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## PM addresses CoWin Global Conclave as India offers CoWIN platform as a digital public good to the world to combat COVID-19

### CoWin platform is being made open source, available to any and all countries: PM

### Guided by the approach of 'One Earth, One Health', humanity will certainly overcome this pandemic

New Delhi, July 5 (PIB)

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi today addressed the CoWin Global Conclave as India offered CoWIN platform as a digital public good to the world to combat COVID-19. The Prime Minister began with conveying his condolences for all the lives lost to the pandemic, in all the countries. The Prime Minister remarked that there is no parallel to such a pandemic in hundred years and no nation, however powerful, can solve a challenge like this in isolation. "The biggest lesson from the COVID-19 pandemic is that for humanity and the human cause, we have to work together and move ahead together. We have to learn from each other and guide each other about our best practices" said the Prime Minister.



Underlining India's Commitment for sharing experiences, expertise and resources with the global community, the Prime Minister also expressed India's eagerness to learn from global practices. Emphasizing the importance of technology in the fight against pandemic, Shri Modi said that software is one area in which there are no resource constraints. That's why India made its Covid tracking and tracing App open source as soon as it was technically

feasible. He pointed out that with nearly 200 million users, the 'Aarogya Setu' app is a readily available package for developers. Having been used in India, the Prime Minister told the global audience, you can be sure that it has been tested in the real world for speed and scale. The Prime Minister said that given the importance of vaccination, India decided to adopt a completely digital approach while planning its vaccination strategy. This helps people in proving that they have been vaccinated, expediting the normalcy in the post pandemic globalized world. A safe, secure and trustworthy proof helps people to establish when, where and by whom they have been vaccinated. Digital approach also helps in tracking the usage of vaccination and minimizes the wastage. In line with India's philosophy of

(Contd. on last page)

## Optimal utilization of Govt. assets Islanders appealed to inform about unused lands & buildings of Govt. Departments to Housing & Estate Section

Port Blair, July 5  
 Departments have also been asked to furnish the utilization details of all such assets. It may be recalled that the Chief Secretary, A&N Administration, Shri Jitendra Narain had appealed to the people of A&N Islands to bring to the notice of the Administration about all such unused lands and premises of Govt. Departments, so that they can be put to better use for the welfare of the Islanders. In this regard, the Secretary (Housing & Estate) has also requested public minded citizens to point out those Govt. asset buildings/lands

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## DLSA to hold National Lok Adalat on July 10

Port Blair, July 5  
 The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Andaman & Nicobar Islands shall be holding National Lok Adalat in the Alternative Dispute Resolution Centre - "PRAYAS", and District & Sessions Court, Port Blair from 9.30 am onwards on 10.07.2021 by adopting all COVID SOP issued by the MHA from time to time. Bank loan recovery cases and involving State Bank of India, Indian Overseas Bank and A & N Co-operative Bank Ltd. and the disputes relating to telephone and mobile bills pending before the

(Contd. on last page)

## 'Fruit Tree Plant Counter'-Daily Telegrams to keep tab on number of fruit trees to be planted

### Let's make a huge target of special fruits to bring in food security during challenging times

### Departments/ Organizations/Individuals urged to send details of fruit trees planted

Port Blair, July 5

Planting fruit trees on sidewalks or anywhere is the best option to help the poor and homeless feed themselves from Mother Nature, free of cost. In this regard, the A&N Administration has initiated a noble cause with a vision to plant sapling of fruit bearing

trees on a large scale, to bring in food security in times of challenging situation. With this initiative, roadsides, parks, offices, houses or any other places all will have fruit trees of varied kinds, thereby providing food security to needy people. To encourage more and more people to plant fruit bearing trees, the UT Administration will be launching a 'Fruit Tree Plant Counter' to keep tab on the number of trees planted by Departments / institutions/ individuals. In this regard, people have been requested to send details of fruit bearing trees planted by them

## Construction of road from Chunna Bhatta to North Bay to be taken up by APWD under Andaman Marine Drive Project

### Secretary (PWD) inspects work site; instructs Engineers to submit estimate for two lane road

Port Blair, July 5

As part of the Andaman Marine Drive project, the road leading from Chunna Bhatta to North Bay will be taken up immediately. The Secretary (PWD) visited the site along with SDM (South Andaman) to take stock of the work. The Secretary (PWD) instructed the Engineers of APWD to submit the estimate for a two lane road from Chunna Bhatta.



The road will connect the tourist spot of North Bay with Bambooflat. This project will give tourists an easy access to the spot through road.

The road will have a length of 6 km with sea wall and sitting space on road side. The coming up of this road will fulfill the long pending demand of the public, a press release from APWD said.

## Fair Price Shops allowed to open on all days in N&M Andaman District

Port Blair, July 5  
 All the Fair Price Shops (FPS) have been permitted to open on all days from 6 am to 5 pm in North & Middle Andaman District. They shall strictly follow norms of social distancing by maintaining a distance of atleast one meter from a person and not allowing more than 5 persons at a time inside the premises. The order to this effect issued by DM (N&M) shall come into force with effect from 6<sup>th</sup> July, 2021 till further orders.

## Isles initiate vaccination for pregnant women Expectant mother gets first jab of COVIDHIELD vaccine at JNRM Vaccination Centre

Port Blair, July 5

The A&N Administration has initiated the vaccination for pregnant women in A&N Islands today. Setting an example for pregnant ladies in the Islands to follow suit, Smti. Avinash Kaur, an eight month expectant mother, R/o Junglighat received her first dose of COVISHIELD vaccine at JNRM vaccination centre today. Sharing her experience after being administered the vaccine, Smt. Kaur said she was feeling

With the encouragement of her husband and family members and also having felt the need to get vaccinated herself, Smti Kaur went ahead for getting her first vaccination as it was equally important to keep herself as well as the family and the society safe from the virus, she said. Before administration of the vaccination, the Centre In-charge, JNRM Vaccination Centre, Dr. Rajiv Ghosh apprised Smt. Kaur on the safety aspects of the



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## Vaccination - a critical tool in the battle against COVID-19 54,008 beneficiaries in the age group of 18 to 44 years vaccinated so far

Port Blair, July 5

As we are dealing with the pandemic, vaccines have become a critical tool in the battle against COVID-19. Getting vaccinated is one of the best ways to protect yourself and others from COVID-19. Ever since the outbreak of the second wave of COVID-



19 across the country, the A&N Administration taking into consideration the health and welfare of the Islanders at the fore, initiated vaccination for

the beneficiaries of different age groups with the sole aim of protecting the Islanders from the virus. The first priority was accorded to the Health care workers & frontline workers, followed by vulnerable & co-morbid persons and 45 and above age group.

(Contd. on last page)

## Tweets on COVID-19 Management by Administration

**Sunny Kishan (skp)** @Printhosk  
 Replying to @Andaman\_Admin @MediaRN\_ANI and @jitendra\_narain  
 Still fight is in continuation..need to follow all covid protocol strictly bcz without our support, we can't get rid out of it ,even though our Administration is working hard to make it zero

**SASHI KUMAR** @SASHIKU35949955  
 Replying to @Andaman\_Admin @MediaRN\_ANI and @jitendra\_narain  
 Administration and all frontline warriors 24x7 doing there best in our UT now it's our turn to follow all CAB and stop unnecessary movement in public places.. please co-operate with our administration.

**K.KASH PRAKASH** @SKalidasan7  
 Replying to @Andaman\_Admin @MediaRN\_ANI and @jitendra\_narain  
 Our administration is working hard to make our island covid free. In these period our duty is to follow every rules and regulations of govt. Untill now govt has made extraordinary rules. And also these rules are very effective. As a citizen of our island I will follow the rules

**Sayyid Asharaf** @SayyidAsharaf2  
 Replying to @Andaman\_Admin @MediaRN\_ANI and @jitendra\_narain  
 We must not be careless in this situation where covid disease is declining in our islands .. Be very careful. Thanks to Administration, Police, Doctors, Nurses and Covid Volunteers.

**Yogeswar Britia** @YBritia  
 Replying to @Andaman\_Admin @MediaRN\_ANI and @jitendra\_narain  
 Great Results.. Now we all are going back again to normal life... All credit goes to our administration Great job... Thanks to all

**T.Shanmukh Rao** @TShanmukhRao4  
 Replying to @Andaman\_Admin @MediaRN\_ANI and @jitendra\_narain  
 Thanks to Administration for mobile RAT TEST,TRACE,TRACK...

**Help Administration in its fight against COVID-19**  
**Spot persons violating COVID appropriate behaviour**  
 (Not wearing mask, not following social distancing norms etc.)

Click pictures of violators and inform through WhatsApp on  
 A&N Police Helpline 3<sup>rd</sup> Eye Mobile no. **9531892228** or  
 District Administration South Andaman **9531888844**

Let's break the chain of transmission  
**#Together we win battle against COVID-19 pandemic in Isles**

A&N Administration

अंडमान तथा निकोबार प्रशासन  
 ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ADMINISTRATION  
 सचिवालय/SECRETARIAT

**Health Bulletin For Containment Of**  
**नोवल कोरोना वायरस रोग (COVID-19)**  
 (No. 462/05<sup>th</sup> July 2021)  
 COVID-19 STATUS OF ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS AS ON 05.07.2021

> Status of Cases :

Details of Second Wave since: 01.03.2021	
Active new case in last 24 Hours	00
Discharges in last 24 hours	06
Total confirmed cases	2488
Total Discharges	2407
Total Active case as on date	15
Total Deaths	66

Cumulative since March 2020			
Details	On 04 <sup>th</sup> July 2021	On 05 <sup>th</sup> July 2021	Total
Confirmed Cases	7482	00	7482
Cured/Discharged from Hospital	7333	06	7339
Death	128	00	128

> Clinical Management of Cases :

Name of District	Isolation Beds Available	Occupied	Vacant
North & Middle Andaman	286	01	285
South Andaman	5583	14	5569
Nicobar	507	00	507
Total	6376	15	6361

# Total 02 containment zones formed in South Andaman District  
 > Status of Sample and Testing:

Total Samples sent till date	414166
Total Reports received till date	414166
Total Pending Reports	0
Rate of Testing Per Million	1035415
Cumulative Test Positivity Rate	1.81%

> Vaccination Status

Total population	4,00,000
Target Beneficiaries	2,81,603 (Approx)
Cumulative Beneficiaries vaccinated so far	1,91,102
Cumulative Beneficiaries vaccinated with 1 <sup>st</sup> Dose so far	1,58,845
Cumulative Beneficiaries vaccinated with 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dose so far	32,257
% of population vaccinated	39.71

> Passengers screened at VSI Airport & Haddo Wharf

Details	From 25 <sup>th</sup> May 2020 to 04 <sup>th</sup> July 2021	On 05 <sup>th</sup> July 2021	Total
Incoming Passengers			
a) VSI Airport	254133	145	254278
b) Haddo Wharf	1032	0	1032
Outward Passengers			
a) VSI Airport	266784	146	266930
b) Haddo Wharf	928	0	928

(On 05.07.2021, 142 passengers were retested by RTPCR at Airport)  
 24x7 CONTROL ROOM NUMBERS: 240126/ 232102 / 1077/ 1070  
 (Source: Directorate of Health Services)

**ONLINE STUDY SCHEDULE ON 06.07.2021**

The following study contents is available at Cable TV, Door-darshan as well as in the Education Department's Official YouTube channel "AN Education Dept Andaman"  
 The students, parents and all stakeholders are hereby requested to make use of this facility to the maximum extent for the benefit of enhancing teaching-learning activity during this lockdown period.

Class	Subject	Topic	YouTube Link	Media
III	Hindi	Kakoo	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kDuH00YajQ	All India Radio (9 a.m. -10 a.m.)
V	EVS	Sunita in Space	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FslGnS1vsmQ	All India Radio (9 a.m. -10 a.m.)
VI	Science	Fun With Magnets	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lgdBNAALkRQ	All India Radio (9 a.m. -10 a.m.)
VII	Social Science	Mughal Empire	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IWUdqTuni8	All India Radio (9 a.m. -10 a.m.)
VIII	Maths	Cubes and cube roots-1	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BTAKGnztegl	Cable TV (City Cable TV) 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.
IX	English	Tense-1	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v6OMpWlp6io	Cable TV (City Cable TV) 10.30 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.
X	Social Science	Rise of Nationalism in Europe-5	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9ELHF77HR8	Cable TV (City Cable TV) 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. / DD 4 p.m.
XI	Accountancy	Introduction to Accounting	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a6C91zx8k5E	Cable TV (City Cable TV) 11.30 a.m. and 7.30 p.m.
XII	Chemistry	Chemical Kinetics	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gu63_8efTAA	Cable TV (City Cable TV) 12 Noon and 8 p.m. / DD 4.30 p.m.
XII	Economics	Determination of Income & employment- Part-7	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BA5vByJd8	Cable TV (City Cable TV) 12.30p.m. and 8.30 p.m.

Students who have missed the classes on Door-darshan/Cable TV can access the same contents on the department's online repository at <https://educationssis.andaman.gov.in/OnlineClass.aspx>

**Minister of Ayush launches five Important Portals on Ayush sector**

**"All Ayush stakeholders to be benefited by these initiatives"**

New Delhi, July 5 (PIB) Monday proved to be a historic and momentous day for the Ayush sector as five portals of importance were launched and four publications were released by the Union Minister of Ayush (IC), Shri Kiran Rijju in an online event. The Minister also reminded that Ayush is going to play a big role in the National Digital Health Mission to provide health security to Indian people. At a virtual event, the Minister launched CTRI portal pertinent to Ayurveda Dataset along with AMAR, RMIS, SAHI and e-Medha portals. He also released four publications related to the Traditional Indian Medicine System of India and lauded the collaborative efforts of ICMR and Archaeological Survey of India for these initiatives. After the inclusion of dataset pertinent to Ayurveda in CTRI portal, the Ayurveda Clinical Trials would



have worldwide visibility and will further the cause of strengthening Ayurvedic Research. Similarly, SHAHI portal incorporates authentic resources and will be of immense help in showcasing historical veracity of Ayurveda. With the help of e-Medha portal anyone can have online access to more than 12 thousand books. These books are related to Indian Medical Heritage and can be accessed through NIC's e-granthalaya platform. AMAR portal, which was also launched today, is a repository for Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha and Sowa-Rigpa Manuscripts and catalogues. Another Portal CCRAS-Research Management Information System or RMIS in short, is a research guidance platform. While lauding the efforts of Ayush team in developing the portals, the Minister said that Indian Digital Health Mission is going to be the biggest programme in the Indian health sector and every effort is done to maximize the role of Ayush in it. The Minister termed development of portals as revolutionary, robust and momentous and said that as Indians, we all should take pride in our national heritage, customs and traditions. There is a mindset to look down on traditional Knowledge systems, referring to them as a thing of the past, or of no

modern significance and unscientific. "We need to counter this and we need to celebrate our success in rediscovering our past, our national heritage and our traditional medicine system," he said. The Minister also pointed out many other digital initiatives of Ayush Ministry and said that Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi took every step to put Ayush in the forefront. Prior to this, National Research Professor, Ayush, Bhusan Patwardhan termed the launching of portals as Historic and said some recent findings of Archaeology in Kashmir and Telangana are indicative of surgical interventions in India way back some 4000 years. Padma Shri Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha, Secretary, Ayush said that in the last few years there has been every effort to access everything related to Ayush Grid in digital form.

PM addresses CoWin ...  
 (Contd. from page 1)  
 considering the whole world as one family, the Prime Minister said, Covid vaccination platform CoWin is being prepared to be made open source. Soon, it will be available to any and all countries. The PM stressed that today's Conclave is the first step to introduce this platform to the global audience. The Prime Minister informed that through CoWin, India has administered 350 million doses of Covid vaccines, including 9 million people in one day, few days ago. Furthermore, vaccinated people do not need to carry around fragile pieces of paper to prove anything. It is all available in digital format. The Prime Minister also highlighted the customizability to the software as per the local requirements of the interested countries. The Prime Minister concluded with the hope that guided by the approach of 'One Earth, One Health', humanity will certainly overcome this pandemic.

**Ministry of Tourism invites entries for National Tourism Awards for the year 2018-19**

**Last date for receipt of entries is 10<sup>th</sup> August 2021**

New Delhi, July 5 (PIB) The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India has invited applications from individuals and organisations for excellence in the field of tourism. National Tourism Awards are presented in various segments of travel and tourism industry such as State Governments / Union Territories, classified hotels, heritage hotels, approved travel agents, tour operators and

tourist transport operators, individuals and other private organizations in recognition of their performance in their respective fields and also to encourage healthy competition with an aim to promote tourism. Applications have to be made in proper forms, wherever specified. Unless otherwise mentioned, the entries for the award should have been published or the activities undertaken during the period April, 2018 to March, 2019. The last date for receipt of entries in the respective divisions is 10<sup>th</sup> August, 2021 (1600 Hrs.) and entries should be sent as hard copies and strictly in the formats where specified. The details and guidelines for National Tourism Awards for the year 2018-19 are given on the website of the Ministry of Tourism: [www.tourism.gov.in](http://www.tourism.gov.in).

**Optimal utilization of Govt....**  
 (Contd. from page 1)  
 which are lying unutilized/underutilized, encroached and dilapidated. The information providers will be duly acknowledged, the Secretary (Housing & Estate) said in an appeal.

**DLSA to hold National Lok Adalat....**  
 (Contd. from page 1)  
 National Lok Adalat will also be held at District Court Complex, Mayabunder and Circuit Court Building at Diglipur on 10.07.2021 by adopting all COVID SOP issued by the MHA from time to time, a press release from Chairman, DLSA said.

**Vaccination - a critical tool....**  
 (Contd. from page 1)  
 The vaccination has also been extended to the young population between the age group of 18-44, which is going on smoothly in different parts of the Islands. With the constant efforts of Administration and other stakeholders, the administering of the 1st dose of vaccination to the eligible beneficiaries (45+) in A&N Islands has almost reached saturation level. The Health data reveals that as on July 5, a total of 1,91,102 beneficiaries have been vaccinated in A&N Islands, out of the target beneficiaries of 2,81,603 (approx.). Today, 5082 people were vaccinated in A&N Islands. A total of 54,008 eligible people in the age group of 18 to 44 years have been vaccinated till date. Today, 2868 beneficiaries were vaccinated in South Andaman District, out of which, 326 were in the age group of 18-44 years. In North & Middle Andaman District, 1448 beneficiaries were vaccinated. In Nicobar District, 766 beneficiaries were vaccinated, out of which, 308 were in the age group of 18-44 years, a press release from DHS said.

**CBDT grants further relaxation in electronic filing of Income Tax Forms 15CA/15CB**

New Delhi, July 5 (PIB) As per the Income-tax Act, 1961, there is a requirement to furnish Form 15CA/15CB electronically. Presently, taxpayers upload the Form 15CA, along with the Chartered Accountant Certificate in Form 15CB, wherever applicable, on the e-filing portal, before submitting the copy to the authorised dealer for any foreign remittance. In view of the difficulties reported by taxpayers in electronic filing of Income Tax Forms 15CA/15CB on the portal [www.incometax.gov.in](http://www.incometax.gov.in), it had earlier been decided by CBDT that taxpayers could submit Forms 15CA/15CB in manual format to the authorized dealer till 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2021. It has now been decided to extend the

aforsaid date to 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2021. In view thereof, taxpayers can now submit the said Forms in manual format to the authorized dealers till 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2021. Authorized dealers are advised to accept such Forms till 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2021 for the purpose of foreign remittances. A facility will be provided on the new e-filing portal to upload these forms at a later date for the purpose of generation of the Document Identification Number.

**FOLLOW COVID Appropriate Behaviours**

Hand wash Hands-free greetings

Face-cover/mask No spitting

Badalkar Apna Vyavahar, Karein Corona Par Vaar

**Isles initiates vaccination for pregnant ....**  
 (Contd. from page 1)  
 vaccination both for herself and the expected child. Dr. Ghosh also expressed hope that the step taken by Smti. Kaur to get vaccinated will surely encourage many more such pregnant women in these Islands to come forward and get themselves vaccinated for their safety as well as their expected child. It may be recalled that the National COVID Vaccination has been expanded to pregnant women in the world's largest immunization drive.

**Thunderstorm with lightning likely to occur in Isles**

Port Blair, July 5  
 Thunderstorm with lightning is likely to occur at one or two places over Andaman & Nicobar Islands on July 6. On July 7, 8 & 9, heavy rain (7-11 cm) is likely to occur at one or two places over A&N Islands. Meanwhile, due to squally wind speed exceeding 45 kmph, fishermen have been advised not to venture into the sea on July 8 & 9. For further enquiries/information, one may contact helpline of State Emergency Operation Centre at Helpline No. 1070 & District Emergency Operation Centre at Helpline No. 1077. For any emergency/assistance at Sea, call Coast Guard SAP Agency at Toll Free number 1554, a press release from Directorate of Disaster Management said.

# Health Minister addresses Co-WIN Global Conclave Upholds India's belief in the ancient philosophy of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam': the entire world is one family

## "Co-WIN is the crown jewel of our Digital India initiative"

New Delhi, July 5 (PIB)

Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi digitally inaugurated the Global CoWIN conclave today. Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare addressed the inaugural session of Co-WIN Global Conclave through Video Conference. The conclave was attended by dignitaries from 142 countries including Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Guyana, Antigua & Barbuda, St. Kitts & Nevis and Zambia amongst several others.

The conclave was jointly organized by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW), Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and National Health Authority (NHA) with an objective to extend the Co-WIN platform as a digital public good to the world. CoWIN has guided India's Public Health response to confront, combat and control the pandemic in a systematic and sustained manner. The robust, inclusive and scalable system can prevent rent-seeking, black marketing and other malpractices.

### **The address of Union Health Minister is as follows:**

I am delighted to welcome all of you here today for this historic Global CoWIN Conclave. It is an honour to be addressing this august gathering of 400 participants from 142 countries, 20 embassies and UN offices in India. I am also delighted to note that our distinguished participants include ministers, health officials and experts from different countries across the globe.

India has always upheld its belief in the ancient philosophy of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' which means the entire world is one family. And this conclave is a shining example of the same.

I must say my government is more than glad to share with our extended global family the path-breaking, next-gen digital platform 'Co-WIN' which has been indigenously developed in India and is powering the rapid progress of one of the world's largest vaccination drives against COVID-19.

Just recently in India, we marked the completion of six years of our Digital India initiative. A brainchild of our visionary Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi Ji, various endeavors under the initiative have been helping us transform the lives of 1.3 billion plus Indians, drastically improving access to welfare schemes & services, plugging leakages and ensuring equitable access to growth & progress for one and all. Financial inclusion, furthering innovation &

entrepreneurship, e-learning, health for all are just a few areas where giant strides have been made with the help of technology.

In my humble opinion, Co-WIN is the crown jewel of our Digital India initiative. This platform shall go down in history for facilitating inoculation of a large percentage of the world's population with ease, while simultaneously ensuring complete transparency. The accolades the platform has been winning globally and the interest expressed by so many partner nations in seeking our technology, expertise & know-how in this domain just reaffirms my belief.

For more than a year and a half now, combating this pandemic has been the dominant agenda for countries the world over. It is one of the most challenging public health crisis in human history. COVID-19 has infected millions of people and has had a devastating impact on the livelihood of many more.

As the dark clouds of the pandemic engulfed the entire globe, a silver lining emerged in the form of heightened global solidarity and enhanced cooperation between nations. We have observed collaborations at a scale and pace never seen before. Even though COVID-19 enforced lockdowns and compulsion to maintain physical distance, it has only brought humankind closer to work together with greater collective resolve to overcome this unprecedented challenge.

Throughout this pandemic, we have been keeping a close eye on the fast-evolving global situation while continually devising and revising effective strategies to manage COVID-19, guided by scientific evidence and following best practices. With the aid of technology, we have been able to execute large-scale surveillance to effectively implement our 'test, track & treat' strategy helping us attain one of the lowest fatality rates in the world.

All this while, our scientists worked at lightning speed to provide us with 2 vaccines against COVID19 in record time which helped us kick-

start our Vaccination Drive in mid-January.

As remarkable as this achievement has been, it was not the only challenge in front of us. With a country of more than 1.3 billion people, we faced a mammoth challenge of ensuring fair and equitable distribution of the vaccines as well as their last mile delivery.

Privy to the herculean task ahead of us, India started working on this front well in advance. For a successful vaccination programme we needed the active participation of our entire health infrastructure across the public and private sector. Further, we also needed to develop a robust system that can prevent rent-seeking, black-marketing and other mal-practices which if not checked can thwart a mass vaccination drive.

Taking cognizance of these challenges, empowered groups of domain experts were quickly constituted to meticulously plan and subsequently execute the vaccination drive.

The backbone of this drive had to be a comprehensive platform which would ensure equitable coverage across all our States and Union Territories ensure inclusive distribution of vaccines using data to remove information asymmetry and align stakeholders. And continuous tracking of Adverse Events Following Immunization to not only respond to help such citizens to overcome Adverse Events but also generate data for policy making.

Finally, this platform needed to ensure ease of use while also offering multilingual access.

With the agenda in place, experts from my Ministry of Health and those from the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology came together to co-create this Co-WIN platform in coordination with various other stakeholders, giving birth to the robust IT system for planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of COVID-19 vaccination in India.

Today, I am proud to say that Co-WIN is the bedrock of India's vaccination drive that handles overall management of citizen registration, appointment scheduling, vaccinations and

certification. The transparent system allows tracking of each dose of vaccine, monitoring of supplies at vaccination facilities to record the demand at a granular level. It has, in fact, enabled vaccine accessibility and inclusivity for all.

As we speak, India is inching closer to administering 360 million COVID19 vaccine doses. A feat achieved in less than 6 months since the launch of our vaccination drive and we are committed to inoculating our entire adult population by December 2021.

The spirit of collaboration has probably been the greatest learning from this pandemic. Shared challenges such as the current public health crisis can only be addressed through shared actions and resources.

The fact that vaccinating everyone is key to containing and ending the pandemic, cannot be emphasised enough. The need of the hour is to speed up the pace of vaccinating people across the world. For this, we are excited to offer the Co-WIN platform as a technology tool that can be used for greater public good around the world. I hope all your countries are able to gain value and benefit from our offering.

Our CoWIN platform is a mirror of the success of the Digital India program which has witnessed a consistent upward growth trajectory, achieving numerous milestones and dotted with flagship initiatives.

We are also spearheading the National Digital Health Mission which will help to deliver many services digitally. The NDHM will house all kinds of databases which will have a facility for the patient to fetch his or her records, whenever required.

Information technology and communication technologies have huge potential to provide new opportunities and challenges especially for developing economies. India is now harnessing technologies along with vast economic reforms to open up Indian markets to global businesses and investments. Our focus on amplifying digitisation has deepened and we have begun to acknowledge its potential to transform India into a true technology leader.

## Minister to chair BRICS Education Ministers' Meeting today

### Engagement is part of 13<sup>th</sup> BRICS Summit being hosted by India

New Delhi, July 5 (PIB)

Shri Sanjay Dhotre, Minister of State for Education, Communications and Electronics & Information Technology will chair the meeting of the 8<sup>th</sup> BRICS Education Ministers in virtual mode tomorrow. This meeting is being held as part of the 13<sup>th</sup> BRICS Summit being hosted by India this year. Education Ministers from the five BRICS member states will attend the meeting along with senior officials.

Prior to this, the International Governing Board of the BRICS Network Universities met on the 29<sup>th</sup> of June, to take a look at the progress made by member

states under this initiative so far, and discuss ways to take it further. Shri Ami Khare, Secretary Higher Education, Shri DP Singh, Chairman UGC and Prof Subhasis Chaudhary, Director IIT attended as members from India in the BRICS NU IGB. The IGB stressed upon the need to promote development of mechanisms to enhance academic and research collaborations among BRICS member states, including in the virtual mode.

Senior education officials from BRICS countries also met on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of July, ahead of the BRICS Education Ministers meeting scheduled for tomorrow.

## Ministry of Tourism signs MOU with YATRA.COM to strengthen Hospitality & Tourism Industry of India

New Delhi, July 5 (PIB)

Ministry of Tourism, Government of India to strengthen the Hospitality & Tourism Industry signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Yatra on 02nd July 2021. The event was organized under the arrangement between Ministry of Tourism and Quality Council of India (QCI) for implementing measures for strengthening the Indian Hospitality & Tourism Industry. The primary objective of this MoU is to provide extensive visibility to accommodation units, which have self-certified themselves on SAATHI (System for Assessment, Awareness & Training for the Hospitality Industry) on the OTA platform. The MoU also outlines both parties to encourage Units to register on NIDHI and thereby on SAATHI and encourage local tourism Industry with appropriate safeguards for curbing spread of COVID-19.

The idea is also to gather more information on accommodation units in order to gain actionable insights & designing evidence based & targeted policy measures and to promote safe, honourable and sustainable tourism. The Ministry of Tourism & Yatra will endeavour to take necessary steps to encourage and promote strategic and technical co-operation in the Indian hospitality & tourism sector for overall benefit in the identified areas through the MoU. It is expected that in the future more OTAs will come forward for signing such MOUs in order to strengthen the Hospitality & Tourism Industry of India. Signing of MOU was done in the presence of Shri Rakesh Kumar Verma, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Tourism; Shri Sanjay Singh, Deputy Director General (H&R), Ministry of Tourism; Dr. A Raj, Senior Director, QCI; Mr. Aditya Gupta, Senior Vice President, Yatra and Shri Akshay Mehta, General Manager, Yatra.

## 52<sup>nd</sup> IFFI to be held from November 20th - 28th 2021 in Goa

New Delhi, July 5 (PIB)

Hon'ble Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Shri Prakash Javadekar today released the regulations and poster for the 52<sup>nd</sup> edition of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI). The festival will be held in Goa from 20<sup>th</sup> -28<sup>th</sup> November, 2021.

The International Film Festival of India (IFFI) is reckoned as one of Asia's oldest and India's biggest international film festivals. The 52<sup>nd</sup> edition of IFFI will be held in a hybrid format considering the success of the 51<sup>st</sup> edition in January 2021. The Festival is being organized by the Directorate of Film Festivals (DFF), Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India in collaboration with the State Government of Goa and the Indian Film Industry.

IFFI is recognized by the International Federation of

Film Producers Associations (FIAPF). Every year, the festival celebrates some of the finest cinematic works and showcases a bouquet of the best films from India and around the world.

The call for entries for participation in the competitive section of the 52<sup>nd</sup> edition of the International Film Festival of India will remain open till Aug 31, 2021.

On the occasion of the birth centenary of the maestro of Indian cinema Shri Satyajit Ray, this time the Directorate of Films Festivals, Ministry of I&B, will pay a tribute through a Special Retrospective at the IFFI. Also, in recognition of the auteur's legacy, the "Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in Cinema" has been instituted from this year to be given at the IFFI every year starting from this year.

## Safety audits mandated at all stages of road development to reduce accidents: Transport Minister

New Delhi, July 5

Road Transport and Highways Minister, Shri Nitin Gadkari has said that safety audits have been mandated at all stages of road development to reduce accidents. Inaugurating virtual Symposium on Vehicle Crash Safety, Shri Gadkari said, India and other developing

countries are witnessing a very high rate of road accidents and around one lakh 50 thousand people are killed every year which is even higher than the COVID deaths.

The Minister said, his vision is to achieve 50 per cent reduction in road accident deaths and zero accidents and deaths by 2030. He said,

about 60 per cent deaths are of two wheeler riders. Shri Gadkari said, protection and safety of motorcycle traffic is the need of the hour. The Minister stressed on the importance of training of drivers and establishment of advanced training institutes and centres. (Source:india.gov.in)

**COVID-19: Maintain safe distance from anyone who is coughing or sneezing.**

## Space technology is used in diverse fields to bring "Ease of Living" for common man: Minister

### Interacts with top officials of ISRO to review ongoing projects in various sectors

New Delhi, July 5 (PIB) Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh today said that India's Space Technology is used in various fields to bring the "Ease of Living" for Common man. Interacting with senior officials of Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) here, he said that ISRO is no longer confined mainly to the launching of satellites, but it has been constantly enlarging its role in development activities in the last seven years, thus contributing to Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi's mission of "Transforming India".

ISRO scientists briefed Dr Jitendra Singh about the widespread application of Space Technology in fields like Agriculture, Soils, Water Resources, Land Use/Land Cover, Rural Development, Earth and Climate Studies, Geosciences, Urban & Infrastructure, Disaster Management Support, Forestry and Ecology and Using Geospatial Technology as a tool for enabling Decision Support Systems.

Dr Jitendra Singh recalled that over five years back, on the intervention of Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, an extensive brain-storming exercise was held in the union capital wherein representatives from different Ministries and Departments were engaged in an intense interaction with scientists from ISRO and Department of Space in order to work out how best space technology could be utilized as a modern tool for supplementing,

improving and expediting infrastructural development as well as implementation of various welfare schemes. Following this, he said, space technology is now being used in diverse sectors including Railways, Roads and Bridges, Medical management/telemedicine, procurement of timely Utilization Certificates, disaster forecast and management etc.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, in agriculture, Satellite derived seasonal cropping pattern, experiments on yield estimation, estimation of net-sown crop area and agricultural drought assessment studies are being conducted. Similarly, in the area of Soils, land degradation maps were generated and are useful for planning soil conservation / reclamation programs, land use planning, for bringing additional areas into cultivation and also to improve productivity levels in degraded lands. Maps of salt affected and water logging area, soil erosion maps are provided in BHUVAN portal. He said, Satellite data from IRS sensors are being used to generate soil maps through monoscopic (non-stereoscopic) visual interpretation and computer-assisted digital analysis approaches.

Dr Jitendra Singh stated that in the field of Forestry, apart from other activities, analysis of forest cover change, spatial biomass estimation, Community Biodiversity characterization, Forest fire alert system, inputs to working plan and wild life plan preparation, Forest carbon sequestration, Inputs to UNFCCC etc are being carried out in close collaboration with MOEF & CC, DBT, FSI and State Forest Departments. In

the area of Disaster Management, current activities are: Near Real Time Flood & Cyclone monitoring & mapping in the country, Flood Hazard/Risk Zonation for Flood prone states, Spatial Flood Early Warning, forest fire alerts, landslide zonation and inventory, agricultural drought studies among others, he added.

On Rural Development, Dr Jitendra Singh said that there are several initiatives / projects, which are taken up by State and Central Government departments at micro and macro level to enrich the assets required in rural sector. Some examples are Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) (collected information on 3.5 crore assets), Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP), Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) (collected information on 1.5 Lakh points), and On Farm Water Management (OFWM), National Health Resource Repository (NHRR) Project, Rural connectivity, Sanitation, which uses the latest remote sensing and GIS technologies in operational modes. Striking a note of appreciation, Dr Jitendra Singh said, it is not a widely known fact that ISRO had provided Liquid Oxygen continuously on a large scale to several State governments from their own manufacturing facilities or from the existing stock during the COVID pandemic. Not only this, he said, ISRO also engaged in repurposing existing resources, scaling up of capacity of their facilities and also transferred technology to supplement the country's fight against the second wave of COVID-19, when the wave was at its peak.

## Supervised mindfulness meditation benefits patients with Mild Cognitive Impairment & early Alzheimer's disease

New Delhi, July 5 (PIB) Meditation has emerged as an efficacious practice which improves attention, awareness psychological health. Researchers from Shri Chitra Tirunal Institute of Medical Sciences and Technology, Trivandrum, have shown that supervised mindfulness meditation benefits patients with Mild Cognitive Impairment and early Alzheimer's disease (AD) in terms of memory and orientation language and visual-spatial perception. It has potential as a therapeutic approach for management of cognitive decline associated with neurological disorders.

Mild Cognitive Impairment & early form of Alzheimer's is a condition in which memory deteriorates, but a person remains functionally independent. Among several treatment options, meditation is one non-invasive and cost-effective approach to bring relief to such patients.

phased study with separate objectives for each phase. The first phase was designed to explore neural correlations of mindfulness and study regions of brain activation enhancements among seasoned mindfulness practitioners and healthy non-practitioners through Imaging Biomarkers, which is the first of its kind multimodality imaging work in dementia from India. The second phase was planned to verify the changes in cognitive performance of patients with MCI prior to, as well as subsequent to, mindfulness training. The team carried out cognitive retraining weekly for 1 hour and provided feedback on the performance of the retraining tasks at the end of each session. The patients were given home-based tasks for practicing during the rest of the days. They also developed a 10 Weeks mindfulness meditation-based program for patients called 'Mindfulness Unified Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (MUCBT)' training program.

The results of initial resting-state fMRI indicated that compared to age-matched healthy subjects who did no form of meditation practice in their routine lifestyle, mindfulness practitioners

establish increased connectivity, based on resting-state brain activity in medial prefrontal cortex and right anterior insula, regions of the brain which are concerned with emotion, stress response, attention as well as response of an individual to environmental stimuli and behavior. The results of second phase suggest that mindfulness can activate neural correlates coupled with cognition, especially attention, behavior, stress response, and reaction or adaptation to the environment, among other functions, and it suggests that consistent practice of mindfulness can mediate internal as well as external awareness and can subserve psychological and cognitive health.

The study concludes that mindfulness meditation has potential in the modulation of brain regions concerned with attention, emotion, stress-response, and behavior which also impact on other body functions such as heart, blood circulation, and metabolism. Further, a rigorous mindfulness-based intervention program has the potential to improve or stabilize cognitive functioning as well as the quality of life among patients suffering from MCI and early Alzheimer's disease.

ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ADMINISTRATION  
Directorate of Health Services  
**NOTICE**  
The Walk-in-Interview for the post of Surveillance Workers and Head Workers on Contract Basis scheduled to be held on **07<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at 10:00 am** in the conference Hall of Directorate of Health Services, Andaman & Nicobar Administration, Port Blair is hereby postponed due to administrative reason.  
**(Dr.Omkar Singh)**  
Director of Health Services  
A & N Administration

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**4<sup>th</sup> Death Anniversary On 06.07.2021**  
In loving memory of  
**Late T. KASTHURI**  
(W/o Late M.S. Thirugnanam alias Ramesh Babu)  
R/o Bambooflat, South Andaman  
*"In every walk of life with every count of heartbeat, we feel your graceful presence and blessings"*  
*"We all miss you."*  
**Fondly remembered by:** Elder Sister, Sons, Daughters, Daughter-in-laws, Son-in-laws and Grand Daughters and Sons.

**IN MEMORIAM OF**  
  
**LATE BALAKRISHNAN**  
R/o LAMBAPAHAD, WIMBERLYGUNJ,  
ON 06.07.2021  
*"Your memories are our potency to live in this world and shall not be replaced by any other."*  
**Inserted by :** Smt. Jayadevi (wife), Shri C I Anil Kumar and D Santosh Kumar (Son-in-laws), Smt. B J Deepa and Smt. B J Deepthi (Daughters), Mstr. A. Adish Kumar, Mstr. S D Shreyas and Mstr. S D Samridh (Grand Children)

**DIABETES**

**PRIMARY PREVENTION**  
MAINTAIN IDEAL BODY WEIGHT  
INTAKE HEALTHY FOOD  
REGULAR EXERCISE LIKE WALKING AND RUNNING  
AVOID INTAKE OF ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO


**SPECIFIC PREVENTION**  
MAINTAIN YOUR NORMAL BLOOD PRESSURE.  
MAINTAIN YOUR NORMAL BLOOD GLUCOSE LEVEL.  
KEEP IDEAL BODY WEIGHT  
REGULAR CHECK UP OF EYES AND LEGS

**SYMPTOMS OF DIABETES**  
FREQUENT URINATION  
LOSS OF WEIGHT.  
EXCESSIVE THIRST.  
WEAKNESS OR TIREDNESS.

**HOW EXERCISE HELPS IN MAINTAINING BLOOD GLUCOSE LEVELS.**  
REDUCES THE GLUCOSE LEVEL IN BLOOD.  
IMPROVES INSULIN LEVEL IN BODY  
HELPS TO CONTROL OVER DIABETES  
PREVENTS FROM HEART DISEASES

**NOTE: REGULARLY CHECK YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE AND BLOOD GLUCOSE LEVELS FROM YOUR NEAREST HEALTH CENTRE. IF FOUND POSITIVE FOR DIABETES, CONTINUE ROUTINE ACTIVITIES WITH REGULAR MEDICATIONS.**

**Healthy Habits Healthy Life Healthy India**  
राष्ट्रीय कैंसर, मधुमेह, हृदय रोग व पक्षाघात बचाव एवं नियंत्रण कार्यक्रम  
NATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR PREVENTION & CONTROL OF CANCER, DIABETES, CVDs & STROKE (NPCDCS)  
राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य मिशन, अंडमान निकोबार द्वीप समूह  
NATIONAL HEALTH MISSION, ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS

**Expression of Gratitude towards**  
**Shri G. Bhasker**  
  
The Chess Players, Parents and Chess Community of Andaman express their sincere gratitude towards **G. Bhasker, MD, TSG Hotels and Resorts** for providing stable internet facility and laptops to the needy participants of **National Online Chess Championship, 2021** that helped them to take part in the Online National Chess Championship successfully. A heartfelt thank you for all that you have done. We are grateful for your everlasting support.  
**Chess Players & Parents**

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