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Exchange Rates	
RBI Reference Rate	Capital Market
INR / 1 USD : 66.6690	BSE Sensex : 24851.83*
INR / 1 Euro : 72.5292	S&P CNX Nifty : 7568.30*
INR / 100 YEN : 56.3200	*as on previous day
INR / 1 GBP : 97.4501	Bullion Rate
	22ct Gold per 10 gram 24620
	Silver per 1 kg 39000

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6 pages

Student of GSSS Diglipur wins

Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam IGNITE Award

Port Blair, Jan 8
Kumar Dipankar Das of class-XII has received the prestigious Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam IGNITE Award 2015. The award was presented by Hon'ble President of India, Shri. Pranab Mukharjee at IIM Ahmedabad on November 30, 2015. This is for the first time that a student of Andaman & Nicobar Islands was awarded with Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam IGNITE Award for his creative and innovative working model "Solar Pulse Thresher". Recently, Dipankar Das also received appreciation letter from Smti. Anandiben Patel, Chief Minister of Gujarat for his creativity and innovation.



The same working model Environment Exhibition for children (JNNSMEE) was selected for 42nd Jawaharlal Nehru National Science, Mathematics and at Muvathupuzha, Dist. (Contd. on last page)

C-in-C, SFC calls on LG

Port Blair, Jan 08
Lt Gen Amit Sharma, AVSM, VSM, Commander-in-Chief, Strategic Forces Command, who is on a visit to these Islands called on the Hon'ble Lt Governor, Lt Gen A K Singh (Retd), at Raj Niwas today.

LG inaugurates Island Tourism Festival -2016

Variety of cultural activities during 11-day fete; Admn. drawing calendar of events for the year



Port Blair, Jan 8

The much awaited annual event of the Isles, Island Tourism Festival - 2016, got off to a colourful start at a glittering ceremony at ITF Ground, VIP Road here this evening. The Lt. Governor, Lt. Gen A.K. Singh (Retd.), chief guest of the function, lit the ceremonial lamp to mark the commencement of the eleven-day long fete. The Member of Parliament, Shri Bishnu Pada Ray, the guest of honour of the function, Smt. Rupa Ray, Chief Secretary i/c, Shri Raajiv Yaduvanshi, PBMC Chairperson, Smt. Sheela Singh, Adhyaksha, ZPSA, Smt. Minati Biswas, Senior Officers of the Administration, tourism stakeholders and a large number of people attended this programme.

Addressing the gathering on the occasion, the Lt Governor stated that from the earlier 'Kala Paani', these Islands are today known for its mesmerizing blue waters and the slogan 'Emerald, Blue and You' is indeed befitting. The Lt Governor, however, urged all citizens to co-operate with the civic authorities in maintaining cleanliness in the Isles under the 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyan', launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi.

The Lt Governor stated that about 1000 local artists are participating in this festival. Their selection has been done in a very transparent manner, he said.

"The Island Tourism Festival aims at showcasing 'Vibrant Andaman', said the Lt Governor, inviting one and all to join the revelries during the fete.

The Lt Governor also mentioned that the Administration is chalking out an event calendar for the entire year so that everyone can participate in, and enjoy these events throughout the year. Mentioning that the Kala Kendra which has been established in the Islands requires dynamism and momentum, the Lt. Governor urged the concerned authorities to include the PBMC Chairperson in it so that she can also suggest activities under this.

The Lt Governor also spoke about the MoU that has been signed between the A&N Administration and the Indian Council of Cultural Relations under which artistes from abroad shall be invited to perform in the Islands.

The Lt Governor concluded his speech by expressing hope that the A&N Islands will prosper like never before in the year ahead through the joint and collective efforts of all.

In his brief address, the Member of Parliament, Shri Bishnu Pada Ray welcomed the artists from mainland who have come here to perform and also those from the Islands, to enjoy the festivities in the islands for



(More photos on last page)

the next 11 days. Earlier, welcoming the gathering, the Secretary Tourism Smt. Anika Mishra Bundela stated that the Islands Tourism festival has become an intrinsic part of these Islands. She also

informed about the journey of the ITF that began in 1987 as 'Apna Utsav', which went on to be known as 'Islands on the March' later on. However, in the year 1994, a comprehensive Island (Contd. on last page)

Vishal Jolly re-elected State President of BJP with thumping majority

Port Blair, Jan 8

Shri Vishal Jolly has been re-elected as the State President of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), A&N Islands with a thumping majority. The return of the stalwart to the top job in the Party's Local Unit here was announced by the National Joint General Secretary (Org.), BJP, Shri B.L. Santosh ji at a meeting organised at the regional BJP HQs, Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherji Bhawan, this afternoon.

All the senior leaders of the party, PRI members and a large number of excited party workers were present on the occasion. After the announcement, Shri Jolly was honoured with shawls & bouquets by the senior leaders and PRI members amid slogans in favour of his victory. The party workers celebrated Shri Jolly's re-election with crackers, while sweets were also distributed on the occasion. A number of telephone calls were received at the party HQs here congratulating Shri Jolly on his victory.

Assuming the charge of the party's State President consecutively for the second time out of a total of three times, Shri Jolly thanked all the leaders and workers of the party for their continued and staunch support in returning him to the top seat yet again. He also exhorted the leaders and workers of the party to continue to work for the welfare of the people of the Islands with more vigour and dedication and to strengthen the party further by working in unison



even better than the remarkable performance registered in the recent past, a communication from the State Election Officer, BJP, A&N Islands said here today. Meanwhile, the President, AATO, Shri M Vinod has congratulated Shri Vishal Jolly for being re-elected as BJP State President.

Secretary Labour reviews training programmes at ITI Car Nicobar

Car Nicobar, Jan 8

The Secretary (Labour), A&N Administration, Shri Ramesh Verma alongwith Shri Akhil Kumar, Assistant Commissioner, Car Nicobar today inspected the progress of ongoing Modular Employable Skills (MES) courses under Skill Development Initiative Scheme, one of the flagship programmes of GoI run by ITI Lapaty.



Secretary (Labour) inspected the courses being conducted for the tribal

youths and later, interacted with the Incharge and (Contd. on last page)

Clarification on Chartered flight service

Port Blair, Jan 8

With reference to news item published in a section of the local news paper about coordination for chartered flight, the Dy. Director (Civil Aviation), through a press release received here today has clarified that the charter flight scheduled to operate on Jan 6, 2016 got cancelled

due to grounding of aircraft for technical reasons. On getting this information from Air India and understanding the situation, earnest efforts were made by the Directorate of Civil Aviation to get a replacement aircraft to meet the commitment on Jan 6. However, due to non availability of spare aircraft

the commitment could not be met on the same day and the passengers were accordingly informed at the airport by the staff of Civil Aviation and Air India.

Further, to provide relief to our stranded passengers at Chennai, free transport, food and hotel accommodation was (Contd. on last page)

Essay competition on 'Mere Sapno ka Shahar'

Neeraj & Heena win first prizes in open & students' category

Port Blair, Jan 8

The Chairperson, PBMC, Smti Sheela Singh felicitated the winners of the essay competition conducted on Smart city proposal for Port Blair Town by the Port Blair Municipal Council in coordination with the Department of Urban Development, A & N Administration at a simple function held in the conference hall of the Council today. In students' category, Kumari Heena Kaushar of Class IX from GMSSS Aberdeen won the 1st Prize, Kumari Payal Mahato of class XII from GSSS Campbell Bay got the second 2nd Prize and



Kumari Puja Paramanic of class XII from GMSSS Sita Nagar bagged the 3rd Prize. In open category, Shri Neeraj won 1st Prize, Shri Raghuvver Singh bagged 2nd Prize and Shri P.V. Krishna Narayana Rao got

3rd Prize. The Chairperson, PBMC on behalf of the Council appreciated the winners for active participation in the Smart City Proposal. (Contd. on last page)

Amit Sana, Amardeep Singh Nath to perform at Netaji Stadium today



Port Blair, Jan 8

The Island Tourism Festival 2016 began here today. As part of the festival, Amit Sana, the Runner up of India Idol first season (Sony), playback singer and robotic dancer Amardeep Singh Nath, known as 'Zinda Robot', finalist of India's Dancing Superstar (Star Plus) and India Got Talent (Colours) will be performing at Netaji Stadium tomorrow (Jan 9). With them,

six Bollywood dancers and one professional anchor Sakshi Verma will also be the part of the show.

The programme will be organised by Department of Tourism, A & N Administration while the event will be managed by Andaman's event management firm 'Ecstasea', which is managed by local talented youths, and organises reality shows, a communication said.

SPORTS

A&N Forest Sports team wins medal

Port Blair, Jan 8
A contingent of 29 member of Andaman & Nicobar Forest Sports Team participated in the recently held 22nd All India Forest Sports Meet, 2015 at Bangalore. The Team participated in various events like, football athletic, rifle shooting, lawn tennis & badminton etc. Shri. Pradeep Mondal, Forest Guard has secured a Silver Medal in Rifle Shooting (Standing Position) in open category while Smti. Jayashree Ardey Chauhan, Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests secured a Bronze Medal in Lawn Tennis (Single) in Women (Senior Veteran) category. The Football Team gave a hard fight in semi final against Goa in tie breaker and was positioned 4th in the meet, a communication said.



Island Sqay Martial Art team wins more medals

Port Blair, Jan 8
Kumar Peter, a class XII student of GSSS Boys created history by winning gold medal in Heavy (+66Kg) weight category event in School National Tang Soo Doo Championship. Kumari Asmita Tani of GSSS Model and Kumari Sofee George of GSSS Boys added two more bronze medals today in the medal tally by winning one bronze medal each in Sqay Martial Art (-52 Kg) and in Tang Soo Do (Fly -42 Kg) respectively in the ongoing 61st SGFI National School Sqay Martial Art and Tang Soo Do Championship which is being held at New Delhi from 2nd to 9th January 2016. Now, the total medal tally has become Twelve, i.e., One Gold, Two silver and nine bronze medals.



Meanwhile, Principal Secretary (Education), Secretary (Education) Senior Officers of Directorate of Education, Staff of Sports Section and Physical Education Teachers has congratulated the Team members, coaches and managers for their excellent performance in this Championship, a communication said.

Village health yoga camp conducted at Munak village



Car Nicobar, Jan 8
Village Health Yoga Camp was organized at Munak Village, Nancowrie today. This has been an awareness campaign initiated by District Health Society with the co-ordination of Health Departs & Villages Captain of Nancowrie. The event was flagged off in the presence of Shri. Lenglie Jimmy (Village Captain) and Smt. Angelina (ANMs Munak Sub- Center), the Yoga Instructor of BJR Hospital Car Nicobar under District Health Society, Car Nicobar, Shri. Mangal Bhagat, demonstrated the practice of Yoga at Community Hall, Munak Village, Nancowrie. The Village Captain of Munak village addressed the people and urged to lead a healthy and stress free life, a communication said.

Healthy baby contest on Jan 12

Port Blair, Jan 8
On the occasion of Island Tourism Festival 2016, a healthy baby contest will be organised by the Directorate of Health Services in association with Union Territory Health Mission, A&N Islands on Jan 12, 2015 at ITF Ground among the three categories of babies viz. 6 month - 1 yrs, 1 - 3 yrs and 3 yrs - 5 yrs. The interested parents may bring their babies for the participation in the said contest on Jan 12, 2016 from 10 am to 2 pm at Medical Assistance Booth, ITF Ground along with birth certificate of the baby, ante-natal card, immunization card and proof of family planning method adopted, if any. The cash prizes of Rs.2500/-, Rs.2000/- & Rs.1000/- for winners of 1st, 2nd & 3rd will be awarded during valedictory function on the concluding day at ITF Ground. The name of the winners will be published/broadcast/telecast through Daily Telegrams, All India Radio & Doordarsha, a communication said.

Student of GSSS Diglipur...

(Contd. from page 1)
Ernakulam, Kerala where he was appreciated. The school fraternity has applauded his guide teacher Shri. Chanchal Singha Roy, GTT for his guidance and constant motivation. The Principal, Vice Principal, all the teachers and students of Govt. Sr.Sec.School, Diglipur have congratulated Dipankar Das for the achievement. The school also congratulated the team of Role Play for participating and representing the Island in the national level role play competition held at RIE, Mysore on 16th November 2015. Five students of class-IX Kumar Kishore Biswas, Kumar Debasish Das, Kumari. Puja Mistry, Kumari Rinku Rani Das and Kumari Shreemati Halder participated in the Role Play. The guide teachers Shri. Chanchal Singha Roy, Smti. Amrita Singh and Shri. Uttam Chakraborty were praised for their valuable guidance.

In-form Sania Mirza, Martina Hingis advance to final of Brisbane International

Brisbane, Jan 8
Indian tennis ace Sania Mirza and her Swiss partner Martina Hingis continued their stupendous run by clinching their 25th victory together to enter the final of the Brisbane International Tennis Tournament here today. The top-seeded Indo-Swiss duo defeated the Slovak-Russian combination of Andreja Klepac and Alla Kudryavtseva 6-3 7-5 to make the summit clash. Sania and Hingis will next be up against winner of the other semifinal between the Spanish team of Anabel Medina Garrigues and Arantxa Parra Santonja and the German wildcard pairing of Angelique Kerber and Andrea Petkovic. Sania and Hingis, currently the world's No.1 team, breezed past their rivals in the opening set before facing slight resistance in the second. "It's been a long time since we've lost, but it's never easy to start a new season, especially when you're coming off such a great season. Everyone's gunning for us - we're the hunted," Sania said.



Bubble Show at Science Centre and **Annual Day of Ummat School**

Port Blair, Jan 8
The Science Centre will be organizing a "Bubble Show" on Jan 9 & 10, 2016 in its fully air conditioned auditorium from 6 pm to 6.30 pm. This is a fun filled show specially designed for all age group to enjoy with their kids. During the programme the demonstrator shall prepare varieties of bubbles right from Tiny bubble to Gaint bubble, children's most favourite Doraemon bubble to the cubic bubble, Caterpillar bubble, Fire bubble & many more. The entry fee for the bubble show is Rs.10/- per head. Further, there shall be special 3D shows at 5.15. p.m, 6.15 p.m & 7 p.m on Jan 9 & 10 with entry fee of Rs.20/- per head, a communication said.

Port Blair, Jan 8
The Annual Day function of class Nursery to IV 'Astral - 16' will be organised by Ummat Public School, Middle Point at 5.45 pm in the School Hall, on Jan 9, 2016. The Chairperson, PBMC, Smt. Sheela Singh will be the chief guest on the occasion. Meanwhile, the Annual Day function of class V to VIII 'Astral - 16' will also be organised by Ummat Public School, Middle Point at 5.45 pm in the School Hall on Jan 10, 2015. The Secretary (Home & Civil Aviation), A&N Administration, Shri N.K. Sharma will be the chief guest on the occasion, communications said.



Variety of cultural.. (Contd. from page 1)

Tourism Festival was organized for the first time which continues till date. She also informed that besides Port Blair, South Andaman, North and Middle Andaman and Car Nicobar, programmes under the ITF will also be organized, for the very first time, in the Nancowry group of Islands this time. The highlight of the inaugural function was the enchanting Bharatnatyam performance by the classical dancer from Puducherry, Ms Krithiga, a bouquet of colourful cultural presentations by the visiting artists from different states of the country and a hilarious comic presentation by the Police Entertainment Team. The Island Tourism Festival is being organized under the aegis of Tourism Department of the A&N Administration. The Director Tourism, Dr. P Viswakannan proposed the vote of thanks at the end of the inaugural ceremony.

Neeraj & Heena ...

(Contd. from page 1)
As part of preparing Smart City proposal with active participation of the citizen, the PBMC has invited opinion/aspirations in the form of essay on the topic "Mere Sapno ka Shahar" focusing on the issues faced by the citizens and the solutions thereby. An overwhelming number of citizens participated in the essay contest in two categories viz. students and open to all. These entries were got evaluated through jury's and the best entries in each categories was made available to the PBMC. The prize money for students carries a cash award of Rs. 7000/-, 5000/- and 3000/- for the first, second and third respectively and in the open category Rs. 25000/- 15000/- and Rs. 10000/ respectively, a communication received here said.

Special offer by BSNL

Port Blair, Jan 8
Keeping the mood and spirit of Island Tourism Festival, BSNL A&N has launched Full talk value offer on TOPUP of the following denominations for prepaid mobile customers from Jan 8 to 18, 2016. Full talk value is available on TOPUP of Rs 50, 60, 70, 80 & 90, this will be available to all Prepaid mobile customers of A&N only. It will not be applicable for MNP customers. The offer is available through any BSNL/ BSNL dealer outlets including the BSNL stall at ITF. In addition to it Free Mobile SIM cards will be offered from BSNL ITF stalls, a communication said.

WEATHER

Partly cloudy sky. Maximum and minimum temperature will be around 32°C and 24°C respectively on Saturday 09/01/2016

Observational data for Port Blair in last 24 hours

Maximum Temperature (°C): 30.8
Minimum Temperature (°C): 24.2
Relative Humidity (%) at 0830 IST: 074
Relative Humidity (%) at 1730 IST: 083
Sunrise Time for tomorrow (in IST): 0542
Sunset Time for tomorrow (in IST): 1711
Rainfall upto 0830 hrs of date (last 24 hrs) in mm: 000.0
Rainfall upto 1730 hrs of date in mm: 000.0
Rainfall (Progressive total from 1st January 16: 0.0 upto 0830 hrs (of date) in mm

CINEMA

DIVIYUM TALKIES

Following is the Schedule for Week Jan 8 - 14

Wazir - (Hindi UA)
1:30 PM, 4:30 PM & 7:30 PM
Star Wars The Force Awakens - (English U)
12:30 PM & 7:00 PM
Dilwale - (Hindi UA) - 3:30 PM
Online booking at www.ticketnew.com
For queries only 8373010002

SEVA SUCHNAYEIN

ALL THE SAILINGS ARE SUBJECT TO WEATHER CONDITIONS

The announced schedule of MV Sentinel for Hut Bay on 13.01.2016 has been revised. Now the vessel will sail for Hut Bay on 13.01.2016 (Wed) at 0700 Hrs and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 2000 Hrs from Hut Bay. Passenger tickets for the above sailing will be issued to the general public from 11.01.2016 (Mon) onwards at STARS Ticketing Counters. MV Chowra will sail for Car Nicobar via Hut Bay on 15.01.2016 (Fri) at 0700 Hrs from Haddo Wharf and will sail for Port Blair on 16.01.2016 (Sat) at 1400 Hrs from Car Nicobar via Hut Bay. Passenger tickets for the above sailing will be issued to the general public from 13.01.2016 (Wed) at STARS Ticketing Counters. Similarly booking of cargo tickets will commence from 13.01.2016 (Wed) between 0900 Hrs to 1300 Hrs at Commercial Wing. All the consignors are advised to book actual quantity of cargo to be transhipped, as no excess cargo will be allowed. MV Sentinel will sail for Campbell Bay via Nancowry on 15.01.2016 (Fri) at 0700 Hrs from Haddo Wharf and will sail for Port Blair on 17.01.2016 (Sun) at 2000 Hrs from Campbell Bay via Nancowry. Passenger tickets for the above sailing will be issued to the general public from 13.01.2016 (Wed) onwards at STARS Ticketing Counters. 09.01.2016 (SATURDAY) HAVELOCK & NEIL ISLAND MV North Passage will sail for Havelock in place of MV Bambooka on 09.01.2016 (Sat) at 0620 Hrs from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 0900 Hrs from Havelock. MV Jolly Buoy sail for Neil Island on 09.01.2016 (Sat) at 0630 Hrs. from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 0845 Hrs from Neil Island. MV Jolly Buoy will sail for Neil Island on 09.01.2016 (Sat) at 1100 Hrs from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 1600 Hrs from Neil Island.

ISLAND TOURISM FESTIVAL-2016		
Date: 09/01/2016 (Saturday)		
Venue: ITF Ground Time: 06.00 P.M.		
S. No.	Programme	Duration
1.	Bharathanatyam Dance- Puducherry-SZCC	15 mts
2.	Folk Dances - Odissa-EZCC	15 mts
3.	Folk DanceS- Madhya Pradesh-EZCC	15 mts
4.	Folk Dances- Assam-EZCC	15 mts
5.	Folk Dances -Tamil Nadu-SZCC	15 mts
6.	Programme -Mukta-Dhara	20 mts.
7.	Dances-Bodhisatra Ambedkar Cultural Association	20 mts.
8.	Dances-Sky Youth Club	20 mts.
9.	Dances-Pragati -Social & Cultural Organization	20 mts.
10.	Dances-Subhas Recreation Youth Club	20 mts.
Venue: Netaji Stadium Time: 06.00 P.M.		
MUSICAL PROGRAMME BY TV FAME SINGER AMIT SANA & GROUP		
Venue: Amphitheatre Time: 06:00 PM		
S. No.	Programme	Duration
1.	Songs-Vidyabharathi Saraswathi Shiksha Samithy	15-20 mts.
2.	Folk Dances- Gujarat-EZCC	15-20 mts.
3.	Gauri Shnkara Classical Dance Academy	15-20 mts.
4.	Kanyarikali Folk Dance -Kerala-SZCC	15-20 mts.
5.	Magic Show- West Bengal-Song & Drama Division	15 mts.
6.	Puppet Show - West Bengal-Song & Drama Division	15 mts.
Venue: Bathubasti School Ground Time: 06:00 PM		
S. No.	Programme	Duration
1.	Folk Song- Assam-EZCC	15-20 mts.
2.	Folk Dance - Kerala-SZCC	15-20 mts.
3.	Folk Dance- West Bengal -Song & Drama Division	15-20 mts.
4.	Programme -Darpan Art & Cultural Organization	15-20 mts.
5.	Dances- Dance Island Dance & S.K Musical Association	15-20 mts.
6.	Programme- Chetana	15-20 mts.
7.	Songs -M.J Music Academy	15-20 mts.
8.	Dances-Swaraj Youth Club	15-20 mts.
Director (Art & Culture)		