

**FREE AYANAR TRADERS**  
**Opening**  
**BEST PRICE**

**NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)**

**SAFETY MEASURES**

## Thought for today

**When you are angry, a great deal of energy is used up and wasted. Use energy wisely.**

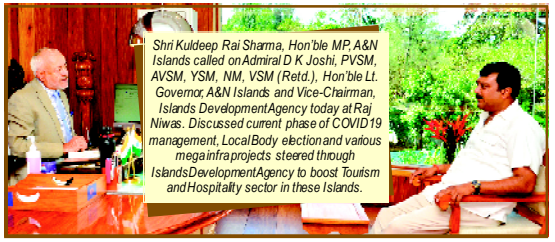
### Rangalal Halder express gratitude to MoHA for reconstituting Panchayat Samitis

Port Blair, Jan 7: The Andaman & Nicobar Territorial Congress Committee President Mr. Rangalal Halder has expressed his sincere gratitude to the Ministry of Home Affairs for reconstituting Panchayat Samitis in Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

## Voltage fluctuations a worry for residents

Port Blair, Jan 7: Denizens are getting ruder shocks with high power fluctuations damaging electrical appliances of late. The city residents, owing to the defect in power networks, have to face power fluctuation on a daily basis. The power fluctuation is making denizens to almost all appliances like Computers, Refrigerators, Washing Machines etc. According to information, the problem is likely to continue and denizens should gear up to meet another power imbroglio in the days to come. Power DG sets installed at various houses are faced with many problems and a situation looms where islanders can imagine darker days just ahead of the examinations. The mess in the power department led to major power outages in parts like Buniyadabad, Haddo, Delanipure etc. in the last few days that reeled under 8 hours of continuous blackout. The situation is made worse with acute shortage of staff in the department like JEs, AEs etc.

"The Electricity Department should take immediate cognizance of the situation. Faults in crucial power lines should be rectified immediately. Earnest efforts should be made to strengthen the workforce in the departments so that the history of prolonged blackouts particularly during examinations should not be repeated. Not once, the Electricity Department has committed to uninterrupted power supply for the islanders on numerous occasions. However, instances of power cuts expose the department's obligation to provide the basic facility to the islanders. Sincere efforts should be made to augment the staff strength in the crucial department, besides guaranteeing prompt efforts to rectify faults in power networks, as and when it occurs."



## MP demands 'Netting' of entry points of nallahs infested by crocodile in N&M Andaman

Port Blair, Jan 7: The Member of Parliament of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Mr. Kuldeep Rai Shama has requested the Chief Secretary of Andaman and Nicobar Administration to direct the Forest Department to place 'Nets' at the entry points of all the nallahs of North and Middle Andaman, where crocodiles are sighted frequently, so that crocodiles do not enter inside these nallahs and people living in the region can lead a normal life without any fear of Crocodile attacks.

In a letter addressed to the Chief Secretary, the Member of Parliament mentioned that there is a sense of fear among residents of Pinakinagar and Jaipur villages of Middle Andaman because of frequent



signings of crocodiles in various nallahs of the region.

He added that most of the villages in North and Middle Andaman region are situated around these small nallahs, where crocodiles are frequently sighted since the last few months.

The Member of Parliament pointed out that for various reasons like irrigation, fishing and farming people of the region are completely dependent on these nallahs and hence there is a possibility of human-animal conflict in the region.

He mentioned that in the past many islanders have already lost their life in crocodile attacks in Middle and North Andaman.

## Vaccination drive continuing smoothly in isles

Port Blair, Jan 7: The vaccination drive is continuing smoothly in A&N Islands. As per data available, a total of 6,05,833 beneficiaries have been vaccinated so far in A&N Islands. A total of 2919 people were vaccinated yesterday. 1984 beneficiaries were vaccinated in South Andaman District, out of which 1388 beneficiaries were in the age group of 15-18 years while 260 beneficiaries were in the age group of 18-44 years. Similarly, 722 beneficiaries were vaccinated in North & Middle Andaman District out of which 587 beneficiaries were in the age group of 15-18 years while 89 beneficiaries were in the age group of 18-44 years.

## DSS taking measures to minimizing the stay of vessels in the dry dock



Port Blair, 7th Jan, 2022: The Directorate of Shipping Services is in order to improve efficiency and operationalise more number of vessels has taken various steps. Towards achieving the said goals, the Directorate of Shipping Services has put in sincere efforts to optimize the utilization of dry docks. Pre docking preparations were strictly adhered to for these vessels which are allotted dry docks slots with respect to the quantum of repair and readiness by the repairing agency including men and materials. This action proved to be effective due to which, the overstay of vessels was minimized.

## COVID-19 status in A&N Islands

Port Blair, Jan 7: During the RT-PCR test conducted on 450 passengers who arrived here Wednesday, 12 positive cases have been detected. Yesterday, 13 flights with 1764 passengers arrived, out of which, 1421 were vaccinated with both doses while RT-PCR test was conducted on 343 passengers (includes 11 foreign travellers) and the reports are awaited. About 24 positive cases were found during the test conducted Wednesday. During RAT conducted on 107 passengers bound for North & Middle Andaman at Farrangunj, 20 positive cases were detected. At Mohanpura Bus Terminus, test was conducted on 52 passengers and all were found negative. At Phoenix Bay Jetty, 36 passengers were tested with RAT and all were found negative. At Helipad, 1 passenger was tested with RAT and was found negative. Yesterday till 3 pm, 610 doses of vaccines were administered to beneficiaries, out of which, 410 Covaxin doses were administered to children between the age group of 15-18 years.

## 30 yrs old man killed in road accident at Panighat, Mayabunder



Mayabunder, Jan 07: A man was killed in a road accident at Panighat, Mayabunder on Friday.

According to sources, Saw John Paul, S/o of Saw John Day, aged 30 yrs met with an accident near Petrol Pump.

Panighat, Mayabunder at about 1.40 pm. He was driving a Scooty and was hit by a STS passenger bus.

## Vishal expresses gratitude

Port Blair, Jan 07: Shri Vishal Joty, National Executive Member, BJP & Former State President BJP-A&N Islands and Member Home Ministry Advisory Committee, Govt. of India expressed his sincere gratitude to the Hon'ble Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah, National President BJP Shri J.P. Nadda, National

General Secretary (Org) Shri B. L. Santhosh and National Secretary & Prabhakar B.J.P.ANI Shri Y. Satyakumar for reinstatement of the abolished Panchayat Samiti in A & N Islands. The decision of the Union Govt for re-establishment of abolished Panchayat Samiti of these islands shows the determination of Modi Govt. towards a participatory form of democracy.

Further he stated that the decision of the Union Government will immensely benefit villagers for developing the village infrastructure and redress their grievances and demands etc in real time. At this critical juncture when the Nation is experiencing a pandemic.

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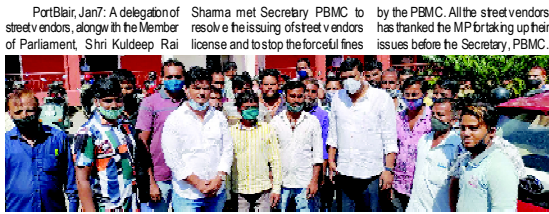
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## Street vendors express gratitude to MP



Port Blair, Jan 7: A delegation of street vendors, along with the Member of Parliament, Shri Kuldeep Rai Shama met Secretary PBMC to resolve the issue of street vendors license and to stop the forcible fines by the PBMC. All the street vendors have thanked the MP for taking up their issues before the Secretary, PBMC.

## NABARD to launch of Potential Linked Credit Plan for Islands-2022-23

Port Blair, Jan 7: NABARD has been preparing to launch Potential Linked Credit Plan (PLP) for all the districts in the country annually. For the ensuing year i.e. 2022-23, NABARD have been preparing PLP for the UT of Andaman & Nicobar Island by way of a consultative and participatory approach involving all the relevant stakeholders in the field of agriculture and rural development to stimulate balanced development and growth of the islands.

A convergence meet of NABARD, CIARI and Govt. Departments to showcase a few such successful farm sector projects supported by NABARD and implemented by CIARI which have ample potential for replication and upscaling will also be organised as part of the meet.

## Follow Covid-19 appropriate behaviour: Secretary, IP&T



Port Blair, Jan 7: In view of the rising Covid-19 cases in the islands, the administration has made it mandatory for the air passengers to carry RT-PCR negative test report and it has been made mandatory for all the incoming passengers to carry the RT-PCR negative test report and show it in the airport, said Mr. Pankaj Kumar, Secretary, IP&T while interacting with the local media persons at the conference of Directorate of IP&T here on Friday. He requested that people should follow Covid appropriate behavior and should stay at home as much as possible and gathering in market places should be avoided.

He further informed that instructions are given



# EDITORIAL

## The Andaman Express

08 January 2022

### Happy New Year

As the old year was giving way to the new, in this age of the image, two videos seemed to tell a story. In the first, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, giving an election speech in Moradabad in poll-bound UP, exhorts his audience to vote for his party's 'nizam (ruling order)', which he says, is different from that of its rival. He spells out the difference: In the SP's nizam, N is for Nasimuddin, I for Imran Masood... In other words, for all the BJP's publicity and claims on governance, its senior leader and minister seems to be once again framing the same bare and impoverished choice in UP 2022 — us versus them, one faith versus another. The sense that the BJP could be preparing to run a joyless, leaden campaign, weighed down by resentments, is a dispiriting thing to carry into the new year. Now, cut to the second video. Women in a house in Tumukuru, the walls festooned with balloons, are eloquently and forcefully telling off some men, Hindutva vigilantes, who were apparently trying to disrupt their Christmas celebrations. You don't need to know the language the women speak to understand what they say. The brave women of Tumukuru who refused to be bullied, not the politician in the polarising campaign, is the apt freeze-frame on which to end the year that saw farmers speak back to their government.

Last year, the farmers agitated and won. In November 2020, protesting farmers, mainly from Punjab and Haryana but also from elsewhere, had reached Delhi's borders to camp in the open against the Centre's three farm laws, pushed through amid a pandemic. In November 2021, when Prime Minister Narendra Modi finally took to television to announce his government's decision to repeal the laws, it had become clear that the issue was not their merit — they were reformist in intent, and by all accounts and indices, Punjab's agriculture is crying out for change. The point was that the farmers had dug in their heels and the government could not go on ignoring their insecurities and concerns. Over more than a year, the farmers showed the power of peaceful resistance — the movement was scarred by the violence on January 26 but for the most part, it remained patient and unswerving. Its journey and its denouement leave democracy enriched.

Of course, 2021 was also the year of other stories. The heartrending loss suffered by so many, seemingly abandoned by a rudderless government and unprepared administration, in that second deadly surge of Covid in April-May. And, by year-end, the formidable and impressive success of the vaccination programme, which now hopefully helps India brace for a possible third wave of the mutated virus with the largest population of vaccinated people in the world. The many snapshots of institutional norms under challenge, the weaponising of laws against free speech, and the Opposition's continuing inability to hold up its end of the debate. Yet, amid the challenges and the continuing pandemic, is a hope for 2022 that draws from the unmarked spirit of the farmers and the women: The people will speak and the powerful will be compelled to listen. Happy New Year.

### Rangalal Halder..

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Nicobar Islands. He said that the decision of MHA will help the Congress party to carry the policies, programmes, principles and

### MP demands 'Netting'..

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Andaman and Nicobar Islands. He said that the decision of MHA will help the Congress party to carry the policies, programmes, principles and

### 30 yrs old man..

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bus and died on the spot. Saw John was employed in the Veterinary department in the post of Veterinary Compounder. The dead body of deceased John is kept in the

### DSS taking measures..

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under repair in the dry dock which docked allotment and its optimum utilization, the Directorate has also considered allotment to private passenger vessels which are operated in the Tourism sector and cargo vessels which are essentially operated to transport cargo including essential commodities to various islands particularly Southern Group of Islands. This consideration is to enhance the capacity to handle more tourists and to maintain the supply chain of essential and non-essential petroleum products, LPG etc. The Directorate is further making efforts to address other factors, if any, low ards minimizing the stay of vessels in the dry dock which will pave the way to reduce waiting period of vessels for dry dock so that more vessels are available for service.

With the above initiation by the Directorate, around 87 vessels were provided dry docking facilities during the calendar year 2021. Though due to the pandemic situations, proper precautionary measures by following COVID protocol and meticulous planning of the Directorate by addressing various constraints were able to achieve the desired result. While streamlining the

### Vaccination drive ..

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group of 18-44 years. 213 beneficiaries were vaccinated in Nicobar District, out of which 202

## CENTRE ISSUES FRESH GUIDELINES FOR INTERNATIONAL PASSENGERS

Amid the surging COVID-19 numbers, the Centre, on Friday, issued a fresh set of guidelines for international passengers. According to the guidelines, people arriving from abroad will have to undergo seven-day home quarantine. The guidelines will be in force from January 11.

The Centre also issued a list of 'At risk' countries — countries in Europe including the UK, South Africa, Brazil, Botswana, China, Ghana,

Mauritius, New Zealand, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Hong Kong, Israel, Congo, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Nigeria, Tunisia and Zambia. People who arrive in India from these countries will have to follow additional measures, including post-arrival testing.

The guidelines: All travellers should submit complete information in self-declaration form on the online Air Suvidha portal before the scheduled travel, including

the travel details of last 14 days.

They will have to upload a negative COVID-19 RT-PCR report. The test should have been conducted within 72 hrs prior to undertaking the journey.

Each passenger shall also submit a declaration with respect to the authenticity of the report and will be liable for criminal prosecution, if found otherwise.

They should give an undertaking

on the portal or to the ministry of civil aviation, through airlines concerned before they are allowed to undertake the journey that they would abide by the decision of the appropriate government authority to undergo home/ institutional quarantine/ self-health monitoring, as warranted.

Travellers from specified countries (based on epidemiological situation of COVID-19 in those countries) are identified for additional follow up. The listing of such specified countries is a dynamic exercise based on evolving situation of COVID-19 across the world. All travellers who need to undertake testing on arrival, should preferably pre-book the test online on Air Suvidha Portal to facilitate timely testing.

Passengers originating or transiting from 'At-risk' countries shall be informed by the airlines that they will undergo post arrival testing, quarantine if tested negative, stringent isolation protocols if tested positive. Airlines to allow boarding by only those passengers who have filled in all the information in the self-declaration form on the Air Suvidha portal and uploaded the negative RT-PCR test report. Only asymptomatic travellers will be allowed to board after thermal screening.

All passengers shall be advised to download Aarogya Setu app on their mobile devices.

During in-flight crew shall ensure that COVID appropriate behaviour is followed at all times. If any passenger reports symptoms of COVID-19 during flight, he/she shall be isolated as per protocol.

De-boarding should be done ensuring physical distancing.

Thermal screening would be carried out in respect of all the passengers by the health officials present at the airport. The self-declaration form filled online shall be shown to the airport health staff.

The passengers found to be symptomatic during screening shall be immediately isolated and taken to medical facility as per health protocol. If tested positive, their contacts shall be identified and managed as per standard protocol. All travellers (including those two percent who were selected for random testing on arrival and were found negative) from 'At-risk' countries will undergo home quarantine for 7 days and shall undertake RT-PCR test on the 8th day of arrival in India.

International travellers arriving through seaports and land ports will also have to undergo the same protocols.

## Marriage without feelings is just a legal bond, says Delhi HC while granting divorce to couple

New Delhi, 7th Jan, 2022. The Delhi High Court dissolved a couple's marriage for cruelty, remarking that the husband regarded the wife as his "overseas wife," merely to utilise her as a temporary companion, and that their marital link was irreparable. Keeping the husband and wife legally bonded would deprive them of living a complete life. The continuation of this marital relationship constitutes serious mental cruelty to the petitioner. While granting a woman's divorce, the judge made this statement. While returning the Family Court's refusal to allow divorce, a bench of Justices Vinod Sanghi and Jasmeet Singh stated that both parties would be able to start a new life if the divorce was granted. According to the court, the goal of marriage is to unite two souls who embark on the perilous journey known as life. They share their experiences, smiles, emotions, triumphs, and problems. They are

present in their emotional, mental, and bodily selves. On his voyage of life, people form personal, social, and spiritual relationships, treasure lasting memories, and make goals for the future, all while coexisting in society. According to the bench, in the current case, the parties have not lived together save for a brief period after marriage. The husband treated his wife as a foreign lady, merely using her as a temporary companion. According to the bench, the wife is educated and works for a multinational corporation. Over 11 years, the couple remained together for a few days while the husband was in Canada. According to the court, how the spouse executed his position. It demonstrates a disinterested and apathetic attitude toward the wife. The husband's behaviour demonstrates that he is preserving the marriage as not his top concern. Notably, that but the husband made severe and heinous claims about the wife's father that

could not be proven. He attempted to assassinate his father-in-law character in several ways. Any self-respecting daughter would find it impossible to live with a guy who had hurled such heinous claims about her father. "We believe that the behaviour above of the spouse is also grounds for mental cruelty to the appellant," the bench stated. As a result, the marriage is declared null and void. The lady appealed the Family Court's judgement claiming that their inter-caste marriage took place on May 6, 2010, at Arya Samaj Mandir in Uttar Pradesh. She was studying B.Tech at Lucknow University while her husband was in Canada. After marriage, the husband moved to Canada and returned to India for a few days after many years. He used to return to spend time with her. During this time, her spouse verbally and sexually abused her. The claims, on the other hand, were dismissed by the spouse.

## India, Indonesia FMs discuss Aceh-Andaman-Nicobar connectivity, Myanmar and Afghanistan

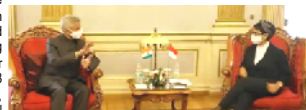
New Delhi, Jan 7: India's External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar and Indonesia's foreign minister Retno Marsudi on Wednesday in the new year conversation discussed a range of issues including the Aceh and Andaman-Nicobar island connectivity. During Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 2018 visit to Indonesia, among several

which is considered to be a key global choke point.

Being one of the most important shipping lanes, any stoppage of traffic here can impact countries like China, whose major chunk of energy and

been a key stakeholder. In fact, the Indonesian foreign minister was the only woman foreign minister during last month's Organization of Islamic Cooperation foreign ministers meeting in Islamabad on Afghanistan.

Discussions were also made on the Covid crisis. Indonesia had reached out to India during the second wave of the crisis last year. After this, India had sent support to the country when it was hit



agreements, both sides decided to cooperate in connectivity between Andaman and Nicobar island and Aceh province of Indonesia. Sabang port in Aceh is around 90 nautical miles from the Indian islands of Andaman and Nicobar. During the 2018 visit, it was also decided to set up a joint task force to undertake projects for port-related infrastructure in and around Sabang as both the neighbouring countries. Important to note, Sabang sits at the entrance of the Strait of Malacca,

trade passes via the strait. During the conversation, both sides also discussed the Covid crisis, the situation in Myanmar and Afghanistan. Indonesia, as an ASEAN member has been concerned about the developments in Myanmar, just like New Delhi. Myanmar saw a coup in February of last year with several political leaders being detained. There were also reports of large-scale violence happening in the country. In Afghanistan, like India, Indonesia has

by the pandemic. Indian Navy had delivered Liquid Medical Oxygen (LMO) containers to the country as part of mission Sagar. Both countries are part of the G20 Troika as well. Indonesia will hold the G20 summit this year and hand over the baton to India who will be chairing the grouping next year. India will be hosting the G20 summit for the first time in 2023 with the construction of the venue centres taking place at a rapid pace in the national capital New Delhi.

## 'Free rapid antigen tests makes economic sense for govts'

Following considerable public pressure over the past few weeks, the federal government has announced concession card holders will soon be able to collect up to ten free rapid antigen tests or per three months.

But every one else will continue to have to purchase their own rapid antigen tests, which cost up to \$10 each, the UK

In countries like Singapore, the UK and Germany, rapid antigen tests are free for everyone. We've developed a model that estimates how cost-effective a policy of government-funded rapid antigen tests for all Australians would be. We've released our economic analysis as a pre-print online, which is yet to be independently reviewed by other researchers.

We found a policy of government-funded rapid antigen tests for all is highly likely to be cost-effective.

Even minor reductions in Covid transmission rates due to increased early isolation would justify the additional costs associated with the policy.

Why is testing so important? Testing and contact tracing have been the primary measures used to interrupt the spread of Covid around the world.

One of the benefits of testing for cases is it allows countries to rapidly identify new cases, isolate affected people and their close contacts, and thereby slow further transmission of the disease. Australia has relied on PCR (polymerase chain reaction) tests to confirm Covid cases, which are funded by the federal government and free for Australians.

But the emergence of the highly transmissible Omicron variant, coinciding with a relaxation of public health restrictions

and the social festive season, has led to a surge in Covid cases in Australia, swamping the PCR testing system.

Governments are pivoting towards using rapid antigen tests to confirm positive cases, which can give results in 15 minutes, although they're not as accurate as PCR tests.

How does our analysis work? We created a "decision tree" model, which represents the testing pathways for a hypothetical group of people without Covid symptoms.

We used it to estimate the number of Covid-positive people isolating before developing symptoms. It's key people isolate as early as possible, to reduce the risk of spread to others. We analysed a range of possible scenarios.

A key parameter is the proportion of people who use a rapid antigen test who have Covid.

Let's play out one scenario. Let's say a group of 10,000 people get free rapid antigen tests funded by the government. Assume 1,000 out of 10,000 users have Covid, and that a rapid antigen test costs \$10.

Let's also assume 2,000 of the 10,000 would buy rapid antigen tests if not government-funded. (The real-life proportion who would be willing and able to buy a rapid antigen test is impossible to know, given the current shortage.)

What did we find?

In the group where every one had access to free rapid antigen tests, the model estimates this policy would result in successfully isolating an additional 464

people early, compared with a group in which 20% purchased their own rapid antigen tests.

Providing free rapid tests for 10,000 people would cost the government \$100,000, but spending less on PCR tests (which are about \$150 each) reduces the additional costs to the government to around \$52,000.

Rapid antigen tests are less effective in people with no symptoms, so they wouldn't catch every body in the group who's Covid-positive.

But the net effect is preventing an additional 464 people from infecting more people, thereby reducing costs to the economy of further infections. The costs of these people isolating only after developing symptoms would likely be far higher than the extra \$52,000 spent on tests.

Dividing the \$52,000 by the 464 earlier isolating cases gives us an estimate of the cost to the government per additional earlier isolating person with Covid — \$112. This allows us to compare alternative scenarios.

For example, if only 500 of 10,000 users of government-funded rapid antigen tests had Covid, 232 more people would isolate early and the cost per additional earlier isolating person with Covid would be \$328.

If only 100 of 10,000 users have Covid, the corresponding value is \$2,052.

The less Covid circulating, the less effective a policy of free rapid antigen tests for all would be. But even with low prevalence, it's still highly likely to be cost-effective.

The expected benefits of early

isolation are difficult to quantify, but it can only help to constrain the spread of Covid and the number of people infected by each person with Covid (the reproductive number).

Modelling shows that in Australia the reproductive number increased from around 1.2 to 1.5 over the course of December 2021, and daily reported Covid cases increased from around 1,000 to over 30,000. This illustrates the importance of the potential effects of increasing early isolation of people with Covid. Even a minor reduction in the reproductive number will have a significant effect on the number of daily cases.

There are high costs to health and the economy of not successfully isolating Covid-positive people early.

Covid positive people, who don't know they're positive, will spread it to others, many of whom will get sick, require medical attention, and take time off work. Some will need to go to hospital, be in intensive care, and be put on a ventilator. And some will die.

A proportion of those who do recover from the initial phase of the infection will have lingering symptoms from the virus, known as "long Covid".

All of these outcomes impose significant costs to people and society. We could make a conservative assumption that each early isolated case prevents at least one new Covid case and that the broad range of

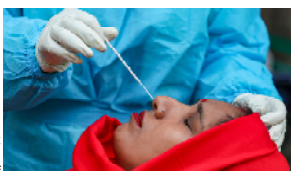
costs associated with one Covid case are far higher than the \$112 it might cost the government per additional early isolated person with Covid.

Are there any downsides? One thing to consider is overuse. If people used rapid antigen tests too much, for example when people are highly unlikely to have been exposed to Covid, this would reduce the cost-effectiveness of the policy.

In saying that, the unpleasant nature of the testing process should limit its such overuse — no one enjoys sticking the swab up their nose!

Hoarding is another risk, as with toilet paper in the early days of the pandemic. So it would be important to ensure confidence in the supply and distribution of the tests.

Constraining the spread of Covid is important for many reasons, including avoiding short- and long-term health effects, reducing burden on the health system, and increasing availability of essential workers. Easy and equitable access to testing is a cornerstone of the public health response to Covid. It also makes economic sense.





## Omicron less severe than Delta, but don't consider it as 'mild': WHO chief

World Health Organisation Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus on Thursday warned against a common perception surrounding Omicron: It was a mild variant of COVID-19.

At a press briefing in Geneva, Ghebreyesus was quoted by AFP as saying "While Omicron does appear to be less severe compared to Delta, especially in those vaccinated, it does not mean it should be categorised as mild."

He noted Omicron was putting people in hospital and causing deaths "just like previous variants". He warned the "tsunami of cases is so huge and quick, that it is overwhelming health systems around the world".

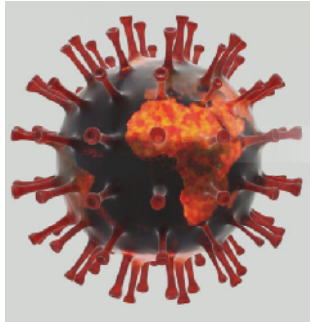
Ghebreyesus pointed to the figure of 9.5 million COVID cases globally reported to the WHO last week. He pointed out the figure was an underestimate as "it did not reflect the backlog of testing around the Christmas-New Year holidays, positive self-tests not registered and overburdened surveillance systems missing cases".

Ghebreyesus urged nations to share vaccine doses fairly in 2022. "Vaccine inequity is a killer of people and jobs and it undermines a global economic recovery. Booster after booster in a small number of countries will not end a pandemic while billions remain completely unprotected," the WHO chief was quoted as saying by AFP.

Ghebreyesus noted that first-generation vaccines may not stop all infections and transmission, but they remain highly effective in reducing hospitalisation and death from this virus.

"So as well as vaccination, public health social measures, including the wearing of well-fitting masks, distancing, avoiding crowds and improving and investing in ventilation are important for limiting transmission," he said.

He lamented that at the current pace of vaccine rollout, 109 countries would miss out on fully vaccinating 70 per cent of their populations by the start of July 2022.



### 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 cardiopulmonary diseases, 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 protective masks to avoid spreading onto others.
- Stay at home if sick.
- Disinfecting and cleaning surfaces that you frequently touch.

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CAG Recruitment 2022: In this article, we have described the Latest Jobs of CAG Recruitment 2022 details. New Delhi has invited applications from eligible applicant for hiring 49+ vacancies. Post wise vacancy details are given below. Interested and eligible applicant should apply through online mode only. These 49+ vacancies will be allocated for the post of Sr. Audit Officer, Asst. Audit Officer, Sr. Account Officer, Before final submission of application form, candidate must review their application form carefully. Selected candidate will get the pay matrix of level-8 & level-10. The last date to apply for the post of Sr. Audit Officer/Sr. Account Officer (31.01.2022) and other post should be (21.01.2022).

Appointment will be based on deputation basis. The period of deputation can be extended / curtailed as per candidate performance. Central government job seekers may download the CAG recruitment notification from official website. Recruitment process may be based on written test/interview. Experience in relevant field is eligible to apply. Candidates who satisfy the below condition may send their filled application form along with support documents / certificates like bio data, photographs, integrity certificate and vigilance certificate etc. to reach the given below address. Read the below table to get the details of office location, post name and organization name etc.

Details regarding CAG Sr. Audit officer & other 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.

## CMRL Recruitment 2022, Apply B.E Vacancies @ chennaiemrtrorail.org

CMRL Recruitment 2022 (General Manager, AGM & Other Post) 10 vacancies [Last date: 07.01.2022 & 22.01.2022] Download Application Form @ chennaiemrtrorail.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 filled 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 organization 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.

## WCD Delhi Recruitment 2022, Apply 30 Social Worker & Other Vacancies @ www.wcdel.in

WCD Delhi Recruitment 2022 (Members Social Worker & Other Posts) Total Vacancies 30 | Last Date: 10.01.2022 | Download WCD Delhi Job Notification @ wcdel.in

WCD Delhi Recruitment 2022: Department of Women & Child Development (WCD), Delhi has issued new notice for post of the Chairperson (CWC), Member (CWC) and Member Social Worker (JJB) for limited for the various Child Welfare Committees (CWC) and Juvenile Justice Boards (JJB). It invites online mode application from eligible candidates. As per WCD Delhi recruitment notification, totally 30 vacancies are allocated WCD Delhi vacancy and post wise vacancy details are given below. Candidates who are searching jobs in Delhi kindly make the online registration from 27.12.2021 to 10.01.2022.

WCD Delhi recruitment 2022 notification & WCD Delhi Jobs apply online link is available @ www.wcdel.in. Candidates who are seeking Degree Jobs must check their eligibility i.e. educational qualification, age limit, experience and etc. Department of Women & Child Development (WCD), Delhi selection will be based on Test/Interview and selected candidates will be appointed at any where in Delhi State. More details of wcdel.in recruitment, WCD Delhi New vacancy, upcoming notices, syllabus, answer key, merit list, selection list, admit card, result, upcoming notifications and etc. will be uploaded on official website.

You may visit Career page to get more details about this recruitment. Here you will get information like educational qualification, age limit, application mode, fee and how to apply. Keep check w www.dailyrecruitment.in regularly to get latest updates & upcoming govt exams.

## STPI Recruitment 2022, B.E/ B.Tech Vacancies, Apply @ stpi.in

STPI Recruitment 2022 | Member Technical Staff | 14 Vacancies | Last Date: 16.01.2022 | STPI Job Notification @ stpi.in

STPI Recruitment 2022: Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) invites online application for filling up Group A S&T vacancy. As per STPI recruitment 2022 notification (No. 24/IV STPI-HQ/2021-22), there are 14 vacancies are allocated for the post of Member Technical Staff posts. Online application process was started from 18.12.2021. Candidates with Engineering Degree are capable to apply for this Software Technical Park recruitment 2022. The last date to submit the online application form is 16.01.2022. Registered candidates should submit the printout of their filled online form on or before 31.01.2022.

Employees of Central/ State Government/ PSUs/ Autonomous organizations should forward their application through proper channel. Central Govt job seekers may use this chance to apply for this STPI jobs. These advertised vacancies will be filled on absorption/ direct recruitment. Selected candidates will be placed at any centre of STPI. Aspirants need to pay a fee through prescribed mode & mention the UTR/ Transaction ID in the online application form. Applications received by the last date for this STPI careers will be screened. Eligible candidates will be called for written exam/ personal interview.

Software Technology Parks of India is the full form of STPI, the units exported software and information technology and the state with the largest export contribution was Karnataka followed by Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Haryana and Telangana. STPI has a presence in many major cities of India including the Cities Bangalore, Chennai, Hyderabad, Trivandrum (Kerala), Kanpur, Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh), Patna (Bihar), Bhubaneswar (Orissa), Kolkata (West Bengal), Mumbai, Nagpur, Pune (Maharashtra), Warangal (Telangana), Kakinada, Tirupati, Vijayawada, Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh), Surat (Gujarat).

For more details of STPI recruitment, kindly check at www.stpi.in. The direct link for STPI Careers portal has provided below. Keep looking at www.dailyrecruitment.in to know latest job updates.

## CDAC Chennai Recruitment 2022 [Apply Engineer Vacancies] @ cdac.in

CDAC Chennai Recruitment 2022 | Post: Project Engineer & Project Associate | Vacancies: 19 | End Date: 18.01.2022 | Apply CDAC Chennai Jobs @ cdac.in

CDAC Chennai Recruitment 2022: This time the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC), Chennai has announced 19 vacancies for the position of Project Engineer & Project Associate. CDAC, Chennai is looking for bright & result oriented persons for the above said posts under various short-term projects. The CDAC invites online applications for the appointment purely on contract basis. The contract duration is initially for a period of 01 (One) year or co-terminus with the project whichever is earlier. During this period candidates who are selected for this job they get a pay scale of Rs. 34,000 to Rs. 40,000.

Applicant who are searching for Tamil Nadu jobs may apply this CDAC Chennai jobs by submitting online application from 03.01.2022 to 18.01.2022. The CDAC conducts written test / skill test / interview to select eligible candidates for the given posts. Those candidates who are qualified for CDAC job vacancy will be appointed at Chennai, Delhi, Mumbai, Bhopal and Any where in India. More details of jobs in CDAC Chennai recruitment, careers, CDAC jobs, selection list, merit list, result etc. will be available on the official website. Scroll down to get complete details about CDAC job vacancy.

We hope that, in this article you can get all the details about CDAC Chennai recruitment. Keep in touch with daily recruitment to get more latest updates.

## SSC CGL Exam Notification 2022, Assistant & Other Vacancies, Apply Online @ ssc.nic.in

SSC CGL Exam Notification 2022 | Combined Graduate Level Examination | Various Vacancies | Last Date: 23.01.2022 | SSC CGL Recruitment Notification @ ssc.nic.in

SSC CGL Exam Notification 2022: Staff Selection Commission (SSC) has released Combined Graduate Level Examination on 23.12.2021. As per SSC CGL exam notification (No. 3/6/2021-P&P-I (Vol.-II)), the commission has announced Group B & Group C vacant positions in different Ministries/ Departments/ Organizations of India. SSC CGL exams will be conducted to fill up the following posts such as Assistant Audit Officer, Assistant Accounts Officer, Assistant Section Officer, Assistant, Inspector, Assistant Enforcement Officer, Sub Inspector, Superintendent, Research Assistant, Divisional Accountant, Auditor, Tax Assistant & Other posts. Online registration link is available from 23.12.2021 at www.ssc.nic.in. Candidates who willing to work under Central Government may apply online for SSC CGL exam 2021 notification. The last date to submit the online form is 23.01.2022.

Bachelor's Degree holders can apply for SSC CGL exam 2021. Applicants must have attained the prescribed age limit. SSC CGL exam consists of Tier I & Tier II (Computer Based Exam), Tier III (Descriptive paper) & Tier IV (CPT/ Data Entry Speed Test). SSC CGL notification 2021 & apply online link for SSC recruitment are available @ www.ssc.nic.in. Aspirants need to pay a fee via prescribed mode. CA/MA/ Degree in Law is desirable qualification to apply for this SSC CGL recruitment. Selected candidates will be appointed any where in India. Indicative syllabus & exam scheme are mentioned in official notification. More details of SSC CGL recruitment 2021 notification, syllabus, exam date, previous question paper, admit card, answer key, merit list, selection list, results and upcoming SSC exam notices will be uploaded at official website.

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## IN CONVERSATION

# COVID-19: NEXT VARIANT COULD BE MORE VIRULENT WARNS, INDIAN-ORIGIN UK EXPERT

The reduced severity of Omicron is good news for now, but it is the result of an "evolutionary mistake" as Covid-19 is transmitting very efficiently and there is no reason for it to become milder, indicating that the next variant could be more virulent, a leading Indian-origin scientist from the University of Cambridge has warned.

Ravindra Gupta, Professor of Clinical Microbiology at the Cambridge Institute for Therapeutic Immunology and Infectious Diseases (CITIID), led a recent study on the Omicron variant and was among the first globally to describe the modified fusion mechanism of cells at play which might make Omicron more visible to the body's immune defences.

While the study showed that the new variant, dominant in the UK and now sweeping parts of India, is infecting the cells found in the lungs less, the virus itself is not intended to become milder.

"There is this assumption that viruses become more benign over time but that's not what's happening here because those are long-term evolutionary trends," Prof. Gupta told PTI in an interview on Thursday.

"SARS-CoV-2 (Covid-19) does not have that issue because it is transmitting very efficiently so it doesn't have any reason to become milder, especially in the era of vaccination with plenty of susceptible hosts. So that's why I think it's an evolutionary mistake. It's not something intentional that the virus is trying to do to change its biology," he explained.

"This finding of reduced severity with Omicron is obviously good news for now but the next variant that comes, and there will be one, will not necessarily have these characteristics and could go back to the severity that we've seen before."

"And, in fact I think it probably will... Therefore, blocking infection is a potentially desirable thing to do rather than what I've heard, which is people seeing this as a natural vaccine. That is an understandable but dangerous thing to do because we don't understand the complete implications of different variants on our health," he said.

According to the UK-born scientist with familial roots in Uttar Pradesh, who advises the UK government's Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE) and New and Emerging Respiratory Virus Threats

Advisory Group (NERVTAG), keeping up the vaccination drive is important because that remains "our first line of defence" against the virus.

"Whilst we have a situation of a milder variant, we should use that as a chance to increase vaccination coverage," he said.

Asked how he sees the Omicron wave impacting India, Prof. Gupta said it was important to learn from other countries' experiences and take pre-emptive action. Also, the types of vaccines used, with fewer RNA vaccines compared to the US and Europe, and genetic differences could play a role in India's experience of the Omicron

airways where implications for oxygenation and lung function are milder compared to if things are going on deep into your lungs," he explains.

As the Omicron variant does not engage the TMPRSS2 very efficiently, its ability to cause large fused cells is impaired. This fusion mechanism of making larger cells is a way that the virus can help itself avoid neutralising antibodies and by not being able to fuse, Omicron might make itself more visible to the immune system.

"It's a bit unclear. But it's very real and it's very related to what we call a tropism (behavioural) switch. The big question is why the virus is unable to use

TMPRSS2. We are still trying to understand this... for some reason, Omicron's spike is less well processed or cleaved," said Gupta.

The virus needs to be cleaved, or cut in two, in order for it to perform its functions optimally and Omicron seems to have lost some aspect of its function.

"But if it's replicating in the upper airways, passing very efficiently, it fulfils the goal of transmission much more effectively than if it were infecting deep tissues, which is probably an evolutionary mistake for the virus," added Gupta.

The update said that during the week December 27, 2021 to January 2, 2022, following a gradual increase since October, the global number of new cases increased sharply by 71 per cent as compared to the previous week.

WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus cautioned that while the Omicron variant appears to be less severe compared to Delta, especially in those vaccinated, it does not mean it should be categorised as "mild". Just like previous variants, Omicron is hospitalising people and it is killing people, he said in Geneva at a press briefing. "In fact, this tsunami of cases is so huge and quick, that it is overwhelming health systems around the world," Tedros said. Hospitals are becoming overcrowded and understaffed, which further results in preventable deaths from not only Covid-19 but other diseases and injuries where patients cannot receive timely care, he said. Since the Coronavirus was first reported in central China's Wuhan city, the deadly disease has infected over 300, 173,000 people globally and caused more than 5,472,000 deaths.



wave.

Gupta said: "In India, there were a lot of Delta infections so there's some immunity there. The vaccines have been rolled out very nicely. We know that Omicron is able to escape from vaccines and third dose boosting is essential."

"It's not clear in India, where mainly people have had two doses plus an infection, whether this will be adequate. There will be certain people who are vulnerable who get sick and do need ventilation, specially the unvaccinated. That's why caution is needed and focus on infection transmission interruption and vaccination are so important." According to Gupta's study into Omicron, there seems to be a difference between its impact on the deep tissues in the lung and the upper airways or bronchus. This is down to the presence of a particular protein or enzyme which is sitting on the surface of the cells in the lung called TMPRSS2, which prevents the virus from completing an efficient infection.

"So two pathways are available to the virus and Omicron prefers one pathway other than the other and because of that choice, that pathway is more dominant in the upper

## Kerala launches project to attach microchip on cattle

Kerala Animal Husbandry Department has launched a project in the state to attach microchips on cattle.

A small device in the form of a microchip will help the Animal Husbandry Department to get details about the cattle. The RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) chip will help identify each cattle (cow, buffalo and goat) similar to that of Aadhaar. Additional information like owner, vaccines, insurance, can be added in the chip.

The chip would be beneficial during disaster management and to check scams. It can play an important role in trait detection, like high milk yield or heat tolerance and will also

help in conservation of indigenous breeds of cattle.

The project, undertaken as part of Animal Identification Traceability Project, will enable

the department to collect details like diseases and quality of milk. The e-Health Management System will help veterinary doctors in getting a general assessment. The RFID tags are fixed under the skin of the left ear of the animal using a sterile disposable syringe.

AMoI was signed by Kaushik, Director of the Department of Animal Husbandry, and Sajji Gopinath, Vice-Chancellor of the Kerala University of Digital Sciences, Innovation and Technology, in the presence of minister J Chinchu Rani. The pilot project will be implemented for 75,000 cattle in Pathanamthitta district at a cost of Rs 728 crore.



### Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)

#### Symptoms:

fever, runny nose, cough and sore throat. If severe, it can be more serious leading to pneumonia or breathing difficulties. Symptoms may develop within 14 days after exposure.

#### Protect yourself from getting COVID-19

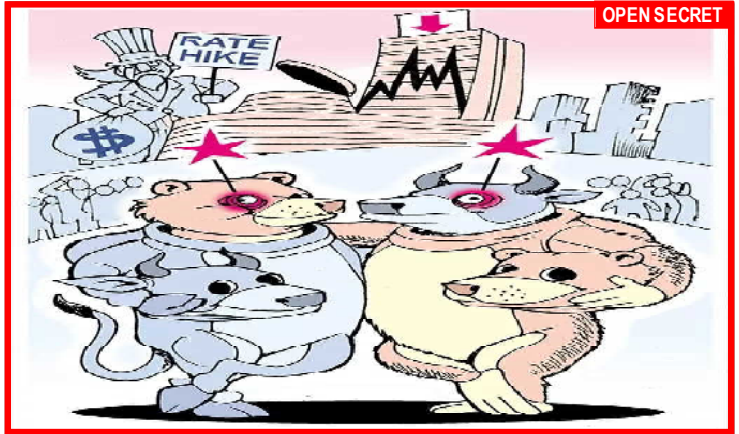
Wash your hands frequently with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands. Avoiding close contact with people who have fever and coughing.

When coughing and sneezing cover your mouth/nose with a folded elbow or tissue.

Know your vaccination status and get vaccinated immediately after visit.

If you suspect you may have COVID-19, contact your doctor or health services (112) for advice and support.

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



Best Wishes from...  
**Mr. K. Ganeshan**, Ex. Chairperson - PBMC & **Mrs. Laxmi Ganeshan**, Chief Editor, Andaman Kural  
**Shauqta Javed**  
 D/o Late Mrs. Bilkish Begum & Mr. Javed Hussain R/o Junglighat  
**Mohammed Irfan**  
 S/o Mrs. V.K Ayesha Bibi & Mr. Mohammed Ishaque R/o Dughabad



Follow Covid-19... from... Page 01

to the tourist boat operators to operate with only 70 capacity. People should not be on roads during curfew time from 9.00 pm to 5 am, unless there is a medical emergency.



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