

Canteen Constructed nearly four years back remains unused; local residents demand to open Canteen for public and Tourists

John Wilbert & Rabindranath Biswas

Sheekha News Service

Long Island, Nov 23: About four years ago the Forest Department had constructed a semi RCC building in Long Island near Jetty for Canteen purposes for the tourists as well as for the people of

(See page 6)



Diglipur youth gets 10 years of Rigorous Imprisonment in POCSO Case

Port Blair, Nov 23: On 17th day of November 2022, Shri JimutBahan Biswas, Hon'ble Special Judge under POCSO Act, Mayabunder has convicted one accused a youth of

Diglipur and sentenced to undergo rigorous imprisonment for ten years for the offence punishable under Section 4 of POCSO Act 2012 and also imposed a fine

of Rs.50,000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand Only), in default of payment which he will have to undergo R.I. for six months more. A case was registered

(See page 6)

Ajoy Bairagi demands to enhance wages of Part Time Employees of Education Department in accordance with the Minimum Wages

Port Blair, Nov 23: Mr. AjoyBairagi, the state president of BJP, ANI has requested the Chief Secretary of A & N Administration to enhance the wages of Part Time Employees of the Education Department in accordance with order of the Minimum Wages declared by the A & N Administration.

In a letter addressed to the Chief Secretary, Mr. Bairagi mentioned that Part time employees, engaged in the De-

(See page 6)

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Member of Parliament demands to repair Youth Hostel and extend it by adding more rooms

Port Blair, Nov 23: The Member of Parliament of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma has requested the Lt. Governor of Andaman and Nicobar Islands to repair the Youth Hostel and also extend it by adding more rooms so that more and more youths from inter-islands can get highly affordable and safe shelter at Port Blair.

In a letter addressed to the Lt. Governor of Andaman and Nicobar Is-

lands, the Member of Parliament mentioned that the Youth Hostel, situated near Netaji Sports Complex used to be one of the most favourite places for youths of inter-island for lodging and boarding because of highly affordable lodging and boarding facilities, clean toilet, secure campus, central location and excellent management.

He added that the Youth Hostel had two wings for male and one wing for fe-

(See page 6)

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Former Member of Parliament Highlights Crucial Issues with Chief Secretary

Port Blair, Nov 23: Mr. Bishnu Pada Ray, Former Member of Parliament, A&N Islands, today yesterday met Mr. Keshav Chandra, (IAS-1995) Chief Secretary, A&N Administration along with a delegation consisting of Mr. V. C. Gupta, Mr. Aditya Raju, Mr. Vishnu & Mr. Bhoop Singh of Industrial Entrepreneur Association & Contractor and highlighted their problems viz Sealing & locking of industry area and Delay payment of Contractor pertaining to Zilla Parishad (South Andaman).



The Chief Secretary Pada Ray and the delegation gave a patient hearing and reportedly assured Mr. Bishnu that he will look into the matters sympathetically.

India successfully tests intermediate-range ballistic missile Agni-3

India on Wednesday test fired intermediate-range ballistic missile Agni-3 from APJ Abdul Kalam Island, Odisha.

“India carried out a successful training launch of an Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile, Agni-3 from APJ Abdul Kalam Island, Odisha on November 23, 2022. The successful test was part of routine user training launches carried out under the aegis of the Stra-

tegic Forces Command.

The launch was carried out for a predetermined range and validated all operational parameters of the system”, the ministry of defence said in a statement.

Agni-3 is the third entrant in the Agni missile series and was first tested on July 9, 2006.

But it developed a technical snag and had fell into the sea off Odisha coast without hitting the target.



The missile is capable of carrying a nuclear warhead and hitting target 3,500 kilometres away.

The Agni-3 missile was test fired successfully in its second flight in 2007 and then at its third consecutive launch in 2008.

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Supreme Court asks Centre to show Election Commissioner Arun Goel's appointment files

Supreme Court on Wednesday asked Centre to produce before it the files pertaining to the appointment of Arun Goel as the Election Commissioner. Goel was appointed to the position on November 19 and took charge on November 21.

A five-judge bench led by Justice KM Joseph asked Attorney General R Venkataramani to produce the files tomorrow (November 24). The apex court added that it would have been more appropriate if the appointment awaited the outcome of the hearing before the constitution bench on the selection mechanism of CEC and ECs. “Because this appointment was made after we began hearing this case, let's

see how the appointment is made. You should not have any danger since you say everything is hunky-dory,” the bench noted. Sushil Chandra's retirement as the chief election commissioner in May 2022 left the post of one commissioner in the three-member ECI vacant. Rajiv Kumar succeeded Chandra while Anup Chandra Pandey is the other election commissioner. A 1985 batch Punjab cadre IAS officer, Goel, will be in line to become the next chief election commissioner after Kumar's tenure ends in February 2025. The office of an election commissioner or chief election commissioner can be held for six years or till the age of 65, whichever is earlier.

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Counseling for Admission to Two Years B.Ed. Degree in Tagore Government College Postponed

Port Blair, Nov 23: The counseling for admission to Two Years B.Ed. Degree Programme for the session 2022-23 in Tagore Government College of Education, Port Blair which was earlier scheduled on 24th November 2022 has been postponed due to non-receipt of final year result of some PG courses offered by JNRM.

Fresh dates for the counseling for admission to all the remaining subjects and categories will be published shortly. Candidates who are seeking admission to Two Years B.Ed. Degree Programme in these subjects are requested to submit their results immediately in person for finalization of merit list.

COVID-19 status in A&N Islands

Port Blair, Nov. 22: No COVID positive case has been detected today in A&N Islands. Today, 16 flights with 2,466 passengers arrived, out

of which, 2257 passengers were vaccinated with both doses while RT-PCR test was conducted on 51 passengers and the reports are awaited.

Airbus Beluga lands in Mumbai 5 things to know about whale-shaped aircraft

The whale-shaped Airbus Beluga, which is enjoying undivided attention since its arrival, made its maiden appearance at Mumbai airport on Tuesday. Hailed as a super transporter, Airbus A300-600ST is one the latest cargo planes - a commercial service provided by the European company Airbus. The rare visitor was also spotted at Kolkata airport on Sunday where it had come for refueling and crew rest, Kolkata airport tweeted sharing pictures of the "majestic beast".

Here's all you need to know about Airbus Beluga:

1) At a length of 56.15 metres, Airbus Beluga is capable of handling cargo for various sectors, including military, maritime, space, and humanitarian, among others.

2) It has a height of 17.25 metres, while the wing span is a stunning 44.24 metres. As one of the latest

models, these super transporters offer a semi-automated main deck cargo loading system, making them efficient to handle payloads.

3) As per Airbus, Belugas are capable of handling oversized cargo of up to 7.1m in width and 6.7m in height and possess "the world's largest interior cross-section of any transport aircraft".

4) Airbus is a familiar name in the aerospace industry, a company based in Europe. While Belugas have been part of Airbus's operations since the mid-1990s, they were launched as a service in January.

5) Airbus also revealed that their first launch actually took place at the end of December 2021. The mission was headed to Japan for an "undisclosed" customer which Beluga stopped for refuelling at three places, Poland, Russia, and Korea.



Group of 25 IPS Probationers (2021 Batch) of 74 RR from the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy (SVPNPA), Hyderabad on Study-cum-Cultural tour to A&N Islands called on Admiral D K Joshi, PVSM, AVSM, YSM, NM, VSM (Retd.), Hon'ble Lt Governor, A&N Islands and Vice-Chairman, Islands Development Agency today at Raj Niwas, in presence of DGP In-charge of Andaman & Nicobar Police.

Ajoy Bairagi reaches Campbell Bay on official visit

Port Blair, Nov 23: Mr. Ajoy Bairagi, State President, BJP - ANI & Mr. Sanjay Kumar Singh, State Vice President, BJP - ANI reached Campbell Bay today morning. On reaching Campbell Bay both the leaders were accorded warm Welcome by Local Leaders & General Public of Campbell Bay, Nicobar District.

Both the leaders are on visit to Nicobar District from today onwards and will



attend various programmes organized by Party workers.

National Seminar on "Rights of Differently Abled Women in Andaman and Nicobar Islands" in JNRM

Port Blair, Nov 23: The Department of Home Science, JNRM, in association with the National Commission for Women, Govt. of India organized a National Seminar on "Rights of Differently Abled Women in Andaman and Nicobar Islands" on 23rd November 2022.

During the inauguration the Chief Guest Mrs. Smitha R IAS, Secretary (Social Welfare) Andaman and

Nicobar Administration congratulated the Department of Home Science for organizing this programme which is the need of the hour. The women in the society are marginalized and the government is taking all possible steps to bring them into the mainstream. The Social Welfare Department is orga-



nizing various schemes for the Differently Abled in general and women in particular. She has encouraged the participants to make use of the benefits available for their welfare. Further she has highlighted the Accessible India Campaign through which the Government as well as public

places are being made accessible for the person with special needs. Dr. K.S. Pushpa, Professor and Head, Department of Home Science, Gandhigram Rural Institute, Gandhigram spoke on the difficulties being faced by Differently Abled Women in their family as well in society. They

(See page 4)

MV Swaraj Dweep Sailing for Vizag Postponed

Port Blair, Nov 23: Due to administrative reasons the scheduled sailing programme of MV Swaraj Dweep from Port Blair to Vizag on 25.11.2022 has been postponed. Now, the vessel will sail for Vizag on 26.11.2022 at

1000 Hrs from Haddo Wharf. Similarly, the vessel will sail for Port Blair on 30.11.2022 at 1600 Hrs from Vizag port instead of 29.11.2022. Inconvenience caused to the passengers is regretted. Passengers can

also get update/status from the Information Counter at Phoenix Bay by using the Number 03192- 245555/232714 & TOLL FREE NUMBER 18003452714 & Vizag Counter Number 0891-2565584/ 2562661/2569404.

68 injured in 5.9 magnitude earthquake that hit northwest Turkey

A magnitude-5.9 earthquake hit a town in northwestern Turkey early Wednesday, causing damage to some buildings and widespread panic. At least 68 people were injured, mostly while trying to flee homes. The quake was centered in the town of Golkaya, in Duzce province, some 200 kilometers (125 miles) east of Istanbul, the Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency said. It struck at 4:08 a.m. (0108 GMT) and was felt in Istanbul, in the capital Ankara and other parts of the region. Dozens of aftershocks were reported, including one with a magnitude of 4.3. The quake woke people from their sleep and many rushed out of buildings in panic in the province that experienced a deadly earthquake 23 years ago.

At least 68 people were treated in hospitals for injuries in Duzce and nearby regions, mostly sustained during the panic, including from jumping from balconies or windows. A 28-year-

old Afghan was in serious condition after suffering a brain hemorrhage, Health Minister Fahrettin Koca said.

Schools in the region were closed as a precaution. "Although the earthquake caused damage to many buildings in Golkaya, fortunately, we did not experience any serious destruction or loss," Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said in an address to his ruling party's legislators.

The quake demolished the exterior cladding and parts of the roof of a courthouse in Duzce, HaberTurk television reported. Among other damage, a two-story shop collapsed on a narrow street, it said. A mosque in the village of Saridere, near the epicenter, also sustained damage and was closed down, the state-run Anadolu Agency reported.

Many people were camping outdoors too afraid to return to their homes. Like most other Duzce residents, Sebahattin Ozturk, 64, was asleep when the quake struck. "There were a lot of sounds

like explosions and then my wife started shouting," he told The Associated Press. "Bottles and flowerpots fell over and the doors of our wardrobes slammed." To Ahmet Cevat Algun, it was a frightening reminder of the quake that struck in 1999. "I guess it took 40-45 seconds, like the 1999 earthquake," Algun said. "We were so afraid we didn't know what to do. We went through the same thing again."

Around 800 people were killed in the powerful earthquake that hit Duzce on Nov. 12, 1999. In August of that year, 17,000 people were killed by another powerful temblor that devastated nearby Kocaeli province and other parts of northwest Turkey.

Officials said around 80% of the buildings in the area were rebuilt or fortified following the 1999 earthquakes, which helped minimize damage.

Turkey sits on top of major fault lines and is frequently shaken by earthquakes.

This Dubai 'hypertower' will be the world's tallest residential structure



Burj Binghatti Jacob & Co Residences, the newest skyscraper in Dubai and so-called "hypertower," is slated to become the world's tallest residential structure in the world. The 100-storey structure is situated in Dubai's Business Bay and was specifically constructed to set the record for being the tallest residential building.

"The skyscraper will feature the most lavish penthouses at the highest altitude of the hypertower," the Binghatti Developers' official Facebook page stated. "Our collaboration with Jacob & Co on this architectural tour-de-force reflects our commitment towards marking a globally groundbreaking feat for Binghatti," it further said.

The luxury jewellery and watch company Jacob & Co has partnered with Binghatti Developers, a major player in the real estate industry, for the project.

The structure will surpass New York's Central Park Tower, the tallest residential building in the world at 472.4 metres.

The Princess Tower,

which is 414 metres tall, and 23 Marina, which is 392.75 metres high, are the other structures that fit into the same category, according to the Gulf News.

According to a New York Post report, the building has opulent two- and three-bedroom residences. A dedicated concierge team, offering a la carte services like daycare, a bodyguard, a chauffeur, and a private chef, was also mentioned in relation to the building.

The report added that the tower will house an "exclusive private club" with an infinity pool and a sizable lounge area.

"A true work of art that is set to redefine the entire history of the real estate industry and bring a new icon to Dubai's skyline," the Binghatti Developers wrote on their website as the construction work was about to start. According to a Facebook post by Binghatti, 12,000 people from all over the world attended the recent unveiling of the Burj Binghatti Jacob & Co Residences.

National Seminar...

also have the rights to lead a life with dignity on par with others for which this seminar will certainly pave the way. Countries like Germany are providing equal opportunity for the Differently Abled Persons. Dr K S Pushpa has suggested establishing a State / UT level Resource Centre for the Differently Abled Women in the Department of Home Science, JNRM in collaboration with the Directorate of Social Welfare. Dr.S.Kavitha Maithily, Associate Professor, Department of Home Science, Gandhigram Rural Institute, Gandhigram spoke about the need of having inclusive societies for the holistic development of the Differently Abled Women. Among differently abled women are again marginalized and through this seminar their voices will be heard as they come to know their rights. As the country marched towards Sustainable Development Goals, she added.

Dr.H.K. Sharma, Principal of JNRM spoke on the relevance of the programme in today's sce-

nario. He has also emphasized the vision for uniting the people to work for the development of Differently Abled Women in the Society. Under the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) cell of JNRM the Department of Home Science and students are closely working with the Gram Panchayats and villages for the sustainable development of the villages and awareness programmes for the women. Dr. K. Venkatesan, HOD, Home science and Convener of the programme spoke on the role of NCW in safeguarding the women and their rights and also Differently Abled Women. The field workers have an important role to play to make aware the women about their rights and various Government schemes, he added.

During the technical Session Dr.K.S.Pushpa, Professor and Head, Department of Home Science, Gandhigram presented Barrier for Person with Disabilities: Breaking down Barriers with special reference to Women, Dr.S.Kavitha Maithily, Associate Professor, Department of Home Science, Gandhigram Rural Institute, Gandhigram

presented Community Based Inclusive Development- Roles and Responsibilities of Grassroots Level Workers for bringing the DAW into mainstream. Mr.Saurabh Dudi, Assistant Professor of Law, Andaman Law College spoke on Legal Framework to Safeguard and protect the Differently Abled Women in India, Dr.K.Venkatesan, Assistant Professor & Head spoke on Schemes and Programmes for the Differently Abled Women for their Right Based Empowerment.

Earlier Mrs.Nidhi Shekhawat, Assistant Professor welcomed the gathering while Dr Rekha Kumari, Resource Person, and Department of Home Science proposed vote of thanks. Mrs.Poonam Ajay Singh, Resource Person, Department of Home Science moderated the entire programme and Ms. P.Bhuvaneshwari, Resource Person and Ms.Varsa Lakra has served as Rapporteur. Altogether 300 Differently Abled Women participants from various SHGs, Anganwadi Workers, Grassroots level functionaries, field workers and students participated in this programme.

(From page 3)

Kanye West is running for president in 2024 elections, wants Donald Trump to...

Kanye West is back in the presidential race! Not shocking but the rapper stated that he will run for US president in the 2024 elections. As per a report by Billboard Magazine, Kanye West confirmed his upcoming campaign over the weekend. In a video posted to Twitter by @RedPillGangTV, the singer was asked by paparazzi whether he will run for the US presidency again.

"Yes... It's simple.... It's just we're moving toward the future," he replied.

The video also featured far-right political figure Milo Yiannopoulos.

"This is Milo right here, working on the campaign" Kanye West said, pointing to him.

Kanye West also said that he wants former US president, Donald Trump, to be his 'running mate'.

"Can't believe I kept President Trump waiting. What you guys think his response was when I asked him to be my running mate in 2024?", Kanye West asked his fans on Twitter. Kanye West had earlier attempted to run for US presidency in 2020, for which he launched a campaign under the 'Birthday Party' banner.

Earlier, Donald Trump announced that he would seek the Republican Party nomination to contest in the 2024 elections after losing to current president Joe Biden in 2020.

Polygraph test on Aaftab Poonawala, Shraddha murder accused, postponed

The polygraph test of Aaftab Amin Poonawala will not be conducted on Wednesday, said Sagar Preet Hooda, special CP (Law & Order) Zone II, reported news agency ANI. Some media reports, citing sources, reported Poonawala is unwell and the police believe it could affect the results of the test. The polygraph test is likely to be done on him on Thursday.

Poonawala, 28, allegedly strangled his live-in partner Shraddha Walkar, 27, at their rented accommodation in south Delhi's Chhattarpur Pahadi on May 18, chopped up her body into 35 pieces, and dumped the body parts in forested areas in the national capital.

On Tuesday night, a panel of psychologists carried out a polygraph test on Poonawala, according to forensic science laboratory (FSL) officials aware of the matter. A polygraph test on Poonawala was conducted at the FSL headquarters in Rohini, hours after the Delhi Police secured permission for it from a Delhi court, and the



suspect gave his consent for the test. FSL officials said before going through with the test, he underwent "pre-medical and scientific sessions", and experts gave a go-ahead only after he was found medically fit and fine.

To be sure, the result of a polygraph test is not considered a "confession", and is not admissible in the court of law. The tests are done only to assist investigators in their investigation and get leads from the suspect, and the test is not scientifically proven to have a complete success rate. Meanwhile, a written complaint dated November 23, 2020, filed with Tulinj police station in Maharashtra's

Palghar district revealed that Walkar had two years ago complained that Poonawala had tried to kill her and she feared he would cut her into pieces and throw her away. Based on her written complaint, the personnel of Tulinj police station visited the place, where Walkar and Poonawala resided, twice and recorded her statement. Walkar then told the police that she had lodged the complaint "in a fit of rage" and the issues between her and Poonawala were resolved. She told the police that she was withdrawing her complaint, after which the case was closed, a police official told news agency PTI.

'Leaders like him are inflated balloons': Shashi Tharoor on Kerala LoP Satheesan's remark

Senior Congress leader and Lok Sabha MP Shashi Tharoor on Wednesday rejected VD Satheesan's charges that his trip to north Kerala was part of factionalism.

Satheesan, who is the leader of the opposition in Kerala, on Tuesday said any kind of sectarianism or parallel activities would not be allowed in the party and warned that such moves would be dealt with "seriously." His remarks come as a significant section of the Congress party in the state were unhappy with Tharoor's ongoing tour.

Tharoor, who is in Kannur as part of his four-day tour of Malabar, said he was anguished to hear about the charge. How talking to students, meeting religious leaders, writers and attending programmes scheduled much earlier will become sectarianism, he asked. "I

have not joined any of the famous groups in the party. I have no plan to float one either. My group will be a united Congress party. I am against factionalism," he said. Tharoor asked how attending events and meeting some prominent persons in Kerala, along with MP M K Raghavan, could be construed as sectarian and said he was "a bit irritated" over the issues being created in the media. Satheesan said Congress has enough space for everyone, but it will not tolerate any move to revive factionalism, the party has its own mechanisms and systems, he said. Tharoor while speaking to the reporters in Kannur said, "I hope you (media) have not come here with balloons and air. I am sad and a bit irritated to hear such statements. Two party MPs are meeting many people openly and talking to them. I am ready to give the me-

dia that needle to burst the balloon," said Tharoor ridiculing Satheesan's statement. Leaders like him were "inflated balloons" and could be flattened with a pin prick, he said. Tharoor said he has no differences with anyone in Congress and in his 14 years of political career he was not spoken or acted against anyone. "I don't know why some leaders are getting worried like this. I don't know some people are getting troubled when we meet people from various walks of life openly," he said.

Kozhikode MP M K Raghavan, who organised the tour of Tharoor, said he sent letters to the Congress president and others about the "indifferent attitude." "We respect everyone including the one who is holding the needle to prick the balloon," he said criticising Satheesan's remarks.

Savarkar chapter closed, says Jairam Ramesh

Former Union minister Jairam Ramesh on Wednesday said the "Savarkar chapter is closed" days after Shiv Sena's Uddhav Thackeray-led faction said Member of Parliament Rahul Gandhi's attacks on the Hindutva ideologue during the Maharashtra leg of the Bharat Jodo Yatra may impact their alliance in the state.

He attacked the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) for spreading falsehoods about Congress leaders. He added the day the BJP and Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), its ideological fountainhead, stop spreading falsehoods about their leaders, they will stop telling the truths about theirs. Ramesh made the comments at a press conference as the yatra entered BJP-ruled Madhya Pradesh. On Sunday, Ramesh made similar comments about the row over Gandhi's comments on Savarkar. Gandhi reiterated

his criticism of Savarkar over the mercy petitions to the British for his release from prison. Ramesh later spoke to Sanjay Raut, a leader of the Uddhav Thackeray faction of Shiv Sena, to clear the air over the issue. Former Madhya Pradesh chief minister Digvijaya Singh, who addressed the press conference along with Ramesh, lashed out at Prime Minister Narendra Modi's election campaign in Gujarat. "Modi says he built Gujarat. Is not this a reflection of his ego? I salute this storyteller who says he built Gujarat. But if he thinks that he is the only devout Hindu, then I would criticise him." He said Sanatan Dharma considers the world as its family. "...that is why we must turn hatred into love and communal harmony." He said they were not asking for votes through the yatra. "This yatra is for bridging the gap between the rich and the poor. This yatra is being held to end hatred being spread between religious communities."

'Remove fear', says Rahul Gandhi as Congress' Jodo Yatra enters Madhya Pradesh

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Wednesday said that the main goal of the party's Bharat Jodo Yatra is to remove fear from the minds of farmers, labourers and youth, as the Kanyakumari-to-Kashmir foot march entered Madhya Pradesh from Maharashtra at Burhanpur.

In MP, the yatra was welcomed at Bodarli village in Burhanpur where former Prime Minister late Indira Gandhi had addressed a rally in 1980. MP Congress president Kamal Nath welcomed Rahul Gandhi, who also met weavers and banana farmers of Burhanpur.

Addressing a rally, Gandhi said, "We started this journey in Kanyakumari. When we started, the people of the opposition had said that India is 3,600 km long. This cannot be done on foot. We have come to Madhya Pradesh and here we will run 370 km here. We will hoist the tricolour in Srinagar. No one can stop us."

"There are three goals of this journey. This

is a march against hatred, violence and fear that is being spread in India. See, what is the way of the BJP. First of all spread fear among people. Fear in the hearts of the youth. How? By increasing unemployment. Fear in the hearts of the farmers. How? By not paying the right price. By not paying the crop insurance money and by not waiving off the loan. Fear in the hearts of the workers. By not giving MGNREGS money. First they spread fear and later it turns into violence," he said.

"Violence is not a thing. Violence is a form of fear. One who is not afraid cannot commit violence. Only fearful people commit violence. The first goal of the yatra is to remove fear from the minds of farmers, labourers and youth.

No one needs to be fearful in this India," he added. On Wednesday evening, Congress general secretary and Uttar Pradesh in-charge Priyanka Gandhi reached Indore with her family. She will join the yatra on Thursday morning in Khandwa.

Ajoy Bairagi...

partment of Education in the capacity of Pre- Primary Teacher (PPT), Part Time Ayah/Safaikarmachari (PPA), Part Time Attender, Part-Time Craft Instructor (PPCI) are rendering service in the department from the year 2000 onwards and still continuing to give their best service for the welfare of the school children particularly at pre-primary and primary level in the remote and toughest areas of our Islands.

He added that to manage a family for their daily needs with the mea-

gre salary of Rs.8500/- for PPA/PPI and Rs. 10,500/- for PPT is very difficult as per the price index. These people are already giving full time service and ready to undertake any responsibility assigned to them.

Mr. Bairagi added that in order to mitigate the financial hardship faced by these part time employees, it is requested to engage them on full time basis and extend the benefit for Minimum Wages declared by the A & N administration.

"A policy decision may be taken in this regard

to help and support all the PPT/OPPA/PPCI & Part Time attender by enhancing their salary at par with the Minimum Wages Order declared and implemented by the administration in all other departments," he added.

Mr. Bairagi requested the CS to take a sympathetic and humanitarian consideration in this matter as most of them have become over aged by rendering service for the last 10 to 30 years and they can't aspire to get any other job at this age.

(From page 1)

FLAT FOR SALE

3 BHK fully furnished Flat with all household articles at D & K City, Minni Bay, Port Blair is on sale. All rooms provided with ACs. Open allotted Parking space available. Interested person may contact/negotiate in the following numbers. 8757042211/9434280650/9434280898.

Srinagar records first sub-zero temperature of season at minus 0.8



As the winter settles in, the night temperature in Jammu and Kashmir's summer capital Srinagar dropped below zero on Wednesday, officials of the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said.

Meteorologist M. Hussain Mir said the mercury dropped to minus 0.8 degrees Celsius in Srinagar for the first time this winter. According to IMD, apart from Kokernag, parts of Kashmir valley experienced temperatures below freezing point during the night.

"It went below zero this night settling at minus 0.8 degrees Celsius. The previous night, it was at 0.2 degrees," said Hussain Mir. Shahid Ahmad, a school bus driver said the cold affected the students' overall attendance going to school.

"Half of the students who travel on my bus stayed home. Parents told me the children are suffering from

cold and cough. Even adults are feeling the intense cold," he said. Meanwhile, in Pahalgam, which is among the most popular tourist destination in Kashmir, the temperature dropped to minus 4.8 degrees Celsius while the ski resort of Gulmarg in north Kashmir hit minus 3.8 degrees Celsius. Kupwara recorded minus 2.9 degrees Celsius, Qazigund minus 1.6 degrees and 0.3 degrees Celsius in Kokernag.

Ladakh's Drass witnessed a minimum of minus 13.5 degrees Celsius and Leh minus 9.6 degrees Celsius. According to IMD, the weather will remain mostly dry till the end of this month. "Dry weather is expected for the next one week. No forecast of any major snow spell till November end," said an official. Notably, in Delhi, the minimum temperature on Wednesday is likely to be at 9°C while the maximum temperature is predicted to reach 26°C.

Diglipur youth...

under POC SO Act in Police Station Diglipur on 15-10-2022 on the basis of a complaint made by the hostel warden of a Girls Hostel at Diglipur that on 15th October 2022 at about 7 AM a minor girl student of the Girls Hostel of Diglipur intimated to her brother over mobile phone out of fear that a boy entered the Girls Hostel in another girl's room and stayed there over the night and still he was there with the victim girl.

The brother on receiving the information from her minor sister without causing delay intimated the same to the Hostel Warden at the same time through his mobile phone, thereafter the Hostel Warden, receiving the infor-

mation from the brother of said minor girl did no delay and made an enquiry about the same at the same time by the duty staffs of the hostel who were on duty at there and confirmed and found the information was true.

Thereafter the Warden intimated the same to the local police station and accordingly local police of Diglipur Police Station reached at the hostel and arrested the accused person from there. The investigation by the police found that the accused committed sexual assault with the victim in the said hostel room. This is a custodial trial case wherein the prosecution has sufficiently proved the case

against the accused person.

The Hon'ble Special Court also directed the Girl's Hostel Administration as well as Police to award the brother of the minor girl for his human duty.

The entire case is investigated by Inspector Kabita Kirtunia under the close supervision of SHO Diglipur Inspector Stalin N.S and under the significant monitoring of SDPO Diglipur Shri Lakshya Pandey and S.P. N&M Andaman District, Geetanjali Khandelwal, IPS. The prosecution case was conducted by a learned Special Public Prosecutor (under POC SO Act. 2012), Mayabunder Shri Keshab Chandra Mondal.

(From page 1)

Canteen Constructed...

Long Island and the idea was to provide food for locals, visiting Islanders and tourists.

However, as per report, after completion of construction work of the proposed canteen, it was reportedly locked and left uninaugurated and the reasons behind it are best known to the concerned authorities. As such, the building has been losing its lustre day by day since its construction.

The proposed canteen is in the proximity of the Jetty in Long Island, hardly a 200 meter (approx.) from the pier, and once inaugurated, it will definitely cater to the needs of the tourists and will also prove to be im-

mensely popular among locals and government servants posted at Long Island, the residents claimed. Hence, the people of Long Island are thrillingly demanding the opening of the Canteen.

On the other hand, keeping such a building (to be used as a canteen) unused for years together is undeniably a waste of money as observed by Mr. Kamaraj, Pradhan Long Islands. Four years ago, Tourism Department A & N Administration had reportedly given the fund to the Forest Department for constructing a semi RCC Building to be used as a Canteen and ac-

cordingly, the Forest Department successfully constructed the building, he further disclosed.

But he sees no justification to keep the proposed canteen closed for such a long time, he said.

He further added that the built Canteen should be opened so that tourists as well as local residents can get benefitted. "If the Forest Department has no plan to open the Canteen, then they should handover it to a Self Help Groups (SHG) so that they could run it and earn some money, which will also lead to employment generation," Mr. Kamaraj suggested.

(From page 1)

Member of...

(From page 1)

male guests with locker facilities and an affordable canteen for everyone.

He pointed out that the Youth Hostel was built with the funds made available by the centre and was under the Tourism Department initially and later it was handed over to the then Youth Affairs Department.

He mentioned that the Youth Hostel was widely used for accommodating sports persons, cultural groups, school groups from inter- Islands. Also cultural groups from Mainland India were also accommodated in Youth Hostel many times.

The Member of Parliament noted that in the last few years the Youth Hostel lost all its importance because of various reasons and hence presently the Youth Hostel is un-operational, which is a major setback for youths of various Islands, who have to pay heavily for lodging and boarding in private accommodations at Port Blair. Considering all these points, the Member of Parliament requested the Lt. Governor of Andaman and Nicobar Islands to intervene in this matter and do needful to repair the Youth Hostel and also extend it by adding more rooms.



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