable, which as of today, has made at least 90% of the 1.3 billion vaccines that have found their way into the arms of Indians. While Covaxin by Bharat Biotech was hurriedly approved by Indian authorities, it has unfortunately not been able to scale up rapidly enough to make a substantial contribution to India's vaccination programme. India has now inoculated 80% of its adults with at least one dose and given that many have already been exposed to the virus, this number, in itself, is a fairly creditable achievement even though it is short of the Government's initial claim of fully inoculating all adults by the year-end.

However, Omicron has complicated matters. Said to be the most infectious of all variants, health experts in several countries are warning of a 'tidal wave' of infections over the year-end as well as in the first quarter of 2022. Because the variant contains several mutations that allow the virus to escape antibodies, the forecast is that several — in spite of being vaccinated — may likely experience breakthrough infections or re-infections. Seen this way, this also bodes harm for children as many have resumed schooling in person and the inevitable congregations make them targets for infections. India is yet to approve vaccines for children and is reportedly deliberating on trial data submitted by Bharat Biotech on tests done on children. The technical committee also has not authorised boosters and the argument ostensibly is that doses must be prioritised for adults who have not yet been inoculated. Several new vaccines, ZycoV-D, Gennova, Sputnik V, Corbevax were to have been available by now as per the Centre's estimates in September and some of them are also testing versions in children but, as the experience with Covaxin shows, it is one thing to test and develop a vaccine and quite another to scale up quickly. The Government must accelerate efforts to coax supply.

## BOB'S BANTER

BY ROBERT CLEMENTS



### Miss Universe Throws a Boulder..!

As Harnaz Sandhu, with self-assurance and assertiveness, strong voice and spirited speech swept the Miss Universe title, she threw a message, not a bouquet of flowers to a waiting, receptive audience, but a boulder into the midst of the startled men of India!

'I am not a wallflower, just a thing of beauty to be a trophy on a mantelpiece!' her voice echoed, even if her speech ne'er mentioned these words, "I am the new Indian woman!" Yes, the new Indian woman!

And as she spoke and the rest of the world cheered to see such conviction and belief, here, some men in high places, and some from home and hearth did not cheer. As her voice rang out loud and clear, husbands and fathers who saw wives and daughters peering onto the TV screen shouted, "Don't look! Don't look! You scared, frightened women are not supposed to speak like this, you women are supposed to be petrified and scared!"

"Scared of what?" ask the women.

"Scared of men of other faiths who prowl around trying to win your innocent hearts!"

"But look at her, she does not seem scared even though she is on an international arena!" say their women more boldly, smiling at Harnaz on their TV screens.

"Don't talk too loud, we are men and you are women! Your voices should be kept soft and low!" the men look at them and say.

"If she had spoken soft and low," say the women together, "she would not have won!"

"We are here to carry your voice!" say their men.

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"You have carried things we've not said or felt," say their women looking at their men warily, "You have made laws that instead of protecting us have jailed us in our homes! Here is a girl from Punjab who broke those bars you carved and won a victory for us!"

"What victory?" ask the men.

"A victory, saying, we are equal to you!"

"Equal?" squeal the men.

"Not just equal, but unique too!" say the women boldly.

"Your beautiful faces are unique!" say their men lustily.

"Not just pretty faces and wallflowers, hidden behind walls and clothing as you will have us be! With her we have arrived!"

"Arrived?" ask their men frightened by the roar, which comes not just from their homes but from every home in the country.

"Yes!" roar the women looking with new strength at their now timid men!

It was not just a beautiful Indian girl from proud Punjab who won the Miss Universe title, it was a confident, bold, and determined woman whose voice now resonates from Kashmir to Kerala, from Bombay to Bengal, "We have arrived! We are equal! We are unique! And we want to be treated as such!"

The men shiver, as Miss Universe throws a boulder and breaks the 'protective' bars they've so painstakingly imprisoned their woman with..!

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

## Anti-Poaching Team Apprehends 10 Mayanmarese Nationals who Illegally Entered the Indian Territorial Waters

**Continued from Page 1**  
and under the supervision of SDPO (Bambooflat) to conduct anti-poaching operation.

The team was briefed by SHO PS Ograbraj T.Dilla Rao about the search operation and thereafter the team left Tirur in AAJVS boat and wooden dinghy of Forest department and started patrolling in the sea area near Bada Balu and kept strict surveillance throughout the night. On

15/12/2021, the anti-poaching team at about 0500 hrs sighted a fishing dinghy near Bada Balu, Jarawa Reserve area upon which the joint team swung into action and chased the poacher's boat. On seeing patrolling party, the Burmese dinghy tried to escape into the creeks but after 10-15 minutes of chase the said dinghy was intercepted by the patrolling party and thereby apprehended 10 Mayanmarese National.

Upon interrogation they disclosed that they left from Myanmar on 01/12/2021 and reached Bada Bhalu on 04/12/2021, since then they were halting over there and poaching sea cucumber.

General public is hereby requested to pass on credible information regarding any kind of anti-social activity in their locality or any kind of crime to Police at 100, 112 & 03192-233077. Identity of the informer will be kept secret.



## NPC to Conduct Residential Training Program on “Effective Office Administration & Financial Management”

**Port Blair, Dec. 16:** Effective Office Administration (EOA) and Financial Management (FM) is sine-qua-non for the success of any organization in today's competitive world. Some of the important skills required for EOA can be identified as leadership qualities, communication skills, human resource management, financial management etc. In the globalised era, it has become imperative for all employees to upgrade their knowledge and skills on a regular basis to attain higher organizational as well as personal excellence. A major managerial challenge is to build a productive team and also to effectively manage and utilize available human resources so that individuals function efficiently.

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 Program in different locations throughout the country. Economic Services Group of NPC will be conducting one such Residential Training Program on “Effective Office Administration & Financial Management” scheduled from December 20-24, 2021 at Port Blair, A & N Islands. There will be around 14 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 Leadership, Communication Skills, Trends and Challenges in Office Management, Organizational Communication and Team Performance, Roles & Responsibilities. There will be sessions on Decisions regarding estimating investments, leading and directing projects and 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.

## NSUI State President Requests for Regular Functioning of Colleges in Andamans

**Port Blair, Dec. 16:** The NSUI State President, Mr. M.A Sajid on Thursday wrote a letter to Hon'ble Lt. Governor and requested him to regularize the functioning of colleges in Andaman & Nicobar Islands on daily basis.

In his letter, Sajid highlighted that COVID cases in the Islands are under control and that the Islands

have also achieved 100% first dose vaccination. Also all the public places like Parks, Cinema theatres, religious places, beaches etc. have opened fully for General Public as directed by A&N Administration.

He mentioned that due to non-functioning of regular classes, the studies of students are getting

affected and their curriculum are remaining incomplete.

Considering these facts, Sajid requested the Hon'ble L.G to kindly direct A&N Administration to issue circular regarding regular functioning of colleges in the Islands.

## Central Executive Committee of NGOA Express Concern Over Working of ANI Administration

*Continued from Page 1*

Earlier, the General Secretary of the Association, Shri R. Rajendran briefed the meeting on the activities of the Association during the intervening period while Shri

R. Papa Rao, President of the Association chaired the meeting. The meeting was also addressed by Shri T.S. Sreekumar, former General Secretary. The meeting was attended by

Central Executive members alongwith the Vice Presidents and Secretaries of branches and Sub-Committees.

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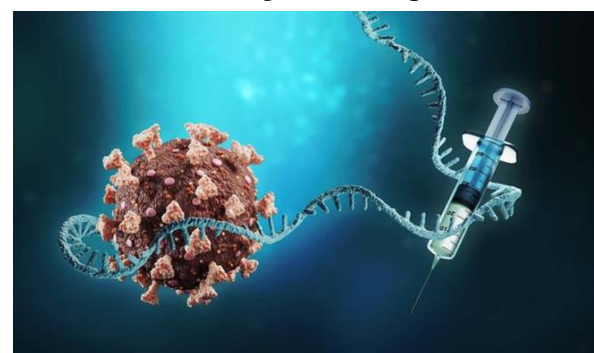
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### Health, Science /Tech

## Two Common Drugs Found Effective Against COVID-19, in Early Testing



**Washington, Dec. 16:** Two over-the-counter drugs have been found to inhibit the replication of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, in preliminary tests, according to a study.

Researchers from the University of Florida in the U.S. noted that the combination includes diphenhydramine, an antihistamine used for allergy symptoms.

When paired with lactoferrin, a protein found in cow and human milk, the compounds were found to hinder SARS-CoV-2 during tests in monkey cells and human lung cells, they said.

Lactoferrin is commonly used as a supplement to treat stomach and intestinal ulcers, among other uses, according to the researchers.

“We found out why certain drugs are active against the virus that causes COVID-19. Then, we found an antiviral combination that can be effective, economical and has a long history of safety,” said David A Ostrov, an associate professor at the University of Florida.

In lab tests on human and monkey cells, the combination of drugs was particularly potent, the researchers said.

Individually, the two compounds each inhibited SARS-CoV-2 virus replication by about 30%, they said, adding that together, they reduced virus replication by 99%.

The findings, published in the journal Pathogens, are a first step in developing a formulation that could be used to accelerate COVID-19 recovery.

Additional research into the compounds' effectiveness for COVID-19 prevention is already under way in mouse models, the researchers said.

To establish their findings, they focussed on proteins expressed in human cells known as sigma receptors.

In COVID-19 cases, the virus “hijacks” stress-response machinery, including sigma receptors, in order to replicate in the body, according to the researchers.

Interfering with that signalling appears to be the key to inhibiting the virus's potency, they said.

“We now know the detailed mechanism of how certain drugs inhibit SARS-CoV-2 infection,” Mr. Ostrov said.

Data from the experiments show that a highly specific sigma receptor binding drug candidate and formulated combinations of over-the-counter products have the potential to inhibit virus infection and decrease recovery time from COVID-19, the researchers said.

While the findings are encouraging, Mr. Ostrov cautions against self-medicating with either diphenhydramine or lactoferrin as a COVID-19 prevention or treatment.



WALK-IN-INTERVIEW							
The Department of Training, A & N Administration proposes to appoint trainers in the following posts on purely short-term Contract and Part Time basis for ITI, Dollygunj, Port Blair, VTI, Bakultala, Rangat and ITI, Arong, Car Nicobar for a period of 11 months. The details of posts are as follows. The number of post may vary as per the requirement:							
SL NO.	NAME OF THE POST	QUALIFICATION REQUIRED	No. of Posts (On Contract / Part Time)				Date & Time of Walk-in-Interview
			ITI Dollygunj	ITI Arong	VTI Bakultala	Total	
ON CONTRACT BASIS							
1.	Trainer (Electrician)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• B.Voc/Degree in Electrical/ Electrical and Electronics Engineering from AICTE/UGC recognized Engineering College/ university with one-year experience in the relevant field.</li><li>OR</li><li>• 03 years Diploma in Electrical/ Electrical and Electronics Engineering from AICTE/recognized board of technical education or relevant Advanced Diploma (Vocational) from DGT with two years' experience in the relevant field.</li><li>OR</li><li>• NTC/NAC passed in the trade of "Electrician" with three years' experience in the relevant field.</li><li>• Relevant National Craft Instructor Certificate (NCIC) in any of the variants under DGT.</li></ul>	01	01	-	02	13.01.2022 09:00 AM
2.	Trainer (Civil Engineer Assistant) / Draughtsman (Civil) & Civil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• B.Voc/Degree in Civil Engineering from recognized AICTE/UGC recognized Engineering College/ university with one-year experience in the relevant field.</li><li>OR</li><li>• 03 years Diploma in Civil Engineering from AICTE / recognized board of technical education or relevant Advanced Diploma (Vocational) from DGT with two years' experience in the relevant field.</li><li>OR</li><li>• NTC/NAC passed in the trade of Civil Engineering Assistant/ Draughtsman (Civil)/ Surveyor with three years' experience in the relevant field.</li><li>• Relevant National Craft</li></ul>	06	-	-	06	13.01.2022 01:00 PM
		Instructor Certificate (NCIC) in any of the variants under DGT.					
3.	Trainer (Plumber)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• B.Voc/Degree in Civil / Mechanical engineering from AICTE/UGC recognized Engineering College/ university with one-year experience in the relevant field.</li><li>OR</li><li>• 03 years Diploma in Civil / Mechanical engineering from AICTE/ recognized board of technical education or relevant Advanced Diploma (Vocational) from DGT with two years' experience in the relevant field.</li><li>OR</li><li>• NTC / NAC passed in Plumber or relevant trade with 3 years' experience.</li><li>• Relevant National Craft Instructor Certificate (NCIC) in any of the variants under DGT.</li></ul>	01	01	-	02	17.01.2022 09:00 AM
4.	1. Trainer (Welder) ITI-D & VTIB 2. Trainer (Mechanical) ITID	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• B.Voc/Degree in Mechanical/ Metallurgy/ Production Engineering/ Mechatronics from AICTE /UGC recognized university/ college with one year experience in relevant field.</li><li>OR</li><li>• 03 years Diploma in Mechanical and allied from AICTE/ recognized technical board of education or relevant Advanced Diploma (Vocational) from DGT with two years' experience in relevant field.</li><li>OR</li><li>• NTC/NAC passed in the Trade of "Welder" with three years' experience in the relevant field.</li><li>• Relevant National Craft Instructor Certificate (NCIC) in any of the variants under DGT.</li></ul>	02	-	01	03	17.01.2022 01:00 PM
5.	1. Trainer (Information & Communication Technology System Maintenance) ITID 2. Trainer (Computer) ITID 3. Trainer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• B.Voc/Degree in Engineering/ Technology in Computer Science/ IT/Electronics &amp; Communication AICTE/UGC recognized Engineering College/ university with one year experience in the relevant field.</li><li>OR</li><li>• Post Graduate in Computer Science /Computer Application/ IT/ Electronics from AICTE/UGC recognized university with one year experience in the relevant</li></ul>	02	01	-	03	18.01.2022 09:00 AM

Continued on P5

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## DNA Delegation Raises Media Related Issues Before DC(SA)

Continued from Page 1

departments of the administration, enhanced government advertisements to local print media etc were discussed. The Deputy Commissioner (SA) said that local media here has been playing an important role by way of raising issues concerning the general public. He assured all possible support to the media here.

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	(Computer Operator & Programming Assistant) ITIA	field.  OR • Bachelor In Computer Science / Computer Application / IT OR NIELIT A Level from AICTE/UGC recognized university with two years' experience in the relevant field.  OR • 03 years Diploma in Computer Science/IT/Electronics & Communication from AICTE/ recognized board of technical education or relevant Advanced Diploma (Vocational) from DGT with two years' experience in the relevant field.  OR • NTC/NAC passed in the trade of "Information & Communication Technology System Maintenance" with three years' experience in the relevant field.  • Relevant National Craft Instructor Certificate (NCIC) in any of the variants under DGT.					
6.	Trainer (Workshop Calculation & Science and Engineering Drawing)	• B.Voc/Degree in Engineering from AICTE/UGC recognized Engineering College/ university with one-year experience in the relevant field.  OR • 03 years Diploma in Engineering from AICTE/ recognized board of technical education or relevant Advanced Diploma (Vocational) from DGT with two years' experience in the relevant field.  OR • NTC/ NAC in any one of the engineering trades with three years' experience.  And • National Craft Instructor Certificate (NCIC) in relevant trade  OR • NCIC in RoDA or any of its variants under DGT	02	01	01	04	18.01.2022 01:00 PM
7.	Trainer (Physical Education-cum- Hostel Warden) (Male)	• Bachelor's Degree in Physical Education from a recognised institution.	01	-	-	01	19.01.2022 09:00 AM
8.	Library Assistant	• Bachelor's Degree in Library Science from a recognised institution.	01	-	-	01	19.01.2022 01:00 PM
9.	Trainer (Stenography & Secretarial Assistant) (English)	• B.Voc/Degree in Commerce / Arts (with Short-hand & Typing) from a UGC recognized university with one year experience in the relevant field.  OR • Diploma (Minimum 2 years) in Commercial Practice from recognised board or relevant Advanced Diploma (Vocational) with two years' experience in the relevant field.  OR • NTC/ NAC passed in the trade of Stenographer Secretarial Assistant (English) with three years' experience in the relevant field.  • Relevant National Craft Instructor Certificate (NCIC) in any of the variants under DGT.	-	01	-	01	20.01.2022 09:00 AM
TOTAL			16	05	02	23	
ON PART TIME BASIS							
1.	Part Time Trainer, (Employability Skills)	• MBA/ BBA / Any Graduate/ Diploma in any discipline with Two years' experience with short term ToT Course in Employability Skills from DGT institutes.(Must have studied English/ Communication Skills and Basic Computer at 12th / Diploma level and above)  OR • Existing Social Studies Instructors in ITIs with short term Training of Trainers (ToT) Course in Employability Skills from DGT institutes.	01	-	01	02	20.01.2022 01:00 PM
Total			01	-	01	02	

The candidates appointed on contract basis shall be paid remuneration of **Rs. 24,000/-** per month and for Part Time basis **Rs.200/-** for first hour and **Rs.150/-** for subsequent hours of the day. Interested candidates may attend the **“WALK-IN-INTERVIEW”** scheduled to be held at the office of The Labour Commissioner & Director of Employment and Training, Supply Line, Port Blair on the date and time mentioned above. The candidates who do not possess relevant National Craft Instructor Certificate (NCIC) in any of the variants under DGT can also attend the Interview. The candidates are requested to attend the interview with their Bio-data and original testimonials. They may also submit a copy of their Bio-data and testimonials at the time of Interview.

2021/MediaRelease/941160Labour Commissioner & DET

## “Vijay Diwas-2021” Celebration at Military Station Birchgunj

*Continued from Page 1*

opponent the Armed Forces of India once again affirmed themselves as a strong component of National power.

The 1971 Indo-Pak War began with Pakistan launching pre-emptive air strikes against 11 Indian airbases on 03 December 1971. The war was forced upon due to widespread genocide of people of East Pakistan carried out by an oppressive military regime under General Yahya Khan of Pakistan. The war, which was short and intense, was fought on both Eastern and Western fronts. The 13 days war resulted in complete surrender of Pakistan forces and the creation of Bangladesh. The Indian Armed Forces reigned supreme over the Pakistani military in the battle field. The battles fought showcased fine examples of grit, determination and bravery of our soldiers.

To commemorate the occasion a befitting Guard of Honour by the Quad Service Guard was conducted to pay homage to the martyrs of 1971 war, who made the supreme sacrifice upholding the highest traditions of Indian Armed Forces. Lieutenant General Ajai Singh, AVSM, Commander-in-Chief, Andaman and Nicobar Command (CINCAN) & Major General Vinay Bhatnagar, VSM (Retd), senior veteran laid wreaths on the occasion. Veterans of all three services from Andaman and Nicobar Islands along with Officers, JCOs, Warrant Officers, Chief Petty Officers and Other Ranks were present on the occasion. Every member of the Andaman and Nicobar Command made a silent pledge to steadfastly protect the Nation and uphold its safety, security and integrity against threats and challenges that lay ahead.

## ANTCC Celebrates 51<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of Bangladesh Liberation War of 1971

*Continued from Page 1*

Rangalal Halder, ANTCC Campaign Committee Chairman Shri. G Bhasker and DCC President Shri. V.K Abdul Aziz. They paid homage to the 4,000 soldiers killed in the battle and the winners of 513 Vir Chakra, 77 Mahavir Chakra and 4 Param Vir Chakra.

Addressing the gathering of Congress workers, Halder traced the history of India’s greatest military victory that led to the creation of Bangladesh. He remembered the strong and dynamic leadership of Smt. Indira Gandhi under whose stewardship the brave Indian army lead the nation to unmatched victory in the history of world and it was unique victory when Pakistan was divided into two countries in just 13 days of war against all sorts of pressures and ignoring the threats from U.S as well as China.

Bhasker while recalling the dynamism and contribution of Smt. Indira Gandhi advised the Congress workers and youngsters to learn more about the history of Congress and its stalwarts for the strengthening of nation and educate the masses and fight against the false propaganda of the opposition parties.

Senior leaders and functionaries of PCC, DCC, City Congress, BCC, NSUI, Mahila Congress, Youth Congress, Seva Dal, INTUC and other frontal organizations attended the programme in large numbers and paid floral tribute to war heroes of 1971.





# SPORTS

## BCCI Unlikely to Take Any Hasty Step

**New Delhi, Dec. 16:** India captain Virat Kohli's eyeball-grabbing media conference has forced a shell-shocked BCCI into a huddle as it explores its options on how to deal with the crisis while ensuring that the team is not distracted by off-field drama ahead of an important Test series.

The India Test captain, during a press conference before departing to South Africa for a three-match series, said that he was never asked "not to quit T20 captaincy", contrary to what BCCI president Sourav Ganguly had said to various media outlets.

### Rare situation

There are hardly any instances in the past where it becomes a choice between the word spoken by a sitting captain, who is also the reigning superstar of Indian cricket, against a decorated former skipper, who holds the chair of the president.

It is understood that no one in BCCI is happy at what transpired on Wednesday but they also understand that any strong reaction in their bid to do a quick-fix could be counter-productive. While Kohli reached South Africa

this evening, the board president, in Kolkata, made it clear that he will make no public statement.

"No statements, no press conference. We will deal with it, leave it to (the) BCCI," Ganguly told media-persons in his home town.

It is reliably learnt that the senior BCCI office-bearers, including Ganguly and secretary Jay Shah, were engaged in a zoom call on Wednesday where a collective decision was taken that none would do a press conference or issue a press release.

"Expert opinion was taken on how to deal with the sensitive matter as it also involves the respect of a president's office. The BCCI knows that a Test series is round the corner and any hasty decision or statement from them could affect the morale of the team," a senior BCCI source said on conditions of anonymity.

### Best way

The best way is for both the captain and the president to sit across the table and amicably sort out the difference of opinion or mis-communication where statements perhaps have been lost in translation. However, as of now,



neither Ganguly nor Shah might speak to the captain.

Normally, a centrally-contracted player is not supposed to make any critical comments about the establishment or office-bearers.

But whether Kohli's clarification on what transpired, in response to a question rather than making a statement, would amount to breaking the protocol is also a question.

So there are no easy solutions to this problem.

## Mercedes Withdraws Appeal of Formula 1 Season Finale

**Abu Dhabi, Dec. 16:** Mercedes withdrew its appeal Thursday of the Formula One series finale in which Lewis Hamilton lost the championship to Max Verstappen.

Mercedes had filed two protests following Sunday's race, but both were dismissed. Mercedes then asked for reconsideration at the International Court of Appeal.

Mercedes was protesting over the use of the safety car following a crash with five laps remaining in the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix. Hamilton had a nearly 12-second lead with Verstappen in second when the crash brought out the yellow flag.

Verstappen pitted for fresh tires while Hamilton stayed on track. The race resumed with one lap remaining. Verstappen then passed Hamilton to win his first world championship, denying Hamilton a record eighth title.

Mercedes said on Thursday, ahead of the season-ending gala in Paris later in the evening, that it decided with Hamilton not to move forward with the appeal.

"We left Abu Dhabi in disbelief of what we had just witnessed. Of course, it's part of the game to lose a race, but it's something different when you lose faith in racing," Mercedes said in a statement, adding it protested because rules "were applied in a new way that affected the race result, after Lewis

had been in a commanding lead and on course to win (the championship)."

The appeal was made "in the interest of sporting fairness," Mercedes said.

Discussions with both the FIA and Formula One asking for clarity on the rules "so that all competitors know the

rules under which they are racing, and how they will be enforced" satisfied Mercedes, the team said.

The FIA late on Wednesday said it will conduct an analysis of the ending and acknowledged the controversy is "tarnishing the image of the championship." The FIA delivered a report on the incident to the World Motor Sport Council in Paris and said a further review will help understand why the race ended as it did.

"We welcome the decision by the FIA to install a commission to thoroughly analyze what happened in Abu Dhabi and to improve the robustness of rules, governance and decision making in Formula 1. We also welcome that they have invited the teams and drivers to take part," Mercedes said.

Mercedes also congratulated Verstappen and Red Bull, and called



the 24-year-old Dutchman a "flawless sportsman on and off the track" who "delivered a faultless performance."

"We would like to express our sincere respect for your achievements this season," Mercedes said in its statement. "You made this Formula 1 championship title fight truly epic. Max, we congratulate you and your entire team. We look forward to taking the fight to you on the track next season."

Red Bull team principal Christian Horner on Wednesday called for the controversy to end. He also said a number of variables out of Red Bull's control came into play that decided the race, beginning with Nicholas Latifi's crash with five laps remaining.

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## Helpline Numbers

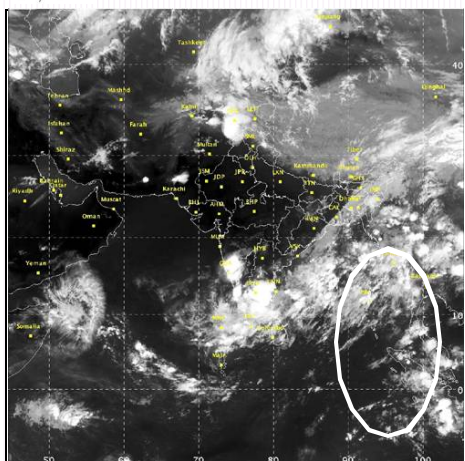
Police Control Room:	100
Fire Service:	101
Ambulance:	102
DC Control Room:	1070
Shipping:	245555
Postal :	232346, 232890
Children:	1098
Women:	244701
Coast Guard for	1554
Search & Rescue (SAR)	
Coast Guard RHQ:	232681
Coastal Security	1093
State Control Room:	1077, 238880
PBMC Control Room:	245798
Kisan Call Centre:	1551
Wildlife Control Room::	245229, 200661, 200754

## Emergency Operation Centres (EOCs)

State Control Room:	03192- 238880 (Tele-Fax), 1070 (Helpline).
District Control Room:	03192-238881
EOC (Campbell Bay):	03193-264020
EOC (Kamorta):	03193-263222
EOC (N&M):	03192-262960
EOC (Hut Bay):	03192-284014



## Weather



Max. Temp: 30.8 °C	Min.: 23.3 °C
Relative Humidity: 0830 Hrs: 63% 1730 Hrs: 75%	
Sunrise: 0532 Hrs.	Sunset: 1659 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, 2020 till date):	3453.2 mm

## Forecast

Dry weather likely over Port Blair.  
Maximum and Minimum temperature will be around 30°C and 25°C respectively on Friday 17/12/2021

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