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6 Pages

PM inaugurates India International Exchange in Gujarat

Gandhinagar, Jan 9
Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has formally inaugurated the India International Exchange at GIFT city near Gandhinagar in Gujarat. GIFT city and India International Exchange- the International Center of BSE were the dream projects of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

During the inauguration of India International Exchange, he said that it is a momentous occasion for India's financial sector. He also said that the exchange inaugurated today will surely set new standards for quality of service and speed of transactions across time zones.

He talked about the vision behind GIFT City and how this world class finance and



IT zone has the potential to provide quality services to world. He also elaborated on smart cities project and how they have a pivotal role in creating an India that is confident, prosperous and inclusive.

The trading at the new India International Exchange at GIFT city will commence from 16th January. Gujarat International Finance Tec-

City known as GIFT city is an under-construction central business district between Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar.

Its main purpose is to provide high quality physical infrastructure including electricity, water, gas, cooling, roads, telecoms and broadband so that finance and tech firms can relocate their operations

there. BSE CEO Shri Ashish Chauhan has said that the India International Exchange will be world's fastest exchange which will create more than 20 lakh direct and indirect employments during the next 10 years.

The 'India International Exchange' will trade in all the products like the other exchanges in the world such as Singapore, Hong Kong,

London and New York in currency, equities, commodities and derivatives. Derivatives products are not currently available at this exchange since Indian regulations prohibit Indian individuals from speculating or doing derivatives trading in foreign markets as of now.

CBSE 10th & 12th exams to begin from March 9

New Delhi, Jan 9

The Central Board of Secondary Education, CBSE will hold class 10th and 12th examinations from 9th of March. The class 10th examination will continue till 10th of April while the examination for class 12th will end on 29th of April. The Board in a press statement said, though the examinations have been delayed by a week due to ensuing Assembly polls in five States, the results will be declared on time. It said, the Board has adopted several IT initiatives to help in faster processing of results. About 16.67 lakh students are enrolled for 10th examination while around 11 lakh students will be appearing in class 12th examination.

CS inaugurates cashless transaction facility of PBMC

Lauds PBMC for keeping city spick & span



Port Blair, Jan 9

The Chief Secretary, A&N Administration, Shri Anindo Majumdar today inaugurated the facility of cashless transactions at PBMC Head Quarter here this morning. The Chief Secretary unveiled the plaque and also handed over the computer generated receipts (consumer's copy) to the consumers who paid their water taxes by operating Point of Sale (POS) machines installed at the Counter, thus marking the launch of the facility. The Chairperson, PBMC, Shri B. Eswar Rao, Sr. Vice Chairman, Shri NK Uday Kumar and Jr. Vice Chairman, Shri Dharmendra Narayan, PBMC Secretary, Shri Yashpal Garg besides Councillors of PBMC and officials were present on the occasion.

While interacting with the Councillors, the Chief Secretary appreciated the initiative taken by the PBMC for adopting cashless transaction. The

Chief Secretary said, he was informed by the PBMC officials that PBMC might be the first Municipal Council to introduce cashless transaction in the country. It is a great achievement on the part of the Council; the Chief Secretary said showering all praise for their initiative. The Chief Secretary, however pointed out that a back-up plan should also be put in place for collection of taxes as people should not suffer due to connectivity problems in the Isles.

"Such cashless transactions will be introduced in other Departments also", the Chief Secretary said urging the PBMC to motivate traders/businessman to adopt cashless transactions. He stated that POS machine will be installed in all the Circuit Houses manned by the

Administration so that the visiting dignitaries/officials from mainland do not face problem. The Chief Secretary urged the PBMC to give special attention to the Prime Minister's Awas Yojana so that Isles do not lag behind in its implementation for the benefit of the needy people.

The Chief Secretary also lauded PBMC for keeping the city spic & span. The

dignitaries visiting Port Blair have appreciated the cleanliness maintained in the city area, the Chief Secretary said giving all the credit to the PBMC team. "Projects such as small and beautiful parks are also essential for making Port Blair a vibrant city for which PBMC should take initiatives", he observed.

The Chief Secretary urged the PBMC to be well (Contd. on last page)

ANC evacuates critical patient from Car Nicobar

Port Blair, Jan 9

The Andaman and Nicobar Command, upon a request from the Directorate of Health Services for medical evacuation of Shree Eliza 31, from Car Nicobar, pressed into a Dornier Aircraft at Car Nicobar Air Force Station and evacuated the patient who was in critical condition,

besides two attendants, recently. On arrival, Shri Eliza was shifted to GB Pant hospital for further treatment. He belongs to Nicobarese tribe and is a resident of Tapoiming village in Car Nicobar. He was suffering from Blunt Trauma to the abdomen and needed immediate surgical intervention, an ANC communiqué said.

MP felicitates distinguished writers, journalists & community leaders

Staff Reporter
Port Blair, Jan 9

An award ceremony was organized by Writers International Network (WIN), Canada to honour distinguished Writers, Journalists and Community leaders of A&N Islands at Hotel TSG Grand, Dollygunj this evening. The Member of Parliament, Shri Bishnu Pada Ray was the chief guest on the occasion. The Member of Parliament from Thiruvananthapuram Constituency, Dr. Shashi Tharoor was also present



on the occasion. Addressing the gathering, the Member of Parliament, Shri Bishnu Pada Ray expressed happiness in being a part

of the felicitation ceremony. He stated that he had learnt a lot from the people who have been honoured today and expressed happiness in

honouring them for their distinguished works. He also lauded Dr. Shashi Tharoor for his distinguished political career and appreciated Shri Ebrahim Jadwet, an Islander, for initiating this recognition ceremony here in Isles.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Shashi Tharoor lauded the serene beauty of A&N Islands and also the 'unity in diversity' being reflected in its truest sense among the Islanders.

(Contd. on last page)

Fruit & Vegetable Show at ITF on Jan 11

Port Blair, Jan 9

As a part of Island Tourism Festival 2017, the Department of Agriculture in association with Agricultural Technology Management Agency will be organizing 'Fruit and Vegetable Show' in the ITF Ground on 11th January 2017. During the Fruit and Vegetable Show, competitions will be held for various categories of fruits, vegetables and mushroom.

The Pramukh, Prothrapur Panchayat Samity, Port Blair, Shri Apurba Chandra Roy will be the chief guest on the occasion and inaugurate

the show at 3 pm. Quality exhibits of farmers' participants will be displayed in the exhibition and judged for award.

The interested farmers have been requested to bring their exhibits directly to the venue i.e. ITF ground at 11 am or may contact the concerned Agriculture Field Assistant in this regard.

For further details, one can contact Shri R. Y. Singh, Joint Director (Agri), South Andaman, Nodal Officer Fruit and Vegetable Show, Directorate of Agriculture over mobile no. 9474227073/232627 /232580, a communication said.

'Band of Artist' from mainland performs at Nancowry & Car Nicobar

Port Blair, Jan 9

As part of Island Tourism Festival 2017, 'Band of Artist' from mainland consisting of Shri Abhishek Sinha Choudhury of 'Sa Re Ga Ma Pa' 2007 finalist, Ms. Tista Banerjee - trained classical singer and participants of six reality shows including

'SaReGaMaPa' performed at Nancowry on Jan 7 and at Car Nicobar on Jan 8.

A large number of people gathered to witness the show organised by the Department of Tourism, A&N Administration, a communication from the Director (Tourism) said here today.

Islands' Pride

Young Pilot shares experience about his flying journey



"If you can dream, you can do it", says the confident looking Capt. B. Sarat Kumar, a 20 year old promising youth from these Isles, who has become a certified commercial Pilot recently. Sharing his eventful journey into the field of aviation during an interview with the DT Reporter here today, Capt. Sarat said, it was his childhood dream to be a Pilot and he chased it with dedicated efforts, which has now fructified. "As a child, I was fascinated by aircrafts and I would go to Joggers Park everyday to see the landings and takeoffs of the Aircrafts that landed on Port Blair runway", revealed the young Pilot.

Sarat Kumar studied upto class X at VKV Port Blair and did his XIIth from a Vishakapatnam School. Soon after that, he cleared the exam and joined the Indigo Cadet Pilot Training Programme, which is an 18 months' course. Prior to joining the Pilot training programme, Sarat said, he contacted few pilots through social media and who informed about the training programme, thus giving him an insight about his dream career. Expressing gratitude to his loved ones, Capt. Sarat said he would always remain grateful to his father, PBMC Chairperson, Shri B. Eswar Rao for his unflinching support and his mother Smti Hemawati besides his uncles, Shri B. Neelaih and Shri B. Baskar Rao. He also acknowledged the guidance received from Shri B. Raj Babu, who guided him to his dream career besides the Member

of Parliament, Shri Bishnu Pada Ray for his support whenever the need arose and his instructors and friends for their guidance and directions. About the course, Capt. Sarat said he underwent three (Contd. on last page)

Awareness campaign on tobacco, drug abuse and alcoholism at Nancowrie

Car Nicobar, Jan 9

The Integrated Child Development Programme (ICDS) Tribal Project, Car Nicobar conducted an awareness campaign at community hall, Pilpillow, Nancowrie on drug abuse, tobacco and alcoholism recently.

Smt. Aysha Majid, Chairperson, Tribal Council, Nancowrie urged the youths of Island to make Nancowrie free from alcoholism and drug abuse and appealed the youths to work hard for the development of the Island.

Shri Muneer Ahmed, 1st Captain, Pilpillow village, Kamorta Island, guest of honour, motivated the people towards prevention of alcoholism and drug abuse in connection with the development of society.

The CMO, CHC Nancowrie Dr. Sidda Raju, briefed about the ill-effects of chewing of tobacco, drug abuse and consumption of liquor.

Shri M. Yusuf, SI, Police Department, Nancowrie explained about the law (Contd. on last page)

ISLAND TOURISM FESTIVAL-2017		
Date: 10/01/2017 (Tuesday)		
Venue: ITF Ground Time: 06.00 P.M.		
S. No.	Programme	Duration
1.	Musical Programme- Naveen Cultural Group	20 Mts
2.	Dances- Jhumur Nrityangana	20 Mts
3.	Bharatnatyam Classical Dance- Tamil Nadu- SZCC	20 Mts
4.	Badhai Folk Dance- Madhya Pradesh- NCZCC	20 Mts
5.	Dances- Saakar	20 Mts
6.	Farwai Folk Dance- Uttar Pradesh- NCZCC	20 Mts
7.	Folk Dance (Song & Drama Division)- Assam- EZCC	20 Mts
8.	Dances- Inspiration Dance Studio	20 Mts
Venue: Amphitheatre Time: 06:00 PM		
S. No.	Programme	Duration
1.	Musical Programme- M J Music Academy	20 Mts
2.	Dollukunitha Folk Dance - Karnataka- SZCC	20 Mts
3.	Natua & Chow- West Bengal - EZCC	20 Mts
4.	Gudumbaja Folk Dance- Madhya Pradesh- NCZCC	20 Mts
5.	Rengma Naga Dance- Assam- EZCC	20 Mts
6.	Musical Programme- Sur Sangam	30 Mts
Venue: Bathubasti School Ground Time: 06:00 PM		
S. No.	Programme	Duration
1.	Dances- Spirit of Modern Steppers	20 Mts
2.	Dance- Nrityalpana Dance Academy	20 Mts
3.	Gotipua Folk Dances- Odisha- EZCC	20 Mts
4.	Dhedia Dances- Uttar Pradesh- NCZCC	20 Mts
5.	Dances- New A & N Malayalee Association(NANMA)	20 Mts
6.	Dances- Sur Sangam Cultural Forum	20 Mts
7.	Dances- Dance Nritya Academy	20 Mts
8.	Dances- Balkrishna Nritya Academy	20 Mts
Venue: Wandoor Time: 06:00 PM		
S. No.	Programme	Duration
1.	BAND OF ARTIST	Director (Art & Culture)

SPORTS

**Cooperative Bank Golden Jubilee Cup 2016 concludes
15 Assam beats United Sporting
Club in nail biting tie breaker**

Port Blair, Jan 9
The Andaman and Nicobar State Coop Bank organised Golden Jubilee Cup which concluded yesterday with the final match between 15 Assam and United Sporting Club at Mini Stadium, Wimberlygunj. Former Union Minister & Member of Parliament, Thiruvananthapuram, Dr. Shashi Tharoor was the chief guest on the occasion, in the presence of Shri. Bhagat Singh, Chairman, A&N State Coop. Bank and Shri Mohd. Rehan Raza, Director (Sports), A&N Administration. The programme was also attended by Shri. Kuldeep Rai Sharma, Vice Chairman, A & N State Coop. Bank, Board of Directors of the Bank, Miss. Mariam Bibi, Zilla Parishad Member, veteran football players, villagers and large gathering of Football lovers. Dr. Shashi Tharoor in his key note address, expressed his happiness to get a chance for watching the final football match of the Golden Jubilee Cooperative Bank Cup, which is of a par with National level Football match during his first visit to Andaman Islands. He lauded the efforts of the A & N State Coop. Bank in



rendering its services in the remotest corners of these Islands. Shri. Bhagat Singh, Chairman interacted with the players and kicked off the final game of the tournament. Earlier, Shri. Kuldeep Rai Sharma welcomed the gathering. He further thanked Dr. Shashi Tharoor for attending the function as chief guest. In the final match, 15 Assam regiment defeated United Sporting Club by 4-3 in the tie breaker penalty. The chief guest Dr Shashi

**Kudo demonstration held; CS hails
Kudo team for their performance**

Port Blair, Jan 9
The Andaman and Nicobar Kudo Martial Arts Association organised a kudo demonstration at Manglutan community hall on Jan 7. The Chief Secretary, Shri Anindo Majumdar was the chief guest while the Deputy Commissioner, South Andaman, Shri Udit Prakash Rai was the guest of honour in the presence of Shri Sandeep Biswas, Pramukh, Ferrargunj Samiti while Smt. Minati Biswas, ex-Adhyaksha, ZPSA and large number of PRIs, villagers, parents were also present on the event.



Various self defense techniques were performed by Sensei Anand Amrit Raj Black Belt III Dan on the occasion. The chief guest, guest of honour and other guests appreciated the Kudo team for their performance and assured of providing all help all the possibilities for developing the Kudo Martial Arts, a communication said.

**Subhash Mela at
Havelock from Jan 23**

Port Blair, Jan 9
The 46th Subhash Mela will be organised by Subhash Mela Committee, Krishna Nagar, Havelock from Jan 23 to 29, 2017 to mark the birthday of great Freedom Fighter Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. The shopkeepers interested to install their temporary stalls/shops at mela complex may apply for site to Secretary by Jan 16. The yatra/drama and cultural programme team interested to perform during the mela may also apply to Secretary by Jan 16, a communication from its Secretary said.

**MV Nancowry
arriving**

Port Blair, Jan 9
MV Nancowry is expected to arrive here from Chennai at 6 am on Jan 11, 2017. She has on board 791 passengers and 184.5 MTs of cargo. On arrival, the ship will be berthed at Haddo Wharf, a communication said.

**Awareness campaign..
(Contd. from page 1)**

and order regarding the tobacco, drug abuse and alcoholism. Highlighted recent passed road accidents occurred due to drink and drive. Smt. Indira Devi, Child Development Project Officer while welcoming the gathering, spoke about prevention of alcoholism and tobacco through Arunodaya, 'Jan Jan Ho Sandesh Nasha Mukat Ho Dweep Hamara' etc. and also provided helpline number 03192-230504, 3195 and 9531829006 to the people.

**Young Pilot shares ..
(Contd. from page 1)**

stages to get into the Indigo Cadet Pilot Training Programme viz. a written test based on class XI & XII (Science) questions, followed by CASS, multitasking questions on a simulator and finally an interview with Indigo Airline Chief Pilot. "As a Pilot, one needs to possess a good leadership quality, excellent communication skills and precise & prompt decision making process", said Sarat adding that there are many talented Islanders who can take to this field provided they are given proper guidance and information. During the course of his training, Capt. Sarat had flown solo on Diamond 40, a single engine four seater aircraft for 105 hours besides Diamond 42, a multiple engine four seater aircraft for 15 hours over Gondia, which is 200 km away from Nagpur. He had also flown Air Bus 320 on a simulator in Dubai in 2016, as part of obtaining his commercial Pilot license. So mesmerized by the flying machine, Capt. Sarat admitted that even after becoming a pilot, he would still go to Joggers Park to see the aircraft landing and taking off. "Every single landing and takeoff is a new experience for me and it thrills me even today", says Capt. Sarat. About his flying experience, Capt. Sarat said people should not be afraid of flying, it is quite safe and the experience of flying an aircraft was indeed a great one adding that the pride of wearing the uniform makes one feel elated. "Everything you earn on your uniform makes you feel worthwhile", he said adding that it is his dream to fly an aircraft to Port Blair someday. Besides Capt. Sarat Kumar, two more Islanders have also carved a niche for themselves in the field of aviation. With this, we can see how time has evolved and now many young Islanders are going out of the usual in pursuing their dreams.

Interviewed by: DT Reporter
Mary Pee

WEATHER

Rain or thundershower very likely to occur at few places. Maximum and minimum temperature will be around 29°C and 24°C respectively on Tuesday 10/01/2017
Observational data for Port Blair in last 24 hours
Maximum Temperature (°C): 29.2
Minimum Temperature (°C): 23.7
Relative Humidity (%) at 0830 IST: 090
Relative Humidity (%) at 1730 IST: 078
Sunrise Time for tomorrow (in IST): 0542
Sunset Time for tomorrow (in IST): 1712
Rainfall upto 0830 hrs of date (last 24 hrs) in mm: 000.0
Rainfall upto 1730 hrs of date in mm: 003.4
Rainfall (Progressive total from 1st January 17: 80.2 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
Kaththi Sandai (Tam U) - 7:15 PM
www.ticketnew.com
For queries only 8373010002

REVISED SEVA SUCHNAYEIN

ALL THE SAILINGS ARE SUBJECT TO WEATHER CONDITIONS

INTER ISLAND SECTOR:

MV Campbell Bay will sail for Campbell Bay via Hut Bay, Chowra, Teressa & Nancowry on 12.01.2017 (Thu) at 1000 Hrs from Haddo Wharf and will sail for Port Blair on 14.01.2017 (Sat) at 0900 Hrs from Campbell Bay via Nancowry, Teressa & Chowra. Passenger tickets for the above sailing will be issued to the general public on 10.01.2017 (Tue) at STARS Ticketing Counters. Similarly booking of cargo tickets (for perishable items only) will commence from 10.01.2017 (Tue) 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 Sentinel will sail for Car Nicobar via Hut Bay on 13.01.2017 (Fri) at 0700 Hrs from Haddo Wharf and will sail for Port Blair on 14.01.2017 (Sat) at 1400 Hrs from Car Nicobar via Hut Bay. Passenger tickets for the above sailing will be issued to the general public on 12.01.2017 onwards at STARS Ticketing Counters. Similarly booking of cargo tickets will commence from 12.01.2017 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.

HUT BAY SECTOR:

MV Bharat Seema will sail for Hut Bay on 11.01.2017 (Wed) 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 10.01.2017 from 0900 Hrs onwards at STARS Ticketing Counters. MV Bharat Seema will sail for Hut Bay on 12.01.2017 (Thu) at 2000 Hrs from Haddo Wharf and will sail for Port Blair on 13.01.2017 (Fri) at 0800 Hrs from Hut Bay. Passenger tickets for the above sailing will be issued to the general public on 11.01.2017 from 0900 Hrs onwards at STARS Ticketing Counters. MV Bharat Seema will sail for Hut Bay on 14.01.2017 (Sat) 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 13.01.2017 from 0900 Hrs onwards at STARS Ticketing Counters. MV Bharat Seema will sail for Hut Bay on 15.01.2017 (Sun) at 2000 Hrs from Haddo Wharf and will sail for Port Blair on 16.01.2017 (Mon) at 0800 Hrs from Hut Bay. Passenger tickets for the above sailing will be issued to the general public on 13.01.2017 from 0900 Hrs onwards at STARS Ticketing Counters.

FORESHORE SECTOR:

Note: Passenger tickets for the Foreshore Sector vessels scheduled on 11th, 12th & 13th Jan., 2017 will be issued to the general public on 10.01.2017 from 0900 Hrs onwards at STARS Counters. Similarly for 14th, 15th & 16th Jan., 2017 will be issued on 13.01.2017 from 0900 Hrs onwards at STARS Counters.

10.01.2017 (TUESDAY)

HAVELOCK & NEIL ISLAND
MV Bambooka will sail for Havelock on 10.01.2017 (Tue) 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 10.01.2017 (Tue) at 0630 Hrs from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 0845 Hrs from Neil Island. MV Katchal will sail for Neil Island on 10.01.2017 (Tue) at 1100 Hrs from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 1600 Hrs from Neil Island. MV Katchal will sail for Havelock on 10.01.2017 (Tue) at 1300 Hrs from Neil Island Jetty and will sail back to Neil Island on the same day at 1445 Hrs from Havelock.

CS inaugurates...

(Contd. from page 1)
prepared and maintain/check its distribution line properly to avoid water crises in the event of delayed rain after summer season.

He also underlined the need for immediate reviving of the fire hydrants available in different pockets of the city area so that it can be used in any emergency situation.

On the demand for increasing manpower for maintaining cleanliness in newly created Wards, the Chief Secretary directed the Secretary, PBMC to look into the issue. The Chief Secretary desired that PBMC should create a multipurpose sports complex between Bhatu Basti and Garacharma so that the youth of that area benefited.

The Chairperson PBMC, Shri B. Eswar Rao briefed the Chief Secretary that cashless transactions have been started simultaneously at Naka Offices/revenue collection points at Haddo Wharf, Airport Cargo, TCL, by using Plastic Cards, demand draft, and cheques for payment of all types of Municipal dues like Octroi, market rent, and property tax etc.

Further, the Chairperson explained that arrangements have been made with Axis Bank for further installation of Self Service KIOS at PBMC Headquarter and also reiterated that very soon PBMC, in association with Axis Bank will start online services for payment of Municipal dues for the citizens of Port Blair Municipal Area through internet banking, debit card, credit card payments, so that citizens can pay their dues from their home directly. This aims at enabling citizens pay all the Municipal dues in a hassle free manner and also encourage the society towards cashless transactions.

Ms. Amaravalli, became the first person who paid her water tax through cashless transaction by swiping ATM card in Point of Sale Machine being operated by Axis Bank for the PBMC. Shri Deepak Mandal, another consumer also paid water tax by swiping ATM card marking the launch of the facility.

The Secretary, PBMC, Shri Yashpal Garg informed about the revenue generation measures taken by the PBMC.

**Special screening of 'Dangal'
organised for students**



Port Blair, Jan 9
The Directorate of Education arranged screening of the Hindi movie 'Dangal' for the students of Municipal area on Saturday. Around 100 meritorious students from 16 different Government schools of Port Blair got the opportunity to watch the film. The aim behind screening the movie for the students was to inculcate the values of nationalism, passion to achieve the goal through sheer hard work and compassion and respect for the Girls. The movie effectively reflects the message of 'Beti Bachao-

Beti Padhao', apart from motivating the youth to adopt sports as career. The Secretary Education, Smti Tanvi Garg has appreciated the Directorate of Education for this initiative. In her message she hoped that the children would get motivated after watching the movie, specially the girls and would develop self confidence to move forward in their life with positive mind set. The film is based on the life story of the legendary wrestler Mahaveer Singh Phogat and his wrestler daughters Gita and Babita.

**MP felicitates distinguished...
(Contd. from page 1)**

About writing, he said, it is a form of self expression and the real strength for the writer is to be read. He also congratulated the award winners and urged them to continue writing and enlightening the minds of the people. The Member of Parliament, Shri Bishnu Pada Ray presented the Life Time Achievement Award to Dr. Shashi Tharoor, MP from Thiruvananthapuram Constituency besides four distinguished Journalists of Isles viz. K. Ganeshan, Editor, Andaman Express, Denis Giles, Editor, Andaman Chronicle, Sanjib Kumar Roy, Editor, Andaman Sheeka, Zubair Ahmed, Journalist. Other writers viz. Dr. Caroline Matthew, Principal, Nirmala SSS, Dr. Roshanara Dilbar, Shri Mohd. Mujtaba, ex Principal, Boys SSS were also felicitated. Awards were also presented to Community leaders for their contributions towards the development of society viz. Smti Pritam Kumari Nanda, Ex-Chairperson, SSWB, Shri Bhagat Singh, Chairperson, ANSCB, Shri Yousuf Jadwet, Chief Executive Director, EHL and Shri G.Bhaskar, Hotelier. The President of Writers International Network, Canada, Dr. Ashok Bhargava through a video presentation congratulated the award winners on the occasion. The members of Kerala Samajam also honoured MP Dr. Shashi Tharoor and the MP, Shri Bishnu Pada Ray on the occasion. The function was attended among others by PBMC Chairperson, Shri B. Eswar Rao, Secretary Industries, Smti Rashmi Singh, Ex-Chairperson, SSWB, Smti Ratna Kannan. Earlier, a welcome song was presented by the Nicobari group and the programme concluded with the vote of thanks proposed by Member, Board of Directors, Writers International Network, Canada, Shri Ebrahim Jadwet.