



# ANDAMAN Chronicle

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The Daily Diary of the Islands



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PORT BLAIR, THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 2023 RNI REGN. No. ANDENG/2006/19155 :: PAGES : 6 :: Rs. 3/-

## Jarawa Facts

The Andaman Trunk Road, which cuts through the Jarawa's forest, brings poachers, settlers and tourists into the heart of their land. The Supreme Court of India in 2002 ordered that the road must be closed, but it has never been complied with.

## Your Nature Guide

### What is a Coral?

Corals are tiny animals that have an outer stony skeleton and live in colonies in the sea. They belong to the same animals group as the sea anemones, and jelly fish. Each coral animal is called a polyp and lives inside a cup of carbonate (Limestone). It has a mouth at the top surrounded by tentacles. The tentacles help to capture food like plankton for the coral. While it is alive, a coral polyp's tentacles protrude from the cups for feeding. In times of danger, the polyp can withdraw into its cup. This is similar to a turtle withdrawing into its shell when disturbed. A coral polyp cannot move and remains fixed to its cup throughout its life. Coral polyps can be of several species - in A&N alone, 135 species are found.

**Coral Colonies :** Many thousands of coral polyps are connected together to form a coral colony. These colonies are of many shapes and colours. On a visit to a nearby coral reef, you can discover the kinds of coral in your area.

**Treasured Islands - By Sunita Rao. Courtesy: Kalpavriksh, ANET (MCBT)**

## People's Voice

Republic Day ki haardik badhai ... Aaj ka din aur koi Naamkaran ho rahai hay kya..?

- A Citizen



Where can we celebrate Republic Day, dad? At the shopping mall or the multiplex?

## Three Officers of A&N Police Conferred with Prestigious 'Police Medal for Meritorious Service'

**Port Blair, Jan 25:** It is a matter of great honour and pride for A&N Police that three (03) of its officers have been conferred prestigious 'Police Medal for Meritorious Service' for their illustrious and unblemished service on the occasion of 74th Republic Day, 2023. The awards were announced by the Ministry of Home Affairs on the eve of the Republic Day, 2023.

**Sh. Ajay Krishan Sharma, IPS**

Sh. Ajay Krishan Sharma is an IPS Officer of 2008 Batch. Presently, he is holding the post of Dy. Inspector General of Police (HQ). He has served in various capacity in Delhi Police, Intelligence Bureau and Himachal Police. As DIGP



(HQ), his innovative ideas has brought reforms in official work. In recognition of his hard work and dedication towards duties, he has been conferred the



'Police Medal for Meritorious Service'.

**Sh. S. Sasi Kumar, ASI**

Shri S. Sasi Kumar Joined A&N Police in the year of 1988 as a Police Constable.



He has shown laudable performance in all fields and he has detected/solved various criminal cases in his service career. He has been

Cont inued on P2

## Delegation of Tribal Council of Car Nicobar Submit Issues of the Island Before Shah

**Port Blair, Jan 25:** A delegation of Tribal Council of Car Nicobar led by its Chairman, Shri Lionald Nicomed and joined by Shri John Levi, Deputy Vice Chairman, Shri Mohd. Amin Moosa and Shri L. Davidson, Executive Member met Shri Amit Shah, Union Home and Cooperation Minister on 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan 2023. The tribal leaders highlighted several issues of the Island. Some important issues

like Sea and Air connectivity, Job reservation for ST, Opening up of Central or Sainik School, Implementation of Price Support Scheme, Relaxation of DG Shipping order for Cargo Vessels of over 25 years and waiving of old loan of all 15 Primary Society and the Apex Society.

The tribal leaders expressed heartfelt gratitude to Shri Amit Shah for his ever

Cont inued on P4

## 13<sup>th</sup> National Voters Day Celebrated with the Theme 'Nothing like Voting'

**Port Blair, Jan. 25:** The 13<sup>th</sup> National Voters Day with the theme 'Nothing like voting, I vote for sure' was celebrated in the UT of A&N Islands today. To mark the Day, a function was organized in the conference hall of DBRAIT in which the Chief Electoral Officer, A&N Islands, Shri Binay Bhushan, IAS was the chief guest. During the programme, a video message of Hon'ble Chief Election Commissioner of India, Shri Rajeev Kumar on National Voters' Day and

'Main Bharat Hoon' song launched by ECI was screened. e-EPIC to newly registered voters was also issued and pledge on NVD was administered by the CEO to the gathering.

Addressing the gathering, the Chief Electoral Officer, A&N Islands greeted Islanders on the occasion of the 13th National Voters Day and stated that India is the largest democracy in the World and every eligible voter has the right to vote. Further, he stated that

Cont inued on P4

## A&N Police Signs MOU with SBI for Special Police Salary Package

**Port Blair, Jan. 25:** The Andaman and Nicobar Police has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the State Bank of India for a special Police Salary Package (PSP), to provide better banking services and additional facilities for the police personnel of Andaman and Nicobar Police today. The Police Salary Package (PSP) is a package designed for the personnel of Andaman and Nicobar Police. Hitherto, the salary accounts of personnel in



SBI were on individual basis and thus were bereft of the privileges that the other State

Cont inued on P3

## DBRAIT Students Prepare 25K Cloth Bags to be Distributed Free of Cost to Islanders

**Port Blair, Jan. 25:** As part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, the trainees of Fashion & Apparel Design course under Skill Development Program of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Institute of Technology, Port Blair have made more than 25,000 re-usable cloth bags. These cloth bags will be distributed among general public, free of cost tomorrow (Jan.26) from 13 different venues/ places throughout A&N Islands through the respective PRI members/ Govt. Officials as mentioned below:

**Port Blair:** Bathubasti Near Cloud 7 building - 10:00 am - 2500 bags

FCI Godown, Dollygunj - 10:00 am - 2900 bags

Cont inued on P3

## Andaman Avians Club Conducts Asian Waterbird Census 7<sup>th</sup> Time in a Row

**Port Blair, Jan 25:** Andaman Avians Club conducted Asian Waterbird Census 7<sup>th</sup> time in a row since 2017. Andaman is an important bird area with a lot of diversity in the birds. Being in route of the Eurasian Australian flyway migratory route, the island is privileged to host many migratory birds mostly belonging to the wetland ecosystem. The Asian Water Bird Census (AWBC) is an international event conducted across the globe by the Wetland International and by BNHS in India. This is one the largest citizen science initiative with the goal to support the conservation and management of wetlands and waterbirds worldwide.

The Andaman Avians club for the first time attempted to census the complete stretch of A&N Islands in one go. The census was conducted in locations at North Andaman, Middle Andaman, various wetlands in South Andaman, Teresa, Kamorta and Great Nicobar Islands by the club members and

Cont inued on P2

# ANDAMAN Chronicle

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*Success is not an activity but a process ...*

## A Chance for Peace

On the eternally rough road of India-Pakistan ties, any offer of talks, like the one made by Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif last week, is cause for equal measure of excitement and cynicism. His words, in an interview to a United Arab Emirates (UAE) channel, that Pakistan "had learnt a lesson from three wars" with India and wants to "live in peace with India provided we are able to resolve our genuine problems" including "burning points like Kashmir" were seen in New Delhi more as him clutching at straws, at a time when his country is in turmoil. Politically, Mr. Sharif has to face elections later this year, and continues to be challenged by the opposition led by former leader Imran Khan. Economically, Pakistan is in imminent danger of a debt default, and is being held together by assurances of support from the UAE, Saudi Arabia and China, as well as hopes that its IMF bailout package will come through with the adoption of more austerity measures. Pakistan also faces a growing terror threat from its Afghan border, where despite having a friendly regime in control, there are clashes particularly with Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan fighters. Even so, Mr. Sharif's peaceable words, coming a month after a crossing of swords at the United Nations, indicate that there is an understanding that India is not responsible for Pakistan's current state of affairs, and an engagement of some sort would benefit the government there. The Ministry of External Affairs response, that India wants "normal neighbourly relations with Pakistan" provided there is a conducive atmosphere devoid of "terrorism, hostility or violence" suggests that Delhi continues to hold its position, but does not wish to snub Mr. Sharif's offer either.

There is more to the timing of Mr. Sharif's words; as India prepares to host the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit this summer, invitations are going out to ensure participation by Pakistan for the major meetings, and a more cordial relationship will ensure a smoother ride. India's G-20 presidency, and its desire to promote the concerns of the Global South amidst the Ukraine war, would also benefit from peace in the neighbourhood. It remains to be seen whether Mr. Sharif's words were only made for effect, or with a genuine desire to push for talks. If they are indeed followed up by Islamabad, either through the acceptance of the SCO invite, or with a proposal to restore mission strengths in both capitals that have not had Ambassadors since 2019, it is hoped New Delhi would reciprocate. At a time when the government is advising Russia and Ukraine for "dialogue and diplomacy" and is seeking to engage the Taliban out of "pragmatism", it would seem contradictory to refuse such a chance for enhancing regional stability, especially during a year when India's role as a statesman is being highlighted.

## BOB'S BANTER

BY ROBERT CLEMENTS



### The Garden and the Gardener..!

Was sitting in my garden this morning, when I was struck by the sheer beauty all around, the joy the different shades of green gave out, and looking more closely realized how the leaves of the different plants were shaped so elegantly different!

Yes, elegantly, because, it was as if they had been crafted by a master gardener, and as I thought along these lines it struck me, that, indeed, they had been thus crafted. They had been designed by a creator, for whom every shade, colour, and turn of a branch mattered to create beauty in the eyes of the beholder!

And the lucky beholder is we who inhabit this wonderful earth, but who spend most of our time trying to destroy the very plants, trees and flowers that give us this magnificent sense of peace!

We destroy the very ingredients that give us joy to create sparks of excitement!

"Cut down the trees!" roar politicians or other small leaders and create metro sheds, parking spaces or giant malls. We wander through the same malls, searching for that elusive joy, which we feel we can get from various, beckoning, seductive stalls, be it, through furniture or shoes or apparel, but come out empty, because that very joy we search for disappeared when we cut down the very trees and greenery to create this mauled monstrosity!

The Gardener created all that was required to give us joy, but with our man made, 'tower of babel' minds we think we can attain more with our own brains. We can't!

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I hear cries in Goa, such a beautiful state, as citizens cry out against the large-scale massacre of a natural beauty which they had in their environment, of rivers, streams and green all around.

Today, under the very misused name, 'progress' that same green state is being turned into a dreaded, dismay of devious destruction!

As I look up at my garden, the magnificent peepul tree that protectively overshadows the garden, and the other leaves and flowers that smile innocently back at me, I am reminded of a line from the 23rd Psalm, 'He makes me to lie down in green pastures!'

"Yes," I say, smiling back at the trees and plants in my garden, "The Divine Gardener created you all to give rest to our weary selves!"

Which means that we when we hack trees and destroy His creation unnecessarily, are proving to be just like stupid builders of the tower of Babel, who instead of concentrating and enjoying what they already had, decided to excavate the very earth, to build and reach what was outside their grasp, and in the end found their hopes shattered.

Let us instead, enjoy the Garden, the great Gardener has laid out for us..!

[bobsbanter@gmail.com](mailto:bobsbanter@gmail.com)

### Three Officers of A&N Police Conferred with Prestigious 'Police Medal for Meritorious Service'

**Continued from Page 1**  
awarded with several Commendation Certificates and cash rewards for his commendable devotion and dedication towards his duties. In appreciation of his good work and dedication rendered throughout his service career he has been awarded with Police Medal for meritorious service.

**Sh. Ajeet Kr. Pal, PC/549**

Sh. Ajeet Kr. Pal joined A&N Police in 2000. He has participated in various Successful Anti-Poaching operations and apprehended several Myanmarese. He also performed guard duty in various LOPs situated at remote Islands. In his 22 years of service, he has always shown extraordinary dedication, sincerity and integrity in every task

entrusted to him. In recognition of his hard work and dedication towards duties, he has been conferred the 'Police Medal for Meritorious Service.'

Sh. Neeraj Thakur, IPS, DGP, A&N Islands complimented all the awardees for the distinctions conferred on them and bringing honour to A&N Police. He wished them success for their future career.

### Andaman Avians Club Conducts Asian Waterbird Census 7<sup>th</sup> Time in a Row

**Continued from Page 1**  
volunteers. A total of 50 people came together for this coordinated event. During the census some rare wetland sightings in Andaman were also recorded like the Ruddy

Shelduck, Garganey, Black Winged Stilt, big flocks of Andaman Teal.

Mr. Arun Singh, President, Andaman Avians Club has expressed gratitude to all the team leaders viz. Mr.

Shubash from Diglipur and Mr. Suresh from Havelock for their coordination and volunteers from Geography Dept. of JNRM in the successful conduction of the census.

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And  
Vice Chairman, Islands Development Agency



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**Port Blair - 744101**  
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### GREETINGS

On the auspicious occasion of the 74<sup>th</sup> Republic Day, I convey my heartiest greeting and best wishes to all the residents of A&N Islands.

On this day, in 1950, our nation was established as the largest democratic republic and 'We, the people of India' gave to ourselves the Constitution that is an inspired document of our collective vision. The diversity and vibrancy of our democracy is acclaimed world-wide. It is this spirit of unity and of being one nation, which is celebrated every year as Republic Day. It is also an occasion to remember the martyrs who made supreme sacrifice in service to the nation. Today, let us once again vow to dedicate ourselves to live upto the ideals of justice, liberty, equality and fraternity enshrined in our Constitution.

I appeal to all Islanders to celebrate the occasion while adhering to COVID appropriate behavior.

On this occasion, I wish for lasting joy and happiness in the life of all Islanders and that our Islands continue to progress on the path of peace and prosperity.

**(Admiral D K Joshi)**  
PVSM, AVSM, YSM, NM, VSM (Retd.)  
Lt. Governor, A &N Islands  
&  
Vice Chairman, Islands Development Agency

### GREETINGS

I extend my warm Greetings to the people of Andaman and Nicobar Islands on the occasion of the 74<sup>th</sup> Republic Day.

On this special day, let us all come together to celebrate the spirit of unity, freedom, and democracy that our great nation embodies.

On this day, in 1950, our country became a Sovereign, Socialist, Secular and Democratic Republic and this is the time to commit ourselves to live upto the ideals enshrined in our constitution and put combined efforts to take our country to the path of everlasting progress and prosperity.

I extend my warm wishes to everyone for a prosperous and peaceful year ahead.

**Jai Hind!**  
**Kuldeep Rai Sharma**  
Member of Parliament  
Andaman and Nicobar Islands

### Greetings

Greetings and warm wishes to all the Islanders on the occasion of Republic Day.

This is an occasion to celebrate our democracy and cherish the ideas and values enshrined in our Constitution.

Praying for the continued progress and prosperity of our emerald islands and country.

**Ajoy Bairagi**  
State President  
Bharatiya Janata Party  
Andaman and Nicobar Islands

### Greetings

On this day let us make a promise to strive for justice, freedom and equal rights for every Indian and for peace and unity among all who are fortunate enough to live in this glorious nation.

I Wish all Islanders and visiting tourists a very Happy Republic Day!

I wish you a very Happy Republic Day 2023!

Let us spend some time today in reflection of the true heroes of India who sacrificed their lives to give us freedom.

**M.Vinod**  
President  
Andaman Association of Tour Operators  
IATTE - (Andaman Chapter)

## A&N Police Signs MOU with SBI for Special Police Salary Package

*Continued from Page 1*

Police Forces and CAPF enjoyed. By entering into the MOU with SBI, Andaman and Nicobar Police has secured several advantages and benefits for its personnel and their families.

Under this scheme, some of the benefits offered include Personal Accidental Insurance cover (Rs 40 lakhs to Rs 1 crore), Permanent Total and Partial Disability Cover of Rs. 40 lakhs, SBI Rishtey Family Saving Account with benefits for upto 04 family members etc. The package also offers preferential rates of interest on various loans offered by SBI as well as waiver of annual charges, processing fees etc.

Further, in case of death of the A&N Police personnel, the family of the deceased will be provided with free add-on covers such as expenses on Air Ambulance, cost of child education, marriage of girl child etc.

Several of these benefits will continue even after the superannuation of the employee.

All the benefits as per the MoU will be automatically extended to all A&N Police personnel, who are covered under PSP (Police Salary Package). This initiative has been under taken as a part of welfare measures for the personnel and families of Andaman and Nicobar Police.

## DBRAIT Students Prepare 25K Cloth Bags to be Distributed Free of Cost to Islanders

*Continued from Page 1*

**Mayabunder:** Pokkadera Panchayat - 07:30 am - 300 bags

Rampur Panchayat: 07:30 am - 200 bags

Mayabunder Panchayat: 08:00 am - 550 bags

Netaji Ground: 09:30 am - 945 bags

**Rangat:** B J P Chowk - 09:00 am - 3500 bags

Rangat Market: 09:00 am - 3500 bags

**Baratang:** Sundergarh Panchayat Bhawan - 09:00 am - 1500 bags

**Ferrargunj:** Auto Stand - 09:00 am - 2500 bags

**Hutbay:** R R O Ground - 09:30 am - 3985 bags

**Katchal:** Milder a Ground - 09:30 am - 495 bags  
E-Wall: 09:30 am - 520 bags  
M.R.N: 02:30 pm - 530 bags

**Campbell Bay:** Mini Stadium - 09:30 am - 1525 bags

In the year 2019 also, DBRAIT distributed more than 30,000 cloth bags free of cost to general public. The objective of distributing these bags is to encourage the use of cloth bags and discard the use of polythene/ plastic bags by the general public to make Andaman & Nicobar Islands free from polythene bags.

## Rowing Association to Re-Conduct Selection Trial for Nationals

**Port Blair, Jan. 25:** Andaman & Nicobar Rowing Association will be re-conducting the selection trial at SAI Water Sports Complex Sippighat on Jan. 28 at 6 am onwards for A&N Islands Rowing Team which will be taking part in the forthcoming 40<sup>th</sup> Senior

and 24<sup>th</sup> Open Sprints National Rowing Championships ARN, Pune 2023 from Feb. 20 to 26, 2023.

Interested persons may register their name with Shri Rama Rao contact Phone/ Cell no. 9434298433, 7063917051. The last date of registration is Jan. 27.



# 13<sup>th</sup> National Voters Day Celebrated with the Theme ‘Nothing like Voting’

*Continued from Page 1*  
the Election Commission of India has focus on popularization of new technological tools that enabled the Commission to bring in more efficiency, widespread reach, and accountability in the conduct of free and fair elections.

Under the guidance of Election Commission of India, A&N Administration has organized series of activities aimed at maximizing voter enrolment by building awareness amongst all sections of our society. Right to vote is an important right in any democracy and every vote counts, said the CEO requesting the eligible voters to vote freely and fairly, without fear or inducement, whenever there is an election. The CEO also showered all praise for the students of JNRM for staging Nukkad Natak and cultural programmes on the importance of voting and power of vote.

The CEO, Jt. CEO and Dy. CEO jointly gave away the prizes to the winners of various competitions organised as part of the NVD celebrations. The CEO also felicitated Ms Pushpa and Shri Sanjay, BLOs for their pain staking efforts to register new voters and for creating awareness about participating in election process. The CEO also

presented certificate & reward to Ms. Shravani, a student of Boys School for creating a beautiful poster while participating in National Voter Awareness contest which was displayed to the audience during the function.

In his address on the occasion, the Joint Chief Electoral Officer, A&N Island, Shri Hari Kallikkat, IAS said, National Voters’ Day is celebrated on January 25 every year across the country since 2011 to mark the Foundation Day of Election Commission of India, i.e. 25th January, 1950. The main purpose of the NVD celebration is to create electoral awareness amongst citizens and encourage them to participate in the electoral process. The Jt. CEO further said that this year’s logo reflects the joy and diversity of voting. The Ashoka Chakra in the background stands for the world’s largest democracy, while each voter’s inked finger symbolizes their active participation in the electoral

process and a checkmark represents a voter’s ability to make a well-informed choice. He also urged voters to avail online facilities for registration, shifting, deletion and correction by downloading Voter Helpline App or log on to ECI’s website [www.nvsp.in](http://www.nvsp.in), [www.eci.gov.in](http://www.eci.gov.in) and [www.eciindia.in](http://www.eciindia.in)

Earlier, welcoming the chief guest and others present on the occasion, the Deputy CEO, Shri Dilkhush Meena, IAS while informing the gathering about the significance of the Day, said the primary goal of NVD is to increase voter turnout and education about the electoral process among the general public. One of the largest celebrations in the country, NVD is observed on a variety of scales, including the national, state, district, constituency, and polling booth levels, he added.

The function concluded with the vote of thanks proposed by the Assistant Electoral Registration Officer, Shri Ramesh Kumar.

## Delegation of Tribal Council of Car Nicobar Submit Issues

sympathetic approach and patient hearing to the issues raised by the Tribal leaders. The Minister assured positively to look into all issues to provide relief to the residents of Car Nicobar. Under his dynamic leadership the tribal leaders see a ray of hope and future prosperity of the Island. The leaders also invited Shri Amit Shah to visit the Island to which the Minister assured that soon he will visit the island.



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**Vacancy in Science Centre (A Society under A & N Admn.), Port Blair**

The Science Centre, Port Blair has decided to fill the following post on deputation basis from amongst the eligible officer of Central Govt./A & N Administration and Autonomous Bodies on usual terms of deputation.

Sl.	Name of the Post & scale of pay	No. of Posts	Essential Qualification	Eligibility
1	<b>Curator 'B'</b> Rs. 8000-275-13500 (Pre –Revised)  Pay Matrix Level -10 Rs 56,100-1,77,500 (Revised)	<b>1</b> <b>(One)</b>	<b>Essential:</b> First Class Bachelor's Degree in Engineering or Technology in Mechanical / Electrical/ Electronics / Information Technology / Telecommunication / Instrumentation / Computer/ Metallurgy/ Chemical/ Civil Engineering from a recognized University with one year relevant experience after obtaining degree. OR M.Tech. / ME / MS / Engg., Ph.D Science OR First Class M.Sc Degree in Physics, Chemistry, Bio Science, Environmental Science from a recognized University with one-year relevant experience after obtaining degree. <b>Desirable:</b> Post Graduate degree in Museology, Education and History of Science from a recognized University / Institution.	<b>Deputation:</b> Officer under the Central/State Govt. /UTs /Autonomous Organizations/Public Sector Undertakings a) (i) holding analogous posts on regular basis in the parent cadre/department: OR (ii) with 5(five) years service in the grade rendered after appointment thereto on a regular basis in the scale of pay of ₹ 6500-10500 (pre-revised) or equivalent in the parent cadre/department. OR (iii) with 8 (eight ) years service in the grade rendered after appointment thereto on a regular basis in the scale of pay of 5500-9000 (pre-rivised) or equivalent in the parent cadre/ department OR (iv) with 11( eleven) years service in the grade rendered after appointment thereto on a regular basis in the scale of pay of 5000-8000 (pre-revised) or equivalent in the parent cadre/ department OR b) Possessing the educational qualifications and experience as prescribed. (Period of deputation including the period of deputation in another ex-cadre posts held immediately preceding this appointment in the same or some other organization/department of the Central Govt. shall ordinarily not to exceed 3 years) The maximum age limit for appointment by deputation shall be not exceeding 56 years as on the closing date of receipt of applications.

The period of deputation will be initially for a period of one year & the place of posting will be at Port Blair.

Eligible and interested candidates may apply to the Secretary, Executive council, Science Centre, Goodwill Estate, Corbyn's Cove Road, Shadipur Post, Port Blair-744106 in the prescribed proforma printed below , to reach on or before 15/03/2023 through proper channel.


2023/MediaRelease/94

30

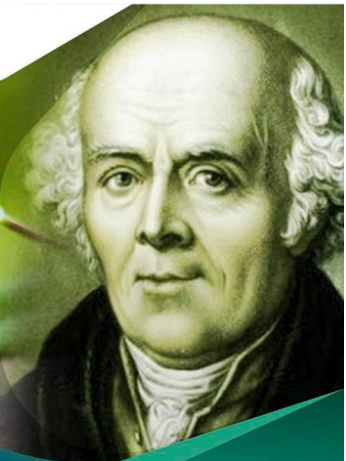
Secretary  
Executive Council

## Ships to be Illuminated as a Part of Republic Day Celebrations

**Port Blair, Jan. 25:** As part of the Republic Day celebrations in Andaman & Nicobar Islands, ships/ vessels of Indian Navy, Indian Coast Guard, and DSS will be illuminated tomorrow (Jan.26) and on Jan.29 (Beating Retreat) from 1800 hrs to 2200 hrs at anchorage off the Marine Flag Post sea front. At 1800 hrs on both days, the ships would fire colourful flares and switch on the contour illumination lights.



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# HAPPY REPUBLIC DAY

26th JANUARY

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## Two Officers of PTS Conferred Union Home Minister's Medal for Excellence

**Port Blair, Jan 25:** It is a matter of great honour and pride for A&N Police that two (02) officers of Police Training School, Prothrapur have been conferred prestigious 'Union Home Minister's Medal for Excellence in Police Training" for their contribution in the field of Police Training for the year 2021-22.

The Union Home Ministers Medal for Excellence in Police Training have been awarded to Police Trainers of States/ UTs/CAPFs/CPOs for the year 2021-22. Inspector Abita Bachan and ASI Ram Lal Khariya of Police Training School, Prothrapur of A & N Police have been awarded Union Home Ministers Medal for Excellence in Police Training for the year 2021-22 in Indoor and Outdoor Categories for their contribution in Police Training.

Sh. Neeraj Thakur, IPS, DGP, A&N Islands complimented the awardees for the distinctions conferred on them and bringing honour to A&N Police. He wished them success for their future career.





# SPORTS

## Shubman Gill and Rohit Sharma Seal ODI Series Sweep Against New Zealand with Test-Match Strokes

**January 25:** Three balls after Rohit Sharma completed his 30th century in this format, his partner Shubman Gill wrapped up his fourth century, his third in four innings, with a bow to the crowd. Then in the space of two overs both departed. The 212-run opening stand in 26 overs largely featured classical strokes, and occasionally a touch of innovation. They struck a combined haul of 22 fours and 11 sixes.

Yet, when you revisit those 26 overs, you would not notice any savagery. Thrill is not the predominant emotion their batting throws up, though runs and boundaries flowing frequently do excite you.

Their strokes would not look out of place in red-ball cricket. Like the cover-driven four off Jacob Duffy that got Rohit's innings flowing. The ball was just about over-pitched, Rohit took a half-stride, met the ball on the rise and just played it through the gaps. He did not watch the shot race to the fence, rather casually turned away to regather his focus.

The off-driven six of Duffy in fifth over was a thing of pure beauty, a shot that could be described in isolation. Duffy was extracting bounce on the quickest and bounciest surface in the series. The ball was short-of-length. But Rohit had already made up his mind. He thrust his front-foot, not an extravagant stride, did not reach to the pitch of the ball, but met the ball on the rise, head and body still and then lifted it over his head, whipping up memories of another Mumbai great, Sachin Tendulkar.

But with Tendulkar, you expect him to be in the perfect position to play the stroke. Rohit was not, yet he could essay Tendulkar-like strokes. There was another tribute act to Tendulkar, when he stepped out to Duffy, and bludgeoned him with a flat bat over long-off. That was perhaps his only semi-muscle shot of the afternoon. Rohit beautifies as brutal a stroke as the pull, one that he unfurled numerous times in his 85-ball knock. Duffy, in whose nightmare Rohit could

recur, was pulled twice in two balls for a six and four. The latter was a remarkable shot, in that the ball was short of length, but Rohit rocked back and shuffled a fraction to carve room. True that he has perished to the pull of late, but still it is a folly to bowl short at him, not least on a ground with true bounce and short boundaries.

Rohit, though, has a challenger in Gill for the best puller in the team. Gill's pulls are most textbook, in that he always shifts his weight onto the back-foot. The pull could be an awkward shot for tall players on subcontinental surfaces, where the ball does not bounce as much and hence they tend to struggle with the pulls. But not for Gill. The key is he does not look to pull every short ball, rather he looks to work it off his hips. Only when it is at least chest-high that he unfurls the pull and the hook.

There was a stunning hook off Duffy, who erred on the shorter side once too often and paid the price, ending his shift with horrific figures of 10-0-100-3.

But it was his treatment of Lockie Ferguson that screamed of his quality. The first ball of the eighth over, Ferguson, the quickest and toughest of New Zealand bowlers, induced a half-mishit down the ground for a four. He smiled wryly at him. Gill smiled back. He attempted an expansive drive next ball and was beaten. The next ball, Ferguson shortened the length and widened the line, only for Gill to dab it down the third man for a four. No violence, now afloat, just pure timing. A shaken Ferguson attempted a yorker—he possesses a sharp and accurate one too—but it turned out to be a full-toss that Gill just stroked between cover and extra-cover. Ferguson was clearly rattled and tried to bounce him out. But Gill just arched his tall frame a tad and upper cut him for a smooth six. That over would lift the tempo of their scoring. By the 10th over they were purring along at eight an



over. By the 15th over, it shot to 8.5, thanks to the introduction of Mitchell Santner, who Sharma welcomed with two sixes in three balls. and Daryl Mitchell, who Sharma greeted with a rare paddle sweep, followed by two fours in the next three balls.

When India raced to 165/0 in 20 overs, even ODI cricket's first 500, the next evolutionary leap, loomed. Gill, fresh from a double hundred, dished out some gorgeous strokes, none as striking as the six he laced over extra-cover off Santner, nothing more than a front-foot stride, a back-foot shuffle to play the ball inside out and then a clean free swing of his bat. Soon after, he punished Michael Bracewell's floaty off-breaks, hitting for a six and a four to enter his 90s.

But such a delirious tempo was unsustainable, as Rohit slowed a bit in his 90s and eventually both departed soon after completing their hundreds. Creditably, New Zealand pulled things back with tight bowling from Santner and Ferguson, who ended up with economy rates below six, and despite a late onslaught by Hardik Pandya, restricted India the hosts to 385 for 9. It was just the sixth time the pair has opened, but already they are hitting off like best friends. Pairing them itself was a brave, if a left-field decision, considering that Rohit's long-time partner Shikhar Dhawan has not quite had a lean patch, KL Rahul was performing reasonably and there were aggressors and left-handers like Ishan Kishan. But the faith in Rohit-Gill association stands vindicated. There might have been a tinge of disappointment in the end, as India could not muster 400, and neither Gill or Rohit could produce a double hundred, which was not unachievable, but they were treated to a pair of two glorious hundreds, from the two most artful white-ball batsmen around.

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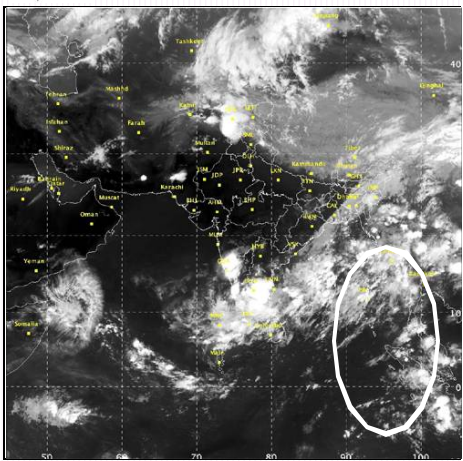
Police Control Room:	100
Fire Service:	101
Ambulance:	102
DC Control Room:	1070
Shipping:	245555
Postal :	232346, 232890
Children:	1098
Women:	244701
Coast Guard for	1554
Search & Rescue (SAR)	
Coast Guard RHQ:	232681
Coastal Security	1093
State Control Room:	1077, 238880
PBMC Control Room:	245798
Kisan Call Centre:	1551
Wildlife Control Room :	245229, 200661, 200754

### Emergency Operation Centres (EOCs)

State Control Room:	03192- 238880 (Tele- Fax), 1070 (Helpline).
District Control Room:	03192-238881
EOC (Campbell Bay):	03193-264020
EOC (Kamorta):	03193-263222
EOC (N&M):	03192-262960
EOC (Hut Bay):	03192-284014



### Weather



Max. Temp: 31.6 °C	Min.: 23.2 °C
Relative Humidity: 0830 Hrs: 73% 1730 Hrs: 80%	
Sunrise: 0544 Hrs.	Sunset: 1719 Hrs.
Rainfall upto 0830 Hrs (Last 24 Hrs.):	000.0 mm
Rainfall upto 1730 Hrs (Last 24 Hrs.):	000.0 mm
Total Rainfall (From Jan 1, 2023 till date):	003.5 mm

### Forecast

Partially Cloudy sky likely over Port Blair. Maximum and Minimum temperature will be around 31°C and 24°C respectively on Thursday 26/01/2023.

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