

Small-scale fishermen in “fishy waters”

Fishing in troubled waters hijacking livelihood

KARTIK

MAYABUNDER, NOV 22/ --/ Small-scale fishermen of Rampur and Karmatang villages in Mayabunder region under N&M Andaman are quitting fishing activities and looking for other livelihood options to support their families. They are worried as local fishermen having engine boats are catching fish with purse seine nets near the shoreline, which is the traditional fish catching area of villagers and small-scale fishermen. The fishing in the shoreline by fishermen of other regions near the shoreline of their villages by fishermen having engine dinghies and using purse seine nets has resulted in the depleting the marine strength of the

Small-scale fishermen of Rampur and Karmatang villages in Mayabunder region under N&M Andaman are quitting fishing activities and looking for other livelihood options to support their families

shoreline area. The small-scale fishermen are villagers who prefer to fish in a traditional manner only on shoreline areas of their village and sell their catch in the village to make a livelihood. Villagers of Rampur & Karmatang in Mayabunder have



registered complaints to the Fisheries department to prevent the fishermen from fishing in the shoreline areas so that their livelihood can be protected. Although, there is no rule in place as such to prevent the fishermen having engine dinghy to fish in the

shoreline areas, but the livelihood of some villagers and traditional fishermen has been affected due to large scale fishing from the shorelines making the villagers unhappy. According to sources in the Fisheries department, fishermen having engine

dinghy upto 30 BHP can catch fish upto 6 nautical miles while fishermen having more than 30 BHP engine dinghy can go out for fishing upto 6 to 12 nautical miles. The fishermen outside Rampur and Karmatang are using the purse seine nets in the shoreline areas, which are the traditional fishing ground for the villagers and small-scale fishermen of these villages. These nets are usually spread by groups of small boats and the catch hauled in by a larger boat. The nets trawl the sea and take all kinds and sizes of fish, say the villagers. This style of fishing not only destroys the corals, but small fishes which cannot be consumed die and are left abandoned in the seashore.

AC, team inspects Magarnallah stretch for development of jogging area, amusement spot at C/Bay

SUBRATA

CAMPBELL BAY, NOV 22/ --/ A joint survey meeting and inspection was conducted by officials of Revenue Department, Forest Department, APWD, Panchayat and other concerned department on Tuesday in the presence of Assistant Commissioner (Campbell Bay), Executive Engineer (APWD), Block Development Officer (CD Block), Pradhan (Campbell Bay), Pradhan (Govind Nagar), Pradhan (Laxmi Nagar), Forest Ranger (Forest Department) and general public to beautify MagarNallah stretch.

Dr. Nitin Shakya, Assistant Commissioner, Campbell Bay informed that they are planning to make this MagarNallah stretch as a jogging area and for organizing weekend activities. The repair work of the road and for beautification of MagarNallah stretch, instructions have been given to the concerned officers and there will be a good

sitting arrangement for visitors at MagarNallah. Several arrangements will be made for weekend activities like musical programme and food festival with the help of Mini India Self Help Groups. MagarNallah has a great potential for



generation of income. Besides generation of income, these activities will keep the population healthy and motivated, especially the youths involved in wrong activities like alcohol and drugs will be diverted to positive activities.

PORT BLAIR, NOV 22/ --/ The Member of Parliament, of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma has expressed gratitude towards the Prime Minister of India for considering his request and selecting Andaman and Nicobar Islands as a venue to host one of the G20 meetings.

In a letter addressed to the Prime Minister of India, Mr. Sharma the mentioned that this is heartening to know that India will undertake the Presidency of G20 meeting for one year beginning from December 1, 2022 to November 20, 2023 and a total of 200 G20 meetings are likely to take place under India's Presidency. Further, he added that he has learnt that Andaman and Nicobar Islands will also be a venue to host one of the G20 meetings, which is exciting news for the entire



MP expresses gratitude to PM for selecting ANI as a venue to host G20 meetings on his request

Andaman and Nicobar Islands. He pointed out that on August 22, 2019, he had requested the Prime Minister to hold one of the conferences of the G20 in Andaman and Nicobar Islands as he strongly feels that this will prove to be a game changer to bring about socio-economic and geo-economic developments in these Islands. In this regard, the Member of Parliament had also received a reply of his letter from the Prime Minister of India, following which on September 19, 2019 the Member of Parliament had received a letter from Mr. A. GiteshSarma, Secretary (West), Ministry Of External Affairs, New Delhi who had acknowledged receipt of his letter on this subject in which it was mentioned that at the

time of deciding a venue for the G20 meetings in 2022 under India's G20 Chairship, the suggestion of Member of Parliament on holding meetings of G20 in Andaman & Nicobar Island will be kept in mind. Now, when Andaman and Nicobar Islands have been selected as a venue to hold one of the conferences of the G20, the Member of Parliament has extended his gratitude to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India for considering his request and giving such honour to Andaman and Nicobar Islands to hold the International Level Conference. The MP added that Andaman & Nicobar Islands has played a very integral and dominant role in the freedom struggle of India and to our honour the first Indian Flag was hoisted in these Islands by NetajiSubash Chandra Bose on 30th December 1943.

HC takes suomotu note of abysmal condition of NH-4 roads

PORT BLAIR, NOV 22/ --/ The Calcutta High Court has taken suomotu cognizance of the abysmal condition of National Highway-4 roads in North & Middle Andaman and sought a response from the stakeholders. The Court has observed that the NH-4 roads connecting the North & Middle Andaman areas with Port Blair, are almost non-existent. In other words, Court found out, there is no visible road surface for most of the route and vehicular traffic has to negotiate perilous

dirt tracks. At present the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and the National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited have been co-opted to prepare and maintain the NH-4. The people of the area are struggling to find suitable means to carry patients by ambulance or by any other vehicle for emergency treatment to a hospital at Port Blair. Supply trucks loaded with materials have been found to be toppled on the dirt tracks. Some regular bus services

between N&M Andaman touching Baratang, Kadamtala, Rangat, Billiground, Bakultala, Mayabunder, Diglipur, among others, have been suspended by operators. The pathetic condition of the NH-4, which is the life line connecting Middle and North Andaman to the rest of the Islands, has not been attended to for several months now, if not years. To be precise the condition of NH-4 has worsened in the past three years. In spite of efforts at the local level, no visible steps have been

taken till date. The total time taken to cover approximately 275 kms from Port Blair to Mayuabunder is around nine hours which is double the normal time required. The distance taken to cover about 80 kms from Mayabunder to Diglipur lies in excess of four hours. The Court further observed that it cannot remain a passive spectator to such administrative inaction and served notices to various stakeholders, instructing them to respond through their Learned Counsel on

the next date i.e. on 24th November 2022. The Court has also appointed two Learned Advocates to act as the Special Officers who are permitted to seek inputs from the Noticees and apprise the Court on the dates fixed.

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Consultative meetings on identification of minorities held, 14 states furnished views: Centre tells SC

NEW DELHI, NOV 22 /--/ The Centre on Tuesday told the Supreme Court that it has held consultative meetings with all state governments, Union territories and other stakeholders on the issue of identification of minorities at the state level and 14 states have furnished their views so far.

It said comments of remaining 19 states and Union territories have not been received and since the matter is "sensitive in nature" and will have "far-reaching ramifications", some more time should be given to enable them to finalise their views. A bench of justices S K Kaul and A S Oka granted six-week time to the Centre to place on record the stand in the matter. The top court perused the status report

filed by the Ministry of Minority Affairs which said some of the states and Union territories have requested for additional time to have wider consultations with all the stakeholders before they form their considered opinion on the issue. The status report said that 14 states and three Union territories have furnished their comments. The apex court was hearing the pleas, including the one filed by advocate Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay, which sought directions for framing guidelines for identification of minorities at the state level, contending that Hindus are in minority in 10 states.

During the hearing, Upadhyay told the bench that he has challenged the validity of section 2(f) of the National Commission for Minority Education Institution Act, 2004. Terming section 2(f) of the Act, which empowers the Centre to identify and notify minority communities in India, as "manifestly arbitrary, irrational, and offending", his plea has alleged that it gives unbridled power to the Centre. Additional Solicitor General K M Nataraj, appearing for the Centre, said a status report has been filed by the ministry on October 31. "You have said 14 states have given comments," the bench said. It observed that there is a need to delve into these issues and it cannot be decided suddenly.

Upadhyay referred to a 2007 judgement of the Allahabad High Court on a

plea seeking quashing of May 2004 order passed by the state of Uttar Pradesh recognising 67 Madarsa for grant-in-aid. He said the high court verdict of 2007 has not been challenged. "Can minority status be decided district-wise? How can that be done," the bench asked. It called upon the 19 states and Union territories, which have not yet given their comments on the issue, to communicate their stand to the Centre within four weeks of receipt of the top court's order. The bench has posted the matter for hearing in January. In the status report filed in the apex court, the Ministry of Minority Affairs said that the Centre has held consultative meetings with all state governments, Union territories and also with other stakeholders including the ministries of Home, Law and Justice, Education, the National Commission for Minorities and the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions.

"The state governments/UTs were requested that in view of the urgency of the matter, they should expeditiously undertake the exercise with stakeholders in this regard so as to ensure that the views of the state government are finalised and conveyed to the Ministry of Minority Affairs at the earliest," it said.

The status report said 14 states -- Punjab, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Manipur, Odisha, Uttarakhand, Nagaland, Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Goa, West Bengal, Tripura, Uttar

Immense scope to boost defence cooperation between India, Cambodia: Rajnath

NEW DELHI, NOV 22 /--/ Defence minister Rajnath Singh has met his Cambodian counterpart, General Samdech Pichay Sena TEA Banh, in Siem Reap and said there is "immense scope" to boost defence cooperation between the two countries. Singh is currently visiting Cambodia to attend the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) Plus and the maiden India-ASEAN Defence Ministers meeting. He arrived at Siem Reap on Monday to co-chair the India-ASEAN Defence Ministers meeting and attend the 9th ADMM Plus, the defence ministry said in a statement. "Reviewed the full range of India-Cambodia defence ties during the fruitful meeting with Cambodia's Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister, General Samdech Pichay Sena TEA Banh in Siem Reap today. There is immense scope to boost defence cooperation between both the countries," Singh said in a tweet on Monday.



On Tuesday, he shared pictures of his meetings with other leaders on Twitter. "Insightful deliberations with Australia's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence, Mr. @RichardMarlesMP on boosting defence ties and deepening cooperation between India and Australia in Siem Reap, Cambodia today," Singh said in a tweet. "Delighted to meet the US Secretary of Defence, Mr Lloyd J. Austin in Siem Reap. @SecDef," he wrote on the microblogging site. In another tweet, Singh said: "Had a wonderful interaction with the Defence Minister of New Zealand, Mr. Peeni Henare." To commemorate 30 years of the India-ASEAN ties, India and Cambodia will co-chair the India-ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting on Tuesday, which will be presided by Singh. Various initiatives to boost the India-ASEAN partnership are likely to be announced at the meeting. "Upon his arrival, Singh held a bilateral meeting with Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defence of Cambodia General TEA Banh. Both ministers met warmly and noted the shared rich cultural and historic linkages between India and Cambodia," the defence ministry said in a statement on Monday.

During the meeting, both leaders recognised Angkor Wat, an ancient temple complex in Cambodia, as the "symbol of the long-lasting ties between the two countries". It is of significance that India and Cambodia are also celebrating 70 years of their diplomatic relations this year, it added. Singh congratulated Cambodia on the successful chairmanship of ASEAN and ADMM Plus in 2022. He and Gen. TEA Banh reviewed the entire gamut of defence cooperation and discussed mutually beneficial avenues for furthering the bilateral ties, the statement said. As the chair of the ADMM Plus meeting, Cambodia will host the 9th annual meeting on Wednesday and Singh will address the forum. He will also call on the prime minister of Cambodia during the visit, the statement said. (PTI)

Congress left no stone unturned to insult Sardar Patel: Amit Shah

KHAMBHAT, NOV 22 /--/ Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday alleged that the Congress did everything possible to "insult" Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and it has started praising him only now in view of the Gujarat Assembly elections.

Even the last rites of the country's first deputy prime minister were performed in "unceremonious" way, the BJP leader said at an election rally at Khambhat in Gujarat's Anand district. "I am surprised that the Congress now praises Sardar Patel. Since my childhood, I have never heard any Congress leader talking about Patel. Instead, they left no stone unturned to insult Patel, right from performing his last rites in an unceremonious manner to ensuring that no monument was built in his memory," Shah said. Voting for Khambhat and 92 other seats will take place on December 5, in the second phase of the Assembly elections. Shah further said that it was Prime Minister Narendra Modi who paid a real tribute to Patel by constructing the Statue of Unity, Patel's statue which is the world's tallest monument. He also dared Congress candidate from Khambhat, Chirag Patel to produce any photograph where he is seen paying tributes to Sardar Patel at the Statue of Unity.

No Congress leader dares to visit the Statue of Unity at Kevadia for fear of losing ticket, he claimed. He also accused the Congress of opposing the construction of the Ram temple at Ayodhya and the Triple Talaq prohibition law for its votebank politics. "If they support such causes, they fear they will lose those votes. I hope you understand which votes I am talking about. But their time is now over and PM Modi's time has started. Rahul Baba (Gandhi), book a ticket to Ayodhya because a grand temple is going to be inaugurated on January 1, 2024," said Shah. (PTI)



Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath with other ministers at the curtain raiser event on UP's Global Investors Summit, in New Delhi

Cannot compromise on ideological issues like Savarkar and Hindutva: Raut

MUMBAI, NOV 22 /--/ Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Raut on Tuesday said the Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena cannot compromise on key ideological issues like respect for V D Savarkar and Hindutva even as it is a part of the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA).

He, however, also said that his party was in an alliance with the Bharatiya Janata Party for long despite their differences, and it worked smoothly. "There are some issues where the Shiv Sena can not compromise. This includes (the issue of) Veer Savarkar and Hindutva. Our party is built on an ideology and we are not surrendering that," Raut said in an interview with the news channel NDTV. Last week, the Shiv Sena was on the defensive after Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's critical comments on Savarkar caused a controversy.

Raut had warned that such comments about Savarkar could cause cracks in the MVA alliance of the Shiv Sena, NCP and Congress. Asked whether the alliance will survive in the long term, Raut said it will if the country needed it. "If democracy, freedom and the Constitution are to be safeguarded, then we have to forget our differences and come together," he said. Raut, who was in New Delhi on Tuesday, said talks do take place with Rahul Gandhi, Sonia Gandhi, Priyanka Gandhi-Vadra and other Congress leaders.

On Monday, Raut had tweeted that Rahul had called him to enquire about his health and said he was touched by the gesture. On the controversy over Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari's remarks about Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, the Sena leader said there was a demand from across the state that Koshyari be removed from his post.

"When the BJP asks us how we tolerate such things about Savarkar and we ask how your governor speaks like this against Chhatrapati Shivaji, they do not have any answer," he said. Most governors appointed during the BJP rule have been pracharak of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, but when they occupy the post of governor, they should act neutral instead of turning Raj Bhavan into a party office, Raut said. (PTI)

With zero tolerance for crime and criminals, UP has created sense of security for industry: Yogi Adityanath

NEW DELHI, NOV 22 /--/ The Uttar Pradesh government has created a sense of security for the industry by adopting a "zero tolerance" approach towards crime and criminals, chief minister Yogi Adityanath said on Tuesday, as he announced plans to organise roadshows in 18 countries to invite investors.

He also said Uttar Pradesh has emerged as one of the most favoured destinations for investors due to its transparent policies which enhance ease of doing business.

Addressing a curtain-raiser here ahead of the Uttar Pradesh Global Investors Summit 2023 to be held in Lucknow from February 10 to 12 next year, he said the event would prove useful in providing a unified platform to the global industrial world for cooperation in economic development.

The state government plans to organise roadshows in 18 countries and seven major cities of India to invite investors for the summit.

The state has set a target of attracting investment of Rs 10 lakh crore through the event. To help India become a USD 5 trillion economy, Uttar Pradesh will work as a growth engine, Adityanath said, adding that his state too has set a target of becoming a USD 1 trillion economy in the next five years.

Uttar Pradesh has taken several reformative steps towards creating an ecosystem for industrial development through policy-driven governance by formulating about 25 policies to attract investment, he noted. The chief minister further said the government is working on several industrial projects in the state.

"The Defence Industrial Corridor is being developed in Uttar Pradesh. Under this, out of six nodes Agra, Aligarh, Kanpur, Lucknow, Jhansi and Chitrakoot, Aligarh node has already been inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, while land allotment is in progress in other nodes," he noted.

The state's first medical device park has been inaugurated near Yamuna Expressway. Similarly, Film City, Toy Park, Apparel Park, Handicraft Park and Logistics Hub are being developed in the Yamuna Expressway area, he informed the gathering.

To strengthen 'ease of investors', the chief minister launched the 'Online Incentive Management Portal' and Customer Relationship Portal (Nivesh Sarathi). He also unveiled the logo of the summit. (PTI)

300 terrorists active in J&K: Army commander

POONCH, NOV 22 /--/ Around 300 terrorists are present in Jammu and Kashmir, while 160 others are waiting on the launchpads for an opportunity to sneak into this side from across the Line of Control (LoC) in Pakistan, a top army commander said on Tuesday.

However, General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Northern Command, Lieutenant General Upendra Dwivedi said the security situation in the Union territory has undergone a major change after the abrogation of Article 370 in August 2019 and terrorist activities have been controlled to a large extent. "Around 300 terrorists are present in length and breadth of Jammu and Kashmir but we are making sure they are not able to carry out any action," the army commander told reporters on the sidelines of platinum jubilee of historic 'Poonch Link-up Day' here. The platinum jubilee of Poonch Link-Up Day, marking the 'Operation Easy' conducted by Indian Army in 1948 to defend the border district from the Pakistani raiders, was celebrated with traditional gaiety and fervour by the people of Poonch and the Army. Asked about the number of terrorists present on the launch pads in Pakistan, Lt Gen Dwivedi said around 160 terrorists are present across the Line of Control -- 130 in north of Pir Panchal (Kashmir valley) and 30 in south of Pir Panchal. "As per our data, 82 Pakistani terrorists and 53 local terrorists are active in the hinterland, while the area of the concern is the criminal activities of 170 others who are not identified," he said.

Reacting to Defence Minister Rajnath Singh's recent statement hinting at retrieving Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK), Lt Gen Dwivedi said a parliamentary resolution exists on the subject, therefore it is nothing new. (PTI)

To reunite 3-yr-old boy with Ukrainian mother, sister, Delhi HC asks family to spend time together

NEW DELHI, NOV 22 /--/ In an endeavour to re-unite a three-year-old child, who was allegedly illegally brought to India by his father, with his Ukrainian mother and sister, the Delhi High Court Tuesday asked the family to spend some time together so the boy could bond with them. A bench of Justices Siddharth Mridul and Amit Sharma asked the family--the child,

his parents and sister-- to spend time together till 4 PM at the court's residence and appear before the court on Wednesday. As the minor boy's mother and sister, who have come here from Ukraine, tried to speak to the child in the court, he did not give any positive response. When the woman alleged the child, who was in his father's lap, had been tutored, the bench said he

was too young to be tutored and the court will give her enough time to meet him. The child's mother earlier informed the court she and her former husband, an Indian, were divorced and though the minor's custody was granted to her by a court in the east European country, the man took the boy away without informing her. The man and the child appeared in the

court pursuant to earlier directions by which the bench had asked the Delhi Police to trace them as the woman claimed in her plea that her son was illegally brought to India during the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war. At the outset, the bench asked the man to give the child to his mother so he could spend some time with her and his sister. "We expect the parties to sit

together so that the mother and sister are able to reunite with the child," the bench said. As the man said he has no issues if the woman meets the child, the court said, "You should not have any problem after all she is the biological mother. She is equally capable of looking after the child. The other one is his sister; you should not have any problem." (PTI)

Court seeks ED's response on Satyendar Jain's plea for food as per religious beliefs

NEW DELHI, NOV 22 /--/ A Delhi court on Tuesday sought the Enforcement Directorate's response to a plea by jailed AAP minister Satyendar Jain seeking a direction to Tihar officials to provide him food items like fruits, dry fruits and dates as per his religious beliefs as he was observing a fast. Special Judge Vikas Dhull issued notice to the agency and directed it to file its reply by Wednesday. The application has also sought a direction to the prison officials to immediately conduct the minister's medical check-up. It said that Jain was "a strict adherent of Jainism", but he was not being provided basic food that is partaken under his religion and medical facilities inside the prison. It said that the Delhi Prison Rules provide for diets to be given as per the local or religious customs such as during Navratras and Ramzan.

The application alleged that from the day of Jain's arrest on May 31, he has not been able to visit a Jain temple, and "being a strict Jain religious observer, he has been on a religious fast and was not having cooked food, pulses, grains and milk products". "For last almost six months, he has been surviving only on fruits, vegetables, seeds and dry fruits or dates. This he was purchasing from his quota of ration available to all inmates. "In the meantime, he has suffered a major fall in jail which led to a severe spine injury, for which he was treated by LNJP Hospital. He also has lung patches, which is a post-Covid symptom," the application claimed. It added that for the last 12 days, the jail administration has stopped providing him basic food items as per his religious beliefs. (PTI)

Delhi HC rejects challenge to CIC order on RTI plea over auction of Modi's suit

NEW DELHI, NOV 22 /--/ The Delhi High Court on Tuesday rejected a petition challenging a CIC decision refusing to impose penalty on an official for belatedly providing information on an RTI application seeking certain details in relation to the auction of a suit worn by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, calling the plea "misconceived". Justice Yashwant Varma dismissed the petition by the RTI applicant and said no case was established before the Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) to warrant a penalty. The petitioner, who assailed the order passed by the CIC in July 2021, said he had filed an application under the Right to Information Act seeking information pertaining to Modi's suit and its auction but it was given to him after a delay of one year and therefore the CIC should have imposed a penalty on the official concerned. He stated the CIC only cautioned the official for the delay in responding to the application but did not levy a penalty, which was contrary to the RTI Act. The court ruled the petition was misconceived and that the law only empowers the CIC to levy a penalty if it finds the information has been provided belatedly without any reasonable cause or where there is malafide. There is no provision for an automatic imposition of penalty in case of delay, the court stated. (PTI)



The Governor of Bihar, Mr. Phagu Chauhan on a visit to A&N Islands from 19th to 22nd November met Admiral D K Joshi (Retd.), Lt Governor, A&N Islands at Raj Niwas on Tuesday 2022. During the meeting, they discussed various developmental works being executed by Andaman & Nicobar Administration under the aegis of Islands Development Agency.

ANTCC President seeks power connections in Campbell Bay

PORT BLAIR, NOV 22/--/The ANTCC President, Mr. Rangelal Halder has raised an issue in ensuring electricity connections in the remote areas of Campbell Bay. In his letter addressed to the Secretary(Power), Andaman & Nicobar Administration, he said that the electric connectivity connecting with up to 41 kms from the areas of Joginder Nagar, Shastri Nagar, Laxmi Nagar, Gandhi Nagar are in a ruptured condition needs to be replaced. He stated that the farmers living in the area of Laxmi Nagar who have Patta to

their Land were still not granted electric connections whereas he has demanded the administration to instruct the Electricity department to immediately consider their applications and issue a new electricity connection for them.

CPI (M) seeks immediate posting of newly promoted HGCs

PORT BLAIR, NOV 22/--/ The CPI (M) has demanded immediate posting of newly promoted 108 Higher Grade Clerks of the Amalgamated Clerical Cadre in the Andaman & Nicobar Administration. In a letter sent to the Chief Secretary, A & N Administration, Mr. D. Ayyappan, Secretary, CPI (M) A & N State Organising Committee said that these HGCs were promoted to the post of Higher Grade Clerk vide Administration's office order No.2736 dated 19th October, 2022. He said that more than one month has elapsed since their promotion but the authorities concerned could not issue the posting orders of these newly promoted staff. Mr. Ayyappan said that almost all the offices under the Administration are facing shortage of Higher Grade Clerks. He told the Chief Secretary that this is the first promotion of these newly promoted Higher Grade Clerks in government service and all of them are eagerly waiting to join the promoted post which will make them eligible for a hike in their monthly salary.

Online link opens for IGNOU B.Ed, Ph.D, post basic B.Sc (Nursing) entrance test

PORT BLAIR, NOV 22/--/ The online link for submission of Entrance Application Form for B.Ed, Ph.D and Post Basic B.Sc (Nursing) of Indira Gandhi national Open University (IGNOU) has started now. The Entrance Test towards Admission for B.Sc.Nursing (PB), B.Ed. & Ph.D. Programme for January 2023 session is scheduled on 8th January, 2023. The eligible candidates may please visit IGNOU website-www.ignou.ac.in for online submission of the entrance application form. The last date for submission of online entrance application form is 20th December, 2022. For more details, contact IGNOU Regional Centre, Port Blair over Phone: 03192-242888, 03192-230111 or Email : reportblair@ignou.ac.in.

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Vishal accorded warm welcome at Katchal



PORT BLAIR, NOV 22/--/ Mr. Vishal Jolly, BJP's National Executive Member was accorded a warm welcome at Katchal Helipad. Mr. Jolly on Tuesday reached Katchal in Nancowrie Island on his 05-days visit to Nancowrie Group of Islands where he will hold meetings with tribal communities and other residents. The warm welcome was given by Tribal Council, 1st Captain Mr. Rajendra followed by Vice Chief Captain, Mr. Shankar Samsung, 3rd Captain Mr. Shalish Nathan and representative of Katchal Settlers Welfare Association and BJYM District General Secretary Shri Lawrence.

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PBGKR distributes ration kits for single mothers, elderly persons

PORT BLAIR, NOV 22/--/ With a list of 19 families of single mothers and elderly women who were in need of assistance, Mr. Abdul Basheer, Pradhan, Kanyapuram reached out to Mr. Mandeep Grewal, President, Port Blair Guru Ki Rasoi and explained the situation. Responding to the request, the PBGKR team immediately procured the ration kits for all the needy families of the area and handed over to them at Community Hall, Model Village, Kanyapuram in presence of Up-pradhan and PRI Members of the area. Mr. Abdul Basheer, Pradhan, Kanyapuram applauded and thanked Team Port Blair Guru Ki Rasoi for the immediate response.



Inter-school painting competition by Aid Control Society



PORT BLAIR, NOV 22/--/For observing World AIDS Day-2022, the Andaman & Nicobar AIDS Control Society organized an inter school painting competition on Tuesday at JNRM College. 67 students from 31 schools of Port Blair zone actively participated in the competition. The theme of the painting competition was "Equalize". "It is a prompt for all of us to work to

address inequalities and help end HIV & AIDS". This World AIDS Day, 1 December, UNAIDS is urging each of us to address the inequalities which are holding back progress in ending AIDS.

The "Equalize" slogan is a call to action. It is a prompt for all of us to work for the proven practical actions needed to address inequalities and help end AIDS.

CPI(M) condoles demise

PORT BLAIR, NOV 22/--/ CPI (M) Andaman & Nicobar State Organising Committee has deeply mourn the sudden demise of Mr. Bhuvanendran Pillai, retired Office Superintendent of A & N Administration and resident of Garacharma at GB Pant Hospital, Port Blair on 21st November, 2022. He was 62 years old. CPI (M) has conveyed its deepest condolences to the bereaved family members.

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Only two things are infinite, the universe and human stupidity, and I'm not sure about the former

Albert Einstein

Malaysia’s nationalists on track to form new govt

Malaysia's next government appears to be leaning to the religious right after a coalition of Malay nationalists won support of an influential bloc after tightly fought general elections failed to produce a clear winner. The unprecedented hung parliament after the divisive polls saw the rise of the the Malay-centric Perikatan Nasional, or National Alliance, led by former Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin. It stunned many Malaysians who had hoped for stability and unity after political turmoil that has seen three prime ministers since 2018 polls. Muhyiddin's alliance was an underdog that enjoyed an unexpected surge of votes with 73 out of 222 parliamentary seats. Its hard-line ally is the Pan-Malaysian Islamic Party, the biggest winner with a haul of 49 seats -- more than double what it won in 2018. Known as PAS, it touts Sharia, rules three states and is now the single largest party. Its rise has stoked fears of greater Islamisation in the country. Opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim's reformist multiethnic alliance topped the race with 82 federal seats, but fell far short of the 112 needed for a majority. In negotiations, Muhyiddin's coalition edged closer to a victory after securing the backing of political parties in two states on Borneo island that won a combined 32 federal seats. He still needs a nod from another key player, the United Malays National Organisation, to muster a majority. The arrangement, if confirmed by the king, means that Muhyiddin will return as prime minister. The nation's king still has to approve any deal. Malaysia's longest-ruling coalition -- the National Front -- said it has not decided which bloc to support after weekend elections left neither with enough seats to form a government on its own, and it would ask the nation's king to give it more time. The National Front's announcement has prolonged election uncertainty. King Sultan Abdullah Sultan Ahmad Shah initially set Monday as deadline for political leaders to submit their choice for prime minister and an alliance that represents a parliamentary majority. But the monarch later said he would extend it until Tuesday following a request from political parties. Any deal will have to be approved by Sultan Abdullah. The king's role is largely ceremonial in Malaysia, but he appoints the person he believes has majority support in Parliament as prime minister. The monarch said his decision will be final as he urged Malaysians to accept the outcome to ensure a stable government.

The once powerful alliance led by UMNO, which ruled Malaysia since independence from Britain until corruption scandals brought it down in 2018, is expected to return to the government as a junior partner. UMNO was the biggest loser with only 30 seats in its worst-ever performance as many Malays opted for Muhyiddin's bloc, which has touted itself as a caring, clean and stable alternative. This election had reinforced identity politics. Saturday's election outcome stunned many Malaysians who had hoped for stability and unity after political turmoil that has seen three prime ministers since 2018 polls. The current scenario is a replay of what happened in 2020, when Muhyiddin abandoned Anwar's ruling alliance, causing its collapse, and joined hands with UMNO to form a new government. Sultan Abdullah at the time requested written oaths from all 222 lawmakers and later interviewed them separately before picking Muhyiddin as prime minister. But his government was beset by internal rivalries and Muhyiddin resigned after 17 months. Muhyiddin's alliance entered the polls as an underdog but enjoyed an unexpected surge of support. Given that no party has outright majority, the newly formed coalition government will need to unite the nation.

Both Uddhav and Rahul can differ on Savarkar

REFLEX ACTION

Arun Srivastava

Savarkar was lodged in the Cellular Jail on July 4, 1911. Within six months, he submitted a petition for mercy. In October 1913, the Home Member of the Viceroy's Executive Council, Sir Reginald Craddock, visited the Jail and met Savarkar among others. His note of November 23, 1913, recorded Savarkar's pleas for mercy. Savarkar had submitted his second mercy petition on November 14, 1913: "I am ready to serve the Government in any capacity they like.... Where else can the prodigal son return but to the parental doors of the Government?", the 'revolutionary' and 'nationalist' wrote (emphasis added, throughout). Craddock accurately recorded "Savarkar's petition is one for mercy". That formulation was repeated in the petitions that followed.

On March 22, 1920, a Savarkar supporter, G.S. Khoparde, tabled questions in the Imperial Legislative Council, one of which read: "Is it not a fact that Mr. Savarkar and his brother had once in 1915 and at another time in 1918 submitted petitions to Government stating that they would, during the continuance of war, serve the Empire by enlisting in the Army, if released, and would, after the passing of the Reforms Bill, try to make the Act a success and would stand by law and order?" The Home Member Sir William Vincent replied: "Two petitions were received

from Vinayak Damodar Savarkar - one in 1914 and another in 1917, through the Superintendent, Port Blair. In the former he offered his services to Government during the war in any capacity and prayed that a general amnesty be granted to all political prisoners. The second petition was confined to the latter proposal." Thus there was one in 1917 besides that of 1913 which is perhaps the one Vincent referred to as one of 1914; perhaps not because Savarkar referred to two others of 1914 and 1918.

Savarkar concluded: "I and my brother are perfectly willing to give a pledge of not participating in politics for a definite and reasonable period that the Government would indicate....This or any pledge, e.g., of remaining in a particular province or reporting our movements to the police for a definite period after our release - any such reasonable conditions meant genuinely to ensure the safety of the State would be gladly accepted by me and my brother."

The MVA was formed on the basis of a common minimum programme despite ideological differences between the Congress and the Sena. Congress leaders Jairam Ramesh said: "These are matters of history. There are different perspectives and the debate will go on. Unlike the BJP, the Congress doesn't believe in rewriting history. If there is historical evidence, we can't distort it. We don't reinvent history. We can engage with somebody on the historical legacy of Savarkar. We have to do it dispassionately, in a scholarly manner.' That should be the approach of the Uddhav and his Sena leaders to fight the BJP in the state. (IPA/Concluded)



A Bhutanese national sells woolen garments at Wellington in central Kolkata on Tuesday--Arijit Ganguly

Funds outflow from third world countries strengthening US Dollar

FOCUS

Prabhat Patnaik

This would make the approaching crisis particularly acute for them. They would suffer not only from the recessionary effects of higher domestic and foreign interest rates; they would also suffer in addition from the fact that their debt rescheduling would become more expensive, and their current account deficits on the balance of payments would become more difficult to finance. All this would invite draconian "austerity" measures from international finance capital via its watchdogs like the IMF and the World Bank that would inevitably be approached for "assistance".

This new phase of world capitalism will also affect countries like India adversely, despite their not being as heavily indebted to external lenders, as of now, as many other third world countries. Till now India has had easy access to external finance for managing its current account deficits under the neoliberal regime. In the immediate aftermath of "liberalisation" this was because the country's earlier "closedness" to financial inflows made globalised finance eager to tap the various opportunities it provided when it did open up. Subsequently when American interest rates were driven down to zero to stimulate a recovery from the recession engendered by the financial

crisis, finance, not surprisingly, flowed into India and other third world countries that offered much higher rates of return.

As a result, the rise in India's GDP growth rates compared to the earlier dirigiste period witnessed at the beginning of this century could be sustained without any constraints arising from the side of the balance of payments. In fact for nearly a decade between 2002 and 2012, the exchange value of the rupee vis-à-vis the dollar remained remarkably stable, even when the country was experiencing an unprecedented upsurge in GDP growth rate.

It is a separate matter that this upsurge brought no improvement in the living conditions of the working people, but whatever its effects it was unconstrained by any balance of payments difficulties. Indeed, on the contrary, so large was the scale of inflow of finance relative to the current account deficit that the Reserve Bank of India had to add to the country's foreign exchange reserves to prevent an appreciation of the rupee. Such an

appreciation would have caused a totally gratuitous "debt-financed de-industrialization", that is, an outcompeting of domestic producers by foreign suppliers because of an appreciating rupee even as the country's external indebtedness to foreign financiers was going up.

That phase of neoliberalism is now over. Not only would India not experience GDP growth of that order of magnitude anymore because of a demand constraint arising from the massive growth of inequalities both within the country and internationally, a fact that has already become apparent for quite some time, but even this lower rate of GDP growth owing to the demand-constraint would itself become unsustainable because of balance of payments difficulties.

The extraordinary rapidity with which balance of payments difficulties can bring a country to its knees is illustrated in India's neighbourhood itself, with Sri Lanka providing a classic example. Considered just the other day a "middle income country" that had graduated from its low income

status, its economy is now beset with mounting external debt and an acute shortage of foreign exchange that makes it a mendicant before the International Monetary Fund which imposes onerous conditions of "austerity".

Imperialist propaganda makes all such "riches to rags" stories in the third world appear exclusively as fall-outs of local corruption, of the shenanigans of the likes of the Rajapaksas; but while these shenanigans no doubt play their role, focussing only on them and missing the structural infirmities introduced by neoliberalism is the height of folly.

A characteristic feature of neoliberal capitalism is that the living conditions of vast masses of the working people are determined by the whims and caprices of a bunch of financial speculators. The jitteriness of a bunch of financial speculators in the face of the inflationary upsurge and its sequel will bring in its wake acute hardships for the working people of the third world. The draconian austerity measures that would be imposed on these countries because of their balance of payments difficulties would mean that the people who scarcely got any benefits from the efflorescence of neoliberalism become ironically the victims of its decay. (IPA/Concluded)

Conventional Crossword							
1	2	3		4	5	6	7
9				10	11		
12					13		
					14		
		15	16	17			
18			19			20	
21	22	23					24
25				26			27
28						29	
30					31		

ACROSS				DOWN			
1	Untidy state	4	Unspoken	1	Rodents	2	Period of time
9	Anger	11	Bait	3	Sanity	5	Makes watchful
12	Boat	13	Poet's Ireland	6	Remedy	7	Part of the eye
14	Repose	15	Build	8	Fraction	10	Cut off
19	Efface	21	Spoken	16	Soften attitude	17	Social class
25	Narrow way	26	Concise	18	Punctuation mark	20	Mistake
28	Baking chamber	29	Not at home	22	Utter wildly	23	Afresh
30	Salamanders	31	Rounded vases	24	Wagers	27	Heavenly body

SUDOKU:3704

		3		7			6		
			9			3			
8	1		9				5		
5				8					6
3									1
4						1			2
		5						6	4
			1				2		
		8			5			7	

Yesterday's Solution 3703

2	9	8	3	5	4	7	1	6
4	5	7	1	6	8	9	2	3
6	3	1	2	9	7	5	8	4
9	7	4	8	1	5	6	3	2
1	8	5	6	2	3	4	7	9
3	2	6	4	7	9	1	5	8
7	4	3	5	8	6	2	9	1
5	6	2	9	3	1	8	4	7
8	1	9	7	4	2	3	6	5

Yesterday's Cross Word Solution 1712

S	H	A	M		S	M	A	L
A		B				A	R	I
G	L	U	M		B	R	I	N
A		T	U	B	A		S	E
				T	E	N	S	E
P		V	E	G	A	N		
I	R	E		A	L	A	S	P
L	I	N	E	N		G	A	L
O	P	A	L			L		I
T	E	L	L	S		S	T	I

DISCLAIMER

The views in the articles published here are absolutely the views of the author and The Echo of India does not stand liable for them.

SEVA SUCHNAYEIN

All the sailings are subject to weather conditions

SHIPPING SCHEDULE

• Nalanda will sail for Campbell Bay via Nancowry on 23.11.2022 (Wed) at 1000 Hrs from Haddo Wharf and will sail for Port Blair on 25.11.2022 (Fri) at 0900 Hrs from Campbell Bay via Nancowry.

LITTLE ANDAMAN:

? MV Campbell Bay will sail for Little Andaman on 24.11.2022 at 0900 Hrs from Haddo Wharf and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 2100 Hrs from Little Andaman. MV Campbell Bay will sail for Little Andaman on 26.11.2022 at 0900 Hrs from Haddo Wharf and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 2100 Hrs from Little Andaman.
Note: Passenger tickets for the above sailings i.e. (for 24th & 26th Nov., 2022) will be issued to the general public from 23.11.2022 onwards at STARS Ticketing Counters.

DIGLIPUR & MAYABUNDER:

MV Dering will sail for Diglipur via Mayabunder on 23.11.2022 (Wed) at 1900 Hrs from Haddo Wharf and will sail for Port Blair on 24.11.2022 (Thu) at 1230 Hrs from Diglipur via Mayabunder.
? MV Dering will sail for Diglipur via Mayabunder on 26.11.2022 (Sat) at 1900 Hrs from Haddo Wharf and will sail for Port Blair on 27.11.2022 (Sun) at 1230 Hrs from Diglipur via Mayabunder. Passenger tickets for the above sailing will be issued to the general public from 24.11.2022 onwards at STARS Ticketing Counters.
? MV Dering will sail for Diglipur via Mayabunder on 30.11.2022 (Wed) at 1900 Hrs from Haddo Wharf and will sail for Port Blair on 01.12.2022 (Thu) at 1230 Hrs from Diglipur via Mayabunder. Passenger tickets for the above sailing will be issued to the general public from 28.11.2022 onwards at STARS Ticketing Counters.

FORESHORE SECTOR:

Note: Passenger tickets for the Foreshore Sector vessels will be issued to the general public at STARS Ticketing Counters two days prior to her scheduled departure date.

23.11.2022 (WED)

SHAHEED DWEEP & SWARAJ DWEEP

MV Rani Lakshmi will sail for Swaraj Dweep on 23.11.2022 (Wed) at 0630 Hrs from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 0900 Hrs from Swaraj Dweep.
? MV Strait Island will sail for Shaheed Dweep on 23.11.2022 (Wed) at 0630 Hrs. from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 0845 Hrs from Shaheed Dweep. MV Strait Island will sail for Shaheed Dweep on 23.11.2022 (Wed) at 1100 Hrs from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 1600 Hrs from Shaheed Dweep. MV Strait Island will sail for Swaraj Dweep on 23.11.2022 (Wed) at 1300 Hrs from Shaheed Dweep Jetty and will sail back to Shaheed Dweep on the same day at 1430 Hrs from Swaraj Dweep.
? MV Rani Lakshmi will sail for Swaraj Dweep on 23.11.2022 (Wed) at 1400 Hrs from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 1630 Hrs from Swaraj Dweep.
• MV Kamorta will sail for Swaraj Dweep on 23.11.2022 (Wed) at 1700 Hrs from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail back to Port Blair on 24.11.2022 (Thu) at 0600 Hrs from Swaraj Dweep. RANGAT
MV Chouldari will sail for Rangat via Shaheed Dweep, Swaraj Dweep, Strait Island & Long Island on 23.11.2022 (Wed) at 0700 Hrs. from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on 24.11.2022 (Thu) at 0700 Hrs from Rangat via same route.

24.11.2022 (THU)

SHAHEED DWEEP & SWARAJ DWEEP

MV Bambooka will sail for Swaraj Dweep on 24.11.2022 (Thu) at 0630 Hrs from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 0900 Hrs from Swaraj Dweep.
MV Baratang will sail for Shaheed Dweep on 24.11.2022 (Thu) at 0630 Hrs. from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 0845 Hrs from Shaheed Dweep.
? MV Rani Lakshmi will sail for Shaheed Dweep on 24.11.2022 (Thu) at 1100 Hrs from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 1600 Hrs from Shaheed Dweep.
• MV Rani Lakshmi will sail for Swaraj Dweep on 24.11.2022 (Thu) at 1300 Hrs from Shaheed Dweep Jetty and will sail back to Shaheed Dweep on the same day at 1430 Hrs from Swaraj Dweep.
• MV Bambooka will sail for Swaraj Dweep on 24.11.2022 (Thu) at 1400 Hrs from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 1630 Hrs from Swaraj Dweep.
MV Strait Island will sail for Swaraj Dweep on 24.11.2022 (Thu) at 1700 Hrs from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail back to Port Blair on 25.11.2022 (Fri) at 0600 Hrs from Swaraj Dweep.

25.11.2022 (FRI)

SHAHEED DWEEP & SWARAJ DWEEP

? MV Bambooka will sail for Swaraj Dweep on 25.11.2022 (Fri) at 0630 Hrs from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 0900 Hrs from Swaraj Dweep.
? MV Rani Lakshmi will sail for Shaheed Dweep on 25.11.2022 (Fri) at 0630 Hrs. from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 0845 Hrs from Shaheed Dweep.
? MV Chouldari will sail for Shaheed Dweep on 25.11.2022 (Fri) at 1100 Hrs from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 1600 Hrs from Shaheed Dweep.
• MV Chouldari will sail for Swaraj Dweep on 25.11.2022 (Fri) at 1300 Hrs from Shaheed Dweep Jetty and will sail back to Shaheed Dweep on the same day at 1430 Hrs from Swaraj Dweep. ? MV Bambooka will sail for Swaraj Dweep on 25.11.2022 (Fri) at 1400 Hrs from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 1630 Hrs from Swaraj Dweep.
? MV Rani Lakshmi will sail for Swaraj Dweep on 25.11.2022 (Fri) at 1700 Hrs from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail back to Port Blair on 26.11.2022 (Sat) at 0600 Hrs from Swaraj Dweep.

RANGAT

MV Baratang will sail for Rangat via Swaraj Dweep & Long Island on 25.11.2022 (Fri) at 0615 Hrs. from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 1300 Hrs from Rangat via same route.

26.11.2022 (SAT)

SHAHEED DWEEP & SWARAJ DWEEP

? MV Bambooka will sail for Swaraj Dweep on 26.11.2022 (Sat) at 0630 Hrs from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 0900 Hrs from Swaraj Dweep.

Technical workshop marks 'World Fisheries Day'

PORT BLAIR, NOV. 22/--/

As part of the celebration of World Fisheries Day-2022, the Fisheries department organized a technical workshop on 'Fisheries & Aquaculture Development in A&N Islands' and felicitation session to recognize the best performed Fishers/ Fish Farmers/ Fish Vendors/ Entrepreneurs/ Fish processors and Field officials of Fisheries department in the conference hall of Industries department on Monday. The Secretary (Fisheries), Mr. G. Sudhakar was the chief guest on the occasion.

Addressing the gathering, the Secretary Fisheries said the fisheries sector has huge potential in A&N Islands especially in Long Line Tuna fishing, Mud Crab Culture and Seaweed Culture etc. Public Sector Units and Private Companies have expertise and the Department of Fisheries will put its best efforts to transfer this expertise to local farmers of these Islands for their welfare economic growth, he said. The Secretary while greeting the fishermen com-



munity on the occasion of World Fisheries Day further informed that local fish farmers of these Islands will be identified and they will be trained at Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Aquaculture and NIOT Port Blair so that they can start their own self venture by availing various schemes of Fisheries Department.

He said that the Fisheries Department will act as a coordinator to facilitate subsidy and bank loan aspects to enable the fishermen to become entrepreneurs. The Secretary, Fisheries also felicitated the beneficiaries who have started their self ventures by availing different schemes of Govt. of India.

In his address, the Director Fisheries, Mr. Harminder Singh while informing about the gathering about the significance of the Day said to celebrate this day a two day Island Seafood festival is also being organized at Corbyn's Cove. Referring to the workshop, he said the fishermen community will

Fifth Serendipity Arts Festival to be held from Dec 15 in Goa

PANAJI, NOV 22 /--/ The Serendipity Arts Festival (SAF) is back with an eclectic array of multi-disciplinary arts, exhibitions, workshops and performances, turning the Mandovir river front into a hub of cultural activities starting from December 15 here. Organised by the Serendipity Arts Foundation, the fifth edition of the festival will focus on sustainability, inclusivity and accessibility with a significant focus on children's programmes and those with special needs. "The festival is a realisation of our values as a foundation and we are delighted to be back with its much-awaited 5th edition in Panaji, Goa. The journey that the festival has made so far not only shows our commitment to the cause, but also marks the progress we have made and the impact we have created. "Along with our collaborators and partners, we will continue to broaden the creative and collaborative boundaries of the festival to make it more interactive, immersive, innovative and accessible for everyone,"

Sunil Kant Munjal, Founder Patron, Serendipity Arts Foundation said in a statement. While public art projects will be dotted across venues in Panaji, the exhibition segment will highlight the world of specialist books on the art history of India with projects like "Forgotten Carpets of the Jaipur Court: Craft and the Promise of the Archive", curated by Pramod Kumar KG. While contemporary Indian artist Sudarshan Shetty's "Who is Asleep Who is Awake" project will explore the surreal space between wakefulness and dream through works of seven artists, Veerangana Solanki will explore the online virtual space with 10 artists with a project titled "Future Landing: The Arcade". Lina Vincent and Akshay Mahajan's "The Goa Familia" will showcase an extensive archive of Goan cultural history and traditions. The performance section of this year's SAF will see musical, theatrical, and dance performances curated by tabla player Bickram Ghosh, composer Ehsaan Noorani,

theatre director Quasar Thakore Padamsee, and Bharatnatyam exponent Geeta Chandran. One of the highlights of Ghosh's curation will be performances by Sanjay Mondal, who will lead a group of children who make music through instruments made from scrap and waste material. Ghosh will also curate performances by the likes of percussionists A Shivamani, Taufique Qureshi, multi-Grammy winner musician Rickey Kej, singers Kalpana Patowary and Parvati Kumari. Chandran and Padamsee will present curations true to the interdisciplinary focus. While Chandran's projects include "Game of Dice", a dance production that draws from Kathakali, Chhau, and Contemporary, Padamsee's "Desdemon Roopakam" will be sung like a chamber opera using Carnatic, Hindustani and folk music. Padamsee, in collaboration with theatre Ranga Shankara and children's library Bookworm, will have a unique project aimed at children and young

adults titled "The Enchanted Grove" that draws inspiration from the communally protected sacred groves of Goa. The nine-day festival will also feature culinary, theatre, movement, and music workshops. (PTI)

AFFIDAVIT

G. John S/o Late Y. George R/o Janakpur village under Rangat Tehsil of North & Middle Andaman District do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as under :-

1. That at present I am residing at above mentioned address.
2. That I am tenant of Land bearing S.No: 201 situated at Janakpur village
3. That my name appeared wrongly in my land record (ROR) as a G. Johan instead of my correct name as G. John.
4. That my father name also appeared wrongly in my land record (ROR) as G. George instead of correct name as Y. George.
5. That I intend to correct my name and my father name in my land record (ROR) S.No: 201 situated at Janakpur village.
6. That I am swearing this affidavit for correction of my name and my father name in my land record (ROR) S.No: 201 situated at Janakpur village from the concerned authority.

The above declarations are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Place: Rangat

Date: 14/11/2022

F.No.G-202/1/2022-Estt-A&C-AC,AN

अंडमान तथा निकोबार प्रशासन
Andaman & Nicobar Administration
कला एवं संस्कृति निदेशालय
Directorate of Art and Culture

Port Blair, Dated November, 2022

PRESS NOTE

Title: - Claims/objections/suggestions on list of Local Cultural Organizations recommended for Grant-in-Aid from Department of Art & Culture for year 2022-23- reg.

Under the provisions contained in "Andaman & Nicobar Islands Rules for Grant-in-aid to Local Cultural organizations" notified vide Admn.'s Notification No. 273/2018/F.No. 10-17/Art & Culture/ 2017/GIA Rules dated 3rd September 2018, applications were invited from interested local Cultural Organizations of A&N Islands for financial assistance in the form of Grant in Aid vide this office Press Release published in the Daily Telegrams on 18.06.2022, to promote activities pertaining to Art & Culture, National Integration, Communal Harmony, Brotherhood etc. The Cultural Organizations were asked to submit their applications with the relevant details and supporting documents. In response 13 cultural Organizations from South Andaman District have submitted their applications.

The applications of Cultural Associations have been scrutinized by the Scrutiny Committee constituted vide order no. 08 dated 26th February 2015 based on provisions of "Andaman and Nicobar Islands Rules for Grant in Aid to Local Cultural Organizations" and the supporting documents which include Audited Statement, Annual Report, Utilization Certificate etc. for the previous grant. The Committee after examining the details of activities undertaken by the cultural associations recommended for release of GIA @ Rs. 25000/- each to the following 13 Local Cultural Associations for the year 2022-23.

Sl. No.	Name of the Cultural Organization and their Address
1	Sarmistha Music Centre Group, Junglighat, Port Blair.
2	Baaulmon, Shadipur, Port Blair.
3	M.J.Music Academy, Loknath Colony, Dollygunj , Port Blair
4	Andaman Sangeet Academy, Dairy Farm, Port Blair.
5	Friends Cultural Group, Pahargaon, Port Blair.
6	Aditya Natya Academy, Middle Point, Port Blair.
7	Jhankar Dance Group, Chouldhari, South Andaman
8	Avinash Social and Cultural Society, Aberdeen Village, Port Blair.
9	Young Brothers Club, Dairy Farm , Port Blair.
10	Nrityalpana Dance Academy, Prem Nagar, Port Blair.
11	Anandodhara, Phoenix bay, Port Blair
12	Sur Saptak A Sangeet Academy, South Point, Port Blair.
13	Kasheesh, RGT Road, Port Blair.

In this connection, this Directorate invites claims, objections or suggestions if any against the said list within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this Notice which may be sent to the Director (Art & Culture), Cellular Jail Complex, Atlanta Point, Port Blair. The list of Cultural Organizations shall be finalized after consideration of the objections and suggestions, if any.

This has the approval of the competent authority.

9334/22

Director (Art & Culture)

Tender Notification

Pondicherry University Off Campus, Port Blair

Registered Contractor or Individual who intend to run mess for around 150 students may submit their tender form to the undersigned on or before 09th December 2022, before 02:00PM. Tender opening will be carried out on 09th December 2022 at 02:30PM in Pondicherry University off Campus, Brookshabad, Port Blair-744112. Tender form is available within the undersigned by the production of receipt for an amount of Rs.2500/- payment through the bank deposit in the account no. No.6494449415-IFSC Code - IDIB000P670 of Indian Bank, Port Blair Branch, under the name of the Pondicherry University Mess Account.

Dr.P.M.MOHAN
WARDEN, BGH,
PUOC, PB.

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS

The **Executive Engineer, Panchayati Raj Institution, South Andaman Division-I** on behalf of **Pradhan, Gram Panchayat, Kanyapuram** 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/RR/2022-23/75 Name of Work: - Renovation of Black top Road with drain from water Tank to Kispota house at Ward No. KP-01 under Kanyapuram Gram Panchayat. **Estimated Cost Rs:** - 16, 62,681/- **Earnest Money Deposit:** - 33,254/- **Time of Completion:** - Six (06) Months, Tender Fee: - ₹ .500/- & last date & time of submission of bid: - 01/12/2022 (1500 hrs)

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

Tender ID: - 2022_RDPRI_8181_1

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

9343/22

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For more details: Assistant Director, NCT & DC, Kalavoor, P.O., Alappuzha, Ph: 0477 2258067, Email: adnctdc@gmail.com

For more details, please logon to: www.coirboard.gov.in

Sd/-
Secretary

15.11.2022

CBC-25131/12/0014/2223

Saudi victory over Argentina sparks jubilation, disbelief

DOHA, NOV 22 /--/ Saudi Arabia stunned Lionel Messi's Argentina on Tuesday, beating the two-time winners 2-1 in one of the biggest upsets in World Cup history. Salem Al-Dawsari hit a stunning winner to sink the red-hot favourites, bringing the South American side's 36-match unbeaten run to a shuddering halt. The win was fully deserved after Saudi Arabia came from behind after Saleh Al-Shehri cancelled out an early Lionel Messi penalty. Playing a risky high defensive line, the athletic Saudis rode their luck in the first half when three times Argentina had the ball in the net only to be denied by an offside call. (Details on Sports page)

CV Ananda Bose reaches Kolkata ahead of taking oath as West Bengal Guv

KOLKATA, NOV 22 /--/ CV Ananda Bose will take oath as the new governor of West Bengal on Wednesday, an official said. Bose, who was named the new governor on November 17, reached Kolkata on Tuesday morning. He was received at the airport by Kolkata Mayor Firhad Hakim, Industry Minister Shashi Panja, Chief Secretary HK Dwivedi and Kolkata Police Commissioner Vineet Goyal. He was given a guard of honour at the airport,



before being escorted to the Raj Bhavan. Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and other dignitaries, including assembly Speaker Biman Bandyopadhyay and Leader of Opposition Suvendhu Adhikary, will be present at his oath-taking programme in Raj Bhavan on Wednesday, the official said. The governor is administered the oath by the chief justice of the high court. Bose, a retired Kerala cadre IAS officer of the 1977 batch, will replace La Ganesan as the governor. Ganesan was appointed the governor in July after Jagdeep Dhankhar resigned to fight the election for vice president. Bose served as an administrator of the National Museum in Kolkata before superannuating in 2011. He will be briefed about the functioning of the Raj Bhavan on Tuesday, officials said. (PTI)



Salem Aldawsari of Saudi Arabia celebrates after scoring during the Group C match between Argentina and Saudi Arabia at the 2022 FIFA World Cup at Lusail Stadium

Six die in violence on disputed Assam-Meghalaya border

Assam Govt to hand over probe to central or a neutral agency

GUWAHATI/ SHILLONG, NOV 22 /--/ Six persons, including a forest guard, were killed in violence at the disputed Assam-Meghalaya border in the early hours of Tuesday after a truck allegedly laden with illegally felled timber was intercepted by forest guards from Assam.

In a tweet tagging Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Assam CM Himanta Sarma, Meghalaya's Chief Minister Conrad Sangma, whose party is an ally of the BJP, complained that the Assam police and forest guards "entered Meghalaya and resorted to unprovoked firing". Assam Police officials however said the truck was intercepted in West Karbi Anglong district of the state by a state Forest department team and a mob from the Meghalaya side had later attacked the team of forest guards and policemen from the state, which led firing by the Assamese side to control the situation. Five of the six killed at "Mukroh village in West Jai tia Hills District were Meghalaya residents and one is from the Assam Forest Guard," Sangma said. The Assam police however placed the figure at 4, including a forest guard. "The Meghalaya Government strongly condemns the incident where the Assam Police & Assam Forest Guards entered Meghalaya & resorted to unprovoked firing. GoM will take all steps to ensure that justice is served & action is taken against those responsible in this inhuman act," he said on the social media platform. The Meghalaya chief minister also tweeted "I also appeal to our citizens to maintain peace and harmony in the State. The State Government is

taking all the necessary steps to ensure that law and order is maintained." The two states' have a long disputed border. While talks have resolved part of the dispute, certain sections still remain properly un-demarcated. West Karbi Anglong superintendent of police Imdad Ali told PTI that the Assam forest department team intercepted and stopped the truck at Mukru area within his

weapons gathered at the spot around 5 am, the officer said. The mob 'gheraod' (surrounded) the forest guards and the police personnel demanding immediate release of those arrested and attacked them which prompted the police to resort to firing to bring the situation under control, Ali said. "A forest home guard and three persons from the Khasi community of Meghalaya were killed in the incident. The situation is under control now," the SP said, adding that top officers of the district have rushed to the remote area. It is not clear whether the casualties, including the forest guard named Bidyasing Lekhte, died of bullet injuries or from injuries inflicted by other weapons. Sangma also announced an ex gratia compensation of Rs 5 Lakh each for the next of kin the deceased individuals. "The Cabinet will sit today to decide on the next course of action which the Government will take with regards to this incident," he tweeted.

He also announced that a meeting with Rangbah Shnongs (traditional heads) and religious leaders, members of civil society and NGOs is being called to discuss, inform and appeal for their support to stand together. Meanwhile, a police official said in Guwahati that an alert has been sounded in all districts bordering Meghalaya and their police as been asked to remain vigilant. "All superintendents of police of districts along Meghalaya have been told to keep a strict watch on any possible law and order situation. But there is no restriction on movement of vehicles or people along the inter-state border," he added. (PTI)



Candle vigil in Meghalaya following the Assam-Meghalaya border firing incident

district carrying the illegal timber towards West Jaintia Hills district of Meghalaya around 3 am. As the truck tried to flee, the forest guards fired at it and deflated a tyre. The vehicle's driver and handyman and another person were then apprehended, though others managed to escape, he said. Police reinforcements were rushed to the spot when the forest guards contacted Zirikending police station. After the police reached the spot, a large number of people from Meghalaya armed with 'daos' (daggers) and other

five months over money-laundering charges. The BJP demanded that Kejriwal apologise to the nation and dismiss Jain. "Satyendar Jain shouldn't retain the post of a Delhi minister for a minute anymore," said BJP spokesperson Gaurav Bhatia. He demanded that Kejriwal should resign if "his shoulders are too weak" to carry the responsibility of dismissing Jain after this episode.

Jain could be seen in the purported videos getting back and foot massages in his cell, reading some documents and talking to visitors while lying on a bed. Mineral water bottles and a remote are also seen. In one video, he was seen getting a head massage while sitting on a chair. Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia had claimed Jain was receiving physiotherapy following a spinal injury and accused the BJP of doing "cheap" politics on health issues by illegally leaking CCTV footage. Targeting the AAP, Union minister Hardeep Singh Puri said, "Many have commented that Delhi did not become London, but it has become a Thailand spa." Talking to reporters on



Photo : CCTV footage

the sidelines of an event here, he further said: "They (AAP) are saying why objections are being raised on medical therapy. But a new thing has come to the fore today that the masseur who was seen in the video giving a massage (to Jain) is facing charges of a different kind." Chief of Delhi unit of AAP and a colleague of Jain in the Kejriwal government, Gopal Rai alleged that BJP was highlighting matters related to Sisodia and Jain and other sting operations since it does not have any election issues related to Municipal Corporation of Delhi election. On Jain apparently getting special treatment inside jail, he said: "Amit Shah was in Gujarat jail and at that time, there was a special jail for him. The kind of treatment he got nobody can get ever. This is available on record." "The issue is not of him (Jain) getting treatment, but the issue is that what treatment will Delhi people give the BJP on December 4," Rai said. He alleged that the BJP's only agenda was just to tarnish the image of Kejriwal. "In Delhi, for the last 10 days, there are two parties that are campaigning, while Congress is not part of the battle," Rai said. (PTI)

Rozgar Melas' in NDA-ruled states benefits of double-engine governments: Modi

NEW DELHI, NOV 22 /--/ Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday handed out job appointment letters to more than 71,000 youngsters, saying similar campaigns have been held in NDA-ruled states and union territories in the past one month. "This is the double benefit of double-engine governments. The campaign to hand over appointment letters to the youth shall continue in a sustained manner," Modi said addressing the second 'Rozgar Mela' (employment fair) organised by the Central government. Double-engine government has been a campaign issue for the BJP in several assembly elections, including the recently concluded one in Himachal and the upcoming polls in Gujarat.

The prime minister distributed 71,056 appointment letters to recruits via video conferencing. Physical copies of appointment letters were handed over at 45 locations across the country, except Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh where the Model Code of Conduct is in force. Modi said in the past one month union territories and NDA-ruled states have handed out appointment letters to thousands of youth. "In the past one month alone, Maharashtra and Gujarat have handed out thousands of appointment letters. A few days ago, the Uttar Pradesh government too has handed out appointment letters to several youths. Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu, Chandigarh too have organised Rozgar Melas and handed out jobs to thousands of youth," the prime minister said. He said the governments of Goa and Tripura were also organising Rozgar Mela on November 24 and November 28

respectively. The prime minister said organising Rozgar Mela showed the government was working in mission mode to provide jobs to the youngsters of the country. "This huge Rozgar Mela shows how the government is working in mission mode to provide jobs," he said. The prime minister said that despite the global pandemic and crises triggered by the war, experts around the world were optimistic about India's growth trajectory. "As per the experts, India has become a major force in the services sector and soon it will be the manufacturing hub of the world too," Modi said. He said



initiatives such as performance-linked incentives (PLI) will play a huge role in boosting manufacturing in the country. "The PLI scheme is likely to create 60 lakh jobs. Campaigns, like Make in India, Vocal for Local, and taking local products global are creating new opportunities for employment and self-employment," Modi added. "The possibility of new jobs in both the government and private sectors is continuously increasing. More importantly, these opportunities are emerging for the youth in their own cities and villages. This has reduced the compulsion of migration for the youth and they are able to play their role in the development of their area,"

he said. Modi said the youngsters were the biggest strength of the country and the government was making every effort to ensure their talent was utilised in nation-building. The Prime Minister's Office said the campaign is a step towards fulfilling his commitment to accord the highest priority to employment generation and it is expected to be a catalyst in creating more jobs and providing meaningful opportunities to the youth for their empowerment and participation in national development directly. In October, appointment letters were handed over to 75,000 people. Modi had in June asked various government departments and ministries to undertake the recruitment of 10 lakh people on a "mission mode" in the next year and a half. Modi on Tuesday also launched the Karmayogi Prarambh module. The module is an online orientation course for all new appointees in various government departments. It will include a code of conduct for government servants, workplace ethics

and integrity, human resource policies and other benefits and allowances that will help them to get acclimatised to policies and transition smoothly into the new roles. The newly appointed employees will also get an opportunity to explore other courses on the igotkarmayogi.gov.in platform to enhance their knowledge, skills and competencies. Union Ministers Sarbananda Sonowal, Narendra Tomar, Jitendra Singh, Renuka Saruta, R K Singh, Subhas Sarkar, and Shripad Naik handed out letters of employment to the youth in Guwahati, Bhopal, Delhi, Raipur, Sonapat, Gangtok and Panaji respectively. (PTI)

Priyanka Gandhi to join 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' as it enters MP Wednesday

BURHANPUR, NOV 22 /--/ Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra will join the Bharat Jodo Yatra led by her brother Rahul Gandhi on Wednesday when it enters Madhya Pradesh, a senior party leader said. This is the first time that Priyanka Gandhi, the general secretary in-charge of Uttar Pradesh, will be participating in the yatra. MP Congress president Kamal Nath said the Yatra will enter the central Indian state from Burhanpur district on Wednesday morning. "Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi will arrive tomorrow evening to join the yatra," Nath told reporters here. Earlier in the day, Congress general secretary in-charge communications Jairam Ramesh tweeted in Hindi about Priyanka joining the foot march. "Priyanka Gandhi will join the Yatra there and participate for four days". Nath said the Madhya Pradesh leg of the yatra will be most successful. The cross-country yatra began from Kanyakumari in Tamil Nadu on September 7. It has traversed through Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Maharashtra so far. Nath said the yatra was taken out aiming to unite the society and people are enthused. "Gandhi embarked on the yatra to protect the country's constitution, democracy, culture, and the people. "During the Madhya Pradesh leg of the yatra, every day will be a new day as every section of the society is associated with it. Each day of the yatra will be dedicated to special sections of the society, he added. The yatra will cover Burhanpur, Khandwa, Khargone, Indore, Ujjain and Agar Malwa districts before proceeding to Rajasthan, a Congress leader said. (PTI)



Sources say Jain's masseur rape accused prisoner; BJP demands minister's sacking, apology from Kejriwal

NEW DELHI, NOV 22 /--/ With the row over AAP minister Satyendar Jain getting massage in prison refusing to die down, sources on Tuesday claimed his masseur was a fellow prisoner accused of raping a minor, while the BJP and the Congress assailed Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and demanded the sacking of the jailed minister.

The AAP hit back at the BJP saying it is trying to malign the image of Kejriwal ahead of the MCD polls in Delhi as it has no real issues to talk about and cited treatment received by party leader and Union Home Minister Amit Shah when he was in jail. The person shown massaging Jain in a CCTV footage was identified as Rinku, the sources claimed. "He is lodged in Tihar jail for raping a minor in JP Kalan in 2021. A case under various sections including Pocco Act was registered against him by police. Rinku is not a physiotherapist," a source claimed. The claim comes days after the Aam Aadmi Party, which has been drawing flak over the videos, asserted that Jain was receiving physiotherapy in the jail, where he is in judicial custody for the past

Imran Khan 'sold' gold medal he received from India: Pak defence minister

ISLAMABAD, NOV 22 /--/ Pakistan's former prime minister Imran Khan "sold" a gold medal he received from India during his cricketing years, the country's defence minister Khawaja Asif has claimed.

The 70-year-old cricketer-turned-politician is in the crosshairs these days for buying gifts, including an expensive Graff wristwatch he had received as prime minister at a discounted price from the state depository called Toshakhana and selling them for profit. During a television programme on Monday, Asif said Khan "had sold a gold medal which he had received from India," the Express Tribune newspaper on Tuesday quoted the senior Pakistan Muslim League (PML-N) leader as saying. Asif did not provide any details about the gold medal Khan allegedly sold. Khan's actions are not illegal per se but are contrary to the high moral standards Khan always had talked about, the report said.

Usually, such gifts are either permanently deposited in the Toshakhana or can be bought by the person who received them at a lower price. Khan had been disqualified by the Election Commission of Pakistan for making "false statements and incorrect declaration" in the Toshakhana issue. On September 8, the deposed prime minister admitted in a written reply that he had sold at least four presents he received during his tenure as premier, according to the report. Meanwhile, addressing a session of the National Assembly, the defence minister took a dig at Khan and said the former prime minister has "gone mad for power." He said Khan should not "target" the institutions that "supported him unconditionally" during the last four years. Asif said that the PTI chairman could not deliver despite the assistance extended to him by the institutions that backed him. He noted that Khan was censuring the armed forces of the country despite the fact that they had announced to remain apolitical. "After 75 years, we are at a point where we can say that all the institutions are playing their constitutional role. These institutions extended unconditional support to Imran Khan," he said. "He (Imran) should not attack these institutions but rather should be ashamed of himself that despite their assistance he could not perform." Khan, who escaped an assassination attempt earlier this month, is expected to relaunch his long march this week, demanding early elections. Khan was ousted in April after a no-confidence motion was passed against him. (PTI)



Khawaja Asif

UN chief gives shout-out to Indian activist D'Silva for efforts to end gender-based violence

UNITED NATIONS, NOV 22 /--/ UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Tuesday gave a shout-out to Indian gender activist and social entrepreneur Elsa Marie D'Silva for her efforts towards combating gender-based violence, saying examples such as hers fill him with hope for the future. "I am thinking of people like Elsa Marie D'Silva from India, who co-founded a platform that crowdsources and maps sexual violence and harassment. "Her efforts are mobilising thousands of young people around the world to break the silence and end gender-based violence," Guterres said in his opening remarks at the 9th Global Forum of the Alliance of Civilisations in Fez, Morocco. The UN chief said he is also thinking of people like Magdalen Amony from Uganda who lost a family member to the Lord's Resistance Army and who today is helping former child soldiers reintegrate into their communities in the face of severe human trauma and mistrust. "And I am thinking of the work of people like Imam Muhammad Ashafa and Pastor James Wuye, who used to lead opposing militias in Nigeria. Today, they are united in friendship and partnership to defuse religious conflict. "It is examples like these that fill me with hope for the future," he said.

D'Silva is the Founder of the Red Dot Foundation and President of Red Dot Foundation Global (Safecity) which is a platform that documents sexual harassment and abuse in public spaces. Under her guidance and leadership, Safecity has become the largest crowd map on the issue in India, Kenya, Cameroon, Nigeria and Nepal. D'Silva has been honoured with multiple awards for her work, including Equal Rights and Non-Discrimination award at the World Justice Challenge 2022; Runner at the Trust Law Impact Awards 2022 and Winner of the Shree Shakti Award by UN Women India and Government of India (MeitY) 2022. She has been a 2020 Gratitude Network Fellow & 2019 International Women's Forum Fellow, 2019 Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellow, 2018 Yale World Fellow, 2017 Stanford Draper Hills Summer School Fellow, 2017 Chevening Gurukul Fellow at Oxford University and an alumna of the Swedish Institute (2012) and the US Department of State's Fortune Programme (2016). D'Silva is part of the Policy Strategy Group on World We Want 2030 People's Voices and Action Platform for advancing Agenda 2030 - SDGs - comprised of UN entities, CSOs, private foundations, bi-lateral, academia, media and youth lead-organizations. She is also a member of the United Nations Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development, according to her website. (PTI)

Long-serving Italian politician Roberto Maroni dies at 67

ROME, NOV 22 /--/ Roberto Maroni, a longtime leader of the right-wing Northern League party and a cabinet minister in ex-Premier Silvio Berlusconi's three governments, has died at age 67, League leaders and the premier said on Tuesday. State-run RAI television cited a family statement saying Maroni died at 4 am after a long illness. Maroni was a longtime associate of Northern League founder Umberto Bossi and was secretary of the party as it grew from a northern secessionist movement into a key ally in successive conservative governments, dating from Berlusconi's rise in politics in the 1990s. The party under current leader Matteo Salvini dropped "Northern" from the name in a bid to expand its geographic appeal and downplay a past that many saw as discriminatory against Italy's poorer south, and is now a coalition partner in Premier Giorgia Meloni's right-wing government. A lawyer, Maroni served as interior minister in Berlusconi's 1994-1995 government, labour minister in his second government in 2001 and interior minister again in his third and final government in 2008-2011. Highly visible with his trademark red-rimmed glasses, he was an accomplished pianist and played in a band in his hometown, Varese. (AP)

Indonesian rescuers search through rubble of quake; 268 dead



Tale-tell signs of the devastation wrought by the earthquake in Indonesia

CIANJUR, NOV 22 /--/ Indonesian rescuers used jackhammers, circular saws and sometimes their bare hands Tuesday to shift the rubble of flattened buildings as they searched for the dead and missing from an earthquake that killed at least 268 people.

With many missing, some remote areas still unreachable and more than 1,000 people injured in the 5.6 magnitude quake, the death toll was likely to rise. Hospitals near the epicentre on the densely populated island of Java were already overwhelmed, and patients hooked up to IV drips lay on stretchers and cots in tents set up outside, awaiting further treatment. Indonesia is frequently hit by earthquakes, many much stronger than Monday's whose magnitude would typically be expected to cause light damage. But experts said the shallowness of the quake

and inadequate infrastructure contributed to the severe damage, including caved-in roofs and large piles of bricks, concrete, and corrugated metal. The quake was centred on the rural, mountainous Cianjur district, where one woman said her home started "shaking like it was dancing". "I was crying and immediately grabbed my husband and children," said Partinem, who like many Indonesians only goes by one name. The house collapsed shortly after she escaped with her family. "If I didn't pull them out, we might have also been victims," she said, gazing over the pile of broken concrete and timber. More than 2.5 million people live in Cianjur district, including about 175,000 in the main town of the same name. The quake struck at a depth of 10 km (6.2 miles) and also caused panic in the capital of Jakarta, about a three-hour drive away, where high-rises swayed

and some people evacuated. National Disaster Mitigation Agency head Suharyanto, who uses one name, told reporters that 1,083 people were injured and at least 151 were missing. But not all of the dead have been identified, so it's possible some of the bodies pulled from the rubble are of people on the missing list. Rescue operations were focused on about a dozen locations in Cianjur, where people are still believed trapped, said Endra Atmawidjaja, the public works and housing spokesperson. "We are racing against time to rescue people," Atmawidjaja said.



Initial rescue attempts were hampered by damaged roads and bridges and power outages, and a lack of equipment to help move

the heavy rubble. By Tuesday, power supplies and phone communications had begun to improve, and Atmawidjaja said that seven excavators and 10 large trucks had been deployed from neighbouring areas to clear roads. In the village of Cijedil, the quake triggered a landslide that blocked streets and



buried several houses, said Henri Alfandi, chief of the National Search and Rescue Agency. "We are maximising operations at several points where it is suspected that there are still casualties. Our team is also trying to reach remote areas," he said. Many of the dead were public school students who had finished their classes for the day and were taking extra lessons at Islamic schools when the buildings collapsed, West Java Governor

Ridwan Kamil said.

More than 13,000 people whose homes were heavily damaged were taken to evacuation centres, Kamil said, though thousands spent the night in the open fearing aftershocks. Cargo trucks carrying food, tents, blankets and other supplies from the capital, Jakarta arrived early Tuesday in temporary shelters. Outside the Cianjur Regional Hospital, hundreds waited for treatment. "I was working inside my office building. The building was not damaged, but as the quake shook very strongly, many things fell. My leg was hit by heavy stuff," said Dwi Sarmadi, who works for an Islamic educational foundation in a neighbouring district. He was waiting near a tent outside the hospital after some overwhelmed clinics were unable to see him. Many people were arriving in worse shape. "I really hope they can handle me soon," he said. (AP)

Biden opens holidays, pardons turkeys Chocolate and Chip

WASHINGTON, NOV 22 /--/ President Joe Biden continued a 75-year tradition Monday and pardoned a pair of Thanksgiving turkeys named after his

year. "I hereby pardon Chocolate and Chip," Biden declared. Before the ceremony, his son Hunter Biden brought his toddler son, Beau, who is almost 3, outside to see the turkeys.



Both gobblers were hatched in July in Monroe, North Carolina, according to the National Turkey Federation, sponsor of the turkey tradition, which dates to 1947 and President Harry Truman. The burst of holiday activity at the White House followed a busy weekend personally for Biden and his family, along with midterm elections that saw the president's Democratic Party perform well enough

favourite flavour of ice cream while cracking jokes about his political party's better-than-expected performance in this month's midterm elections.

"The votes are in, they've been counted and verified," Biden said as he welcomed turkeys Chocolate and Chip before hundreds of people gathered on the South Lawn in unseasonably cold weather. "There's no ballot stuffing. There's no foul play. The only red wave this season's gonna be if German shepherd Commander knocks over the cranberry sauce on our table." Commander is his dog. Chocolate and Chip, each weighing nearly 50 pounds (23 kilograms), were driven up from North Carolina on Saturday. They were checked into a room at the Willard hotel, near the White House, to await their visit with the president and his declaration of their freedom. Chocolate chip is Biden's favourite flavour of ice cream. The president joked at the event that "we could have named them Chips and Science," after the 280 billion CHIPS and Science Act that he championed and signed into law this

to defy historical trends that had forecast huge losses. Democrats will keep control of the Senate. Although Republicans will control the House when a new Congress is seated in January, Democrats did keep GOP gains in that chamber to a minimum. The official White House Christmas tree was delivered Monday, and the Bidens helped serve a Thanksgiving-style dinner on a North Carolina Marine Corps base later that evening.

Biden and his wife, Jill, were scheduled to leave Washington on Tuesday to continue their family tradition of spending the Thanksgiving holiday on the Massachusetts island of Nantucket. They hosted the wedding of their granddaughter Naomi Biden at the White House on Saturday, followed by a family brunch on Sunday for the president's 80th birthday. Humor aside, the president ended Monday's White House event on a serious note, encouraging people to get their COVID-19 vaccines to ensure a healthy holiday season. He also encouraged Americans to reflect and "be grateful for what we have." (AP)

Kim's sister warns US of 'a more fatal security crisis'

SEOUL, NOV 22 /--/ The influential sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un warned the United States on Tuesday that it would face "a more fatal security crisis" as Washington pushes for UN condemnation of the North's recent intercontinental ballistic missile test. Kim Yo Jong's warning came hours after US Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield told an emergency meeting of the UN Security Council that the US will circulate a proposed presidential statement condemning North Korea's banned missile launches and other destabilising activities. After the meeting, Thomas-Greenfield also read a statement by 14 countries which supported action to limit North Korea's advancement of its weapons programmes. Kim Yo Jong, who is widely considered North Korea's second most powerful person

after her brother, lambasted the United States for issuing what she called "a disgusting joint statement together with such rabbles as Britain, France, Australia, Japan and South Korea". Kim compared the United States to "a barking dog seized with fear". She said North Korea would consider the US-led statement "a wanton violation of our sovereignty and a grave political provocation". "The US should be mindful that no matter how desperately it may seek to disarm (North Korea), it can never deprive (North Korea) of its right to self-defense and that the more hell-bent it gets on the anti- (North Korea) acts, it will face a more fatal security crisis," she said in a statement carried by state media.

Monday's UN Security Council meeting was convened in response to North Korea's ICBM launch on Friday, which was part of a provocative run of missile tests this year that experts say is designed to modernise its nuclear arsenal and increase its leverage in future diplomacy. Friday's test involved its most powerful Hwasong-17 missile, and some



experts say the successful steep-angle launch proved it's potential to strike anywhere in the US mainland if it's fired at a standard trajectory. During the Security Council meeting, the United States and its allies strongly criticized the ICBM launch and called for action to limit North Korea's nuclear and missile programs. But Russia and China, both veto-wielding members of the Security Council, opposed any new pressure and sanctions on North Korea.

In May, the two countries vetoed a US-led attempt to toughen sanctions on North Korea over its earlier ballistic missile tests, which are prohibited by UN Security Council resolutions. North Korea has said its testing activities are legitimate exercises of its right to self-defence in response to regular military drills between the United States and South Korea

which it views as an invasion rehearsal. Washington and Seoul officials say the exercises are defensive in nature. Kim Yo Jong said the fact that North Korea's ICBM launch was discussed at the Security Council is "evidently the application of double-standards" by the UN body because it "turned blind eyes" to the US-South Korean military drills and arms buildups targeting North Korea. She said North Korea will take "the toughest counteraction to the last" to protect its national security.

On Monday, North Korea's foreign minister, Choe Son Hui, called UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres "a puppet of the United States". There are concerns that North Korea may soon conduct its first nuclear test in five years. The status of North Korea's nuclear capability remains shrouded in secrecy. Some analysts say North Korea already has nuclear-armed missiles that can strike both the US mainland and its allies South Korea and Japan, but others say the North is still years away from possessing such missiles. (AP)

Indian wildlife biologist honoured with UN's highest Environmental award

UNITED NATIONS, NOV 22 /--/ Indian wildlife biologist Dr Purnima Devi Barman is among the honourees of this year's Champions of the Earth award, the UN's highest environmental honour, accorded for their transformative action to prevent, halt and reverse ecosystem degradation.

Barman has been honoured with the UN Environment Programme's (UNEP) 2022 Champions of the Earth award in the Entrepreneurial Vision category. A wildlife biologist, Barman leads the "Hargila Army", an all-female grassroots conservation movement dedicated to protecting the Greater Adjutant Stork from extinction. The women create and sell textiles with motifs of the bird, helping to raise awareness about the species while building their own financial independence. Barman is also Senior Project Manager of the Avifauna Research and Conservation Division, Aaranyak. The UNEP website

said that at the age of five, Barman was sent to live with her grandmother on the banks of the Brahmaputra River in Assam. "Separated from her parents and siblings, the girl became inconsolable. To distract her, Barman's grandmother, a farmer, started taking her to nearby paddy fields and wetlands to teach her about the birds there." "I



Dr Purnima Devi Barman

saw storks and many other species. She taught me bird songs. She asked me to sing for the egrets and the storks. I fell in love with the birds," said Barman, who has devoted much of her career to saving the endangered greater adjutant stork, the second-rarest stork species in the world. "Barman's pioneering conservation work has

empowered thousands of women, creating entrepreneurs and improving livelihoods while bringing the greater adjutant stork back from the brink of extinction," said Inger Andersen, Executive Director of UNEP. "Dr Barman's work has shown that conflict between humans and wildlife can be resolved to the benefit of all. By highlighting the damaging impact that the loss of wetlands has had on the species who feed and breed on them, she reminds us of the importance of protecting and restoring ecosystems."

According to information on the UNEP website, to protect the stork, Barman knew she had to change perceptions of the bird, known locally as "hargila" in Assamese (meaning "bone

swallow") and mobilised a group of village women to help her. Today the "Hargila Army" consists of over 10,000 women. They protect nesting sites, rehabilitate injured storks which have fallen from their nests and arrange "baby showers" to celebrate the arrival of newborn chicks. The greater adjutant stork regularly features in folk songs, poems, festivals and plays. Since Barman started her conservation programme, the number of nests in the villages of Dadara, Pachariya, and Singimari in Kamrup District have risen from 28 to more than 250, making this the largest breeding colony of greater adjutant storks in the world, UNEP said.

In 2017, Barman began building tall bamboo nesting platforms for the endangered birds to hatch their eggs. Her efforts were rewarded a couple of years later when the first greater adjutant stork chicks were hatched on these experimental platforms," it added. Barman said on the UNEP website that one of

her biggest rewards has been the sense of pride that has been instilled in the Hargila Army and she hopes their success will inspire the next generation of conservationists to pursue their dreams. "Being a woman working in conservation in a male-dominated society is challenging but the Hargila Army has shown how women can make a difference," she said. UNEP said that since its inception in 2005, the annual Champions of the Earth award has been awarded to trailblazers at the forefront of efforts to protect our natural world. It is the UN's highest environmental honour. To date, the award has recognised 111 laureates: 26 world leaders, 69 individuals and 16 organisations. This year a record 2,200 nominations from around the world were received. The other honourees include Arcenciel (Lebanon); Constantino (Tino) Auca Chutas (Peru); Sir Partha Dasgupta of the United Kingdom and Cecile Bibiane Ndjebet (Cameroon). (PTI)



Saudi Arabia stun Argentina

DOHA, NOV 22 /--/ Saudi Arabia stunned Lionel Messi's Argentina on Tuesday, beating the two-time winners 2-1 in one of the biggest upsets in World Cup history. Salem Al-Dawsari hit a stunning winner to sink the red-hot favourites, bringing the South American side's 36-match unbeaten run to a shuddering halt. The win was fully deserved after Saudi Arabia came from behind after Saleh Al-Shehri cancelled out an early Lionel Messi penalty. Playing a risky high defensive line, the athletic Saudis rode their luck in the first half when three times Argentina had the ball in the net only to be denied by an offside call. But in a chaotic start

to the second half, the Saudis swarmed all over Lionel Scaloni's team and scored twice as the Arab nation beat the South Americans for the first time in five attempts. In a first half dominated by Argentina, it seemed only a matter of time before Saudi Arabia's risky defensive tactics would cost them. That condensed the game into a sliver of green turf around the halfway line as the Asian side happily allowed Argentina's back four to pass the ball among themselves. It seemed Saudi Arabia were facing a long afternoon after VAR intervened to award a penalty when Saud Abdulhamid wrestled Leandro Paredes to the ground in the box at a corner. Messi waited for goalkeeper

Mohammed Al-Owais to dive to his left before coolly rolling the ball into the opposite corner. But if the Saudis felt aggrieved at the technology, it would later help keep them in the game. Three times Argentina had the ball in the net only to be denied by razor-tight offside calls, the first given by VAR. There was no controversy about the equaliser three minutes into the second half, though, as Al-Shehri ran onto a touch from Feras Al-Brikan, beat Cristian Romero on the outside and slotted the ball back across goalkeeper Emiliano Martinez and into the far corner. The sizeable Saudi contingent in the Lusail stadium — where the World Cup final will be held — exploded in joy. Suddenly the

Argentines were rattled and five minutes later the turnaround was complete. Al-Dawsari's clever turn in the box beat two defenders before he shifted the ball past a third and rifled an unstoppable shot into the top far corner. The crowd was going wild and Hassan Al-Tambakti punched the air in delight after his desperate sliding tackle denied Messi a clear shot at goal. Every Al-Owais save, including a point-blank block from Nicolas Tagliafico's close-range prod, was greeted with rapturous cheers. There was late drama after Al-Owais collided with Yasser Al-Shahrani and seemed to knock him out as his knee struck the defender's head. (AFP)

Lionel Messi reacts disappointed during the World Cup group C match between Argentina and Saudi Arabia at the Lusail Stadium

Messi reacts after Argentina's shock loss to Saudi Arabia at FIFA World Cup

DOHA, NOV 22 /--/ Lionel Messi said Argentina's shock loss to Saudi Arabia was a "very heavy blow" but vowed the South American champions would bounce back from the defeat. "It's a very heavy blow, a defeat that hurts, but we must continue to have confidence in ourselves," Messi said after Argentina crashed to a stunning 2-1 loss in Group C. "This group is not going to give up. We will try to beat Mexico," he added. Messi gave Argentina a 10th-minute lead from the penalty spot on Tuesday at the Lusail stadium but second-half goals from Saleh Al-Shehri and Salem Al-Dawsari helped the Saudis pull off one of the greatest shocks in World Cup history. It could have been so different but for three tight offside calls in the first half that went against Argentina, denying them three potential goals. In the second half, coach Lionel Scaloni's men failed to exploit the Saudis' high

defensive line in the way they had managed before the break. "We know that Saudi Arabia is a team with good players, who move the ball around well and play a high line," said Messi. "We worked on that but we rushed it a bit. There are no excuses, we're going to be more united than ever before. "This group is strong and has shown it before. We had not been in this situation for a long time. Now we must show that this is a true group." The Albiceleste have two Group C games remaining -- against Mexico on Saturday and then Poland the following Wednesday -- to try to salvage their hopes of claiming a third world title. Playing in his fifth and probably final World Cup, Messi has the weight of an entire nation's expectations on his shoulders. One of the greatest players of all time, this may be his last chance to lift football's greatest prize, which his predecessor as Argentina's idol Diego Maradona did in 1986. (AFP)



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Feisty Tunisia hold Christian Eriksen's Denmark to goalless draw in FIFA World Cup Group D clash

DOHA, NOV 22 /--/ Tunisia held Denmark to a goalless draw in their World Cup opener on Tuesday, kicking off their Group D campaign with a strong performance against one of the pre-tournament dark horses. Tunisia have never reached the World Cup knockouts in five previous attempts but Jalel Kadri's side will be encouraged both with a point at Education City Stadium and with how they performed against the fancied Danes. Since Kadri took charge of the team in January Tunisia have only lost to Brazil and they frustrated Denmark in front of thousands of noisy North Africans. Christian Eriksen was largely anonymous on his return to major tournament football after nearly dying on the pitch at the European Championship last year, willing in the face of ferocious defending. Denmark had come into the match as favourites but Tunisia tore into their more illustrious opponents from kick-off, flying into tackles. The massed ranks of Tunisians in the stands created a crackling atmosphere and they cheered every tackle and clearance. The African side nearly took the lead in the 11th minute, with Mohamed Drager's long-range effort clipping off Andreas Christensen and drifting just wide.(AFP)

GAME NOTES

Leroy Sane ruled out of Germany's opening match with Japan

DOHA, NOV 22 /--/ Germany winger Leroy Sane has been ruled out of his side's opening match of the World Cup against Japan with a knee injury. The German Football Association (DFB) confirmed the Bayern Munich forward's absence via Twitter on Tuesday. The former Manchester City winger missed training on Tuesday, Germany's final training session before the Japan fixture on Wednesday. (AP)

Gay Australian footballer Cavallo 'lost respect' for FIFA

SYDNEY, NOV 22 /--/ Gay Australian footballer Josh Cavallo savaged FIFA Tuesday over its threat to discipline teams at the World Cup who wear rainbow-themed armbands, saying it proved the sport was not for everyone. The armbands, in support of LGBTQ rights, have widely been viewed as a symbolic protest against laws in World Cup host Qatar, where homosexuality is illegal. Members of seven European teams, including England and Germany, wanted to wear them, but abandoned the plan after football's world governing body said they could be punished with yellow cards. (AFP)

Gareth Bale to the rescue as Wales snatch USA draw

AL-RAYYAN, QATAR, NOV 22 /--/ Gareth Bale scored a late penalty to snatch a 1-1 draw with the United States in Wales' first World Cup game in 64 years on Monday. Welsh skipper Bale lashed home an 82nd-minute spot kick to break American hearts moments after earning the penalty when defender Walker Zimmerman crashed into the former Real Madrid star. The penalty drama cancelled out Tim Weah's superb first-half goal for the Americans which had threatened to ruin the celebratory mood surrounding Wales' long-awaited first World Cup appearance since the 1958 finals in Sweden. (AFP)

Portugal's focus is on the tournament, not Cristiano Ronaldo, says Ruben Dias

DUBAI, NOV 22 /--/ Portugal defender Ruben Dias said Tuesday it was time to focus on the World Cup and move on from the media circus surrounding Cristiano Ronaldo's explosive interview. The Manchester City centre-back said despite the distraction, Ronaldo's comments had not dented the nation's bid to win the competition for the first time in their history. Ronaldo, who has been a peripheral figure for Manchester United this season, last week lashed out at the club and coach Erik ten Hag in an interview with Britain's TalkTV. In the aftermath he appeared to share a frosty greeting with Portugal and United teammate Bruno Fernandes and was also pictured gripping Joao Cancelo by the head. But Dias said it was time to move on. "I don't think Cristiano's affairs have put a dent whatsoever into what we are trying to achieve here, so I don't have much to say about it," Dias said. "I think we've talked about this enough, there's not much to add. As a team we will focus on the World Cup now and not other issues." Ronaldo, who has



a world-record 117 international goals in men's football, will captain the team at his fifth World Cup. The superstar forward is unrepentant about his interview, which has caused such a furore, telling reporters: "I talk when I want to." Euro 2016 winners Portugal are among the fancied sides in Qatar but Dias refused to speculate on how far they could go. The defender preferred to focus on Portugal's first opponents, Ghana, whom they face on Thursday before playing Uruguay and South Korea. "We're focused on winning against Ghana," said Dias. "The best way to win is focus on one game at a time and that's the best way to have a successful path ahead of us. "Ghana are physically a strong team, technically as well. They have footballers who are playing at the top level in Europe. "We are aware we are facing a very dangerous team. We're focused on what we are doing, but aware of the difficulties that Ghana will bring. They are strong in transition when they recover the ball." (AFP)

India win rain-marred T20 series after third match ends in tie

NAPIER, NOV 22 /--/ Arshdeep Singh and Mohammed Siraj stopped New Zealand in its tracks with game-changing spells before India won the rain-marred third and final T20 via Duckworth-Lewis method to claim the three-match series 1-0, here Tuesday. Arshdeep and Siraj fired in tandem and shared eight wickets between them as India bowled New Zealand out for 160 in 19.4 overs after the hosts elected to bat. New Zealand were going strong at 130 for two in the 16th over but Arshdeep (4/37) and Siraj (4/17) led India's remarkable comeback. The hosts lost eight wickets for just 30 runs after Devon Conway (59 off 49 balls) and Glenn Phillips (54 off 33) had propped up their innings. In reply, India were precariously placed at 75 for 4 when rain stopped play. It was a DLS par-score at that time. The game never resumed and ended in a tie. Rishabh Pant (11) after a couple of intent-filled boundaries played a lousy shot to get dismissed and Suryakumar Yadav (13) had a rare low score. Skipper Pandya, who didn't bowl a single delivery in the series due to stiff neck, had scored a nice little 30 off 18 balls when heavens opened up. India, after 2020, have once again won a T20 series in New Zealand. However the last time, it was a comprehensive 5-0 win during the summer season and this time around, there was little context post T20 World Cup. The sole point of interest was to check how India's probable long term T20 captain Pandya and a new-look team fared. But with opening



The coach-captain duo of VVS Laxman and Hardik Pandya pose with the trophy

match completely washed out and final game also suffering due to inclement weather, there was little to take home apart from Suryakumar Yadav's glorious series-winning hundred in Tauranga and Siraj emerging as potent T20 option in favourable conditions. After New Zealand opted to bat, India got their first breakthrough when Arshdeep had Finn Allen trapped in front of the wicket with a full delivery that swung in from around middle. Allen thought about a review before deciding to walk back as the ball was clearly going to hit the stumps. Veteran Bhuvneshwar Kumar bowled a tight third over before Conway decided to take on left-arm seamer Arshdeep, carting him through mid-wicket for a four before lofting the bowler over extra cover for a six. He then chipped one over the pacer's head for a lovely boundary. The fourth over yielded 19 runs and it seemed New Zealand were on their way. Bhuvneshwar Kumar conceded 14 runs in the next over as the Kiwis looked to end the powerplay, their weak area in recent times, on a strong note. However, a bowling change put paid to all such hopes as Siraj dismissed Mark Chapman for a run-a-ball 12. Against a length ball on middle and leg, Chapman got a leading edge while trying to flick and Arshdeep completed the catch without much fuss, ending a brief but brisk partnership. After conceding 33 runs in two overs, the Indian bowlers fought back strongly to concede only 17 runs in the next four. (PTI)