

REVERBERATION

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06 page

A weekly echoing the mood of the people, comes to you on every Monday

Port Blair city conferred with 'Award for Excellence in Urban Transport' under 'City with Best Green Transport Initiative' category



Port Blair, Oct.30

Port Blair city has been conferred with the 'Award for Excellence in Urban Transport' under the category 'City with Best Green Transport Initiative' for the entry submitted by Transport Department, A&N Administration by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Govt. of India during the valedictory session of

the 14th edition of Urban Mobility India (UMI) Conference 2021 held yesterday at Sushma Swaraj Bhawan, New Delhi. Shri Jitendra Narain, Chief Sec-

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ANC organised UNITY RUNS and CYCLE EXPEDITION on NATIONAL UNITY DAY



Port Blair, Oct 31:

Rashtriya Ekta Diwas was celebrated on Oct 31 to commemorate the 146th

birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. Popularly known as the 'Iron Man of India', Sardar Patel is known to

have played a crucial role in the unification of India. The day provides an opportunity contd. page-5

MP demands urgent repair of road stretch from Ferrargunj to Wimberlygunj area

Port Blair, Oct 31:

The Member of Parliament of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma today requested the Chief Secretary of Andaman and Nicobar Administration to urgently repair the road stretch from Ferrargunj to Wimberlygunj area.

In his letter to the Chief Secretary he mentioned that residents of Bambooflat, Wimberlygunj, Hope Town, Stewartgunj, Shore Point, Panighat, Mannarghat, Wright Myo, Shoal Bay and nearby areas are going through tremendous mental

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MULTI SPECIALIST MEDICAL CAMP WAS CONDUCTED BY AIR FORCE STATION CARNICOBAR



Port Blair, Oct 28:

To commemorate 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' a Medical Camp with multiple speciality was conducted by Air Force Station Carnicobar, under the aegis of HQ

Andaman and Nicobar Command (ANC), at Community Centre of Malacca village on 28 October 21. The Camp, included 11 medical personnel from Bishop John Richardson

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Advisory to general public on control of noise pollution during 'Deepawali'

Port Blair, Oct. 31

Deepawali festival will be celebrated on 4th November, 2021 in A&N Islands. In view of the recent directions issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on the control of Noise & Air Pollution during the festival season, general public is hereby in-

formed that only the fire crackers falling into green crackers and improvised crackers shall be used strictly between 8 pm & 10 pm.

Similarly, fire crackers are also not to be used at any time in the areas designated as Silence Zones i.e., an area at least

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EDITORIAL

In the wake of China-US rivalry, India needs to reboot its ASEAN strategy

In his engagement with the Asian leaders last week, conducted under the banner of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said all the right things. He reaffirmed India's commitment to a free, open and inclusive Indo-Pacific, and underlined Delhi's support for the centrality of the ASEAN. But Asia is changing rapidly and is very different today from the one that India re-engaged in the early 1990s in the name of a Look East Policy. Much of the churn in the region has taken place since Modi won office in 2014. The PM then promised to impart fresh energy to the regional engagement with his "Act East Policy". Until now Delhi had it easy. It just needed to effectively implement the ASEAN agenda of regional co-operation. But the structural changes in the region and the breakdown of the old certitudes demand that India reboot its ASEAN engagement.

If the ASEAN was widely viewed as a thriving regional organisation just a few years ago, it is struggling to retain its internal coherence today. There have been serious differences on how to deal with the military coup in Myanmar. The rise of China and its assertive policies towards its neighbours deeply trouble the ASEAN. But overwhelmed by China's proximity and power, few are willing to raise their voice against Beijing. The region is also shaken to its core by the deepening political confrontation between Beijing and Washington and the prospect for an economic decoupling between China and the US.

Squeezed by the sharpening Sino-US rivalry, ASEAN members are ambivalent about the geopolitical conception of the Indo-Pacific. Many of them have bought into Beijing's narrative that brands the Indo-Pacific as anti-China. They also are wary about India's membership of the Quad that is viewed as a potential challenge to ASEAN centrality. Delhi has its task cut out in explaining its vision of the Indo-Pacific, reassuring the region on Delhi's membership of the Quad, and intensifying its own bilateral cooperation with the ASEAN states. Delhi's withdrawal from the region-wide free trade agreement, the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership in 2019, continues to rankle among the ASEAN members. Linked to the RCEP is the widespread regional perception that India has turned inward again with its "Aatmanirbhar" policies. There is little regional awareness of India's recent economic reforms promoting greater role for domestic and foreign capital. Delhi can't assume that the logic of its new international posture is self-evident to its ASEAN partners. It needs a comprehensive effort to promote a better Asian understanding of its policies and the new opportunities they present for deeper economic and political cooperation.

Former PM Manmohan Singh discharged from AIIMS

New Delhi: Former prime minister Manmohan Singh, who was undergoing treatment at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), was discharged on Sunday.

Singh was admitted to AIIMS on October 13 after he complained of weakness following fever. He was subsequently diagnosed with dengue.

Singh had been admitted to a private ward in the cardio-neuro centre of the hospital and is under the care of a team

of cardiologists led by Dr Nitish Naik.

Earlier, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya had visited the hospital and met Singh.

A row had erupted after Mandaviya's visit, as he allegedly took a photographer with him while visiting the former prime minister. Manmohan Singh's daughter, Daman Singh, had hit out at Mandaviya for bringing the photographer against the wishes of the family.

Climate, supply chain on Modi table; India, US discuss region



New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday pitched India as the "trusted source in the IT and pharmaceutical supply chains" as he underlined three critical requirements for improving global supply chains - "trusted source, transparency and time-frame".

The Prime Minister was participating in a summit on Global Supply Chain Resilience convened by United States President Joe Biden on the sidelines of G20. The meeting discussed ways in which governments could alleviate pressure points in the global supply chain ecosystem.

While India is already a "trusted source" in the IT and pharma supply chains, it is keen to participate in the clean technology supply chain, the Prime Minister said.

In their Rome Declaration, the G20 leaders said "reducing trade tensions, tackling distortions in all sectors of trade and investment, addressing supply chain disruptions and fostering mutually beneficial trade and investment relations will be critical as economies respond to and recover from the Covid-19 pandemic".

G20 countries also resolved to work together towards the recognition of Covid-19 vaccines deemed safe and efficacious by the WHO and in accordance with national legislation and circumstances, and to strengthen the organisation's ability regarding approval of vaccines - including optimising procedures and processes with the aim of broadening the list of vaccines authorised for emergency use (EUL), while continuing to protect public health and ensuring privacy and data protection.

The leaders, including Prime Minister Modi, on Sunday reaffirmed their full support for the Financial Action Task Force

(FATF), and recognised that effective implementation of measures to combat money laundering, terrorist financing, and proliferation is essential to build confidence in financial markets, ensure a sustainable recovery, and protect the integrity of the international financial system.

The G20 statement said the leaders looked forward to meeting again in Indonesia in 2022, in India in 2023, and in Brazil in 2024.

Modi also met the outgoing German Chancellor Angela Merkel on Sunday. He tweeted: "Chancellor Merkel has made an immense contribution in strengthening Indo-German relations. Delighted to meet her today, after a long time, in Rome for a wide-ranging and fruitful conversation."

Modi participated in a session on "climate change and environment", which was followed by a working lunch on the theme of "sustainable development". These meetings assume significance as he heads to Glasgow from Rome for the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26).

Separately, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar met US Secretary of State Antony J Blinken on the G20 sidelines late on Saturday night.

Jaishankar tweeted that Blinken and he "updated each other on important regional concerns", a reference to developments in Afghanistan and Pakistan, as well as in China.

"A very good meeting with Secretary of State @SecBlinken in Rome on the sidelines of @G20org. Discussed a wide gamut of issues relating to our partnership. Updated each other on important regional concerns," Jaishankar posted on Twitter.

State Department spokesperson Ned Price said that the

two sides discussed the efforts to deepen the US-India Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership.

"Secretary Blinken and Minister Jaishankar discussed a range of issues, including efforts to strengthen Indo-Pacific cooperation through the Quad and expand cooperation on common regional priorities.

"Secretary Blinken and Minister Jaishankar also discussed cooperation on expanding global access to Covid-19 vaccines, elevating climate ambition at COP26, and reinforcing their mutual commitments to and support for shared democratic values," the spokesperson said.

In Glasgow, the Prime Minister will deliver the national statement at the World Leaders' Summit on Monday, and participate in leaders-level events around the themes of climate change, mitigation, adaptation and building resilience, clean technology, innovation and deployment.

One of the important events is the launch of the global Green Grids Initiative, the One Sun One World One Grid of the International Solar Alliance. Separately, the Prime Minister will launch, along with British Prime Minister Boris Johnson and Australia's Prime Minister Scott Morrison, the Infrastructure for Resilient Island States (IRIS), an initiative of the Coalition of Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) for island countries.

Modi on Sunday visited the famous Trevi Fountain in Rome along with other world leaders.

The historic fountain, one of the most visited sites in Italy, has drawn tourists and filmmakers for decades, who have popularised the monument as the epitome of a place of romance.

Criminal law should not be set in motion without proper probe: SC



PTI: Criminal law should not be set into motion without adequate investigation of facts on mere suspicion, the Supreme Court has said while quashing a criminal case against the director of a company.

A bench of Justices R S Reddy and Sanjiv Khanna said vicarious liability is attracted when the offence is committed with the consent, connivance, or is attributable to the neglect on the part of a director, manager, secretary, or other officer of the company.

In law, vicarious liability is the responsibility assigned to an employer, resulting from the actions of an employee.

"Criminal law should not be set into motion as a matter of course or without adequate and necessary investigation of facts on mere suspicion, or when the violation of law is doubtful.

"It is the duty and responsibility of the public officer to proceed responsibly and ascertain the true and correct facts.

Execution of law without appropriate acquaintance with legal provisions and comprehensive sense of their application may result in an innocent being prosecuted," the apex court said.

On the issue of summons, the bench said it is the court's duty not to issue summons in a mechanical and routine manner.

"It is the duty of the magistrate to apply his mind to see whether on the basis of the allegations made and the evidence, a prima facie case for taking cognizance and summoning the accused is made out or not," the bench said in its October 29 judgement said.

The apex court was hearing an appeal filed by Dayle de Souza challenging an order of Madhya Pradesh, which dismissed his plea seeking quashing of the case against him.

Resultantly, and for the reasons stated above, we would allow the present appeal and quash the summoning order and the proceedings

against the present appellant.

The petitioner, director of Writer Safeguard Pvt. Ltd, had entered into an agreement, titled "Agreement for Servicing and Replenishment of Automated Teller Machines", with NCR Corporation India Private Ltd.

The NCR corporation having earlier entered into an agreement with the State Bank of India for maintenance and upkeep of the State Bank of India's ATMs.

On February 19, 2014, the Labour Enforcement Officer (Central) inspected the SBI's ATM and later issued a notice alleging non-compliance with the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, and Minimum Wages (Central) Rules, 1950 at the ATM.

After more than four months, the Labour Enforcement Officer (Central), informed the petitioner and Vinod Singh (director of MP unit) that they were required to appear in the court on August 14, 2014.

On August 14, 2014, the Labour Enforcement Officer (Central) filed a criminal complaint before the court of the Chief Judicial Magistrate, Sagar, Madhya Pradesh, under Section 22A of the Act who took cognizance of the offence and issued a bailable warrant against the appellant and Vinod Singh.

The petitioner later moved the high court for quashing the complaint, which dismissed his petition.

Sabyasachi withdraws Mangalsutra campaign advertisement amid controversy



PTI: Facing severe backlash, designer brand Sabyasachi on Sunday withdrew its Mangalsutra campaign and said it was "deeply saddened" that the advertisement offended a section of society.

The popular designer brand has been facing flak on social media platforms as well as from a section of politicians from the ruling BJP over the advertisement wherein it had portrayed a woman wearing a low-neckline dress and posing solo and in an intimate position with a man.

The withdrawal also came hours after Madhya Pradesh Home Minister Narottam Mishra issued a 24-hour ultimatum to Sabyasachi Mukherjee to withdraw the advertisement which has an "objectionable and obscene" portrayal of mangalsutra or else face statutory action.

"In the context of making heritage and culture a dynamic conversation, the Mangalsutra campaign aimed to talk about inclusivity and empowerment.

"The campaign was intended as a celebration and we are deeply saddened that it has instead offended a section of our society. So, we at Sabyasachi have decided to withdraw the campaign," Sabyasachi in a post on Instagram.

After pictures of the advertisement were posted on Instagram, there was a huge controversy with a section of social media users terming them as against Hindu culture and obscene. Hashtags such

as #Sabyasachi_Insults_HinduCulture and #BoycottSabyasachi were trending on Twitter.

Last week, FMCG major and wellness firm Dabur India withdrew its advertisement on the festival of Karva Chauth showing a lesbian couple celebrating in the ad campaign of its Fem Creme bleach and issued an unconditional apology.

Dabur also faced backlash on social media platforms and also from the MP Home Minister, who had also issued an ultimatum against the company, known for its nature-based wellness products.

Talking to reporters at Datia in Madhya Pradesh, Mishra had said, "I have warned earlier about such advertisements. I am personally warning designer Sabyasachi Mukherjee, giving him a 24-hour ultimatum. If this objectionable and obscene advertisement is not withdrawn, then a case will be registered against him and legal action will be taken. The police force will be sent for the action," Mishra said on Sunday.

Earlier, Tata Group's jewellery brand Tanishq was forced to withdraw an advertisement that showed an interfaith couple at a baby shower organised for the Hindu bride by her Muslim in-laws.

Clothing brand Manyavar too was at the receiving end when its advertisement featuring Bollywood actor Alia Bhatt in wedding attire, appeared to question an old tradition.

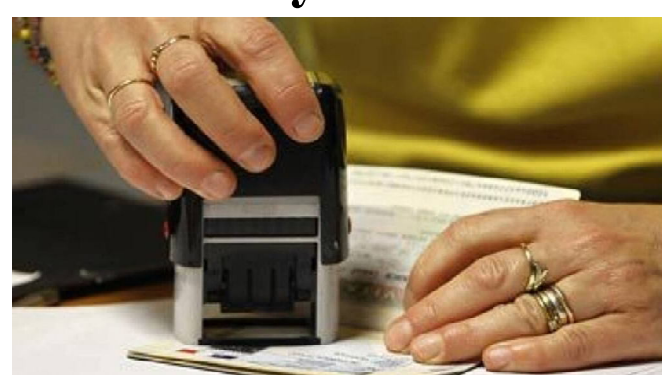
Wait for visa appointment to be longer: US Embassy

PTI: The US Embassy here has said there will be significant appointment wait times for some non-immigrant visa categories as it builds back from Covid-19-related interruptions.

From November 8, an estimated three million visa holders from India, with proof of vaccination, will be able to travel to the United States under the new international air travel policy, the embassy said.

"Facilitating legitimate travel to support our strong and growing bilateral ties is our top priority. As we build back from Covid-19-related interruptions, we expect significant appointment wait times for some nonimmigrant visa categories at our Embassy and Consulates," it said.

The mission thanked people for their patience while "we work to increase our capacity and main-



tain the safety of our applicants and staff".

Describing the vaccination requirements, the US Embassy said that starting November 8, foreign national air travellers to the United States will be required to be fully vaccinated against Covid-19 and to provide proof of vaccination status prior to boarding an airplane to fly to the US, with only limited exceptions.

"The CDC (Centers for Dis-

ease Control and Prevention) has determined that for the purposes of entry into the United States, vaccines accepted will include those FDA approved or authorized, as well as vaccines with an emergency use listing (EUL) from the World Health Organization (WHO)," it said.

The embassy said that Covishield will be accepted for the purposes of entry into the United States since it has an emergency use listing from the WHO.

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District Child Protection Unit SA conduct Awareness program on Adoption and POCSO Act at Sippighat Panchayat

Port Blair, Oct. 29

District Child Protection Unit, South Andaman under District Administration conducted an awareness program on Adoption and POCSO Act 2021 at Sippighat Panchayat on 29th October 2021.

The gathering was sensitized about the functions of DCPU with an emphasis on Non-Institutional Care program under Integrated Child Protection Scheme. The gathering was also detailed on Adoption as per Adoption Regulation of CARA, and informed that all the Adoption whether Prospective Adoptive Parent/ Relative Adoption/ Step Parent Adoption shall be registered in CARINGS. A detailed information was provided to the gathering about the procedures and Do's & Don'ts of Adop-



tion. The Team also emphasized on the process of surrendering children who can be restored through adoption.

Also, awareness was created on POCSO Act wherein people were sensitized on the offences covered under the Act and also sensitized about "Good Touch" and "Bad Touch" as children are one of the most vulnerable parts of the society and are more susceptible to any form of abuse.

The participants were encouraged to pass on the message to the public at large and follow the procedures to avoid any kind of implication.

District Administration ensures to conduct such programs to create awareness on the said topic from time to time so as a child friendly environment is created for children where children may grow safe and happy.

Two days Science, Art & Craft Exhibition 'Aavishkar 2.0' of GMSSS gets underway



Port Blair, Oct. 28

The two days Science, Art and Craft Exhibition 'Aavishkar 2.0', 2021 of Govt. Model Sr. Sec School was inaugurated by Dr. Angel Bhati Chauhan, Secretary (Education), A&N Administration today in the presence of other officials of Education Department. In her address, the Secretary (Education) applauded the critical thinking and

innovative skills of the students and stressed that teaching and learning of science should focus on demonstration, experiments and science fair. As part of the on-going 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav', a mind-blowing Rajasthani folk dance was presented by the students.

Earlier, the Principal of the school welcomed the gathering, a press release received here said.

Member of Parliament demands further extension of permit period for all the Tourist Vehicles to 31st March 2022

Port Blair, Oct 28:

Raising the issue of further extension of permit period for all the Tourist Vehicles, once again, the Member of Parliament of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma has requested the Chief Secretary to take up this matter with the Government of India and get the extension of the permit period for all the Tourist Vehicles done to 31st March 2022.

Earlier, on 22nd September the Member of Parliament had called on the Chief Secretary, Mr. Jitendra Narain and requested him to extend the permit period following which the last date was extended to 31st October 2021 from 30 September 2021.

Once again taking up the issue, Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma has written a letter to the Chief Secretary of Andaman and Nicobar Islands and mentioned that because of Covid-19 Pandemic and lockdowns, the Tourism Industry of Andaman Nicobar Island suf-

fered a heavy blow.

He added that one of the sections in Andaman Nicobar Tourism Industry, the vehicle Driver brothers and owners who have taken loans from banks to operate tourist vehicles have especially suffered heavy financial loss during this crisis time because in the last one and a half years, they couldn't operate their tourist vehicles.

The Member of Parliament mentioned that now as the permit period for all the Tourist Vehicles to 31st October 2022, after this date tourist vehicle owners have to apply for fresh fitness and for this entire process and for this they will have to pay nearly Rs. 35,000 to Rs. 70,000 for the fitness of their vehicles.

Considering the last one and a half years, which was a severe loss period, it is impossible for any of the tourist vehicle owners to pay such a huge amount for the renewal of tourist permit, the MP added.

Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma

pointed out that most of these tourist vehicle operators had taken loans from the banks and are under tremendous pressure from banks to pay the EMIs, adding to that they are facing a huge challenge to run their family in this present situation. Many of these tourist vehicle driver brothers and owners are unable to pay room rent and going through extreme financial crisis.

The Member of Parliament mentioned that when there is no income at this point of time forcing these vehicle driver brothers and owners to pay around Rs. 35,000 to Rs. 70,000 for fitness works for the renewal of tourist permit will not be fair and hence he requested the Chief Secretary to take up this matter with the Government of India and get the extension of the permit period for all the Tourist Vehicles done to 31st March 2022 so that in this coming tourist season, these tour vehicle operators can earn some amount and pay for the renewable of fitness after 31st March 2022.

DLSA organizes legal awareness camp on 'Women Empowerment and Child Abuse'

Port Blair, Oct. 30

As part of PAN India Awareness and Outreach Campaign by National Legal Services Authority, New Delhi, the District Legal Services Authority, A&N Islands, Port Blair today conducted a Legal Awareness Camp on 'Women Empowerment and Child Abuse' at the Auditorium of Directorate of Industries, A&N Administration. Shri Ayan Majumder, Ld. Chief Judicial Magistrate, Port Blair cum Secretary, DLSA, A&N Islands, Shri. Md. Nurjaman Khan, Ld. Judicial Magistrate First Class, 1st Court, Port Blair, Shri Prashanta Bhadu, Assistant Professor, Andaman

Law College and Smt. Ratna Kannan, CWC Member/ Social worker spoke on different topics. The speakers spoke on various laws relating to Women Empowerment, Child Abuse, Drug Abuse, Legal Rights of the people and explained about the benefits of Legal Services Authority Act, 1987. The speakers also acknowledged the contribution of women in nation building.

A cultural programme was also organized as part of the programme at the venue in collaboration with students of Andaman Law College, a press release received from Secretary, DLSA, A&N Islands said.

Advisory to general.... from page 1

100 meter away from hospitals, nursing homes, primary and district health-care centres, educational institutions, courts, religious places or any other area declared as a Silence Zone by the authorities concerned.

General public have also been advised to earmark common central places in every locality/area where people could gather and burst fire crackers within the prescribed limits of time i.e. from 8 pm to 10 pm and permitted noise levels.

These directions are meant for the safety and security of the general public while they enjoy the festival in its gaiety, a press release from SP (SA) said.

Port Blair city conferred..... from page-1

retary, A&N Administration received the award from Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, Hon'ble Minister, MoHUA, GoI. It is to mention that the Port Blair city has competed with different cities of the country to be adjudged a winner for the award, which were considered and recommended by an Award Selection Committee constituted by MoHUA.

Addressing the gathering, Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs said that sustainable mobility and universal access is crucial for achieving the 2030 Agenda of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). He said that the National Urban Transport Policy of 2006 highlights "Moving people rather than vehicles", following which most vision documents and policy statements related to urban transportation are formulated.

The main theme of this year's conference is 'Mobility for All' which focuses on providing equitable access and promote inclusive urban transportation. Urban centre's are engines of economic growth, with rising trend of urbanization, the biggest challenge is to have proper Urban Transport System. Rising usage of personal motorized vehicles which manifests into severe congestion, increased air pollution and high incidence of road accident deaths are the

biggest challenges of urban agglomerations of present time. This is not only affecting the health and well-being of the people but also impacts global climate change.

The challenge of moving people from all segments of society, efficiently, safely and sustainably is being addressed through new and innovative solutions in our increasingly globalized urbanized and digitized world. A&N Administration has proactively taken initiatives to make a shift to e-Mobility by encouraging Green

Transport in the form of Electric Vehicles.

Electric Air conditioned Public Transport Buses has been introduced - To augment the fleet, reduce traffic congestion, pollution, conserve biodiversity and for faster mobility 40 Electric AC Buses have been hired by the Transport Department on dry lease from NTPC for Public Transport. The e-buses commenced commercial operation from 1.4.2021. To meet the charging requirements of these buses 15 Charger's were installed in record time i.e. seven in Bus Terminus, Six in Workshop & 2 in STS unit Ferrargunj. Dedicated Transformers were provided in Bus Terminus, Workshop & STS Unit Ferrargunj.

Electric AC Buses for promotion of Tourism - Transport Department has introduced

Go-Go (Get on-Get off) Bus services for the tourists visiting the Islands. The Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Co-operation, Shri Amit Shah flagged off beautifully crafted Electric Air Conditioned Buses on 15.10.2021. These buses would provide luxury in an unconventional tailored experience to the tourist visiting the important heritage sites in the city at an economical fare of Rs. 150/-.

Electric Cars

Government Departments are taking lead role by operating e-cars as staff cars.

97 e-cars are being operated by 38 Departments in A&N Administration.

Chargers were installed in Directorate of Transport, Secretariat & DC Office prior to procurement of e-Cars for meeting charging needs of these vehicles

The Ministry of Power has approved installation of ten charging station under FAME-II Scheme through NTPC.

With the assistance of Ministry of Heavy Industries and Ministry of Power, public charging stations are being established.

Common charging facility for electric vehicles of Administration is being created in Parking arena near Archives Section of Secretariat.

All Departments have installed charging infrastructure in their premises.

MP demands to press MV Sindhu in service for the larger interest of Islanders

Port Blair, Oct 29:

The Member of Parliament of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma has requested the Chief Secretary to press MV Sindhu in service, after rectifying all technical glitches, for the convenience of general public.

In a letter addressed to the Chief Secretary of Andaman and Nicobar Administration, the Member of Parliament mentioned that people of Andaman and Nicobar Islands have been waiting very anxiously for MV Sindhu vessel since last many years but due to some technical glitches the ship has not been put into service yet.

He added that people of various Islands were hoping that the new ship MV Sindhu will not only reduce the journey time but will also provide them all modern day comfort during every sailing.

The Member of Parliament added that for Nicobar District there is always a shortage of ships and people of Nicobar District are always demanding bigger and better ships for transportation and ships are lifeline for Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Considering the heavy demand for MV Sindhu among Islanders, the Member of Parliament demanded to press MV Sindhu in service.

PDS beneficiaries advised to collect food grains for two months by Oct. 31

Port Blair, Oct. 29

Taking cognizance of the direction of the Govt. of India and in order to maintain social distancing and minimal movement of PDS beneficiaries, PDS food grains were distributed in advance for two months for September & October, 2021 in one go in the entire UT in the month of September, 2021 with the advice to PDS beneficiaries to purchase the food grains as per their entitlement for two months till September, 2021.

In this regard, it is once again requested to all left out PDS beneficiaries i.e. APL & NFSA beneficiaries (AAY &

PHH) to approach their nearest Fair Price Shops and collect their entitlement of free foodgrains under PMGKAY & regular PDS foodgrains by Oct. 31, 2021.

Further, the migrants of other States presently residing in this UT and are covered under NFSA (PHH & AAY) in their respective States/ UTs can also receive foodgrains from any FPS of this UT under the One Nation One Ration Card Scheme.

For any clarification they may contact Toll Free No. 14445, a press release received from Directorate of CS&CA said.

ANC organised UNITY..... from page 1

to re-affirm the inherent strength and resilience of our nation to withstand the actual and potential threats to the unity, integrity of our country. To commemorate the day and continuing with the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav Andaman and Nicobar Command organised Unity Runs at Port Blair, Carnicobar and a Cycling Expedition at Port Blair on 31 Oct 2021. The events were organised to spread the message of integration amongst all inhabitants of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

The Unity Marathon was a true example of Jointmanship which witnessed an overwhelming participation of all ranks, ladies and children from all Components of Andaman and Nicobar Command. The participants wore their hearts on their sleeves and came forward burning the roads on beautiful Sunday morning. The zeal

and gutso displayed by participants was a joy to watch as they were flagged off by Havildar Jagdish Singh, an Olympian and has represented India in Snow Skiing Discipline at various International events.

Similarly, a Freedom Run was organised at Air Force Station Carnicobar to honour the sacrifices of our freedom fighters and to promote unity and national spirit among the citizens. The level of response received from the public was unprecedented, wherein defence personnel of the station, local police and civil administration along with tribal population of the island including women and children across all ages participated. The 'Freedom Run' was flagged off from Malacca Gate of Air Force Station Caricobar. All the participants were provided with refreshments on culmination of the run. Station Commander, Group Captain Nitin Talwar af-

ter felicitating the winners and appreciating all participants for their josh and enthusiasm, delivered a motivational speech.

A cycling expedition was also organised on this solemn occasion. A large number of cyclists from the Army, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard participated enthusiastically. The expedition aimed at spreading the message of integration amongst all the citizens of Port Blair. The Cycling Expedition started from Air Force unit at Bathu Basti towards Cellular Jail, as a mark of respect for our freedom fighters and the struggle for the independence of India. The cycling team then moved towards Marine Drive to spread awareness of the day and rejuvenate the feeling of unity amongst all. The cycling team concluded their expedition at Bathu Basti.

The events evoked patriotic fervour and spirit of unity across the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

MP demands urgent..... from page-1

and physical agony because of pathetic condition of road from Ferrargunj to Wimberlygunj area.

He mentioned that although a large number of public opt for normal ferry and vehicle ferry vessels for daily commute in most cases but often many Islanders have to use the roads to reach Port Blair and other places for various reasons.

The Member of Parliament mentioned that the road stretch leading to Wimberlygunj from Ferrargunj is in very pathetic shape. Ac-

cording to the public the road has thousands of potholes and in several places the road has developed waves like uneven surfaces.

He pointed out that this bad road is not only causing physical pain to the public but also causing damages to the vehicles, which people buy with their hard earned money.

The Member of Parliament said that such a bad road might cause a dangerous accident in the coming days and hence an immediate step to repair the road is necessary.

T20 World Cup: 54 dot balls, lowest total batting first; India's flop show in Dubai



Team India was beaten convincingly by New Zealand after the men in blue set a paltry target of 111 for the Black Caps in their crucial Super 12 encounter on Sunday. It was spectacular bowling from New Zealand as none of the India batters could cross even 30 in the innings. Trent Boult was the pick of the bowlers with 3/20.

India's score of 110/7 was also their lowest ever score batting first in a T20 World Cup. Their next lowest: 130/4 versus Sri Lanka in 2014 final. India's poor performance was compounded by the fact that they played 54 dot balls. This meant that India didn't score any runs in nine of their 20 overs.

There were no demons on the track but India's shoddy show with the willow was a consequence of poor team selection, not relying on form players and the failure to have any flexibility in the side, which lacked proper multi-skilled cricketers. And true to 'Murphy's Law' (it states "anything that can go wrong will go wrong"), it caught up with the team.

India's miserable outing can also be gauged by the number of boundaries scored in the middle overs (7-16) - an astonishing - zero. In T20I history, when India have batted through the entire middle overs (7-15), they've only not hit a boundary on five occasions. Two have come this year: one

tonight, and one v Sri Lanka in July.

India was rocked by early wickets but their numbers make for very grim reading. No team has a lower attacking shot percentage than India. Only Ireland, Papua New Guinea and the Netherlands have a worse timing rating (according to cricviz).

India failed to hit a boundary in the eight overs bowled between Kiwi spinners Ish Sodhi and Mitchell Santner. In their combined spell of 8 overs, Mitchell Santner and Ish Sodhi conceded only 32 runs and picked two wickets today.

Three of India's six heaviest defeats in T20Is (in terms of balls remaining) have come in 2021-

- 52 balls vs Aus (2008)
- 33 balls vs NZ (2021)
- 33 balls vs SL (2021)
- 31 balls vs Aus (2012)
- 27 balls vs Eng (2021)
- 27 balls vs Aus (2017)

No team has won the T20 WC unbeaten. However, for India to turn this stat around will be an arduous task from here.

MP demands two bigger vehicle ferry vessels on lease for Bambooflat and Chatham sector

Port Blair, Oct.29

Member of Parliament of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma has requested the Chief Secretary of Andaman and Nicobar Administration to induct atleast two bigger vehicle ferry vessels on lease for Bambooflat and Chatham sector.

The Member of Parliament has also requested the Chief Secretary to order immediate repair of all the vehicle ferry vessels which are out of service so that the existing shortage can be addressed and the general public gets some relief.

In a letter addressed to the Chief Secretary, the Member of Parliament has pointed out that the people of the South Andaman region are facing tremendous hardship in travelling between Bambooflat and Port Blair, due to shortage of vehicle ferry vessels, regular breakdowns of existing vehicle ferry vessels, heavy rush and limited capacity of these vehicle ferry vessels.

He said that every day thousands of people of Bambooflat, Wimberlygunj, Hope Town, Stewartgunj, Shore Point, Panighat,

Mannarghat, Wright Myo, Shoal Bay and nearby areas face a lot of hardships to reach Port Blair and return back to their place via these age-old vehicle ferry vessels.

Considering problems being faced by thousands of people of South Andaman region, especially Bambooflat, Wimberlygunj, Hope Town, Stewartgunj, Shore Point, Panighat, Mannarghat, Wright Myo, Shoal Bay and nearby areas, the Member of Parliament requested the Chief Secretary to induct atleast two bigger vehicle ferry vessels on lease for Bambooflat and Chatham sectors.

He mentioned that bigger vehicle ferry vessels with the capacity to carry vehicles, double or triple in number than the existing capacity, will not only be economical in fuel consumption but also save the time of the general public and reduce waiting time considerably. Once bigger vehicle ferries are inducted existing vehicle ferries can be diverted for Dandus Point and other sectors.

MULTI SPECIALIST MEDICAL..... from page 1

Hospital. Tribal population residing at various villages of Carnicobar island benefitted from the Camp. Group Captain Nitin Talwar, Station Commander Air Force Station Carnicobar, inaugurated the medical camp. The medical team conducted screening of non-communicable diseases and screening of Tuberculosis under **National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme (NTEP)** amongst the tribals apart from other OPD services. Squadron Leader Ragit P Rajesh, medical officer of Air Force Station Carnicobar, along with four specialist doctors viz Dr. Ajith Palanichami. Pediatrician, Dr. Poornima, Dermatologist, Dr. Rubeena Yusuf, General Duty Medical Officer, Dr. Ruth Christopher, Dental Surgeon, from BJR Hospital, Carnicobar gave an added specialist edge to the medical services provided in the camp to the island population. Active support from the civil administration aided in the overall smooth conduct of the camp. Overwhelming response from the tribals of all



the villages was witnessed at the medical camp. The villagers whole heartedly appreciated the humane efforts made by the Indian Air Force in organising the medical camp at a remote island of Carnicobar. The camp culminated with the

Station Commander thanking all the Doctors and other team members of BJR Hospital and other volunteers from the Air Force Station Carnicobar, for making the camp a grand success.

Meeting of State Telecom Disaster Coordination Committee held

Port Blair, Oct.29

Port Blair, Oct. 30

The first meeting of the State Telecom Disaster Coordination Committee (STDCC) for Andaman and Nicobar UT was held here yesterday under the Chairmanship of Shri K P Mohan , Deputy Director General, Andaman DoT, WB LSA, Port Blair. In the meeting, he emphasized on the role of the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) as a lead agency for the emergency support function related to the provision and restoration of telecommunication services in the event of disaster in

coordination with all TSPs , SDMA and NDRF.

Preparedness level of all the telecom service provider for handling any disaster like event was reviewed and all TSPs were instructed to be ready in line with the Department of Telecommunication's Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) issued by DoT and ensure necessary support and coordination with DoT, State Disaster Management and NDRF. Earlier, Shri Atul Kareliya, Director, DoT welcomed the participants, a press release received here said.