



Since 1920s the Oldest Daily...

The Daily Telegrams

...the Largest Circulating Daily of the Islands

Mainly clearsky with possibility of dry weather over Sri Vijaya Puram. Maximum and Minimum temperature will be around 32.5°C and 24.5°C respectively on Sunday 29/03/2026.

Maximum Temperature (°C) of Date: 32.7
Minimum Temperature (°C) of Date: 24.5
Relative Humidity (%) at 0830 IST : 059
Relative Humidity (%) at 1730 IST : 071
Sunrise time on 29/03/2026 (in IST): 0518
Sunset time on 29/03/2026 (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 2026 upto 0830 hrs (of date) in mm: 030.9

Weather Report

Andaman and Nicobar chain remains a geographic gift that gives New Delhi proximity and surveillance reach over one of the world's most important maritime corridors-Strait of Malacca

The Strait of Hormuz is at the centre of the US-Iran war, and the world is being reminded of a hard geopolitical truth: when a narrow waterway is threatened, the shock travels far beyond the battlefield. Tankers slow, insurers panic, freight costs jump, and energy markets convulse.

Reuters reported on Tuesday that the ongoing US-Iran war has pushed the Strait of Hormuz close to effective closure, with around 20 million barrels per day of oil and fuel supply disrupted, roughly a fifth of global seaborne energy trade. But if Hormuz is in an immediate crisis, the deeper strategic warning may lie thousands of kilometres to the east.

Because for China, the real long-term maritime vulnerability is not in the Gulf. It is in Southeast Asia

India's real edge is geography, not blockade

■ India does not control the Strait of Malacca. But from the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, it sits close enough to monitor key sea lanes, maintain forward presence, and shape maritime pressure in a crisis.

■ The advantage is proximity — not outright closure.

- at the Strait of Malacca, the narrow sea lane that connects the Indian Ocean to the Pacific and carries a huge share of East Asia's energy and trade. And

while India does not control Malacca, its geography gives it something almost as important in a crisis: proximity. From the

DEFENCEHQ
Presented by THE TIMES OF INDIA



extreme conflict, help deny access to one of the most important shipping corridors in the world.

That is what makes China's vulnerability an advantage for India, in a hypothetical but possible standoff with Beijing. As Dr Ashok Sharma, visiting fellow at the University of New South Wales Canberra at the Australian Defence Force Academy, put it, India's real edge lies not in fully stopping maritime traffic but in "creating uncertainty and strategic pressure rather than fully stopping maritime traffic." In short, Malacca is China's Achilles' heel. A Malacca-linked crisis would not emerge in a vacuum. It would most plausibly be triggered in a wider regional conflict, for instance, if China moves militarily on Taiwan and

(Contd. on last page)

New Solid Waste Management Rules, 2026 to come into force from April 1

Four-stream waste segregation mandatory; strengthened accountability and monitoring framework introduced

Sri Vijaya Puram, Mar. 28

All concerned and general public have been informed that, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Govt. of India, has notified the Solid Waste Management (SWM) Rules, 2026, superseding the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016. The revised rules, issued under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, shall come into force with effect from 1st April, 2026 across the country, including the Union

Territory of Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

The revised rules aim to strengthen scientific solid waste management practices by promoting segregation of waste at source, improved monitoring and clear accountability of waste generators, in line with the principles of circular economy and extended producer responsibility.

The rules mandated four-stream segregation at source viz., wet waste, dry waste,

sanitary waste and special care waste at households (Individual, Gated/ non-gated societies/ Housing colonies, etc.), institutions (both Govt. & Pvt. Viz., Offices, Banks, Educational Institutions, etc.) and establishments (all commercial, street vending, etc.):

♦ **Wet Waste:** Kitchen waste, vegetable and fruit residues, meat waste and flowers, to be processed through composting or bio-methanation.

(Contd. on last page)



Deputy Commissioner, N&MA addresses students of MGCC, Mayabunder

Mayabunder, Mar. 28

Shri Sushant Padha, IAS, Deputy Commissioner, North & Middle Andaman delivered an inspiring and motivational lecture to the students of Mahatma Gandhi Government College, Mayabunder in the college auditorium yesterday. Addressing the gathering, the Deputy Commissioner emphasized the importance of hard work, dedication, consistency and productivity as the key pillars for achieving success in life. He encouraged students to cultivate a positive mindset and remain focused on their goals despite challenges and setbacks.

Highlighting the significance of staying informed, he urged students to develop the



habit of reading newspapers regularly, particularly reputed English dailies, to enhance their knowledge and improve language proficiency.

During the interactive session, students actively engaged with the Deputy Commissioner, seeking guidance on career choices, personal development and effective study practices. He advised them to remain disciplined, utilize their time efficiently and strive

for excellence in all their pursuits. The programme concluded with vote of thanks by Dr. Yashodhra, Head of Hindi Department, MGCC, Mayabunder, a press release from DC, N & M Andaman said.

Venue for training of Supervisors and Enumerators - Census 2027 changed

Sri Vijaya Puram, Mar. 28

In continuation of the earlier press release issued regarding the conduct of the training programme for Census Functionaries, it is hereby informed that the dates of the training programme will remain unchanged, however, the venue for certain batches has been changed. The revised batch-wise schedule is detailed below:

Batch - I

Dates: 30th March, 2026 and 1st April, 2026

Venue: Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Auditorium, SVP MC Headquarters

Premises

Date: 31st March, 2026

Venue: Khaitan Kalyana Mandapam

Time: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM (on all three days)

Batch - II

Dates: 30th March, 31st March, and 1st April, 2026

Venue: Girls School Auditorium, SVP

Time: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM (on all three days)

(Contd. on last page)

Go to impose ban on fishing by all fishing vessels in EEZ beyond territorial waters including A&N Islands to conserve marine resources & ensure safety

Sri Vijaya Puram, Mar. 28

The Department of Fisheries has informed all fishermen and stakeholders that the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Department of Fisheries, Government of India has imposed a uniform ban, to conserve marine

resources and ensure safety, on fishing by all fishing vessels in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), beyond territorial waters, on the East Coast (including Andaman and Nicobar Islands) and West Coast as per the period

(Contd. on last page)

Strengthening rural livelihoods through NRLM; Egg Collection Center & Plant Nursery Center inaugurated

Sri Vijaya Puram, Mar. 28

A significant step towards strengthening rural livelihoods and promoting community-based enterprises was marked with the inauguration of two key initiatives under Producer Groups.

Dr. Apurva Sharma, Director RD, Panchayat, today inaugurated the Egg Collection Center established by the Dweep Poultry Producer Group (PG) at Gram Panchayat Tushnabad and the Plant Nursery Center established by the Bhoomi Producer



Group at G.P. Namunaghar. The Block Development Officer (BDO) Ferrargunj, Pradhan of G.P. Tushnabad, State Programme Manager (NRLM), Block staff, and members of Self-Help Groups were presence on the occasion.

These groups function by pooling resources, sharing

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गृह मंत्रालय
भारत सरकार

OUR CENSUS,
OUR DEVELOPMENT

CENSUS 2027 FIRST PHASE

House Listing And Housing Census

From 16th April to 15th May, 2026
in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

Details of every house in your area are recorded in this Phase

what shall be asked?

House Information - Building Number - Main material of Floor, Wall and Roof - Use of House (Residential/Non-Residential) - Use of House	Basic Information of Household - Total Members in Household - Name of Head of Household - Ownership Status of House - Number of dwelling Rooms	Basic Amenities - Source of Drinking Water - Electricity/Lighting Source - Availability and Type of Latrine - Bathroom facility - Kitchen and Gas Connection - Cooking Fuel	Household Assets - Radio/Television - Internet/Computer - Mobile Phone - Two-wheeler/Four-wheeler
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- This Phase lays foundation for Population Enumeration
- This time you can fill your data yourself through Self-Enumeration Portal (se.census.gov.in) between 1-15 April, 2026
- On filling online data, a SEID shall be received, when Enumerator visits, show your SEID and complete the process easily

All your information shall remain confidential and secure

Participate in Census

Say with Pride - My Counting is the Country's Strength

Let's Fulfil Our Responsibility, Lets and Participate in the Census

Surfing Festival to be held at Little Andaman from April 9 to 12; applications invited for setting up tents

Sri Vijaya Puram, Mar. 28

The Tourism Department in association with the Surfing Federation of India, will be organizing the Surfing Festival 2026 at Little Andaman from April 9 to 12.

In this regard, surfers and adventure enthusiasts from both domestic and international are expected to participate in

the festival. A large number of islanders and tourists are also anticipated to attend and witness the festival.

In view of the above, the Tourism Department invites entrepreneurs, stakeholders, and travel agents to set up temporary accommodation facilities at designated sites from April 8 to 13. The Department will

facilitate and extend necessary support to the interested parties for establishing such tent facilities.

Interested parties may submit their applications along with details of the number of tents proposed to be set up and must reach to Director (IP&T) Office on or before March 31, a press release from IP&T said.

PCCF inaugurates Timber Seasoning Plant & Saw Dust Machine at Chatham Saw Mill

Sri Vijaya Puram, Mar. 28

A Timber Seasoning Plant was inaugurated at Government Saw Mill, Chatham by Shri Sanjay Kumar Sinha, IFS, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, A&N Islands as the chief guest, marking a significant step towards improving the quality, durability, and value of timber in the region. The facility uses advanced seasoning technology to process timber under controlled conditions, enhancing resistance to moisture, decay, fungal attack, and insect infestation, while



improving strength and service life. The chief guest highlighted that proper seasoning and chemical treatment reduce moisture content, improving durability and workability, and extending timber life by up to 25 years.

On the same occasion,

a Sawdust Machine was also inaugurated to promote efficient waste utilization. The machine converts wood waste into valuable sawdust, minimizing wastage and supporting sustainable resource management.

(Contd. on last page)

Mock drill on earthquake preparedness conducted at Dr. S. R. DIET

Sri Vijaya Puram, Mar. 28

A mock drill on earthquake preparedness was conducted today at Dr. S. R. District Institute of Education and Training (DIET), Garacharma, with the objective of strengthening disaster preparedness and response capabilities among trainees and faculty members.

The programme was organized under the guidance of the Principal, DIET, in collaboration with the Fire Department, Health Department, Police Department, and the NDRF team. The drill commenced



with an address by Dr. Swapan Kumar, State Consultant (Disaster Management), who highlighted the importance of preparedness and coordinated response during disaster situations. During the session, Shri Arjun Pal Rajput, Inspector, NDRF, interacted with the participants and

emphasized the significance of disaster awareness and vigilance during emergencies. Dr. B. Ajit Kumar, State Nodal Officer, and Dr. Rajesh Kumar Ghosh, Assistant Nodal Officer (Disaster Management - Health) also addressed the gathering and stressed on the

(Contd. on last page)

Andaman and Nicobar chain remains a geographic gift that.....

(Contd. from page 1)

the Indo-Pacific theatre widens, or if a future India-China Himalayan standoff spills into the maritime domain. In either scenario, the Strait of Malacca would quickly become more than a shipping lane. It would become a strategic pressure point.

[Why Hormuz is the perfect trailer for a Malacca crisis](#)

The Hormuz shock is not just a Middle East issue. It is a live demonstration of how a chokepoint crisis unfolds in the modern world. The US Energy Information Administration (EIA) estimates that the Strait of Hormuz carried 20.9 million barrels per day in the first half of 2025, making it one of the world's two most important energy chokepoints. And the latest Gulf conflict shows what happens when that artery is threatened: prices spike, governments scramble, and even major producers warn that emergency responses are inadequate. The lesson is straightforward. A chokepoint does not need to be physically sealed shut to cause economic pain. The fear of disruption is often enough. War-risk premiums rise. Ships reroute. Delivery windows slip. Markets react before missiles do. That is precisely why Beijing has spent years worrying about Malacca. If Hormuz is the world's oil panic button, Malacca is China's long-standing strategic nightmare.

[China's 'Malacca Dilemma'](#)

The Strait of Malacca is not just a busy shipping lane. It is the most critical maritime artery in Asia. According to the latest EIA World Oil Transit Chokepoints analysis, the Strait of Malacca carried 23.2 million barrels per day of oil in the first half of 2025, accounting for 29% of total global maritime oil flows. That makes it the largest oil chokepoint in the world by volume, even bigger than Hormuz.

The same EIA report says around 9.2 billion cubic feet per day of LNG also flowed through the strait in the same period. According to think tank ORF, China's energy imports reached US\$ 390 billion in 2024, with nearly 80 per cent, amounting to US\$ 312 billion, transported through the Malacca Strait. That scale matters enormously for China. Malacca is the shortest and most efficient sea route linking Middle Eastern oil and gas suppliers to East Asia. For China - the world's largest manufacturing economy and one of the biggest energy importers - it is a lifeline. Oil, LNG, raw materials, intermediate goods and containerised trade all depend heavily on uninterrupted access through this corridor. This is the famous "Malacca Dilemma": China's fear that too much of its economy still depends on a narrow sea lane it does not control. Beijing has spent years trying to reduce this risk. It has worked on Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) with other countries, built pipelines, expanded overland corridors, invested in ports, and tried to diversify routes through what critics often call the "String of Pearls" strategy. But diversification is not a replacement. None of these alternatives can fully replicate the scale, speed and cost-efficiency of the Malacca route. That is the core vulnerability.

[A dangerous chokepoint](#)

Malacca's strategic power lies not just in volume, but in geometry. The strait is a narrow, heavily trafficked maritime corridor running between Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore. At its southern end, the navigable channel tightens sharply, creating natural congestion and amplifying risk. The EIA describes it as the shortest sea route between Middle Eastern suppliers and East Asian markets, which is exactly why so much traffic is forced through it. This is why Malacca is so hard to replace in a crisis. Ships can technically divert via the Sunda Strait or Lombok Strait, and the EIA explicitly notes these as alternative routes. But they are longer, less efficient, and more expensive. That means more sailing time, higher fuel burn, costlier insurance and disrupted supply schedules. Sharma noted that the Lombok and Sunda Straits are longer, costlier and less efficient for large-scale commercial and energy shipping, meaning they may reduce China's exposure but do not eliminate the underlying vulnerability. For a country like China, whose export machine depends on predictable delivery cycles and affordable energy, that is not a minor inconvenience. It is a structural threat.

[The Andaman and Nicobar advantage](#)

This is where India's role in this part of the world becomes genuinely powerful. Its greatest advantage in any Malacca-linked crisis is not just naval strength. It is geography. The Andaman and Nicobar Islands sit deep in the eastern Indian Ocean, close enough to the western approaches of Malacca to make them strategically invaluable. The Strait of Malacca is less than a day's steaming from Sri Vijaya Puram, a fact that captures the entire strategic importance of these islands. This is what makes the Andaman and Nicobar chain India's closest equivalent to an "unsinkable aircraft carrier." Unlike a carrier battle group, islands do not need to be deployed. They are already in place. They cannot be sunk. They can host aircraft, surveillance systems, missiles, drones, logistics nodes and naval detachments. And in a maritime crisis, that permanence matters. At the southern tip, the symbolism becomes even sharper. INS Baaz, India's southernmost military air station at Campbell Bay, sits near a strategically vital corridor and gives India a forward operating position near the Six Degree Channel and close to the western approaches to the wider Malacca-bound sea lanes. Sharma also said the Andaman and Nicobar Islands are of major strategic importance because of their proximity to the western entrance of Malacca, with installations such as INS Baaz strengthening India's ability to monitor key sea lanes, deploy air and naval assets, and sustain a forward presence in a crisis. That matters because, unlike China, India does not need to "arrive" at Malacca from far away. It is already sitting near the gateway. This is the biggest contrast with extra-regional powers. The US can project power into the region. India lives in the region. That distinction is central to India's advantage. Sharma noted that while extra-regional powers such as the United States may possess greater overall naval power, India benefits from proximity, shorter logistics lines and the ability to sustain surveillance in the eastern Indian Ocean over time.

[Great Nicobar Project: India's future strategic-business node](#)

One of the most promising aspects of India's strategic advantage in the region is the Great Nicobar Island, situated at the southernmost part of the Andaman archipelago. The Indian government is planning the 'Great Nicobar Project' there. The Great Nicobar Project is a massive infrastructure development initiative with an estimated budget ranging from Rs 75,000 crore to Rs 92,000 crore. India's ambitious plans for the island include a major International Container Transshipment Terminal (ICTT) at Galathea Bay, along with wider infrastructure and connectivity upgrades. This matters because it is not just a domestic development project. It is part of a larger maritime imagination. If fully built out, it could strengthen India's presence at the mouth of one of the world's busiest sea systems. It would not magically make India "the new Singapore" overnight but it would push India further into the business of regional shipping, transshipment, and maritime leverage. In simple terms, New Delhi is not just thinking like a continental power anymore. It is increasingly enhancing its capabilities to become a major maritime power.

[The wider map](#)

India's leverage around Malacca is not limited to its own islands. In 2018, India and Indonesia agreed to cooperate around Sabang, a strategically located port near the western entrance to the Strait of Malacca. The symbolism was obvious: India was signalling interest not only in defending its waters, but in shaping the broader maritime geometry around one of Asia's most critical sea lanes. Then there is the Malabar exercise, involving India, the US, Japan and Australia. This does not mean the Quad is some formal blockade alliance - it is not. But it does mean Beijing must account for an Indo-Pacific environment in which multiple capable navies are increasingly interoperable and strategically aligned. That matters because a chokepoint is never just about the water. It is about who can see it, who can reach it, and who can make its use uncertain.

[The bigger picture](#)

The real story around Malacca is not war fantasy. It is a dependency. Hormuz is showing the world what happens when a global system leans too heavily on a narrow channel. Malacca reveals the same vulnerability at a different scale, one tied not just to oil prices, but to the economic bloodstream of Asia. For China, the Strait of Malacca remains more than a shipping lane. It is a strategic dependence that no amount of rhetoric has fully solved. For India, the Andaman and Nicobar chain remains more than a distant island territory. It is a geographic gift that gives New Delhi proximity, surveillance reach and latent leverage over one of the world's most important maritime corridors. The question in a future crisis is not whether India can literally padlock Malacca. That is too simplistic. The real question is more unsettling for Beijing: Can China afford even a partial disruption, even a temporary slowdown, or even a sharp rise in risk along the one sea route it still cannot ignore? That is the real lesson of Hormuz. And that is why, when the world talks about one chokepoint in the Gulf, we should also be looking east, toward the strait that may matter even more. (Source: https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/)

Block level training programme under CD Block Diglipur held

Diglipur, Mar. 28

The CD Block Diglipur conducted a comprehensive 'Block Level Training Programme' today at the GPOA Hall, Administrative Building. The session focused on the 'Uploading of the Block Panchayat Development Plan (BPD) and the critical integration of the Public Financial Management System (PFMS) within the e-Gram Swaraj Portal'. The program was inaugurated by Shri. M. Rajendra Kumar, BDO of CD Block Diglipur. A session was led by Shri Pradip Das, Zilla



Parishad Member (Subashgram), on setting measurable objectives for community growth. The Training sessions were specifically designed for Panchayat Samiti Members and Block Panchayat Planning Committee (BPPC) members to enhance transparency and efficiency in rural governance which delved into the strategic creation of 'comprehensive' development plans, ensuring that local needs are accurately reflected in official government portals, a press release from BDO, Diglipur said.

PCCF inaugurates Timber Seasoning Plant & Saw.....

(Contd. from page 1)

Shri Suraj Singh, IFS, DCF, Mill Division, noted that this initiative would help reduce excessive dependence on Padauk timber and promote sustainable supply. He stated that the sawdust machine will convert waste wood and old timber stocks into useful by-products, helping meet increasing public demand.



The plant follows energy-efficient and environmentally responsible practices, contributing to sustainable forest management.

On this occasion, a book on Govt. Saw Mill Chatham -140 Years of Heritage and Service was also formally released by the chief guest. The publication highlights the historical significance, operational legacy, and contributions of the Chatham sawmill and is expected to serve as a valuable reference for future management, staff, and workers associated with the mill. An Activity Calendar of all sections of Govt. Saw Mill Chatham for improved planning and monitoring was also released on the occasion, a press release from DCF, MD, Chatham said.

Strengthening rural livelihoods through NRLM; Egg

(Contd. from page 1)

knowledge, and collectively managing production, processing, and marketing activities. PGs play a crucial role in strengthening value chains, reducing costs, enhancing access to credit and markets, and fostering entrepreneurship among rural communities, especially SHG members.

Through the Egg Collection Center, members of the Producer Group will have centric approach for aggregation, grading, storage, and marketing of eggs produced by local poultry farmers. The Plant Nursery Center aims to promote and support livelihoods through the cultivation and sale of saplings, including fruit-bearing plants, spices, flowers, and ornamental varieties. By reducing post-production losses and ensuring better price realization, both the center is expected to significantly enhance income opportunities for rural SHGs. It will also improve supply chain efficiency and strengthen the local poultry value chain.

The Director (RD), PRIs appreciated the efforts of PG members and reiterated to supporting such grassroots initiatives that contribute to inclusive and sustainable development of the SHGs in the Islands, a press release from ANIRLM said.



Unidentified male dead body recovered by Police Station Pahargaon

Sri Vijaya Puram, Mar. 28

It is informed to the general public that an identified dead body of Kishore (As is identified by his co-workers), a daily standing Labour, Bathubasti parking (Permanent address of Anakapali Andhra Pradesh) was found lying on road side under a tree near Shiv Mandir, Dollygunj.

In this regard, a UDFIR vide No. 20/26 dated 25/03/2026 U/s 194 Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita 2023 has been registered at PS Pahargaon and the case is being investigated. During the course of investigation, no details of his family members have been traced so far. The dead body of Kishore, R/o Anakapalli, Andhra Pradesh is presently preserved for identification in the Cold Mortuary Room of GB Pant Hospital, Sri Vijaya Puram. Description of the deceased body is as follows:

Age	34years (approx.)
Height	5'7"
Hair	Black
Build	Thin
Complexion	Sallow
Wearing apparels	Dark green t-shirt half sleeve and Olive colour checkered pant

The general public have been requested to pass the information /claim the dead body at 112, 03192-236641 or 03192-250525, a press release from SP, SA said.



PS Kalighat busts illicit liquor brewing in Talbagan forest

Mayabunder, Mar. 28

On 26.03.2026, acting on credible information, a team from PS Kalighat conducted a raid in the dense Talbagan Forest to curb illicit liquor brewing. During the operation, about 370 litres of illicit Lehan concealed in plastic and iron drums inside the forest were recovered. As no claimant was found, the entire stock along with the containers and materials used for the illegal activity was destroyed on-site as per due procedure.

The operation highlights the continued vigilance and firm action of N&MA District Police against illicit liquor activities in the area.

The general public have been requested to share any credible information regarding crime or illegal activities with the nearest



Police Station or through the helpline numbers 100, 112, or 03192-273344. The identity of informers will be kept strictly confidential and suitable rewards will be provided, a press release from SP (N&MA) said.

New Solid Waste Management Rules,.....

(Contd. from page 1)

♦ **Dry Waste:** Plastic, paper, metal, glass, wood and rubber to be routed to Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs) for sorting and recycling.

♦ **Sanitary Waste:** Used diapers, sanitary napkins and similar waste to be securely wrapped and stored separately.

♦ **Special Care Waste:** Items such as paint containers, bulbs, medicines and mercury-containing products to be handed over to authorised agencies or deposited at designated collection centres.

The rules defined Bulk Waste Generators (BWGs) as entities having, Floor area Rs. 20,000 sq. m., or Water consumption Rs. 40,000 litres per day, or Waste generation Rs. 100 kg per day. All the Government Departments, institutions, commercial establishments, residential societies and similar entities falling under this category shall be responsible for environmentally sound management of the waste generated by them. Wet waste processing at source has been emphasised, and where not feasible, an Extended Bulk Waste Generator Responsibility (EBWGR) certification mechanism has been introduced, to reduce pressure on the local bodies & promote decentralised waste management practices.

The rules also provide for Environmental Compensation for violations based on the Polluter Pays Principle in cases of non-compliance, such as improper waste management, false reporting or operating without registration. The State Pollution Control Boards & UT Pollution Control Committees (ANPCC) will levy the penalties.

Local bodies (Municipal Council, Rural Development & Panchayat Departments) shall ensure effective collection, segregation & transportation of solid waste in coordination with MRFs. The rules also promote online monitoring of the entire waste management process; restrict landfilling to non-recyclable and inert waste, and mandate remediation of legacy waste dumpsites through biomining and bioremediation. Special provisions have also been made for solid waste management in hilly areas and islands.

Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs) have been formally recognised as key infrastructure for sorting and channelling recyclable waste streams. Industries using solid fuels, including cement and waste-to-energy plants, are mandated to progressively increase utilisation of Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) from 5% to 15% over six years, promoting resource recovery from non-recyclable waste.

Landfilling has been restricted strictly to inert and non-recoverable waste. Higher landfill fees will apply for unsegregated waste to discourage disposal without processing. The rules mandate mapping, biomining and bioremediation of legacy dumpsites with periodic monitoring and reporting through the online portal.

Recognising the ecological sensitivity of island regions, the rules introduce specific provisions for hilly and island areas, including Levy of user fees on tourists, Regulation of tourist inflow based on waste management capacity, Establishment of designated collection points for non-biodegradable waste & Mandatory decentralised wet waste processing by hotels and restaurants.

Therefore, the general public, institutions, establishments and local bodies, are appealed to proactively adopt segregation practices and comply with the provisions of the SWM Rules, 2026. ANPCC will be conducting series of activities with all stakeholders to educate & true enforcement.

The successful implementation of the new rules will depend on collective participation, responsible waste generation, and strict adherence to environmental norms, ensuring protection of the fragile island ecosystem and promotion of sustainable waste management practices.

The notified rules may be accessed through the MoEF&CC official gazette at https://egazette.gov.in/WriteReadData/2026/269620.pdf & by scanning the QR.



Mock drill on earthquake preparedness.....

(Contd. from page 1)

importance of timely medical intervention and maintaining mental composure during disasters.

Officials from Fire Station, Garacharma, including Shri N. Suresh (Station Officer) and Shri Iqtedar Bux (Second Officer), along with the fire safety team, demonstrated essential emergency response techniques and fire safety procedures. The team was accompanied by Shri Sunil Kumar from the Disaster Management Cell, A & N Police.

A total of 132 trainees and 35 faculty members actively participated in the mock drill, a press release from DIET said.

Venue for training of Supervisors and.....

(Contd. from page 1)

[Batch - III](#)

Dates: 30th March, 31st March, and 1st April, 2026

Venue: ICC Building, Aapada Prabandhan, Link Road, SVP Time: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM (on all three days)

[Batch - IV](#)

Dates: 30th March, 31st March, and 1st April, 2026

Venue: DBRAIT Auditorium, SVP Time: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM (on all three days)

Accordingly, all appointed Supervisors and Enumerators are hereby directed to attend the aforesaid training programme at the specified venue and time without fail. Non-attendance will be viewed seriously and appropriate action may be initiated as per applicable rules. Strict compliance with these instructions is required, a press release from Additional Charge Census Officer, SVPMC said.

GoI to impose ban on fishing by all.....

(Contd. from page 1)

mentioned below:

East Coast: From 15th April to 14th June, 2026 (both days inclusive) (61 days)

West Coast: From 01st June to 31st July, 2026 (both days inclusive) (61 days)

Traditional non-motorized fishing units are exempted from the ban. All fishermen have been requested to strictly adhere to the above schedule for the conservation and effective management of fishery resources and for sea safety reasons, a press release from Department of Fisheries said.

No. TFG/Census/2026-2027/ OFFICE OF THE TEHSILDAR/CHARGE CENSUS OFFICER FERRARGUNJ Ferrargunj, dated the 28 th March, 2026											
ORDER No.17											
The following Enumerators and Supervisors are hereby appointment for Census Operation 2027 in respect of Tehsil Ferrargunj, South Andaman District.											
Sl. No.	State Code	District Code	Sub-District Code	Village/ Town Code	Village/ Town Name	Enumerators Block No	Name of Enumerator	Name of Supervisor	Name of Area Patwari		
1	35	03	001	0001	Shoal Bay (RV)	0001	Smti. Shakeela Bibi, PST, GPS Shoal Bay-08, 9476028066	Mujib Rahaman Draughtsman GR.III RCD Wimberlygunj	Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515		
2	35	03	001	0002	Shoal Bay (RV)	0002	Shri. K P Zainuddin, Draughtsman Gr-III, RCD Wimberlygunj, 9434271627		Shri Kiranjit, 9476010010		
3	35	03	001	0003	Shoal Bay (RV)	0003	Shri. B Chinnaiah, PST, GPS Shoal Bay-08, 9476056858		Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515		
4	35	03	001	0004	Jirkatang No. 2 (RV)	0004	Shri. Kishan Kumar, GTT, GSSS Jirkatang, 9474230108.		Shri U Suraj Kumar, 9476063101		
5	35	03	001	0005	Kalatang (RV)	0005	Shri B Satya Narayana, PST, GSSS Mannarghat, 9474207958			Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515	
6	35	03	001	0006	Wright Myo (RV)	0006	Shri. P Abdul Rasheed, GTT, GSS Shoal Bay-12, 9474252461				Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515
7	35	03	001	0007	Wright Myo (RV)	0007	Smti. M Sajida Begum, GTT, GMS Wright Myo, 9531856393				
8	35	03	001	0008	Madhuban (RV)	0008	Shri. Nehru Ram, GTT, GSSS Wimberlygunj, 9474206145.	Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515			
9	35	03	001	0006	Malapuram (RV)	0009	Smti Aleema MTS, GSS Manarghat,9531991816			Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515	
10	35	03	001	0006	Malapuram (RV)	0010	Shri Jaydev Thakur, PT, CI WORK Education, GSSS Mannarghat, 9474288882				Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515
11	35	03	001	0007	Mannarghat (RV)	0011	Shri. N V Abdulla Kutty, HC, EE, PG Division Elect. Dept., Haddo, SVP, 9474260356	Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515			
12	35	03	001	0007	Mannarghat (RV)	0012	Smti. C Amina Bibi, PST, GPS Mannarghat, 94742884820.		Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515		
13	35	03	001	0007	Mannarghat (RV)	0013	Smti. Musaiban Bibi, PST, GPS Mannarghar, 8900946366.			Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515	
14	35	03	001	0008	Mile Tilak (RV)	0014	Shri. Hasamudeen, GTT, GSS Mile Tilak, 9933298336.	Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515			
15	35	03	001	0009	Alipur (RV)	0015	Smti. Sangeet Dubey, PST, GPS Mathura, 9679541364		Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515		
16	35	03	001	8006	Wimberlygunj (CT)	0001	T Yashodha, PST, GPS Lamba pahad, 8101960117			Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515	
17	35	03	001	8006	Wimberlygunj (CT)	0002	Shri. Abdul Salam, HGC, EE, PG Division Elect. Dept., Haddo, SVP, 9434284411	Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515			
18	35	03	001	8006	Wimberlygunj (CT)	0003	Shri Aziz Ahmed, PST,GPS Lamba Pahad ,9531877807		Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515		
19	35	03	001	8006	Wimberlygunj (CT)	0004	Shri. Raj Kumar, PET, GSSS Wimberlygunj, 9933255512			Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515	
20	35	03	001	8006	Wimberlygunj (CT)	0005	Umesh Prasad, HGC, GSSS Wimberlygunj, 9474288511	Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515			
21	35	03	001	8006	Wimberlygunj (CT)	0006	Smti. Sahida Bibi, GTT, GSSS Wimberlygunj, 9474235923.		Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515		
22	35	03	001	8006	Wimberlygunj (CT)	0007	Shri. K K Bernice, CI, GSSS Wimberlygunj, 9474224329.			Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515	
23	35	03	001	8006	Wimberlygunj (CT)	0008	Smti. Safak Bibi, GTT, GSSS Wimberlygunj, 9531826574	Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515			
24	35	03	001	8006	Wimberlygunj (CT)	0009	Shri. George Harison, GTT, GSSS Wimberlygunj, 9474234686.		Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515		
25	35	03	001	8006	Wimberlygunj (CT)	0010	Shri P K Abdul Aziz, MTS, GPS Lamba Pahad,9933210993			Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515	
26	35	03	001	8006	Wimberlygunj (CT)	0011	Smti. Renu Dubey, GTT, GSSS Wimberlygunj, 8900901011.	Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515			
27	35	03	001	0010	Mount Harriet (RV)	0016	Shri. Nehru Ram, GTT, GSSS Wimberlygunj, 9474206145.		Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515		
28	35	03	001	0011	Stewartgunj (RV)	0017	Smti. Naseema Bibi, PST, PM Shri GSSS Bambooflat, 9531840479			Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515	
29	35	03	001	0011	Stewartgunj (RV)	0018	Smti. Reshma Bibi, CI, GMS Kanyapuram, 9933252310	Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515			
30	35	03	001	0011	Stewartgunj (RV)	0019	Shri. S Elavasaran, PST, GMS Kanyapuram, 9434286724		Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515		
31	35	03	001	0012	Govindapuram (RV)	0020	Smti. K P Sameera Bibi, PST, GPS Tsunami Pahad, 9531831952			Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515	
32	35	03	001	0013	Kanyapuram (RV)	0021	Shri Zaviar Lakra, Librarian, GMS Kanyapuram,9434291209	Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515			
33	35	03	001	0013	Kanyapuram (RV)	0022	Shri. Shakil Anwar, GTT(Hum), GMS Kanyapuram, 9474217689.		Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515		
34	35	03	001	0013	Kanyapuram (RV)	0023	Smti Ragini Kumari, PST, GMS Kanyapuram,9434290970			Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515	
35	35	03	001	0014	Mathura (RV)	0024	Smti. Sangeet Dubey, PST, GPS Mathura, 9679541364	Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515			
36	35	03	001	0014	Mathura (RV)	0025	Smti. S Puspa Kumari, PST, GPS Mathura, 9531845814		Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515		
37	35	03	001	0015	Temple Myo (RV)	0026	Shri. Bikash Mondal, PST, GPS Collinpur, 9332100369			Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515	
38	35	03	001	0016	Tirur (RV)	0027	Shri. Sanjoy Halder, PST, GPS Tirur, 9474252241	Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515			
39	35	03	001	0017	Herbertabad (RV)	0028	Shri. Dipen Das, PST, GPS Herbertabad, 9476022412		Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515		
40	35	03	001	0018	Ferrargunj (RV)	0029	Smti Archana Kumari Ekka, GTT,GMSSS Ferargunj, 9476009712			Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515	
41	35	03	001	0018	Ferrargunj (RV)	0030	Smti. Shilpa Misra, GTT, GMSSS Ferrargunj, 9531882373	Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515			
42	35	03	001	0018	Ferrargunj (RV)	0031	Smti. Jyotshna Ghosal, PST, GMSSS Ferrargunj, 7063953876		Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515		
43	35	03	001	0019	Brindaban (RV)	0032	Smti Mary E, PST, GMSSS Ferrargunj, 9474257966			Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515	
44	35	03	001	0019	Brindaban (RV)	0033	Shri Dipankar Bepari, PST, GMSSS Ferrargunj,9531873389	Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515			
45	35	03	001	0019	Brindaban (RV)	0034	Shri P Arjunan, PST, GPS Caddie Gunj, 9474271846		Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515		
46	35	03	001	0019	Brindaban (RV)	0035	Smti Mahalaxmi, PPT, GMS Kanyapuram, 9679517812			Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515	
47	35	03	001	0019	Brindaban (RV)	0036	Shri Satabdi Roy, GTT, GMSSS Ferrargunj, 7695021003	Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515			
48	35	03	001	0020	Kadakachang (RV)	0037	Smti Esusi Jothi, PST, GMS Kanyapuram, 9474243849		Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515		
49	35	03	001	0021	Hope Town (RV)	0038	Smti. Alisha Kumari Ekka, PT, PST, GPS Chunna Bhatta, 8900923497			Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515	
50	35	03	001	0021	Hope Town (RV)	0039	Smti. G Aruna, PST, GPS Hope Town, 9474232148.	Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515			
51	35	03	001	0021	Hope Town (RV)	0040	Smti. Leena Tirkey, PST, GPS Hope Town, 9531803062.		Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515		
52	35	03	001	0022	North Bay (RV)	0041	Smti. N Sajida, PST, GPS Chunna Bhatta, 9476025316			Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515	
53	35	03	001	0022	North Bay (RV)	0042	Smti. N Sofia, PST, GPS Chunna Bhatta, 9476057799	Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515			
54	35	03	001	0022	North Bay (RV)	0043	Smti. M Mubashira, PST, GPS Chunna Bhatta, 9476060115		Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515		
55	35	03	001	0022	North Bay (RV)	0044	Shri. D Venkateshwar Rao, PST, GPS Chunna Bhatta, 9531956561			Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515	
56	35	03	001	0023	Shore Point (RV)	0045	Smti Priya David, PST, GPS Shore Point, 9531821646	Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515			
57	35	03	001	0023	Shore Point (RV)	0046	Smti Yogeswari, PPT, GPS Shore Point,9531832894		Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515		
58	35	03	001	0023	Shore Point (RV)	0047	Shri Francis Ekka, PPT, GPS Chunnabhatta, 9933224098			Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515	
59	35	03	001	0023	Shore Point (RV)	0048	Smti. Manju Kumari, GTT, GMS Bambooflat, 9531859748	Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515			
60	35	03	001	0023	Shore Point (RV)	0049	Smti. C. Yasmeen Shabnam, MTS, GMS, Bambooflat, 993256769		Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515		
61	35	03	001	0023	Shore Point (RV)	0050	Smti Anitha Santhosh, PST, GMS Bambooflat, 9434293123			Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515	
62	35	03	001	0023	Shore Point (RV)	0051	Shri. R Krishna, PST, GMS Bambooflat, 9434283500	Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515			
63	35	03	001	0023	Shore Point (RV)	0052	Shri. A Durga Rao, PST, GMS Bambooflat, 9474250264		Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515		
64	35	03	001	0024	Aniket (RV)	0053	Shri. Annakkili, PST, GPS Aniket, 9434291385			Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515	
65	35	03	001	0025	Caddlegunj (RV) (Incl. Sona Pahar)	0054	Smti. P Arjunan, PST, GPS Caddlegunj, 9474271846.	Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515			
66	35	03	001	0025	Caddlegunj (RV) (Incl. Sona Pahar)	0055	Smti. Haniel P, PST, GPS Caddlegunj, 9434296844.		Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515		
67	35	03	001	0026	Namunaghar (RV)	0056	Shri Abdul Sameer, Lab Assistant, GSS Namunaghar, 8900930036			Smti. Shama Khalid, 9474298515	
68	35	03	001	0026	Namunaghar (RV)	0057	Shri A Thiyaarajan , PST, GSS Namunaghar 9434278041				

