

ANDAMAN SHEEKHA

True Mirror of Andaman and Nicobar Islands

VOL: 15 | ISSUE NO: 02 | REG NO: ANDENG/2011/38184 | 03.01.2023 | TUESDAY | RS.2.00 | DAILY | PORT BLAIR | WWW.ANDAMANSHEEKHA.COM

MV Kalighat sent to Cochin for Annual Survey, kept in anchorage for more than One month

Vikramaditya
Sheekha News Service

Port Blair, Jan 02: The passenger vessel MV Kalighat was sent for Survey at Cochin from Port Blair on 25, November 2022 and on 30th November 2022 the ship reached Cochin but instead

(See page 2)



Accident inside Forest kills one Mahout of Forest Department

John Wilbert & Vikramaditya
Sheekha News Service

Port Blair, Jan 02: In a tragic incident, a regular mazdoor of Forest Department, Mr. MearBarla, 59 years, a resident of Diglipur died today after a huge log fell on him. Mr. Barla was working as Ma-

hout and was assigned duty of moving heavy logs with his elephant.

As per details, his elephant, Rup Kali was tied with a chain to a huge log and during work today, the elephant reportedly pushed the Mahout toward one side, in a bid to escape in jungle.

(See page 2)

Special lecture-cum-demonstration session by , Director Aeronautical Development Agency, MoD

Port Blair, Jan. 2: As a part of Industry Institute Interaction (III) of DBRAIT, a special lecture-cum-demonstration session was held on 31st Dec., 2022. Dr. Amitabh Saraf, Director Aeronautical Development Agency, Ministry of

(See page 6)



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F3 Ambience Mall Inaugurated



Venkat

Sheekha News Service

Port Blair, Jan 02: F3 Ambience Mall, Gandhi Market, Municipal Complex first ever mall of Andaman and Nicobar Islands was inaugurated. The Ambience Mall was opened by Mr. Sanjay Sreedharan, proprietor Jaya Medicals. The Mall was inaugurated by the Chairperson



of PBMC, Mrs. U Kavitha in presence of other councillors and large number of Islanders.

Young Chess Players of A & N Islands shine in MPL 35th National Under 09 Chess Championships-2022

Port Blair, Jan 02: More than 300 players across India participated in the prestigious event in which 3 young budding chess players, (two Boys and one Girl) from Andaman & Nicobar Islands took part in the championship and did quite

well. J S Virat, a student of class IV of VKV Imla Line is the top scorer from A & N Islands who scored five and a half points with five wins and a draw while Rohan Singh, a student of class III and Parnita, a student of class IV, Carmel



Sr. Sec. School Port Blair scored 4 points each with four wins.

MV Kalighat sent...

of making arrangements for dry docking or other repair works the ship has been kept in anchorage for more than a month now.

As per sources there is shortage of food items onboard the ship and also due to menace of cockroaches and rats life has become difficult for crew members.

Adding to the plight, out of three only one DG set is working and because of this most of the ACs of the ship are now working.

One wonders if the dry dock is not available for MV Kalighat why the ship was taken to Cochin? The SCI which has the duty of maintaining the ship must have coordinated with the dockyard for this.

Some other experts question that if dry dock is not available by this time other repair works of the ship at the port could have been carried out but keeping the ship in anchorage is a sheer wastage of tax-payers' money.

When contacted, Mr. Senthil, the superintendent of SCI refused to comment anything in this regard. He even refused to share names or numbers of other senior officers of SCI to get a version of SCI in this regard.

At present only four ships are available for Inter-Island viz MV Sindhu, MV Nalanda, MV Bharat Seema

and MV Dering, which is not enough to cater to the needs of Islanders. Out of the four MV Sindhu can't sail for remote Islands for some reasons. In this situation keeping a ship at anchorage for more than a month is a loss for everyone. Hope the Administration will take up this matter with SCI and resolve this issue.

(From page 1)

Accident inside...

(From page 1)

Because of the push, the Mahout fell on the ground. As per details when the elephant started to run, the log moved and fell over the chest of the Mahout. Mr. Barla sustained serious internal injuries. Soon people nearby rushed to help him and later he was shifted to

hospital, where Doctors declared him brought dead.

Sources said that the elephant has the tendency of running away in forest because of which the elephant is usually kept tied with heavy logs during work.

SOURAV MEHANDI ARTIST



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Talent Fest by Students Islamic Organization Held

Port Blair, Jan 02: The 1st edition of KHWAB, a Talent Fest organized by Students Islamic Organization of India (SIO), Andaman & Nicobar Islands was successfully held on 01st Jan 2023 at Crescent (See page 4)



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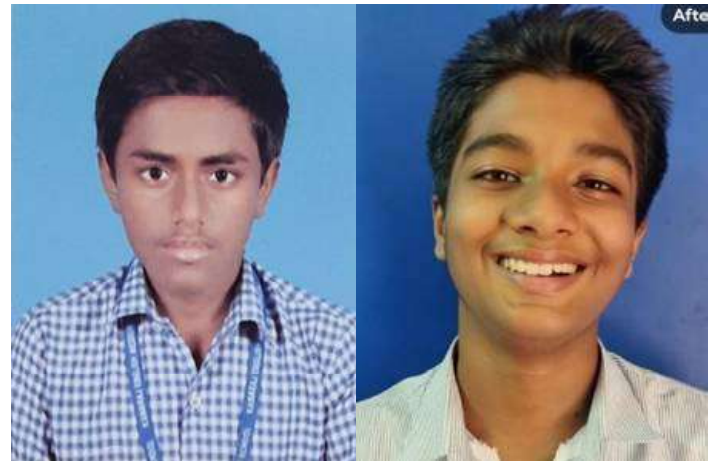
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Two Young Budding Islands' Chess Players Open International Rating

Port Blair, Jan 02: It is a proud moment for Islanders as M. A. Dinakar, a student of Class VIII Kamaraj English Medium School Port Blair and Yuvan Singh, a class VII student of Carmel Sr. Sec. School Port Blair have opened their International Rating as per the latest FIDE Rating list published on 31st December 2022 by World Chess Federation (FIDE). M A. Dinakar and Yuvan Singh recently participated in the 35th National Under-13 Chess Championship 2022 held at Vanarapet, Pondicherry from 11th December 2022 to 18th Dec. 2022 and performed reasonably well



which led them to open the International Rating.

Altogether 8 young chess players, including R Kashthuri Bhai have suc-

cessfully opened their International Rating in the year 2022 which is a blessing sign for the game of chess in Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

Shrihaan Karmakar from A & N Islands Shines in 1st War of Knights open International FIDE Rating Chess Tournament 2022

Port Blair, Jan 02: It is a proud moment for the Islanders as Shrihaan Karmakar, a young budding chess player who is student of class III, KV-2 Port Blair has brought laurels to the islands by securing 7th Position in under 09 Category in the 1st War of Knights Open International FIDE Rating Chess Tournament 2022 that held at

Kolkata, West Bengal from 26th December 2022 to 31st December 2022. He has been awarded with a Trophy and Certificate.

Around 240 players across India & abroad took part in the prestigious event that was held for 6 days over 9 rounds under the Swiss System in Classical time control.



Health Advisory for COVID-19

Port Blair, Jan 02: A new variant of COVID-19 is spreading in some countries. The UT of A&N Islands has taken many measures to contain the spread of COVID-19 and there is no need to panic. The people can join hands to prevent the transmission of

disease in the UT by adopting the following measures: DO's

1. Do not panic.
2. Don't pay heed to rumors.
3. Wear mask in all crowded places including schools, colleges,

4. hospitals, Markets, cinema etc.
4. Wash your hands and face at regular intervals with soap and water or use alcohol based sanitizer for cleaning hands.
5. Sneeze and cough either into your elbow or into tissue paper / handkerchief.

(See page 4)

Happy Pongal, Makar Sankranti & Lohri

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18th Round of HIV Sentinel Surveillance (HSS) 2022-23

Port Blair, Jan 02: The 18th Round of HIV Sentinel Surveillance (HSS) 2022-23 will be carried out in Andaman & Nicobar Islands from 1st January, 2023 to 31st March, 2023 along with the rest of the country. Surveillance is an ongoing, systematic collection, analysis, interpretation and dissemination of data regarding a health related event for the use in public health action to reduce morbidity and mortality and to improve health. The Antenatal Clinic cites include Antenatal Clinic, G.B. Pant Hospital, Port Blair; Antenatal Clinic, CHC Rangat (Composite Site); Antenatal Clinic, BJR Hospital, Car Nicobar (Composite Site) and Antenatal Clinic, PHC Garacharma, Port Blair (Composite Site).

The 18th Round of HIV Sentinel Surveillance will be conducted throughout the Islands under the supervision of three teams, i.e. Central, Regional & State Level which comprises expertise from WHO, UNAIDS and other Na-



tional & International agencies who will provide continuous support and guidance.

For successful implementation of surveillance system, capacity building of facility level staff was conducted during the two days State Level Training for HSS Site Personnel of ICTC Medical Officer In-charge, Counselors, Laboratory Technicians and other facility Staff in the Conference Hall of Directorate of Industries, Middle Point on Dec.27 & 28, 2022. The training programme was inaugurated by the chief guest, Dr. Munni Singhania, Director of Health Services (DHS), A & N Administration.

In her address, the chief guest remarked that HIV Sentinel Surveillance has been the basis for tracking of

HIV/AIDS since its inception and it has been the mainstay of epidemic monitoring among ANC, High Risk Group and Bridge population under the National AIDS and STD Control Programme.

Earlier, Mr. K. Sankar Rao, AD (M&E), Focal Person HSS welcomed the gathering and briefed about the objectives of HSS. Dr. ShahinaMustaqim (Microbiologist) and Dr. P. K. Sikdar also addressed the participants. Dr. Subrata Biswas, Project Coordinator (HSS), NICED-ICMR, Kolkata;

Dr. ShahinaMustaqim, Sr. Microbiologist, ANIIMS, GB Pant Hospital were the resource persons. Certificates were distributed to the trainees.

Awareness Camp Regarding Fish Health Disease Identification Organized by Department of Fisheries



Port Blair, Jan 02: A series of awareness camps and dissemination of information regarding Fish Health Disease Identification, Management and precautionary measures were held in Billiground and VS Pally Nagar, Diglipur under North and Middle Andaman. The programme was jointly organized by the Department of Fisheries, A&N Administration and Central Islands Agricultural Research Institute, Port Blair.

In the programme held at Billiground on Dec.26, more than 50 Fish farmers and villagers were imparted information on the subject. Dr. K. Saravanan,

Scientist, Division of Fisheries Science, ICAR-CIARI was the resource person of the programme along with Mr. Sarath Menon, Sub-Inspector of Fisheries, Fisheries Sub-Station Billiground,

Similar camp was held at VS Pally Nagar, Diglipur on Dec.28 in which more than 30 Fish farmers attended the programme. The main objective of the programme was to educate fish farmers on various disease identification and their prophylactic measures. The programme was coordinated by Mr. Tapan Kumar Biswas, Asst. Director of Fisheries, N&M Andaman.

Awareness Camp on Breast Cancer Organized by Unnatiat Collinpur Village



Port Blair, Jan 02: Unnati with the support of Perveen Charitable Trust and in association with Apollo Clinic Port Blair and Manpur Gram Panchayat organized an awareness camp on Breast Cancer on 31-12-2022 at 10 AM at Collinpur Village. Mr. C. Mohammed, President Perveen Charitable Trust and Unnati while welcoming, said that the Trust is assisting Breast Cancer patients and weaker section children and so far assisted 13 Cancer patients and 469 children including 27 children of today's function. On this occasion, Mrs. Pramila Kumari Adhyaksha Zilla Parishad was the Chief Guest who in her address appreciated the efforts of Unnati for taking

various initiatives for empowering women and Perveen Charitable Trust for their support.

She urged such programmes to be organized in all Panchayats for awareness, timely identification and treatment of Breast Cancer cases. She also appreciated Apollo Clinic Port Blair for their support. Dr. Divyani Agarwal Senior Gynecologist & Obstetrics MBBS, MS (OBGY), DNB was the Guest of Honor. She highlighted the gathering about symptoms, causes, precautions and self-examination of Breast Cancer. She mentioned that Breast Cancer is the commonest in females and found in male also. Lack of awareness and lifestyle are also responsible for high incidence of Breast Can-

cer cases. She further added early diagnosis and prompt treatment should be our focus. She also explained various medical facilities of specialists and super-specialist available in Apollo Clinic. She also examined the patients. Miss. Reeta Devi Women Welfare Officer Directorate of Social Welfare highlighted elaborately about various women related schemes and laws.

Her presentation was highly appreciated by the participants. The programme was conducted by Mr. Balram Singh Social Worker and vote of thanks by Mrs. Sujatha Singh, Pradhan Collinpur Gram Panchayat who expressed her gratitude to Apollo Clinic, Unnati and Perveen Charitable Trust.

Talent Fest...

(From page 3)

Public School, Wimberlygunj.

The fest was inaugurated by JB. M. K. Mohammed, President of JIH Andaman Chief Patron of SIO. Altogether 09 competitions like Spell Bee, Elocution Competition, Essay writing Competition, Painting Competition, Quiz Competition, etc were conducted..

The fest was a mas-

sive success in terms of both numbers & participation. Students from various schools, madrassas & organizations actively participated in the fest. In total, 270 students participated in 9 different competitions to showcase their talent.

SIO Andaman gracefully thanked everyone who got involved with KHWAB 2023 and made the fest a huge success.

Health Advisory...

(From page 3)

6. After coughing or sneezing dispose of the tissue paper/ wash your Handkerchief.
7. Ensure proper nutrition including fresh fruits, vegetables & plenty of fluids and exercise to boost immunity.
8. Clean the frequently touched surfaces with disinfectant regularly.
9. Those who have symptoms of fever, body ache, sore throat, abdominal discomfort or any other untoward symptoms, isolate yourself at home for about 7 days and seek medical advice. They must initiate symptomatic treatment at the earliest to prevent any complications.

DON'Ts

1. Do not cough or sneeze into your bare hands or without covering your face.
2. Don't go near your contacts if you are suffering from fever and cough.
3. Don't touch your eyes, face, nose and tongue.
4. Don't go near affected/sick people.
5. Don't self-medicate.
6. Don't go to crowded places like parks, markets and religious places.
7. Don't go out unless it is absolutely essential.

The A & N Administration is fully prepared to tackle any untoward situation. No need to panic."Stay Healthy and Stay Safe"

Field Day on Vegetable Cultivation (Tomato) at RS-Minicoy

Port Blair, Jan 02: Regional Station, Minicoy of ICAR-CIARI Port Blair, conducted a "Field Day on vegetable cultivation (tomato) under coconut plantation" for the tribal farmers on 30th December 2022. Speaking on the inaugural occasion, the Chief Guest Dr. Shrikant R. Tapdiya, the Deputy Collector of Minicoy expressed his happiness on the ICAR-CIARI technologies, scientific tomato farming and nutritious kitchen garden. A total of 20 participants including farmers and farm women from Bodouthiri, Rammedu, and South Bandaram villages were attended the field day, in which they were exposed to scientific tomato cultivation at the institute farm. The scientific team comprising of Dr. Gladston Y. and Dr. Ajina S. M. interacted with the farmers and impressed upon



the package of practices for organic tomato cultivation under coconut plantation. As tomato is one of the highly demanded vegetables in Lakshadweep islands, the farmers were highly fascinated by this potential crop and its farming, which can be successful to earn high returns in a short period of time. A total of 61 kg fully matured tomatoes were harvested in the presence of Deputy Collector, Minicoy. The vegetable kits (Tomato) and tomato seedlings (30 nos) were distributed among the farmers in the

presence of officials of the Department of Agriculture, Minicoy Unit Mr. Kunji Koya. A total of 15 women and 5 men farmers participated. Dr. Gladston Y. Convener and Co-Convenors Mrs. Ajina S.M., Coordinator, Mr. Shareefuddeen Hassan & Mr. Arif M.I., Dr. S.K. Zamir Ahmed, Nodal Officer, Lakshadweep coordinated the overall conduct of the programme under the Chairmanship of Dr. Eaknath B. Chakurkar, Director, ICAR-CIARI, and Port Blair.

General Body Meeting of the Nagarpalika Shramik Sangh (CITU) Held at Shaheed Bhavan, Anarkali, Port Blair

Port Blair, Jan 02: The General Body Meeting of the Nagarpalika Shramik Sangh (CITU) was held at Shaheed Bhavan, Anarkali, Port Blair on (31.12.2022) in which various issues and demands of the workers of PBMC were discussed. Addressing the huge gathering of workers, B. Chandrachoodan, General Secretary, CITU State Committee and President, Nagarpalika Shramik Sangh criticized the A & N Administration and Port Blair Municipal Council for not considering the demands of the PBMC workers. He said that the workers of PBMC especially those engaged in the sanitary wing have been working in most difficult conditions and their hard work during the Covid 19 pandemic needs appreciation. Referring to the recent judgment of the Division Bench of Calcutta High Court in the APWD workers' case, CITU General Secretary said that all the daily rated workers working in PBMC should be extended with the benefit of 1/30th of pay plus DA benefit immediately. Addressing the meeting, D. Ayyappan,



Vice President, CITU State Committee called upon all the employees and workers in the PBMC to join the Nagarpalika Shramik Sangh and strengthen it so that their issues and demands will be highlighted properly and agitations conducted to achieve it. He briefly explained the various anti-working class policies of the BJP-led central government and said that the outsourcing and privatization of government work are the hallmark of this government because of which the demands of PBMC workers for regularization of their services and grant of 1/30th of pay plus DA are not considered by the PBMC and A & N Administration. NKP Nair, Vice President, CITU ex-

plained briefly various demands of PBMC workers and blamed the PBMC for neglecting the genuine demands of the workers.

SP Kalairajan, Vice President, Nagarpalika Shramik Sangh also addressed the meeting. Hundreds of PBMC workers working in various sections of PBMC attended the meeting. The meeting decided to conduct agitations if the authorities fail to grant 1/30th of pay plus DA to all DRMs within two months as per the High Court order in the ASNVMS case. R. Surendran Pillai, President and P. Sathyapal, Secretary, CITU State Committee was also present in the General Body meeting.

21st Annual Athletic Meet Celebrated at Crescent Senior Secondary School, Wimberlygunj Organised

Port Blair, Jan 02: Crescent Sr. Sec. School, Wimberly Gunj celebrated its 21st Annual Athletic Meet - 2022 at Wimberly Gunj on 29th December 2022. Principal Mr. P Abdul Rehman accorded a warm welcome to the Chief Guest Mr. Gyan Sheel Dubey, Deputy Education Officer, Wimberly Gunj and Guest of Honor Mr. V Ranjith Kumar, Assistant Director (Sports) along with School Managing Committee Members and Parents.

The Chief Guest of the opening ceremony Mr. Gyan Sheel Dubey declared the Sports meet open by hoisting the sports meet flag.

More than 750 students showcased their intrinsic talents in various events that included a March Past, Step aerobics and cultural activities.

In the closing Ceremony Mrs. Padmavathi, Pramukh, Panchayat Samiti, Ferrar Gunj Tehsil along with



other PRI members of Wimberly Gunj and Kanyapuram Panchayat felicitated and honored all the athletes with trophies, medals and prizes for their achievement in different events. The guests commended the sporting talent of the students and achievement of the school in various sports.

The sports meet was declared closed by Mrs. Padmavathi, Pramukh, Panchayat Samiti, Ferrar Gunj by lowering the Sports Meet Flag. Mr. N. Abdul Salam, Members, CPS Management Committee accorded Vote of thanks.

NGO (WITH YOU) Celebrates New Year with Inmates of Old Age Home



Port Blair, Jan 02: On 01.01.2023, NGO (WITH YOU) celebrated New Year with inmates of Old Age Home, Ferrar Gunj by cutting cakes with the inmates. With You NGO donated 35 track pants to the old age people at home. The NGO also distributed sweets and fruits to all the inmates and staff.

Later the inmates had lunch with the members of With You NGO, which was arranged by the NGO. Ms V. K. Mariyam Bibi, President WITH YOU expressed gratitude to Mrs. Rashmi Goenka for helping the needy by donating clothes to them. The NGO team spent a quality time with the inmates.

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Entrepreneurs honour Shri Krishnamachari

Quite satisfied and happy about the stall arrangements for the seller – buyer meet at Tiranga Park Aberdeen bazaar, Port Blair from 5th-19th Dec 2022, all the participants have honoured the organizer Mr Krishnamachari at a meeting held recently.

While thanking the participants, the organizer of the event expressed happiness about the outcome of the experi-



ment and briefed about the scope for organizing several exhibitions in the year 2023 in different locations in the city to providing marketing support to the self-employed youth in the town.

MV Sindhu to sail for Chennai

Port Blair, Jan. 2: The vessel Sindhu will sail from Port Blair to Chennai on Jan. 4, 2023 at 1600 hrs from Haddo wharf. Excess baggage will be loaded from 1400 hrs to 1600 hrs on Jan. 3 i.e. one

day prior to sailing of the vessel.

Embarkation of passengers will commence from 1400 hrs to 1500 hrs on Jan. 4. The embarkation of passengers will be closed one hour

before the schedule time. Passengers reporting late will not be allowed to board the vessel. The vessel will sail soon after the embarkation of passengers and completion of other formalities.

'Increasingly anxious about...':

Jaishankar on effects of Russia-Ukraine war

External affairs minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar on Monday underlined India's concern over the "knock-on effects" of the Russia-Ukraine conflict on the Global South in terms of accessibility and affordability of food, fuel and fertilisers. Delivering a joint statement after his talks with Austrian counterpart Alexander Schallenberg in Vienna, Jaishankar said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been pressing the leaders of Russia and Ukraine to return to dialogue and diplomacy as a prolonged conflict will not serve the interests of any party.

"We sincerely believe that this is not the era of war. Differences must be settled on the negotiating table. It is

imperative that there is a return to dialogue and diplomacy. Prolonged conflict will not serve the interests of any party. My Prime Minister has been in contact with the leaders of both nations, pressing our point of view," Jaishankar said. "We are also increasingly anxious about the knock-on effects of the conflict in terms of accessibility and affordability of fuel food and fertilisers. This is a growing concern for the Global South," he added.

India has not yet criticised Russia's attack on Ukraine but has been repeatedly asking for an immediate cessation of hostilities from various forums, maintaining that the crisis should be resolved through dialogue.

Jaishankar arrived in

Vienna from Cyprus on the second leg of his two-nation tour. He said Austria is an important partner for India in the European Union at a time when it seeks to upgrade its relationship.

"We appreciate its strong support for the negotiations underway on the FTA, the investment agreement and the geographical indicators agreement. Their conclusion will obviously have a positive impact on our bilateral economic partnership as well," he said. "Let me underline that we view Austria as a serious and consequential partner when it comes to bilateral cooperation. You have experiences and capabilities that are relevant to India's modernisation and progress," he said.

Special lecture...

Defence was the recourse person. Dr. Amitabh Saraf is leading the Integrated Flight Control System Directorate as Technology Director. He is a lead designer for flight control laws for all variants of Indian Light Combat Aircraft. He designed the special control law modes for ski jump, landing and bolter of LCA Navy to operate from carrier

ships. He also led the air data systems algorithm design and parameter identification activities for LCA.

Dr. Amitabh Saraf through a presentation on the topic 'Professional Ethics', shared his experience on various Light Combat Aircraft that was developed by his organization.

He also spoke about

how pleasure in the job puts perfection in work i.e. how professional excellence starts with the right training and environment, an individual may reach excellence in his work. He mentioned the four essential traits called WRIST which stands for wisdom, responsibility, Inner strength, truthfulness and honesty.

(From page 1)

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With You NGO conducts six months course in Tailoring and Fashion Designing



Port Blair, Jan 02: NGO (WITH YOU) had conducted 06 months course in tailoring and fashion designing. A function was organized at NGO office, Bambooflat for distributing the certificates to 25 participants who had completed the above course successfully. On this occasion Mrs. Padmawathi, Pramukh, Panchayat Samity Ferrargunj was the Chief Guest. Mrs. Dhana Rekha, ZPM, Shorepoint, Mrs. Rasheeda, Pradhan Hopetown and Mrs. Sadna, social workers

were also present to encourage the women folk. The Chief Guest lauded the efforts of WITH YOU for imparting tailoring classes to the women as it will make them self-employed so that they can support their family also. Mrs. Sadna congratulated the ladies for learning the course with dedication and wished that the skill which they got will be utilized in a better way. Ms. V. K. Mariyambibi, President WITH YOU wished them all success for their bright future.