



The Daily Telegrams

The Largest Circulating Daily of A&N Islands

EXCHANGE RATES		CAPITAL MARKET	
RBI REFERENCE RATE		S&P BSE Sensex: 26643.24*	
INR / 1 USD	: 68.1791	Nifty 50	: 8192.25*
INR / 1 Euro	: 70.9949	* as on previous day	
INR / 100 YEN	: 57.8100	BULLION RATE	
INR / 1 GBP	: 83.5330	22ct Gold per 10 gram 27120	
		Silver per 1 kg 45000	

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LG to inaugurate ten-day long Island Tourism Festival on Jan 6; variety of events to be held across Isles

Port Blair, Jan 4
The much-awaited 'Island Tourism Festival' - 2017 will begin on Jan 6, 2017. The Lt. Governor, A&N Islands, Prof. Jagdish Mukhi will inaugurate the mega event as the chief guest at 6 pm at ITF Ground on Jan 6. The Member of Parliament, Shri Bishnu Pada Ray and the Chief Secretary, A&N Administration, Shri Anindo Majumdar will be the guests of honour on the occasion. This year, the festival will be held from

Jan 6 to 15, 2017. During the 10-day event, performances by the cultural troupes from mainland (East Zone Cultural Centre, South Zone Cultural Centre, North Central Zone Cultural Centre, Song & Drama Division) will help the Islanders renew their cultural ties with mainland India. The cultural troupes from mainland as well as the Isles will also perform in outer Islands - North & Middle Andaman as well as in Nicobar groups of Islands apart from South Andaman. An International Cultural Group from Khazkhanistan will also perform at 6 pm at the ITF Ground on Dec 8, 2017. A band of artists from mainland will also perform during the festival at North & Middle Andaman and also at Nicobar Group of Islands, besides South Andaman. The programmes in North & Middle Andaman viz. at

EC announces poll dates for five state Assembly Elections

New Delhi, Jan 4
The Election Commission today announced the dates for the assembly elections in five states-- Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Manipur and Goa. Uttar Pradesh, the biggest state in the country, will go to polls in seven phases for 403 seats on 11th February, 15th February, 19th February, 23rd February, 27th February, 4th March and on 8th March. Manipur will go to polls for 60 seats in two phases on 4th and 8th March. There will be single phase elections in Uttarakhand, Goa and Punjab. Goa and Punjab will go to polls on February 4th while polling in Uttarakhand for 70 seats will be held on 15th February. Counting of votes for all five states will take place on 11th March. Announcing the poll dates, Chief Election Commissioner Shri Nasim Zaidi said over 16 crore voters are eligible to vote in the five states. With the Election Commission announcement the Model Code of Conduct has come into effect from today.

ANIIDCO to operate 'Floating Restaurant' from Jan 6

Port Blair, Jan 4
The Floating Restaurant on board M.V. Panchwati will be operated by ANIIDCO from Jan 6, 2017 onwards. The Floating Restaurant will be operated as evening cruise from 5 pm to 6.30 pm and 7 pm to 9 pm from Junglighat jetty every Friday to Monday. The entry tickets are priced at Rs.500/- per adult and Rs.350/- per child upto 12 years inclusive of all taxes. Special rate is offered to the Islanders. The guest can enjoy evening cruise along the harbour with beverages, snacks and music. Beverages, snacks and packed dinner are also available on payment. Guest can purchase ticket from Megapode Resort, Air Ticketing Counter, Vikas Bhawan, IMFL Self-Service Shop, Delanipur and ANIIDCO Petrol Pump,

NABARD initiates plethora of schemes for socio-economic development of rural areas in Isles

Port Blair, Jan 4
The National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD), Apex Development Financial Institution, has taken up various projects for Socio-Economic Development of rural areas in A&N Islands, said the General Manager, NABARD, A&N Region, Shri Hemant Songadkar addressing a press conference at Hotel Sea Shell here last night. He said projects for setting up Soil Testing Laboratory, Modern Fish Market at Mohanpura and Junglighat, Kisan Mandi in Port Blair and Diglipur are in the pipeline and are awaiting the nod from the Ministry of Home Affairs. Shri Songadkar mentioned that the Chairman, NABARD, Dr. Harsh Kumar Bhanwala who is currently on visit to A&N Islands, met


One convicted for assaulting STS Bus conductor

Mayabunder, Jan 4
The Ld. Court of J.M.F.C., Mayabunder presided over by Shri Sukumar Mondal convicted the accused Rajesh Pratap Ekka for assaulting STS Bus Conductor namely Shri Narayan Ch. Roy and sentenced him to suffer simple imprisonment of 3 months and to pay a fine of Rs.3,000/-. The state prosecution was conducted by Shri Pradeep Ram, Assistant Public Prosecutor, North &

350th birth anniversary of Guru Govind Singh ji to be celebrated today

Port Blair, Jan 4
The 350th birth anniversary of the 10th and last Guru of the Sikh faith, Guru Govind Singh ji will be celebrated in the Islands along with other places, tomorrow (Jan 5). A number of programmes are being organized at Police Gurudwara, Aberdeen Bazar here to celebrate the occasion. The Lt. Governor, A&N Islands, Prof. Jagdish Mukhi has greeted the Islanders on the joyous occasion of the birth anniversary of Sri Guru Govind Singh ji. In his greetings, the Lt. Governor has urged all people of the Islands to come together and pray to the Almighty to bless these Islands with peace, progress and prosperity.

GREETINGS



On the joyous occasion of the 350th birth anniversary of Sri Guru Govind Singh ji, the 10th Sikh Guru, I extend my warm greetings to the people of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Sri Guru Govind Singh ji, infused the spirit of both sainthood and soldier in the minds and hearts of his followers to fight oppression in order to restore justice, peace, righteousness (Dharma) and to uplift the downtrodden people in this world. His teachings are very scientific and most suitable for all times. On this auspicious festival occasion, let all the people of the Islands come together and pray to the Almighty to bless these Islands with peace, progress and prosperity.

Sd/-
Prof. Jagdish Mukhi
Lieutenant Governor
Andaman & Nicobar Islands

Justice Khehar sworn-in as 44th Chief Justice of India

New Delhi, Jan 4
Justice Jagdish Singh Khehar was today sworn-in as the 44th Chief Justice of India. President Shri Pranab Mukherjee administered the oath of office and secrecy to Justice Khehar at a function in Rashtrapati Bhawan this morning. He replaced Justice TS Thakur whose tenure ended yesterday. Justice Khehar's tenure will be till the 27th of August this year.



Telecom Commission Chairman to arrive on visit to Isles today

Port Blair, Jan 4
The Chairman (Telecom Commission), Secretary, Department of Telecom, Shri J.S. Deepak will be arriving here on a three-day visit to the Isles tomorrow (Jan 5). The itinerary of Shri Deepak includes attending the workshop for promotion of IT & ITeS Industries in Isles, to be held at DBRAIT auditorium on Jan 6 and holding meeting of empowered committee for monitoring, laying of submarine optical fibre cable, in the conference hall of Secretariat on Jan 7. The dignitary is also scheduled to visit places of historical importance and tourist interest in and around Port Blair. On completion of the tour, Shri Deepak will leave for mainland on Jan 7, 2016 itself, an official communication said.

CGM BSNL to participate in 'Good Morning Port Blair'

Port Blair, Jan 4
The Chief General Manager of BSNL, Shri V.Jagadeeshan, ITS will be the guest in the 15th episode of LIVE programme of All India Radio entitled 'Good Morning Port Blair'. It will be broadcast on Jan 9, 2017. The topic of discussion will be 'Efforts to improve the connectivity'. Listeners can participate in this discussion by calling in telephone number 232336 or 232558 on Jan 9 in between 7.25 am and 7.40 am. If listeners want to include any of their queries on the said topic they can email the question on email ID goodmorningportblair@yahoo.com and can also sent through SMS/WhatsApp number 9474234000 (AIR Port Blair) before Jan 6 for including the same in this programme.

Programme on improving concentration in studies held

Port Blair, Jan 4
A programme on 'how to excel in studies by improving concentration' was organized for the students of higher classes at Govt. Model Senior Secondary School Port Blair yesterday. The Secretary of Ramakrishna Mission, Swami Amartyanandaji was the main speaker. Addressing around 300 students of class XI at the school auditorium, he said that youth is the main



driving force in taking the country to greater heights. Quoting Swami Vivekananda's teachings, he said that youth has infinite potential, and if it is channelized in right direction, then nothing is impossible.

The Principal of the School, Shri G. Sara Chandran while proposing vote of thanks, called upon the students to develop their personalities by imbibing good values and thoughts, a communication said.

LG to inaugurate workshop for promotion of IT & ITeS Industries in Isles on Jan 6

Port Blair, Jan 4
Establishing IT and ITeS industries in A&N Islands is one of the thrust areas of development identified by this UT Administration which will generate employment opportunities. Availability of robust telecom connectivity, internet and business friendly policy are few prerequisite for promoting IT and ITeS enterprises. The Cabinet Committee chaired by Hon'ble Prime Minister has accorded approval for laying dedicated Submarine Optical Fiber Cable between Chennai Cable Landing Station and Port Blair Cable Landing Station and 5 other Islands. Department of Telecommunication Government of India is anchoring the project and is expected to be completed by December, 2018. In order to accrue benefit of unlimited internet bandwidth once the submarine OF cable project is completed, A & N Administration has decided to initiate necessary action for creating conducive ecosystem for establishing IT and ITeS enterprises in the Isles. As a prelude, the A & N Administration will organise a day long workshop in association with NASSCOM, CII, FICCI, ANIIDCO and ACCI in Port Blair on Jan 6, 2017. The Lt. Governor, A&N

Islands, Prof. Jagdish Mukhi will inaugurate the workshop at 10.30 am in the conference hall of DBRAIT auditorium on Jan 6. President NASSCOM, Senior Officers from Ministry of Telecommunication, Government of India and Ministry of Electronics and IT will also deliver special addresses during the workshop. (Contd. on last page)

Training programmes on 'Capacity Building on Digital Payments'

Port Blair, Jan 4
The Directorate of RD, PRIs & ULBs will be organizing training programmes on 'Capacity Building on Digital Payments' at State, District, Block & Gram Panchayat Levels for the functionaries of Directorate, Block Office, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGs), Deendayal Antyodya Yojana-National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY-NRLM)

and Members of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) through the State Bank of India (Lead Bank) in order to create a less cash/cash less society. (Contd. on last page)

Vivekananda Mela at Neil Island

Neil Island, Jan 4
The Vivekananda Mela Committee, Neil Island will be organising the 25th Vivekananda Mela and its Silver Jubilee at Neil Island from Jan 12 to 20, 2017. As part of the mela, Govt. Departments will also put up stalls to exhibit their achievements. Private stalls, various cultural programmes, sports, games and fair will be the other attractions of the mela. The shopkeepers interested in participating in the mela have been asked to contact Shri Ram Krishna Biswas, Pradhan/President of Mela Committee over ph. no.9474201387/9679525031 by Jan 5, 2016, a communication said.

Nakash Aziz to perform during Island Tourism Festival on Jan 11

Port Blair, Jan 4
Bollywood singer and composer, Nakash Aziz who is known for some of his recent hit songs will be performing this year at Port Blair during Island Tourism Festival 2017 on January 11. The event is organized by Department of Tourism and managed by event management firm Ecstasea. Nakash Aziz who also assisted the legendary composer A. R. Rahman on films like Highway, Raanjhanaa, Rockstar, Delhi 6 and became popular for his songs like Selfie Lele Re (Bajrangi Bhaijaan), Afgan Jalebi (Phantom), Saree Ke fall (R...Rajkumar), Gandi baat (R... Rajkumar), Pungi Bajake (Agent Vinod), Tukur Tukur (Dilwalee), Jabra Fan (FAN), Pyaar ki maa (Housefull 3), -Dhating Nach (Phata Poster Nikhla Hero) etc. Nakash Aziz will perform with seven piece live band with two female co-singers and a male co-singer. The event management firm, Ecstasea, will also bring six reputed dancers from Bollywood (Jhalak Dikhlaja Fame) and an anchor from Bollywood, Shilpa Masiah. The Mega Show will also have famous standup comedian Raja Sagoo. Apart from this, a Sound Engineer from Bollywood will also be a part of the mega show.



SPORTS

Andy Murray registers his 25th straight win, beats Jeremy Chardy in straight sets

Doha, Jan 4
Andy Murray began 2017 where he left off last year, beating Jeremy Chardy in straight sets in his season opener in Qatar on Tuesday to register his 25th consecutive victory. The world number one secured a 6-0, 7-6 (7/5) first-round victory, breezing through the first set in just 20 minutes before the Frenchman improved in the second. The last time Murray was beaten was back in September by Argentina's Juan Martin del Potro in the Davis Cup, more than 100 days ago. His last tournament defeat came earlier in the same month to Japan's Kei



Nishikori in the quarter-finals of the US Open. During his stunning end to 2016, the Briton not only remained unbeaten but won five consecutive titles and snatched the world's number one spot from Novak Djokovic. Despite extending his winning streak Murray said the victory in Doha felt like "starting afresh". He said he had made subtle adjustments to his game which

helped put together his impressive run. Murray is the number one seed in Doha and Djokovic, the defending Qatar Open champion, is number two. If matches go to form the top two players in the world will meet in a mouthwatering final on January 7.

Brisbane International: Impressive Wawrinka moves into quarters

Brisbane, Jan 4
Reigning US Open champion Stan Wawrinka was in impressive form as he saw off Serbia's Viktor Troicki in straight sets to move into the quarter-finals of the Brisbane International on Wednesday. In a high quality match, the Swiss world number four took just under 90 minutes to defeat Troicki 7-6 (7/5), 6-4. Wawrinka, 31, has traditionally played in Chennai at this time of year but said he wanted to change his Australian Open preparations. Wawrinka will now take on unseeded Briton Kyle Edmund in the quarter-finals of the season-opening event. Edmund progressed when



French opponent Lucas Pouille was forced to retire hurt during their match with blisters on his right foot. Edmund won the first set 6-3 but after Pouille took the opening game of the second set he called for attention from the trainer. However, after

losing the next two games the sixth seeded Frenchman decided he could no longer continue and handed Edmund the match. Earlier, a rusty Kei Nishikori survived a scare from qualifier Jared Donaldson.

WEATHER

Rain or thundershower very likely to occur at most places. Maximum and minimum temperature will be around 29°C and 23°C respectively on Thursday 05/01/2017

Observational data for Port Blair in last 24 hours

Maximum Temperature (°C): 30.1
Minimum Temperature (°C): 23.2
Relative Humidity (%) at 0830 IST: 094
Relative Humidity (%) at 1730 IST: 096
Sunrise Time for tomorrow (in IST): 0541
Sunset Time for tomorrow (in IST): 1709
Rainfall upto 0830 hrs of date (last 24 hrs) in mm: 011.1
Rainfall upto 1730 hrs of date in mm: 014.7
Rainfall (Progressive total from 1st January 16: 12.4 upto 0830 hrs (of date) in mm

CINEMA

DIVIYUM TALKIES

Schedule for Week Dec 30 - Jan 5

Dangal (Hin U) - 11:45 AM, 12:15 PM, 3:15 PM, 3:45 PM & 6:45 PM
Kathhi Sandai (Tam U) - 7:15 PM
www.ticketnew.com
For queries only 8373010002

REVISED SEVA SUCHNAYEN

ALL THE SAILINGS ARE SUBJECT TO WEATHER CONDITIONS

INTER ISLAND SECTOR:

MV Sentinel will sail for Car Nicobar via Hut Bay on 07.01.2017 (Sat) at 0700 Hrs from Haddo Wharf and will sail for Port Blair on 08.01.2017 (Sun) at 1400 Hrs from Car Nicobar via Hut Bay. Passenger tickets for the above sailing will be issued to the general public on 06.01.2017 from 0900 Hrs onwards at STARS Ticketing Counters. Similarly booking of cargo tickets will commence from 06.01.2017 between 0900 Hrs to 1300 Hrs at Commercial Wing. All the consigners are advised to book actual quantity of cargo to be transhipped, as no excess cargo will be allowed.

MV Campbell Bay will sail for Campbell Bay via Nancowry on 07.01.2017 (Sat) at 1000 Hrs from Haddo Wharf and will sail for Port Blair on 09.01.2017 (Mon) at 0700 Hrs from Campbell Bay via Nancowry. Passenger tickets for the above sailing will be issued to the general public on 06.01.2017 (Fri) from 0900 Hrs onwards at STARS Ticketing Counters. Similarly booking of cargo tickets (for perishable items only) will commence from 06.01.2017 (Fri) between 0900 Hrs to 1300 Hrs at Commercial Wing. All the consigners are advised to book actual quantity of cargo to be transhipped, as no excess cargo will be allowed.

HUT BAY SECTOR:

MV Bharat Seema will sail for Hut Bay on 08.01.2017 (Sun) at 0800 Hrs from Haddo Wharf and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 2100 Hrs from Hut Bay. Passenger tickets for the above sailing will be issued to the general public on 07.01.2017 from 0900 Hrs onwards at STARS Ticketing Counters.

MV Bharat Seema will sail for Hut Bay on 09.01.2017 (Mon) at 2000 Hrs from Haddo Wharf and will sail for Port Blair on 10.01.2017 (Tue) at 0800 Hrs from Hut Bay. Passenger tickets for the above sailing will be issued to the general public on 07.01.2017 from 0900 Hrs onwards at STARS Ticketing Counters.

FORESHORE SECTOR:

Note: Passenger tickets for the Foreshore Sector vessels scheduled on 5th, 6th & 7th Jan., 2017 will be issued to the general public on 04.01.2017 from 1400 Hrs onwards at Stars Counters.

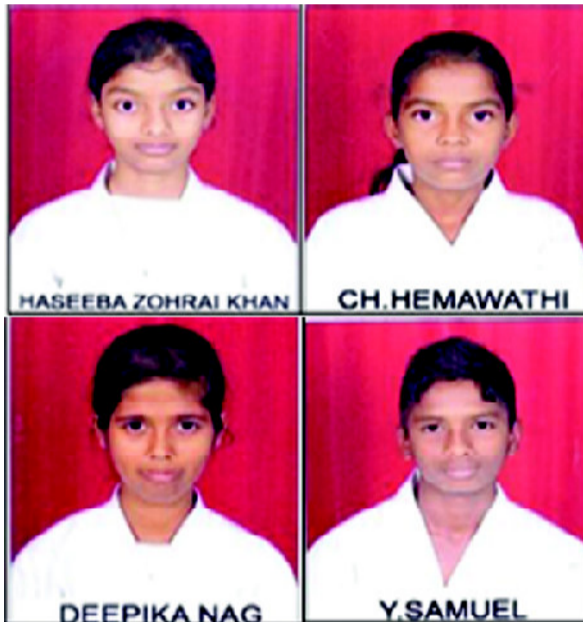
05.01.2017 (THURSDAY)

HAVELOCK & NEIL ISLAND

MV Bambooka will sail for Havelock on 05.01.2017 (Thu) at 0620 Hrs from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 0900 Hrs from Havelock.

MV Katchal will sail for Neil Island on 05.01.2017 (Thu) at 0630 Hrs from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 0845 Hrs from Neil Island.

Isles children win medals



Port Blair, Jan 4
Kumari. Haseeba Zohrai Khan of GSSS Girls won Silver Medal in 36 kg weight category. Kumari. CH Hemawathi of GSSS Girls, Port Blair won one Bronze medal in -32 kg weight category. Kumari Deepika Nag of GSSS Model Port Blair won Bronze Medal in 40 kg weight

category for U-17 (Girls) and Kumar Y Samuel of GSSS Model Port Blair won Bronze medal in 40 kg weight category for U-17 (Boys) in the ongoing 62nd SGFI National School Tang Soo Do Championship which is being held at New Delhi from 2nd to 9th January 2017, a communication said.

Lakshmiopathy Balaji Returns To KKR As Bowling Coach

Mumbai, Jan 4
Kolkata Knight Riders on Tuesday named former India pacer Lakshmiopathy Balaji as their bowling coach ahead of the 2017 Indian Premier League. Balaji, who retired from First-Class cricket in September 2016, remains associated with the Tamil Nadu team as its bowling coach. He was an integral part of KKR's bowling line-up from 2011 to 2013, and contributed to the team's victorious campaign in 2012. Making the announcement, KKR CEO said: "It's great to welcome Bala back to the KKR family. He was an integral part of KKR from 2011-13 and played a key role in helping KKR win the championship in 2012". Commenting on his new role as bowling coach of KKR, Balaji said: "I had thoroughly enjoyed my stint as a player for KKR and I am delighted to be back to the franchise that I have admired".

New Delhi, Jan 4
Following in the footsteps of former world champion L Sarita Devi, Commonwealth Games bronze-medallist boxer Pinki Jangra has decided to turn professional but will not give up on her amateur career either. The former national champion has signed up with the Sporty Boxing Private Limited, the commercial arm of the Indian Boxing Council (IBC), a licensing body for professional boxers in India. Pinki, who was a part of the ongoing national camp here, will now be training at the National Boxing Academy in Rohtak, where the IBC is currently conducting a camp for its women boxers. "I have decided to turn professional but I have not given up on my amateur career either. I am still aspiring for the Asian and Commonwealth Games next year. I have turned professional to gain in strength and endurance," Pinki told. "The

CWG-medallist Pinki Jangra turns professional

International Boxing Association has already ended the amateur-professional distinction by allowing professionals in National International tournaments. So I thought this is the right time to explore something new," she added. The flyweight boxer, who was once seen as a rival to the

legendary M C Mary Kom, had been laid low by a wrist injury, which also forced her out of the National Championships in Haridwar last year. Among her accomplishments in the amateur circuit is an Asian Championships silver medal and the rare credit of beating Mary Kom in a National Championship

World Braille Day celebrated



Port Blair, Jan 4
The World Braille Day celebrated in the C.R.C Girls' Sr. Sec. School Port Blair in a befitting manner today. Different games and sports competition conducted for CWSN.

Winners of all competitions were given prizes by the chief guest Smti. Sangeeta Chand, CRC Coordinator, Govt. Girls' Sr. Sec. School Port Blair. Consolation prizes are also given to all the participants.

Heavy rainfall warning; fishermen cautioned

Port Blair, Jan 4
Heavy to very heavy rain (12-20 cm) likely to occur at isolated places over Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Extremely heavy rain at isolated places over Nicobar Islands is also likely. Fishermen of A&N Islands have been advised not to venture into the sea. Under the influence of steep pressure gradient, strong Northeast to Easterly wind speed between 25 and 30 kmph gusting to 45 kmph and generally rough seas likely along and off Andaman and Nicobar coasts. Fishermen are advised to be cautious while venturing into the sea and to return by evening of 5th January 2017. The general public have been advised to take precautionary measures and in case of any emergency they may contact over phone

numbers of State Control Room, District Control Room and Emergency Operation Centres viz. State Control Room: 03192-238880 (Tele-Fax), 1077(Helpline), District Control Room: 03192-238881, EOC (Campbell Bay): 03193-264020, EOC (Kamorta): 03193-263222, EOC (N&M): 03192-262960, EOC (Hut Bay): 03192-284014, EOC (Car Nicobar): 03193-265241, EOC (Havelock): 03192-282030 and EOC (Ferrargunj): 03192-266527, a communication from the State Control Room, Directorate of Disaster Management said here today.

IGNOU practical exam

Port Blair, Jan 4
The practical examinations of the learners enrolled in Bachelor and Master Degree in Computer Application (BCA & MCA) of Indira Gandhi Open University, Study Centre, JNRM, Port Blair shall commence from Jan 10, 2017 onwards. The schedule of practical examination is displayed on IGNOU Study Centre, JNRM notice board. For further details learners have been advised to contact the IGNOU Study Centre, JNRM during its working hours, a communication said.

Health camp at ..

(Contd. from page 1)
render their services in the camp, free of cost viz. Paediatrician, Gynaecologist and Medical Officer. All the needy patients have been asked to avail the opportunity for consultation and treatment at community hall Manpur, Tushnabad on Jan 7 from 9.30 am onwards, a communication Dy. Director (HE&FW) said here today.

MV Nicobar under repair at Chennai; passengers are being taken care of

Port Blair, Jan 4
The vessel MV Nicobar was scheduled to sail from Chennai to Port Blair on Jan 2, 2017 but regrettably, after embarkation of 871 passengers onboard, the vessel developed some technical snag and could not sail on her scheduled date. At present the vessel is laid up at Chennai Port and necessary repair works are being carried out onboard. The Shipping Corporation of India has been directed to make the vessel operational at the earliest to avoid hardship to the passengers onboard. However, the passengers of the vessel are being regularly updated about the fact and positions and due care is being extended by the vessels to all the passengers. The passengers are allowed to stay onboard and free food

is also extended to stranded passengers. Meanwhile, the Directorate of Shipping Services is also exploring other alternatives towards transhipment of stranded passengers from Chennai to Port Blair. As soon as any arrangement is materialised, it will be intimated to the stranded passengers, a communication from the Deputy Director (SS) said here today.

MV Harshavardhana to sail for Chennai

Port Blair, Jan 4
MV Harshavardhana will now sail for Chennai at 9 am on Jan 6, 2016 from Haddo Wharf. Excess baggage will be loaded from 2 pm to 4 pm on Jan 5. Embarkation of passengers will be done from 6 am to 8 am on Jan 6, a communication said.

Training programme..

(Contd. from page 1)

Accordingly, a training will be organised at conference hall of the Office of the Deputy Commissioner, South Andaman for State Level Officials of the Directorate as well as District Level Official of South Andaman District attached with Rural Development on Jan 7, 2017. Training of the Blocks & Gram Panchayat officials/PRI members of South Andaman District as well as District, Block & Gram Panchayat Levels officials/PRI members of N&M Andaman and Nicobar Districts shall be organized on Jan 9 in their respective Blocks.

The trained Officials as well as the members of the Panchayati Raj Institutions will subsequently create awareness among rural households on the various tools of digital payments and the methodology to use them with ease in order to create cashless society, a communication said.

Additional vehicle ferry service during ITF

Port Blair, Jan 4
To facilitate the commuters of Bambooflat and its adjoining areas during Island Tourism Festival 2017, the Directorate of Shipping Services is planning to provide additional Vehicle Ferry Service during night

hours between Chatham & Bambooflat from 6th to 15th January, 2017. The commuters of these areas can avail the ferry service till the completion of ITF 2017. The ferry services will be operated as per the following schedule:-

ARRIVAL	PORT	DEPARTURE
----	CHATHAM	2115 Hrs.
2125 Hrs	BAMBOOFLAT	2135 Hrs
2145 Hrs	CHATHAM	2200 Hrs
2210 Hrs	BAMBOOFLAT	2215 Hrs
2225 Hrs	CHATHAM	--

The timings are tentative and may change subject to speed of the vessel, weather condition, availability of

berth etc. which are beyond the control of the Directorate of Shipping Services, a communication said.

ANIDCO to operate ..

(Contd. from page 1)

Goal Ghar.

All travel agent and hoteliers have also been requested to promote Floating Restaurant which is additional tourist attraction, a communication from the General Manager (Tourism), ANIDCO said.

NABARD initiates..

(Contd. from page 1)

regard the Department of Forests, Science & Technology, CIARI and NABARD will come up with a big project, Shri Songadkar informed. He further mentioned that under the project, an amount to the extent of Rs. 10 crores can be financed.

The GM further stated that NABARD is the national implementation entity for funds under Govt. of India. He said that three funds under climate change are provided viz. Green Climate Fund, National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change and Adaptation Fund Board. Under this, various projects can be taken up in the Islands.

Further, to provide a permanent marketing complex for the SHGs to sell their products, NABARD has requested the Lt. Governor for providing a suitable place in the Islands. He also said that a Rural Mart for the SHGs and NGOs to sell their products can be established under which Rs.2.5 lakh will be provided for setting up the mart in rural areas while for district level, Rs.4 lakh will be provided. To make it more successful, Rural Mart will be established in such places where more tourists visit, said the GM, appealing the NGOs and other organizations to embrace the initiative. He said a Rural Mart was inaugurated at Havelock on Dec 31 by Yuvasakthi, an NGO. A similar mart is also planned to be established in Neil shortly.

Proposal for establishment of 'Rural Haat' has also been mooted so that the farmers can sell their products through this Haat. NABARD will provide grant upto Rs.4 lakh for setting up the Haat in rural areas. In order to bring the farmers and producers under one umbrella, Shri Songadkar said, a farmer-producer organisation will be set up involving 50 to 60 farmers who are engaged in the field of milk, coconut, arecanut etc. The initiative will be promoted by Kishi Vigyan Kendra and under this, upto Rs.9 lakh will be provided.

LG to inaugurate ten-day..

(Contd. from page 1)

competitions such as 'Healthy baby' show on Jan 13, 'Flower show' on Jan 10, 'vegetable show' on Jan 11 and 'Dog show' on Jan 12 will be held at ITF ground. The other attractions will be the food courts, fun games, handicrafts, etc.

The festival provides a common platform where one and all irrespective of colour, caste and religion participate with equal dedication and gaiety promoting and strengthening the spirit of brotherhood.

LG to inaugurate..

(Contd. from page 1)

workshop. Around 16 to 17 firms are likely to send their senior officers to attend the workshop which aims at framing a suitable IT and ITES Policy and to put in place required infrastructure by obtaining inputs from firms established in mainland. Top management of Pioneers in IT, BPO Industries in mainland have also confirmed their participation in this workshop.

Through this workshop, it is expected to understand the expectation, of IT/ITES companies to explore new ventures in these Islands which would facilitate policy makers institutionalise business friendlier environment and defining an attractive IT/ITES policy which will aid in improving our competitiveness with other cities of the country, that will pave a path to ignite a revolution in IT/ITES Industry in these Islands.

Many aspiring entrepreneurs and local youths have shown keen interest and already registered for the workshop. All aspiring youths and entrepreneurs who have not registered so far have been requested to avail the opportunity by participating in the workshop and share their views during the discussion forum, a communication said here today.