



PM Modi's upcoming US visit will give further momentum to economic relations between two countries: Govt

New Delhi, Jun 22

India has said Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's upcoming visit to US will give further momentum to economic relations between two countries.

Addressing media in New Delhi this evening, External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Shri Gopal Baglay said one of the agenda of the visit is to further push and develop economic and commercial cooperation for mutual benefit.

Replying to a query on racial attacks on Indians in US, Shri Baglay said all



attacks are not racial. He pointed out that whenever there have been attacks on

Indians, they have been condemned very strongly by the US government.

MP meets Minister of Power and Minister of F&PD

Port Blair, June 22

The Member of Parliament, A & N Islands, Shri Bishnu Pada Ray met the Minister, Food & Public Distribution, GoI, New Delhi, Shri Ram Vilas Paswan today and discussed the issue of continuation of subsidized sugar supply to APL/BPL families through the PDS, which has been stopped since May 2017 except the beneficiaries of AAY. The Minister has assured that being remotely located UT, a Cabinet Note on the issue will be placed before the Cabinet to sort out the legitimate demand.

The MP also met the Minister of Power, Shri Piyush Goyal on June 20, 2017. During discussion with Shri Piyush Goyal and Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, he presented a letter



highlighting the following ground realities:-

NFSA Coverage: In the U.T of Andaman & Nicobar Islands coverage of Rural population is 60953 (which includes the 36,000 population alone of Nicobar Island) i.e 24.94%

against the required coverage of 75 % in rural area. Whereas, in Urban, the populations is more than 2 lakhs and coverage is only 2307 population i.e. 1.7 % against the required coverage of 50% under NFSA.

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Island Kisan Mela and Farm Innovators' meet gets underway at CIARI



Staff Reporter

Port Blair, June 22

The two-day Island Kisan Mela and Farm Innovators' meet on the theme 'Value Addition & Marketing of Agri. & Agro Products', organized by ICAR-CIARI got underway with its inauguration by the Director ICAR-CIARI, Dr. S. Dam Roy at CIARI Mela Ground, Garacharma here this morning. The main objective of this two-day mela is to provide a platform

for technology sharing between the researchers, development Department, farmers and the stakeholders from North & Middle District, South Andaman and the Nicobar District besides providing an opportunity to school children to interact with scientists to inculcate scientific temperament.

Addressing the gathering, the Director ICAR-CIARI, Dr. S. Dam Roy said, A&N Islands is a bio-diversity hotspot and

it is the responsibility of every Islander to preserve and conserve the natural resources of these Islands. The Director also informed that A&N Administration is working in close

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DG ICAR to attend Foundation Day of CIARI

Port Blair, June 22

The ICAR-Central Island Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR-CIARI) will be celebrating its 39th Foundation Day at 2 pm at its Garacharma Research Complex, here on June 23, 2017. Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary & Director General, GOI, DARE & ICAR, Ministry of

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Tourism Department to participate in TTF - Kolkatta Interested tour operators, travel agencies asked to submit willingness

Port Blair, June 22

The Directorate of Tourism, A & N Administration will be participating in Travel Tourism fair (TTF) organized by M/s Fairfest Media Limited at Kolkatta for tourism promotion. The TTF - Kolkatta is scheduled to be held from July 7 to 9, 2017. The Island based enlisted Tour Operators/ Travel

and process for 3 days; on June 24, from 3 pm to 6 pm and on June 25, from 9 am to 12 pm, and also on June 26, in the Auditorium of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Institute of Technology, Dollygunj.

The ACCI has requested all concerned to confirm participation and submit the details of participants email ID and

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The expenditure towards

TB patients to submit Aadhaar details for cash benefits: Govt.

New Delhi, Jun 22

People suffering from tuberculosis will now have to submit their Aadhaar number to avail benefits under a central government scheme. Health Ministry in a notification asked those who do not have Aadhaar card to get themselves enrolled by 31st of August this year. Now, the Ministry will offer Aadhaar enrolment facilities for such persons. In case, there is no Aadhaar enrolment centre located in the respective block or taluka or tehsil, the department in the state



government will provide enrolment facilities at convenient locations in coordination with the UIDAI. Till a patient gets the Aadhaar number, they can avail the benefits with the help of Aadhaar enrolment ID slip, a copy of the request made for

Aadhaar enrolment or other government documents such as voter identity card, PAN card, bank passbook, ration card among others. The notification is applicable in all the states and Union territories except Assam, Meghalaya and Jammu and Kashmir.

Absconding DCF suspended; special Police team formed to apprehend the accused

Port Blair, June 22

The absconding Deputy Conservator of Forests, Shri R Ajay Kumar has been placed under suspension with immediate effect. The Lt Governor A&N Islands, had already approved the suspension of the said DCF, on June 15, 2017 itself. The order for his suspension has also been approved by the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, New Delhi. Five FIRs of sexual harassment against the said DCF were lodged by five ladies of Diglipur Forest Division earlier this month.

The Police had issued a non bailable arrest warrant against him. Though the accused got an anticipatory bail, his bail plea, was rejected by District & Sessions Court on June 16, 2017.

Police sources have informed that on 08/06/2017 a case vide Cr. No. 73/17 dt. 08/06/2017 U/s 354 IPC was registered at PS Diglipur against Sh. R. Ajay Kumar, DCF Diglipur on the complaint of one female Regular Mazdoor of the Forest Department, Diglipur. Further, on 12/06/2017 four more cases viz. 75, 76, 77 and 78 were also registered against him on the basis of more complaints received from the female forest staff posted at Diglipur.

Soon after the registration of the first case, the alleged DCF Diglipur, Shri. R Ajay Kumar absconded from Diglipur in order to evade his arrest and did not cooperate with the investigating agency. The Hon'ble Court also ordered him to cooperate with the investigating agency till the hearing of his bail petition but he failed to comply with the said orders. His bail petition was finally rejected due to sustained efforts by the Police authorities.

A special Police team under SP N&M comprising of SDPO Rangat, SHO PS Diglipur, Aberdeen, Pahargaon, CCS and other members has been constituted to search and locate the alleged absconding DCF. Raids on all his possible hideouts are being carried out across the Islands. All possible sources have been activated to trace his whereabouts. The Police teams are active round the clock to ensure that the absconder is apprehended soon.

Goods & Services Tax Help desks & facilitation centres created for benefit of traders

Port Blair, June 22

The A & N Administration has created help desks and facilitation centres for the benefit of the traders while implementation of Goods & Services Tax (GST) in A&N Islands. The Administration is also going to hold a three-day sensitization programme on GST from June 24 to 26, 2017 where the participants would gain hands-on experience of the entire registration process. Anyone who desires to attend the training may contact the Joint Commissioner GST 03192-231951.

Meanwhile, in a press release received here today, the Joint Commissioner has said that only a person/trader registered under the existing laws and having a valid Permanent Account Number (PAN) shall be issued a certificate of registration under GST law on provisional basis. A registered person (except a person opting to pay tax under Composition Levy Scheme under which a person whose annual turnover in the last financial year did not exceed seventy five lakh rupees may opt to pay an

amount calculated at a prescribed rate in lieu of the tax payable by him) shall be entitled to take credit of amount of VAT and Entry Tax, if any, carried forward in the return relating to the period ending on 30th June, 2017, furnished by him under the existing law.

However, one must remember that such input tax credit shall be allowed only if such credit is admissible as input tax credit under GST law also. Where all returns required under the existing law for the preceding six months have been duly furnished and where such credit

does not relate to goods sold under exemption notification.

Under UTGST law there is no provision to take credit of CST. The trader whose annual turnover in the last financial year did not exceed seventy five lakh rupees may opt to pay one percent of the turnover under Composition Levy Scheme. However, in that case, he is not allowed to

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Tehsil Diwas organized at Little Andaman



Port Blair, June 22

The District Administration, Office of DC (SA) organized Tehsil Diwas at Rabinder Nagar, Panchayat Community Hall, Little Andaman under the Chairmanship of AC (HQ) Dr. Mohd. Rehan Raza on Jun 17. All HODs/HOOs were present along

Aviation sector to provide job opportunities to over 12 lakh people: Minister

Mumbai, Jun 22

Union Minister of State for Civil Aviation, Shri Jayant Sinha has said that aviation sector will drive India's economic growth by providing job opportunities to over 12 lakh people. Addressing the Airport Investments Summit organised by Indian Merchant Chambers in Mumbai recently, Shri Sinha said, the sector is growing at 12 percent annually and the government's plan for expansion of airport infrastructure and regional connectivity will further drive this sector.

He added that the government is planning to construct 31 new airports with an investment of 200

crore rupees. Shri Sinha said, policy initiatives like allowing 100 percent FDI and passenger centric measures like the air seva portal; Digi Yatra and UDAN reflects the government's commitment to aviation's growth with a special emphasis on regional connectivity.

Circuit Court from June 26

Port Blair, June 22

Justice Harish Tandon and Justice Ashis Kumar Chakraborty, Judges of the Calcutta High Court shall be sitting/holding Circuit Court at Port Blair on and from June 26, 2017 to July 10, 2017, a communication said.

State BJP delegation meets Minister



Port Blair, June 22

The BJP State General Secretary, Shri. Prakash Adhikari, Shri. K. Ramdas, District President, South Andaman, Shri. Amit Malhotra, District President, Port Blair and Shri. Nand Kishore Singh, Convenor, Media Cell, BJP A&N Islands met the Minister of State for Law & Justice, Electronics & IT, Govt. of India, Shri. P. P

Chaudhary at Raj Niwas on June 21, 2017.

During this meeting, various issues of A&N Islands related to the concerned Ministry were discussed. The Minister is stated to have assured to take necessary actions on the issues highlighted, a communication said.

General public advised

Port Blair, June 22

It has come to the notice of the Administration that some members of Panchayati Raj Institution are issuing 'Resident Certificate' to the Islanders/general public. There is no provision under the law for issuing of 'Resident Certificate' and issuance of such certificate is illegal.

Apart from Local Certificate issued by the Tehsildar, no other certificate of residence or nativity is valid for any purpose, a communication from Assistant Secretary (Rev) said here today.

Training programme on GST system & process

Port Blair, June 22

The Goods & Services Tax (GST) will be rolled out with effect from 1st July, 2017. To acquaint with the procedures, the Andaman Chamber of Commerce & Industry along with the Goods and Services Tax Department, Andaman & Nicobar Administration will be organizing a training program on GST system

and process for 3 days; on June 24, from 3 pm to 6 pm and on June 25, from 9 am to 12 pm, and also on June 26, in the Auditorium of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Institute of Technology, Dollygunj.

The ACCI has requested all concerned to confirm participation and submit the details of participants email ID and

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Rough seas predicted

Port Blair, June 22

Under the influence of moderate to strong Southwest Monsoon current, strong southwesterly wind speed between 25 and 35 kmph gusting to 45 kmph and moderate to rough seas likely along and off Andaman & Nicobar coast. Fishermen have been advised to be cautious while venturing into the sea. The general public have been advised to take

(Contd. on last page)

The grievances of people

(Contd. on last page)

DigiLocker

DigiLocker is a "digital locker" service operated by the Government of India that enables Indian citizens to store certain official documents on the cloud. The service is aimed towards reducing the need to carry physical documents, and is part of the Shri Narendra Modi-led government's Digital India initiative.

1 GB of storage space is offered to users to store identification card issued by government agencies, education certificates, PAN cards, driving license, vehicle ownership documents and some other documents.

Users need to possess an Aadhar card to use DigiLocker. For sign-up, the Aadhar card number and the one-time password sent to the Aadhar-associated mobile number, need to be entered. For later log-ins, the user can set their own password to link the account to Facebook or Google logins.

The beta version of the service was rolled out in February 2015, and launched by the Prime Minister on 1 July 2015. The storage space provided was 10 MB initially, and was later increased to 1 GB.

In July 2016, DigiLocker recorded 20.13 lakh users with a repository of 24.13 lakh documents. The number of users saw a large jump of 7.53 lakh in April when the government had urged all municipal bodies to use DigiLocker to make their administration paperless.

From 2017, the facility was extended to allow students of ICSE board to store their class X and XII certificates in DigiLocker and share them with agencies as required. In February 2017, Kotak Mahindra Bank started providing access to documents in DigiLocker from within its net-banking application, allowing users to e-sign them and forward as needed. In May 2017, over 108 hospitals, including the Tata Memorial Hospital were planning to launch the use of DigiLocker for storing cancer patients' medical documents and test reports. According to a UIDAI architect, patients would be provided a number key, which they can share with another hospital to allow them to access their test reports.

There is also an associated facility for e-signing documents. The service is intended to minimise the use of physical documents, reduce administrative expenses, provide authenticity of the e-documents, provide secure access to government-issued documents and to make it easy for the residents to receive services.



WEATHER

Rain or Thundershower very likely to occur at a most places.
Maximum and Minimum temperature will be around 29 °C and 24 °C respectively on Friday 23/06/2017
Maximum Temperature (°C) of Date : 28.5
Minimum Temperature (°C) of Date : 23.6
Relative Humidity (%) at 0830 IST 098
Relative Humidity (%) at 1730 IST 095
Sunrise Time for tomorrow (in IST): 0457
Sunset Time for tomorrow (in IST): 1746
Rainfall upto 0830 hrs of date (last 24 hrs) in mm: 017.6
Rainfall upto 1730 hrs of date in mm: 027.7
Rainfall (Progressive total from 1st January 17 815.2 upto 0830 hrs (of date) in mm

REVISED SEVA SUCHNAYEIN

ALL THE SAILINGS ARE SUBJECT TO WEATHER CONDITIONS

INTER ISLAND SECTOR:

MV Harshavardhana will now sail for Campbell Bay via Nancowry on 28.06.2017 (Wed) at 0900 Hrs from Haddo Wharf and will sail for Port Blair on 29.05.2017 (Thu) at 1600 Hrs directly from Campbell Bay. Passenger tickets for the above sailing will be issued to the general public from 23.06.2017 (Fri) from 0900 Hrs onwards at STARS Ticketing Counters.

MV Chowra will sail for Car Nicobar on 28.06.2017 (Wed) at 1000 Hrs from Haddo Wharf and will sail for Port Blair on 29.06.2017 (Thu) at 1400 Hrs from Car Nicobar via Hut Bay. Passenger tickets for the above sailing will be issued to the general public on 24.06.2017 from 0900 Hrs onwards at STARS Ticketing Counters. The vessel will not carry any cargo during the above voyage.

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HUT BAY SECTOR:-

MV Rani Changa will sail for Hut Bay on 23.06.2017 (Fri) at 0615 Hrs from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 1300 Hrs from Hut Bay.

MV Chowra will sail for Hut Bay on 24.06.2017 (Sat) at 2000 Hrs from Haddo Wharf and will sail for Port Blair on 25.06.2017 (Sun) at 0800 Hrs from Hut Bay.

MV Chowra will sail for Hut Bay on 26.06.2017 (Mon) at 2000 Hrs from Haddo Wharf and will sail for Port Blair on 27.06.2017 (Tue) at 0800 Hrs from Hut Bay.

MV Campbell Bay will sail for Hut Bay on 27.06.2017 (Tue) at 2100 Hrs from Haddo Wharf and will sail for Port Blair on 28.06.2017 (Wed) at 0800 Hrs from Hut Bay. Passenger tickets will be issued to the general public on 24.06.2017 from 0900 Hrs onwards at STARS Counters.

MV Campbell Bay will sail for Hut Bay on 29.06.2017 (Thu) at 0630 Hrs from Haddo Wharf and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 1330 Hrs from Hut Bay.

MV Chouldari will sail for Hut Bay on 30.06.2017 (Fri) at 0615 Hrs from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 1300 Hrs from Hut Bay.

Note: Passenger tickets for the above sailings to Hut Bay will be issued to the general public on 28.06.2017 from 0900 Hrs onwards at STARS Counters.

FORESHORE SECTOR:

Note: Passenger tickets for the Foreshore Sector vessels scheduled on 23rd, 24th & 25th June, 2017 will be issued to the general public from 22.06.2017 from 0900 Hrs onwards at STARS Counters. Similarly for 26th, 27th & 28th June, 2017 will be issued on 24.06.2017 and for 29th & 30th June, 2017 will be issued to the general public on 28.06.2017 from 0900 Hrs onwards at STARS Counters.

22.06.2017 (THURSDAY)

HAVELOCK & NEIL ISLAND

MV North Passage will sail for Havelock on 22.06.2017 (Thu) at 0620 Hrs from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 0900 Hrs from Havelock.

MV Chouldari will sail for Neil Island on 22.06.2017 (Thu) at 0630 Hrs from Phoenix Bay Jetty and will sail for Port Blair on the same day at 0845 Hrs from Neil Island.

Rough seas ... (Contd. from page 1)

precautionary measures and in case of any emergency, they may contact over the following phone numbers of State Control Room, District Control Room and Emergency Operation Centres.

State Control Room: 03192-238880 (Tele-Fax), 1077 (Helpline).
District Control Room: 03192-238881

EOC (Campbell Bay): 03193-264020

EOC (Kamorta): 03193-263222

EOC (N&M): 03192-262960

EOC (Hut Bay): 03192-284014

EOC (Car Nicobar): 03193-265241

EOC (Havelock): 03192-282030

EOC (Ferrargunj): 03192-266527

Secretary RD, ... (Contd. from page 1)

Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi, will be the chief guest & deliver the foundation day lecture at Mela ground of Garacharma Research Complex. He will also felicitate the best farmer / innovator and also the Institute awardees during the programme.

Dr. S. Dam Roy, Director, ICAR-CIARI will preside over the function, a communication said.

Tehsil Diwas ... (Contd. from page 1)

were heard by AC (HQ) and its redressal done on the spot; like electricity connection, transportation facilities etc.

The Pradhan, Rabindra Nagar requested for a permanent counter for issue of Adhaar Card. The Tribal Council Secretary from Harminder Bay, Shri. Feset and Shri Fred Levi, Head-Man demanded for a Community Hall at Harminder Bay and increase in quota of seats from Car Nicobar to Hutbay & Hutbay to Car Nicobar in allotment of tickets in ships. Residents also demanded for increase in the quota of sand allotment in total to L/Andaman so that more sand is available for construction works. This matter will be persuaded by Forest Department with MOEF. Residents also raised the issue of load shedding.

The PRIs and general people expressed happiness over this initiative of District Administration for bringing Administration to the door steps of common man even at distant Islands, a communication from the AC (HQ) said here today.

SPORTS

Saina, Sindhu, Srikanth, Praneeth enter quarters in Australia

Sydney, June 22

Kidambi Srikanth and B Sai Praneeth eked out thrilling victories in the men's singles second round to set up an all-Indian quarterfinal clash at the \$750,000 Australian Super Series on Thursday.

Olympic silver medallist P V Sindhu and defending champion Saina Nehwal also advanced to the quarterfinals of the women's singles competition.

Srikanth, who had edged out Son Wan Ho in the semifinals of Indonesia Open last week, once again had an upper hand against the World No. 1 Korean, beating him 15-21 21-

13 21-13 in a 57-minute clash. After this win, Srikanth had taken his head-to-head record against the Korean to 4-4.

"In the third game I thought I have to get the extra shuttle, that worked for me," said Srikanth.

"He's someone who doesn't attack too much, just keeps the rally going. You have to be steadier than him or you have to crack him. In these conditions it's hard to go on all-out attack. My training is paying off. I'm really confident about my fitness."

In another match, Sai Praneeth staved off a challenge from China's Huang Yuxiang 21-15

18-21 21-13 in a match that lasted 64 minutes. The Indian had beaten the Chinese at the 2015 US Open in their only meeting.

Interestingly, Srikanth and Praneeth had clashed in the final of Singapore Open in April with the latter emerging victorious.

In the women's singles, fifth seed Sindhu defeated China's Chen Xiaoxin 21-13 21-18 in 46 minutes. She will clash with World No. 1 and top seed Tai Tzu Ying of Chinese Taipei. Sindhu has lost six times to Tai Tzu, while beating her thrice, which included a victory during the Rio Olympics.

India's Kavita Devi selected to compete in first ever WWE tournament for women

Bengaluru, June 22

WWE today (June 22) announced that former competitive powerlifter and South Asian Games gold medal winner, Kavita Devi has been selected to compete in the Mae Young Classic which is the first-ever WWE tournament for women.

Hailing from Haryana, Kavita has undergone training to be a professional wrestler under the guidance of former WWE Champion, The Great Khali at his Punjab-based wrestling promotion and training academy.

Kavita Devi participated in the WWE Dubai tryout earlier this year in April where she gained the attention of talent scouts with her strong performance.



Now, Kavita will be making history as the first Indian woman ever to appear in WWE. Kavita will be competing with 31 other top female competitors from around the world in the first-ever Mae Young Classic. "I am honoured to be the first Indian woman to compete in WWE's first ever women's

tournament. I hope to use this platform to inspire other Indian women with my performance and make India proud" said Kavita Devi.

Canyon Ceman, Vice President, WWE Talent Development, had this to say, "Kavita Devi gave a strong performance at WWE's 2017 Dubai tryout.

Advisory to general public & tourist in view of inclement weather

Port Blair, June 22

The commuters/general public have been informed that due to prevailing inclement weather conditions, keeping in view the safety of the passengers and the vessel, the announced sailing programme may get disrupted leading to suspension or cancellation of the vessels in the Foreshore/Inter Island Sector. Therefore, the passengers and tourists

have been advised to plan their journey suitably to avoid any inconvenience. Similarly, in the prevailing weather conditions, operation of Harbour/Vehicle ferry services between Chatham, Bambooflat, Phoenix Bay, Dundas Point & Panigat may also get disrupted/suspended in short notice depending upon the weather condition, a communication from the Directorate of Shipping Services said.

Help desks ...

(Contd. from page 1)

collect any tax from the recipient of supply made by him nor is he entitled to input tax credit.

For smooth migration into the GST regime, proper documentation is of utmost importance, because any claim to input tax credit must be established by furnishing records. A false claim may invite penal action, the release added.

MP meets Minister...

(Contd. from page 1)

Sugar was supplied at the rate of Rs: 22.80 to APL beneficiaries and Rs: 16.30 per kg/ per month to BPL and PHH families through the PDS. Now, as per new arrangement of the Government, sugar will only be supplied to 4048 AAY families.

In open market sugar is being sold @ Rs. 70-80/- in capital city Port Blair, and Rs. 100/- per kg in remote islands. Thus, stoppage of sugar in PDS will adversely impact every islander in the territory and will also have a political cost.

Shri Ray, further added that, in almost all States, some food articles such as tea, pulses, salt etc. are being issued in subsidized rate under the PDS. This dispensation has not been extended to A & N Islands.

Cost implication: If sugar is supplied at the same scale as earlier, the total financial implication would be around 19 cores per annum. Out of this, around 7.5 Crores is recovered by way of sale proceeds. So, the subsidy is approximately to the tune of Rs. 8.6 Crores. With the implementation of GST, some of the common use items may become costlier, due to addition of transport cost, as commonly used articles in the Island territory are costlier than in mainland. Therefore, limited intervention of Government, at least in the food articles is always desirable to provide relief to the citizen, a communication from the office of the Member of Parliament said here today.

MV Swaraj Dweep's sailing postponed

Port Blair, June 22

Due to non completion of repair works on board the vessel MV Swaraj Dweep, the scheduled departure of the vessel from Port Blair to Chennai on 23rd June, 2017 has been once again postponed by a day. Now, the vessel is planned to sail for Chennai on June 24 at 1000 Hrs from Haddo Wharf and will sail for Port Blair on June 29 at 1000 Hrs from Chennai.

Embarkation of passengers will commence from 0700 Hrs. to 0830 Hrs on June 24. Passengers reporting late shall not be allowed on board, a communication said.

Death Condoled

Port Blair, June 22

The PCC President, A & N Islands, Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma, and all leaders of Congress Party have mourned the death of Shri N.V. Hari Lall (Lalu) Ex-Up-Pradhan, Ferrargunj Gram Panchayat and husband of Smti Susheela Mondal, General Secretary, Pradesh Congress Committee who passed away at Ramachandra Medical, Chennai today. The President of Andaman Association of Tour Operators, Shri M. Vinod and all its members have also mourned the demise of Hari Lall.

Boxer Devendro enters semis to confirm medal in Ulaanbaatar Cup

New Delhi, June 22

Commonwealth Games silver-winner L Devendro Singh (52kg) assured himself of his first international medal of the year by advancing to the semifinals of the Ulaanbaatar Cup boxing tournament in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia on Thursday.

Devendro, who jumped to the flyweight category late last year, defeated Russia's Dimitri Yusupov to make the last-four stage of the tournament.

The triumph is a major confidence-booster for the 23-year-old from Manipur, who missed out on the Asian Championships earlier this year after surprisingly going

down in the trials. He had also lost early in the Strandja Memorial in Bulgaria and the King's Cup in Thailand.

Among other Indians in the fray, it was curtains for King's Cup bronze-medallist Rohit Tokas (64kg), who lost to Chinzorig Baatarsukh of Mongolia.

Tomorrow, five-time world champion M C Mary Kom (51kg), who got a bye into the quarterfinals, will open her campaign against the winner of the bout between Russia's Anna Aedma and Korea's Chol Mi Bang.

In the men's draw, Strandja Memorial silver-medallist Mohamed Hussamuddin (56kg) will face China's Ma Xin

Ming, while King's Cup gold-medallist K Shyam Kumar (49kg) will meet Enkhmandakh Kharkhuu of Mongolia in his last-eight stage contest.

Asian youth silver-medallist Ankush Dahiya (64kg) will also be squaring off against a Mongolian in Dulgunn.

Duryodhan Singh (69kg) will take on a Mongolian, too, in Byamba-Erdene Otgonbaatar. Among the women, Priyanka Chaudhary (60kg) will fight it out against Russian Aleksandra Ordina. Kalawanti (75kg) will also be up against a Russian, Liubov lusupova. Both the Indians won their respective quarterfinal bouts on Wednesday.

Island Kisan Mela and Farm... (Contd. from page 1)

coordination with ICAR-CIARI in finding solutions to the problems faced by the farming communities in A&N Islands. He threw light on the various successful research activities carried out by the Principal Scientists of ICAR -CIARI, Head of Departments for the welfare of Isles farmers and have fetched them national level awards. The Director Fisheries, Dr. J. Chandra Shekar while speaking, highlighted about the need for blue revolution in Isles. He also spoke about the schemes available for the farmers of A&N Islands pertaining to fresh water fish rearing and urged them to come forward and make use of the schemes for improving their value addition.

Sr. Veterinary Officer from AH&VS, Dr. Gupta, while speaking, highlighted about the need for farmers to be trained in value addition & marketing of agri and agro products. He also highlighted the schemes being implemented by Department of AH & VS and its various initiatives for increasing the production in poultry, meat and milk items.

In his address, Dr. G. S. Pandey, Director Agriculture (i/c) spoke on the various schemes of the Central Government for the welfare of the farmers, planned schemes implemented by the Department for the benefits of Isles' farmers. He also stressed on the need for switching to organic farming besides integrated farming system.

The dignitaries also released publications & fliers and agro products for the benefit of the farmers on the occasion. As many as 20 stalls have been set up in the mela, which include Development Departments, SHGs, Bankers, NGOs, input suppliers and different divisions of ICAR-CIARI and KVKs, showcasing their activities for the benefit of the farmers. Special stalls for display of exquisite tribal food from Karen & Nicobari communities were also set up.

Around 655 farmers from North & Middle Andaman, South Andaman and Nicobar District are participating in this two day mela. The mela, which commenced today will also be open tomorrow for public to visit and interact with farmers followed by cultural programme.

Earlier, Dr. S. K. Zamir Ahmed, the Organizing Secretary welcomed the gathering and briefed about the objective of Kisan Mela while the programme concluded with the vote of thanks proposed by the Joint Organizing Secretary, Dr. Nagesh Ram.

Training programme... (Contd. from page 1)

phone number to the Chamber's Office. They have been asked to attend the seminar and avail the opportunity and clear all doubt about GST, an ACCI communiqué said.