



Thought for today
Freedom starts in the mind, not by cutting ropes.

COVID-19 status in A&N Islands

Port Blair, Dec 23: During the RT-PCR test conducted on 464 passengers who arrived here yesterday, no positive case has been detected. 12 flights with 2102 passengers arrived on Wednesday, out of which 1629 were vaccinated with both doses while RT-PCR test was conducted on 473 passengers (includes 34 international travellers) and the reports are awaited. During RAT conducted on 131 passengers bound for North & Middle Andaman at Farrangunj no positive case has been detected. At Mohanpura Bus Terminus, test was conducted on 86 passengers and all were found negative. At Phoenix Bay Jetty, 80 passengers were tested with RAT and all were found negative. During RAT conducted on 7 passengers at Helipad, no positive case has been detected. Till 3 pm on Wednesday, 228 eligible passengers were vaccinated, out of which 197 were of 18 plus age group.

Motorists peeved over poor connectivity at Transport HQ, inflated fee demand by cyber cafes for online services

Port Blair, Dec 23: In line with the Central Government's plan to make available government services to citizens at the click of a mouse, many departments of the UT Administration introduced online services for citizens. But lack of proper connectivity at government offices, untrained hands manning counters for such services and exorbitant fee demand by cyber cafe operators has become an impediment for citizens in availing such online services.

The Transport Department, for instance, is now facing flak after introducing a range of services online relating to motor vehicles. After implementing Sarathi and Vahan, various motor vehicle services were made available online for citizens such as Driving License, Fitness of Vehicle, Renewal etc. However due to lack of proper connectivity at the Transport Department Headquarters, serpentine queues have become the

order of the day in the department. Untrained hands manning the counters of the Transport Department is making matters worse for citizens while availing the services. Those who approach cyber cafes are compelled to pay through their nose to obtain such services.

Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic last year, validity of documents relating to motor vehicles was extended from time to time. However recently updation of such documents has been made mandatory causing heavy rush at the counters of the Transport Department. Hundreds of motorists visit the office for payment of road tax, renewal of permits, fitness etc. But have to wait for long hours after untrained hands at the counters take longer time to transact the online services. To add to their woes is frequent outages in internet connectivity and power-cuts. Those who visit cyber cafes are forced to pay at least Rs 100 extra for availing

the online services, as per reports.

"For just even payment of road tax, cyber cafes charge Rs 100/- from motorists. Not many people can afford computers and internet at homes and visit the Transport Department for such services. But many of them return dejected due to poor internet services at the office. The Transport Department launched the online services to prevent multiple visits to the office by vehicle owners. But it probably failed to comprehend that public transport operators such as auto-wallahs, jeep drivers, truck drivers etc are not literate enough to operate computers and avail internet services. As such they visit the Transport Department and owing to poor internet are compelled to face countless problems. Those visiting cyber cafes are forced to shell out extra money from their pockets," said an auto-rickshaw driver.

"Various government services have been made online with

the aim of improved delivery of services to citizens without the citizens facing difficulties by visiting various offices. But the unjustified fee demand by cyber cafes is taking a toll on common man. After the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, there are several families struggling to sustain their livelihood particularly those employed in private sectors. Paying such huge money for transport related online services is only adding to the woes of such families. I have been visiting the Transport Office for the past three days to get the road tax payment. But every time I am told that there is no internet link at the Office and asked to come the next day. Ultimately I had to pay the road tax availing the service at a cyber cafe after paying Rs 100/- extra. The administration should take a note of the prevailing situation and devise a mechanism to ensure such cyber cafes do not charge exorbitant fees from ordinary citizens," said another.

MESSAGE

I express my warm greetings to all the Islanders on the occasion of "National Consumer Day" on 24th December, 2021. It gives me immense pleasure to know that the Department of Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs is celebrating "National Consumer Day" on 24th December, 2021 in these Islands along with rest of the country on the theme "Consumer-Know Your Rights".

The consumers are pillars of the economic development of the nation as the entire economy revolves around them. In the contemporary global era of 21st Century, sensitizing the consumers about their rights assumes all the more importance to protect them from the forces of mindless profiteering and unethical trade practices. With an exalted spirit of ensuring doorstep delivery of services, this UT of A&N Administration has implemented e-daakhil to enable consumers to file their grievances online.

Celebration of this day marks the utmost importance accorded to sensitize people about their consumer rights as enshrined under the Consumer Protection Act, 1930.

I call upon the people of these Islands to be aware of their rights and participate in the celebrations in solidarity with consumer movement. This will be a significant step towards becoming the responsible citizen of our great nation.

I wish a grand success to this endeavor.

Sd/-

(Admiral D K Joshi)

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

Lieutenant Governor

Andaman & Nicobar Islands & Vice Chairman, Islands Development Agency

MP Demands Ship for Car Nicobar Island via Hut Bay

Port Blair, Dec 23: The Member of Parliament of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma has requested the Chief Secretary to direct the Shipping Department to schedule ship for Car Nicobar via Hut Bay atleast once or twice a month. In a letter addressed to the Chief Secretary the Member of Parliament mentioned that due to the non-availability of ships for Car Nicobar via Hut Bay, a lot of people from Nicobar are unable to visit Car Nicobar to meet with their family members. He added that there are thousands of Nicobar brother and sisters at Little Andaman

Island, who have a strong link with Car Nicobar 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 Car Nicobar and they have to undergo similar hardship in their return journey. For this journey from Little Andaman to Car Nicobar and vice versa via Port Blair they have to incur heavy expenditure and go through tremendous mental agony. The Member of Parliament pointed out that there are hundreds of Nicobar brothers and sisters in Little Andaman who have been waiting

to visit Car Nicobar since more than the last one year. He mentioned that occasional ships to Car Nicobar via Hut Bay are also required to supply fresh vegetable, fish and meat from Little Andaman to Car Nicobar Island, where a large number of tribal population and government servants and their families reside. The Member of Parliament said that such connecting ships will also open up business opportunities for poor farmers and other small business owners of Little Andaman, who have already suffered heavy financial loss during this pandemic time.



Picture shows Admiral D K Joshi, PVSM, AVSM, YSM, NM, VSM (Retd.), Lt. Governor, A&N Islands and Vice-Chairman, Islands Development Agency along with senior officers of Administration participating in the 2nd meeting of National Committee for Commemoration of 75th Anniversary of India's Independence (Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav) through Video Conference chaired by Mr. Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India on Wednesday.

Vaccination drive going smoothly in isles

Port Blair, Dec 23: The vaccination drive is continuing smoothly in A&N Islands. As per data available, a total of 5,88,626 beneficiaries have been vaccinated so far in A&N Islands, out of the target beneficiaries of 2,86,600

(approx). A total of 612 people were vaccinated in South Andaman District today. 508 beneficiaries were vaccinated in South Andaman District, out of which 53 beneficiaries were in the age group of 18-44 years. Similarly, 57 beneficiaries were

vaccinated in North & Middle Andaman District out of which 5 beneficiaries were in the age group of 18-44. 47 beneficiaries were vaccinated in Nicobar District out of which 3 beneficiaries were in the age group of 18-44.

MP concerned over poor BSNL network connectivity at Guptapara, Manjery

Port Blair, Dec 23: The Member of Parliament of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma has requested the Chief General Manager, BSNL, A&N Circle to increase the signal strength of BSNL towers, erected at Guptapara and Manjery areas for better coverage to the people living in these villages and adjoining areas. In a letter addressed to the Chief General Manager, BSNL,

A&N Circle the Member of Parliament added that the villagers residing in the Guptapara and Manjery areas have raised the issue with his office that people of the area are not getting proper mobile network for which they are facing immense hardship for contacting to others. He pointed out that students of these areas are facing huge difficulties because they are unable to attend online classes.

District Youth Convention by NYK at Rangat

Port Blair, Dec 23: Nehru Yuvak Kendra Rangat in collaboration with Gram Panchayat Rangat was

organized District Youth Convention at Atal Bihari Vajpayee Auditorium Rangat on Wednesday



in which around 100 participants participated. The main objective of the programme is to provide opportunity and platform to rural youth leaders to express themselves, share experiences and suggest best practices for their own empowerment.

The chief guest, guest of honor, resource person & Participant and brief about the importance of the programme.

Mr Thomas Verghese, See... Page 02

Re-opening of Class I and II Schools Heads asked to convene meeting of PTA, SMC

Port Blair, Dec 23: The Directorate of Education has asked Heads of all institutions across all Zones in these islands to convene meeting of Parents Teachers Association (PTA)/School Management Committee (SMC) to seek suggestions on re-opening of classes for students of Class I and II. In an official note, the Zonal Officers has been asked to instruct all Heads of Institutions (all managements) to convene the

meeting latest by Dec 28, 2021.

"Meeting of Parents Teachers Association/School Management Committee should be held per the guidelines of the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Andaman and Nicobar Administration as issued from time to time for prevention of COVID-19. Zonal Officers should submit school-wise recommendations as per the prescribed proforma by Dec 29, 2021," the note read.

Training prog. on Scientific Dairy Farming by ICAR-KVK concludes at Humphrey Gunj

Port Blair, Dec 23: As a part of celebrating Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav to mark the 75th year of Independence of India, the ICAR-

KVK, Port Blair in association with ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair and ICAR-ATARI, Zone-V, Kolkata is organizing a series of five numbers

off five day trainings at different five villages of South Andaman for capacity building of farmers through training programme on profitable dairy farming and livestock management. The valedictory function of the second training off series i.e. Scientific Dairy Farming at Community Hall, Humphrey Gunj was graced by Dr. Eaknath B. Chakurkar, Director, ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair and Dr. Y. Ramakrishna, Principal Scientist & Head Speaking on the occasion.

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Invitation Beach Cleaning Drive

By

Andaman Beauty Pageant

& Green Hand NGO in association with Lions Club, Aberdeen On 29-12-2021

at 6.30 am in Marina Park

Chief Guest:

Deputy Commissioner, South Andaman,

Shri. Suneel Anchipaka

Guest of Honour:

Secretary, Port Blair Municipal Council

Organise by

K Ganesan, Ex Chairperson, PBM

and

Mahinder Prasad

Ex-Senior Vice Chairperson

Alcoholism, Drug Awareness prog. by Humane Touch at Manglutan Range Office



Port Blair, Dec 23: Humane Touch in association with Forest Range Office, Manglutan organized an Alcoholism Awareness Program for the staff of Manglutan division in the premises of Manglutan Range

Office on Thursday. Altogether 40 forest officials attended the event. P. Yusuf, Health Educator, GB Pant hospital was the key note speaker in this program. He

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Switz Bakerz opens new retail outlet at Aberdeen village

Port Blair, Dec 23: The city's popular Baking Company, Switz Bakerz, opened its new retail outlet at Aberdeen village

on Thursday Mr. G Paranthaman of TSG Groups inaugurated the outlet located at Aberdeen village, opposite Jama Masjid,



next of Andaman Motors, in the city. A huge gathering of members from the business community and local residents of the area attended the inaugural function. The family members and relatives of Switz Bakerz thanked people for their well wishes.

EDITORIAL

The Andaman Express

24 December 2021

Jathedar Shot Dead

Jathedar Santokh Singh, 52, president of the Delhi Gurudwara Prabhandak Committee was shot dead by a DGP member Sohan Singh Sandhu from the Singh Sabha Gurudwara in Delhi's Vishnu Garden. Immediately after Sohan Singh was shot dead by the Jathedar's bodyguard. Though police and eyewitness accounts were nebulous regarding the incident which took place a few seconds, preliminary investigations reveal that the Jathedar who was travelling in a white Ambassador car was shot thrice by Sandhu, a few yards from the gurudwara. He had come to attend a function at the gurudwara. Santokh Singh and Sohan Singh Sandhu were declared dead upon arrival at the hospital. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has expressed shock at the Jathedar's murder.

Assam Talks To Resume

Negotiations between the Assam agitators and the Central Government are likely to begin soon in New Delhi. The Centre has reportedly asked the All Assam Students Union and the All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad to decide the date and January 3 is being considered, according to various indications. A final decision will be taken at the AASU and the AAGSP executive meeting on December 22. The talks will be tripartite this time. A committee of the national opposition parties will also participate.

Message To Pak

India is likely to seek clarification from Pakistan on its no-war pact offer. A formal communication has been sent to Pakistan. According to sources, Indian envoy in Pakistan, K Natwar Singh, will carry the Indian communication. Singh has already had discussions with the Prime Minister, External Affairs Minister and senior officials of the external affairs ministry.

District Youth ..

from... Page 01

Tehsil Rangwat as the chief guest on the occasion, while Mr Anil Bepari, Ex- Up-Adhyaksh was the guest of honor on the occasion. Six Resource person were invited to cover the above programme. During the programme, topics such as COVID-19, Activities, Campaigns and Interventions, Prime Minister Sukh Shree Beema Yojana, Prime Minister Jeevan Jyoti Beema Yojana, Prime Minister Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana

and other schemes. Extent of Youth Skill and Handholding - Aatma Nirbhar Bharat, role of Youth in Disaster Risk Reduction and Preparedness Teams, What schemes and programmes of New Government have reached to the youth and villages and importance of Yoga in life were covered. Ms Poonam Rai, Panchayat Secretary, Rangwat welcomed the gathering. Shri Jag Jeevan Ram Deputy Director, NYK Rangwat proposed vote of thanks.

Training prog. on..

from... Page 01

Director, CIARI applied to the dairy farmers not to let loose their cattle and to adopt intensive dairy farming so that productivity of the cows can be increased through proper management. He also said that, need-based specialized training can be provided at their village and its KVKs and as when required by the farmers in different aspect of agricultural and allied sectors. Awareness was created on efficient waste management as a part of celebrating Swachh Pakhwa 2021. The first training of the series was conducted at Choudhary village from 16th to 18th December, 2021 which benefited 43 farmers. The rest of the three training programmes will be conducted at Ferrarguni on 'Scientific Goat Farming' from 28th to 30th December, at Cuddling on 'Scientific Dairy Farming' from 4th to 6th January, 2022 and at

Tushnabad on 'Scientific Poultry Farming' from 10th to 12th January, 2022. These trainings are being organized under the Chairmanship of Dr. Eaknath B. Chakurkar, Director, CIARI-CIARI, Port Blair with the team of experts comprising of Dr. Y. Ramakrishna, Dr. D. Bhatnagar, Dr. Jai Sunder, Dr. Zachariah George as Course Directors and Dr. L.B. Singh, Dr. S. Sujatha, Dr. B.K. Nanda, Dr. N. Bommayasamy, Dr. Pooja Kapoor, Dr. P.A. Bala, Dr. P. Perumal, Dr. A.K. De, Dr. Muniasami, Dr. Rafeeqe R. Alyethodi, Shri. Thannai Paul as Course Coordinators. Each training can accommodate around 40 trainees. The interested candidates may contact Dr. Y. Ramakrishna (8974919867) or Dr. Zachariah George (9434271615) for further details.

Alcoholism, Drug ..

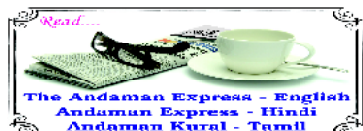
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emphasized on the effects of alcohol in medical terms. He had an active interaction session with the audience. Further he also gave tips on how to cope with the alcoholics and problems raised due to alcohol in the society.

P. Mujib Rehman, President, Humane Touch briefed about the activities done by Humane Touch in the field of Alcoholism. He also spoke about the problems faced by the families due to alcoholism. He also presented the sample survey conducted by Humane Touch in Brindaban Panchayat and raised the concern about effects of alcohol in villages and how this poison is

slowly affecting the entire Rural Andaman. Later Dr. Shivani Lal Medical Officer from Health and Wellness Center also addressed the employees of Mangalvan Range and shed light on the drunken driving cases and usage of psychiatric drugs by the drunken drivers. She also shed light on the escalating drug cases among the students and minors.

Welcoming the gathering, Deputy Ranger, Shri S. Haggim highlighted the need for creating awareness on alcoholism at the grassroots level. He also proposed the vote of thanks.



The Andaman Express - English
Andaman Express - Hindi
Andaman Kural - Tamil

CHINA EYEING DEADLIER SUBMARINES, SAFER NUCLEAR REACTORS WITH NEW STIRLING ENGINE?

China's Global Times on Wednesday reported a research institution in the country had developed a new heat engine, which it described as the most powerful type of its kind in the world.

The report claimed the 711 Research Institute under the China State Shipbuilding Corporation (CSSC) had developed the new 'Stirling' engine.

What is a Stirling engine?
A Stirling engine is a 'closed cycle' engine; that is, the propellant is not ejected out, but is continuously circulated. This is different from 'open cycle' engines, such as those used in cars, in which propellant is burned and ejected out.

A Stirling engine converts heat into mechanical energy by the movement

of two or more pistons inside cylinders. According to interesting Engineering, "The gas inside a Stirling engine never leaves the engine. They are heated and cooled down again and again, so are never released in the form of an explosive exhaust. This regenerative engine has the ability to use the same gas repeatedly to generate power; therefore, a Stirling engine can prove to be much more efficient than the internal combustion engines used in modern-day vehicles." The heat for the engine is provided by an external source, such as fossil fuels (petrol or coal), nuclear power, solar power or even heat from decaying plants.

Robert Stirling, a Scottish clergyman and engineer, built the first engine of this type in 1816 and patented

it. The engine was created with the aim of competing with the steam engine. In the early 1800s, the steam engine was the most powerful form of propulsion available, but was prone to the threat of explosions. The Stirling engine minimised the risk of explosions.

However, the Stirling engine's capacity to change its power outputs limited, compared with open-cycle engines. Thus, adoption of Stirling engines has been less.

Use in submarines
As they lack explosive exhaust and have less vibration, Stirling engines are inherently quieter. This makes them useful for purposes where silent operation is critical, such as powering submarines. Swedish shipbuilder Kockums (now part of Saab) developed

a Stirling engine that burns pure oxygen and diesel fuel in a pressurised combustion chamber. The system has been used as an alternative power source for Swedish Navy diesel-electric submarines since the late 1990s. In such submarines, the Stirling engine acts as an air-independent propulsion (AIP) system, which propels the submarine underwater without needing to run its diesel engines to recharge its batteries.

Kockums has supplied its Stirling engine to the navies of Japan and Singapore. Submarines using the Kockums engine have a submerged endurance of up to two weeks, according to reports.

While fuel cell-based AIP systems are considered more efficient and are quieter, they have been harder to develop and are more expensive. Reports in the mid-2000s claimed China's People's Liberation Army Navy (PLAN) equipped its Yuan class of diesel-electric submarines with a Stirling engine of unknown power output.

According to the US Department of Defense, the PLAN is estimated to have 17 Yuan class submarines as of 2021 and could have 25 boats of the same class by 2025.

Interestingly, the new class of eight diesel-electric submarines Pakistan is receiving from China is expected to have AIP, which some experts believe will be a Stirling engine of Chinese design.

Nuclear reactors
Stirling engines have been

considered as a substitute for the steam turbines that generate electricity in most nuclear power plants. Interesting Engineering notes "liquid sodium could be used as coolant and water may not be required at all, Stirling engines can also increase the output of a nuclear reactor and decrease the amount of radioactive waste generated by the same."

NASA has used Stirling engines on space vehicles in which decay of radioisotope fuel provides heat energy. NASA has said Stirling engines connected to nuclear reactors could be a source of electricity for space colonies.

The 'most powerful' Stirling engine?

Explaining the features of the new Stirling engine, Global Times claimed "The prototype ran at a rated power of 320 kilowatts with a power conversion efficiency of 40 percent." In comparison, the Stirling engine used on the Swedish Navy's Gotland submarines is rated at 75KW.

The report noted the new Chinese Stirling engine "can span a series of variations to suit the need of power supply, ranging from 100 kilowatts to several megawatts, and is very suitable to be developed into a portable micro reactor power generator used in special environments such as polar regions, remote islands and Gobi Desert regions."

Interestingly, the report noted the new Stirling engine could be used with a 'sodium-cooled fast reactor' and potentially also be used on submarines.

No credit, debit card required for online shopping from Jan 1, 2022

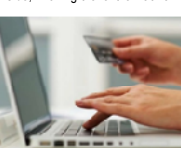
Port Blair, 23rd Dec, 2021: Purchases from your favourite online shopping websites like Amazon, Flipkart, Myntira, and BigBasket will be easier beginning January 1, 2022, thanks to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) introducing a new payment approach. Not just easier, the new approach also protects your confidential information.

For such digital platforms, you would no longer have to remember the 16-digit card details and the card expiration date. According to the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) directive, you can now quickly make contactless payments via a new method known as 'tokenization'.

Tokenization is a technique that involves swapping the card information with a token. This guarantees that purchases run smoothly without compromising clients' personal information.

RBI's tokenization policy identifies how these approaches

should be conceived and implemented. The CVV number will no longer be necessary for contactless banking on the server side, making the entire network



safer and more secure.

While tokenization doesn't exactly prevent data intrusion, it minimises the chances. Tokenization makes shopping with devices easier and more secure, from protected in-store retail POS activities to payments on-the-go, from regular-commerce to modern app payments. To maintain tokenized cards, the supplier bank will give a separate interface (on its own

website). Card members will also get the option of deleting tokens at any time.

Tokenization is completely available for free. Users can tokenize as many cards as they like. Only domestic cards, however, are subject to the present regulations. At this time, tokenization does not apply to overseas cards.

Users must submit their card information and choose tokenization when buying products online after shopping website's check-outpage. Tokens are helpful to ensure least information input during recurring payments.

If an online fraud takes place, the hacker will not be easily able to extract buyer information from a token. This is because reverse engineering a token to the actual details of the card is not an easy task.

Multi-domain tri-service exercise underway in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

Port Blair, Dec 23: A multi-domain tri-service exercise is currently in progress at the strategically important Nicobar group of islands of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. As part of the exercise, troops of the Indian Army, Navy and Air Force were mobilised for amphibious landing, in close

coordination with the para drop of airborne troops. The rapid response capability of Shatrughat Brigade has been validated wherein the paratroopers who had moved from mainland executed airborne drop in an island territory of Andamans in a realistic tactical setting under the overall command and control of

Andaman and Nicobar Command, the only joint service operational command of the defence forces of India. Lt Gen Ajai Singh, Command-in-Chief Andaman and Nicobar Command witnessed the Airborne Exercise and complimented the paratroopers for their battle readiness.

Omicron less severe than Delta variant, UK studies finds

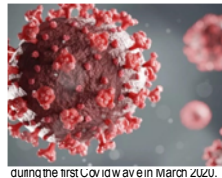
London, 23rd Dec, 2021: Two studies based on real-world Covid-19 UK data on Thursday reported that the Omicron variant is less severe than the Delta variant, with fewer infected people requiring hospitalization.

Research by Imperial College London found that people with PCR-confirmed Omicron are 40 to 45 per cent less likely to spend a night or more in hospital compared with the Delta variant.

Those with Omicron after a previous infection are 50 to 60 per cent less likely to be hospitalised, compared with those with no previous infection. However, the risk of hospitalization is higher for those who are unvaccinated, according to the study.

"Our analysis shows evidence of a moderate reduction in the risk of

hospitalization associated with the Omicron variant compared with the Delta variant," said Imperial's Professor Neil Ferguson, who is the specialist associated with the first complete stay at home lockdown hospitalization.



during the first Covid wave in March 2020.

However, this appears to be offset by the reduced efficacy of vaccines against

infection with the Omicron variant," he cautioned. The "high transmissibility of Omicron could lead to health services facing 'increasing demand' if cases grow at the rate seen recently, the scientist said after the UK recorded over 100,000 Covid-19 daily infections on Wednesday.

The sample for the Imperial College study, which is yet to be peer-reviewed, included 56,000 Omicron cases and 269,000 Delta cases.

Another research by the University of Edinburgh and other experts in Scotland, based on a small sample of 15 people in hospital, also concluded a two-thirds reduction in the risk of Covid-19 hospitalization when compared to Delta. Dr Jim McMenamin, the national Covid-19 incident director for Public Health

Scotland, said the findings were "a qualified good news story, but that it was important we don't get ahead of ourselves. He said smaller proportion of much greater number of cases" could still mean a "substantial number of people may experience severe Covid-19 infections which could lead to hospitalization.

Further data from South Africa suggests people catching Covid-19 are 80 per cent less likely to be taken to hospital with Omicron compared with other strains. Patients are 70 per cent less likely to develop severe disease compared with Delta, according to the National Institute for Communicable Diseases. But worldwide researchers have stressed the severity of the variant could be different

other populations and also effects on older age groups is yet to be fully studied.

In a move likely to inform British Prime Minister Boris Johnson's decision over any further restrictions after Christmas in England, the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) is set to release a real-world analysis along with findings on the efficacy of two and three vaccine doses against Omicron.

Ministers have stressed the government is constantly considering new Covid data, while other parts of the UK have already gone ahead with announcing post-Christmas rules of limiting numbers of households mixing. Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland have all set out restrictions from next week that will ban nightclubs and limit large groups from gathering.

e-Tender Notice

Online e-tender invited for allotment of Parking lot in various places in Municipal area. The tender documents containing terms and conditions can be downloaded from the website <https://eprocure.andaman.gov.in>. Tender ID No.2021_PMBC_4752_1 dated 23.12.2021 bidders w.e.f. 23.12.2021 to closing date on 13.01.2022 at 4.00 PM. The tender will be opened on the same day on 13.01.2022 at 4.30 pm in presence of the tenderers or their authorized representatives in the chamber of Revenue Officer, Revenue Section, Municipal Council, Port Blair.

**Revenue Officer
Port Blair Municipal Council**

AFFIDAVIT

I, **SAPU**, S/o Late. Shaw, Zanti, aged 75 years, by religion Christian, Residence of Karmatang village under Mayabunder Tehsil, North and Middle Andaman District of A & N Islands do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as follows:

1. That my actual and correct name is **SAPU** as mentioned in my **Adhaar Card vide No. 4102 0823 7120** and all other documents and testimonials.
 2. That in the holding register of landed property vide **Survey No: 38/5, total area of 0.46 hec** classified as **Hilly** comprised in **Holding No. 36 (new)** situated at Karmatang village in which my name is erroneously entered as **SAW POO** which is incorrect instead of **SAPU**.
 3. That the names **SAPU** and **SAW POO** are the same, one and identical person, hence this affidavit.
 4. That this affidavit is made for the purpose of correction of my name from **SAW POO** to **SAPU** in my land record as stated in para.2
- Whatever, I have stated hereinabove are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, nothing has been concealed thereof.

DEPONENT

AIC India Recruitment 2021, Apply 31 MT & Hindi Officer Vacancies @ www.aicofindia.com

AIC India Recruitment 2021 | Management Trainee & Hindi Officer Posts | Total Vacancy 31 | Last Date 13.12.2021 | Download AIC Agriculture Recruitment Notification @ www.aicofindia.com

AIC India Recruitment 2021: Agriculture Insurance Company of India Limited (AIC) a leading Crop Insurance Company, invites online applications from Indian Citizens for recruitment of Management Trainee & Hindi Officer. According to the AIC Notification [Ref. No. AIC/Rec/MT & Hindi Officer-2021-22], there are 31 vacancies will be filled by AIC Agriculture and these vacancies are assigned for AIC MT Vacancy. Candidates who are searching Central government jobs kindly make the online registration from 23.11.2021. As per the AIC Recruitment notification, online applications will be received up to 13.12.2021. AIC Insurance recruitment notification & AIC of India recruitment Apply online link is available @ www.aicofindia.com.

Agriculture Insurance Company of India selection will be based on Online Exam and Personal Interview. Selected candidate will be at any where in India. Candidates who are seeking Engineering jobs must check their eligibility i.e. educational qualification, age limit, experience and etc. Candidates applying for the post of Management Trainee should apply for any ONE discipline only. Not more than one application for the post of Management Trainee & Hindi Officer should be submitted by any candidate. More details of AIC Agriculture vacancy, upcoming AIC Insurance Jobs notices, syllabus, answer key, merit list, selection list, admit card, result, upcoming notifications and etc. will be uploaded on official website.

Here you will get information of MT & Other like educational qualification, age limit, application mode, fee and how to apply. Keep check w.w.dailyrecruitment.in regularly to get latest updates.

IMA Dehradun Recruitment 2021 (New), Apply 188 Group C Vacancies @ www.indianarmy.nic.in

IMA Dehradun Recruitment 2021 | MTS, LDC & Other Posts | Total Vacancies 188 | Last Date Within 45 days | Download Indian Army Recruitment Notification @ www.indianarmy.nic.in

IMA Dehradun Recruitment 2021: Indian Military Academy (IMA) Dehradun has issued new notice regarding appointment of Cook Special, Cook IT, MT Driver (Ordinary Grade), Boot Maker/Repairer, LDC, Masalchi, Waiter, Fatiguer, MTS (Safawala), Groundsman, GC Orderly, MTS (Chowkidar), Groom, Barber, Equipment Repairer, Bicycle Repairer, MTS (Messenger), Laboratory Attendant posts. It invites offline application from eligible candidates. There are 188 vacancies will be filled by IMA Dehradun and post wise vacancy details are given below. Candidates who are searching Defence Jobs kindly submit the application in the prescribed format within 45 days from the date of publication of advertisement in Employment News. IMA Dehradun Group C Recruitment 2021 Notification & Indian Military Academy Recruitment application form is available @ www.indianarmy.nic.in. Candidates who are seeking 10th pass jobs/ 12th pass jobs must check their eligibility i.e. educational qualification, age limit, experience and etc. Selection will be based on Written Test & Skill Test and selected candidates will be appointed at Dehradun. More details of www.indianarmy.nic.in recruitment, IMA New vacancy, upcoming notices, syllabus, answer key, merit list, selection list, admit card, result, upcoming central govt jobs notifications and etc. will be uploaded on official website.

BSF Recruitment 2021, Apply 195 Group A, B & C vacancies @ bsf.gov.in

BSF Recruitment 2021 | Constable, HC & ASI Posts | 72 Vacancies | Last Date: Within 45 Days | BSF Bharti Notification @ bsf.gov.in

BSF Recruitment 2021: Border Security Force (BSF) invites online application from capable persons to fill up ASI, HC & Constable posts. There are announced 72 vacancies for these Group-C Combatant posts in Engineering set up of BSF. Applicants who are seeking for Central Government jobs may apply for this BSF jobs. Before applying for these advertised vacancies, candidates should read the notification to check the eligibility. Interested candidates need to submit the application through online mode. Aspirants must register themselves within 45 days from the date of publication of the advertisement.

BSF recruitment 2021 notification & apply online for BSF Group C Recruitment 2021 @ www.rect.bsf.gov.in. Candidates who had completed Class 10th/ITV Diploma may use this chance to start & develop careers at BSF. Applicants should be an Indian national to apply for these BSF Group C posts. BSF expects both male & female eligible candidates to fulfill the vacant positions. Number of vacancies may change as per requirement. Experience in relevant field is essential to apply for these BSF jobs. More details of BSF Constable recruitment 2021, selection list, merit list, results & upcoming job advertisements are updated at official website.

Steps to Apply Online for BSF Recruitment 2021 Notification
Go to official website rect.bsf.gov.in.
Find & click on appropriate notification.
Read the notification thoroughly.
Fill the online application form.
Submit & take a copy of filled form.

Please visit www.bsf.gov.in to know details of BSF job opportunity. Here we have prescribed educational qualification, age limit, selection process, apply mode & steps to apply. Looking forward with www.dailyrecruitment.in to know latest job updates.

CORONAVIRUS MUST KNOW FACTS

What Is 2019-nCoV?
A new strain of the coronavirus that infects humans and causes lower respiratory tract illnesses.

Who Is At Risk?
Common in people with underlying respiratory illnesses, weakened immunity, infants, and older adults.

What Are The Symptoms?
Fever, cough, Breathing difficulty, Sore Throat, Runny nose, Headache and General Debility.

What Are The Preventive Measures?

- Wash hands regularly using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer or soap and water.
- Cover mouth and nose with tissue paper while sneezing.
- Avoid touching face, nose or mouth with dirty hands.
- Wear a mask if you need to spend time with others.
- Stay at home if sick.
- Disinfecting and cleaning surfaces that you frequently touch.

CMRL Recruitment 2022, Apply B.E Vacancies @ chennaiametrorail.org

CMRL Recruitment 2022 General Manager, AGM & Other Post 10 vacancies | Last date: 07.01.2022 & 22.01.2022 | Download Application Form @ chennaiametrorail.org

CMRL Recruitment 2021: Chennai Metro Rail Limited invites applications from qualified and experienced personnel for the appointment to the post of General Manager, AGM, JGM, DGM, Manager, DM and AM. These 10 vacancies will be assigned through CMRL recruitment. Candidates must be Indian citizen and must have completed B.E/ B.Tech are eligible to apply for this General Manager and other post. Before final submission of application form candidate must review their application form carefully. The closing date of application form for General Manager is 22.01.2022 and other should be 07.01.2022.

Central government job seekers may download the CMRL recruitment application form and Chennai Metro Rail recruitment notification from official website. The CMRL will conduct the interview/written test. Persons already working in Government/PSU organizations should apply through proper channel. At the time of interview candidates should produce the NOC certificates. Candidates may send their filled application form along with the self-attested copies of certificates in support of educational qualification, experience certificate, birth certificates, community certificates and passport size photo and Bio data should be submitted to the proper channel. Belated application form will not be considered for after the due date of application.

Details regarding Chennai Metro Rail jobs like educational qualification, age limit, selection process, & how to apply are provided above. Check out the latest current job notification is available at Daily recruitment site.

OPaL Recruitment 2021(New), Apply Executive Vacancies @ www.opalindia.in

OPaL Recruitment 2021 | Executive Posts | 13 Vacancies | Last Date: 12.12.2021 | ONGC OPaL Job Notification @ www.opalindia.in

OPaL Recruitment 2021: ONGC Petro additions Limited (OPaL) is going to activate the online application link for OPaL Executive vacancy. In OPaL latest vacancy notification, they are announced 13 vacancies in following functions such as Marketing, Material Management, Information Technology & Company Secretary. Link for online application for these Central Government jobs will be enabled from 20.11.2021 @ OPaL Careers. The last date to submit the online application form for OPaL job notification is 12.12.2021. ONGC OPaL recruitment 2021 notification & apply online link for this current job openings will be updated @ www.opalindia.in.

OPaL expect competent personnel at executive cadre to fill up this ONGC OPaL latest vacancy 2021. Candidates must have proven track record in Petrochemicals/ related industry to apply for this ONGC Petro additions vacancy. Before applying, aspirants need to check the eligibility. Selection of candidates may be based on test/ interview. Incomplete application or applications received after the last date will be rejected. Renumeration for selected candidates will be provided on CTC basis. More details of ONGC Petro additions recruitment, www.opalindia.in recruitment, selection list, merit list, results & upcoming job notices will be uploaded at official website. Visit www.opalindia.in to get more career opportunity @ ONGC OPaL. Link for OPaL latest vacancy has provided below. For latest updates, check @ www.dailyrecruitment.in.

GRSE Recruitment 2021, Apply Supervisor Vacancies @ www.grse.in

GRSE Recruitment 2021 | Supervisor & Other Posts | Total Vacancies 15 | Last Date: 19.12.2021 | Download GRSE Kolkata Recruitment Notification @ www.grse.in

GRSE Recruitment 2021: Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Limited invites online applications from qualified, talented and energetic Indian Nationals for the following posts on fixed term. There are 15 vacancies will be filled by GRSE Limited. Now it has published the recruitment advertisement [EMPLOYMENT NOTIFICATION NO. HR/SUP/01/2021] for engagement of Supervisor & Design Assistant Supervisor posts & post wise vacancy details are given below. Aspirants who are seeking Diploma Jobs in central govt those candidates kindly make the online registration from 29.11.2021 to 19.12.2021.

Applied candidates kindly submit your hard copy of the online form to given address on or before 28.12.2021. Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Limited selection will be based on Written Test and test will be held on 02.01.2022. GRSE Supervisor recruitment online application link and GRSE Kolkata Recruitment notification is available in official website. Candidates who are seeking Degree Jobs must check their eligibility i.e. educational qualification, age limit, experience and etc. Applications via online mode only will be accepted. More details of GRSE latest notification, latest jobs, upcoming GRSE vacancies, merit list, selection list, result, admit card and etc. will be available at GRSE official website.

How to apply GRSE Recruitment Notification 2021
Go to official website grse.in.
Click "Career" find the advertisement "GRSE Employment Notification No. HR/SUP/01/2021 [RECRUITMENT OF SUPERVISORS-ON FIXED TERM] (Detailed advertisement)", click on the advertisement.

Notification will open read it and check Eligibility.
Go to -> jobapply.in/grse2021app
Find the link, click on the link.
If you are new user, you have to make registration otherwise you may login to your account then start to apply.

Finally click submission and take the print off the application form.
You may visit GRSE careers to get more details about GRSE recruitment. Here you will get information of Apprentice & Trainee posts like educational qualification, age limit, application mode and how to apply. Keep check www.dailyrecruitment.in regularly to get latest updates & upcoming govt exams.

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IN CONVERSATION

US AUTHORISES MERCK ANTI-COVID PILL

US health regulators on Thursday authorized the second pill against COVID-19, providing another easy-to-use medication to battle the rising tide of omicron infections.

The Food and Drug Administration authorization comes one day after the agency cleared a competing drug from Pfizer. That pill is likely to become the first-choice treatment against the virus, thanks to its superior benefits and milder side effects.

As a result, Merck's pill is expected to have a smaller role against the pandemic than predicted just a few weeks ago. Its ability to head off severe COVID-19 is much smaller than initially announced and the drug label will warn of serious safety issues, including the potential for birth defects.

The Food and Drug Administration authorized Merck's drug for adults with early symptoms of COVID-19 who face the highest risks of hospitalization, including older people and those with conditions like obesity and heart disease. The U.K. first authorized the pill in early November.

Known as molnupiravir, the Merck drug will carry a warning

against use during pregnancy.

The restrictions were expected after an FDA advisory panel only narrowly endorsed the drug last month, warning that its use would have to be strictly tailored to patients who can benefit the most.

The Pfizer pill works differently and doesn't carry the same risks. Additionally, Pfizer's drug was roughly three times more effective in testing, reducing hospitalization and death by nearly 90 per cent among high-risk patients, compared with 30 per cent for Merck's.

Some experts question whether there will be much of a role for the Merck drug in the U.S.

To the extent that there's an ample supply of Pfizer's pill, I think it won't be used, said Dr. Gregory Poland of the Mayo Clinic, referring to the Merck drug. There would be no reason, given it has less efficacy and a higher risk of side effects.

For now, the FDA decision provides another potential option against the virus that has killed more than 800,000 Americans, even as health officials brace for record-setting cases, hospitalizations and deaths driven by the omicron variant. Antiviral pills, including Merck's, are expected to be effective

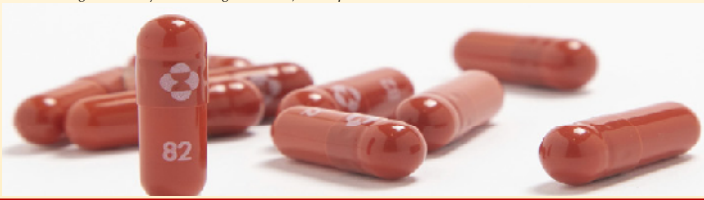
against omicron because they don't target the spike protein where most of the variant's worrisome mutations reside.

The FDA based its decision on results showing nearly 7 per cent of patients taking the drug ended up in the hospital and one died at the end of 30 days. That compared with 10 per cent of patients hospitalized who were taking the placebo and nine deaths.

Federal officials have agreed to purchase enough of the drug to treat 3.1 million people.

The U.S. will pay about \$700 for each course of Merck's drug, which requires patients to take four pills twice a day for five days. A review by Harvard University and King's College London estimated it costs about \$18 to make each 40-pill course of treatment.

Merck's drug inserts tiny errors into the coronavirus' genetic code to slow its reproduction. That genetic effect has raised concerns that the drug could cause mutations in human fetuses and even spur more virulent strains of the virus. But FDA scientists said the variant risk is largely theoretical because people take the drug for such a short period of time.



Boeing, Airbus executives urge Biden administration to postpone 5G rollout

Boeing Chief Executive Dave Calhoun and Airbus CEO Jeffrey Knittel have urged US Transport Secretary Pete Buttigieg to delay deployment of C-band spectrum for 5G wireless service. The companies have said the rollout will affect key aircraft instruments.

"5G interference could adversely affect the ability of aircraft to safely operate," said the letter, which has been obtained by Reuters.

Aviation regulators and manufacturers have expressed concerns that C-band 5G will interfere with radio altimeters on commercial aircraft. The Federal Aviation Administration forced a delay in 5G despite having no proof of harm to flight communication.

The instruments send out radio signals in the 4.2-4.4 GHz region and wait for a response. The aircraft can compute its height above the ground by monitoring the time it takes for the signal to return to the sensor. Pilots can get a more precise reading from radio altimeters than

from barometric altimeters, which rely on air pressure.

The aviation sector is afraid that rogue 5G transmissions could interfere with their computations.

The Federal Aviation Administration and the Federal Communications

Commission have been at odds over the 5G C-band rollout for a long time. The FCC set aside a 220MHz guard band, limiting mobile carriers to 3.7-3.98 GHz despite finding no credible evidence of interference. The FCC stated that this is "twice the minimum guard band requirement indicated in initial comments by Boeing and ASRC."



Disability-cum-Assessment Camps held in N&M

DJ Venkatesh

Diglipur, Dec 23: Under the National programme for prevention and control of deafness in collaboration with the Directorate of Social Welfare, a Disability-cum-Assessment Camp for the Hearing Impaired was conducted in North and Middle Andaman from 21-23 December 2021.

The camps were conducted at CHC Rangat on 21 December, at RP Hospital Mayabunder on 22 December, and at CHC Diglipur today on 23rd December. A team of Specialists from the District Hospital Garacharma Shri Suprit Kumar Meher, Audiologist (NHM) along with Programme Assistant



P. Mohammed Sabir (NPPCD) was conducted the camps. About 130 beneficiaries

benefited from these camps. Specialists examined the patients and advised medicine and those persons who are in need of Disability certificates were also issued by the team.

ANTCC President pays surprise visit to PHC RK Pur



Port Blair, Dec 26: The health authorities of Primary Health Centre at RK Pur in Little Andaman were in for a shock when a team of Andaman & Nicobar Territorial Congress Halder was accompanied by DCC President South Andaman, Mr. V.K. Abdul Aziz and several other Congress leaders of Little Andaman. They personally visited each and every ward to see the arrangements made there for patients. Later, they convened a meeting with senior officials of the PHC and raised the issue of shortage of healthcare staffs and medical equipments.

10 TIPS TO PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS
DO NOT RISK YOUR LIFE

1. Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
2. Avoid touching your face, especially your eyes, nose, and mouth.
3. Avoid close contact with people who have fever and cough.
4. Avoid going to crowded places and public transport.
5. Avoid sharing food and drinks with others.
6. Avoid touching and handling animals and birds.
7. Avoid touching and handling surfaces of public places.
8. Avoid touching and handling surfaces of public places.
9. Avoid touching and handling surfaces of public places.
10. Avoid touching and handling surfaces of public places.

Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)

Symptoms: Fever, cough, cold, sore throat, loss of taste and smell, difficulty breathing, etc. Symptoms may develop within 14 days after exposure.

Protect yourself from getting COVID-19

- Washing your hands frequently with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand rub.
- Avoiding touching eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoiding close contact with people who have fever and coughing.

When coughing and sneezing, cover your mouth and nose with flexed elbow or tissue.

Know: Tissue into closed bin immediately after use.

If you suspect you may have COVID-19, contact +91-20-2616 6111 (in English and Hindi, available 24/7).

For more information, visit the website: www.moh.gov.in or call 166.

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