

BE BRIGHT,
TURN TO
SOLAR LIGHT

PM Surya Ghar:
Muft Bijli Yojana

SAVE ENERGY
USE RENEWABLE ENERGY

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The Daily Telegrams

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Generally cloudy sky with a possibility of light to moderate rain over Sri Vijaya Puram. Maximum and Minimum temperature will be around 29.5°C and 24.5°C respectively on Tuesday 22/09/2026.

Maximum Temperature (°C) of Date: 29.2
Minimum Temperature (°C) of Date: 24.8
Relative Humidity (%) at 0830 IST: 087
Relative Humidity (%) at 1730 IST: 098
Sunrise time on 22/09/2026 (in IST): 0508
Sunset time on 22/09/2026 (in IST): 1716
Rainfall upto 0830 hrs of date (last 24 hrs): in mm: 010.4
Rainfall upto 1730 hrs of date in mm: 009.2
Rainfall (Progressive total from 1st January 2026 upto 0830 hrs of date) in mm: 1733.6

Weather Report



Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor, A&N Islands, Dr. Dinesh Sharma after assuming charge as the Lieutenant Governor of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, today paid a courtesy call on the Hon'ble President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi and expressed his gratitude to her. Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor pledged to work with utmost dedication and commitment towards the all-round development of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Ministry of Education extends deadline for NMMSS 2026-27 scholarship applications to Sept. 30

New Delhi, Sept. 21 (PTB)
The last date for submission of applications by selected meritorious students on the National Scholarship Portal (NSP) for National Means cum Merit Scholarship Scheme (NMMSS) for 2026-27 has been extended to September 30, 2026. The extended timeline is as follows:

Particulars	Extended timelines
Last date for Submission of Application	30.09.2026
Last date for INO verification (L1)	15.10.2026
Last date for DNO verification (L2)	31.10.2026

The NSP portal is open for submission of applications by students with effect from June 1, 2026. In this project year, that is, 2026-27, selected students have to do a one-time registration (OTR) on the NSP, after which they have to apply for the scholarship scheme that they have selected.

The 'National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme', implemented by the Department of School Education & Literacy, Union Ministry of Education, awards scholarships to meritorious students from economically weaker sections to prevent drop-out of students after elementary level, i.e., Class VIII and encourage them to complete their school education up to higher secondary level, i.e., Class XII.

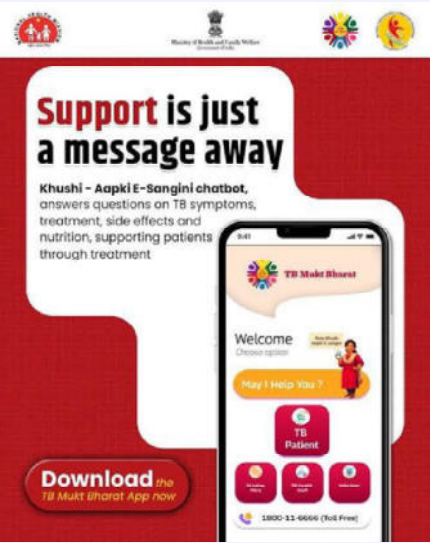
The Scheme provides one lakh fresh scholarships every year for Class IX students who clear the qualifying exam for the scholarship conducted by the State/UT governments. The scholarship is continued through renewal mode from Classes X to XII based on the student's academic performance. The scheme is applicable only to students studying in State Government, Government-aided and local body schools. The

(Contd. on last page)

National TB Elimination Prog.; general public urged to download & actively use TB Mukht Bharat App

Sri Vijaya Puram, Sept. 21
The Central TB Division, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, has launched the TB Mukht Bharat App, a digital initiative under the National TB Elimination Programme (NTEP) aimed at strengthening Tuberculosis (TB) care, enhancing public awareness, and promoting community participation in TB elimination efforts.

The TB Mukht Bharat App is a user-friendly digital platform designed to provide easy access to TB-related information and services. The application supports TB patients in their treatment journey by offering treatment guidance, adherence support, and follow-up assistance. It is also integrated with existing systems such as Nikshay to ensure seamless delivery of patient-centric services.



In addition to patient support, the app serves as a powerful tool for disseminating accurate information on TB, including its symptoms, prevention, and treatment, thereby helping to reduce stigma and encourage early diagnosis. A key feature of the application is

the facilitation of community engagement through the Nikshay Mitra initiative. Members of the general public, institutions, corporates, and organizations are encouraged to register as Nikshay Mitras through the app and extend support to TB patients by providing nutritional, social, or financial assistance during their treatment period.

(Contd. on last page)

Fisheries Deptt. invites applications for leasing of notified sea areas for undertaking Mariculture activities

Sri Vijaya Puram, Sept. 21
The Directorate of Fisheries, has invited applications for the leasing of notified sea areas for undertaking Mariculture activities namely Open Sea Cage Culture, Seaweed culture and Pearl farming activities. Eligible applicants include fishers, fish farmers, fish workers,

fish vendors, individual entrepreneurs, private firms, Self Help Groups (SHGs), Fisheries Cooperatives, Joint Liability Groups (JLGs), and Fish Farmers Producer Organizations/Companies (FFPOs/FFPCs). The prescribed application form, list of designated sea areas as

per A&N Administration notification dated 19th September, 2025 and detailed terms and conditions for undertaking Open Sea Cage Culture, Seaweed farming and Pearl culture are available in the official website of the A&N Administration (<https://andamannicobar.gov.in/>) and in the website of Department of Fisheries (<https://anifisheries.andamannicobar.gov.in/>). Interested parties are requested to submit their applications along with all required documentation either physically to the Directorate of Fisheries, Sri Vijaya Puram/Zonal

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Swachhata Hi Seva: Coastal cleanup drives held at six rural beaches

Sri Vijaya Puram, Sept. 21
The Swachhata Hi Seva (SHS) 2026 campaign commenced across all 9 Blocks of the Andaman & Nicobar Islands on Sept. 17 with the Swachhata Pledge, followed by cleanliness and sanitation activities with active participation of communities, PRIs, students, sanitary workers and Government officials. As part of the International Coastal Clean-up Day (ICCD) initiative, coastal cleanliness drives were conducted on Sept. 19 at six rural beaches viz. R a n g a c h a n g ,



R a d h a n a g a r , followed by a L a x m a n p u r , K a l a p a t h a r , Burmanallah and Anderson Island, selected from the 110 beaches identified by the Ministry for coastal cleanup activities. At Rangachang Beach, the programme was led by Dr. Apurva Sharma, Director (RD), in the presence of the Director (Power), BDO and Pradhan. The programme commenced with the Swachhata Pledge,

Awareness training on pig farming conducted at Chota Enaka, Kamorta

Sri Vijaya Puram, Sept. 21
The Department of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services conducted an awareness training programme on Pig Farming under the National Livestock Mission (NLM) at Chota Enaka, Kamorta, with the participation of 14 farmers. Addressing the gathering as the chief guest, Shri Mosses, 1st Captain, encouraged the participants to actively take part in the training and adopt the knowledge gained for improving pig production and household income. During the session, the farmers were imparted basic knowledge on



scientific pig farming practices, including proper housing, balanced feeding, breeding management, hygiene, disease prevention and overall farm management. Special emphasis was also given to value addition of pork products such as bacon, ham and sausage for enhancing farmers' income. The programme concluded with an encouraging response from the farmers, who expressed their keen interest in adopting scientific livestock-rearing practices for improved production and sustainable livelihood, a press release from Deptt. of AH&VS said.

Inter School & College Chef Competition 2026 to be held at DBRAIT on Sept. 23 & 24

Sri Vijaya Puram, Sept. 21
The stage is set at DBRAIT, Sri Vijaya Puram, for the grand Inter School & College Chef Competition 2026, an event that promises to be a vibrant celebration of culinary talent, creativity, and teamwork on Sept. 23 & 24. So far, 48 teams have registered themselves from

12 schools and colleges across the Islands. This grand event shall be covering the youth across four major areas viz. international cuisine, Indian cuisine, no bake dessert and fruit & vegetable carving. The competition is not just about cooking-it is about

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Peripatetic Training Prog. for Amalgamated Clerical Cadre staff of A&N Administration begins

Sri Vijaya Puram, Sept. 21
A 5-day Peripatetic Training Programme on 'Establishment Rules including Reservation in Service, Seniority, Promotion, DPC and RTI' got underway today in the Auditorium of Tagore Government College of Education. The Administrative Reforms and Training Wing (AR&Trg.) of the A&N Administration, in collaboration with the Institute of Secretariat Training & Management (ISTM), Department of Personnel & Training, Government of India, is organizing the training, which is designed for the Amalgamated Clerical Cadre staff of A&N Administration and it will continue till Sept. 25.



Management (ISTM) has deputed Shri Kishore, Assistant Director, ISTM, to impart specialized training during the programme and Shri Anit Shishir Kerketta, Deputy Director, ISTM will join the training from

Sept. 23. The inaugural session concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Ms. Mary Meshack, Office Superintendent, AR&Trg. Wing, A&N Administration, a press release from AR&Trg. Wing said.

Capacity building prog. on skill education for school teachers inaugurated



Sri Vijaya Puram, Sept. 21
The inaugural session of the five-day Capacity Building Programme for Teachers on the Implementation of

"Vocational Education as per NCF-SE 2023 at the Middle Stage" and "Domain-Specific Skill Training in the areas of

(Contd. on last page)



Asian Games 2026: Deepika, Rutuja shine as Indian hockey team thrash Indonesia 17-1

Aichi-Nagoya, Sept 21

Deepika Sehrawat and Rutuja Pisal starred as the Indian women's hockey team continued their dominant run at the Asian Games 2026 with a 17-1 win over Indonesia in their second Pool B match on Monday.

Deepika, who scored a record eight goals in India's 19-0 win over Uzbekistan in the opening match, added three more against Indonesia. Rutuja also scored three goals, while Sunelita Toppo, skipper Salima Tete and Sakshi Rana were among the other scorers.

Deepika opened the scoring in the eighth minute with a powerful dragflick from a penalty corner. Sunelita doubled



India's lead in the 11th minute before Lalremsiami converted a penalty corner two minutes later.

Rutuja made it 4-0 in the 15th minute by converting a rebound after Deepika's attempt was blocked by the Indonesian goalkeeper.

Lalremsiami added her second goal in the 16th minute with a reverse hit after an Indian attack was initially blocked by the

goalkeeper. Rutuja then scored again in the 20th minute after receiving a pass from Neha inside the circle. Sakshi Rana extended India's lead in the 25th minute before Deepika and Sunelita converted penalty corners in the 28th and 30th minutes,

respectively, to give India a 9-0 lead at half-time.

India enjoyed 55 per cent possession in the first half and earned nine penalty corners, compared with two for Indonesia. Salima Tete, Navneet and Ishika scored in quick succession in the 34th, 35th and 36th minutes. Rutuja and Deepika added further goals in the 39th and 40th minutes to make it 14-1. Indonesia's lone goal came through Innes Adiyita in the 32nd minute.

Navneet scored twice in the 56th and 57th minutes, while Sakshi Rana added another in the 57th minute as India completed the 17-1 victory.

Asian Games 2026: India thrash Pakistan 3-0 in table tennis team event

Aichi-Nagoya, Sept 21

India bounced back from their defeat to Iran with a commanding 3-0 victory over Pakistan in the men's table tennis team event at the Asian Games in Aichi-Nagoya on Monday.

Harmeet Desai gave India a winning start, defeating Khan Muhammad 11-4, 11-3, 11-5 in straight games in the opening match. Sathiyam Gnanasekaran then doubled India's advantage with another 3-0 win, overcoming Abbas Khan 11-1, 11-8, 11-9. Payas Jain completed the clean sweep in the third match,



beating Khan Muhammad 11-2, 11-5, 11-7 as India sealed the tie without dropping a single game. The victory provided a strong response from India after their surprise loss to Iran in their previous outing. India had opened their campaign with a win over Indonesia.

Result of trade test for Data Entry Operator uploaded in website

Sri Vijaya Puram, Sept. 21

In pursuance of the trade test conducted for engagement of one Data Entry Operator purely on contractual basis under Soil Health & Fertility (SH&F), PM-RKVY, the candidates who have appeared in the trade test held at DBRAIT on 14.03.2026 have been informed that the list of the top 10 candidates in the order of merit has been uploaded on the e-Recruitment Portal (<https://erecruitment.andamannicobar.gov.in>) of the A&N Administration. The candidates may visit the e-Recruitment Portal to view the merit list of trade test, a press release from Directorate of Agriculture said.

Power suspension

Sri Vijaya Puram, Sept. 21

The local consumers and Government Departments have been informed that Garacharma feeder shall be under isolation on 23/09/2026 between 0730 Hrs for replacement work of HT ABC Cable straight & end joint near Murda Khadi & LT Line shifting near Shivaji Colony Garacharma. In this connection, the power supply will be affected in the places including Laxmi Motor, Shivaji Colony, TR Housing, MR Housing, Garacharma Basti, Susan Rose, Garacharma Medical, Kali Mandir, TTI Road, Pump House, Murda Khadi, IMFC and the full area of Garacharma feeder.

The aforementioned time is tentative may subject to weather condition & varies. If the work is completed before the scheduled time, the feeder/line will be charged accordingly. For further inquiries, one may visit the Electricity Department's website at (<https://vidyut.andaman.gov.in>). Consumers facing any issues related to the power supply may call the toll-free number 1800-345-1111 to register their complaints, a press release from Electricity Department said.

Fisheries Deptt. invites applications for leasing

(Contd. from page 1)

Fisheries Offices (South Andaman/ N&M Andaman/ Nicobar) or through e-mail at dirfish.and@nic.in. The applications in complete format should be submitted not later than 15th October, 2026. Applicants who have already submitted their applications to the Department need not apply again, a press release from Directorate of Fisheries said.

Ministry of Education extends deadline for.....

(Contd. from page 1)

scholarship amount is Rs. 12,000 per annum per student.

NMMSS scholarships are disbursed directly into the bank accounts of selected students by electronic transfer through the Public Financial Management System (PFMS) following DBT mode. The eligibility parameters for availing the scholarship include parental income of not more than Rs. 3.50 lakh per annum, a minimum of 55% marks or equivalent grade in the Class VII examination for appearing in the selection test for award of scholarship (relaxable by 5% for SC/ST students).

The NMMSS is implemented through the National Scholarship Portal (NSP) - the one-stop platform for scholarship schemes disbursed to students by the Government of India. As of 31.08.2026, 79,398 fresh and 1,87, 208 renewal applications have been submitted.

National TB Elimination.....

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The app also features "Khushi - Aap Ke e-Sangini", an interactive chatbot designed to provide instant, reliable, and user-friendly information on TB. The chatbot assists users by answering queries related to symptoms, diagnosis, treatment, and available government support services. It serves as a virtual companion, guiding patients and the general public and helping address doubts in a timely and accessible manner.

The general public is urged to download and actively use the TB Mukta Bharat App, not only to stay informed but also to contribute meaningfully by enrolling as Nikshay Mitras and supporting TB patients in need.

Achieving the vision of a TB Mukta Bharat requires collective effort and active participation from all sections of society. Citizens are encouraged to come forward and be a part of this national movement, a press release from State Health Society, A&N Islands said.

ANC Silver Jubilee Celebrations: Community outreach prog. conducted at Abhhyuday Complex, Ferrargunj

Sri Vijaya Puram, Sept. 21

As part of the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of the Andaman and Nicobar Command (ANC), a community outreach programme was organised at Abhhyuday Complex, Ferrargunj, by the Defence Wives Welfare Association (DWWA), in coordination with INHS Dhanvantari, Base Logistic Officer (BLO) and Station Health Organisation (SHO), Sri Vijaya Puram.

The programme was inaugurated by Smt. Chand McCarty, President, DWWA, who interacted with the residents of the complex and encouraged them through personal interaction. As a gesture of care and support, personal hygiene and first-aid kits were distributed to the residents. Washing



machine with dryer were also presented to the facility to support the residents in their day-to-day needs.

A multi-specialty medical camp was conducted for the residents, including elderly persons, children and differently abled individuals. Specialist medical services in Medicine, Paediatrics, Psychiatry, Ophthalmology and Dentistry were provided. The beneficiaries

underwent medical evaluation and were provided appropriate medical advice, counselling and guidance for further examination, whenever required.

The children residing in the orphanage were encouraged to explore career opportunities in the Armed Forces, with emphasis on the values of discipline, service, professional growth and contribution to the nation, a press release from ANC said.

Elocution Competition organized by OL Department

Sri Vijaya Puram, Sept. 21

As part of Hindi Fortnight-2026, an Elocution Competition on the theme 'Rashtriya Ekta Ki Kadi- Hindi Ke Prachar Prasaar mein Yuvaon Ki Bhumika' was organized today at the Hindi Typing Training Center of the Department of Official Language for the students of classes 9th & 10th of all the secondary schools of the headquarters area. A large number of students participated in



this competition.

Further, in this series on Sept. 22 at 10 am, an Elocution Competition will be organized for the students of classes 11th & 12th of all the schools of the Sri Vijaya Puram headquarters area on the theme 'Vishwa Manch

Par Hindi ki Stithi Aur Sambhavnayein' in the Hindi Typing Training Centre of the Department of Official Language, Andaman and Nicobar Administration, a press release from OL Department said.

Capacity building prog. on skill.....

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Travel and Tourism, Agriculture, and Beauty & Wellness" under Samagra Shiksha is being organized by the Pandit Sunderlal Sharma Central Institute of Vocational Education (PSSCIVE), NCERT, Bhopal, in collaboration with Samagra Shiksha, Education Department, Andaman and Nicobar Administration from 21st to 25th September, 2026 at Sri Vijaya Puram, A&N Islands.

Around 125 teachers from 9 Zones across the A&N Islands are participating in the five-day capacity building programme which aims to strengthen their professional capacity for the effective implementation of vocational education at the Middle Stage in alignment with NCF-SE 2023, while also providing domain-specific skill training in Travel & Tourism, Agriculture, and Beauty & Wellness.

In his inaugural address as the chief guest, Dr. Deepak Paliwal, Joint Director, PSSCIVE, Bhopal, underscored the importance of integrating the Indian Knowledge System (IKS) and the Pancha Kosha perspective into vocational education. Speaking as the guest of honour, Ms. Sangeeta Chand, Principal, SCERT, A&N Islands emphasised the need to identify and introduce more locally relevant vocational subjects as per the job roles in A&N Islands. Shri S. Suresh Kumar, State Project Officer, Samagra Shiksha, A&N Islands, who was the special guest on the occasion highlighted the critical role of teachers in creating awareness about vocational education, facilitating skill-based learning experiences and encouraging students to explore diverse educational, employment and entrepreneurial pathways.

Prof. Vinay Swarup Mehrotra, Head, Curriculum Development & Evaluation Centre, PSSCIVE, NCERT, Bhopal, highlighted the skill education initiatives in schools post National Education Policy 2020 and the need for preparing students and youth for the changing world of work. Dr. Vinod Kumar Yadav, Programme Coordinator, PSSCIVE highlighted the role and functions of PSSCIVE across different dimensions and verticals in accordance with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCF-SE) 2023, a press release from Samagra Shiksha said.

Asian Games: India secure double podium finish in men's 10-metre air rifle; Suchika Tariyal bags bronze medal in Mixed Martial Arts

Aichi-Nagoya, Sept 21

In the Asian Games, India secured a double podium finish in the men's 10-metre air rifle event in Nagoya, Japan. Himanshu Dhillon won the silver medal with a score of 252.4, while Rudranksh Patil clinched the bronze with 230.9. Earlier, India had also won the silver medal in the men's 10-metre air rifle team event.



The Indian trio of Himanshu Dhillon, Parth Mane and Rudranksh Patil finished second with a total score of 1890.1, behind China's score of 1899.0.

Suchika Tariyal wins historic MMA bronze for India at Asian Games

Aichi-Nagoya, Sept 21

Suchika Tariyal scripted history on Monday by becoming India's first Asian Games medallist in mixed martial arts, securing bronze in the women's traditional -60kg category at the Aichi-Nagoya Games.

Tariyal's campaign ended in the semifinals, where she suffered a narrow defeat to Singapore's Hui Hoon Teo in a bout that went into overtime. The Indian lost by the barest of margins, missing out on a place in the gold-medal contest but securing a podium finish in MMA's Asian Games debut. The 36-year-old was visibly distraught after the decision was announced. However, her bronze



marked a landmark achievement for Indian MMA on the continental stage.

Tariyal had reached the semifinals after a composed 2-0 victory over Mongolia's Altanchimeg Baigalmaa in the quarterfinals on Sunday, becoming the first Indian athlete to secure an Asian Games medal in MMA.

Interview for various posts in DSW on Oct. 5

Sri Vijaya Puram, Sept. 21

The Directorate of Social Welfare had invited application for the post of Call Operator, Multipurpose Staff and Security Guard/Night Guard for the scheme of Women Helpline-181 on May 24, 2026. The list of eligible and ineligible candidates have been displayed on the Notice board of the Directorate of Social Welfare and same has also been published on DT on 14.08.2026 and uploaded on the Department's website at <http://andssw7.and.nic.in/>

socialwelfare/.

The eligible candidates have been requested to appear along with all relevant original certificates on 01.10.2026 for certificate verification at the Conference Hall of Assistant Directorate of Agriculture Office, Goalghar. The interview is scheduled to be held on 5.10.2026 at 9 AM in the Chamber of the Secretary (SW). For any clarification, one may contact Women Helpline Number 181, a press release from Directorate of Social Welfare said.

Swachhata Hi Seva: Coastal cleanup.....

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tonnes) of waste, comprising plastic, glass, metal, paper/cardboard, MLP, tetra packs, mixed waste and other waste categories.

As part of the green initiative under SHS 2026, the 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' plantation drive was also conducted at the newly developed Eco-Friendly Park with the participation of dignitaries, PRI representatives and local residents, a press release from Directorate of RD, PRIs and ULBs said.

NSS Volunteers of ALC conducts cleanliness drive at Munda Pahad Beach



Sri Vijaya Puram, Sept. 21

NSS Volunteers of Andaman Law College in collaboration with the Department of Environment & Forests, conducted cleanliness drive at Munda Pahad beach, Chidyatapu on Sept. 19. As part of the Swachh Sagar Surakshit Sagar (SSSS) 5.0 - 'Clean Ocean,

Safe Ocean' campaign, the volunteers in good number participated in the cleanliness drive. The DFO, South Andaman extended all logistic support for this nationwide programme sponsored by the Union Ministry of Earth Sciences, a press release from ALC said.

Inter School & College..... (Contd. from page 1)

discipline, precision, creativity, teamwork, and leadership. For participants, it will be an opportunity to learn, experiment, and excel under pressure. For student organizers, it will serve as valuable hands-on training in event management and coordination.

The Inter School & College Chef Competition 2026 will officially open on 23.09.2026, symbolizing knowledge and creativity, a press release from DBRAIT said.

When Swachhata Became a People’s Movement

Collective Action and Behaviour Change Transforming Rural Sanitation

For decades, rural sanitation remained a persistent development concern nationwide. Sanitation coverage stood at 39 percent when the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) began in 2014. By 2019, rural India had achieved 100 percent sanitation coverage. More than 10.28 crore toilets were constructed across 36 states and union territories between 2014 and 2019. Rural India was subsequently declared Open Defecation Free (ODF) in 2019. This achievement transformed the nature of India’s sanitation landscape. The focus shifted from an emphasis on household toilet access to a broader concern with the sustainability of sanitation practices and the management of waste at the village level. This became the focus of Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin Phase II. It focuses on sustaining ODF status and strengthening Solid and Liquid Waste Management systems.

The impact of this focus is now visible in India’s villages. An ODF Plus village not only sustains ODF status but also effectively manages solid and liquid waste, while maintaining visual cleanliness. Along with sustaining ODF Plus village status, these villages are classified into three progressive stages: Aspiring, Rising, and Model. Aspiring villages manage either solid or liquid waste. Rising villages

manage both solid and liquid waste. Model villages, in addition to managing both waste streams, also demonstrate visual cleanliness and display ODF Plus messaging.

As of 17 September 2026, India has attained 5.69 lakh ODF Plus villages, of which 5.25 lakh have achieved ODF Plus Model status. Furthermore, 5.38 lakh villages have established solid waste management arrangements, and 5.65 lakh villages have established liquid waste management systems. 1,314 GOBARdhan biogas plants are currently operational in 582 districts. At the household level, 12.22 crore individual toilets and 98,273 biogas plants have been constructed.



GOBARdhan (Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan)
A flagship umbrella initiative under SBM-G Phase II that converts cattle dung, agricultural crop residue, and organic waste into biogas, compressed bio-gas (CBG), and organic manure/bio-slurry.

From Building Toilets to Building Habits

These national-level numbers reflect bigger changes at the individual and community levels, because lasting transformation begins with everyday behaviour. A toilet becomes meaningful when households choose to use, maintain and sustain it. Similarly, effective waste management begins with decisions and practices within individual households. Recognising this, SBM-G places Behaviour Change Communication (BCC) at the centre of sustaining ODF outcomes. Households are encouraged to adopt safe toilet use and disposal practices, understand appropriate sanitation technologies, and manage wet waste through compost pits or biogas plants. The focus also extends to everyday hygiene practices, including handwashing, safe water storage, maintaining sanitation facilities, and avoiding littering and spitting in public spaces. Thus, sanitation extends beyond the provision of infrastructure. It becomes a set of everyday practices adopted within households, reinforced through communities, and sustained through collective behaviour.

When Women Became Agents of Change

Women have been central to this transformation. Sanitation directly affects women’s privacy, safety, dignity, and health. They are not merely beneficiaries of interventions but active participants in development and agents of social change. The SBM-G guidelines give special preference to women as Swachhagrahis. They also recognize DAY-NRLM Self-Help Groups (SHGs) as important platforms for Behaviour Change Communication. Working closely with households and communities, Swachhagrahis support families in adopting and sustaining toilet use, while undertaking door-to-door outreach, awareness activities, and cleanliness verification. Through this community-based engagement, they help translate sanitation interventions into sustained everyday practices.



Image 2: SHG Women collecting plastic waste

Women’s collectives have helped translate sanitation awareness into sustained community action. In Howrah, West Bengal, SHGs supported a plastic removal programme across 18 Ganga-adjacent gram panchayats, collecting 9.32 tonnes of plastic waste within 18 days. The initiative further

established a regular plastic collection network through the SHG federation. It brought together elected representatives, panchayat functionaries, community members, and market vendors to strengthen collective action on waste management.

Women have also emerged as sanitation workers, entrepreneurs, and local service providers. In Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh, around a dozen SHG women manage a Resource Recovery Centre, collecting household waste and segregating it into wet and dry waste. Wet waste is converted into vermicompost, while dry waste is channelled for sale, generating wages and additional income for the women. In Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, a Cluster Level Federation operates a Material Recovery Facility, supported by an MoU with the Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin for the sale and purchase of plastic waste collected at the facility. Women’s participation in sanitation has expanded from awareness and mobilisation to implementation, waste management, livelihood generation, and local decision-making.

The Change Comes Home from School

Beyond women’s collectives, schools serve as another important institution for translating sanitation awareness into everyday practices. They provide a structured environment where children can develop habits related to hygiene, sanitation, and waste management, while also influencing practices within their families and communities. SBM-G Phase II explicitly recognises schools as important institutions for sustaining sanitation outcomes. It has provisions for functional sanitation facilities and arrangements for managing biodegradable and liquid waste. In Chandil, Jharkhand, a school banned single-use plastic and constructed a soak pit for greywater (domestic wastewater from kitchens and baths) management. Teachers also regularly engage students on personal hygiene and puberty-related concerns. Such efforts create a two-way flow of behavioural change. Children learn and practice sanitation at school and carry these behaviours into their homes, while families, in turn, become part of a broader culture of cleanliness and responsible waste management.

The role of children is also expanding into a wider youth-led movement for cleanliness.

Swachhata Hi Seva 2026 places students and youth at the centre of sustainable behavioural change. Schools and educational institutions are being positioned as spaces for building cleanliness as a *sanskaar*. Activities include Swachhata Gyan Yatras, school Samvads, and demonstrations on source segregation. Students will also engage with the Swachhata Evam Jal Samvads and learn about the Solid Waste Management (SWM) Rules, 2026. This approach extends the school-to-home cycle into a broader school-to-community movement.

Going Beyond the Realm of Traditional Swachhata

Interestingly, children are taking SBM-G beyond conventional sanitation. In Jharkhand, members of child cabinets have taken responsibility for menstrual hygiene management (MHM) activities. In one school, girls maintain the stock register for sanitary pads, while child cabinet members help ensure regular availability. At Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya, Jhikpani, child cabinet ministers proposed the establishment of an MHM laboratory to the school authorities. The laboratory was subsequently established with support from school funds and external resources.

When a Village Takes Ownership

As sanitation practices take root within households and schools, they increasingly require collective systems and institutions to sustain them at the community level. Household waste needs to be collected, segregated, and treated; greywater requires appropriate drainage and disposal; and public spaces require regular upkeep. This is where the Gram Panchayat assumes a central role. Under SBM-G, Gram Panchayats are responsible for planning and implementing village-level sanitation activities. Their role extends beyond infrastructure to community mobilisation, demand generation, hygiene promotion, Information, Education and Communication (IEC), and capacity building. In this way, the Gram Panchayat provides the institutional framework that connects individual practices with collective sanitation outcomes.

Village Water and Sanitation Committees (VWSCs) further strengthen this community-level institutional structure by supporting village planning, mobilisation, implementation, supervision, and behaviour change. The impact of such collective ownership is evident in Gadli Gram Panchayat, Haryana, which achieved ODF Plus Model status through a process-driven community approach. The Sarpanch, Kanta Kanwar, worked with the cleanliness committee to establish community and separate toilets, a village-wide drainage system, and greywater treatment through five ponds. The village also adopted GOBARdhan biogas plants, converting cow dung into manure and biogas, with the resulting slurry used in agriculture. Public rallies, meetings, and announcements reinforced these practices. Gadli illustrates how individual sanitation practices, when supported by local institutions and collective action, can evolve into a village-wide sanitation system.



Image 1: Swachhagrahis promoting public hygiene

People Lead. Institutions Make It Last.

The people-led sanitation movement is supported by government institutions through financing, convergence, and capacity building. SBM-G draws resources from government allocations, Finance Commission grants, Viksit Bharat-Guarantee for Rozgar & Aajeevika Mission (Gramin) funds, and other revenue-generation mechanisms. Convergence with Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM) engages SHGs and CLFs, while skill development initiatives strengthen field capacities and the Jal Jeevan Mission supports greywater management. This multi-level institutional structure links community action with government support: Gram Panchayats lead implementation, blocks provide handholding, districts offer technical support, and States and the Centre enable financing, convergence, and scale.

Cleanliness Becomes a Collective Ritual

Jan Bhagidari further strengthens sanitation as a shared community responsibility. Cleanliness drives bring together panchayat representatives, SHGs, youth, schools and local communities to translate collective ownership into regular action. Karnataka’s Swachh Sanivara offers one such example. Before each drive, panchayat representatives engage with village communities, youth groups, cooperatives and SHGs. On the first Saturday of every month, communities undertake cleanliness activities across schools, Anganwadis, hospitals, offices, water sources, temples and other public spaces. The activities include shramdaan, waste segregation, drain cleaning, identification of sites for compost pits, and reinforcing sanitation messages through wall writings.

Swachhata Hi Seva: Turning Participation into a People’s Movement
Launched in 2017, Swachhata Hi Seva (SHS) is an annual campaign promoting citizen participation in cleanliness. It brings together government institutions, local bodies, organisations, and citizens around shared responsibility for cleanliness.

SWACHHATA HI SEVA 2026
17th September - 2nd October 2026
Swachhata Mein Sahbhag
Swachh Bharat, Viksit Bharat

The campaign strengthens the Jan Bhagidari approach by encouraging cleanliness as an everyday practice. Swachhata Hi Seva 2025 witnessed participation from more than 18.06 crore citizens. Swachhata Hi Seva 2026 began on 17 September. Its theme is “Swachhata Mein Sahbhag; Swachh Bharat, Viksit Bharat.” On 1 October, citizens will undertake collective shramdaan under “Ek Din, Ek Ghanta, Ek Saath.” On 2 October, special Gram Sabhas and cleanliness awareness programmes will be organised in villages. The campaign will also promote community action for cleaner public spaces and sustained cleanliness.

A New Economy Around Sanitation

As collective sanitation systems take shape, they can also generate new livelihood opportunities. In Betul, Madhya Pradesh, Babita Dhurve found a livelihood opportunity through household waste collection. After losing both parents in 2021, she approached her Gram Panchayat to operate an e-rickshaw for waste collection. Despite initial community resistance, she learned to operate the vehicle and became the district’s first woman e-rickshaw waste collector, enabling her to earn a livelihood while remaining in her village. With around 100 Gram Panchayats in Betul now using waste-collection vehicles, the initiative demonstrates how sanitation systems can simultaneously strengthen village cleanliness and create local employment.

The livelihood potential of sanitation extends beyond waste management to the skills and services required to sustain sanitation infrastructure. In Nadia, West Bengal, the expansion of toilet construction created demand for trained masons, leading to the establishment of two masonry training institutes. Around 2,400 men and women were trained in toilet construction. This reflects that sanitation can generate a wider local ecosystem of livelihoods spanning construction, collection, transportation, processing, and maintenance.

SBM-G Transforming Waste into a Resource

As sanitation systems expand, community-led efforts increasingly require appropriate infrastructure and technical support. Vedancha, Gujarat, demonstrates how community demand can evolve into a locally designed wastewater management system. Its greywater treatment system was planned around local land and water-flow patterns, with local contractors supporting its operation and maintenance. Panchayat members, operators, and participating citizens were also trained to manage the system. The system treats 200 kilo-litres of greywater daily, with treated water used for irrigation and groundwater recharge. The panchayat earns around Rs. 2.5 lakh annually through compost and treated-water reuse. At the same time, the initiative has also contributed to improved public health, including reductions in reported waterborne diseases and mosquito-borne outbreaks. This model shows how sanitation can evolve from waste disposal and resource recovery to environmental sustainability and local value creation.

Therefore, the ultimate objective of rural sanitation is sustained behaviour and collective ownership. An ODF Plus village must not only sustain ODF status but also manage solid and liquid waste and maintain a clean environment. India’s sanitation journey has therefore moved from access to usage, and from usage to sustainability.

The enduring measure of Swachh Bharat lies not only in the infrastructure created, but in whether cleanliness becomes an everyday practice sustained by people and communities. “Clean villages are not built for communities; they are built by communities.” (Source: PIB)



Image 3: Greywater Treatment Plant in Vedancha

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ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ADMINISTRATION

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Contact Ph. 9082368711

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9933244481

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Pass Certificate No. 477979, 12th Pass
Certificate No. 815803 & Birth Certificate No.
2895/95 in between Rangat Bazar to
Hawamahal, Rangat and I could not find out
the same. Finder may please Contact No.:
9791466742 / 9531908769.

OBITUARY



With deep grief, we announce the sad
demise of Smt. N. Madhuri, beloved wife
of Shri N. Venkata Ratnam, who peacefully
passed away on 20th September 2026 at
her native place in Andhra Pradesh.

Mourned by: Husband: Shri N. Venkata Ratnam,
Sons and Daughters, Sons in law and
Daughters in law, Brothers and Sisters,
Brothers-in-law and Sisters-in-law, Grandson
and Granddaughter, Nephews, Nieces, and the
entire family members.

1st Death Anniversary

On 22/09/2026

Late Desamma

W/o Late D. Adhimulam

R/o Neil Kendra, (Shaheed Dweep)

You are not with us, your soul and loving
memories always remaining with us.

Inserted By: Rajendra (Son), R/o Machi Line
and All Family Members.

Registration No. 22394/LC/2025

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- Should have a good knowledge of computer.

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- Goenkas Mega Mart – 2 NOS.
- Goenkas Mega Mart Junglighat – 2 NOS.
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One RCC single Bedroom attached
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near Paint House side room, ground
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Contact: 7063981223

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Wheeler Parking Available for Rent at
Netaji Nagar Near Ganesh Temple in
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Contact Ph. 9046363690

SUMMON TO DEFENDANT FORM No. (P) 5

Common form of summons for (1) ascertaining contest, (2) settlement of Issues. (Or. V. R.
20, 1-A C. P. Code)

District: SOUTH ANDAMAN

IN THE COURT OF THE CIVIL JUDGE SENIOR DIVISION

AT PORT BLAIR

Other Suit No. 03 of 2025

Smti. A. S. Tainees Rani & Anr. Plaintiffs
-Versus- ... Defendant

Shri V. Arumugam

To,

Shri V. Arumugam, S/o C. Vellaiswamy, R/o Shore Point, Ferrargunj Tehsil, South
Andaman, PS Bambooflat.

Whereas the plaintiffs have instituted a suit against you for specific performance of contract
of the suit property.

You are hereby summoned to appear in this Court in person or, by a pleader duly instructed,
and able to answer all material question relating to the suit (or who shall be accompanied by
some person able to answer all such questions) on the day of 08/12/2026 O'clock in the
forenoon; state whether you contest or do not contest the claim either in whole or in part and if
you contest to receive directions of the Court as to the date on which your written statement is
to be filed, the witness or witnesses upon whose evidence you intend to rely in support of your
defence are to be produced, the document(s) upon which you intend to rely are to be filed, also
the date to trial and other matters; take notice that in the event of your admitting the claim either
in whole or in part the Court will forthwith pass judgement in accordance with such admissions,
or in the event of the claim not being contested the suit shall be decided at once.

Take notice that, in default of your appearance on the day before mentioned, the suit will be
heard or determined, in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Court, this 11th day of Sept., 2026.

SEAL

Civil Judge Senior Division at Port Blair

By Order of Court

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IN THE MATTER OF CONVENING SPECIAL GENERAL BODY MEETING OF THE
RANGAT CO-OPERATIVE PRINTING WORKS SOCIETY LTD., RANGAT
Dated the 14.09.2026

NOTICE

I, Shailesh Kumar Upadhyay, Inspector of Co-operative Societies, Rangat in exercise
of the powers conferred on me under Section 25 (2) of Andaman & Nicobar Islands Co-
operative Societies Regulation 1973, do hereby by Call Special General Body Meeting of the
RANGAT CO-OPERATIVE PRINTING WORKS SOCIETY LTD., RANGAT On 29/09/2026
at 9.30 AM in the premises of the Society Office, Rangat to discuss the following agenda:-

Agenda No. 1. Election for the Managing Committee and
Agenda No. 2. Misc. issues, if any.
All the Members are Requested to Kindly Attend the Meeting on the Date, Time and
Venue Specified above Positively.

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SHAILESH KUMAR UPADHYAY
Inspector of Co-operative Societies, Rangat

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Pls. Contact: 9933272229

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