



# ANDAMAN Chronicle

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The Daily Diary of the Islands



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PORT BLAIR, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2022 RNI REGN. No. ANDENG/2006/19155 ::: PAGES : 6 ::: Rs. 3/-

## Jarawa Facts

The Andaman Trunk Road, which cuts through the Jarawa's forest, brings poachers, settlers and tourists into the heart of their land. The Supreme Court of India in 2002 ordered that the road must be closed, but it has never been complied with.

## Your Nature Guide

**Life in the ocean:** From the shores or from a boat, the sea looks like a huge mass of uniform, inky blue water. It is not so actually. Life in the sea is amazingly different at different depths. From the surface to a few feet below, the ocean is a sunlit world, that changes from day to night. Below this, the ocean becomes cold, dim, and unchanging. And thousands of meters below the surface, the ocean is a region of near-freezing temperatures, crushing pressure, and complete darkness.

Most marine plants and animals are adapted to living in one of three regions- the sunlight, twilight, or midnight zone. These zones are defined by the presence (or absence) of light. They differ from one another in temperature amount of pressure, and nutrient supply. We will mainly focus here on the sunlight zone where most of the familiar animals and plants are present.

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

## People's Voice

Crocodile ho ya hiran, sirf Schedule 1 mein List karne se Solution nahi nikalta. Ek Policy Decision hona chahiye Andaman ka stithi ke anusaar ...

- A Citizen



**Minister is giving a blanket statement on the situation!**

## Lt. Governor Leads Islanders in Paying Rich Tributes to Tsunami Victims

**Port Blair, Dec. 26:** Hon'ble Lt. Governor, Andaman & Nicobar Islands & Vice-Chairman Islands Development Agency, Admiral D K Joshi, PVSM, AVSM, YSM, NM, VSM (Retd.) today led the Islanders in paying homage to those who lost their lives in the devastating Tsunami of 2004.

At a solemn function organized by A&N Administration on the occasion of 18th Anniversary of Tsunami at the Tsunami Memorial at Water Sports Complex, the Lt. Governor placed wreath and offered floral tributes at the Memorial. This was followed by offering

of floral tributes by the First Lady of these Islands, Smt. Chitra Joshi, the Chief Secretary, A&N Islands, Shri Keshav Chandra, IAS, Adhyaksha, ZPSA, Smt. Pramila Kumari, DGP, Shri Neeraj Thakur, Chairperson, PBMC, Smt. U Kavitha, Councillors of PBMC, Senior Officers of A&N Administration, prominent citizens, school students and general public.

An all Religions Prayer Meeting (Sarva Dharma Prarthana Sabha) and a two-minute silence were observed to remember those who lost their lives in the devastating Tsunami.



## Health Institutions to Conduct Mock Drill on COVID-19 Today

**Port Blair, Dec. 26:** As per the direction of GoI, all the Health Institutions across these Islands will be conducting Mock Drill on COVID-19 along with the rest of the country on 27.12.2022. The focal point for the drill

will be GB Pant Hospital Port Blair. Further, it is informed that Dr. Bharati P. Pawar, Hon'ble MoS (H), GoI will be the observer for the mock drill to be held at 11.00 AM at GB Pant Hospital Port Blair.

## Firing Practice at Brichgunj

**Port Blair, Dec. 26:** Chinthe Long Range, Brichgunj will be used for Firing practice on Dec.28, 2022 from 9.30 am to 5 pm. All concerned have been warned to keep themselves and their vehicle/livestock away from the firing range during the above mentioned date and time.

## Yet Another Crocodile Comes to Light, CPI(M) Demands Policy Decision to Shift Crocodiles to Sanctuary

**Port Blair, Dec. 26:** The CPI (M) has demanded to shift the crocodiles from all residential areas of A&N Islands to the Crocodile sanctuary.

In a letter sent to the Lt. Governor, A&N Islands, Shri D. Ayyappan, State Secretary of CPI (M) has demanded that a policy decision may be taken not to release the hatchlings/baby crocodiles in the nearby areas of human habitation henceforth. He drew the attention of the Lt. Governor

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## State Unit of BJP Organises Kavi Sammelan to Mark Birth Anniversary of Former PM Atal Behari Vajpayee

**Port Blair, Dec. 26:** The State unit of Bharatiya Janata Party, A&N Islands organised a Kavi Sammelan on 25/12/2022 at Kannada Sangha on the auspicious occasion of the Birth Anniversary of former Prime Minister, Bharat Ratna, Swargiya Atal Bihari Vajpayee at the auditorium of Kannada Sangha.

The programme was coordinated by Shri M. Vinod, State Convenor of the programme along with Dr R. Devdas and Shri P. Sanna Rao, Co-Convenors.

The following poets presented their Poems on the



life of Atal ji in Hindi, Bangla, Tamil, Telugu and Malayalam.

Shri A.K.Shukla, Shri Ashok Kumavat, Shri Karthigainathan, Smti Jharna Halder, Shri

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## Inner Wheel Conducts Free Dental Checkup Camp at Pranab Kanya



**Port Blair, Dec. 26:** A free dental check-up camp was held at Pranab Kanya Sangha, Port Blair on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2022. The camp was organized by Inner Wheel Club in collaboration with Dr. Poonam Arora (Dr Arora Dental Clinic), Port Blair. The Secretary of the Inner Wheel Club, Mrs Bakhtawar Noble also graced the event.

As part of a comprehensive dental examination, about 35 ashram children

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## ANTCC Pays Tributes to the Tsunami Victims



**Port Blair, Dec. 26:** The Andaman Nicobar Territorial Congress Committee paid tributes to the Tsunami victims on 26<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at ANTCC Headquarter Gandhi Bhavan, Port Blair who lost their lives in the earthquake and Tsunami on 26<sup>th</sup> Dec 2004.

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# ANDAMAN Chronicle

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*Success is not an activity but a process ...*

## A Concerning Sequence

The spurt in coronavirus cases reported out of China has triggered global alarm. India's Health Ministry has issued a directive to States to send positive samples to the Indian SARS-CoV-2 Genomics Consortium (INSACOG) to check for new, concerning strains. The Health Minister, too, has called for a review meeting of the coronavirus situation in India. India's official numbers suggest that, thus far, there is little to worry. There are only 3,408 active cases. Only one district has a test positivity rate of over 10% and only four between 5 and 10%, as per the latest available weekly data. India's COVID-19 vaccination coverage has exceeded 219.33 crore, and there are no signs of distress being reported out of hospitals. However, the experience of previous years is that it is usually many weeks after which a noticeable spike, let alone a wave, is confirmed by health authorities. There is scarce monitoring and mask mandates for public gatherings, airports and railway stations have been removed everywhere; so, low numbers do not necessarily mean new variants are not taking root.

In China, despite reports of crowded mortuaries, hospital admissions piling up and stocked-out pharmacies, weekly death counts are officially in the single digits. The prevalent opinion is that the lifting of curbs, after almost three years of some of the most restrictive containment measures, has now exposed a large swathe of people who lack 'natural immunity'. Some mathematical modelling projections calculate a million COVID-19 cases in the coming days in China. Given that much of the world has moved to normalcy in terms of travel, the concern is that this surge is likely to reverberate globally with many more infections, even in India, inevitable. There are two key lessons that can be derived from the Chinese experience: long lockdowns cannot eliminate the virus or prevent the development of new strains, and the only reasonable defence possible against severe disease is via vaccines. China has largely depended on home-grown vaccines such as CoronaVac and Sinopharm vaccines that rely on the inactivated virus technology. Despite 90% of the population receiving a single dose, and half, a second dose, the numbers in China suggest that waning immunity is a fait accompli. The big lesson for India is to not only establish the prevalent coronavirus variants but also whether the administered vaccines continue to be efficacious. While most of the vaccines administered in India are Covishield, and thus of the spike protein, it may be time to accommodate for changes in the virus. The sequencing of strains by INSACOG should not remain an academic exercise.

## BOB'S BANTER

BY ROBERT CLEMENTS



### The Last Days of the Year..!

Two Thousand Twenty Two was not in the best of moods as the last few days of her reign on earth drew to a close, "I'm not sure I want to go!" she said, to no one in particular, but she knew she was being heard by the years past and the years that were going to come in.

"Why not?" asked one of the previous years, "Every Year, serves her time, then rests in history, why not?"

"I somehow feel I wasn't used well by the people!" said Two Thousand and Twenty-Two.

"It's better than what I achieved," said Twenty-One bitterly, "Everybody thought they'd got rid of the dreaded Covid, and bang came the second wave!"

"In fact, mine was even worse!" whispered Twenty-Two.

"That's where you both are so wrong!" said Twenty-Two, "When Covid came, the world also came together to fight the dreaded virus, and I rejoiced because I thought the world had learnt what it was to join and fight a common foe!"

"And they did just that!" said Twenty-Two and Twenty-One together!

"On top of that I also thought people would realize how precious life was and that whether you were rich or poor, death could strike and drag you to your grave. I really thought people the world over had learnt a lesson that life should be treated with a new attitude.."

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"What attitude?" asked baby Twenty-Three, suddenly getting interested in the conversation.

"An attitude of living life to the fullest so that even if death struck suddenly, there would be no regrets!" said Twenty-Two.

"And you don't think the people learnt that?" asked Twenty-Three curiously.

"Look at them," shouted Twenty-Two angrily, "Look at that Russian bully for instance, as he tries to overpower a weaker nation, do you think he learnt anything?"

The years both lying in history, and those swaddled in the shrouds of the Future nodded, "He certainly learned nothing!" they all whispered.

"But look at India!" said Twenty-Three, "You made an Indian become the third biggest billionaire! That's quite an achievement Twenty-Two! You've made a nation proud!"

"Proud?" asked Twenty-Two sadly, "That is exactly why I wish I could remain a few more months on earth!"

"To make him number one?" laughed baby Twenty-Three, "Well I can do that for you in my time on earth!"

"No!" whispered Twenty-Two, "To make the people of that nation realise that wealth going into the hands of one person or a hundred is not something to be proud of, but that when the poorest of the poor gets three square meals a day, when the country looks at each other as brothers and sisters, and not as 'us and others' then and only then will a nation be great!"

The years wrapped in history shook their heads sadly even as Twenty-Two whispered, "Let's hope Twenty-Three will achieve this and more!"

Twenty-Three gave a nervous giggle, slightly uncertain of her future..!

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

## Yet Another Crocodile Comes to Light, CPI(M) Demands Policy Decision to Shift Crocodiles

**Continued from Page 1**  
to the incident occurred at New Manglutan recently in which a person was killed by the crocodile while fishing in the creek near his house. Ayyappan along with other leaders visited the residence of the victim on 25<sup>th</sup> December 2022 morning and spoke to his family members, relatives and villagers assembled there.

He stated in his letter that the area is inhabited by a large number of fishermen and fishing is their only income. The villagers informed Shri Ayyappan that the above incident occurred due to the sheer callousness of the authorities concerned as no

action was taken by the authorities to shift the crocodiles from the area to the Crocodile sanctuary despite requests by the fishermen villagers.

The incident occurred at a place 1 KM away from Guptapara Fish Landing Centre. It is surprising that the crocodiles were allowed to remain at a place where fishermen are fishing and inhabit. Ayyappan alleged that no concrete step was taken by the Environment & Forest Department of the A&N Administration or by the concerned Panchayat Raj Institutions to shift the crocodile from the area because of which the instant

incident occurred. He informed the Lt. Governor that the rescue operation launched by the Forest Department to save the victim was also not effective and it was reportedly conducted in a very casual manner. The family members of the victim and the villagers have reported to the CPI (M) leaders that no officer from the Administration visited their home or in the area after the tragic incident and it was left at the discretion of the lower level officials of the Forest Department. The CPI (M) Secretary urged upon the Lt. Governor to issue necessary directions to the concerned authorities in this regard.



# Tsunami 2004- Reporting after 18 years

## Revisiting the Past in the hope of a better future

By Sarpreet Kaur  
Narration and Exclusive Photographs by Denis Giles

**A vivid memory-**  
A smile escaped my lips looking at the familiar newspaper. I can remember all those birthday listings, retirement announcements and situation vacant columns that formed part of this paper. Coloured from the front-back and the time-tested black and white print towards the inner side. A balcony, a cosy chair, a newspaper and a cup of tea- what could be more perfect, but suddenly a gloom overshadowed the day- It was 26 December 2004. The paper was filled with a long list of Remembrances by families for their loved ones who lost their lives on that dreadful day. I could see a glint of sun here and a wrinkled grey of clouds somewhere on the canvas of azure water but my mind was not contemplating the beauty of this sea, it has already flown 18 years back- the cries of women, the heart-wrenching silence of kids, hopeful eyes in search of families, those shrieks to get as less as a glass of water, the echoing wails and what not. That day how fickle human life was, how harsh nature was, how devious some humans are and how godly some of our human mates were, all this was demonstrated in mere few hours. Who did this?  
This very sea. This very sea did it. I am sure the sea must have had valid reasons. I can still feel the same shiver running down my spine. On that fateful day of 26th December 2004, this sea was furious, not serene as now. It was fuming with anger, ferociously.  
The houses on Andaman and Nicobar Islands are all decked up with big stars and shimmering lights, the faraway humming of carols has started accompanying the sea breeze, the winds are not humid anymore, it's a calm breeze, the thunderous clouds have said goodbye and gave way to the clear starry nights. There is an air of general merriment all around but still, there is something- no actually, that one thing which will always bring in the dark shadows no matter how many bright stars are hung over the doors. That fateful night of Christmas Day was followed by a heart-wrenching Tsunami and marred a big hole in every house on these Islands. Someone lost a mother, someone a father, many lost everything and for a few their whole generations got wiped out by the sea. This year on the 18th dreadful anniversary of the Tsunami, which we hoped would have never occurred, we will rewind the horrors. Now one might think about what is the need to do so. Why are we doing it? What's done is done and above that the famous zeal that these islanders have, had made it a past. But we must remember because remembering our past is the only way to learn to have a better future.

**Revising what happened**  
The first tremors were felt early morning, my whole family leapt out of the bed and went straight to the road and then the nearby playground. I could see dozens of people coming out of their houses, all with blank expressions about what was happening. Then after a few minutes of heart-tightening tremors, they stopped and we all gave a smile of relief to one another. Then the news started pouring in. How a newly constructed house on a pillar gave up and crumbled like a house of cards. Another one said how the old building in Haddo wharf collapsed to the ground and one can hear the wails of people stuck inside it, luckily it was of people on the out and there was no one in. The ships were being sent to the sea to avoid damage. The ropes from the bollards were being ferociously untied. One merchant vessel, in all the clamour and chaos, cast off with one of its ropes still tied to the Bollard. This Bollard via the rope pulled it back and under the fast swell of the sea it rotated 180 degrees to one side,



Building collapses at Haddo Wharf Following the Tremour

stopped and drifted forward just a few inches of the tumbling boat, though it scraped it badly but not to the point of irreparableness. The sheer force of the water had moved a Maruti 800 upright with one side towards the trunk; some people hastily tied it to the trunk itself with a rope to stop it from going into the sea. Dinghy boats were floating in the middle of the roads, a few others were

doubled the rates of Paan, tea etc. Some of the elected local representatives went into their burrows and the people who chose them were left off to fend for their own. The next few days saw no electricity, no water and no food.  
*“Grain to bhut pada hai sahib. Kya karein Pahunchayein kaise? Labour e nhi hai kahin.”*  
*“Ek glass bhi nhi bacha. Bas apni jaan bacha sake par abb iss jaan ka kya karein. Saari umar ki kamayi to chali gyi.”*

Wards were filled with casualties, and the parking lot of GB Pant hospital had turned into a waiting room. These were the condition of the people around Port Blair. We have not yet reached Nicobars- The ground ZERO. What was happening in Katchal, Nancowry, Champin, Great Nicobar, Campbell Bay and many other small islands in the south was something no one could ever imagine. Whole villages were being swept away, the bodies were being gulped down, and the terror of sea was being witnessed.

In Nicobar, the devastation was unimaginable. 50% of the trees had been uprooted, Trinket island was torn in half, Champin island was lost beyond communication and Kamorta was thirsty and hungry. The Scene- battered houses, hanging roofs, crying infants, stranded grounds, tumbled life and floating bodies. No amount of words and adjectives could ever do justice to what the people of the Islands witnessed and suffered because of Tsunami.

Not only the devious side of beings was witnessed that day but also how godly we humans can be was also seen. First, the angels came in the form of crew members of MV Sentinel. The ship was the saviour of that time and bought hope to the people of Nicobar that yet there

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Maruti 800 moved upright on a tree trunk

what was happening, the Islands had never seen or felt such a thing ever. The Chatham bridge was underwater, the ships were floating to the level of a jetty, and the cars, autos, scooters everything one could see was floating. There was only chaos and chaos around.

Every second everyone is inching closer to his/her grave and it is said that when we witness something as crude as a Tsunami, humans tend to come together and show their humanity. But Tsunami showed that it was not true. We, humans, are the worst kind of animals because on that fateful day, just when the Tsunami hit the Islands, a few shopkeepers

*“Tsunami se to bach gye par ab ye bhook aur pyaas pta nhi kitno ki jaan legi.”*  
*People cried.*



Merchant vessel at Haddo Wharf taking a 180° turn

everyone shouted from the jetty as it was about to crush the smaller wooden ship with people on it. But God does exist because, by the miracle of God, the miracle of brakes or wind or something unknown, the ship

already upside down and you could only make out the flat surface. One could see remorseful faces all around. They were not sad; they were a hell lot of scared. Some were curious about



Chatham Bridge under sea water



# Tsunami 2004- Reporting after 18 years

## *Revisiting the Past in the hope of a better future*

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**GB Pant's Parking Lot Turns into Waiting Shed for Patients**

is someone out there for them. The crew worked tirelessly for saving precious lives, dinghy after dinghy was unloaded by the crew, the kids and women were the first to come, they boarded and were fed on the ship. Amidst this full chaos when the administration locked horns with humanism, these very people of MV Sentinel without worrying about their jobs and their own families,

go on safer grounds. Till the end, she stayed. Air Force helicopters, Coast Guard and Navy ships and Army troops in conjunction with the administration worked together in these hours of difficulty carrying out relief, Search and Rescue operations to their maximum capacity. However, it must be remembered that this was the first time the local people, administration and the armed

memorial was erected at the Air Force base in Car Nicobar not only to remember the ones we lost but to also remind us how nature can hit back.

Many accusations were made on the duties of many in the position of power at that time without understanding the due pressure under which each and every one was. This makes it much more pertinent to remember those days so that due precautions and arrangements could be made to revert future tragedies as well as be self-equipped to face them be it a local man, administration or the armed forces.



**A year after Tsunami at the memorial constructed at the Air Force Base in Car Nicobar**



**Smti Ayesha Majid decides to stay back with her people in spite of having the opportunity to leave the island**

members of MV Sentinel said, "Hum ek bhi aadmi peeche chorh kr nahi jayega. Ye sab hmara log hai. Agar captain bhi roka to usse kaat daalega." How slowly time goes by was known by that girl waiting in GB Pant for her parents to arrive and the real shock was sensed by the people on a stranded island who were listening to the radio, "Rescue teams have reached and all our people have been fed" while these people under that cotton sheet in a stranded island were peeling the last coconut they had in their tattered bag.

At that time in that place and in that condition, people were looking out towards the shore with keen eyes, not for food, not for clothes, not for water, they were looking for hope, some sign of hope that yes someone is looking out for them, hoping that their existence matters. Hope was all that they wanted.

Many many years later, one could wonder how the sea which is a treasure for the fisherman, which is a mate for the sailor and which is home to the maximum of our living organisms could be so cruel. Then the other picture slides over showing the battered down forests, deforestation over acres, those oil spills, poachers, floating garbage, plastic entangled Dugongs and almost extinct species. We leave no stone unturned and give plenty of

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**Crew of MV Sentinel working tirelessly to save precious lives**

negated the orders that came from high above and continued helping their people. On these Islands, many influential people fled first on the crafts of money. However, some leaders like Ayesha Majid outright rejected the ghastly idea of leaving her people behind to

forces were witnessing a disaster of such sought.

I still remember the Tri-Services along with the administration paying rich tributes to the jawans, their families and the natives on the first anniversary of Tsunami, who could not survive the Boxing Day. A



**Crew of MV Sentinel negate the orders and decide to save**

Without getting into too much of technical wordplay, we need to look at the reality of Tsunami, which was all about behind the scenes. It is a well-known fact that the TV showed only selected pictures, trimmed numbers and blurred ideas to people out there. The tragedy of the Tsunami is imprinted on the heart of that lady who was shouting from the dinghy down below "Mujhe mera bacha vapis de do. Mujhe mera bacha vapis dedo bs" when her child was taken away by the rescue ship onboard but suddenly the Captain refused to board any more passengers. The real horror is known by that bunch of humans who were waiting in the dinghy in the

middle of the sea waiting for their turn. Real heroism was portrayed when the crew



**Crew of MV Sentinel working tirelessly to save precious lives**



**A women in a dinghy at Nancowry crying for her child**



# Tsunami 2004- Reporting after 18 years

## Revisiting the Past in the hope of a better future

*Continued from Page 4*

reasons to the sea to be angry with us and once in a while nature understandably loses its cool.

We sure have come a long way since the first Tsunami, we have all the sensors, ships, rules and a detailed mechanism to handle such a situation and everything, but still, ARE WE READY TO BEAR THE NEXT HIT? Have we prepared enough to take head on the sea as the opponent? NO! no matter how technologically advanced we get we will never be ready to take on nature. The only thing that we can do is be respectful towards it. Yes! Development has to go side



Defence aircrafts bringing in survivors from Nicobars



The Tri-Command officials with lists of rescued survivors

by side and change is the only constant law of nature but we should not let our greed dig our own grave. Let the development be sustainable in its true measure not just on paper. This earth is not ours, we are mere tenants. Let us mend our ways before the owner loses his cool again.

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NOTICE INVITING e- TENDER

No. DB/Tender Notice/ CD-II/2022-23/1688 Dated: 23/12/2022

The Executive Engineer, Construction Division No.II, APWD, Prothrapur invites on behalf of the President of India, online Item Rate tender from experienced and eligible contractors having valid GST Registration and requisite experience of having successfully completed similar works(s) of relevant magnitude in civil works without any adverse remarks in any of the Govt. Organizations in Andaman & Nicobar Islands for the following work(s):

1.

**NIT No. 41/EE/CD-II/ 2022-23, Name of work:** Improvement of approach road from M/s Soma Industries Shed to M/s Island Fabrication Industrial Shed at Industrial Estate Complex Dollygunj for a length of 400 mtr., **Estimated Cost put to bid:** ` 19,90,514/-, **Earnest money:** ` 39,810/- **Period of Completion:** 03 (Three) months (Tender ID: 2022\_APWD\_8640\_1)

2.

**NIT No.42/EE/CD-II/ 2022-23, Name of work:** Repair and Renovation of 04 Nos. Type-II Qtr. under GPA allotted for Ayush Hospital under SD-IV, CD-II, APWD, Prothrapur. **Estimated Cost put to bid:** ` 18,06,322/-, **Earnest money:** ` 36,126/- **Period of Completion:** 06 (Six) months (Tender ID: 2022\_APWD\_8641\_1).

3.

**NIT No.43/EE/CD-II/ 2022-23, Name of work:** Providing 1000 ltr PVC tank with staging to individual house hold of GPA at Type-I Qtr No.01 to 48 Satellite Township Colony Prothrapur under CD-II due to alternate day water supply including providing water meter. **Estimated Cost put to bid:** ` 33,15,811/-, **Earnest money:** ` 66,316/- **Period of Completion:** 06 (Six) months (Tender ID: 2022\_APWD\_8642\_1)

The last date of bid submission will be 09/01/2023 upto 1500 hours. The Tender forms and other details can be obtained from the website <https://eprocure.andaman.gov.in>

2022/MediaRelease/1123 30



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## "Jagriti"- An Initiative of N&M Andaman District Police on "POCSO Act, Drug Abuse with Special Focus On Carrier Guidance"

**Diglipur, Dec 26:** "Jagriti" an awareness programme on the POCSO Act, Drug Abuse with special focus on carrier guidance to school students of class IX to XII was organized on 23/12/2022 by North & Middle Andaman District Police in association with Sub-Divisional Legal Service Committee, N&M Andaman at school auditorium of VKZPV Diglipur. Hon'ble Additional District & Sessions Judge, Mayabunder Shri Jimut Bahan Biswas was the Chief Guest and Ms. Geetanjali Khandelwal, Superintendent of Police, N&MA District was the guest of honour.

Hon'ble Additional District & Sessions Judge Shri Jimut Bhan Biswas in his address emphasized on POCSO Act especially the safeguards of victim. Ms. Geetanjali Khandelwal, IPS, Superintendent of Police (D), Mayabunder highlighted on Carrier Guidance, drug abuse and POCSO Act.

Shri Lakshya Pandey, DANIPS, SDPO, Diglipur, Shri. R.P Pandey, Deputy Education Officer, Diglipur and Shri Mahadev Gain, UP-Adhyakash, N&MA and Zila Parishad Member of Subash Gram and R.K Gram constituency joined to make the programme successful.

Later Hon'ble Additional District & Sessions Judge, Mayabunder Shri



Jimut Bahan Biswas & Ms. Geetanjali Khandelwal, IPS, Superintendent of Police (D), Mayabunder had an open interaction session with students, parents, PRIs and local media and addressed their question & issues.

The School students of Govt. Senior Secondary School Kishori Nagar & Diglipur presented two "Nukkad Natak" on the theme of Drug Abuse & POCSO Act. Ms. Geetanjali Khandelwal, IPS, Superintendent of Police (D), Mayabunder distributed presents & certificates to the students who performed Nukkad Natak & to the teachers to encourage them to come forward for a societal course. 04 local fishermen who helped police in various activities were also felicitated by SP.

At the concluding session Shri. Manimohan Hira, Principal of VKZPV Diglipur & PRI members expressed their gratitude to District Police for organizing such programme for the motivation and guidance to students. The program concluded with national anthem.

A gathering of 450 people constituting school students of VKZPV Diglipur, Govt. Senior Secondary School, Kishori Nagar, Diglipur & Subash Gram, Pradhans & PRI members, Anganwadi workers & Helpers, Police officials, representative of Medical field, media persons and general public attended the awareness programme.

**Andaman Chronicle invites articles, feature and opinions from our esteemed readers. Your write-ups can be mailed to the Editor through the ID denisgiles@yahoo.com**

## ANTCC Pays Tributes to the Tsunami Victims

*Continued from Page 1*

ANTCC President Shri. Rangalal Halder along with Chairman-Campaign Committee Shri. G. Bhasker garlanded the portrait of the "Tsunami Memorial" followed by a

Candle light & floral tribute by all Senior leaders, BCC Presidents, TCC Members, Frontal Organizations, PBMC Councilors and the general public. This day was observed with prayers given

by the Priest, Pandits, Molana and Sikh Guru to mark with silences as nature has killed thousands of lives during the Tsunami.

## Inner Wheel Conducts Free Dental Checkup Camp at Pranab Kanya

*Continued from Page 1*

underwent dental checkups to raise awareness of oral hygiene. The team of dentists led by Dr. Sharmila Patil and Dr. Diksha examined the children, apprised them of their dental problems, and gave relevant solutions. During the examination, fifteen children were found to be in need of advanced treatment which will be provided free of cost at Dr

Arora Dental Clinic under the supervision of the doctors.

This program is an ongoing endeavour to improve oral hygiene and help raise awareness about the importance of oral health with the objective to reach out to the underprivileged and underserved sections of the society.

## State Unit of BJP Organises Kavi Sammelan to Mark Birth Anniversary of Former PM Atal Behari Vajpayee

*Continued from Page 1*

Chandran Kokadan, Dr. Manju Nair, Miss Anita and Shri Bhanu Pratap Yadav.

Shri M. Vinod thanked all the Kavi and Kaviyatri for their great support

and to make the Kavi Sammelan a grand success. He also expressed gratitude towards President, Kannada Sangha for all the support.

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## Helpline Numbers

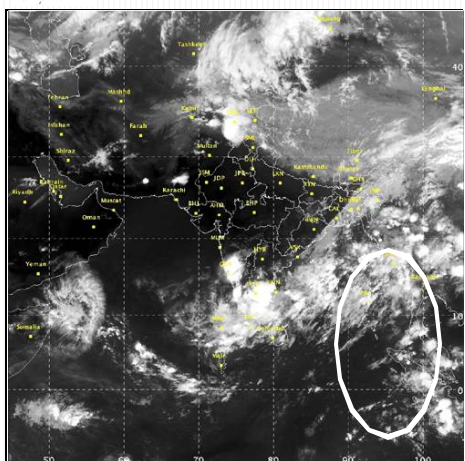
Police Control Room:	100
Fire Service:	101
Ambulance:	102
DC Control Room:	1070
Shipping:	245555
Postal :	232346, 232890
Children:	1098
Women:	244701
Coast Guard for	1554
Search & Rescue (SAR)	
Coast Guard RHQ:	232681
Coastal Security	1093
State Control Room:	1077, 238880
PBMC Control Room:	245798
Kisan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

## Emergency Operation Centres (EOCs)

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



## Weather



Max. Temp: 30.2 °C	Min.: 26.2 °C
Relative Humidity: 0830 Hrs: 69%	1730 Hrs: 67%
Sunrise: 0536 Hrs.	Sunset: 1703 Hrs.
Rainfall upto 0830 Hrs (Last 24 Hrs.):	000.0 mm
Rainfall upto 1730 Hrs (Last 24 Hrs.):	000.0 mm
Total Rainfall (From Jan 1, 2022 till date):	2585.2 mm

## Forecast

The weather will be dry over Port Blair. Maximum and Minimum temperature will be around 30°C and 26°C respectively on Monday 26/12/2022.

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