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| Exchange Rates | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| RBI Reference Rate | Capital Market |
| INR / 1 USD : 66.1380 | BSE Sensex : 25850.30* |
| INR / 1 Euro : 72.5534 | S&P CNX Nifty : 7865.95* |
| INR / 100 YEN : 54.9200 | *as on previous day |
| INR / 1 GBP : 98.6911 | Bullion Rate |
| | 22ct Gold per 10 gram 23930 |
| | Silver per 1 kg 39000 |




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First hoisting of tri-colour by Netaji on Andaman Soil celebrated

LG, Marga Darshak FANS, MP, others pay obeisance to heroes of freedom movement

A Historic day for Islanders to cherish

Port Blair, Dec 30

It was a historic and great moment not only for the Islanders, but also for the rest of the country as it was on this day, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose for the first time, as provincial head, hoisted the National Tri-colour and declared these Islands and the country Independent in 1943, at the historic Gymkhana ground now Netaji Stadium. To mark the occasion, a function was organized by the Department of Arts and Culture at the Netaji Memorial this morning.

The Lt. Governor, Lt Gen. A K Singh (Retd.) hoisted the National Flag in the presence of Shri Inderesh Kumar, Marga Darshak, FANS, the Member of Parliament, Shri Bishnu Pada Ray, the Chairperson PBMC, Smt. Sheela Singh, Smt. Sarla Singh, National Gen. Secy., FANS, Smt. Rupa Ray, Shri Vishal Jolly, State President, BJP, Shri Pradip Joshi, Kshetriya Pracharak, Shri Girish Arora, President, FANS A&N Chapter, prominent citizens and senior officers of the Administration. A team of 25 delegates from Forum for Awareness of National Security (FANS) also attended the function.

Addressing the gathering, the Lt. Governor recalled the significance of the day and the contribution of the heroes of our freedom struggle. He said that this was the soil on which inhuman tortures were meted over hundreds of freedom fighters who fought valiantly for the Independence of our country. It is a memorable day for every Indian, he said. The Lt Governor described the occasion as a sacred moment for the Islands in particular and the nation as a whole. Responding to the suggestion put forth by Shri Inderesh, the Lt Governor said that from next year, the commemorative function will be conducted in a broad scale. He directed the Chief Secretary to prepare a detailed plan about the programme involving the Member of Parliament, the Heritage Committee and the local people especially the old inhabitants of these islands.

The Lt Governor further stated that the aspect of declaring December 30 as 'Restricted Holiday' can also be looked into. Moving one step further, the Lt Governor asked the Secretary Tourism



to include Dec.30 in the Islands Tourism Map as an event and organize a cultural extravaganza to celebrate this joyous occasion which will also help in boosting tourism in

Isles. The Lt Governor asked the Principal Secretary, PWD to make the 'Memorial of December 30' more attractive. Keeping a visitors book, creating a Water Proof Photo Exhibition can be included, the Lt. Governor suggested.

The Lt Governor further stated that though the islanders observe this commemorative function every year but the programme got a national level stature due to the efforts of FANS.

The Lt Governor highlighted about two issues which concerns the Nation. The first is the relationship between rights and duties which has been mentioned in the Constitution. He said, "we have to bring a corresponding sense of duty and obligation and work with a sense of duty towards the country". The second issue, the Lt Governor talked about the role of our society in dealing with social issues. Society has to be awakened and regain the high moral glory that India occupy, the Lt Governor added. The Lt Governor stated that it should be our obligation to respect and pay obeisance to our Freedom Fighters and our Soldiers. He informed the gathering about the coming up of a memorial at Cellular Jail, in which, the plaque of Veer Savarkar will be installed. He said that the Nation's First Paramveer Chakra Memorial has been established adjacent to Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's Statue at Marina Park to recognize their supreme

(Contd. on page 06)

Declare Dec. 30 as Holiday & re-name Islands: Inderesh Kumarji

Port Blair, Dec. 30

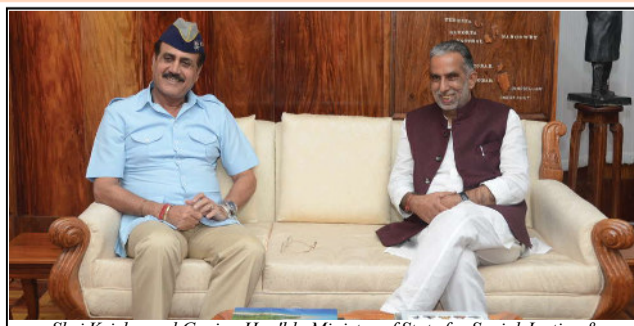


A 25 member delegation of Forum for Awareness of National Security (FANS) is on their third 'Shaheed, Swaraj Samooh Naman Yatra' from Dec. 29. The delegates under the guidance and leadership of Shri Inderesh Kumarji, Marga Darshak FANS today attended the commemorative function of first flag hoisting on Andaman Soil. Speaking on the occasion, Shri Inderesh urged the Administration to declare Dec. 30 as Holiday as a tribute to Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and other

freedom fighters associated with freedom movement. He said this will also help in larger participation in this historic event which took place on the same day in the year 1943. Shri Inderesh also pointed out that the names of the places in the Islands are of Britishers which he felt should be re-named. He expressed the hope that Andaman & Nicobar Islands will regain its lost glory.



The Chief Secretary, A&N Administration, Shri Anand Prakash laying wreath at the Martyrs' Column on 30.12.2015.



Shri Krishnapal Gurjar, Hon'ble Minister of State for Social Justice & Empowerment, who is on a visit to these Islands called on the Hon'ble Lt Governor, Lt Gen A K Singh (Retd), at Raj Niwas on 30.12.2015.



Hon'ble Lt Governor, Lt Gen A K Singh (Retd), briefing Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, Hon'ble Union Minister for Communication & Information Technology, who is on a visit to these Islands at Raj Niwas on 30.12.2015.



Shri Inderesh Kumarji, Marg Darshak, FANS along with Shri Pradeep Joshi who are on a visit to these Islands called on the Hon'ble Lt Governor, Lt Gen A K Singh (Retd), at Raj Niwas on 30.12.2015.

Minister of Communication & IT arrives on visit Inaugurates Serving GPRS Support Node at Telephone Exchange



Union Minister of Communication & IT, Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad inaugurating the SGSN (Serving GPRS Support Node) on 30.12.2015.

Port Blair, Dec. 30

The Minister of Communication and Information Technology, Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad today inaugurated the SGSN (Serving GPRS Support Node), a core equipment of GSM systems used for the data communications at Telephone Exchange near

DAG Colony. The Member of Parliament, Shri Bishnu Pada Ray, the Chief Secretary, Shri Anand Prakash and other senior Officers of the Administration were present on the occasion.

Earlier the Minister arrived here today on a five-day visit to the Islands. Soon after arrival, the

Minister visited the National Memorial Cellular Jail and laid wreath at Martyrs' Column.

Meanwhile, the Minister will lay foundation stone for new Telephone Exchange at Radhanagar, Havelock Island on Jan 1 at 11 am. The Member of Parliament, Shri Bishnu Pada Ray will also attend the function. The new telephone exchange building at Radhanagar will house submarine cable landing station besides state-of-the-art communication systems and microwave links for the Havelock Island, one of the most attractive tourist destinations. The Minister will hold meeting with BSNL, DOT, NIC, Postal, IT Department in the conference hall of Megapode Resort on Jan 3 at 11.30 am before leaving for Mainland.

Easy accessibility for disabled persons

Govt. buildings to construct ramps & lifts for physically challenged persons: Minister

Staff Reporter, Port Blair, Dec. 30
 Accessible India Campaign (Suganya Bharat Abhiyan) launched by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India is a nationwide campaign for achieving universal accessibility for all citizens including Persons with Disabilities, to enable them to gain access and live independently, said the Union Minister of State for Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India, Shri Krishna Pal Gurjar while speaking to the media persons at the



conference hall of the Megapode Resort here today.

Addressing a press

conference, the Minister said under the Accessible India Campaign in the first

(Contd. on page 06)

(First hoisting of tri-colour ... Contd. from page 01)

sacrifice and urged the FANS members to visit the Memorial.

The Lt Governor concluded his speech by urging the FANS team to enjoy the beauty and the hospitality and act as Ambassadors for these Islands when they go back to their respective States.

In his address, the Shri Inderesh Kumarji, Marg Darshak, FANS and General Secretary, RSS described the moment as an auspicious one, as he was able to pay his respect to Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose who hoisted the first National

Tricolour from this very soil. He said, 'there cannot be a better way to respect the patriots than this, when we are paying our tribute at a historical place where Freedom Fighters have made supreme sacrifices for the liberation/independence of our Motherland'. It is really painful to learn that the Freedom Fighters are known as 'War Criminals'. Even Netaji Subhash has the tag of 'War Criminal' in United Nations Organization. This tag needs to be removed as early as possible. They are Freedom Fighters and food, shelter and clothing was not a problem for them and they fought

for the country. Appreciating the merits of these Islands which is moving forward with happiness, prosperity, unity, integration and social harmony, Shri Inderesh urged for taking a pledge on this auspicious day to maintain all these good merits in the future.

In his address on the occasion, the Member of Parliament, Shri Bishnu Pada Ray described the occasion as a historic one and recalled the contribution of the heroes of our freedom struggle. He stated that the pre-42 locals donated a sum of Rs 10,000/- when Netaji visited these Islands in Dec. 30 in 1943. He further said,

people also donated the Chief of INA a sum of Rs 5000/- before he left these islands during that period. The students of Kendriya Vidyalaya No. 1 shouted slogans of Subhash Chandra Bose 'Jai Hind' 'Tum Mujhe Khoon Do Mein Thumhe Ajadi Doonga' which reverberated in the air.

Our Reporters adds: A person who is Director, Lucknow Public School and Colleges, Lucknow UP came exclusively to attend this function. He narrated that his objective of coming to the Islands to witness the event is to spread the importance of the event.



FM says India needs to grow by additional 1.5% to sustain wage hikes to workers

New Delhi, Dec. 30 Union Finance Minister Shri Arun Jaitley says India needs to grow by additional 1.5 per cent to sustain wage hikes and benefits to workers. Addressing Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh in New Delhi Mr. Jaitley today said, Government will issue smart card extending social security benefits to workers in unorganised sector.

He also said that the government is ready for a dialogue with the trade unions with regard to wage increase. The Minister said the government is of the opinion that if there is



development in society then its benefit should first go to labourers and the poor. Noting that wages or bonus can be increased when government and private sector have resources to do so, Mr. Jaitley said minimum wages of labour should be respectable and it should take care of inflation.

India advises students seeking admission in US to verify details

New Delhi, Dec. 30 India today again advised all students seeking admission in US educational institutions to do due diligence to ensure that the institutions to which they are seeking admission have proper authorization and capacities.

In an advisory, the External Affairs Ministry also asked them to carry all required documentation regarding their study plans, housing, financial support and healthcare arrangements besides travel documents. It also asked them to be prepared for interviews with U.S. immigration officials. The Ministry advised all Indian nationals travelling to the US on other visas to carry the necessary supporting documentations regarding place of stay, financial support, medical arrangements and sponsorship details.

The advisory was issued in connection with instances of denial of entry by the US Immigration authorities to Indian students having valid student visas to

pursue studies in Silicon Valley University at San Jose and Northwestern Polytechnic University, Fremont. The Government said India continues to remain closely engaged with the US Government on this subject and has strongly emphasized the need for the US authorities to honour the visas issued by their own Embassy. There have been cases of denial of entry to Indian students holding valid visas to pursue studies in other US educational institutions in recent past. Some Indian nationals travelling on business, tourism and work visas have also been deported. The US Government has conveyed that the decision to deny entry to these students is not because of the black listing of institutions but based on the assessment made by the US immigration authorities of individual applicants. According to the US Government, the deported persons had presented information to the border patrol agent which was inconsistent with their visa status.



The Chairperson, PBMC, Smt. Sheela Singh offered floral tribute today at the Netaji Statue, Marina Park followed by the Sr. Vice Chairperson, Jr. Vice Chairperson, Councillors and Officers of the Council.

(Easy accessibility for disabled...)

Contd. from page 01)



phase 50 cities have been identified where provisions will be made in Govt. buildings for easy accessibility for the disabled persons by constructing ramps and providing lifts.

The Minister also referred about a scheme which aims to empower persons with disabilities using modern technology especially the deaf and dumb. He said, this scheme was launched on Dec 3, 2015 in which cochlear implant that costs around Rs 6 lakh will be done free of cost for the children up to age 5 years. Out of the targeted 500 children, 300

children have availed the scheme, the Minister said and urged for conducting a survey in A&N Islands so that needy children can be benefitted out of it.

The Minister further stated that the Modi Govt at the Centre has devised a series of schemes for the downtrodden, farmers and daily wages workers. He said that with the help of the Member of Parliament A&N Islands a latest survey will be conducted to identify people with disability. After the survey, a team from the Ministry will visit these islands to provide required equipments and gadgets to make them self-

reliant. The Minister also informed about the new schemes launched by the Modi Govt which includes Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Beema Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Beema Yojana, Atal Pension Yojana, Mudra Bank etc. which has been devised keeping in mind the poor people of our country.

The State President of BJP, Shri Vishal Jolly also attended the function. Answering a query from the scribe, the Minister said that he will take appropriate steps to provide ramp facility especially at the OPD block of the GB Pant Hospital here.

India test fires successfully long range surface to air missile



New Delhi, Dec. 30 India today successfully test fired Long Range Surface to Air Missile, LR SAM from INS Kolkata. This is being considered as a significant milestone in enhancing Indian Navy's Anti Air Warfare capability. The firing trial of the LR SAM has been jointly carried out by the Indian Navy, DRDO

and Israel Aerospace Industries. A Defence Ministry press release said the successful test has been the result of sustained efforts by all stake holders over the years. DRDL, Hyderabad, a DRDO Lab, has jointly developed this missile in collaboration with Israel Aerospace Industries. The LR SAM has been manufactured by

Bharat Dynamics Limited. The missiles are fitted onboard the Kolkata Class Destroyers and would also be fitted on all future major warships of the Navy. This missile along with the MF STAR would provide these ships the capability to neutralize aerial threats at extended ranges. With the successful proving of these systems.

Centre directs Delhi and its adjoining States to take steps to prevent air pollution

New Delhi, Dec. 30 Centre has issued directions to Delhi and its adjoining states to take steps to prevent air pollution and improve air quality in Delhi and National capital region. In a direction issued to pollution control board of Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Rajasthan, Environment and forests Ministry has asked to take immediate steps to launch extensive awareness drive. The other action points include strict action against polluting vehicles, installation of weigh in motion bridges, prevention of parking of vehicles in non designated areas and

retrofitting of diesel vehicle will particulate filters. Talking to reporters in New Delhi today, Environment and forests Minister Prakash Javadekar said, the states have been asked to take stringent action against open burning of Biomass, agriculture waste and crop residues and submit periodic status report. He said, the direction has been issued under the Air (prevention and control of pollution act 1981). Centers direction comes ahead of Delhi government launch of odd-even formula to restrict movement of vehicles to control air pollution.