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Shri Ram Nath Kovind elected as 14th President of India



PM congratulates Shri Ram Nath Kovind

New Delhi, July 20
The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has congratulated Shri Ram Nath Kovind on being elected the President of India. "Congratulations to Shri Ram Nath Kovind Ji on being elected the President of India! Best wishes for a fruitful & inspiring tenure. Gladdened by the extensive support for Shri Ram Nath Kovind Ji among MPs & across various states. I thank members of the Electoral College. I also congratulate Smt Meira Kumar for her campaign, which was in spirit of the democratic ethos & values we all are proud of", the Prime Minister said.

New Delhi, July 20
National Democratic Alliance (NDA) candidate Shri Ram Nath Kovind on Thursday defeated former Lok Sabha Speaker Smt Meira Kumar in the presidential polls by a huge margin of votes to become India's 14th president. Shri Kovind secured a total of 2,930 votes, carrying a value of 7,02,044, while the former speaker got 1,844

votes with a value of 3,67,314 in a straight fight. Declaring the result, Returning Officer and Lok Sabha Secretary General Shri Anoop Mishra said Shri Kovind had got the required votes under the quota allotted to him in the transferable vote system under the Presidential and Vice Presidential Elections Act. Shri Kovind got 65.65 percent of the total valid

vote value of 10,69,358, Ms Meira Kumar got 34.35 percent. "I declare Shri Ram Nath Kovind as duly elected to the Office of President," Shri Mishra said. After the verdict, Shri Kovind said, "My election as the President is evidence of the greatness of Indian democracy." "I never aspired to be the President; my win is a

message to those discharging their duties with integrity," Shri Kovind said, adding, "I feel very emotional today and I will represent all those struggling to make a living. Shri Kovind, 71, who will be only the second Dalit to occupy the highest constitutional position, asserted that protecting the Constitution and maintaining its dignity

would be his duty. He said he never thought or aspired to be the President but his "tireless service" to his society and country has brought him to this position. This sense of tireless service was an "Indian tradition" and his election as the president was a symbol of the greatness of Indian democracy, Shri Kovind told reporters at his Akbar (Contd. on last page)

All you need to know about

SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND

Born on **October 1, 1945**, at a nondescript village in Kanpur



- A commerce graduate and LLB from the Kanpur University, Shri Kovind has been a successful lawyer
- He practised in the Delhi High Court and the Supreme Court for about 16 years until 1993
- He was elected to the Rajya Sabha in April 1994 from UP and served two consecutive terms
- Shri Kovind has also served as President of the BJP Dalit Morcha from 1998 to 2002
- He was also the President of the All-India Koli Samaj
- He was also a member of the board of governors of IIM-Kolkata
- He has also represented India in the United Nations

ON AUGUST 8, 2015 SHRI KOVIND WAS APPOINTED THE GOVERNOR OF BIHAR

MP, Naresh Lal meet PM

Port Blair, July 20
The Member of Parliament, Shri Bishnu Pada Ray, along with Padmashree Naresh Chandra Lal, Ambassador, Swachh Bharat Mission, A&N Islands met the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi today. Shri Naresh Chandra Lal presented 2 DVDs; one containing his award winning feature film-Gandhi-The Mahatma and another about the works



carried out by him in various places under 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyan'. The Prime Minister, while

interacting with Shri Lal appreciated his works and assured to visit Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

BJP State President congratulates Shri. Ram Nath Kovind

Port Blair, July 20
The State President, BJP, A&N Islands, Shri. Vishal Jolly has congratulated Shri. Ram Nath Kovind, for his historical victory and election as 14th President of India. In this regard, BJP A & N Islands also organized a programme in Ward No. 7 at Capt. A.K. Bhattacharya Park, Junglighat in the presence

of Shri. Indra Pal Singh, Councillor, Ward No. 7, Shri. K. Paramasivam, National Council Member-Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha & CCS Secretary and Shri K. Ram Das, District President, BJP South Andaman. A large number of BJP party workers and public were present in the programme.

Silver Jubilee celebration of KEMS
Port Blair, July 20
The Silver Jubilee celebration of Kamaraj English Medium School, Senior Secondary, Brookshabad will be held at 3 pm at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Auditorium on 22nd July 2017. The Lt. Governor, A&N Islands, Prof. Jagdish Mukhi will be the chief guest on the occasion, a communication said.

Capt. Ashim Kumar Bhattacharjee remembered

Youth must work in tandem with Govt for sustainable development of Isles: Shri Shakti Sinha

Staff Reporter
Port Blair, July 20
The 3rd. Capt. Ashim Kumar Bhattacharjee Memorial Lecture titled 'Andamans: Security & Development Challenges' was organized in the auditorium of JNRM here this morning. The Director, Nehru Memorial Museum & Library, New Delhi and former Chief Secretary, A&N Administration, Shri Shakti Sinha was the chief guest on the occasion and delivered the 3rd Capt. Ashim Kumar Bhattacharjee Memorial Lecture. The Chief Secretary, A&N Administration, Shri Anindo Majumdar was the guest of honor of the function. The Secretary, Education, Ms. Tanvi Garg, Senior officers of the Administration, Retd. Defence personnel,

prominent senior citizens, Principal, JNRM, Dr. Francis Xavier, lecturers and a good number of students were present on the occasion. Addressing the gathering, especially the students, Shri Sinha recalled his past association with A&N Islands and said that A&N Islands have made remarkable development over the past few years. He said, the future belongs to the students and they must be well prepared to face the challenges ahead by keeping abreast with technology advancements & knowledge on political development across the globe. Referring to the security aspect of A&N Islands, Shri Sinha remarked that the A&N Islands are strategically located and



the defence mechanism needs to be further strengthened. He threw light on the recent emerging activities of China, which is becoming a cause of concern for India in terms of development and security point of view as well. He said, besides the Govt. and the defence

forces, the Islanders are also equally responsible for the Islands' security; hence, they should remain alert under this emerging scenario. Speaking about the development challenges in

A&N Islands, Shri Sinha said, over the years, the number of graduates here has increased and the desire to get a Govt. job has also increased manifold. However, he (Contd. on last page)

MP to raise different issues during HMAC meeting in Delhi

Port Blair, July 20
The Member of Parliament, A&N Islands, Shri Bishnu Pada Ray, being a member of HMAC of this UT Islands amongst others, has sent agenda items for discussion in the meeting of Home Ministry Advisory Committee of A & N Islands, scheduled to be held at New Delhi on July 28, 2017. The same has also been forwarded to the A & N Administration. The agenda items include grant of ownership right

over land in the UT of A&N Islands, formation of definite package for shifting/relocation of Katchal Tamil Settlers who were brought from Srilankan (repatriates) and other Non-Tribals to Non-tribal area, grant of 1/30th Pay + DA to the DRMs working in the various departments since past 10-5 years, revision of minimum wages from Rs.308 to Rs.550/- for Mazdoors, grant of one time fund to PRIs for

clearance of backlog payment and also for C/o of New/repairing of existing roads, implementation of recommendation of 4th UT Fin. Commission and Standing Committee on Home Affairs etc. Apart from these, issues viz creation of separate I.T. department under UT Administration, timely implementation of all Central sponsored schemes, introduction of (Contd. on last page)

Electricity Department urges people to consume power judiciously

Port Blair, July 20
The 20 MW IPP Power Plant at Bambooflat, owned by M/s Suryachakra Power Corporation Ltd. has been till recently supplying 7-8 MW power to the grid of Electricity Department. Owing to the internal problems of the company, there have been occasions of threat of strike by its employees in the past. From July 20, 2017,

company's employees have abstained from work owing to non-payment of salary and benefits due from the Company's side, said the Superintending Engineer, Electricity Department, in a press release received here today. The SE further stated that the Power Department is conscious of the problem and discomfort of the

general public and has been trying its best to mitigate the problems. In these circumstances which are external to the Electricity Department and solely attributable to the Company's management, the Department has requested for active cooperation from all its consumers and general public to support the demand side (Contd. on last page)

Indian Coast Guard saves 11 lives at high seas

Port Blair, July 20
In a sea-air coordinated search & rescue operation, the Indian Coast Guard rescued 11 crew members of Merchant Vessel ITT Panther, which sank in North-East part of Bay of Bengal, 400 Km from Port Blair today. The vessel MV ITT Panther was a general cargo vessel plying between the ports of Kolkata and Port Blair. It left Kolkata on July 15, with a consignment of construction material and container cargo and was

scheduled to arrive at Port Blair in the evening of July 20. However, in the early morning hours today, the vessel developed dangerous tilt due shifting of cargo in rough monsoon weather conditions. When situation became critical, the crew raised distress alert and decided to abandon the vessel in life rafts. Subsequently, the vessel sank in same position and all crew were drifting in life raft. On receipt of distress message at Maritime (Contd. on last page)

Save the trees, save the Earth. We are the guardians of nature's birth.

SPORTS

US Open Grand Prix: Prannoy, Sameer Verma & Parupalli Kashyap advance to 2nd round

California, Jul 20
In Badminton, Indian shuttlers HS Prannoy, Sameer Verma and Parupalli Kashyap advanced to the second round among others in the US Open Grand Prix, last night, being played at Anaheim, California. In the Men's Singles, second seed Prannoy routed Luka Wraber of Denmark in straight games 21-12, 21-16 to open his campaign. The biggest victory came to P. Kashyap as he unsettled the top seed and defending champion Lee Hyun Il of South Korea 21-16, 10-21, 21-19 in the opening round. Fifth seed Sameer Verma beat Vietnamese Hoang Nam Nguyen 21-5, 21-10 to advance in the next round. Budding shuttler Harshheel Dani also moved to the second round beating Mexican Arturo Hernandez. In the women's singles event, after 2nd seeded Saina Nehwal pulled out of the tournament, Rituparna Das and Ruthvika Shivani reached



the second round yesterday. Sri Krishna Priya, Sai Uttejita Rao Chukka and Reshma Karthik are the shuttlers who failed to move ahead in the tournament. In the Doubles event, two of the three Indian pair in the Men's category, one of the two in Women's and one of the two in the mixed event also reached the second round.

Day & Night football tournament postponed

Port Blair, July 20
District level Day & Night Football Tournament under the flood light at Mayabunder Football Ground N & M Andaman District, to be held on 22nd & 23rd July 2017 has been postponed due to inclement weather condition. The Mayabunder Football Ground is upgraded with flood

light facilities and the inaugural Day & Night District level Football tournament was supposed to be held from 22nd July 2017, but due to inclement weather condition, the organizing committee has postponed and the next date will be communicated to all concerned immediately after the weather clears, a communication said.

Results of Inter School Football knockout tournament

Port Blair, July 20
The Results of the matches played on 20th July 2017 of Inter School Football Knockout tournament for U-14 (Boys) and U-17 (Boys & Girls) Organized by the Directorate of Education at Netaji Stadium, JNRM Foot Ball Ground and GSSS Bathu Basti school Ground are as under :-

Result of the matches (u-14 boys) played on 20/7/2017 at JNRM football ground				
1.	SSS KV I	Defeated	SSS Nirmala	by 04-00 Goals
Result of the matches (u-17 boys) played on 20/7/2017 at JNRM football ground				
1.	GSSS Boys	Defeated	SSS KV I	by 03-00 Goals
Result of the matches (u-14 boys) played on 20/07/2017 at GSSS Bathu Basti School Ground				
1.	GSSS Garacharma	Defeated	GMS Humfrigunj	by 04-02 Goals
Result of semi final matches (u-17 girls) played on 20/7/2017 at Netaji Stadium				
1.	GSSS Boys	Defeated	GSSS Rangachang	by 03-01 Goals
2.	SSS Nirmala	Defeated	GSSS Manglutan	by 04-00 Goals
Final match of the U-17 (Girls) will be played between GSSS.Boys and SSS Nirmala on 21/07/2017 at 0830 am at Netaji Stadium.				

Rotational load shedding in city

Port Blair, July 20
The electricity consumer and general public have been informed that due to strike of employees of M/s. Suryacharka Power Plant, Bambooflat, the 20 MW IPP Power Plant at Bambooflat has been shutdown, resulting in deficit of 7 to 8 MW load during evening peak hours from 1730 hrs. to 2330 hrs. Hence, to fulfill the gap in generation, the Electricity Department is forced to exercise one hours rotational load shedding from 1730 hrs. to 2330 hrs during evening peak hours on daily basis from July 20 onwards till improvement of power situation, as per schedule given below. The evening hours load shedding schedule is tentative and may vary in view of public meeting, important social function or other emergency reasons.

Horticulture Road, CARI, AKT Miniplex, Bird Line, Calicut, Kamaraj Nagar, Beodnabad, Rangachang, Burmanallah & Chidiyatapu 7.30 PM to 8.30 PM Buniyadabad, AIR, DDK Colony, part of Delanipur, part of Prem Nagar, Coast Guard Enclave, Coast Guard HQ, Coast Guard Jetty, Panipath Road, Fortress Head Quarter, Chatham Mill, Chatham Wharf, IOC, MES Power House, Bambooflat, Garacharama Sub Station, Japan Nallah, Austinabad, Prothrapur, Carbyn's Cove, Brichgunj, Brookshabad & part of Chakkargoan, Agency House, Garacharama complete & 5 MW Solar Power Plant area. 8.30 PM to 9.30 PM Mathura, Bridavan, Ferargunj to Jirkatang, Stewart Gunj Kanyapuram, Wimberlygunj, Shoal Bay, part of Junglighat, Vijay Baugh, Dairy Farm complete, part of Garacharama, Dollygunj, Attoppahar, Old Pahargaon ICMR Colony area, part of Minnie Bay, Shadipur, South Point, Mazaar Pahad, Machi Line, RGT Road, Govt. Press and JNRM College. 9.30 PM to 10.30 PM Bathu Basti, complete, Laxmi Motor Area, Pathergudda, Satellite Colony, New Pahargaon, Hope Town, STS Workshop, BSNL Bhawan area, Girls School, CCS Aberdeen Bazaar area, Supply Line complete, Netaji Stadium area, Electricity Bazaar site office, Jama Masjid, Netaji Club of Gurudwara Lane, Marine Hill, Dugnabad complete, Round Basti & Netaji Club area, part of Gurudwara Lane, Bengali Club, Biggi Lane, Anthropological Museum, Middle Point, Link Road, VIP Road, Police Line, part of Junglighat. 10.30 PM to 11.30 PM Rajasthan Mandir, ALWH Colony, Hawaghar Jn., Dudh Line, Nayagaon, Bargat Line, GPR Colony & Carbyn's Junction. Shristy Nagar, Atlanta Point, Cellular Jail, G BPant and Police HQ, Marina Park & Aberdeen Bazaar site office area, Dairy Farm Junction, CPWD Complex, Lamba Line, Ranchi Tekery, School Line complete & part of Minnie Bay

The schedule will be rotated every week till next fortnight. In addition to evening hours, load shedding will also be carried out during day hours on as and when required basis for 45 minutes to 60 minutes in order to carry out routine and breakdown maintenance of DG sets at die Power Plants, a communication received here said.

Live phone-in interactive programme of AIR

Port Blair, July 20
Commissioner of GST, Shri. Udit Prakash Rai, President of Andaman Chamber of Commerce and Industry Shri. Girish Arora and the Assistant Controller (Legal Metrology), Shri. Rajesh Kumar will be participating in a live phone-in interactive programme of All India Radio on July 21, 2017. This special edition of 'Good Morning Port Blair programme' will be on the topic 'Queries on GST'. This Programme will commence at 7.15 am on July 21, 2017. It programme will be coordinated by Programme Executive Smti Meena Prakash, and moderated by Programme Executives Ms Lalita Tigga and P.S. Saighal.

Electricity Department ...

(Contd. from page 1)
management programme launched by Electricity Department to reduce the power demand of Port Blair and South Andaman and manage power with the present available capacity of 25 MW. The Electricity Department has appealed to all the residents of Port Blair and South Andaman to consume power judiciously by using minimal lights, switch off all non-required lights, fans & other electrical gadgets. People have been asked to avoid use of electric irons, refrigerators, mixer / grinder, and microwave oven etc. during evening peak hours from 5.30 pm to 11 pm. Use of air-conditioners, incandescent lamps should be strictly avoided till the power situation stabilizes. The cooperation of the consumer and general public will help the Department to provide power for longer duration and minimize load shedding. Under demand Side Management programme, all the Hoteliers and big consumers having their own standby DG Sets need to meet their evening demand by running standby DG sets during peak hours 5.30 PM to 11 pm. All govt. building with standby DG sets and defense establishment shall also meet day/peak requirement on their own. Teams have been constituted to ensure compliance to these instructions. The Electricity Department is seized of the matter and is trying to make alternate arrangements, which are likely to take some time, the SE added. The Electricity Department has once again requested all consumers, general public of the Island to cooperate in this endeavor of Demand Side Management of load till the power position stabilizes, a communication said.

WEATHER

Rain or Thundershower very likely to occur at many places. Maximum and Minimum temperature will be around 29 °C and 25 °C respectively on Friday 21/07/2017
Maximum Temperature (°C) of Date : 29.6
Minimum Temperature (°C) of Date : 25.4
Relative Humidity(%) at 0830 IST 085
Relative Humidity(%) at 1730 IST 090
Sunrise Time for tomorrow(in IST): 0504
Sunset Time for tomorrow(in IST): 1747
Rainfall upto 0830 hrs of date (last 24 hrs) in mm: 004.1
Rainfall upto 1730 hrs of date in mm: 000.1
Rainfall (Progressive total from 1st January 17 1450.0 upto 0830 hrs (of date) in mm

REVISED SEVA SUCHNAYEIN

ALL THE SAILINGS ARE SUBJECT TO WEATHER CONDITIONS

Due to administration reasons the announced schedule of MV Chouldari for Rangat via Neil, Havelock, Kadamtala and Long Island on 24.07.2017 and back to Port Blair on 25.07.2017 from Rangat has been cancelled. Inconvenience caused to the passengers is regretted.

HUT BAY SECTOR:-
MV Coral Queen will sail for Hut Bay on 22.07.2017 (Sat) at 2100 Hrs from Haddo Wharf and will sail for Port Blair on 23.07.2017 (Sun) at 0900 Hrs from Hut Bay.
MV Coral Queen will sail for Hut Bay on 24.07.2017 (Mon) at 1000 Hrs from Haddo Wharf and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 2200 Hrs from Hut Bay.

Note: Passenger tickets for the above sailings to Hut Bay on 22nd & 24th July will be issued to the general public on 21.07.2017 (Fri) from 0900 Hrs onwards at STARS Counters.

FORESHORE SECTOR:
Note: Passenger tickets for the Foreshore Sector vessels scheduled on 21st, 22nd & 23rd July, 2017 will be issued to the general public on 20.07.2017 (Thu) from 0900 Hrs onwards at STARS Counters. Similarly for 24th & 25th July, 2017 will be issued on 22.07.2017 (Sat) from 0900 Hrs onwards at STARS Counters.

21.07.2017 (FRIDAY)

HAVELOCK & NEIL ISLAND
MV North Passage will sail for Havelock on 21.07.2017 (Fri) at 0620 Hrs from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 0900 Hrs from Havelock.
MV Kamorta will sail for Neil Island on 21.07.2017 (Fri) at 0630 Hrs from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 0845 Hrs from Neil Island.
MV Kamorta will sail for Neil Island on 21.07.2017 (Fri) at 1100 Hrs from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 1600 Hrs from Neil Island.
MV Kamorta will sail for Havelock on 21.07.2017 (Fri) at 1300 Hrs from Neil Island Jetty and will sail back to Neil Island on the same day at 1445 Hrs from Havelock.
MV North Passage will sail for Havelock on 21.07.2017 (Fri) at 1400 Hrs from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 1630 Hrs from Havelock.

RANGAT & MAYABUNDER

MV Rani Changa will sail for Rangat via Havelock and Long Island on 21.07.2017 (Fri) at 0630 Hrs from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 1300 Hrs from Rangat via same route.

22.07.2017 (SATURDAY)

HAVELOCK & NEIL ISLAND
MV North Passage will sail for Havelock on 22.07.2017 (Sat) at 0620 Hrs from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 0900 Hrs from Havelock.
MV Kamorta will sail for Neil Island on 22.07.2017 (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 Kamorta will sail for Neil Island on 22.07.2017 (Sat) at 1100 Hrs from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 1600 Hrs from Neil Island.
MV Kamorta will sail for Havelock on 22.07.2017 (Sat) at 1300 Hrs from Neil Island Jetty and will sail back to Neil Island on the same day at 1445 Hrs from Havelock.
MV North Passage will sail for Havelock on 22.07.2017 (Sat) at 1400 Hrs from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 1630 Hrs from Havelock.

HUT BAY

MV Coral Queen will sail for Hut Bay on 22.07.2017 (Sat) at 2100 Hrs from Haddo Wharf and will sail for Port Blair on 23.07.2017 (Sun) at 0900 Hrs from Hut Bay.

RANGAT, DIGLIPUR & MAYABUNDER

MV Chouldari will sail for Rangat via Neil, Havelock, Strait Island and Long Island on 22.07.2017 (Sat) at 0615 Hrs from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on 23.07.2017 (Sun) at 0615 Hrs from Rangat via same route.
MV Rani Changa will sail for Diglipur on 22.07.2017 (Sat) at 0700 Hrs from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on 23.07.2017 (Sun) at 0700 Hrs from Diglipur.

Ram Nath Kovind...

(Contd. from page 1)
Road residence.
"It is a very emotional moment for me personally. It is raining a lot in Delhi today and it reminds me of days when I would stay in my paternal village. It was a 'kachcha' home of mud walls. The straw roof would not be able to stop water during rains. We all brothers and sisters would huddle around a wall, waiting for the rains to stop," he said.
"There would be so many Shri Ram Nath Kovinds in the country today, getting drenched in rains, doing farm work, labour and sweating it out so that they can get their evening meals. I want to tell them that this Ram Nath Kovind of Paraunkh village is going to Rashtrapati Bhavan as their representative," the President-elect continued. His election to a position held by distinguished personalities like Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam and Shri Pranab Mukherjee had given him a sense of huge responsibility, he said.

Indian Coast Guard..

(Contd. from page 1)
Rescue Coordination Centre (Port Blair), Indian Coast Guard swiftly launched the rescue operation to save precious lives at stake. CG aircraft was launched immediately to locate the crew members adrift at sea and ICG Ships Rajkamal and Bhikaji Cama were sailed out from Diglipur and Port Blair respectively for the rescue of crew. The CG Aircraft successfully located the crew members and directed the ship to the position for effecting rescue. All persons were successfully picked up by ICGS Rajkamal in the late afternoon hours. Post rescue, all crew members were provided medical attention and were stabilised. The ship will arrive with all rescued crew members at Port Blair on July 21, a CG communiqué said.

Youth must be ...

(Contd. from page 1)

said, the Islanders need to look beyond getting a job in the Govt. sector and must embark on self-employment ventures in a sustainable manner, keeping in mind the available resources, fragile ecosystem and the strategic location of the Islands. This way, he said, the Islands economy will progress and its security will improve simultaneously. He stressed on the need for improving the Isles' economy by opening up opportunities for the Islanders by encouraging more tourism activities and employment in private sectors. He opined that the Nicobar group of Islands should be opened for group tourism activities, which according to him, will provide the residents of Nicobars the opportunity to earn their livelihood, thus boosting their self confidence and improving their life style. Productive local activities are important to sustain the economy of the Islands, Shri Sinha added. Shri Sinha also threw light on India's overseas trade link. He said, in order to develop its economy and improve its security, India has to become a maritime power. He remarked that improvement in linkages is equally important for the country, as this will further propel the development of the country and strengthen its security. Mentioning about China's economic advancement in the maritime front, Shri Sinha emphasized the need to strengthen the A&N Command and the security measures of the Islands besides tapping of the available resources in the rightful manner for the benefit of the Islanders. He also emphasized on the need for development of ideal Transshipment Port here in India through which the economic development of the country can further be strengthened. This, he said will not only improve the national security but also create job opportunity for the citizens. He threw light on the Central Govt. Scheme called the 'Sagarmala Project' under



which a number of ports are being developed in different parts of the country along with linkages of road and waterways.

Urging the youth of these Islands to embrace self-employment, Shri Sinha asked them to be alert, conscious and make use of the opportunity in taking the Isles' economy forward. He also exhorted the youth to draw inspiration from the life of Capt. Ashim Kumar Bhattacharjee and to come forward to serve the motherland as and when opportunity arises. He also cautioned them to be ready to face the challenges that lie ahead and to work in tandem with the Govt. in taking the Islands towards the path of sustainable development.

Responding to the request put forth by the Chief Secretary, Shri Sinha assured that Nehru Memorial Museum & Library, New Delhi in collaboration with the A&N Administration would organize intellectual talks and interaction sessions for the student and others from time to time.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Secretary, Shri Anindo Majumdar recalled the life of Capt. Ashim Bhattacharjee, who made supreme sacrifice while fighting the militants at Uri Sector, J&K in 2000. The Chief Secretary remarked that the topic of the memorial lecture held in memory of Capt. Ashim is quite relevant in today's scenario and the concern for national security has grown over the years. He stated that the interest of the Islanders has to be taken into account by maintaining a harmonic balance between development and security of A&N Islands. He said, the memorial lecture is being organized to keep the memory of Capt. Ashim alive in each of us thereby becoming a source of inspiration for other youth of these Islands to join the defence forces and serve the motherland. The Chief Secretary also expressed happiness that many of the Islanders have joined the defence forces and are serving under various capacities. He also outlined the illustrious career of Shri Sinha who served in two spells here in A&N Islands under the capacity of Deputy Commissioner and Chief Secretary as well.

Earlier, welcoming the gathering, the Secretary (Education), Ms. Tanvi Garg said that the memorial lecture titled - 'Andamans: Security and Development Challenges', organized in remembrance of late Capt. Ashim Bhattacharjee is quite relevant to the present scenario and expressed hope that the students and lectures would benefit from it.

The students of JNRM also presented patriotic songs on the occasion. The programme concluded with the vote of thanks proposed by the Principal, JNRM, Dr. Francis Xavier.

Earlier, a wreath was laid at Capt. Ashim Bhattacharjee's memorial in the premises of JNRM by Col. Cherian followed by floral tributes by the Principal, lectures, students and NCC Cadets. A two minutes silence was also observed to pay respect to the son of the soil, Capt. Ashim Bhattacharjee.

MP to raise ..

(Contd. from page 1)
single window system for registration of new boats and IRS survey in A&N Islands, one time relaxation of violations of building bye laws, sewerage disposal system in the A & N Islands etc., a communication from the office of the MP said today.