

ANDAMAN SHEEKHA

True Mirror of Andaman and Nicobar Islands

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CRUCIAL PROJECT IN COLD BOX

Even after seven long years,
Dam over the Kalpong River at Khudirampur
village remain as Distant Dream

**John Wilbert &
Rabindranath
Biswas**

Sheekha News Service

Diglipur, Dec 12: The Andaman and Nicobar Administration's plans to build a Dam over the Kalpong River at Khudirampur, has potential to solve the issue of water crisis in the entire Diglipur region. Sadly the plan



is now atleast seven years old and still the project is yet to see the light of the day.

According to sources, the Administration

has once again come out with a fool-proof plan for constructing a Dam over the Kalpong River at

(See page 6)

Member of Parliament demands to conduct fresh BPL survey in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

Port Blair, Dec 12: The Member of Parliament of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Shri. Kuldeep Rai Sharma has requested the Lt. Governor of Andaman and Nicobar Islands to conduct a fresh BPL survey in Andaman and Nicobar Islands so that the maximum number of deserving people can get benefits of various schemes made for BPL people by the Government.

The Member of Parliament informed the Lt. Governor that no fresh BPL Survey has been carried out in Andaman and Nicobar Islands for a long time because of which

many deserving and genuine beneficiaries are at total loss.

He pointed out that for getting subsidized ration and also for getting Ayushman Bharat Health

Insurance Card, BPL cards are still required and hence many beneficiaries are unable to take advantage of schemes of the Government of India.

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Both Accused of Brookshabad Minor Girl Murder Case sent to Police Remand for two days

**John Wilbert
& Vikramaditya**
Sheekha News Service

Port Blair, Nov 12: Both the accused of Brookshabad Minor Girl Murder Case have been sent to Police Remand for two days by court this afternoon by Hon'ble court.

Both the accused,

father and son were arrested yesterday after they reportedly confessed the crime. Although police has not shared the sections under which both of them have been arrested but it is believed that the charges include Murder and POCSO.

It is believed that police is trying to understand the

(See page 6)

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CPI(M) Demands to Stop Admission Process for B.Tech in DBRAIT

Port Blair, Dec 12: CPI (M) has demanded to stop the process of admission in the Engineering courses in DBRAIT, Port Blair till the pending court cases on the affiliation issues are concluded. In a letter sent to the Lt. Governor, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Mr. D. Ayyappan, State Secretary, CPI (M) brought to the notice of the Lt. Governor that the authorities in the Administration have invited applications from eligible candidates for admission to B.Tech courses in the DBRAIT, Port Blair.

He referred to the news item published in The Daily Telegrams dated 2nd December, 2022 inviting

online applications for various Branches of B.Tech in the DBRAIT.

Mr. Ayyappan drew the attention of the Lt. Governor to the agitations resorted to by the B.Tech students of DBRAIT during the last few months, which created unrest among the people in general and student community and parents in particular over the fate of the students who were admitted to various B. Tech branches in the DBRAIT from 2019 onwards.

He said that the University refused to give affiliation to the Engineering courses of DBRAIT from 2019 onwards citing various deficiencies in the function-

ing of the DBRAIT. It was reportedly on the orders of the Hon'ble High Court that the provisional admission was given to B.Tech streams for the last 3 years.

CPI (M) Secretary said that since the matter is pending before the Court, admitting students again to the courses which had no affiliation from the Pondicherry University will precipitate the matter further.

CPI (M) informed the Lt. Governor that in the absence of affiliation/approval from the Pondicherry University, it is illegal and unjustified to ad-

(See page 6)

PS Ograbraj Seizes 225 grams of Illicit Ganja and arrests Four Accused Persons

Port Blair Dec 12: The team of Police Station Ograbraj has busted a Narcotics trafficking module in the area and in raids spanning 2 days and booked four persons under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 with a recovery of 225 grams of illicit Ganja.

On 08/12/2022, acting upon credible information a team comprising of SI T Dilla Rao, SHO, PS Ograbraj, SI Tejeswar Rao, HCs Ashok Roy, R .K. Rathore, PCs Molina, Vishal Kumar, Firoz was constituted under the supervision of Mr.Arshdeep Singh Panwar, SDPO Bambooflat, conducted a two day long operation leading to arrests of Rakesh Mondal S/o Mr. Motilal Mondal (38)yrsPvt. Worker

R/o Tsunami Shelter, Chouldari, Mohd. Miraj Ansari S/o Mohd Kalimuddin Ansari R/o Tushnabad, Akash Biswas S/o Mr. Raju Biswas R/o Haddo, Ward No 01 and S. Poowathi Raja S/o Mr. Subbaiah R/o Haddo, Sunder Colony who all were involved in trafficking of Ganja in various parts of South Andaman district. A total of 225 grams of Ganja were recovered in the operation. Further investigation of the case is in progress.

The general public is requested to share information pertaining to any crime or other illegal activities to Police at 112, 03192-232100 & 03192-233077. The identity of the informant will be kept secret.

4.5 magnitude earthquake jolts Andaman Sea

New Delhi, Dec 12: An earthquake of magnitude 4.5 on the Richter scale was felt in the Andaman sea on Monday, the National Center for Seismology (NCS) informed.

According to the NCS, the tremors were felt around 12.48 pm at the depth of 10 kilometers.

"Earthquake of Magnitude:4.5, Occurred on 12-12-2022, 12:48:50 IST, Lat: 13.26 & Long: 93.55, Depth: 10 Km, Location: Andaman Sea," NCS tweeted.

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Citizens requested to download Sugamya Bharat App

Port Blair, Dec. 12: The Accessible India Campaign (AIC) or Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan was launched for creating universal accessibility for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs).

The App has been developed by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. It is a crowd sourcing Mobile Application to enable people with disabilities and even the elderly to register accessibility-related problems.

The aim of the app

is to sensitize and enhance accessibility in the 3 pillars of the Accessible India Campaign which includes the built environment, transportation sector and ICT ecosystem in India.

The vision and concept for this mobile app is based on the principle of Jan- Bhagidari in the field of accessibility, so that anyone anytime, anywhere, including its key beneficiaries i.e. the Divyangjan, elderly persons, pregnant women, children and temporarily disabled persons owing to illness, surgery etc.

This app is an endeavour and a stepping stone towards achieving universal accessibility and facilitating barriers free environment under the Right of Persons with Disability Act 2016. The Sugamya Bharat App is envisaged not only as a tool to help improve accessibility of the public infrastructure and services across India but also to act as a nudge campaign to sensitize people about the importance of Sugamyata in all walks of life.

Citizens have been requested to download the App from Google Play store and join hand in Jan-Bhagidari and bring Sugamyata in all walks of life.

AXIS BANK LTD

Public Notice for-E-Auction of pledged assets being Gold Ornaments

The Borrowers, in specific and the public in general are hereby notified that public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the below accounts is proposed to be conducted by the Axis Bank at the below mentioned Branch.

The below mentioned Borrowers have availed the credit facility from the Axis Bank Limited against the pledge of gold ornaments ("Gold Loan Facility") in favour of the Bank towards the security. The Demand notices were issued to the Borrowers/Guarantors calling upon the Borrowers/Guarantors to pay their outstanding amount towards the Gold loan facility availed. As the Borrowers/Guarantors have failed to repay the outstanding loan amount, the bank is constrained to invoke the pledge and proposed to conduct an e-auction sale of pledged gold ornaments more particularly described in schedule of property. hereunder on 23.12.2022 - Friday, at 12.30 PM to 3.30 PM on "As Is Where Is", "As Is What Is", "Whatever There Is" and "No Recourse Basis".

DETAILS OF BORROWERS AND OUTSTANDING AMOUNT

Sr. No.	Branch Name	Customer Name	Loan A/c No.	Amount Outstanding Rs.	Date of Demand Notice	Gross Weight (gms)	Net Weight (gms)
1	PORT BLAIR [AN]	P JAMEELA	xxxxxxxxxx23285	293615	22-06-2022	218.90	208.40

Axis Bank Ltd. has the authority to remove account/change the auction date without any prior notice. Auction will be held online <https://gold.samil.in> (website of online vendor) between 12.30 PM to 3.30 PM

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IGNOU Re- Registration for January, 2023 session

Port Blair, Dec 12: The online Re-registration in IGNOU for January, 2023 session has started on the Samarth portal. All the learners, who have desirous to register for January, 2023 cycle advised to submit re-registration form through online on or before last date i.e. 31st December, 2022. All the learners of 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th semester are advised to

make semester fees through online: <https://onlinerr.ignou.ac.in/>. For more details the learners may contact IGNOU Regional Centre, Port Blair over Phone: 03192-242888 or 03192-230111 or Email: rcportblair@ignou.ac.in.

A communication from the Regional Director, IGNOU Regional Centre, Port Blair said.

HRS Requests for Special Camp for AADHAR Enrolment and Updating in Schools

Port Blair, Dec. 12: The Hindu Rashttra Shakti has requested the Lt. Governor to instruct the Department of Civil Supplies to re-commence special camp drives for Aadhar registration and update in all schools of the Islands. In a letter to the Lt. Governor, the HRS Presi-

dents, Mr. Rakeshwar Lal mentioned that such special camps were being conducted earlier by the concerned department. This is also because the parents are forced to go to the department time and again, which causes great inconvenience.

Ukraine's Odesa port resumes operations: Infrastructure ministry



Ukraine's Black Sea port of Odesa has resumed operations that had been suspended after a Russian attack on the region's energy system, a spokesperson for the infrastructure ministry said on Monday. Russia has since October been targeting Ukraine's energy infrastructure with

waves of missile and drone strikes. Ukrainian Agriculture Minister Mykola Solosky said on Sunday that two other ports - Chornomorsk and Pivdennyi - that are authorised to export grains from Ukraine under a deal between Russia and Ukraine were partially operating.

Guru Ki Rasoi fulfilled all Demands of GSS Jirkatang School Students



Port Blair, Dec 12: Team Port Blair Guru Ki Rasoi is reaching out to schools of rural area and trying to fulfill basic requirements of the students of every school.

When Mrs. Fathima Bibi, School In charge, GSS Jirkatang reached to team PBGKR and asked to visit the school during which the Team was briefed about the

situation and what the students were in need of.

A list of items such as Steel Water Bottle (1000ml), Notebooks 200 Nos, Drawing Book - 12, Coloring Book - 10, Crayons - 10 Packets, Poster Color - 05 Boxes, Scrapbook - 20, Blue Ball Point Pen - 100, Pencil - 02 Packets, Geometry Box

- 15 and Toys for Pre Nursery Schools were handed over and all the items were procured and handed over to students.

Mr. Mandeep Grewal, President, PBGKR in a short speech encouraged the students to study and get into sports as well and gave them his word to support and provide each and every student of the school quality education.

Health Mela in Car Nicobar Island at Health Wellness Centre

Port Blair, Dec 12: On 12th December 2022, Health Mela with the theme "UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE FOR ALL" was organized in Car Nicobar island at Health wellness Centre, Kinyuka by CHO Mrs. Deepika Victoria, HWC Mus by CHO Mrs. Sakrika, HWC Arong by ANM in charge Mrs. Sabiha, HWC Sawai by CHO Mrs. Lakshmi, HWC Teetop by CHO Mrs. Tapati, HWC Kakana by CHO Mrs. Sushila and HWC Big Lapathi by Mrs. Kishori.

During this occasion, All HWC of Car Nicobar conducted Screening of Diabetic and Hypertension patient and other NCDs pa-



tients and created ABHA ID for beneficiary of respective village under Ayushman Bharat. Yoga demonstration organized by

Yoga instructor Mr. Mongal. The entire programme conducted under supervision of Nodal Officer (NPCDCS) / DPHO Dr. Johnson Sameer.

KVK, Port Blair Organized Kisan Mela under Jal Shakti Abhiyan

Port Blair, Dec 12: ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Central Island Agricultural Research Institute, Port Blair organized "Kisan Mela" under Jal Shakti Abhiyan at its campus on 09.12.2022. The mela was conducted with the theme "Catch the rain: where it falls, when it falls" to raise awareness of the importance of water conservation for Andaman and Nicobar islands. Mr. H. Manoj, General Manager, NABARD, Port Blair graced the occasion as Chief Guest.

He discussed about



the new technologies involved in conservation of water resources and stressed the farming communities to utilize the harvested rain water judiciously. Dr. Debasis

Bhattacharya, Director (I/c), ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair interacted with the farmers and discussed the need of water for sustainability of human civilization and the age-old practices

(See page 4)

UK doctors warned over deadly 'camel flu' as FIFA fans return: Report

Medical staff across England have been put on alert for signs of the deadly camel flu as FIFA World Cup fans returned from Qatar, a report said. Cases of the camel flu could now rise due to the huge numbers of fans who flocked to Qatar for the tournament and who may have been exposed to camels, The Mirror reported. The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) prompted doctors to look out for people suffering from breathing difficulties and a fever. The illness is deadlier than Covid-19, with over a third of its sufferers dying, compared to less than 4 per cent of Covid sufferers, the report said.

The Sun reported a briefing note sent out by UK's health agency stating, "Clinicians and public health teams should specifically be



alert to the possibility of MERS in returning travellers from the World Cup.

The risk of infection to UK residents is very low but may be higher in those with exposure to specific risk factors within the region - such as to camels. MERS can be acquired from close contact with camels or from consuming camel products e.g., unpasteurised camel milk.

"The briefing also warned of "person-to-person transmission", the report said.

In Qatar this year, there have already been two cases reported, both of which had been exposed to camels, it said.

Between April 2012 and October 2022, there have been 2,600 cases in 12 countries. Of those cases, 935 people died - 36 per cent, Mirror reported.

Before the World Cup tournament started, fans had been warned to stay away from the animals for fear of catching the disease, the report added.

3 boys die after falling into frozen lake in UK amid heavy snowfall



Three boys aged eight, 10 and 11 have died and another boy remains in critical condition after they fell into an icy lake near Birmingham, central England, police said Monday. "Three boys have tragically died after falling

into the lake at Babbs Mill Park in Solihull yesterday afternoon. The boys, aged 11, 10 and eight, were rushed to hospital after being pulled from the water," West Midlands Police said in a statement.

China slams US sanctions over alleged rights abuses in Tibet

The Chinese foreign ministry said on Monday that U.S. sanctions on two senior Chinese officials over alleged human rights abuses in Tibet were illegal and seriously harmed Sino-U.S. relations. The US Treasury Department said on Friday it imposed sanctions on Wu Yingjie, the Chinese Commu-

nist Party chief in Tibet between 2016 and 2021, and Zhang Hongbo, a senior public security official in the region.

China has been accused of harsh policies to quell ethnic dissent and control religious activities in Tibet -- accusations that China rejects.

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS

The Executive Engineer, Panchayati Raj Institution, South Andaman Division-I on behalf of Pradhan, Gram Panchayat, Mannarghat invites online item rate tender (in CPWD form-8) from bonafide and experienced contractors of appropriate class of APWD, MES, ALHW & P&T for the below mentioned work.

1. NIT NO. EE/PRI/SAD-I/GEN/IOP(NPA)/2022-23/87 **Name of Work:** - Procurement and Installation of DG set including Construction of Shed at Malapuram Community Hall under Mannarghat Gram Panchayat. **Estimated Cost Rs:-** 4,92,249/- **Earnest Money Deposit:-** 9,845/- **Time of Completion:-** Three (03) Months, Tender Fee: - '500/- & last date & time of submission of bid: - 22/12/2022 (1500 hrs)

The tender forms and other details can be obtained from the website <https://eprocure.andaman.gov.in>.

Tender ID:- 2022_RDPRI_8441_1

Advertisement ID: 9420
2022/MediaRelease/1051

Executive Engineer,
Panchayati Raj Institution,
South Andaman Division-I
Junglighat, Port Blair
South Andaman

KVK, Port Blair...

(From page 3)

involved in conservation and utilization of it.

Dr. T. P. Swarnam, Principal Scientist, discussed the need and ways of water conservation for Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Dr. T. Subramani, Senior Scientist and Dr. Sirisha Adamala, Scientist demonstrated the manual paddle pump which is suitable for low depth water lifting and conveyance at the farmer's field.

Dr. N. Bommayasamy, Dr. Thanmai Paul and Dr. Nitu Sindhu coordinated the field visit to the instructional farm of KVK. Dr. B. K. Nanda, S.M.S. (Agri. Engg.), coordinated the overall activities of the Kisan mela and demonstrated the water harvesting through a lined pond and micro-irrigation installed at the instructional farm of KVK.

School students of various schools participated in the drawing and model

making competition and farmers participated in the debate competition organized on the occasion. In the debate category for farmers, Ms. Smita Sahu, Mrs. Joyshna Das and Ms Raj Kumari bagged first, second and third positions whereas for students in drawing competitions, Silpi Sil of G.S.S.S., Manglutan, Saritha of G.S.S.S., Port Mout and Jeet Munda of G.M.S., Humfrygunj secured first, second and third positions.

In model making competitions, G.S.S.S., Port Mout bagged first positions, G.S.S.S., Manglutan secured second position and G.S.S.S., Garacharma and Invent Public School, Sippighat jointly owned third prize whereas Don Bosco S.S.S., Chouldari and G.M.S., Humfrygunj bagged consolation prize. A total of 120 nos. of participants attended the program.



SMOKING &
PASSIVE SMOKING
CAUSES CANCER

QUIT SMOKING
TODAY

CAMPAIGN BY ANDAMAN SHEEKHA



Opposition MPs target govt in Rajya Sabha over alleged misuse of probe agencies

Opposition members in the Rajya Sabha on Monday questioned the central government over the alleged misuse of investigative agencies during a discussion in the Upper House of Parliament. Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Sanjay Singh alleged, "In the last eight years, the ED (Enforcement Directorate) raided 3,000 opposition leaders but just 23 people were convicted, i.e just 0.5%. Why was the ED mum when fugitive Nirav Modi was found guilty of laundering Rs 2,000 crore?"

Members from the treasury benches objected to Singh's claims. Chairperson of the house Jagdeep Dhankar cautioned the AAP parliamentarian, saying, "In this House, we cannot allow any member to give out facts that are not substantiated and that constitute a very serious breach of privilege. Anything spoken in this House cannot be in the figure. It has to be indicated with precision, sanctity, and with ownership. The honourable member (Sanjay Singh) can make his input but it does not need to



be a speech."

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, while replying to the chair, said, "Sir, you mentioned that this House has to be addressed keeping facts and figures and authenticity in mind. Representatives in this house either talk on responses based on unstarred or starred questions. Facts reported by the media might not be credible all the time, yet it is considered in some occasions and beyond that the claims that the Prime Minister makes like that of 2 crore jobs. We have always taken it at face value and we always assume that it is authentic."

Union minister Piyush Goyal responded to the allegation by saying that the government was doing a public service by putting the ministers under interrogation who were found guilty of irregularities. "People make many claims on social media which aren't substantiated by facts. They are not backed by some starred or unstarred questions and nor are they backed by RTI. A senior MP here claimed that 3,000 political persons have been raided so far. It's completely erroneous. No law gives immunity to elected representatives," the minister said.

Actor Nora Fatehi files defamation suit against Jacqueline Fernandez

Bollywood actress Nora Fatehi has filed a defamation suit against fellow actor Jacqueline Fernandez and some media organisations in a Delhi court in connection with the ₹200-crore extortion case being probed by central agencies in which 'conman' Sukesh Chandrasekhar is the main accused.

"It has started to become evident that the aforementioned rivals being unable to compete with the Complainant fairly in the industry have started to try and tarnish her reputation which would cause her loss of work," Fatehi said in the suit.

"That the complainant is aggrieved of defamatory remarks . made by the accused persons against the complainant, hence the present complaint. It should be reiterated that these defamatory remarks were made by the Accused No. 1 initially which was further carried forward and circu-

lated by the other accused persons, all of whom were acting in connivance with each other and a conspiracy by the Accused No. 1 to ensure the financial, social, and personal downfall of the Complainant was batched, and enacted by the said actions," it added.

Meanwhile, a Delhi court on Monday adjourned by a week the hearing in the money laundering case against Fernandez and Chandrasekhar. Special judge Shailendra Malik deferred the matter for December 20 after being told by the counsel appearing for Fernandez that she was yet to receive complete copies of the charge sheet and other documents by the Enforcement Directorate (ED).

Fernandez also appeared before the court during the brief hearing. The court had on November 15 granted regular bail to the actress. She was not arrested in the case.

It had on August 31 taken cognisance of a supplementary charge sheet filed by the ED and asked Fernandez to appear before the court. Fernandez, who was summoned by the ED several times in connection with the investigation, has been named as an accused in the supplementary charge sheet. Fatehi has been also questioned by the ED in connection with the same case.

Chandrasekhar was allegedly running the cheating and extortion racket in connivance with jail officials and some associates outside. Both Chandrasekhar and his actor wife Leena Maria Paul were arrested by the Delhi Police in September last year for their alleged role in the duping case. The Delhi Police has so far arrested 13 people concerning the case. The ED suspects that Chandrasekhar had extorted money from several people while he was in jail.

Riding on BJP's record Gujarat win, MLA urges Nadda for 'complete revamp' of MP govt: 'It will end...'



Madhya Pradesh BJP MLA Narayan Tripathi, who often lands in controversy for his statements, has written a letter to the party's national president JP Nadda seeking a complete rejig of the organisational and governance structure of the state similar to the one done in Gujarat last year.

Referring to the BJP's record victory in Gujarat in the recently concluded election, Tripathi - an MLA from Maihar - stated in his letter that the restructuring of MP government and party unit would help them beat anti-incumbency in next year's Madhya Pradesh assembly polls, news agency PTI reported.

"I want to congratulate you (Nadda) on the spectacular and historic win in Gujarat with a request that a petty worker like me who

is always a well-wisher of the party wants that the government in MP must be formed (next year) like that state," Tripathi's letter, written on Sunday, read.

The MLA further stated that it's the wish of BJP workers that MP government and the organisation is "completely revamped for hurling a new chapter for ending anti-incumbency".

"The change with new people would bring a new style of functioning between the government and organisation that [would] pave way for the formation of government with a majority," he wrote in Hindi.

Tripathi said that he hoped his request would be accepted so that the saffron unit retains power in Madhya Pradesh and welfare projects in the state can continue unhindered.

EAM Jaishankar to visit New York this week, to chair two high-level events

External affairs minister S Jaishankar will visit New York this week to preside over two high-level events during India's presidency of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) that will focus on reformed multilateralism and counter-terrorism, the ministry said on Monday. Jaishankar will preside over a high-level ministerial open debate on the theme of 'New Orientation for Reformed Multilateralism [NORMS]' on December 14, and a high-level briefing on 'Global approach to counter-terrorism - Challenges and Way Forward' on December 15.

Both themes have been key priorities for India during its current stint in the UNSC, the external affairs ministry said.

The open debate on reformed multilateralism aims to encourage all UN member states to "seriously

address the pressing need for reforms in the global governance multilateral architecture, including the long-standing reforms of the UN Security Council", the ministry said. The meeting will include briefings by UN secretary-general António Guterres and the president of the UN General Assembly.

India is set to conclude a two-year stint as a non-permanent member of the UNSC at the end of this month. It recently organised a special meeting of the Council's Counter-Terrorism Committee in Mumbai and Delhi in October, and hosted the 'No Money For Terror' ministerial meeting in November. The briefing on counter-terrorism will seek to "promote consensus amongst [UN Security] Council members on the broad principles of a global counter-terror architecture, and aim to further build upon

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EAM Jaishankar...

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the Delhi Declaration” adopted at the special meeting of the Counter-Terrorism Committee in October. Jaishankar will also launch ‘Group of Friends for Accountability for Crimes against Peacekeepers’. It was during India’s August 2021 presidency of the UNSC that a resolution was unanimously adopted to ensure accountability for crimes against UN peacekeepers. Besides In-

dia, the ‘Group of Friends’ will include troop-contributing countries such as Bangladesh, Egypt, France, Morocco and Nepal as its co-chairs.

During his visit, Jaishankar will also unveil Mahatma Gandhi’s bust at the UN headquarters. The bust, a gift from India to the UN, will be the first Gandhi sculpture to be installed at the world body’s headquarters in New York. The ex-

ternal affairs minister is also expected to hold discussions with Guterres and the UNGA president, and bilateral engagements with counterparts attending the high-level events.

Jaishankar will also host a special photo exhibition showcasing India’s initiative on the ‘International Year of Millets 2023’ and a millets-based luncheon for the secretary-general and UNSC member states.

Crucial Project...

(From page 1)

Khudirampur village, Diglipur. The aim of the proposed Dam is to conserve water resources for sustainable use and benefit for the villagers and farmers of Diglipur region. The A & N Administration instituted a proposal in this regard and subsequently it passed the project. The Administration has also sought the detailed investigation report of the project from the concerned Dept.

When contacted, a Senior Official of the APWD, Diglipur told Andaman Sheekha that it is true that, during peak the summer season, people of Diglipur face the problem of water scarcity. In view of the ever increasing population, expansion in agricultural activities, growth in tourism venture, etc in the region, APWD devised a proposal to build a new Dam on Kalpong River Diglipur, North Andaman so that the demand of the water can be met and the related problems may be mitigated. The Administration is constructively working on the project, he further said. The EE, CD, APWD, Diglipur said, in a separate statement recently, that he has recently written a letter to the Director, Engineering Geology Division, Geological Survey of India, Bhu-Bijnan Bhawan, Block DK-VI, Sector-II, Salt Lake City, Kolkata with the request for finalization of a date for carrying out the joint inspection of Core Recovery along with the team of officials from CSMRS. In this regard, the desired soil investigation was carried out through CSMRS and the SPT (Soil Permeability Test) report is awaited while the Core Recovery samples were also taken

from the site during soil investigation process which needs to be jointly inspected as desired by the team of CSMRS, he informed the Director in his letter.

APWD, Diglipur is committed to providing water to every household and safeguarding the lives of the people of Diglipur, the confident EE said. “Kalpong is a perennial river and has the potential to satisfy the water requirement of entire Diglipur; while water sources in many other places in Diglipur are in abundance, and what we need is to explore the possibilities and take the optimal benefits of them; and we are now working on it and putting out best efforts to this effect in order to eradicate the scarcity of water in Diglipur” the EE further assured.

Amid all this, a PRI Member when raised the matter of this proposed dam referring to its history in the meeting held on the maiden visit of Mr. Keshav Chandra, the Chief Secretary, A & N Administration at Diglipur and said that on 1st February 2015, the then Lt Governor, Lt Gen A K Singh (Retd) along with the then Member of Parliament, Mr. Bishnu Pada Ray, the then Chief Secretary, Mr. Anand Prakash (IAS) and Chief Engineer cum- Secretary APWD laid the foundation stone of Khudirampur Dam and there was a big expectation that the scarcity of potable water would be eliminated; however, the initiatives in this regard gradually died down and after seven (07) years the project was aborted/pigeonholed and as a result, the people of Diglipur

have been suffering due to the sheer dearth/undersupply of potable water especially in dry season, the present CS showed much concern over the delay on the project and he wanted to know the status of the proposed Dam.

Emphasizing on the fulfilment of the demand of the water, he also categorically gave an instant order to the concerned Officials to work on the project wholeheartedly and put their best efforts to complete the project as soon as possible so that people aren’t deprived of their most essential thing, the water.

The people of Diglipur have to face the wrath of the severe scarcity of water especially in peak summer season every year when the APWD curtails the water supply in almost every part of Diglipur, while in some remote areas, the water is supplied through pvt. water-tankers (taken on contract/tender by APWD) by the department and that too at one/two days’ interval and the water being limited in quantity which hardly satisfies the need of the people, residents of Diglipur rued.

There are places where there is possibility of water sources, but lack of policies of the Administration, these water sources are lying un-explored while the people are suffering due to dearth of water, they opined.

However, the proposed Dam at Khudirampur is a prudent step and is a perspicacious plan of the Administration, and once built, the Dam will prove to be a boon for the people of entire Diglipur, the optimistic denizens further said.

PLOT FOR SALE

Plot for sale at Tushnabad at Rs 4 lakh
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CPI(M) Demands... (From page 2)

mit students to B.Tech courses in DBRAIT.

It is surprising to note that as done earlier, this year also, no mention has been made in the advertisement while inviting online applications about the pending court cases relating to the affiliation of the Engineering courses with the University.

This will also lead to further unrest among the

students and agitation by students and parents besides causing court cases. Hence, Mr. Ayyappan requested the Lt. Governor to look into this matter and direct the authorities concerned to stop the process of admission in the Engineering courses in DBRAIT, Port Blair till the pending court cases on the affiliation issues are concluded.

Both Accused... (From page 1)

entire case of this heinous crime reportedly committed by the father and son before demanding for Judicial Cus-

tody of both the accused persons. Andaman Sheekha is waiting for further information from police.

Member of... (From page 1)

The Member of Parliament mentioned that in far flung Islands there are thousands of people who are facing extreme financial hardship and if a proper re-survey is car-

ried out then many of these Islanders will be able to get a BPL card and subsequently they will be able to get benefits under schemes of the Government of India.

Heavy Rain Warning

Port Blair, Dec. 12: As per Indian Meteorological Department’s weather forecast, heavy rain (07-11 cm) is likely to occur at one or two places over Nicobar Islands on Dec. 15. For further enquiries / information, one

may contact helpline of State Emergency Operation Centre at Helpline No. 1070 & District Emergency Operation Centre at Helpline No. 1077. For any assistance, call Coast Guard, SAR Agency at Toll Free No. 1554.

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CAMPAIGN AGAINST TOBACCO BY ANDAMAN SHEEKHA

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