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Regn. No. 34190/75

No. 01

Sri Vijaya Puram, Thursday, January 01, 2026

Web: dt.andamannicobar.gov.in

Rs. 3.00

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## HAPPY NEW YEAR - 2026



On the auspicious occasion of the New Year 2026, I extend my warmest greetings and best wishes to the people of the Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

The New Year offers us an opportunity to reflect on our shared journey, renew our collective resolve, and move forward with renewed hope and determination. I am confident that the year ahead will witness continued progress and development across our Islands, strengthened by unity, mutual cooperation, and a shared commitment to inclusive growth.

Together, we shall continue to work steadfastly towards realizing the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of a *Viksit Bharat*, ensuring sustainable development, improved governance, and enhanced quality of life for every Islander.

May the New Year 2026 bring good health, peace, prosperity, and happiness to all. Let us march ahead with optimism and dedication, contributing meaningfully to the continued advancement of our Islands.

Happy New Year 2026 to all of you!

(Admiral D K Joshi)  
PVSM, AVSM, YSM, NM, VSM (Retd.)  
Lieutenant Governor  
Andaman & Nicobar Islands

&  
Vice Chairman, Islands Development Agency

### New Year Greetings

I extend my warmest greetings and best wishes to the people of the Andaman & Nicobar Islands on the joyous occasion of the New Year 2026.

May the New Year bring peace, good health, prosperity and happiness to every household, and may our beautiful islands continue to progress with unity, harmony and collective effort.

I hope and trust that, with the blessings and visionary leadership of our Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi Ji and the guidance of Hon'ble Union Home Minister, Shri Amit Shah Ji, our islands will witness sustained development and enhanced welfare of the islanders in the years ahead.

Bishnu Pada Ray  
Member of Parliament  
Andaman & Nicobar Islands

### Venue of written exam for post of Forest Ranger scheduled to be held at DBRAIT on Jan. 3 & 4 shifted to Carmel Senior Secondary School

Sri Vijaya Puram, Dec. 31

The candidates appearing for the written examination for the post of Forest Ranger in the Department of Environment & Forests, A&N Administration scheduled to be held at DBRAIT on 03.01.2026 & 04.01.2026 have been informed that in view of the proposed VVIP visit to Andaman & Nicobar Islands, the venue of written examinations stands changed as indicated below.

Sl. No.	Subject (s)	Date	Day	Timing	Venue
1.	Computer Application, Computer Engineering, Computer Science	03/01/2026	Saturday	09:00 AM To 12:00 Noon	Carmel Senior Secondary School, Sri Vijaya Puram
2.	Forestry, Physics	03/01/2026	Saturday	02:00 PM To 05:00 PM	Carmel Senior Secondary School, Sri Vijaya Puram
3.	General Knowledge & General English	04/01/2026	Sunday	09:00 AM To 12:00 Noon	Carmel Senior Secondary School, Sri Vijaya Puram

All other terms, conditions and Hall tickets issued by the Department in this regard shall remain the same.

For any further information, the candidates may contact 03192-233233/241874, a press release from Van Sadan said.

### Directorate of Industries conducts skill development training on Handicrafts at NCS

Sri Vijaya Puram, Dec. 31  
The Directorate of Industries conducted a 3-day short term skill development training program on 'Handicrafts (Coconut Shell, Wooden and Cane & Bamboo Products)' at Naval Children School from Dec. 29 to 31.

The valedictory function of the program was held today in the presence of Smti Anita Devi, Principal & Smti Priyanka Tiwari, Vice Principal with other faculty members. A total of 50 trainees participated in the program aimed at developing basic skills and technical knowledge suited for bagless days in schools. The participants gained introductory hands-on experience designed to foster creativity and



appreciation for local crafts.

Addressing the gathering, Shri Liaqat Ali from the Directorate of Industries highlighted various departmental initiatives that support the Bagless Initiative.

(Contd. on last page)

### Chairperson, SPMC greets Islanders

Sri Vijaya Puram, Dec. 31  
The Chairperson, SPMC, Shri S. Shahul Hameed on behalf of all the elected representatives and staff of Sri Vijaya Puram Municipal Council, has wished all the Islanders a Happy and prosperous New Year 2026. In his greetings, he said, "May this New Year bring joy, success and new opportunities to all."

### CBSE announces revised dates of Board Exams for classes X & XII

New Delhi, Dec. 31

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has announced the revised dates of board examinations for class 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. According to the CBSE, the class 10<sup>th</sup> grade students' examination, which was earlier scheduled on 3<sup>rd</sup> of March next year, will now be held on 11<sup>th</sup> March next year. While the date for class 12<sup>th</sup> examination has been moved to 10<sup>th</sup> April, which was scheduled on 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2026. The revised dates are as follows:

Class	Earlier Schedule	New Date
Class X	3 March, 2026	11 March, 2026
Class XII	3 March, 2026	10 April, 2026

The board said that the dates have been rescheduled due to administrative reasons. CBSE has also asked schools to disseminate this information to all concerned students and parents.

### JERC approves Retail Tariff for 4<sup>th</sup> control period - FY 2025-26 to FY 2029-30

Approved Tariff Order available in website of JERC & Electricity Department

Sri Vijaya Puram, Dec. 31

The general public and all the consumers of Electricity Department, A&N Administration have been informed that the JERC has approved the Retail Tariff for the 4<sup>th</sup> control period i.e. FY 2025-26 to FY 2029-30 vide its Tariff order dated 28.10.2025 towards the Petition No. 151/2025 and has come into force w.e.f. 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2025.

The tariff structure and its applicability in the A&N Islands have been revised as per the new JERC guidelines issued in December 2024. The objective of JERC for this revision is to rationalize the retail tariff framework by introducing simplified and uniform consumer categories and sub-categories based on usage, voltage levels, contracted load, consumption, terms and conditions of supply, and miscellaneous charges across all distribution utilities under the jurisdiction of JERC.

The approved Tariff Order dated 28.10.2025 for the 4<sup>th</sup> control period FY 2025-26 to 2029-30 is available in the website of JERC ([www.jercuts.gov.in](http://www.jercuts.gov.in)) and in departmental website (<http://vidyut.andamannicobar.gov.in>), a press release from Electricity Department said.



R Adm Biplob Hota, VSM, Chief of Staff, A&N Command after over 17 months of exemplary service, paid a farewell call on Admiral D K Joshi, PVSM, AVSM, YSM, NM, VSM, (Retd.), Hon'ble Lt. Governor, A&N Islands and Vice-Chairman, Islands Development Agency today at Lok Niwas. Hon'ble Lt. Governor conveyed sincere appreciation for the steadfast support extended to A&N Administration and best wishes for his new assignment.

## Island Tourism Festival culminates in a spectacular celebration of culture, music and festivity

### Artists from local cultural organizations entertained huge gathering with vibrant performances

Staff Correspondent

Sri Vijaya Puram, Dec. 31

The ITF concluded on a vibrant and jubilant note, showcasing a blend of music, culture and lively performances. Being the festival's final day today, the main venue at ITF Pavilion attracted a massive crowd of families and friends eager to celebrate New Year Eve and revel in the festive spirit. The evening was brought to life by captivating performances from talented artists who kept the audience enthralled, while an array of food stalls offered delectable treats and savories to satisfy every palate. People of all ages were seen enjoying the festivities.

Adding to the charm, stalls brimming with unique merchandise and informative exhibits became major highlight drawing visitors from all corners. The venue buzzed with excitement as people explored from stall to stall, soaking in the festive atmosphere that had been the hallmark of the Island Tourism Festival-2025 celebration organised by the Department of IP&T in association with the Art & Culture and other line Departments. In her address, Smti Anita Devi, Principal, appreciated the efforts of the Industries Department.

(Contd. on last page)



Department of Fisheries bagged first prize in Govt. Stall category



Icy Spicy bagged first prize in Food Stall category



Dr. Ritika Multispeciality Hospital bagged first prize in General Stall category

for their creativity, active participation has truly enriched the spirit of this festival. Accordingly, in the (Contd. on last page)

focal point for mesmerizing cultural showcases. Children found their own slice of joy at the fun games corner, while others created memories at the selfie stand capturing moments with loved ones.

The Director (IP&T), Shri Vinayak Chamadia, IAS, as the chief guest gave away prizes to the

best stall in the Govt. Sector, food stall and general stall. In his brief address, Director (IP&T) extended his sincere gratitude to all Departments, artists, participants, stall owners, security personnel, and the people of these Islands for making ITF 2025 a grand success. Congratulating all the prize winners of the stalls

C M Y K +

Partially cloudy sky over Sri Vijaya Puram. Maximum and Minimum temperature will be around 30.0°C and 24.0°C respectively on Thursday 01/01/2026. Weather Report  
Maximum Temperature (°C) of Date: 30.2  
Minimum Temperature (°C) of Date: 24.8  
Relative Humidity (%) at 0830 IST : 084  
Relative Humidity (%) at 1730 IST : 080  
Sunrise time on 01/01/2026 (in IST): 0539  
Sunset time on 01/01/2026 (in IST): 1706  
Rainfall upto 0830 hrs of date (last 24 hrs)- in mm: Trace  
Rainfall upto 1730 hrs of date in mm: 000.0  
Rainfall (Progressive total from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025 upto 0830 hrs of date) in mm: 3494.0

F. No. 2-25/2025-R/TSD/DC (SA)  
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE  
SOUTH ANDAMAN DISTRICT  
SRI VIJAYA PURAM  
ORDER NO. 1964

Whereas, the Senior Superintendent of Police, South Andaman District, has submitted a request vide letter No. SSP (D) SA/VP/2025/5383 dated 22 December 2025, regarding the VIP visit to the A&N Islands from 02/01/2026 to 04/01/2026;

And whereas, the VIP is scheduled to visit various places in the South Andaman District, necessitating stringent security measures due to prevailing safety concerns and recent terror threats;

And whereas, it is imperative to ensure precautionary measures to prevent untoward incidents from a security point of view, in accordance with the Drone Rules, 2021 and Drone (Amendment) Rules, 2022;

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 163 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, I, Arjun Sharma, IAS, District Magistrate, South Andaman District, hereby promulgate the following Prohibitory Order:

The flying, operation, or use of all Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS)/drones, as well as any aerial activities including para-gliding, parachute jumping, or similar airborne activities, are hereby prohibited at and around the following locations:

"Veer Savarkar International (VSI) Airport, ITF Ground, DBRAIT, Lok Niwas, Wandoor, Chidiya Tapu and Netaji Stadium area."

This prohibition shall remain in force from 02.01.2026 to 04.01.2026, and shall be enforced strictly in conformity with the provisions of the Drone Rules, 2021 and the Drone (Amendment) Rules, 2022.

Any person found violating this order shall be liable for punishment under Section 223 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023, as well as other applicable provisions of law, including those under the Aircraft Act, 1934, Drone Rules, or any other relevant statutory provisions in force.

In view of the emergent nature of the situation and in the interest of public safety and security, this order is being issued ex parte and shall take immediate effect.

This order shall be promulgated by affixing copy thereof at the notice board of the office of the undersigned as well as the District Court, Port Blair and publication in News Paper having circulation in the areas through the Department of Information & Publicity, A&N Administration, for wide public awareness and compliance.

Given under my hands and seal at Sri Vijaya Puram on today 30<sup>th</sup> of December, 2025.

ARJUN SHARMA, IAS  
DISTRICT MAGISTRATE  
SOUTH ANDAMAN DISTRICT

Office of the Administrator  
R & R Scheme under RFCLARR 2013 (Deputy Commissioner)

Nicobar District  
Car Nicobar

Dated the December 2025

### ORDER

Sub: Formation of verification committee for conduct of Census for Relief & Rehabilitation (R&R) under Section 16 of the RFCLARR Act, 2013 - reg.

Whereas, under Section 16(1) of the RFCLARR Act, 2013, upon the publication of the preliminary notification under sub-section (1) of section 11 by the Collector, the Administrator for Rehabilitation and Resettlement shall conduct a survey and undertake a census of the affected families, in such manner and within such time as may be prescribed;

And Whereas, the undersigned is appointed as the Administrator for the jurisdiction of Nicobar District to perform the functions of Administrator for the purpose of Rehabilitation and Resettlement Scheme under sub-section 1 of Section 43 of the RFCLARR Act 2013 vide Notification No. F No. 34-725/2017- Rev dated 14.11.2017 of the Secretariat, A & N Islands.

And Whereas for the purpose of verification of this census data prepared by the census team so constituted under Rehabilitation and Resettlement Scheme, it is hereby ordered that the following officers/officials will be the Verification Team in respect of the data prepared by the census team in the prescribed format as enclosed under the supervision of Assistant Commissioner, Campbell Bay as below:

#### Verification Team Members with designation & contact number

1. Mrs. Madhuri Sharma, Executive Engineer, APWD, Campbell Bay Mobile No. 9933263790
2. Shri Soundara Pandian, ACF, Campbell Bay, Mobile No. 9531880173
3. Dr. Parag Deori, Sr. Vet. Officer Mob. 8900943321
4. C.S. Pillai, Tehsildar, Campbell Bay Mob. 9434262697
5. Anujesh Rai, Tribal Welfare Officer, Mob. 9531932820
6. Sekhar Rai, BDO, C/Bay, Mob. 9531818305
7. Smti. Shakila Nawaz, Assistant Director, Agri. Dept, Campbell Bay

The verification team will be verifying the door to door census data prepared by the census team in respect of each of the affected person in the ongoing Land Acquisition for INS Baaz in the prescribed Table Formats within the prescribed time limit and submit their data duly signed to the Assistant Commissioner, Campbell Bay for onward submission to this office.

The Assistant Commissioner, Campbell Bay will forward the same data to the Deputy Commissioner, Nicobar District (Administrator) after validation and consolidation and in the shape of Tables Format as per Section 16 Sub-Section 1(a) to 1(e), Section 16 Sub-section 2 (i) to 2(ii) read with Rule 7 of the A & N Islands RFCLARR Rules 2018 and in line with the Schedule II of the said Act.

Deputy Commissioner  
Nicobar District  
(Administrator, R & R Scheme)

## Advisory for boat operators / tourism stakeholders

Sri Vijaya Puram, Dec. 31

It is hereby informed for the general public and all stakeholders that Gram Panchayats or local Panchayat authorities are not authorized to grant permission, approval, or No Objection Certificates (NOCs) for operating water sports activities such as Glass Bottom Boats, Parasailing, or any other allied activities at New

Wandoor Beach near the only the designated Fish Landing Jetty.

Permission for operation of vessels/ boats falls exclusively under the jurisdiction of the Port Management Board and the Office of the Deputy Commissioner (South Andaman), as per the existing rules, guidelines, and safety regulations in force.

All boats owners and concerned stakeholders are advised to approach the IP&T said.

### Directorate of Industries .....

(Contd. from page 1)

for organizing hands on training programs that align with local resource potential and provide introductory practical experience to foster creativity among students, a press release from Directorate of Industries said.

### MV Swaraj Dweep to sail for Chennai on Jan. 2

Sri Vijaya Puram, Dec. 31  
The Vessel MV Swaraj Dweep will sail from Sri Vijaya Puram to Chennai on 01.01.2026 at 1600 Hrs. Excess baggage will be loaded from 1400 Hrs to 1600 Hrs on 01.01.2026. The excess baggage required to be booked in advance at Commercial Wing, DSS, a press release from DSS said.

Embarkation of passengers will commence from 1400 Hrs to 1500 Hrs on 02.01.2026. The embarkation of passengers will be closed one hour before the schedule time. Passengers reporting late will not be allowed to board the vessel, a press release from DSS said.

### Office of the Administrator

#### R & R Scheme under RFCLARR 2013 (Deputy Commissioner)

Nicobar District

Car Nicobar

Dated the .. December 2025

### ORDER

Sub: Conduct of Census for Relief & Rehabilitation (R&R) under Section 16 of the RFCLARR Act, 2013 - reg.

Whereas, under Section 16(1) of the RFCLARR Act, 2013, upon the publication of the preliminary notification under sub-section (1) of section 11 by the Collector, the Administrator for Rehabilitation and Resettlement shall conduct a survey and undertake a census of the affected families, in such manner and within such time as may be prescribed;

And Whereas, the undersigned is appointed as the Administrator for the jurisdiction of Nicobar District to perform the functions of Administrator for the purpose of Rehabilitation and Resettlement Scheme under sub-section 1 of Section 43 of the RFCLARR Act 2013 vide Notification No. F No. 34-725/2017- Rev dated 14.11.2017 of the Secretariat, A & N Islands.

And Whereas for the purpose of this census under Rehabilitation and Resettlement Scheme, it is hereby ordered that the following officers/officials will conduct the census in the prescribed format as enclosed under the supervision of Assistant Commissioner, Campbell Bay with the following teams as below:

Sl. No.	Name of team leader with designation & contact number	Team member with designation & contact number
1.	Mrs. Madhuri Sharma, Executive Engineer, APWD, Campbell Bay Mobile No. 9933263790	1. Sanjay Kumar, (JE APWD) Mob. 9679562946 2. Sunil Kumar, Patwari Mob. 9652796900 3. Edmon Fernandes, Panchayat Secretary, Mob. 9531896264 4. A. Jain (VLW) Mob. No. 7063927343 5. Anup Kumar Mondal, (AFA, Agri. Deptt.) Mob. 9476024755 6. Ashim, Forest Guard Mob. 9474266788 7. Birinda, Mukhya Sewika (ICDS) Mob. 9474288099 8. A. Venket Rao, Mazdoor, (Agri. Deptt.) 9. Rita Devi, Aghanwadi Worker Mob. 953180138
2.	Shri Soundara Pandian, ACF, Campbell Bay, Mobile No. 9531880173	1. B. Sagar, (JE APWD), Mob. 9531921082 2. Sajida Begum, Patwari Mob. 9476093256 3. Kumar Swamy, Forest Guard Mob. 9434260833 4. Nasir Hussain, Sub Inspector, Fisheries Dept. Mob. 9476022441 5. Sarfaraj Ali, (VLW) Mob. No. 9933245041. 6. Mohammed Nawaz, JSC, (Agri. Deptt.) Mob. 9434265641 7. Sahil Mohammed, Mazdoor (Agri. Deptt.) Mob. No. 8762172710 8. U. Devi, Aghanwadi Worker Mob. 9476032861

The team leader may depute or engage or change any officer/official/staff posted under Campbell Bay Tehsil for the purpose of census under this Scheme.

The team will be conducting door to door census in respect of each of the affected person in the ongoing Land Acquisition for Extension of Runway at Naval Airforce Station INS Baaz at village Govind Nagar under Campbell Bay Tehsil in the prescribed Table Formats within the prescribed time limit and submit their data duly signed to the Verification Committee constituted and the Verification Committee shall submit the same data to the Assistant Commissioner, Campbell Bay for onward submission to this office.

The Assistant Commissioner, Campbell Bay will forward the same data to the Deputy Commissioner, Nicobar District (Administrator) after validation and consolidation and in the shape of Tables Format as per Section 16 Sub-Section 1(a) to 1(e), Section 16 Sub-section 2 (i) to 2(ii) read with Rule 7 of the A & N Islands RFCLARR Rules 2018 and in line with the Schedule II of the said Act.

Deputy Commissioner  
Nicobar District  
(Administrator, R & R Scheme)

**Island Tourism Festival culminates in a spectacular celebration of culture, music.....**

(Contd. from page 1)

Govt. stall category, the

Department of Fisheries bagged the first prize, Sri Vijaya Puram Municipal Council got the second prize and Department of Tribal Welfare got the third prize. In the food stall category, Icy Spicy bagged the first prize, Malabar Kitchen got the second prize and Zest Kitchen got the third prize. In the general stall category, Dr. Rithika Multispecialty Hospital bagged the first prize, VF Green Factory Aquariums got the second prize and Karan Fabrication got the third prize.

The Island Tourism Festival became a successful event with display of Islands' rich cultural tapestry. The local cultural organisations who kept the gathering entertained with their exclusive performances in the finale.

At the ITF Main Pavilion, the evening commenced with spellbinding classical dance performances by Kailashpathi Classical Dance Academy and Nritya Academy of Classical Dance. This was followed by an energetic Sambalpuri dance presented by artistes of the Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre (EZCC). Later in the evening, Ras

only the designated competent authorities

artistes from Youth Service & Cultural Activities, Gujarat showcased a vibrant performance, while Kathak artistes from Bhatkhande Sanskriti Vishwavidyalaya, Lucknow mesmerized the audience with their graceful presentation. Folk and tribal dances, rituals and folk music from Chhattisgarh were also presented by artistes of the Directorate of Culture & Language. Musical renditions by Sur Saptak-A Sangeet Academy and a lively performance by Sitesh Live Orchestra added to the festive fervour.

Simultaneously, the Marina Esplanade remained abuzz with cultural activities wherein performances by Sri Sitaramanjaneya Temple Committee, students of the Education Department and Sri Sitaramanjaneya Youth Club were well received by the audience present in large numbers. Folk and tribal dance presentations from Chhattisgarh and Mayoanritham by artistes of the Southern Zonal Cultural Centre (SZCC) drew appreciable applause. The evening concluded with an energetic live band performance by 'Arpan Music Academy'.

At Shaheed Dweep, cultural programmes were held, featuring traditional art forms such as Mayoanritham, Thira, Theyyam/Marakkalattam, Karagam, Oyil and Thappattam presented by SZCC artistes, followed by a melodious performance by Geet Sangeet Musical Group (Karaoke). Similarly, at Swaraj Dweep, folk dances by artistes from Jammu & Kashmir and Karaoke performances by Soul Musical Association entertained the gathering.

At Campbell Bay, audiences enjoyed traditional dance forms by SZCC artistes, followed by a karaoke performance by Event Musical Group. The diverse performances reflected India's rich cultural heritage and provided a vibrant and memorable finale to the festival, drawing enthusiastic participation and appreciation from locals and visitors alike.

### Transmission timing of DDK Sri Vijaya Puram revised

Sri Vijaya Puram, Dec. 31 its routine programme from 5 PM to 8 PM (Monday to Friday) w.e.f 01.01.2026, a press release from DDK Sri Vijaya Puram said.

### Combined Graduate Level Exam; Correction Window activated

Sri Vijaya Puram, Dec. 31 e recruitment andamanicobar.gov.in for correction, if any.

The details of the candidates as available on the website as on closing date i.e., 13.01.2026 (midnight) shall be treated as final. Therefore, candidates in their own interest are advised to carry out any corrections in the applications, if any, within the above time limit with due care and diligence, a press release from Deputy Secretary (R&E) said.

### Combined Graduate Level Exam; Syllabus for the posts to be available in portal from Jan. 2

Sri Vijaya Puram, Dec. 31 candidates that the Syllabus for the posts will be available in portal: https://erecruitment.andamanicobar.gov.in from 02.01.2026 (11 AM) onwards, a press release from Deputy Secretary informed to the aspirants / (R&E) said.

### Vessel Nalanda to sail for Campbell Bay via Car Nicobar & Nancowry on Jan. 1 instead of Jan. 3 from Sri Vijaya Puram

Sri Vijaya Puram, Dec. 31 All passengers and the general public have been informed that, due to administrative reasons, the scheduled sailing programme of vessel Nalanda to Campbell Bay via Car Nicobar and Nancowry, earlier scheduled to sail on 03.01.2026 at 1600 hrs from Sri Vijaya Puram, has been postponed.

Now, the vessel will sail for Campbell Bay via Car Nicobar & Nancowry on 01.01.2026 at 1600 Hrs from Haddo Wharf and will sail back to Sri Vijaya Puram on 03.01.2026 at 0900 Hrs from Campbell Bay via Nancowry. Passengers are requested to avail the sailing of MV Nalanda with the same ticket as per the following revised date and time.

ARRIVAL	PORT	DEPARTURE
---	Sri Vijaya Puram	01/1600 Hrs
02/0600 Hrs	Car Nicobar	02/0800 Hrs
02/1400 Hrs	Nancowry	02/2000 Hrs
03/0600 Hrs	Campbell Bay	03/0900 Hrs
03/1500 Hrs	Nancowry	03/1600 Hrs
04/0900 Hrs	Sri Vijaya Puram	---



Cultural programme at Shaheed Dweep

### Deptt. of AH&VS initiates four-day training prog. for hatchery operators on genset & incubator operations



Sri Vijaya Puram, Dec. 31

In a significant capacity-building initiative aimed at enhancing operational efficiency and ensuring uninterrupted functioning of Departmental hatcheries across the islands, the Department of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services commenced a comprehensive four-day training programme for its hatchery operators yesterday.

The specialised training focuses on the operation, maintenance and troubleshooting of gensets (generator sets) and incubators - critical equipment for maintaining stable power supply and optimal hatching conditions in hatcheries. The programme is being conducted by experienced Electrical and Mechanical Engineers from the Andaman Public Works Department (APWD), who are sharing practical insights and hands-on guidance to the participants.

Hatchery operators from various units under the Department are attending the Deptt. of AH&VS said.

### Open State Cross Country C'ship, 2026

Sri Vijaya Puram, Dec. 31

The Athletics Association of Andaman & Nicobar Islands has scheduled an Open State Cross Country Athletics Championship, 2026 and selection trial at Sri Vijaya Puram on Jan. 4, 2026 in association with Andaman & Nicobar State Olympic Association. The championship will be conducted for Men, Women, Under 20 Years (Boys and Girls), Under 18 Years (Boys and Girls) and Under 16 Years (Boys and Girls) categories. Cross-Country Races & Distances are as follows:

MEN		WOMEN		Age Brackets
Race	Distance	Race	Distance	
Men	10 Km	Women	10 Km	Open
U-20 Boys	8 Km	U-20 Girls	6 Km	Born between 25.01.2006 & 24.01.2008
U-18 Boys	6 Km	U-18 Girls	4 Km	Born between 25.01.2008 & 24.01.2010
U-16 Boys	2 Km	U-16 Girls	2 Km	Born between 25.01.2010 & 24.01.2012

The selected athletes will be deputed for the forthcoming 60th National Cross Country Athletics Championships 2026 scheduled on Jan. 24, 2026 at Prabhat Tara Maidan, Near JSCA International Cricket Stadium, HEC Ranchi, Jharkhand. The Association has requested the athletes to submit their entries through the online registration system. Separate link will be provided for the Championship, and athletes have been advised to make use of the online facility on or before Jan. 3, 2026, a press release from ANSOA said.

### Block-level training on generation of own source revenue for Gram Panchayats held at Ferrargunj



Sri Vijaya Puram, Dec. 31

Under the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA), a two-day Block Level Training Programme on 'Preparation of Viable Financial Model for Generation of Own Source Revenue (OSR) in the Gram Panchayat' was successfully conducted on 29th and 30th December, 2025 at the CMTC Building, CD Block Ferrargunj. As part of the programme, the best performing Gram Panchayats in OSR generation under Ferrargunj Block were recognized. Shorepoint, Chouldari and Mithakhari Gram Panchayats were awarded Certificates of Appreciation by Smti Lalita Tigga, BDO, Ferrargunj. Prizes were also distributed for various activities conducted during the training, a press release from BDO Ferrargunj said.

strengthening the financial sustainability of Gram Panchayats through effective OSR generation.

As part of the programme, the best performing Gram Panchayats in OSR generation under Ferrargunj Block were recognized. Shorepoint, Chouldari and Mithakhari Gram Panchayats were awarded Certificates of Appreciation by Smti Lalita Tigga, BDO, Ferrargunj. Prizes were also distributed for various activities conducted during the training, a press release from BDO Ferrargunj said.

### N&M Andaman Police rescues missing minor girl; accused arrested

Mayabunder, Dec. 31

A complaint was lodged at Police Station Billiground on 27.11.2025 regarding a 14-year-old minor girl, a Class X student, who had been missing since 25.11.2025. During the course of enquiry, it was revealed that the minor was last seen boarding a night bus towards Sri Vijaya Puram on 24.11.2025 and had subsequently travelled to the mainland on 25.11.2025 along with an unknown person.

Based on the facts revealed during preliminary enquiry, a FIR was promptly registered at PS Billiground and a special police team was immediately constituted to trace the minor. A scientific and technology-driven investigation was initiated, which included analysis of Call Detail Records (CDR) and Subscriber Detail Records (SDR), along with scrutiny of passenger manifests of flights.

Through sustained technical analysis and field investigation, the accused was identified as a resident of Alaipur, Nadia, Chakdaha, Ranaghat District, West Bengal, and his hideout was successfully traced. Acting promptly, a police team

comprising SI Abdul Shakeel, ASI Diana, HC Zulfikar Ahmed, and HC Indira Devi was dispatched to Kolkata. In close coordination with the local police authorities, the team successfully rescued the minor girl and apprehended the accused from Alaipur, Kolkata.

On 26.12.2025, the police team safely returned to Sri Vijaya Puram along with the minor and the accused. The minor girl was safely handed over to her parents following due legal formalities.

This successful operation underscores the unwavering commitment of the North & Middle Andaman Police towards the safety and protection of the girl child and reflects its zero-tolerance approach towards crimes against women, particularly those involving minors.

The general public have been requested to pass and share any credible information pertaining to any crime or illegal activities to their nearest Police Station or over phone No.100, 112 & 03192-273344. The identity of the informers will be kept secret and will also be suitably rewarded, a press release from SP, N&MA said.

### Awareness prog. on 'Natural Farming' held at Sundergarh Panchayat



Rangat, Dec. 31

The Department of Agriculture, Rangat organized Awareness programme on 'Natural Farming' under National Mission on Natural Farming yesterday in Sundergarh Panchayat for a cluster of 125 farmers of Bejoygarh and Adazig villages.

Dr. Jitender Singh, Director (IC), Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, New Delhi, the Additional Nodal Officer of Andaman & Nicobar Islands graced the programme as the chief guest.

Addressing the gathering, Dr Jitender Singh expressed satisfaction over the successful implementation of such programmes and emphasized that the worth of the agriculture products will be enhanced only after certification and channelizing proper market linkages which is the need of the hour.

Interacting with the farmers, he reviewed the benefits availed under various centrally sponsored schemes. Earlier, Smti Shirly Thomas,

Assistant Director (Agri) welcomed Dr. Jitender Singh and the gathering. She explained the objective of this programme to protect the planet towards a more sustainable future.

Shri. Vijoy Mondal, Up-Pramukh explained the long term impact of natural farming benefits, highlighting its role in improving soil health, reducing input costs, and promoting sustainable agriculture. Smti. Taramani Minj, Up- Pradhan, Sundergarh Gram Panchayat expressed their support for promoting natural farming in the region.

Shri. C Murugan, Agriculture Field Assistant explained in detail about maintaining soil fertility through natural farming, sustainable nutrient management and schemes related to soil conservation.

Krishi Sakhi, Smti. Birshi Kumari and Farmer Master Trainer, Smti. Geeta Mondal, actively participated in the programme, a press release from Department of Agriculture said.

### Awareness-cum-Registration Camp for construction workers to be held at GP Brindaban on Jan. 3

Sri Vijaya Puram, Dec. 31

The Andaman & Nicobar Islands Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board, in association with the Brindaban Gram Panchayat, will organize an Awareness-cum-Registration Camp for construction workers on Jan. 3 at 10 AM at the Brindaban Gram Panchayat premises.

The objective of the camp is to raise awareness among construction workers about various Social Security and Welfare Schemes

implemented by the Board and to facilitate their registration on the spot. Participation in this camp will help workers gain a better understanding of the benefits available to them under these welfare schemes and enable them to avail of these benefits. All construction workers in and around Brindaban are encouraged to attend and take advantage of this opportunity, a press release from Labor Department said.

### Block Level Sports Meet 2025-26 of Prothrapur Block concludes; winners felicitated



Sri Vijaya Puram, Dec. 31

The Block Level Sports Meet 2025-26 of Prothrapur Block, organised by MY Bharat, Sri Singles were conducted separately for men and women. Young participants displayed high levels of discipline, energy, commitment and team spirit, creating an inspiring sporting atmosphere throughout the meet.

During the Prize Distribution Ceremony, the chief guest, Shri P. V. N. Sarma, Principal, Andaman Law College, addressed the gathering and highlighted the vital role of sports in shaping character, confidence and leadership qualities among youth. Swami Sudhananda Saraswati, Acharya, Chinmaya Mission, was the guest of honour, a press release from MY Bharat said.

### Andaman & Nicobar Administration Directorate of Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs

Prevailing wholesale and Retail Selling Price of Essential Commodities in the local market from Dec. 29, 2025 to Jan. 4, 2026

SI. No.	ITEMS	BRAND & VARIETY	RETAIL PRICE	WHOLE SALE PRICE
1.	Rice	Andhra Ponni Cycle Brand	55.00	50.00
2.	-	Raw Rice Tajmahal/Apple	50.00	45.00
3.	Rice	Ponni Raw Rice Shivaji Brand(VST/ LST/SST)	75.00	68.00
4.	Rice	Ponni boil Rice Shivaji Brand (VST/LST/SSLT)	70.00	64.00
5.	-	Ponni Raw Rice VKR Shivaji Brand	96.00	87.00
6.	-	Ponni Boiled Rice VKR Shivaji Brand	94.00	85.00
7.	Wheat Loose	-	49.00	45.00
8.	Atta	Ashirvaad	As per MRP	65.00
9.	Atta Local	KVR	As per MRP	60.00
10.	Atta	Fortune	As per MRP	63.00
11.	Gram Dhal (01 kg)	Loose	91.00	82.00
12.	Tur Dhal (01 kg)	Special	132.00	120.00
13.	Tur Dhal (01 kg)	Chennai	115.00	105.00
14.	Moong Dhal (01 kg)	Quality 1	120.00	109.00
15.	Urad Dhal (01 kg)	Quality 1	127.00	115.00
16.	Urad Dhal (01 kg)	Quality 2	124.00	113.00
17.	Masur Dhal (01 kg)	Quality 1	97.00	88.00
18.	White Mutter(1 kg)	Loose	57.00	51.00
19.	Sugar (1 kg)	Loose	56.00	51.00
20.	Mustard Oil 1 ltr	Netaji	As per MRP	195.00
21.	Mustard Oil 500ml	Mashal	As per MRP	100.00
22.	Mustard Oil 1 ltrs	Mashal	As per MRP	200.00
23.	Mustard Oil (02 Ltrs)	Mashal	As per MRP	400.00
24.	Mustard Oil (05 Ltrs)	Mashal	As per MRP	1000.00
25.	Mustard Oil (500 ml)	Shalimar	As per MRP	95.00
26.	Mustard Oil 1 ltr	Shalimar	As per MRP	185.00
27.	Mustard Oil (02 Ltrs)	Shalimar	As per MRP	370.00
28.	Mustard Oil (05 ltrs)	Shalimar	As per MRP	930.00
29.	Vanaspatti Per Ltr	Dalda	As per MRP	182.00
30.	Sunflower Oil Per Ltr	Dalda	As per MRP	155.00
31.	Sunflower Oil Per Ltr	Sunland	As per MRP	164.00
32.	Palm Oil Per Ltr	Roobini	As per MRP	137.00
33.	Mustard Oil 500ml	Fortune	As per MRP	100.00
34.	Mustard Oil 1 ltr	Fortune	As per MRP	200.00
35.	Mustard Oil 5 ltrs	Fortune	As per MRP	890.00
36.	Tea	BBT 1 kg Packet	As per MRP	535.00
37.	Milk	Everyday Powder 1 kg	As per MRP	600.00
38.	-	AmulTaaza 1 ltr	As per MRP	72.00
39.	-	AmulSpray Powder 1 Kg	As per MRP	450.00
40.	-	Good Life 1 ltr.	As per MRP	72.00
41.	Potato	Chennai	40.00	30.00
42.	Onion	Nasik	60.00	50.00
43.	Tomato	Chennai	120.00	100.00
44.	Salt (Pack)	Sapan/IFLO	As per MRP	15.00
45.	Milk	Go Milk 1 ltr	As per MRP	74.00
46.	-	Go Milk 200 ml	As per MRP	15.00
47.	Jaggery	Loose	75.00	66.00
48.	Egg	-	9.00	8.00
49.	Bajra (Whole) 1/2 Kg pkt	Loose	As per MRP	-
50.	Jowar (Whole) 1/2 Kg pkt	Loose	As per MRP	-
51.	Ragi (Whole) 1/2 Kg pkt	Loose	As per MRP	-
52.	Suji (Whole) 1/2 Kg pkt	Silver coin	As per MRP	-
53.	Maida (Wheat) 1/2 Kg pkt	Silver coin	As per MRP	-
54.	Besan 1/2 Kg Pkt	Number One/ Fortune	As per MRP	-
55.	Cow Ghee	Amul/RVC	As per MRP	-
56.	Butter (pasteurised)	-	As per MRP	-
57.	Black Pepper powder) 0.50 gm Pkt	Sakthi/Aachi	As per MRP	-
58.	Coriander (powder) 0.50 gm	Sakthi / Aachi	As per MRP	-
59.	Red Chillies (powder) 100 gm	Sakthi / Aachi	As per MRP	-
60.	Cumin Seed(powder) 0.			

