

# REVERBERATION

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04.10.2021

RNI Regn. No. ANDENG/2015/67933

Weekly (English)

Rs. 3

Port Blair

Monday

Vol-VII

Issue No. 40

06 page

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

## 152<sup>nd</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi celebrated in Isles

Port Blair, Oct. 3

Together with the rest of the country, the 152nd Birth Anniversary of Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, was celebrated in these Islands too in a befitting manner on Oct. 2, 2021. The main function was held at Gandhi Statue at Gandhi Park wherein the Lt Governor, A&N Islands, Admiral

DK Joshi, PVSM, AVSM, YSM, NM, VSM (Retd.) offered floral tributes at the Statue of Mahatma Gandhi.

This was followed by offering of floral tributes by the Chief Secretary, A&N Administration, Shri Jitendra Narain, the Director General of Police, Shri Satyendra Garg, Senior Officers of the A&N Administration and others.

Presentation of 'Vaishnav Jan To Tene Kahiye Je' / Ramdhuns by the Teachers of Education Department and observance of two minutes' silence to pay respect to the 'Father of the Nation' formed part of the function, which concluded with the rendition of National Anthem.



Admiral DK Joshi, PVSM, AVSM, YSM, NM, VSM (Retd.), Hon'ble Lt. Governor, A&N Islands & Vice-Chairman, Islands Development Agency along with Shri Jitendra Narain, Chief Secretary, A&N Administration, Shri Satyendra Garg, DGP, A&N Police along with Senior Officers of A&N Administration offered floral tributes to the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi on his 152<sup>nd</sup> Birth Anniversary.

## Chief Secretary heads panel discussion on 'Vision Andaman' conceptualized by officers of A&N Administration



Port Blair, Oct. 3

A panel discussion on 'Vision Andaman' - an idea conceptualized by officers of A&N Administration based on the

study done on developmental model of Island nation/ territories was presented by the officers in the conference hall of Zilla Parishad yesterday.

The Chief Secretary, A&N Administration, Shri Jitendra Narain led the brainstorming session with IAS/ *contd. page-5*

## MP demands supply of adequate quantity of fertilizer to all farmers of A & N Islands

Port Blair, Oct 3:

The Member of Parliament of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma today requested the Chief Secretary to supply adequate quantity of fertilizers to all farmers of

Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

In a letter addressed to the Chief Secretary the Member of Parliament today said that the quantity of fertilizer supplied to them, is grossly insufficient.

He highlighted that farmers are given only a few gunny

bags of fertilizer every year, irrespective of the size of their cultivation land area. A farmer with more cultivation land is given the same amount of fertilizer as it was given to farmers with a small piece of *contd. page-5*

## HEAD QUARTERS A & N COMMAND BLOOD DONATION CAMP AT INS UTKROSH



Port Blair, Oct 2:

On occasion of the 152<sup>nd</sup> birth anniversary of Ma-

hatma Gandhi, a Blood donation camp was organised at *contd. page-2*





## EDITORIAL

## Farm laws: The onus is on the SC

*The Supreme Court (SC) has again been scathing in its criticism of protests that block roads. Its most recent observations have come in the context of the farm protests. Last week, one bench observed that the protests were “strangulating” the Capital. Indeed, since last November, many of the arterial roads leading into Delhi have been blocked by protesters, and also by barricades put up by the police to prevent them from reaching the Capital. Entire “protest cities” have come up on the sites, inconveniencing local residents and commuters who now have to take diversions.*

*Such observations by the court are not new. There have been similar observations in the past, in other cases dealing with other issues, but apart from noting that such protests that block roads aren't on and that it is the responsibility of governments (the Union and the states) to prevent roads from being blocked interminably by protests, the country's apex court has done nothing. While this may be in keeping with the division of responsibilities between the executive and the judiciary, the SC has never let this come in the way of its (sometimes justifiable) interventions in matters of State in the past. An order by it may well be all that is needed to clear the roads.*

*Irrespective of the merits of the larger issue, it has been evident for some time that the farm protests have reached an impasse. The farmers have not budged from their maximalist position seeking a complete repeal of the three laws passed last September, and their movement has now acquired distinctly political overtones. The government, after having offered to stay the laws for 18 months while the two sides talk, is now content to play a waiting game. And the SC, which in January stayed the implementation of the laws and asked for a report from expert committee (which was submitted in March), has not heard the case since. It's a status quo that appears to suit everyone.*

*With elections due early next year in two states whose farmers are part of the protests, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh, it is unlikely that a political solution to the crisis will be found before mid-2022, if then. That puts the onus of resolving the issue on the SC which would do well to resume hearing petitions challenging the legality of the farm laws — it is among the important cases, including the challenges to the abrogation of Article 370 and on electoral bonds pending before it — and, for starters, perhaps convert its observations on blocked roads into an order.*

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## HEAD QUARTERS....

from page 1

INS Utkrosh on 01 Oct 2. The camp was done in collaboration with Blood Bank of GB Pant Hospital, Port Blair.

There was an extremely enthusiastic response to the noble cause. Defence personnel and civilians at Port Blair participated whole heartedly

to make the event a grand success. Sixty units of blood were collected during the event. Lecture on Myths and Facts, Do's and Don'ts, benefits of Blood donation was also delivered in order to emphasise the importance of Blood donation in saving lives.

## Chief Secretary issues order to ensure compliance to Prompt & Effective Containment Measures for COVID-19 as per MoHFW advisory in the whole of A& N Islands

Port Blair, Oct. 1

Considering the need to prevent any potential rise in number of cases in view of the upcoming festive season in the country, MoHFW has issued an advisory to all States and Union Territories (UTs), for a continued focus on 'Prompt & Effective Containment Measures' as well as 'Acceleration in the Pace and Coverage of COVID Vaccination'. In exercise of the powers conferred under section 10 (2) (1) of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, the Union Home Secretary and Chairman, National Executive Committee (NEC) directs vide order of Ministry of

Home Affairs, dated 28<sup>th</sup> Sept, 2021 to consider implementation of Prompt & Effective Containment Measures, as conveyed vide MoHFW advisory dated 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2021 and the National Directives for COVID-19 Management shall continue to be strictly followed and will remain in force up to 31st October, 2021.

Now therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred under section 24 (1) of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, the Chief Secretary, A&N Administration, Shri Jitendra Narain in the capacity as Chairperson, Union Territory Disaster Management Executive Committee,

for the Union Territory of Andaman & Nicobar Islands has ordered to ensure compliance to the Prompt & Effective Containment Measures for COVID-19 in accordance with the advisory issued by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) dated 21st September, 2021 shall continue to be strictly followed and shall remain in force up to 31st October, 2021 for the whole of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The Deputy Commissioners and Departments concerned may issue necessary Standard Operating Procedures to implement the orders

## Wagah-style BSF's retreat ceremony launched at Octerio BoP in RS Pura

PTI: India on Saturday launched a Wagah-Attari-style BSF's "retreat ceremony" at the Octerio Border Out Post near Suchetgarh village on the International Border on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti.

The ceremony, comprising a structured parade by BSF men, was launched with Lt Governor Manoj Sinha terming the event as a "history in making" and the locals fervently hoping that the usual rattling of guns and booming of shells across the IB, prevalent till recently, will be a thing of past.

They also hoped this event would bring much-needed peace to the Suchetgarh sector in Jammu and Kashmir, helping it become a tourist spot round the year like the Attari border and heralding peace and prosperity for the border residents through tourism activities.

The chants of 'Bharat Mata Ki Jai' and 'Vande Matram' by people rent the air as BSF men carried out their parade in crisp uniforms.

"Today it is a history in making. Suchetgarh will now be known not only on the tourism map of J&K but in entire India," Sinha said.

He also complimented the efforts of the BSF and other agencies in launching the step.

"This is a historical step showing the return of much-needed peace along the IB,



which used to be rocked by the rattling of guns and booming of shells across the border," said Shamsher Singh of Suchetgarh village.

"It will also promote tourism in the area. It is a great day for us," he added.

Like Singh, an elderly woman Kanta Devi was so excited that she danced to the beats of drums by the villagers.

"We have been watching our houses being fired at and shelled for years now. But this scene has brought joy and peace to us. This should be a permanent feature," she said, fervently hoping for peace to prevail in and around her village.

Deepika, a student from the R S Pura border area, said she had seen such retreat ceremonies only on TV till then. She said she was happy that it was being held before her eyes in her own area.

The Jammu and Kashmir government had on July 4, 2016,

launched a border tourism initiative at the Octerio BoP. A group of nearly 100 tourists from various parts of the country visited the Octerio Border Out Post along the IB, which has three-tier border fencing.

Former J&K Minister for Culture & Tourism, Priya Sethi, who had launched the border tourism in Jammu in 2016, had then led the first group of 100 tourists, which travelled in a special bus to the Suchetgarh border belt in R S Pura tehsil of Jammu district.

"It is a historic occasion when the retreat ceremony took place here," BSF's (Jammu Frontier) DIG P S Sandhu said.

This was the first initiative after many years to put in place the retreat ceremony as a part of the border tourism on the Indian side on the lines Wagah border.

The government has restored the old colonial Octroi BoP building and turned it into

contd. page-5



## Sent 106 names for judges, nine for CJs, I expect Govt to clear them soon, says CJI N V Ramana



Underlining the importance of filling judicial vacancies to address pendency of cases, Chief Justice of India N V Ramana said Saturday that the Supreme Court Collegium had recommended 106 names for judges and 9 for Chief Justices since May this year and the government had “so far” cleared names of 7 for judges and one for Chief Justice.

Addressing a gathering at the launch of the ‘Pan India Legal Awareness and Outreach Campaign’ of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) – those present at the Vigyan Bhavan event included President Ram Nath Kovind and Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju — CJI Ramana said: “I expect that the government will clear the rest of the names very soon.”

He said Minister Rijiju has “informed the rest of the things are going to come in a short time, within one or two days”.

The CJI said “these appointments will take care of pendency to some extent” and “I seek the cooperation and support of the government to enable access to justice and to strengthen democracy”.

On May 20, the Collegium, headed by CJI Ramana, recommended the elevation of Justice Sanjay Yadav as Chief Justice of Allahabad High Court. This was approved by the government following which he was administered the oath of office on June 13. Chief Justice Yadav, however, had a short tenure and retired on June 25.

On September 16, the Collegium recommended names for Chief Justices of 8 High Courts – Calcutta, Meghalaya, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Allahabad, Karnataka and Chhattisgarh — but these are yet to be cleared.

As for judges, the Collegium had recommended names of judicial officers and

advocates for elevation to the High Courts of Madhya Pradesh, Gauhati, Allahabad, Calcutta, Karnataka, Punjab and Haryana, Chhattisgarh, Jammu and Kashmir, Kerala, Madras, Jharkhand, Patna, Gujarat, Orissa and Bombay.

According to the Department of Justice, a total of 420 vacancies in High Courts existed on May 1, 2021. As of October 1, there are 471 vacancies in the HCs.

Launching the awareness and outreach programme, President Kovind said the country has made substantial progress since Independence in realising its Constitutional goals, “but a lot of work remains to be done to reach the destinations identified by our founding fathers”.

Referring to Mahatma Gandhi’s call to lawyers to provide free legal aid to people, he called upon the legal fraternity and designated senior advocates in the Supreme Court and High Courts to follow this, and earmark a certain part of their time to provide pro bono services to people from the weaker sections.

The President said that “as a country, our aim is to graduate from ‘women development’ to ‘women-led development’,” and called for increasing the number of women in National Legal Services Institutions. This, he said, “is as important as reaching out to the largest possible number of women beneficiaries”.

He pointed out that presently there are about 11,000 women lawyers among over 47,000 advocates on the panel of lawyers enrolled with legal aid institutions at the district level and about 17,000 women Para-Legal Volunteers out of a total of nearly 44,000.

Supreme Court judge Justice D Y Chandrachud said the legal profession still continues to be a feudal profession and this needs to change.

“This is something that the Supreme Court Bar Association can persuade, at least some of the seniors, to democratise access to the legal profession, because the mainstream of our profession does not democratise access. We still continue to be a purely feudal profession which I believe needs to change,” Justice Chandrachud said, touching on how lawyers beginning their careers prefer to join law firms than start legal practice when they do not have connections to gain entry to lawyers’ chambers.

Justice U U Lalit, Supreme Court judge and NALSA Executive Chairman, and Justice A M Khanwilkar also spoke on the occasion.

## PRESS RELEASE



*Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma, Member of Parliament with a view to mark the celebration of International Day for Older Persons which is celebrated on 1st of October every year organised functions at various locations in South Andaman District to honour elderly people for their contribution towards society and development of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.*

*To honour the elderly persons, functions were organised by the Member of Parliament in the Community Hall at Buniyadabad on 30.09.2021, at Bimlitan, New Bimlitan and Sippighat on 01.10.2021, at Haddo on 02.10.2021 and at Bambooflat on 03.10.2021.*

*The functions was attended by large numbers of elderly persons residing in and around the place of conduct of the function.*

*While addressing the Senior citizens present at the venues of function, Shri Sharma said that we are very much thankful to the elderly people of the Islands for gifting us a homogeneous society which lives in perfect harmony and peace irrespective of caste, colour, creed and religion. He said it for this reason our Islands are very often referred as ‘Mini India’.*

*The Member of Parliament further said that the development what we see around us are the result of relentless service, hardwork and sacrifices made by our old aged persons who despite several constraints made our Islands a lovely place to live.*

*The Member of Parliament requested the old aged people present in venue of the function to speak out their grievances and assured to make all possible efforts to get it resolved.*

*The Member of Parliament honoured the elderly persons present in the function by showering flower petals and by presenting Shawl. Other prominent senior citizen who addressed the gathering were Smt. Shanta Laxman, Shri. K Ganeshan, Smt. Pushpanjali Raju and Smt. Ratna Kannan.*

## Cross-LoC trade: NIA carries out searches at 9 locations in J&K



The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Sunday conducted searches on the premises of traders along the Line of Control (LoC) at nine places in Poonch district as part of investigations into large-scale transfer of money by Pakistan through cross-

LoC trade to fund terror activities in Jammu and Kashmir.

During the searches, the agency recovered documents, digital devices and other incriminating materials, said an official statement.

Sources said the

searches were conducted at Poonch, Kunaiyan, Chandhak, Degwar and Chaktro areas. A case had been registered by the agency in this regard on December 9, 2016 under provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967, they said. The NIA was assisted in the searches by officials of J&K Police, CRPF and ITBP.

LoC trade was started in the year 2008 as part of confidence-building measures between J&K and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK). The trade was based on a barter system and third-party goods were not allowed, it added.

The current case is

related to transfer of funds from Pakistan to India through the import of California Almonds (badam-giri) and other items via the Cross-LoC Trade Facilitation Centres (TFCs) at Uri’s Salamabad area in Baramulla district and Poonch district’s Chakkan-Da-Bag area. These funds were purportedly being used to foment terrorism/separatism in Jammu & Kashmir, the statement said.

Investigation revealed that some of the traders having excess imports diverted the surplus profits to terror organisations, while others were suspected to have links with proscribed terrorist organisations.





The District Child Protection Unit (South Andaman) under District Administration in collaboration with Port Blair Guru ki Rasoi Celebrated Gandhi Jayanti commemorating Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav at Abbhudaya Complex, Ferrargunj.

The program started with paying tribute to Gandhiji by lighting the lamp. Children of Abbhudaya Complex presented drills, songs and expressed the contribution and sacrifices of Babuji in the progress of the Nation.

On the occasion Port Blair Guru ki Rasoi provided Health kits to the children of Abbhudaya Complex and Disable Home children and various other Child Care Institutions.

## Khadi Sales-cum-Exhibition at Udyog Parisar Middle Point by ANIKVIB

Port Blair, Oct.1

On the auspicious occasion of Gandhi Jayanthi, Dussehra and Deepavali, the A&N Islands Khadi & Village Industries Board (ANIKVIB) will be organizing a Khadi Sales-cum-Exhibition at Udyog Parisar Complex, Middle Point. During the ex-

hibition, new arrival of huge quantities of Khadi goods which includes silk sarees & different varieties of khadi garments both for men & women will be displayed for sale with a special discount @ 25% on khadi goods including silk sarees, a press release from Manager, KGB said.

## PRESS RELEASE

Dtd 30-09-2021

Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma, Member of Parliament along with Yuva Sangh Youth Club, Wimberlygunj, in collaboration with G. B. Pant Hospital organized a Blood Donation camp at Panchayat Community Hall at Wimberlygunj on 30.09.2021 at 9 AM.

The Member of Parliament while expressing his gratitude to the blood donors and general gathering at venue of Blood Donation Camp said that the motive behind organizing such camp is to encourage and involve the community in organizing more and more such camps for the benefit of needy and to motivate individuals to donate blood. He said blood donation is considered as the greatest service to mankind and humanity. He said we can't buy life with money but by donating blood you can save a life of someone. By donating blood we are playing a significant role in the society and become the reason for a smile on someone's face.

The Member of Parliament expresses gratitude to the Doctors and Para Medical Staff of Blood Collecting team of G B Pant Hospital and the "Yuva Sangh Youth Club, Wimberlygunj" for lending their whole hearted support in organizing the camp. Shri C Sadakat welcomed the gathering and the vote of thanks was proposed by Shri O P Abdul Aziz. A total of 28 Units of Blood was donated during the camp by the individuals.



## MP requests CS to urgently schedule a ferry for Little Andaman

Port Blair, Oct 1:

The Member of Parliament of Andaman and Nicobar Island, Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma today requested the Chief Secretary of Andaman and Nicobar Administration to urgently schedule a ferry for Little Andaman as he has been informed that nearly 1000 people from Little Andaman are stranded at Port Blair for non-availability of any ferry for Hut Bay.

In his letter addressed to the Chief Secretary, the Member of Parliament mentioned that these people have visited Port Blair for various reasons viz office works, medical checkups, other official works but now they are stranded at Port Blair but presently they are incurring financial loss for boarding and lodging for every single day.



## MP in association with ANIIMS & private Hospitals organizing health camps in various areas of S/Andaman



Port Blair, Oct 2:

Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma, Member of Parliament with an intent to spread wellness and to bring health awareness among the women folk shall be organising week long health camps with the support of Andaman Nicobar Islands Institute of Medical Sciences (ANIIMS) and private hospitals namely Pillar Hospital, Agrawal Eye Hospital & Arun Hospital at various locations in the South Andaman District.

The week long Health Camps for Ladies started with the camp organised at Wandoor Community Hall on 01.10.2021 which was inaugurated by the Member of Parliament in the presence of doctors of ANIIMS belonging to various disciplines of medicine led by Dr.Padi. Nearly 100 ladies from Wandoor and nearby localities came for attending the health camp. During the inau-

gural speech the Member of Parliament expressed his gratitude to the A& N Administration and the lone Medical College of the Islands, ANIIMS for making it possible to conduct such Health Camps for wellness and wellbeing of the less privileged women folk. He said that worldwide the month of October is observed as Breast Cancer Awareness Month and for this reason the weeklong Health Camps at different villages of South Andaman are being organized particularly for ladies.

The Member of Parliament urged the ladies present in the Health Camp to take maximum advantage of the camp by obtaining medical advice, checkups, medicines, treatment and everything that can make their life better and satisfied. He said that usually it is seen that people and particularly the rural women folk stay unaware of the fact that they might be get-

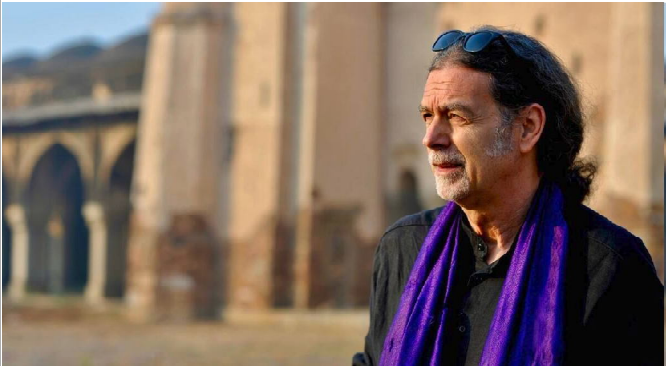
ting engulfed into dangerous diseases. Such health camp helps in early diagnosis of diseases or illnesses and it becomes easy to cure then on time and life can be saved before any danger or damage happen to it.

Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma informed that on 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> of October 2021, the Health Camps for Ladies are being organised at WANDOOR, CHOOLDARI, SHORE POINT, DAIRYFARM, P R O T H R A P U R , B U R M A N A L L A H , WIMBERLYGUNJ respectively and requested the ladies to take fullest advantage of the Health Camps.

The inaugural session was addressed by Dr. Padi of ANIIMS, Smt. Shanta Laxman Singh, Ex- Chairperson of Social Welfare Board and Smt. Ratna Kannan, Ex- Chairperson.



# India, Germany will see closer cooperation on Afghanistan: German envoy



PTI: India and Germany are very much on the same wavelength on issues concerning Afghanistan and the two countries will see closer cooperation in this regard, German Ambassador to India Walter J Lindner said on Sunday.

“India is a very big actor there (Afghanistan)... involved in a lot of developmental projects and Germany has been very active (there) for the last 20 years. So, we both share pretty much the same principles,” Lindner said at an event held to mark the 31st anniversary of German reunification.

He unveiled a symbolic painting on a large wall at the iconic Sheila Theatre in Paharganj here depicting the friendship between India and Germany.

Lindner said the two nations supported the previous government in Afghanistan and tried to help it make headway and improve the situation, especially for women, in the country.

“We are all surprised by the fast advancement of the Taliban. Now, we have to deal with this situation. We still have to get people out of Afghanistan by talking to the

Taliban. We still have a humanitarian crisis to prevent in Afghanistan through the United Nations.

“We have some conditions under which we talk to the Taliban — an inclusive government which is not yet there. But we still have to have some kind of dialogue to make advancement on these points. India is very much on the same wavelength. So, we will see closer cooperation between us,” he said.

The German envoy said economy, environmental protection, green energy, student exchange, science and technology, and artificial intelligence will be the key areas of the India-Germany partnership ahead.

Lindner said today is an important day for Germany as East and West Germany were reunited 31 years ago on this day.

“Usually, we’d host a big reception but due to Covid restrictions, we couldn’t do it again. Last year, we came up with the Scorpion’s iconic song “Wind of Change”, which we re-recorded with Indian musicians,” he said.

“This year, we thought we’d do something different but also with an artistic twist. That’s how we got in touch

with Yogesh Saini and his team from Delhi Street Art. Our idea: Why not have something which is typical of Berlin, which is the wall, a reminder of the Berlin Wall and of the graffiti that you still find on parts of it.

“We found an old wall next to an important cinema and we had Yogesh and his team paint it... We searched for a wall not in the diplomatic enclave but in the centre of the city where everyone can see it,” he added.

Replying to a question on the India-UK row over COVID-19 vaccine certification, Lindner said, “I don’t know exactly what the specifications are... why the UK is not recognising the app from India. Weeks ago, we recognised Covishield. I myself have been vaccinated with Covishield. So, those who have been administered Covishield do not need to undergo quarantine (in Germany) or face any other restrictions.”

Since Covaxin has not yet been recognised by the World Health Organisation, those who have taken it have to undergo quarantine. Once the WHO approves the Bharat Biotech-manufactured vaccine, Germany will take the next step and see if it can recognise it, the ambassador said.

On the formation of the next government in Germany, Lindner said it is very likely to be a three-party coalition. The parties that might be involved are currently holding negotiations. The idea is to get a coalition treaty signed before Christmas.

# Chief Secretary heads.....

IPS/ IFS/DANICS/DANIPS officers of A&N Administration on various Island Development Models including Singapore Development Model, Policies and International Best Practices that could be useful for holistic development of A&N Islands. The session was also attended by the DGP, Shri Satyendra Garg, Commissioner-cum- Secretary (Health), Dr. V Candavelou, PCCF (WL), Shri P. Subramaniam and was moderated by Secretary (Health), Shri RN Sharma.

The session involved

from page-1 broad canvas of topics including Tourism, Revenue, Transport, Urban Development & Human Resource Development. During the session, Officers presented their ideas in the context of A&N Islands.

The vision plans presented by the officers, which were found feasible for its implementation will further be taken up by the officers with the respective Departments for materializing the plans. Empowered groups are being created to give shape to the ideas.

# MP demands supply.....

land, which is causing confusion and losses.

He mentioned that farmers of Andaman and Nicobar Islands are not financially strong enough to buy fertilizers from private shops for cultivation and hence they are largely dependent on Administration for fertilizers.

Considering the problems being faced by the farmers, the Member of Parliament requested the Chief Secretary to direct the Agriculture Department to conduct a survey to find out the

from page 1 cultivation land area available with each farmer of these Islands and supply fertilizer in proportion to the area of cultivation land of each farmer.

He also requested to provide fertilizers to the farmers throughout the year as per the season, so that the farmers of Andaman and Nicobar Islands can do farming in a proper way and contribute greatly in Andaman’s economy.

# Wagah-style BSF’s .....

from page 2 a gallantry gallery, besides constructing a multi-purpose hall, children’s park and border meeting post here at the border under the Himalayan Circuit of Swadesh Bharat Scheme of the Central government.

Suchetgarh town, now in Pakistan, is about 27-km from Jammu and earlier served as the route to Sialkot during the pre-partition era.

The Jammu-Sialkot railway line through Suchetgarh was a 43-km narrow gauge branch of the North-Western Railway and the first railway line in Jammu and Kashmir.

Since 1947, the line has fallen into a state of disuse on both sides of the border.

The Jammu Chamber of Commerce and Industry Jammu, meanwhile, lauded Prime Minister Narendra Modi and LG Sinha for starting the retreat ceremony here.

CCIJ president Arun Gupta said it is a much-needed step for boosting the economy of the region as it is likely that people will visit the area in large numbers to witness the parade and herald a change in the socio-economic condition of the entire belt.

# Concerns for cruise industry after NCB drug bust

AFTER A long interruption in operations amid the pandemic, cruise ship operations had begun at the Mormugoa Port Trust (MPT) in Goa on September 26. About a week later, the Narcotics Control Bureau’s (NCB) raids on a Goa-bound ship, the industry feels, may be a “short-term setback” for cruise operations.

MPT Deputy Chairman G P Rai said on Sunday there had been no information on any change in cruise ship operations scheduled at the port and they were expected to continue as usual. However, the rev-

enue streams that had dried up amid the pandemic may perhaps take longer to be revived.

The cruise ship operations, apart from generating revenue for the cruise line operators and the port, also support allied industries like hotels, restaurants, taxi services and a host of small businesses. In a state heavily dependent on tourism, there were concerns over the bearing Sunday’s high-profile drug bust off the coast of Mumbai, may have on cruise line tourism in Goa.

Cordelia Cruises had started their first domestic

cruise season in Goa after a “long gap” on September 26. Cruise ship MV Empress’ had arrived at the the Mormugao Port with 1,591 passengers on board. Seventy-five passengers had boarded the ship in Goa that day.

Port officials said it was “very sad” that the incident had taken place just when the cruise ship business was afloat again. Other cruise ship operators were expected to start services in December.

“It was a big joy and relief to everyone in the hospitality business, which had a taken a

big hit during the Covid-19 period. The port management worked tirelessly to recommence the cruise season with all the required SoPs in place, to prevent spread of Covid,” the MPT had said in a statement on September 26.

Nilesh Shah, president of Travel and Toursim Association of Goa (TTAG), the apex tourism industry body in the state, said that even if there may be a setback to the tourism industry in the state, it may be short-term.

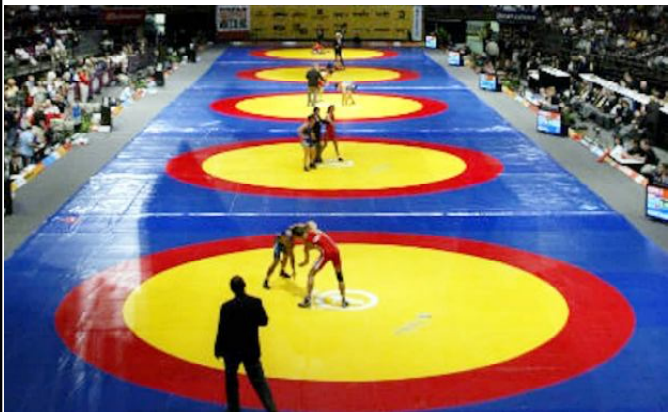
“Even if there may be some cancellations of bookings be-

cause of this incident, we feel, they may be short term. I don’t think it will have a long-term effect on cruise operations,” said Shah. He said every cruise liner that pulls into the port in Goa brings about 1,500 guests.

While port authorities in Goa or Mumbai had received no communication from any agency after the NCB’s mid-sea raid on the cruise ship on Sunday, it is learnt that officials may discuss whether or not there was a need for any additional guidelines for cruise ship operators in the week ahead.



## World Wrestling C’ships: Daton Fix flattens Ravinder Dahiya in quarter-final



Daton Duain Fix of the USA flattened Ravinder Dahiya of India by 10-0 in the men’s freestyle 61-kg category quarterfinals of the World Wrestling Championships which began at Nye Jordal Amfi, Oslo in Norway on Saturday.

The Indian, a silver medallist at the Budapest 2019 World U-23 Championship, will have to wait for a repechage chance. After losing the last-eight stage bout by VSU (victory by technical superiority), Ravinder, 25, will have to wait for the semifinal bout between Arsen Harutyunyan of Armenia and Fix.

In the bout of eight,

Ravinder stunned favourite and world champion Beka Lomtadze of Georgia 6-2 by VPO1 (winner with no technical superiority but the loser scores at least 1 point).

In the qualification round, the Haryana grappler defeated Sunggwon Kim of Korea 13 – 2.

Fix began with an 11-0 win over Tokyo Olympian Georgi Vangelov of Bulgaria in the qualification and in the round of eight he scored an emphatic 10-0 win over Arman Norik Eloyan of France.

Other Indians Sandeep Singh Mann in 86kg category narrowly lost to Gwanuk Kim of Korea 5 – 4, Anirudh

Kumar in 125kg was beaten by Youssif Mohamed Badea Hemida of Egypt 9 – 3 and in 74kg Russian Timur Bizhoev ousted Yash 7-0 in their qualification rounds.

Remaining Indians, Pankaj (57kg) will meet Levan Metreveli Vartanov of Spain, Rohit (65kg) takes on Divoshan Charles Fernando of Sri Lanka, Sushil (70kg) clashes with Zurabi Iakobishvili of Georgia, in 79kg category Baliyan Gourav faces Bat Erdene Byambasuren of Mongolia and Satywart Kadian (97kg) will square off with Minwon Seo of Korea.kj

Meanwhile, Pruthviraj Babasaheb Patil got a bye and will meet Osman Nurmagedmedov of Azerbaijan in the 92kg category.

Heavyweights like Tokyo Olympic silver medallist Ravi Dahiya and bronze medallist Bajrang Punia, women’s wrestlers Vinesh Phogat and Deepak Punia skipped the meet due to various reasons including injuries.

## Jodha Akbar actor Manisha Yadav dies



TV actor Manisha Yadav died of brain hemorrhage on Friday according to reports. She was best known for playing the role of Salima Begum, one of Akbar’s wives, on Balaji Telefilms’ popular historical romantic drama Jodha Akbar.

Paridhi Sharma, who played the lead role of Jodha Bai in the Ekta Kapoor creation, expressed her shock through an Instagram story. She wrote, “This news is so heartbreaking. RIP @manisha\_mannu.”

While speaking to Times of India, Paridhi revealed that she got to know about the tragic news by way of a WhatsApp group made up of female actors on the show.

“I wasn’t in constant touch with her after our show went off air. But we have a WhatsApp group which is named Mughals and all the actresses who were

begums in the show are a part of that group. So that’s how we stay in touch and if anything important is to be shared about anyone’s life, we do that on the group. I got to know about this yesterday on the group and I was shocked,” she said.

She further said that she is especially saddened over the fact that Manisha had an infant, whose pictures she regularly shared on her Instagram profile.

She added, “Her energy was always high and she was a chirpy person. We had a great time shooting together for the show. I remember she was always full of life. Hearing about her death is really saddening for me and what’s even more bothering is that she has a one-year-old baby. My heart goes out to her family.”

## Sunil Chhetri adds to India’s heft at SAFF Championship



The last time India sent a near full-strength squad for the SAFF Championship was in 2015. Sunil Chhetri was still in his 20s and Afghanistan was still a part of the South Asian Football Federation. India won that edition of the biennial tournament after having lost in 2014 to Afghanistan. Chhetri, Jeje Lalpekhlua scored 6 of the 14 goals scored by the national team in six games.

An ageing Chhetri has now crossed 100 caps for India and will once again return to the 2021 edition of the tournament in Maldives. The tour-

nament is essentially being used by the Indian national team for practice before the start of the third round of the Asian Cup qualifiers from February 2022. Admitting that at his age (37), reaching another 100 caps for India was impossible, Chhetri said that a return to the SAFF Cup for him was an opportunity to add to his longevity.

“I am here to play for my country. I don’t take any opportunity for granted. I wanted to play 100 games. And now I will take whatever opportunity I get my way,” the Bengaluru FC captain stated.

‘Whatever opportunity’ is the key phrase that has dictated this Indian campaign. The timing of the Cup, falling right as pre-season for most ISL clubs begin to take shape, means that a camp and friendlies before the tournament was not a possibility.

“We couldn’t organise a preparation camp for obvious reasons. SAFF and AFC games are outside of the FIFA calendar. We spoke to the FSDL, ISL clubs, some of which are starting their pre-training. It is the busiest time in Indian football,” Stimac said during a virtual conference on Saturday. “Everyone has had to give up on something. It is not easy and it is not enough but I am grateful,” he added.

For the past couple of editions the SAFF Cup was treated as a tournament where India could send their U-23 players. After having won the title a record 7 times and being miles ahead in Fifa rankings as compared to the other teams

in the competition, experience rather than winning was the mantra.

But this edition of the SAFF Cup has burgeoned in its importance. A severe lack of international games notwithstanding, it is the position of the coach that has essentially called for Chhetri and Gurpreet Singh Sandhu to be a part of this team. With an unclear future and whether a new contract is headed his way, Igor Stimac has a lot riding on the result of this tournament. Poor performances against Nepal, Bangladesh and Afghanistan during the team being under his charge has posed fresh questions on his tenure.

The location of the team in Maldives and their short duration in the island nation has ensured that training has been sub-par.

“We came here only four days ago. We have to travel to Male on speed boats. There are artificial turfs here. We are pro-

tecting our players so that they do not get injured. We are playing for 15-20 minutes, working on set pieces. Not much we can do over here,” said Stimac. He then added, “We are relying on the understanding that the players know each other very well.”

The only semblance of an advantage that India carry into the tournament is the presence of ATK Mohun Bagan and Bengaluru FC players. Eight players from these two teams have been playing in the AFC Cup and are match fit.

“After playing in the AFC Cup group stage matches, ATK Mohun Bagan and Bengaluru FC players continued with their pre-season, so it’s an advantage for us. Most of the other ISL sides are yet to start their pre-season. We will have to be careful about how many minutes we can give to those players,” said Stimac.