

15 YEARS OF CELEBRATING THE MAHATMA

"It is health that is real wealth and not pieces of gold and silver."

Mahatma Gandhi

Since 1920s the Oldest Daily...

Daily Telegrams

...the Largest Circulating Daily of the Islands

Weather

Dry weather is most likely to prevail over Port Blair. Maximum and Minimum temperature will be around 32°C and 23°C respectively on Wednesday 25/03/2020.

Maximum Temperature (°C) of Date: 31.7
 Minimum Temperature (°C) of Date: 22.6
 Relative Humidity(%) at 0830 IST 062
 Relative Humidity(%) at 1730 IST 072
 Sunrise Time for tomorrow (in IST): 0520
 Sunset Time for tomorrow (in IST): 1730
 Rainfall upto 0830 hrs of date (last 24 hrs)- in mm: 000.0
 Rainfall upto 1730 hrs of date in mm: 000.0
 Rainfall (Progressive total from 1st January 1.3 upto 0830 hrs (of date) in mm

PM addresses the nation on COVID-19

PM calls for complete lockdown of entire nation for 21 days

New Delhi, Mar 24

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi called for a complete lockdown of the entire nation for the next 21 days beginning at midnight tonight in an effort to contain the COVID-19 Pandemic.

In a special televised address to the Nation the Prime Minister said that even those nations with the best of the medical facilities could not contain the virus and that the social distancing is the only option to mitigate it.

"All of you are also witnessing how the most advanced countries of the world have been rendered absolutely helpless by this pandemic. It is not that these countries are not putting in adequate efforts or they lack resources. The Coronavirus is spreading at such a rapid pace that despite all the preparations and efforts, these countries are finding it hard to manage the crisis.

The analysis of happenings in all these countries since the last two months, and the opinion of experts has proved that there is only one way to effectively deal with Coronavirus - Social Distancing" he said.

Cautioning of those who are careless, the Prime Minister said, "carelessness of a few, ill-conceived notions of a few can put you, your children, your parents, your family, your



friends, the entire country in grave jeopardy. It will be impossible to estimate the price India will have to pay if this carelessness continues."

He also urged the people to take the lockdown imposed by the State Governments in several parts of the country, in the last few days with utmost sincerity.

The Prime Minister announced that from midnight tonight onwards,

the entire country shall go under complete lockdown, a total ban is being imposed on people, from stepping out of their homes for a period of 21 days.

He said this decision was taken from the experiences of health sector experts and experiences of other countries and that 21 days is essential to break the chain of infection.

He added that this will be a few levels more than Janata-Curfew, and also stricter. He said this decision is vital in order to protect the country, and each of its citizens against Corona Pandemic.

Discussing the economic impact owing to the Pandemic, the Prime Minister said, "The nation will have to certainly pay an economic cost because of this lockdown. However, to save the life of each and every Indian is our top most priority. Hence, It is my plea to you to continue staying wherever you are right now in the country."

The Prime Minister explained that if the situation is not brought under control in the next 3 weeks, the country could go back 21 years and that several families would be devastated forever. Hence, he urged the people to do just one thing in the next 21 days - to stay inside their homes.

The Prime Minister said the experiences of those countries

(Contd. on last page)

Chief Secretary calls emergency meeting following declaration of lockdown by Prime Minister

Directives issued for strict implementation of lockdown in A&N Islands

Port Blair, Mar 24

Immediately after the decision of the Prime Minister of India to go in for complete lockdown from midnight today, the Chief Secretary, A&N Administration, Shri Chetan B. Sanghi called an emergency meeting late tonight and discussed about the immediate steps to be taken to implement the lockdown effectively in the entire

A&N Islands.

The District Magistrates and Police authorities have been directed to strictly enforce the lockdown and ensure that there is no movement of people anywhere and they remain confined to their homes.

It has also been decided that no private vehicle of any kind i.e. private buses, cars, two wheelers etc will be allowed to ply on the roads. Only vehicles of the Administration, STS buses, water tankers, Police vehicles, trucks/tankers engaged in transportation of essential commodities and essential services will be allowed to ply on the roads.

It was also decided that STS buses will be operated only for transporting Govt. servants, Police personnel engaged in discharging the

Chief Secretary takes stock of measures being taken in combating threat of COVID-19 in Isles

- ☑ DCs asked to enforce prohibitory orders effectively
- ☑ Passenger vessels & helicopter services suspended

Port Blair, Mar 24

A meeting was held under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary A&N Administration, Shri Chetan B. Sanghi today to take stock of measures being taken by the Administration in combating the threat of COVID-19 Pandemic in the Islands. The following decisions were taken in this meeting:

- > All the Deputy Commissioners have been asked to enforce prohibitory orders in their respective districts effectively.
- > The passenger vessels and helicopter services, will be available only for medical evacuations or other emergency purposes.
- > The Administration will ensure that no worker in the Islands is retrenched from work.
- > People have been urged not to visit Hospitals for minor ailments. Consultation services will continue through phone and if required, ambulance will be sent to evacuate patient from home for medical care.
- > All social security pensions will be released by April 5, 2020.
- > Separate control rooms will be set up for Civil Supplies, Water Supply and Power Departments in addition to Health and Disaster Management Departments.
- > Sufficient quantities of PPE kits will also be procured by the A&N Administration.
- > The Administration is ensuring availability of sufficient stock of disinfectants and sanitizers.
- > All the employees on duty will be issued with photo passes/identity card for commuting from residence to office, a communication from the Secretary (GA) said here today.

COVID-19 Administration takes steps to reach out to people through various media

Port Blair, Mar 24

In order to check the spread of Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) in the Islands, the A&N Administration has taken several steps which include, the restrictions of the movement of general public and vehicles, closure of shops and markets other than essential commodities, imposition of prohibitory orders under Section 144 etc. Effective implementation of such orders can only be made possible by proper dissemination of information to general public.

The Administration is taking all possible steps to reach out to the people through electronic, print and social media. Senior Officers of the Administration are answering the queries of the general public on a daily basis on COVID-19 in the live phone-in programme of the All India Radio, Port Blair (Morning at 7.15 am to 7.55 am and from 7 pm to 8 pm in the evening). The residents are requested to avail this phone-in opportunity to get their doubts cleared.

The Administration has also set up control rooms to address the concerns of the people pertaining to Civil Supplies, Power, Water Supply, Transport, Health, Labour, besides the Control Rooms of Police and Traffic Police which are already in operation. **(The details of the Control Room numbers with timing is given on last page).**

Violation of home quarantine punishable under law

People in home quarantine asked to strictly follow the norms

Port Blair, Mar 24

On the 24th of March, 2020, one person named Shri Varghese George, resident of PS Chatham who was placed under home quarantine for a period of 14 days, was found outside his home. A special team deployed to monitor those who have been placed in home quarantine, immediately reported the matter to the Control Room, DC Office and SHO Chatham was informed. Following this, police team of SHO Chatham lodged FIR under Sections 188, 269, 270 and 271 of IPC.

In another case, Shri S. Peter and Shri Ram Deo Ram, residents of PS Pahargaon, who were also placed under home quarantine for 14 days, were found outside their respective homes. Immediately, the matter was reported to SHO Pahargaon and legal action was taken against the two.

It is brought to the notice of all, that violation of home quarantine is punishable under law. **(Contd. on last page)**

DO NOT PAY HEED TO RUMOURS ON CORONA VIRUS: CLARIFY YOUR DOUBTS BY DIALING STATE HELPLINE NO: 03192-232102

PM calls for complete lockdown...

(Contd. from page 1)

that have been able to contain Corona offer some ray of hope.

He said that those countries that observed lockdown and where people adhered to the rules are able to surmount the pandemic.

The Prime Minister said, "India is at a stage where our current actions will determine how much we are able to minimize the impact of this disaster. It's time to consistently keep strengthening our resolve. It's time to exercise caution at every step. You have to remember that Jaan hai toh Jahaan hai. This is the time for patience and discipline. Until the lockdown situation remains, we must keep our resolve, we must keep our promise."

The Prime Minister said the Central and State Governments countrywide are working swiftly to ensure that citizens do not face much inconvenience in their daily life. He said that provisions have been made to ensure supplies of all essential items continue smoothly. He added that along with the Central and State Governments, individuals from civil societies and institutions are constantly striving to reduce the problems of the poor during this period of crisis.

Shri Modi announced that the Government has provided Rupees Fifteen Thousand Crore (Rs 15,000,00,00,000) for strengthening the medical infrastructure and treatment of the Corona infected patients.

He appealed to the people to beware of any kind of rumors or superstitions circulating during such times. He requested the people not to take any medication without consulting doctors if you are showing any symptoms of this infection. He expressed confidence of every Indian abiding by the instructions of the Government and local authorities during this crucial hour.

The Prime Minister praised every Indian who came together in the hour of crisis and contributed with full responsibility and sensitivity to ensure the success of Janata Curfew. He added "Through one day of Janata-Curfew, India proved that at the time of crisis befalling our nation, at the time of crisis befalling humanity, how each and every Indian comes together to put forth united efforts to deal with it."

The Prime Minister concluded though 21 days of lockdown is a long time, but it is equally essential for your safety and that of your family. He expressed confidence that every Indian will not only successfully fight this difficult situation but also emerge victorious.

CORRIGENDUM

In partial modification of the Order No.1456 dated 23rd March 2020, at para number 6 on page 1, Telecom Service Providers (both Public/Private) would also be allowed to continue to run their offices, following strict norms of Social distancing of maintaining a distance of at least 01 (one) meter from a person as prescribed by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India and not allowing more than 04 (four) persons at a time inside the premises.

Para 4 may be added in page 2 of the order as "The order is not applicable on the Hon'ble Courts functional in the district and shall be governed by the orders of the Superior Courts in this regard, subject to the maintenance of norms of Social distancing, as prescribed by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India.

The rest of the order remains the same.

(Awanish Kumar, IAS)

District Magistrate
North & Middle Andaman District.
(F.No.PA/COVID-19/DC(N&MA)/2020/1268)

Special bulletins by AIR

Port Blair, Mar 24

In wake of COVID-19 outbreak, the Regional News Unit, RNU of AIR Port Blair will broadcast three special bulletins at 10 am, 12 noon and 4 pm from tomorrow onwards. The above bulletins will be available at MW 684 KHz. and FM 100.9 MHz.

Inter-Island passenger...

(Contd. from page 1)

medical evacuations and other emergency purposes, only on the specific request of the concerned Deputy Commissioner. All concerned may take note for necessary action, a communication from the Commr.-cum-Secretary (CA) said.

Last date for filing income tax return for FY 2018-19 extended till June 30; Debit card holders allowed to withdraw money from ATM of any bank without charges

New Delhi, Mar 24

Finance Minister Smti Nirmala Sitharaman today announced several measures to give relief to the people and business communities by relaxing the compliance and regulatory norms in the wake of corona virus outbreak in the country. Briefing media in New Delhi today, the Minister announced that last date for filing of income tax return for the financial year 2018-19 has been extended till 30th June of this year. She said, interest on delayed payment of income tax reduced to 9 per cent from the 12 per cent. She said, delayed deposit of TDS will attract nine per cent interest. Smti Sitharaman said, PAN-Aadhar linking and Vivad Se Vishwas scheme have also been

PDS rice for months of April & May to be issued in April

Port Blair, Mar 24

All PDS beneficiaries of this UT have been informed that in the wake of lock down in this UT due to COVID-19, two months PDS Rice for the month of April and May 2020 shall be issued during the month of April 2020. This is for providing PDS Rice well in advance to PDS beneficiaries, a communication from the Directorate of CS & CA said.

extended till 30th June. She clarified that no additional payment of 10 per cent would be levied on the people who wants to take benefit of this scheme. The Minister has also announced that last date for filing of March, April and May 2020 GST and composition return have also been extended till June. Government has decided that no interest, penalty and late fees will be imposed on those companies which have turnover less than five crores. The companies which have more than five crore turn over will attract 9

per cent interest without imposition of any late fee and penalty. She said, Sabka Sath, Sabka Vishwas scheme launched for settling disputes related to indirect taxes has also been extended till June. She said, custom clearance will remain open 24 X 7. She said, no additional fees shall be charged for late filing during a moratorium period from 1st April to 30th September of this year. She said, the mandatory requirement for holding meetings of the board of companies shall be extended by a period of 60 days. She said,

government has decided to raise the threshold of default to one crore rupees from the existing threshold of one lakh rupees. She said, the step will prevent triggering of insolvency proceedings against Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises. In a major relief to people, government has decided that debit card holders can withdraw money from any branch of any banks without paying charge for the next three months. Government has also abolished the minimum balance requirement limit.

Coronavirus outbreak: Tokyo Olympics postponed to 2021

Tokyo, Mar 24

Japan's Prime Minister and the head of the International Olympic Committee Shinzo Abe today agreed to postpone the Tokyo 2020 Games by a year in an extraordinary move, unprecedented in peacetime, as the world battles the coronavirus pandemic. The move would be a devastating blow for the city of Tokyo, which had won widespread praise for its organization, with venues finished well ahead of time and tickets a s s i v e l y



oversubscribed. The Olympics, which has experienced boycotts, terrorist attacks and protests, but has been held every four years since 1948, would be the highest-profile event affected by the virus that has killed thousands and closed

sports competitions worldwide. The IOC has come under increasing pressure in recent days to postpone the Games, scheduled to start on July 24, with 1.7 billion people across the planet in lockdown to prevent the further spread of COVID-19.

Control Room setup at Transport Department to address queries related to public transport

Port Blair, Mar 24

A Control Room has been established in the Transport Department to address any queries related to public transport during the transport related restrictions imposed as a social distancing measure to contain the spread of Novel Corona

Virus (COVID-19) in the UT. Details of the control room are as under:

The location of the control room will be the chamber of Assistant Director (Transport), Port Blair and the Nodal Officer will be Shri. Biju Samuel, Assistant

Director (Transport). The contact number of the control room is 03192-231216 while contact number of the Nodal Officer is 9434260316. The Control Room shall be functional from 6 am to 10 pm on all days, a communication from the Directorate of Transport said.

Administration takes steps...

(Contd. from page 1)

quarantine puts the whole community at risk. It is punishable under various provisions of law. The public is requested to follow the norms of social distancing and the various guidelines of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in preventing the outbreak of COVID-19. Those under home quarantine are requested to strictly follow the norms and not go outside their rooms, a communication from the District Magistrate, South Andaman said.

DETAILS OF CONTROL ROOMS

Sl. No	Department	Contact No. Of Control Room	In-charge of control room with contact No.	Second Supervisory officer	Next higher Authority	Remarks
1.	Disaster Management / District Control Room	240126/1077, 1070	TKS Aijan, AD (Ops), ANI Mobile No. 9434280357	Dr. Omkar Singh, DHS Mobile No. 9476078444	Smti. Kriti Garg, IAS Secretary (Health) Mobile No. 8900910321	24/7
2.	ERSS Control Room	112	Shri. K.P Abdul Aziz, Sub Inspector Mobile No. 9531802354	Shri. C.Manoj, IPS SP (S/A) 9434288536	Shri. Vijay Singh IPS, DIG Mob. No. 9531856174	24/7
3.	Police Control Room	100	Smti. Kavita Kirtonia, Inspector Mobile No. 9476082332	Shri. C.Manoj, IPS SP (S/A) 9434288536	Shri. Vijay Singh IPS, DIG Mob. No. 9531856174	24/7
4.	Traffic Control Room	243812	Smti. Santi Arjun, Inspector Mobile No. 9474222800	Shri. Anant Mittal, IPS SP 8900910418	Shri. Vijay Singh IPS, DIG Mob. No. 9531856174	24/7
5.	Ambulance Control Room/ Main Control Room of Health Department including availability of medicine	102	Dr. Sunil Kumar, DD (family Welfare) Mobile No. 9933279669	Shri. Omkar Singh, DHS Mobile No. 9476078444	Smti. Kriti Garg, IAS Secretary(Health) Mobile No. 8900910321	24/7
6.	Water Supply/PBMC Control Room	245798	Shri. Ashok Anand, A.O Mobile No. 9933219260	Shri. Suneel Anchipaka, IAS Secretary (PBMC) Off. No.232576 Mobile No.9434282277	Dr. V Candavelou, IAS Comm-cum-Secretary Mobile No. 8056622722	6 am to 6 pm 5 Tankers All demands are sent to J.E for disposal/decision
7.	Civil Supply	18003453197 /230337/ 234062	Shri. Anish Chatterjee Asst. Director (Enforcement) Mobile 9476000005	Smti. Anjali Sherawat, Secretary (CS) Mobile No. 8900918001	Shri. Sudhir Mahajan, IAS, Secretary Off. No.232623 Mobile No9811268681	6 am to 6 pm.
8.	Electricity	235250	SurjitChoudhary, Asst. Engineer Mobile No. 9434270676	Shri. Karunajoydhar, Executive Engineer Mobile No. 9434262900	Shri. Sudhir Mahajan, Secretary (Power) Off. No.232623 Mobile No9811268681	24/7
9.	Transport	231216	Shri. Biju Samuel, Asst. Director Mobile No. 9434260316	Dr. Navlendra Kumar Singh, Director (Transport) Mobile No. 9434288242	Smti. Nikita Pawar, Secretary (Transport) Mobile No. 8510890851	6 am to 6 pm.
10	Labour Department	9434270182	Shri Madhu Sudan Vaidya Labour commissioner	Shri Krishan Kumar Secretary Labour 9474211400	Dr.V Candavelou, IAS Comm-cum-Secretary Mobile No. 8056622722	6 am to 6 pm

In case a caller is not satisfied with the response of the Control Room, he/she may contact next higher authority on their contact no. given above. First Supervisory officer will check the log book on daily basis and may call back some of the callers for feed back.

Protect yourself and others from getting sick

Wash your hands

- after coughing or sneezing
- when caring for the sick
- before, during and after you prepare food
- before eating
- after toilet use
- when hands are visibly dirty
- after handling animals or animal waste

World Health Organization

Help us to help you

NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

Protect yourself and others!

WHEN TO GET TESTED FOR COVID-19?

- You are **not required to get tested** for COVID-19 if you **do not have any symptoms** (Cough, fever or difficulty in breathing)
- If you have any of the above symptoms and have travelled to any of the COVID-19 affected countries including Italy, Iran, Republic of Korea, France, Spain, Germany, UAE etc or you are a contact of a laboratory confirmed positive case immediately call the State Helpline Number or Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India's **24x7 helpline 011-2397 8046**
- The helpline service will note down your contact details and contact you with the **testing protocols** of COVID-19
- If you qualify as a case for testing as per the protocol, you will be tested at a **Government approved lab only.**

List of Government approved labs is available at <https://www.icmr.nic.in/>

Currently, **no private hospital/private laboratory** is authorized to test for COVID-19

Together we can fight Coronavirus

For further information call: Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India's 24x7 control room number: **+91-11-23978046** or email at ncov2019@gmail.com

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