



Former PM Rajiv Gandhi remembered on 77th birth anniversary

Blood donation camp by NSUI, IYC at Gandhi Bhawan

Port Blair, Aug 20: Together with the rest of the country, the A&N Islands also celebrated Sadbhavara Divas by organizing befitting programmes across the islands. The day marks the 77th birth anniversary of Rajiv Gandhi, former Prime Minister of India which is commemorated to emphasize promotion of national integration and peace among various communities in the country. In the Islands, Congress leaders and workers assembled in various party offices across the islands and observed the day. In Gandhi Bhawan, Senior Congress leaders and workers gathered and paid tributes to former PM Rajiv Gandhi. Speaking on the occasion, Congress leaders recalled the contribution of late Rajiv Gandhi in building the nation and making the country the progress in the world. Meanwhile, to commemorate the Former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's 77th birth anniversary celebration, the National Students



Union of India (NSUI) A&N Islands and Youth Congress organized a blood donation camp at the party office premises on Friday. The blood donation camp was organized under the direction of NSUI high command, Instruction of Member of Parliament, Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma, guidance of PCC President Shri Ranglal Halder & under the leadership of NSUI Ex-President Shri. M.A. Sajid and Youth congress President Shri Elayaraja (Alsu).



The present during the function were Shri. Mohd. Ali, Vice President ANTC, Shri. Masih Lugun, General Secretary ANTC, Shri. V.K. Abdul Aziz, TCC Member & Shri. Mahender Prasad, Ex-Councillor PBMC Shri. Sudeep Rai Sharma, Congress leader & Ex-Councillor PBMC, Shri. Jatin Robert Ex-president youth congress. While addressing students and youths on the occasion. Before the blood donation commenced, the See... Page 02

Rahul pays floral tributes to Rajiv Gandhi on his 77th birth anniversary

After paying tributes at Veer Bhumi, Rahul remembers his father in a Facebook post

New Delhi, August 20: Former Congress President Rahul Gandhi on Friday paid floral tributes to his father and former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi on his 77th birth anniversary. After paying tributes at Veer Bhumi here, he wrote his Facebook post. "A secular India alone is an India that can survive. Remembering Rajiv Gandhi ji on his birth



anniversary." Rajiv Gandhi was born on August 20 in 1944, and was India's sixth Prime Minister. He took office after the assassination of his mother and then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in 1984. Born to Feroz and Indira Gandhi, the former prime minister was assassinated on May 21, 1991, during a public rally in Tamil See... Page 02

Radio Programme - "Sapno Ka Shahar - Port Blair Nagar"

Port Blair, Aug 20: "Sapno ka shahar - Port Blair Nagar" will be broadcast on 25th August 2021 (Wednesday) at 07:15 hrs. Listeners can forward any query/suggestions regarding PBMC along with your Name, address on Whatsapp number 9474234000 before 5 pm on 23.8.21 (Monday). All your questions will be answered by Secretary (PBMC) Shri Kishore Khirsagar Lakshman during this programme on 25th August 2021.

Media briefing on COVID-19 3 new +ve cases among travelers, more than 3.30 lakh vaccinated

Port Blair, Aug 20: Three new positive cases of COVID-19 have been detected on Friday. Altogether, 608 passengers arrived here in three flights on Friday. RT-PCR tests were conducted on them and the results will be available tomorrow. Three passengers, who arrived here by

air on Thursday, tested positive for the disease. None of the 272 passengers bound for the North and Middle Andaman district tested positive for the infection at Ferrargunj today, said the Secretary, Information, Publicity and Tourism, Mr SK Singh. At the daily press

briefing, Mr Singh informed that currently there are eight active cases of COVID-19 in these islands. "A total of 168 passengers were tested at Mohanpura, 82 at Phoenix Bay and 13 at the helicopter terminal and all tested negative for the infection. See... Page 02

Swarnim Vijay Varsh victory flame reached at INS Kardip



Port Blair, Aug 20: The Victory Flame commemorating Swarnim Vijay Varsh, symbolizing the victory of India in 1971 War reached Kamorta Island on 19 Aug 21. See... Page 02

Director, ICAR-CIARI visits farmer's field



Port Blair, Aug 20: The Director, ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair, Dr. Eaknath B. Chakraborty along with Scientists of ICAR-KVK, Port Blair visited farmer's field and interacted with the farming community. On 18th August, 2021, See... Page 02

Centre removes 4% quota for differently abled in Police forces

New Delhi, Aug 20: The Centre has removed 4% job reservation for the differently-abled in all forces of IPS, Railway Protection Force, the police force for Delhi, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Daman, Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and all combat posts of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) including BSF, CRPF, CISF, ITBP, SSB and Assam Rifles.

The major policy decision by a government which has often highlighted its equal opportunity measures for the differently abled, came as a surprise. "In exercise of the powers conferred by the second proviso to sub-section (1) of section 34 of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (49 of 2016), the Central Government, in consultation with the Chief

Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities, having regard to the nature and type of work, hereby exempts the following services in government establishments from the provisions of the said section, namely: all categories of posts under the Indian Police Service; all categories of posts under the Delhi, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, See... Page 02

China approves three-child policy with sops to encourage couples to have more children

Beijing, 20th Aug, 2021: China's national legislature on Friday formally endorsed the three-child

policy, modeled by the ruling Communist Party, in a major policy shift aimed to prevent a steep decline in birth rates in the world's most populous country. The revised Population and Family Planning Law, which allows Chinese couples to have three children, was passed by the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC). In an apparent attempt to address the reluctance of the Chinese See... Page 02

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Three-days training on GST

Port Blair, Aug 20: The Andaman & Nicobar State Cooperative Union (ANSUCU), Port Blair under the Chairmanship of Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma, Member of Parliament, Andaman and Nicobar Islands is continued its efforts to strengthen to Cooperative Institutions by imparting the quality education and Training to develop the human resources of those Institutions through the Rajiv Gandhi Cooperative Training Centre (RGCTC) established by ANSUCU. The RGCTC conducts need based training programme to improve the knowledge, Skill and Analytical See... Page 02

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GREETINGS

On the auspicious occasion of 'Onam', I extend my warm wishes to all the residents of A&N Islands. This festival of harvest is a symbol of prosperity. Onam is celebrated throughout the Islands with great joy and gaiety. I appeal to the Islanders to strictly follow COVID-19 guidelines and get vaccinated on time for ensuring good health of self and family members. On this auspicious occasion, I wish 'Onam' brings happiness and prosperity in the life of every islander and further strengthens the composite culture of our Islands.

(Admiral D K Joshi) PVSM, AVSM, YSM, NM, VSM (Retd.) Lieutenant Governor Andaman & Nicobar Islands & Vice Chairman Islands Development Agency

GREETINGS

I extend my warm greetings and good wishes to the people of these islands, especially to my sisters and brothers of Kerala, on the auspicious occasion of Onam. On this occasion, I sincerely wish that every home is blessed with prosperity and plenty. May the melody and sparkle of Onam fill our minds with the joy of festivity. Let Onam also be a celebration of our love and oneness which enabled us to overcome adversities with fortitude in the times of the COVID-19 pandemic, while celebrating festivals, we must take care of people from the weaker sections of our Islands and take adequate measures to protect and safeguard our families and society at large. May this joyous festival usher in a new era of peace, prosperity and happiness in our Islands.



Kuldeep Rai Sharma Member of Parliament A&N Islands

Vaccine available for 18+ population at N&M

DJ Venkatesh

May abunder, Aug 20: 18+ people living in N&M Andaman who have not yet been vaccinated can

visit their vaccination centres for the first dose of vaccination on all working days from 21.08.2021 till stocks last.

Eligible persons can reach nearest center and get vaccinated and should carry Aadhar card for registration.

Goenka's launches Showroom at Diglipur

DJ Venkatesh

Diglipur, Aug 20: 'Goenka's' a big name in Cloth store chain in Andaman & Nicobar Islands has come up with a new textile showroom at Diglipur today. The showroom was inaugurated today morning by lighting lamp and cutting ribbon by Shri. Uttam Kumar



See... Page 02

Mariyam, Rasheeda meet Civil Supplies Director

Port Blair, Aug 20: Former Adhyaksha of Zilla Parishad, South Andaman, Ms. VK Maryam Bibi along with Smt. Rasheeda, ex-Pradhan of Hope Town met the Director of Civil Supplies and



See... Page 02

2020 deadliest year for refugee journeys in Bay of Bengal and Andaman Sea

New Delhi, Aug 20: For the Rohingya who found refuge in neighbouring countries, restrictions on movement, livelihoods and education are compelling factors to seek a future elsewhere in the region. NHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, revealed today that 2020 was the deadliest year on record for refugee journeys in the Bay of Bengal and the Andaman Sea. Over the last year, the COVID-19 pandemic prompted many States in Southeast Asia to tighten their borders, leading to

the highest numbers of refugees stranded at sea since the region's "boat crisis" in 2015. UNHCR's new report, titled "Left Adrift at Sea: Dangerous Journeys of Refugees Across the Bay of Bengal and the See... Page 02

Written test for Pharmacist

Port Blair, Aug 20: The written test for the post of Pharmacist for the establishment of DBRAIT, is scheduled on 26th Aug 2021 from 3.00 PM to 4.30 PM, as per the

advertisement in the Daily Telegram dated 14th and 15th Aug 2021. It is for the information of the candidates who have applied for the said post that, both written and trade test will

now be held from 3.00 PM to 5.30 PM comprising both the written test for 40 marks on general awareness and 60 marks on subject related questions, as trade test.

IGNOU launches BA (Performing Arts)-Hindustani Music (Hons.)

Port Blair, Aug 20: The School of Performing and Visual Arts of Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) has launched a new programme - BA (Performing Arts)-Hindustani

Music (Honours). The B.A. (Performing Arts) - Hindustani Music (Hons.) is designed to give an in-depth knowledge in the discipline of Hindustani Classical Music while allowing for exposure

to subjects beyond the discipline as well. The programme is focuses on the skill and competences development having both professional and See... Page 02

Celebration of Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav; Kisan Goshthi & IPM Exhibition by CIPMC

Port Blair, Aug 20: A Programme on Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav Kisan Goshthi & IPM Exhibition was conducted by Central Integrated Pest Management Centre (CIPMC), Port Blair on 20th August 2021



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EDITORIAL

The Andaman Express

21 August 2021

Vaccinologist Barbie

What a year for Professor Sarah Gilbert. Not only was the vaccinologist, who designed the Oxford-AstraZeneca Covid jab, honoured with a damehood this June, she's now got a Barbie in her likeness. US toy maker Mattel has just released a Barbie doll complete with red hair, glasses and a pantsuit, as one of six Barbies that pay tribute to women in science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM). Even though she described it as a little "strange", Gilbert's hope is that the doll will help girls realise that it is "normal" for them to aspire to STEM careers. This would have seemed like an odd thing to say — of course, it's normal for girls to want to be scientists, doctors and engineers — were it not for the hard facts. Around the world, STEM fields are dominated by men, even though in primary school, girls are as proficient as boys in maths and science. But as they grow older, ingrained biases, stereotypes and socio-economic pressures, especially in the developing world, steer girls away from STEM fields, sometimes even forcing them to drop out of education and forfeiting any chance at a career. According to data from the UNESCO Institute of Statistics, less than 30 per cent of the world's researchers are women — the ignominy of this figure has led the UN to include "Women in science" as one of the themes for its Sustainable Development Goals. Despite her history of promoting unrealistic beauty standards and sexist attitudes, Barbie may just be the doll for the job. Since 2016, she has come in more diverse and inclusive forms — wearing a hijab, with natural hair, in a wheelchair, and as a boxer, tractor driver and firefighter. And while the heavy lifting in the battle against gender discrimination will have to be done by governments and policymakers everywhere, Vaccinologist Barbie could show little girls everywhere that they can be whoever they want to be.

Rahul ..

Nadu's Sripurumbudur near Chennai. He was posthumously awarded India's highest civilian

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award - Bharat Ratna. His birth anniversary is celebrated as Sadhanawna Diwas.

COVID-19 ..

285 doses of COVID-19 vaccine were administered at JNRM today of which 232 beneficiaries were in the age-group of 18-45 years," said Mr Singh. More than 3.30 lakh beneficiaries have been vaccinated so far in these islands. Over 2.31 lakh beneficiaries have received the first dose of the vaccine and around 99,878 beneficiaries have been administered both the doses. 1,20,498 eligible people in the age

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group of 18 to 44 years have been vaccinated till date. A total of 467,535 samples have been sent for tests at the designated laboratories of which reports of 467,535 have been received taking the rate of testing to 1168838 per million. The administration is taking all necessary steps to contain the spread of the disease and people are requested to follow COVID Appropriate Behaviour, the media was informed.

INS Kandip ..

The Flame was received by Commander H Krishna Chaitanya, Commanding Officer, Indian Naval Ship (INS) Kandip at Kamorta Jetty. The Flame was received with a Guard of Honour and thereafter was marched through the streets of Kamorta Island for public viewing and enhancing national identity. The Vajra Flame was thereafter taken to the War Memorial situated inside premises of

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INS Kandip for a wreath laying ceremony in honour of our martyrs of the 1971 war. The ceremonial functions were witnessed by the personnel of Army, Navy, Coast Guard and our Civil Administration, tribal leaders of various villages of Nancowrie group of islands and school children. The solemn event evoked great patriotism, enthusiasm and reverence in all present.

Centre removes ..

Lakshdweep, Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli Police Service; and all categories of posts under the Indian Railway Protection Force Service," a notification by the Department of Empowerment of Persons With Disabilities (DEPW) said. Section 34 of the Act pertains to reservation. It says, "every appropriate government shall appoint in every government establishment, not less than 4% of the balance number of vacancies in the cadre strength each group of posts." When contacted, DEPW Secretary Anjali Bhawar said, "the notification is self-explanatory." The second part of the notification exempts "all categories of posts of combatant personnel of Central Armed Police Forces." Disability rights activists slammed the decision. Differently-abled may have to be exempted from combat duties but there are several jobs like information technology, jobs like intelligence and technical jobs which could be reserved for them, the activists contended. The jobs under the police department are not only limited to field jobs but also contain sub departments like

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forensics, cyber, IT cell which can accommodate persons with disabilities. The reservation which is provided under Section 34 is only against jobs identified under Section 33 and therefore, the issued notification is irrational as persons with disabilities are already deemed to be appointed on those posts," said National Centre for Promotion of Employment for Disabled People executive director Armaan Ali. There are several categories like acid attack victims and those cured of leprosy who have been categorised as differently abled and can get benefits of the reservation. "They are also capable of carrying out law and order duties. As such, the blanket exemption on all categories of police force is unjust and arbitrary in nature," he said. Rights activists have objected to the notification for CAPF, exempting them from Section 20, which is a safeguard against discrimination. "If a person employed acquires a disability during service he will not be able to exercise the rights of non-discrimination, Ali said.

GST ..

aptitude adopting different training methods/tools of working personnel. A three days duration training on "GST" from 24 to 26th August 2021 to be conducted by RGCTC for the personnel working in Cooperatives, Government

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Department and other agencies. Academically qualified and professionally experienced faculties will conduct the classes. Altogether 30 participants working in different departments/institutions are expected to attend the training.

DRIVING LICENSE, REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE IN DIGILOCKER VALID DOCUMENTS: DELHI

Motorists in Delhi need not carry their driving licence and registration certificate and can show these documents stored in Digi-locker platform, or m-Parivahan mobile app, when asked for by the traffic police and the transport department. Driving licence and registration certificate, available in digital form on the Digi-locker platform, or the m-Parivahan mobile app, are valid documents under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, a notice issued by the transport department of the Delhi government said.

These are legally recognised at par with the certificates issued by the transport department, it added.

"The Traffic Police and Enforcement Wing of Transport Department duly accept the electronic

form of driving licence and registration certificate if shown in the DigiLocker and m-Parivahan app," the notice said. However, soft copy of driving licence and registration certificate maintained in any other form is not acceptable as original record, it clarified.

The electronic record of driving licence and registration certificate available on Digi-locker, or m-Parivahan, is also recognised at par with the original documents as per the provisions of the Information Technology Act, 2000, the notice stated.

DigiLocker is a cloud-based platform for storage, sharing and verification of documents and certificates.



ICAR-CIARL ..

the team visited farmers under Beodanabad, Panchay at viz. Shri. A. Raja, Muccaphar, proprietor cum farmer having Aman Hathey, broiler farm, plantation and vegetables; Shri. R. Murugan, Muccaphar having Hathey cum Varraja poultry farm, plantation crop and vegetable crops, Smt. K. Chellam of Rangachang w/o who is conceptualizing Agro-Tourism at her farm with coconut based farming system including ponds, poly house, fruits, vegetables, spices etc. On 19th August 2021, the team visited and interacted with the farming community of Guptepara village and witnessed rice production with application of Nano Urea at Shri. Gopal Bairagi's field, organic rice production at Shri. Krishana Bairagi's field. He also witnessed climate resilient pond based integrated farming system at field of Shri. Ashok Roy, Gopal Nagar and

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Dairy Farming at Choudhary; integrated farming system model of Shri. D.N. Madhu, Creekabad; raised bed system of vegetable cultivation at Shri. M.M. Jaydhar, BBF system of cultivation of Shri. D.N. Mistry, Lal Pahar. During the field visit, the Director planted saplings in farmers' field and appealed to the farming community to adopt advanced methods of farming practices with special emphasis on organic farming, ensuring availability of feed ingredients and fodders by promoting cultivation locally and maintaining parent stocks of broilers for reducing transporting cost on feeds and chicks, value addition and packaging of spices and coconut. He assured the farming community that ICAR-CIARL, Port Blair and its KVKs are always ready to render the farmers with technical support for their socio-economic upliftment.

China's ..

couples to have more children due to mounting costs, the amended law has also passed more social and economic support measures to address the concerns. The new law stipulates that the country will take supportive measures, including those in finances, taxes, insurance, education, housing and employment, to reduce families' burdens as well as the cost of raising and educating children, state-run China Daily reported. The NPC has revised the law to implement the central leadership's decision to cope with new circumstances in social and economic development and promote balanced long-term population growth, the reports said. In May this year, the ruling Communist Party of China (CPC) approved a relaxation of its strict two-child policy to allow

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all couples to have up to three children. China permitted all couples to have two children in 2016, scrapping the draconian decades-old one-child policy which policy makers blame for the demographic crisis in the country. Chinese officials claim the one-child policy implemented by over three decades has prevented over 400 million births. The decision to permit the third child came after this month's once-in-a-decade census showed that China's population grew at the slowest pace in 1.42 billion, amid official projections that the decline may begin as early as next year. The new censuses revealed that the demographic crisis China faced was expected to deepen as the population of people above 60 years grew to 264 million, up by 18.7% last year.

Gaonka's ..

Saha, the Contractor. On this occasion, the general public attended the inauguration program following COVID protocols. This is the biggest garments show room in entire North & Middle Andaman covered an area of 3000 Sq feet on the first floor

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and second floor, which is presently stocked up an exclusive collection for men, women, and children on the occasion of Raksha Bandhan, Onam. The Gaonka's having show rooms for men, women, and children in various parts of Port Blair

Civil Supplies ..

discussed various issues concerning general public. They demanded inclusion of widows, fishermen, destitute and other financially weak persons under BPL category after conducting a survey to enable them avail benefits of government schemes. They also requested for re-introduction of 50% wheat and 50% wheat flour to the

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consumers and holding camps at all Gram Panchayats for Aadhar updation/Correction etc. The Director of Civil Supplies informed that the counters in BSNL office as well as in the Civil Supplies department are open and people can avail such services. Camps will be conducted for Aadhar related works, the Director assured.

IGNOU ..

academic proficiency leading to job opportunities and over all development. The three years B.A. (Performing Arts) - Hindustani Music Hons. is offered in Hindi medium, Total Fees Rs. 27,600/- (per year 9,200/-) The programme has 14 core courses. Each core course is of six credits. These courses cover more than half of the programme, 84 credits (14 courses x 6 credits) out of 148 credits of the programme, 10+2 from a recognized Board are eligible for the

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programme. The BAPFHHM programme is advised at Regional Centre, Port Blair. The Admissions are going now for July 2021 session both online and offline mode. (Interested students may visit I G N O U website: www.ignou.ac.in or contact IGNOU Regional Centre, Port Blair, Kannada Sangha Building, Near Syndicate Bank, Mohanpara, Port Blair. Phone: 03192-242888 or 03192-230111, Email: rcportblair@ignou.ac.in

Bay of Bengal.. from... Page 01

Andaman Sea", also highlights that some two-thirds of those attempting these perilous voyages are women and children. These deadly journeys are not a new phenomenon. Over the past decade, thousands of Rohingya refugees have left by sea from Rakhine State in Myanmar and from the refugee camps in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. The roots of these dangerous journeys are found in Myanmar, where the Rohingyas were stripped of their citizenship and denied basic rights. For the Rohingyas who found refuge in neighbouring countries, restrictions on movement, livelihoods and education are compelling factors to seek a future elsewhere in the region. Motivations are various, often overlapping, and also include aspirations of reuniting with family members.

The risks have increased markedly for those attempting the journey. Of the 2,413 who are known to have travelled in 2020, 218 died or went missing at sea. This means that journey's were 8 times deadlier in 2020 than those in 2019. In contrast to earlier periods where most of those travelling were men, the majority of passengers are now women and children. They are at even greater risk of abuse by smugglers when making such journeys. Their ordeal was made worse because safe harbours to end their dangerous journey were now here to be found. Since 2020, many refugees have been marooned for months on unseaworthy boats, falling prey to abuses by smugglers, becoming gravely ill through insufficient food and water, and enduring the harsh conditions at sea, including both searing heats as well as treacherous waves and storms. These risks have been prolonged on the occasions where States have "pushed back" boats to prevent disembarkation. UNHCR is accordingly calling on all States in the region to search for and rescue refugees in distress at sea, and disembark them to a place of safety; work towards a regional mechanism for predictable and equitable disembarkation; provide access to asylum procedures for those who disembark; work with UNHCR and support fellow countries in the region to implement dignified reception arrangements and provide protection and assistance to refugees who disembark; and address the root causes of refugee maritime movements, including expanding access to safe legal pathways.

In his Foreword to the report, India's External Affairs Minister, S. Jaishankar, UNHCR's Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific, emphasized the need to act: "For as long as States bordering the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal are reluctant to rescue and land those in distress at sea, that collective failure to act will have tragic and fatal consequences. We can and must do better."

NSUI ..

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Congress leaders garlanded a portrait of Rajiv Gandhi and paid tribute at the party office. Further speaking on the occasion, Shri. K. Ganeshan, AICC Member & Chief Spokesperson of ANTCC said that Shri. Rajiv Gandhi sacrificed himself for maintaining unity and integrity of the country. The history of the Congress party is full of sacrifices and the party workers are still following the legacy set up by its leaders. Shri. Rajiv Gandhi was also posthumously awarded India's highest civilian award, the Bharat Ratna, which was recalled during the function. Rajiv Gandhi envisioned a modern India in which an important step was to electify all villages within the shortest possible time. He was also instrumental in lowering the voting age to 18 years thus giving a right to franchise to the youths of the country" said Shri. M.A. Sajid. After concluding the blood donation camp, Shri. M.A. Sajid led the party men in paying homage to Shri. Rajiv Gandhi by garlanding his statue at Marina Park.

Congress leader Shri. Sonu Raj, State General Secretary of NSUI, Shri. Saurav Nair, Ex-State General Secretary of NSUI, Shri. Nishit Biswas and active members of NSUI, Shri. Robin & Shri. Mukesh were present on the occasion.

Rajiv Gandhi Birth Anniversary

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Story behind his name

Rajiv Gandhi's name pays homage to his maternal grandmother Kamala Nehru, the wife of India's first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru. The word "Kamala" means Goddess

Laxmi. While the word Rajiv means Kamal (lotus), the flower used to worship the deity.

Before his brother's death in 1980 forced Rajiv Gandhi to join politics, he had been a commercial pilot with the Indian Airlines for 10 years. Following Sanjay Gandhi's death, Rajiv Gandhi contested and won his first election from Amethi, a seat his brother represented in Parliament. Rajiv Gandhi's son and former Congress President Rahul Gandhi, too, successfully contested from the same constituency thrice before losing to Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)'s Smriti Irani in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections.

Rise to power

Rajiv Gandhi became not just the Prime Minister but also the president of the Congress party following Indira Gandhi's assassination in 1984. The same year, under Rajiv Gandhi's leadership, Congress won a thumping majority of 414 seats in the Lok Sabha elections which remains a record for the highest number of seats ever won by a single party.

Assassination

In May, 1991, Rajiv Gandhi was campaigning for the general elections. During a rally in Sripurumbudur, Tamil Nadu, he was assassinated by a Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) suicide bomber.

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"Unflyable" Planes, "Melting Buildings": How US Blew Cash In Afghanistan

While most of that money went to the U.S. military, billions of dollars got wasted along the way, in some cases aggravating efforts to build ties with the Afghan people Americans meant to be helping.

The rapid collapse of Afghanistan's government to the Taliban fueled fears of a humanitarian disaster, sparked a political crisis for President Joe Biden and caused scenes of desperation at Kabul's airport. It's also raised questions about what happened to more than \$1 trillion the U.S. spent trying to bring peace and stability to a country wracked by decades of war. While most of that money went to the U.S. military, billions of dollars got wasted along the way, in some cases aggravating efforts to build ties with the Afghan people Americans meant to be helping. A special watchdog set up by Congress spent the past 13 years documenting the successes and failures of America's efforts in Afghanistan. While wars are always wasteful, the mispent American funds stand out because the U.S. had 20 years to shift course. Here are 10 projects that the U.S. watchdog--the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction, or SIGAR--identified as wasted effort: \$549 Million Planes Sold as Scrap An effort to build up an Afghan air force included spending at least \$549 million for 20 refurbished Italian-made G222 twin-turboprop aircraft. But 16 of the planes were left languishing in the weeds of Kabul's international airport after persistent maintenance issues made them unflyable. They were eventually sold as scrap for 6 cents a pound, or \$32,000. The Justice Department in May 2020 told the watchdog that it was not going to prosecute the criminal and civil cases related to the failed G222 aircraft program "so as a result, no one will be held accountable." Road to Nowhere The U.S. Agency for International Development spent \$176 million to build a 101-kilometer (63 mile) road between Gardez city and Khost Province. Less than a month after it was finished, SIGAR inspectors found that five segments were destroyed and portions



of two other segments had washed away, according to an October 2016 audit. Woodland Camouflage Inspectors found that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers mismanaged a \$116 million contract with an Afghan company to build a power station to provide electricity to more than one million Afghans. The mismanagement resulted in the U.S. spending almost \$80 million on a project that was not operational because land acquisition and other issues had not been resolved, and there was no contract provision to permanently connect the system to a power source, "SIGAR reported in March 2018. SIGAR auditors found the system might also be "structurally unsound and pose a risk" to Afghans who live near transmission towers and lines, or worked in a nearby substation. Empty Headquarters The U.S. spent about \$83 billion over nearly 20 years trying to stand up a force that could fight the Taliban and guarantee Afghanistan's stability. But the Taliban rebuilt

strength and the Afghan military collapsed in weeks as the U.S. pulled out. Even U.S. military leaders seemed stunned by the militants' advance. "There are no reports that I am aware of that predicted a security force of 300,000 would evaporate in 11 days," General Mark Milley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said Wednesday. The U.S. shipped out hundreds of tons of equipment, but they ended up in Kabul. Taliban fighters seized American-provided planes, helicopters, weapons and ammunition meant for the Afghan military. John Sopko, who oversaw the SIGAR audits, was asked last month, before the Afghan collapse, whether the military spending was wasted. "That's a tough one and it's hard to say everything was wasted," Sopko replied. "And even though there are serious problems, and I have serious concerns and I think our military does and most observers have a serious concern, the story isn't over. The last act hasn't played. They could still turn it around."

Person Can Claim Quota In Either State Upon Reorganisation: Supreme Court

The Supreme Court has ruled that a person belonging to a reserved category is entitled to claim the benefit of reservation in either of the successor States of Bihar or Jharkhand, but cannot claim the benefit of the quota simultaneously in both the successor States upon their reorganisation in November, 2000. The top court also held that members of the reserved category, who are residents of the successor State of Bihar, while participating in open selection in Jharkhand shall be treated to be migrants and they can participate in the general category without claiming the benefit of reservation and vice-versa. A bench of Justices U Lalit and Ajay Rastogi decided the "peculiar question" after a resident of Jharkhand, Pankaj Kumar, a member of Scheduled Caste filed an appeal against the 2:1 majority High Court order denying him appointment in state civil service examination of 2007 on the ground that his address proof showed that he was a permanent resident of Patna, Bihar. "It is made clear that person is entitled to claim benefit of reservation in either of the successor State of Bihar or State of Jharkhand, but will not be entitled to claim benefit of reservation simultaneously in both the successor States and those who are members of the reserved category and are resident of the successor State of Bihar, while participating in open selection in State of Jharkhand shall be treated to be migrants and it will be open to participate in general category without claiming the benefit of reservation and vice-versa," the bench said. The top court said it holds that the majority judgement of the High Court of February 24, 2020 is unsustainable in law and is hereby set aside. "We are also not in agreement with the minority judgement on principle and clarify that the person is entitled to claim the benefit of reservation in either of the successor State of Bihar or State of Jharkhand but would not be entitled to claim the privileges and benefits of reservation simultaneously in both the States and if that is permitted, it will defeat the mandate of Articles 341(1) and 342(1) of the Constitution," the top court said.

AFFIDAVIT

I, **PRIYA KUKUR**, D/o. **SAMIR KUKUR**, age about 28 years, by faith Christian, presently residing at Prem Nagar village, under Port Blair Tehsil, South Andaman District, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as follows:-

1. That I am a permanent resident of these Islands.
2. That I have completed 28 years of age and my date of birth is **28.08.1993**.
3. That I have so many Muslim friends and I am very much impressed by my friends and the teaching of Islam and culture.
4. That I intend embrace Islam religion and renounce Christianity.
5. That there is no any criminal force or undue influence or any coercion of any person or persons behind embracing Islam but only as per my will and wish.
6. That hereinafter I shall be known as **ZAREEN ABID** as a member of Islam religion.
7. That I am aware that, if any statement in this declaration is false and in making such statement I either know or believe it to be false or do not believe it to be true I am liable to imprisonment and also to fine.
8. Henceforth I should be known as **ZAREEN ABID** instead of **PRIYA KUKUR** for all purposes and intends.

The above said paras are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

DEPONENT

AFFIDAVIT

I, **PRIYA KUKUR** (old name) **ZAREEN ABID** (adopted name), D/o. **SAMIR KUKUR**, age about 28 years, by faith Christian, presently residing at Prem Nagar village, under Port Blair Tehsil, South Andaman District, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as follows:-

1. That I am a permanent resident of these Islands.
2. That I have completed 28 years of age and my date of birth is **28.08.1993**.
3. That in all my documents my name is mentioned, printed and written as **PRIYA KUKUR**.
4. That now I have embraced Islam religion and renounce Christianity as per my will and wish and I adopted new Islamic name as **ZAREEN ABID**.
5. That hereinafter I shall be known as **ZAREEN ABID** as a member of Islam religion.
6. That this Affidavit is made for adopting new name and making correction in all my personal and official documents.
7. That I am aware that, if any statement in this declaration is false and in making such statement I either know or believe it to be false or do not believe it to be true I am liable to imprisonment and also to fine.
8. Henceforth I should be known as **ZAREEN ABID** instead of **PRIYA KUKUR** for all purposes and intends.

The above said paras are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

DEPONENT

STAY HOME

STAY SAFE

Fight Against Covid-19

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

1. Stay at home with members of your household. If you are asked to, meet up with family members or other family members.
2. Wash your hands often and well with soap and water or alcohol based gel.
3. Disinfect surfaces you touch such as, like, cell phones, door knobs, door handles, etc.
4. The COVID-19 situation is a stressful time for everyone. It affects your sleep, your diet, your ability to focus and your ability to stay motivated.
5. Try to follow much social media and news you consume. Avoid rumors and misinformation as well as false news from trusted sources.
6. Exercise or meditate at home.
7. Maintain a familiar routine - while still practicing physical distancing - to help you feel calmer and more in control.
8. Reach out to a trusted adult or professional. If you need help or are feeling sad or stressed.
9. Do not wear your house if you are sick. Follow guidance from your health authorities on how to "contain" your illness. If you need medical care, listen to your local authorities for other advice and directions on how to stay safe.

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SOCIAL DISTANCING

Avoid close contact. Allow a 6 foot distance between you and other people.

6 feet

AVOID
Handshakes, Hugs and Large Crowds!

Reduce the spread of the Coronavirus.

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CIPMC from... Page 01

at village Bachda Pahad. The focus of the programme was on management of major insect Pests in Rice and vegetable crops through IPM practices - Cultural, Mechanical, Biological methods including various indigenous Technical Knowledge (ITKs) of the region and Exhibit the Bioagents and Biopesticides, Host cultures and also pheromone / sticky Traps, Trap crops and Tricho-cards to create awareness about integrated Crop Management in IPM technology for farming community and have face to face interaction with farmers and officers. Sh. H.P. Ramesh, Plant Protection Officer (E), CIPMC, Port Blair in his inaugural address emphasized on the importance of Natural enemies in field crops and residual effect of pesticides on vegetables & its perpetuation in Food Chain. He expressed his serious concern over adverse effect of pesticides residues above MRL in vegetable samples consumed in day to day life. Dr. Atul Gawande, APPO (PP), discussed upon various types of Biopesticides, pheromone / sticky Traps, Trap crops and Tricho-cards implementation for management of insect pests. Smt. Beena Neogi, Agriculture Assistant, Choudhary expressed her views on importance of IPM in organic farming for Andaman Nicobar UT. On this occasion IPM exhibition was also arranged for farmers. Leaflets on IPM were distributed to farmers.

India Post Office Recruitment 2021, Apply for 2429 GDS & Other Vacancies @ indiapost.gov.in

India Post Office Recruitment 2021 | GDS Vacancy | Total Vacancies 2357 | Last Date: 19.08.2021 | India Postal Circle Recruitment Apply online @ www.indiapost.gov.in

India Post Office Recruitment 2021: Applications are invited via online mode by the respective recruiting authorities from eligible candidates for the selection and engagement to the following posts of Gramin Dak Sevaks. India Post is going to fill up 2357 vacancies in West Bengal. It has recently published the recruitment notification for 2357 vacancies and these vacancies are assigned for GDS Vacancy. India Post Office invites online application from 10th passed candidates to fill up India Postal Vacancy 2021. Applicants who are looking for 10th Std jobs in central govt can make the India Post online registration from 20.07.2021 to 19.08.2021. India Postal Circle recruitment notification pdf & apply online link is available @ www.indiapost.gov.in.

Candidates can submit India Post Recruitment Application from 20.07.2021. Applicants should pass 10th Std and age limit should be 18 to 40 years. Contenders have to pay required fee and make the payment via either online or offline. India Post Office will recruit the aspirants on Academic Background/ Interview/ Written Test/ Merit. Shortlisted candidates will be appointed in West Bengal. Incomplete application & application after the due date will be rejected. More details of Post Office Jobs in WB, upcoming WB Postal jobs notices, merit list, selection list, admit card, result, upcoming India Post notifications and etc. will be uploaded on official website. India Post is a government of India agency, executing postal services in India. It has been functioning since 1854. Headquarter is located in Sansad Marg, New Delhi until now. They provide services such as letter post, parcel services, EMS, delivery, freight forwarding, third-party logistics and also deposit account. Presently, there are 22 postal circles in India and it has more than 4 lakhs employees are working in this department. Postal Circles are J&K Postal Circle, Punjab Postal Circle, Uttar Pradesh Postal Circle, West Bengal Postal Circle, North Eastern Postal Circle and Kerala Postal Circle.

Here you will get details of Branch Postmaster (BPM), Assistant Branch Postmaster (ABPM) and Dak Sevak posts like educational qualification, age limit, application mode, fee and how to apply. Keep check Daily Recruitment regularly to get latest government exams.

ITBP Recruitment 2021, Apply 65 Constable Vacancies @ itbpolice.nic.in

ITBP Recruitment 2021 | Constable Post | 65 Vacancies | Last Date: 02.09.2021 | Apply Online @ itbpolice.nic.in ITBP Recruitment 2021: Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force has issued the recruitment notification for the post of Constable (General Duty) under Sports Quota in the Sports disciplines. The ITBP invites both Male & Female candidates for filling up 65 vacancies for non-gazetted and non-ministerial for Group C' posts. These vacancies are not available for physically challenged persons or ex-servicemen. Eligible Indian citizens may apply this ITBP sports quota recruitment through online mode only, another mode of application form will not be accepted. The online application form starts from 05.07.2021 and the last date of receipt of online application is 02.09.2021. Candidates are requested to fill the online application form carefully, because if any mistakes declared in the application form will not be entertained. Those candidates who are applied for ITBP recruitment may be recruited by the process of interview/ test. After the interview, applicant will be appointed at anywhere in India with the scale pay of Rs. 21,700 to Rs. 69,100. If you want more details about ITBP Sports Quota recruitment, ITBP Constable recruitment, ITBP jobs, upcoming recruitment notification, selection list, results, merit list etc. check the official website. This is the great opportunity for the candidates who are seeking for Central Govt jobs.

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Ranji Trophy To Start From January 5, Senior Cricket To Start With Syed Mushtaq Ali T20 From October 27

The BCCI has issued a fresh itinerary for domestic cricket in India with the 2021-22 season of the Ranji Trophy tournaments scheduled to be played between January 5 to March 20. The Ranji Trophy wasn't held during last season due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the logistical obstacles faced for having an extended bio-bubble for 38 teams. The tournament is back in BCCI's domestic calendar but senior men's cricket will commence from October 27 with the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, which will be held after the IPL in order to ensure availability of quality cricketers.

The Vijay Hazare Trophy will be played from December 1 to 29, while senior women will play



their first tournament -- National One Day -- from October 20 to November 20. The season starts with women's and men's U-19 one

dayers (Vino Mankad Trophy) starting September 20 and it will be followed by U-19 Challenger Trophy for both women and men

starting October 25 and 26 respectively. The U-25 one dayers will be held from November 9 to December 10 while the CK Nayudu Trophy (also U-25 from previous year's U-23) will start from January 6. For the senior men's tournaments (Ranji Trophy, Vijay Hazare Trophy and Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy), the 38 teams will be divided into six groups.

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There will be five Elite Groups with six teams each and one Plate group with eight teams.

For U-25 level, there will be five Elite Groups of six teams each and one Plate group of seven teams.

High Proportion of Delta Variant of Coronavirus Found in India's Breakthrough Infections, Says INSACOG

New Delhi, 20th Aug. 2021:

Breakthrough infections of coronavirus cases comprise a very high proportion of the Delta variant, the INSACOG, a genome sequencing consortium of laboratories, has said. The continuing COVID-19 outbreaks across India are attributable to the Delta variant, a susceptible population and reduced vaccine effectiveness in blocking transmission, the INSACOG added. However, vaccination continues to be a very effective in reducing severe disease and death, and public health measures to reduce transmission and inoculation remain critical, the INSACOG stressed in its latest bulletin dated August 16.

"As of now, sequencing of vaccination breakthroughs in India is also showing a very high proportion of Delta variant. Investigations for any new variants are ongoing," the INSACOG said. Of the 30,320 samples of variants of concern and variants of interest sequenced by the INSACOG, 20,324 were of Delta, it said.

Here are the top 10 points from this big story about Delta variants



prevalence in India:

1- The Delta variant is currently driving the pandemic across several countries with China and Korea seeing new highs. Korea has reported that the new surge is due to Delta plus K417N mutation.

2- The Delta variant resulted in a deadly second wave in the country between March to May that wreaked havoc on the health infrastructure, overwhelming hospitals, it infected lakhs and killed thousands.

3- In India, new cases of AY.1, AY.2, AY.3 (Delta Plus) are being seen in July samples from Maharashtra at a frequency of about

1 per cent. However, at this time none of these sub-lineages has been found to have a growth advantage over the Delta parent lineage, it noted.

4- According to INSACOG (the Indian SARS-CoV2 Genomics Consortium), 61 samples of Delta Plus variants have been detected in the country so far.

5- "Delta variant is the major VOC in India at this time. Continuing outbreaks across India are attributable to Delta, a susceptible population, reduced vaccine effectiveness in blocking transmission, and opportunities for transmission," the INSACOG said.

6- Daily coronavirus

cases have seen a significant plunge since the second wave which peaked in May.

7- The active cases have declined to 3,63,605, the lowest in 150 days, and comprise 1.12 per cent of the total infections, the lowest since March 2020, the Health Ministry said on Friday. Over 57 crore jabs have been administered in the country so far, the Health Ministry added.

8- The R Value, or the Reproduction rate in the country has also dipped to 0.89 from August 14-16. But country continues to post over 25,000 cases every day.

9- There has been a concern whether an increasing vaccination breakthroughs in India are because of a new variant, the INSACOG said. It also cited an example of the UK. With a population of about 6.7 crore, the UK has reported about 18 lakh cases and 1.2 lakh vaccination breakthroughs with Delta since April 2021.

10- "Thus, vaccination breakthroughs are common during Delta outbreaks and are expected in India as well," it said.



Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)

Symptoms:
A fever, dry cough and sore throat. For some, it can be more severe leading to pneumonia or breathing difficulties. Symptoms may develop within 14 days after exposure.

Protect yourself from getting COVID-19

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

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

Throw tissues into closed bin immediately after use.

If you suspect you may have COVID-19, contact +91-22-2606 6777 (Use English, contactable 24/7).

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NEW Arrival

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