

**A Weekly with a difference, comes to you on every Thursday**

## Secretary (IT) reviews implementation of e-office in Departments under A&N Administration



Port Blair, September 28 : The Secretary (IT) A & N Administration, Shri Pankaj Kumar, IAS along with Special Secretary (IT) reviewed the implementation of e-Office in Departments under A & N Administration with the Amalgamated Information Technology Cadre (AITC) staff today. Addressing the gathering, the Secretary (IT) lauded the efforts put in by the Department

of IT and entire AITC staff in successful implementation of e-Office in all the Departments under A & N Administration in a time bound manner. He impressed upon the AIT Cadre staff to provide continued support and handholding to the Departments for sustenance of e-Office implementation.

During the discussion, experiences and challenges faced in the implementation of e-Office

Application was discussed and inputs of all the key implementing members were taken for fine tuning and changing the strategy to extend coverage of e-Office in all the field and branch offices situated in other Islands. The Secretary (IT) also handed over a letter of appreciation to the key members who were actively involved in implementation process of e-Office particularly at Secretariat Level.

## Member of Parliament takes up burning issues of Car Nicobar Islands with Chief Secretary

Port Blair, September 28 : The Member of Parliament of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Shri. Kuldeep Rai Sharma has taken up as many as 15 burning issues of Car Nicobar Island with the Chief Secretary of Andaman and Nicobar Administration. In his letter he mentioned that today members of Tribal Council of Car Nicobar Islands have met him and discussed several problems of the Islands with him.

Following issues were taken up by the Member of Parliament of Andaman and Nicobar Islands with the Chief Secretary.

1) New Islanders' Card/Smart Card Issue: The Member of Parliament pointed out that since a long time new Islanders' Card has not been issued for the people of Car Nicobar Island.

In this issue he requested the Chief Secretary to send a team of officials to Car Nicobar for the issuance of New Islanders' Cards /Smart Cards.

2) Aadhaar Update: The Member of Parliament added that a large number of people of Car Nicobar Island are waiting to update several information about their Aadhaar Card for which it is often not possible for all people to come to Port Blair, which is a time consuming and expensive matter. In this matter he requested to send a team of officials to Car Nicobar Islands for atleast two weeks for necessary Aadhaar update works for the Islanders of Car Nicobar Island.

3) Demand for Electricity Site office at Sawai and Big Lapathy areas of Car Nicobar Island: The

Member of Parliament mentioned that due to absence of a electricity site office in Sawai and Big Lapathy areas, during any electricity line fault, the residents of the region fail to lodge complaint on time and hence they have to suffer power cut for long hours.

In this regard he requested to open Electricity Site Offices at Sawai and Big Lapathy villages of Car Nicobar Islands with 24 hours manning.

4) Overflow of Septic Tanks of Permanent Shelters: He added that the septic tanks of most of the permanent shelters are full and there is no arrangement of cleaning the septic tank and hence the Member of Parliament requested the CS to issue instructions to

*Contd. on page 2*

## MP highlights grievances of workers employed in industrial establishment of Government Dockyard, DSS

Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma, Member of Parliament and President, INTUC (ANI) and Marine Works Employees' Union (MWEU) along with office bearers of MWEU namely Shri Gyan Prakash Krishna, Shri. M Yousuf, Shri. N Akbar Ali and few Contractual Workers of Government Dockyard of Directorate of Shipping Services met Chief Secretary, A&N Administration on 27.09.2022 to put forth grievances of the workers employed in the industrial establishment of the Government Dockyard of Directorate of Shipping Services, A&N Administration.

The major issue discussed was to provide enhanced wages i.e. 1/30th of the basic pay plus Dearness Allowance to the contractual employees of the

Directorate of Shipping Services and posting of Assistant Labour Welfare Officer (ALWC) at Government Dockyard.

Shri Sharma, President of INTUC (ANI) informed the Chief Secretary that, there are around 150 contractual workers engaged by the Directorate for over 12 to 15 years or even more who are entrusted with the nature of similar to that being performed by the regular employees but are paid monthly emolument calculated on the basis of minimum wages with service conditions remaining same as that of Daily Rated Mazdoors.

Inviting reference to the Government of India Office Memorandum no.49014/1/ 2017-Estt. (C) pf dated 04.09.2019, the Member of Parliament said that as the nature

of work entrusted to the casual workers and regular employees is the same, the casual workers need to be paid wages at the rate of 1/30th of the pay at the minimum of the relevant pay scale plus dearness allowance for work of 8 hours a day.

The Chief Secretary was appraised that, the Directorate of Employment & Training, A&N Administration vide it's Office Memorandum 289 dated 22.09.2017 as a welfare measure adopted policy to enhance the wages of all such Daily Rated Mazdoors working in various departments, organisations and autonomous bodies of the Andaman and Nicobar Administration as on 01.09.2017 at the rate of 1/30th of the Pay plus Dearness

*Contd. on page 2*

## Befitting programmes mark celebration of world Tourism Day in A&N Islands

Port Blair, September 28 : World Tourism Day with the theme 'Rethinking Tourism' was celebrated with great enthusiasm in A&N Islands today. As part of the celebration, the Tourism Department of A&N Administration organized various programmes and competitions. The Commissioner-cum-Secretary (IP&T), Shri Nikhil Kumar was the chief guest of the main function held at Corbyn's Cove this evening. The Secretary (IP&T), Shri Hari Kallikkat, IAS, Director (IP&T), Shri Prateek Raj Yadav, tourism stakeholders, tourists and general public in large number participated in the celebration. This year, World Tourism Day was celebrated in Isles, incorporating the themes 'Feel Good Tourism & Spiritual Tourism'.

Addressing the gathering, the chief guest said since 1980, the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) observes September 27 as World Tourism Day. He remarked that 'Tourism' is the celebration of life through which we travel to places, meet people from different culture, enjoy cuisines from various parts of the world and get the opportunity to marvel at the wonderful creation of nature that we are blessed to be a part of. He said, tourism is important and globally efforts are being made to promote tourism. The tourism sector not only connects people socially it also opens window of opportunities in terms of employment & revenue generation while in some places, tourism is the mainstay of all activities.

The Commissioner-cum-Secretary said, A&N Islands is an archipelago of around 830 islands and its richest endowment is its luxurious natural beauty, which makes it a tourist hub. The Commissioner remarked that promotion of tourism is the collective responsibility of all and not just the tourism stakeholders, hence we must ensure that tourists feel welcome in the place they visit and their first experience tells about the place and its people. If they are accorded a warm welcome, they in turn invite others to visit. Along with physical infrastructure, ensuring mental satisfaction of tourists is equally important, he said. The celebration of World Tourism Day gives us the opportunity to welcome tourists and showcase the beauty of the place. He also reminded the citizens that along with promotion of tourism, the need to be sensitive towards the environment and the Islands' fragile ecology is of paramount importance and urged all to come together in promoting A&N Islands as responsible and eco friendly tourist destination and continue to preserve, protect and conserve the Islands' natural beauty. He also appreciated the



beautiful cultural programme presented by the students.

The chief guest also gave away the prizes to the winners of Coconut Day competition organized by Agriculture Department in coordination with Tourism Department viz. Coconut based recipe and coconut dehusking competition for male & female.

Later, the chief guest also visited the stalls set up at the venue and interacted with the participants. He also enjoyed the dishes presented by the Nicobari tribe and appreciated their food.

Earlier, welcoming the gathering, the Secretary (IP&T), Shri Hari Kallikkat informed about the significance of the day. He also highlighted various activities that were organized by the Tourism Department in coordination with tourism stakeholders. He said, this year special effort has been made to organize World Tourism Day in conjunction with the theme 'Rethinking Tourism' and in line with that Spiritual Tourism and Feel Good Tourism is being promoted. This initiative will give a new dimension to Isles tourism, he remarked. As part of 'Feel Good Tourism', children of Child Care Institution unit were taken to the National Memorial Cellular Jail while under Spiritual Tourism, yoga and meditation were organized at various beaches of the Islands, which saw

Tourists visiting the Islands were accorded a warm welcome on their arrival at the Veer Savarkar International Airport today and they were greeted with flowers and welcome dance, the Secretary said.

The evening witnessed colourful cultural programmes like Odissi dance by Ms Koyalika, dance showcasing the beauty of various cultures like Punjabi, Rajasthani folk dance, folk dance of Tamil Nadu were presented by school students of Education Department besides live band performance by Kaun Panam Band and performance by local cultural groups.

Various competitions were organized by the Tourism Department, in collaboration with line Departments and tourism stakeholders. During the day, Navodaya Foundation, an NGO and Andaman Sea Adventure Association (ASAA) organized various competitions at Corbyn's Cove beach such as beach ball, tug of war, musical chair, quiz on tourism sector for the tourists and Islanders. Under Spiritual Tourism, Tourism Department in association with AYUSH organized yoga sessions in all beaches of the Islands. The yoga session at Corbyn's Cove beach witnessed overwhelming participation from tourist and general public. Under 'Feel Good Tourism', the Tourism Department

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## संपदकीय

## केंद्रीय कर्मचारियों को 4% महंगाई भत्ता: एक करोड़ से ज्यादा कर्मचारियों—पेंशनर्स को फायदा; गरीबों को 3 महीने और मिलेगा फ्री राशन

केंद्र सरकार ने दिवाली से पहले केंद्रीय कर्मचारियों को तोहफा दिया है। कैबिनेट मंत्री अनुराग ठाकुर ने बुधवार को कैबिनेट में लिए गए फैसलों की जानकारी देते हुए बताया कि सरकार ने केंद्र के कर्मचारियों का महंगाई भत्ता (DA) 4% बढ़ाने का फैसला लिया है। पिछली बार सरकार ने मार्च में DA बढ़ाया था, यह 1 जनवरी 2022 से लागू हुआ था।

मार्च में सरकार ने DA में 3% की बढ़ोतरी की थी, यानी इसे 31% से बढ़ाकर 34% कर दिया गया था। अब 4% बढ़ने के बाद यह 38% हो जाएगा। सरकार के महंगाई भत्ते बढ़ाने से देश के 50 लाख कर्मचारियों और 65 लाख पेंशनधारकों को फायदा होगा। बढ़ा हुआ महंगाई भत्ता 1 जुलाई 2022 से लागू होगा। इससे सरकार पर सालाना 12,852.56 करोड़ रुपए का अतिरिक्त बोझ पड़ेगा।

इसके अलावा कैबिनेट ने PM गरीब कल्याण योजना को 3 महीने बढ़ाने का फैसला लिया है। वहीं देश के 3 सबसे बड़े स्टेशन नई दिल्ली, मुंबई का छत्रपति शिवाजी महाराज टर्मिनल और अहमदाबाद स्टेशन के रिडेवलपमेंट के लिए 10 हजार करोड़ रुपए की मंजूरी दी है।

महंगाई भत्ता यानी DA क्या है?

महंगाई भत्ता कर्मचारी के बेसिक सैलरी का एक निश्चित परसेंट होता है। देश में महंगाई के असर को कम करने के लिए सरकार अपने कर्मचारियों को महंगाई भत्ता देती है। इसे समय-समय पर बढ़ाया जाता है। रिटायर्ड कर्मचारियों को भी इसका फायदा मिलता है।

DA के बाद सैलरी कैसे बदलेगी?

इसके लिए नीचे लिखे फॉर्मूला में अपनी सैलरी भरें..

(बेसिक पे + ग्रेड पे) × DA % = DA अमाउंट

आसान भाषा में समझें तो बेसिक सैलरी में ग्रेड सैलरी को जोड़ने के बाद जो सैलरी बनती है, उसमें महंगाई भत्ते की दर का गुणा किया जाता है। जो नतीजा आता है, उसे ही महंगाई भत्ता यानी डेअरनेस अलाउंस (DA) कहा जाता है। अब इसे एक उदाहरण से समझते हैं, मान लीजिए आपकी बेसिक सैलरी 10 हजार रुपए और ग्रेड पे 1000 रुपए है।

दोनों को जोड़ने पर टोटल 11 हजार रुपए हुआ। अब बढ़े हुए 38% महंगाई भत्ते के लिहाज से देखें, तो यह 4,180 रुपए हुआ। सबको जोड़कर आपकी टोटल सैलरी 15,180 रुपए हुई। पहले 34% DA के लिहाज से आपको 14,740 रुपए सैलरी मिल रही थी। अब हर महीने 440 रुपए का फायदा होगा।

PM गरीब कल्याण अन्न योजना 3 महीने बढ़ाई

कैबिनेट ने PM गरीब कल्याण योजना को 3 महीने बढ़ाने का फैसला लिया है। अब इस योजना का लाभ दिसंबर 2022 तक मिलता रहेगा। पहले सितंबर 2022 को ये योजना खत्म हो रही थी। केंद्र के इस फैसले से देश के 81 करोड़ से अधिक लोगों को एक बार फिर से राहत मिली है। अब देश के जरूरतमंदों को दिसंबर 2022 तक मुफ्त राशन मिलता रहेगा।

क्या है PM गरीब कल्याण अन्न योजना

कोरोना महामारी के चलते देश में लगे लॉकडाउन में चूड़ गरीब कल्याण अन्न योजना को 2020 मार्च में शुरू किया गया था।

यह योजना अप्रैल से जून 2020 तक के लिए थी। फिर इसे नवंबर 2021 तक बढ़ाया गया। सरकार इसे आगे बढ़ाती रही।

गरीब कल्याण योजना के तहत 81 करोड़ लोगों को 5 किलो गेहूं या चावल के साथ एक किलो चना हर महीने दिया जाता है।

### MP highlights grievances...

Allowance engaged against an existing vacancy of duly sanctioned post.

Even though these contractual workers were engaged much prior to 01.09.2017 against the duly sanctioned posts, they were not considered for enhancement of their monthly wages because of the nomenclature of their engagement being 'short term contract'.

Shri. Kuldeep Rai Sharma further informed the Chief Secretary that in addition to these long serving 150 odd contractual workers, the Directorate of Shipping Services has engaged around 45 industrial

workers such as welders, fitters etc. who are continually being engaged on contract against the vacancy of relevant sanctioned posts and are paid monthly emolument of Rs.18,000/- which is the minimum basic pay of the Mazdoor or monthly wage of Rs.19470/- calculated taking into consideration the minimum daily wage for skilled workers.

Since, these industrial workers such welders, fitters, electricians, shipwrights, carpenters, tinsmith, mechanics, etc. who are ITI certificate holders having specialised skills in the relevant trade and are engaged on passing

the trade test for the post and are entrusted with the nature of works similar to the regular employees, the Chief Secretary was requested to consider paying these industrial workers monthly pay at the minimum of relevant pay scale of post plus Dearness Allowance against which they are engaged. The Chief Secretary assured the representatives of the Marine Works Employees' Union that the administration will look into the matter sympathetically to cause relief to the contractual employees of Directorate of Shipping Services as permissible under rules.

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### Befitting programmes...

in association with DCPU, South Andaman organized a trip for children of Child Care Institution were taken to the National Memorial Cellular Jail. The children enjoyed the trip to the National Memorial and they were also explained about the historical importance of the Jail, to inculcate the spirit of patriotism among children.

As part of the celebration, the Tourism Association of Andaman & Nicobar (TAAN) welcomed the tourists at VSI airport with flowers and a welcome song. Levi & group from Perka Village, Mathi Zeth & Group from Malaca Village jointly put up Nicobari food stalls showcasing the nicobari cuisine. A heartwarming cultural programme was presented by physically challenged children of Pankh (NGO). Andaman Helping Hands (NGO) in association with Allu Arjun Army Andaman (NGO) and Tourism Department conducted beach cleanliness drive at Marina Park on Sept. 26. Tourism Department in association Agriculture Department organized Andaman Coconut Festival at

### MP takes up...

concerned department to carry out the septic tank cleaning task. 5) Old Water Pipelines: He added that most of the water pipelines of APWD in Car Nicobar Islands are old and rusted and hence this is raising serious concern of water contamination. Hence the MP has requested to carry out a survey in this regard and lay new water pipelines.

6) Soil Erosion in Mus Village: The soil erosion of Mus Village is a major issue and there is a long pending demand of construction of a sea wall in the coastal area of Mus Village. He requested the Chief Secretary to initiate the work for the protection of land in Mus Village from erosion.

7) Deplorable Road Conditions: Most of the road stretches of Car Nicobar Island are in bad shape hence the Member of Parliament requested the CS to order repair works of all roads of Car Nicobar Islands for the convenience of the public.

8) Helipad at Kakana Village: There is long pending demand for construction of a Helipad at Kakana Village for the Car Nicobar Island, hence he requested to complete the project for the benefit of the islanders of Car Nicobar Island.

9) Posting sufficient School teachers: Most of the schools of Car Nicobar lack sufficient numbers of teachers and hence the Member of Parliament requested to post sufficient numbers of school teachers in Car Nicobar Island.

## Directorate of Industries will be organizing Startup Pitching and Open Forum Discussion

The Directorate of Industries, Andaman and Nicobar Administration will be organizing Startup Pitching and Open Forum Discussion in the Conference Hall of Directorate of Industries on 30th September, 2022. The Startup Pitching sessions would commence at 9.30 am on 30th September, 2022 for the students of colleges and entrepreneurs wherein they shall be provided a platform to pitch their ideas and innovative products and the best

Corbyn's cove on Sept. 25 during which competitions like coconut dehusking and coconut dish making were held. As part of the celebration, cycling expedition was also organized by Team Parikrama in association with Hoteliers Association of A & N Islands and A & N Islands Tourism Department which was flagged off on Sept. 25.

People from all sections of society including tourists participated in the events with enthusiasm and fervor. The Tourism Department also presented mementoes to the line Departments, tourism stakeholders and NGOs for their active support and participation in making this day a memorable one for all viz. Agriculture Deptt., Navodya Foundation, (NGO), Tourism Association of Andaman & Nicobar (TAAN), Andaman Sea Adventure Association (ASAA), AYUSH, AATO, Pankh (NGO), Levi & group from Perka Village), Mathi Zeth & Group from Malaca Village, Andaman Helping Hands (NGO) and Allu Arjun Army Andaman (NGO).

10) Huge shortage of desks and benches in all schools: He pointed out that most of the schools of Car Nicobar do not have sufficient desks and benches and hence he requested the Chief Secretary to supply a sufficient number of desks and benches for all the schools of Car Nicobar Island.

11) Repair of Nursing Home of BJR Hospital: There is a growing demand for repair of the Nursing Home of BJR Hospital of Car Nicobar, hence he requested to intervene in this matter and repair the nursing home.

12) Setting up Blood Bank and starting dialysis at BJR Hospital: He added that the members of Tribal Council of Car Nicobar have demanded for setting up a blood bank at BJR hospital of Car Nicobar similarly they also demanded to start dialysis at Car Nicobar. The Member of Parliament requested to look into these crucial issues.

13) Fight connectivity for Car Nicobar Island: Earlier on two different occasions Islanders have seen flights connecting Car Nicobar Island with Port Blair. Hence he requested the CS to restart the flight connectivity between Port Blair and Car Nicobar atleast once in a week. 14) Providing Kerosene for outboard engines of fishing boats: Fisheries department has provided outboard engines for fishing boats of Nicobar District, which runs only in Kerosene. As there is a curb in supply of kerosene, fishermen of Car Nicobar are finding it difficult to get kerosene

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A similar programme marking World Tourism Day was organized by BBA (Tourism) JNRM in which the Secretary, IP&T, Shri Hari Kallikkat was the chief guest. The Director, IP&T, Shri Prateek Raj Yadav was also present.

World Tourism Day was also celebrated by various Tourism Stakeholders in Isles. Andaman Association of Tour Operators celebrated World Tourism Day today at Water Sports Complex during which 17 life guards and TSET team members of Department of IP&T were felicitated. The Secretary (IP&T), Shri Hari Kallikkat who was the chief guest on the occasion praised the effort of AATO and encouraged the life guards and stakeholders to continue the good work they are doing for the tourists. He assured them that the Department will provide all possible support to develop tourism facilities in A&N Islands. The President AATO, Shri M Vinod donated a wheelchair to Incharge of RGWS Complex.

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for their fishing dinghies. Hence he requested the CS to make kerosene available at Car Nicobar through the open market.

15) Sailing of an all-port ship for all major islands of Nicobar District via Hut Bay once every 10 days: The Member of Parliament mentioned that Shipping Services is the lifeline of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, especially for the people of the Southern Group of Islands. Thousands of Nicobari brothers and sisters are living scattered in different Islands of Nicobar District, who have a strong link with other but presently due to unavailability of connecting ships, they are forced to come to Port Blair and wait for several weeks to get a ship for any other Island of Nicobar District and they have to undergo similar hardship in their return journey. For this journey from one Island of Nicobar District (Including Little Andaman Island of South Andaman District) to another Island of Nicobar District and vice versa via Port Blair they have to incur heavy expenditure and go through tremendous mental agony. Not only this, such a journey via Port Blair is also very time consuming. He added that all port ships are also required to supply fresh vegetables, fish and meat from Little Andaman to Car Nicobar and other Islands of Nicobar District, where a large number of tribal population and government servants and their families reside. The Member of Parliament requested to provide one sailing of an all-port ship for all major islands of Nicobar District via Hut Bay once, in every 10 days.

upliftment. The Entrepreneurs of the Islands who have a unique and innovative idea and are in the process of developing a prototype or a model are invited to attend to showcase the same. The Entrepreneurs and the DPIIT recognized startups of the Islands have been requested to join the event to present with their issues/ support required from the Administration.

## Chief Secretary visits Kalapathar beach at Swaraj Dweep

The Chief Secretary, A&N Administration, Shri Keshav Chandra, IAS during his visit to Swaraj Dweep visited Kalapathar Beach and its adjoining village early in the morning today on the request of public representatives. During the visit, he was apprised of the issues and the challenges being faced by the villagers. Regarding parking space for vehicles at Kalapathar beach, the Chief Secretary said, the issue may be sorted out after proper demarcation of land. The request for creation of proper trekking route will also be looked into.

On the demand for starting water sports activities at Kalapathar Beach, the Chief Secretary directed the concerned Officer to conduct survey of the area and accordingly demarcate the area for specific activities, keeping in mind the fragile marine life. He also directed that toilet facility at Kalapathar beach should be opened by 5 am as tourist visits the spot early in the morning and it may be handed over to Panchayat for its proper maintenance. The Chief Secretary directed to widen the footpath at Kalapathar Naya Basti to facilitate the residents with motorable path.

Regarding the request for construction of a platform at Vijaynagar Mita Pani where unloading of cargo is done, the Chief Secretary directed the concerned officers to see for its feasibility. The fishermen may also be allowed to have access to the Vijaynagar beach area, he said.

Later, the Chief Secretary also visited Govt. Sr. Sec. School,



Govind Nagar-3 and inspected the facilities at the school. He also interacted with the teachers and students.

### E-TENDER NOTICE

**F. No. 2-4/DSW/Estt/Tender/Veg, Non-Veg/2021-22/369**

Port Blair, dated the 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2022.

e-Tender are invited from registered local firms for **"Supply of Non-Veg items for the use of the inmates of various Departmental Homes at Port Blair Tehsil"-reg.**

The e-Tender document and other details can be downloaded from the website <http://eprocure.andaman.gov.in> from 23.09.2022 to 17.10.2022 till 15hrs. the last date of online submission of tender is on 17.10.2022 up to 1500hrs.

Tender ID: 2022\_DSW\_7413\_1  
9083

2022/MediaRelease/714

Sd-  
**Assistant Director (Admn)**

### SCHEDULE OF SELECTED LIST FOR ADMISSION IN ITI'S

It is brought to the notice for all concerned that, the schedule of selected list for admission of trainees in ITI, Dollygunj, VT1, Bakultala & ITI, Arong are as follows:

S No.	Description	Published on	Last date of Fee Remittance	Bank details for remittance of fee
1.	Display of 5 <sup>th</sup> Selected/ Waiting list in CCAP	29.09.2022	04.10.2022	<a href="https://payments.billdesk.com/bdcollect/pay?p1=630&amp;p2=15">https://payments.billdesk.com/bdcollect/pay?p1=630&amp;p2=15</a> (Rs.350/- for ST & PH Candidates and Rs. 950/- for others)

Based on the selected list displayed/ hoisted in the Common College Admission Portal (CCAP) (<http://collegeadmission.andaman.gov.in>) the selected candidates are advised to remit fee online by using their ITI admission number (eg.2022/ITI-PB/XXXX/XXX) at the above said link within the stipulated date, failing which, his/her candidature will be cancelled and the candidate next on merit shall be allotted the seat without any further notice.

For any further assistance, call 03192-259271.

9102

2022/MediaRelease/733

Principal  
ITI

## Chief Secretary, A&N Administration, Shri Keshav Chandra, IAS during his visit to Swaraj Dweep flagged off five e-busses of Transport Department

The Chief Secretary, A&N Administration, Shri Keshav Chandra, IAS during his visit to Swaraj Dweep flagged off five e-busses of Transport Department, A&N Administration today. This initiative is an effort of A&N Administration towards environment protection and preservation of Swaraj Dweep's scenic natural beauty.

The Commissioner-cum-Secretary (Transport), Shri Nikhil Kumar, IAS, Commissioner-cum-Secretary (APWD/ Shipping), Smt Nandini Paliwal, IAS, Secretary (Finance), Shri C Arvind, Secretary-cum-Director (Transport), Shri Vishwendra, Deputy Commissioner, South Andaman, Shri Suneel Anchipaka, IAS, Secretary (APWD), Shri Kishore Kshirsagar Lakshman, IAS, Secretary (IP&T), Shri Hari Kallikkat, IAS, PRIs, senior Officers of line Department, students, teachers and general public of Swaraj Dweep were present on the occasion.

Addressing the gathering, the Chief Secretary congratulated the Transport Department for launching the e-bus services in Swaraj Dweep in a record time. This initiative stems from the fact, the need to provide tourists visiting Swaraj Dweep a pleasant and memorable stay, the Chief Secretary stated. He said, there have been instances of travel agents fleeing tourists as there is no alternate mode of conveyance and reminded the habitants of the Island that Swaraj Dweep being a tourist destination have visitors from not just the country, but international tourists too, hence it is pertinent to ensure that tourists visiting the Island are provided with basic needs in terms of comfortable mode of transportation, stay, etc.

The Chief Secretary remarked that in the coming days, more tourists and activities will be introduced in Swaraj Dweep, however, we need to be sensitive towards the fragile environment and must do our bit to protect, preserve and conserve it while we simultaneously open our doors for tourism activities. He said, the Administration's commitment to promote sustainable and responsible tourism in A&N Islands can only be achieved, if the local inhabitants join hands in achieving this vision.

The Chief Secretary also informed the gathering that the pending work for Sea Port terminal will be expedited and it is the endeavor of A&N Administration to provide visitors/ tourists with the required facilities/ infrastructure to make their visit to Swaraj Dweep a comfortable one. "Our approach towards tourists and our service towards them speaks volume and we must strive to provide them the best we



can so that they in turn can become ambassador of our tourism industry through which more & more tourists would like to visit the Island", the Chief Secretary said.

The creation of cycling track for those who are fond of cycling needs to be maintained well and it is the responsibility of general public to ensure their upkeep, said the Chief Secretary. Nature's beauty in Swaraj Dweep is beyond comparison and hence, we must strive to protect and preserve it and create a global brand of sustainable tourism, the Chief Secretary remarked urging all the inhabitants of the Island to ensure they continue to be sensitive towards the environment while they go about their livelihood activities. He concluded by assuring the residents of Swaraj Dweep that in the next visit, the issues discussed and its progress will be reviewed.

In his address, the Commissioner-cum-Secretary (Transport), Shri Nikhil Kumar said, the introduction of e-busses is a step towards the initiative of preserving the ecology of the Island. It will prove to be a boon to the environment, as Govt. is promoting clean & green mode

of transport. He also informed about the benefit of e-busses as it has zero tail emissions and it is environmental friendly. The e-busses has AC with 33 seats and will provide service from 6.30 am to 8.30 pm with specific route demarcation i.e. from the Jetty to Kalapathar and Radhanagar. The service will be available every half an hour. This initiative will give a huge fillip to the transport sector in Isles, said the Commissioner. Apart from e-busses, the existing STS bus services will also continue, he said and called upon the habitants of the Islands to make best use of the facility and also to simultaneously protect and preserve the pristine environment of Swaraj Dweep.

Earlier, welcoming the gathering, the Secretary, Transport, Shri Vishwendra thanked the Chief Secretary for his guidance and support in materializing this initiative of introducing e-busses facility at Swaraj Dweep. He also thanked Secretaries of all Departments for their fervent support.

The programme concluded with the vote of thanks proposed by Deputy Director (Transport), Shri B.Binoy. The students of GSSS, Swaraj Dweep presented welcome song on the occasion.

## COVID-19 status in A&N Islands

5 COVID positive cases have been detected today in A&N Islands from incoming flight passengers who arrived here yesterday. Today, 11 flights with 1825 passengers arrived, out of which, 1615 passengers were vaccinated with both doses while

RT-PCR test was conducted on 180 passengers and the reports are awaited.

During RAT conducted on 26 passengers bound for North & Middle Andaman at Ferrargunj, no positive case has been detected. At Phoenix Bay Jetty,

23 passengers were tested with RAT, no positive case has been detected. RAT was conducted on 8 passengers at Mohanpura Bus Terminus and no positive case has been detected.

## Annual General Body meeting of AATO conducted



Annual General Body meeting of Andaman Association of Tour Operators was held on 25 Sep 22 at hotel N.K. International. The meeting was attended by more than 70 members of the association and presided over by the President of AATO Shri.M. Vinod. The programme started with a 2 min silence to mark respect towards the departed souls of the tourism fraternity. Shri.K.Hamza, General Secretary of AATO

welcomed the members with his welcome address. Two interactive sessions one each on GST and Digital Marketing was conducted by industry experts for the AATO members. Shri.Saikat Biswas, Joint Secretary of AATO briefed the members about the activities, Objectives and future Programmes of the association. In his Presidential address Shri.M. Vinod shared his vision for the association and sustainable

development of tourism in A&N Islands. He urged the members to conduct business ethically and register themselves with Dept. of IP&T.

He informed the members that AATO will render all possible help to its members for registration and recognitions with national tourism bodies.

The programme concluded with vote of thanks by Vice President Shri.Krishna Saha followed by dinner for all its members.

## ANACS conducted a mainstreaming training programme on HIV/AIDS

A & N AIDS Control Society (ANACS) conducted a mainstreaming training programme on HIV/AIDS for the officials and staff of Directorate of Agriculture today in the conference hall of Directorate of Agriculture. The programme commenced with welcome address by Dr. Chanda Srivastava, Joint Director (Agri), HQ. Shri Girish Kumar, AD (SPM), ANACS conducted the training and informed that HIV infection can be diagnosed using simple and affordable rapid



diagnostic tests, as well as self-tests. It is important that HIV testing services follow the 5Cs: consent, confidentiality, counseling, correct results and connection with treatment and other services.

Shri Kaushik Kumar Halder,

AD (IEC) informed about HIV/AIDS (Prevention & Control) ACT, 2017. The participants were also requested to come forward for 'Knowing their HIV Status' by voluntarily getting themselves tested which will be kept confidential.

## CPI (M) Organising Committee observes with grave concern the re-launching of the agitation by students of DBRAIT

CPI (M) A & N State Organising Committee observes with grave concern the re-launching of the agitation by students of DBRAIT, Port Blair from 26th September, 2022, as it came to know, disheartened by the act of non-keeping of the promises made in the so-called agreement reached between a section of students, A & N Administration and the Pondicherry University on 15th September, 2022 based on which the students had ended their agitation. The students are of the opinion that they have been cheated by the authorities and a section of political leaders who assured the students that their demands have been agreed to. When the students later on realized that they have been deceived by the local politicians belonging to the party ruling at the centre and the A & N Administration, they wanted to ventilate their grievances and resumed agitation organizing mass dharna in front of the DBRAIT at Dollygunj. When the jubilation by local leaders of BJP and ABVP over the agreement with the students was going on immediately after the so-called agreement on 15th September, 2022, CPI(M) was of the firm view that that the 17 conditions imposed by the Pondicherry University had not still been implemented. This fact has been hid from the students by all concerned and subsequently the students have felt as being

betrayed by the A & N Administration, the Pondicherry University officials and the local BJP politicians by their act of not resolving the issues, but presenting a version before them which was not factually correct. Shri D. Ayyappan, Secretary, CPI (M) A & N State Organising Committee on 17th September, 2022 had requested the Chief Secretary, A & N Administration to reveal the details of the agreement/consensus reached between A & N Administration, Pondicherry University and aggrieved students and the details of the fulfillment of the 17 conditions initially imposed by the Pondicherry University for conditional affiliation, by issuing a press statement in the local media so that the people will know the facts relating to the above issue. However, there was no response and the contents of the agreement reached with the students by the A & N Administration have not been revealed to general public so far.

CPI (M) notes that instead of responding to the shortcomings in the running of engineering courses in DBRAIT pointed out by the Pondicherry University, the BJP government at the centre and A & N Administration had approached the Hon'ble High Court at Calcutta by filing a Writ Petition against the Pondicherry University which is still pending for a final decision. This step on the part of the A & N Administration,

with the blessings of government at the Centre, is unjustified, unethical, uncalled for and violating all the administrative jurisprudence and made with malafide intention to protect the interests of certain persons at the cost of students. The central government at the centre utterly failed to resolve the instant issue and is trying to enforce its policy of commercialization of higher education through whatever means available like establishment of the so-called Deemed University in the islands. The role of the lone Member of Parliament from these islands for not taking prompt action upto a level expected of a person of his stature for resolving the issue is also questionable as he is nowhere in the picture and of course he also owes an explanation to the islanders on this issue.

The resumption of the agitation by the students created road block in the town for several hours today, causing inconvenience to thousands of people including hundreds of school students.

CPI (M) calls upon the central government to intervene in the matter and take immediate steps to resolve the issue in the light of the 17 shortcomings pointed out by the Pondicherry University to have a permanent solution considering the future of hundreds of students studying in the DBRAIT, Port Blair and also to end the on-going agitation by the students.

## MESSAGE

World Rabies Day is observed in these Islands on 28 September this year. It will mark the 16th World Rabies Day. This year's theme 'Rabies: One Health, Zero Deaths' highlights the deep connection between the environment and the living beings- both people and animals. The COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated that an integrated approach to health and collaboration across sectors can minimize the loss of lives.

Rabies is a zoonotic disease and is almost invariably fatal. The infectious agent is a virus which affects the central nervous system, and the disease is dreadful due to the horrifying nature of symptoms suffered by the patient before death. Humans mostly contract the disease from rabid dogs. Globally an estimated 59,000 human rabies death occur annually in over 150 countries, with 95% of cases occurring in Africa and Asia. India accounts for 59.9% of rabies deaths in Asia and 35% of deaths globally. The spread of the disease can be prevented only through vaccinating dogs and other susceptible pets and zoo animals. Prophylaxis in humans is the only available immunization.

Rabies control programmes offer a great example for One Health implementation, and the structures and trust that underpin these are crucial for other zoonotic diseases as well, including those that are pandemic-prone.

Andaman and Nicobar Islands are one of the only regions in India which are still free from this disease. We can continue to maintain this exemplary performance in future through strict disease surveillance and the contribution of all the stakeholders. I exhort all of you to be vigilant and create pet awareness among the masses, including the pet owners.

I extend my best wishes towards the endeavour.

Sd/-  
(Admiral D K Joshi)  
PVSM, AVSM, YSM, NM, VSM (Retd.)  
Lieutenant Governor  
Andaman & Nicobar Islands  
&  
Vice-Chairman, Islands Development Agency

## PS BAMBOOFLAT TEAM CRACKS BURGLARY CASE AND NABS THREE BURGLARS & TWO RECEIVERS OF STOLEN PROPERTY

Working professionally and efficiently, PS Bambooflat team cracks Burglary case which had taken place in a central government establishment and recovered part of the stolen properties. Three burglars and two receivers of stolen properties were arrested.

On 13/07/2022, a written complaint letter was received regarding theft of electrical & sanitary items from a Central Government Establishment. Upon this, a case vide crime No. 57/22 dated 13/07/2022 U/s 380 IPC was registered against unknown persons in PS Bambooflat. After registration of the case, multiple teams consisting of SI Calvin, SI S. Tejeshwar Rao, HCs Ashok Roy, R.K. Rathore, Sharfudeen,

PCs 1418 S. Shiva Kumar, Rajdhari Yadav were constituted under the close supervision of Insp. Mohd. Sameer, SHO PS Bambooflat. Close surveillance was kept over scrap dealers and other petty offenders. Also, the teams worked relentlessly and apprehended three persons namely M. Vignesh S/o Shri A. L. Madurai Veeran, (23) Yrs, R/o Shore Point, Akash Kerketta, S/o Shri Antherias Kerketta, (23) Yrs, R/o Dhanikhadi and P. Jagpath Rao, S/o Shri Sri Ramlu, (23) Yrs, R/o Tsunami Pahad, Bambooflat, who had committed the offence. They had sold the stolen properties to S. Chander Rao, S/o Shri Prakash Rao, (35) Yrs, R/o Narsaiah Pahad, Bambooflat and P. Laxman Rao,

S/o Shri Barikannu, (38) Yrs, R/o Narsaiah Pahad, Bambooflat. Later, 03 Nos. ceiling fans were recovered from the possession of S. Chander Rao and P. Laxman Rao. Thereafter, all the accused persons were arrested under appropriate sections of law and they were produced before the Hon'ble Court. The entire operation has been carried out under the close supervision of Shri Saurabh Chandra, SDPO(Bambooflat).

The general public is requested to share information pertaining to any crime or other illegal activities to Police at 112, 03192-232100, 03192-233077 & 03192-258411. The identity of the informant will be kept secret.

## Directorate of Industries in association with SBI-RSETI organized Entrepreneurship Development Training programme

The Directorate of Industries, Andaman and Nicobar Administration in association with SBI- Rural Self Employment Training Institute (SBI-RSETI) organized a 2 weeks Entrepreneurship Development Training programme for the trainees of the Directorate of Industries undergoing skill development training courses in various trades from Sept. 12 to 26, 2022. Altogether 46 students participated.

The 2 weeks Entrepreneurship Development Training program which is organized every year as a mandatory part of the curriculum of one year skill Development training, was focused upon various aspects of entrepreneurship development

including exposure of the candidates to various schemes implemented by the Government Departments, Banks as well as motivating them in setting up of self-employment ventures and at the same time explaining them about the current market trends.

The valedictory function was held today at the Conference Hall of State Bank of India, Mohanpura. Shri Abhishek Bhukal, Director of Industries, Andaman and Nicobar Administration graced the occasion as chief guest, in the presence of Shri Ummer Farooq, Lead District Manager, SBI, Shri Subhasish Bagchi, Deputy Director, Directorate of Industries and Shri Prabhu Yadav, Director-RSETI.

Speaking on the occasion, the Director of Industries congratulated the participants on successful completion of the training and advised them to make the best use of the skills and knowledge that was imparted and apply it in an innovative manner for upliftment of their livelihood and boost the economy of the Islands. The other delegates motivated the participants towards self-employment and wished them success in their ventures.

The successful candidates were awarded with certificates and the programme concluded with vote of thanks by Director, RSETI.

## Health and Nutrition Camp-cum-Survey organized at Dugong Creek from Sept. 4

A meeting was convened in the chamber of Secretary (TW) on Wellness, Wellbeing & Welfare of the Onge Tribe yesterday. Dr. Shiv Shankar Singh, Consultant, GB Pant Hospital, Port Blair made a power-point presentation on the outcome of Health and Nutrition Camp-cum-Survey organized at Dugong Creek from Sept. 4 to 8, 2022. Officers from the Departments i.e. Health Services, Fisheries, Animal husbandry and

Veterinary Services, APWD and Social Welfare were present during the meeting.

Secretary (TW) appreciated the endeavours made by Health Department and issued necessary directions to line agencies including APWD to initiate urgent repair work at Onge settlement. It was also directed that Animal Husbandry Department shall provide poultry birds to Onge for rearing and Agriculture

Department shall plant fruit bearing trees and set up a vegetable garden for Onge. Social Welfare Department has been directed to resume functioning of Anganwadi and the nutritional status of the Onge children to be monitored closely. He also directed the officers of the line Departments to work in tandem towards wellbeing and welfare of the Onge PVTG of Dugong Creek.