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Daily Telegrams

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Weather

Drizzle likely over Port Blair. Maximum and Minimum temperature will be around 31°C and 26°C respectively on Friday 10/04/2020. Maximum Temperature (°C) of Date: 31.8 Minimum Temperature (°C) of Date: 26.1 Relative Humidity(%) at 0830 IST 072 Relative Humidity(%) at 1730 IST 078 Sunrise Time for tomorrow (in IST): 0510 Sunset Time for tomorrow (in IST): 1731 Rainfall upto 0830 hrs of date (last 24 hrs)- in mm: 000.0 Rainfall upto 1730 hrs of date in mm: 000.0 Rainfall (Progressive total from 1st January 1.3 upto 0830 hrs (of date) in mm

Regn. No. 34190/75

No. 91

Port Blair, Friday April 10, 2020

Web: dt.andaman.gov.in

Rs. 3.00

Pages 4

Centre approves COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health System Preparedness package

New Delhi, Apr 9
The Centre has sanctioned 15 thousand crore rupees for India COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health System Preparedness Package. Out of it, seven thousand 774 crore rupees will be utilized for immediate COVID-19 Emergency Response and rest for medium-term support of one to four years to be provided under mission mode approach. The Health Ministry in a statement said that the key objectives of the package include mounting

emergency response to slow and limit COVID-19 in the country through the development of diagnostics and COVID-19 dedicated treatment facilities, centralized procurement of essential medical equipment and drugs required for treatment of infected patients. Besides, the aim of the package is also to strengthen and build resilient National and State health systems to support prevention and preparedness for future disease outbreaks, setting up of laboratories and bolster surveillance

activities, bio-security preparedness, pandemic research and proactively engage communities and conduct risk communication activities. These interventions and initiatives would be implemented under the overall umbrella of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Earlier, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in his address to the Nation on 24th of last month highlighted that the Central Government has provisioned 15 thousand crore rupees for treating Coronavirus patients and

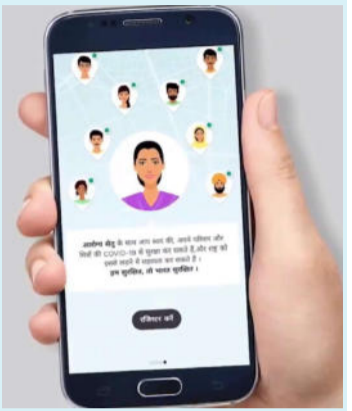
strengthening the medical infrastructure of the country. Health Ministry has been playing a lead role in executing the health sector response with containment and control as key response strategies. So far, a total of 223 labs comprising a network of 157 government and 66 private laboratories are conducting rigorous

(Contd. on last page)

PM Modi urges people to download 'Aarogya Setu' mobile App

New Delhi, Apr 9

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has urged people to download Aarogya Setu mobile App saying it is an important step in fight against COVID-19. Shri Modi said, by leveraging technology, the App provides important information. He said, as more and more people use it, it's effectiveness will increase. The mobile app is to bring the people of the country together in a resolute fight against COVID-19. It enables people to assess themselves the risk for their catching the Corona virus infection. The app calculates the risk based on their interaction with others, using cutting edge Bluetooth technology, algorithms and artificial intelligence.



COVID-19; Administration ensuring supply of essential commodities to Islanders

- ANIIDCO catering to the milk demand of people in South Andaman
- Farmers taking their produce directly to customers at doorsteps
- Sufficient stocks available in the Islands

SC directs Centre to ensure doctors, medical staff attending to Corona virus patients get appropriate PPE

New Delhi, Apr 9

The Supreme Court today directed the Centre to ensure that appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) are made available to doctors and medical staff attending to Coronavirus patients as they are the first line of defence of the country in the battle against COVID-19 pandemic. While passing a slew of interim directions to ensure safety of doctors and healthcare professionals, a bench of Justices Ashok Bhusan and S Ravindra Bhat expressed concern over the recent incidents of attack on them. The court directed the Centre, all States and Union Territories to provide necessary police security to the medical staff in hospitals and places where patients, who are either quarantined, suspected or diagnosed with COVID-19, are housed. The court passed the order on three petitions seeking protective kits, other requisite equipment and safety measure for doctors and healthcare workers amid the coronavirus pandemic. It said that the government may also restrict export of such materials to augment inventory and domestic stock.



Port Blair, Apr 9

The A&N Administration is making best efforts towards maintaining the supply and smooth distribution of essential commodities to the Islanders during this lockdown period. The Administration is monitoring the status of stocks of essential supplies in A&N islands on a daily basis to ensure their overall adequacy and inter-island distribution.

The locally grown abundant fresh vegetables are regularly reaching the local markets for sale. Interested farmers have been facilitated to take to mobile vending of their produce directly to the customers at their doorstep. Mobile vending of vegetables has been very successful in N&M Andamans and Nicobar districts. In South Andamans too, there is a considerable upswing in door to door sale of vegetables in vending carts/cargo vans/trucks.

On an average, 3250 kg of fresh vegetables are



Mobile vending of vegetables in Diglipur, N&M Andamans



Door step delivery of locally grown vegetables in Nicobar.



Consignment of vegetables from Shaheed Dweep reaching Port Blair



Doorstep distribution of milk by ANIIDCO

First installment of relief package to 20 crore women Jan Dhan account holders released

New Delhi, Apr 9

Government has completed transfer of first installment of 500 rupees to around 20 crore women Jan Dhan account holders as part of relief package announced by it last month in the wake of

COVID -19 outbreak. The money has reached each and every account and the beneficiary can withdraw as per their needs keeping social distancing norm in the mind. Last month, Finance Minister Smti Nirmala

Sitharaman had announced that around 20.5 crore women Jan Dhan account holders will get 500 rupees per month for next three months to run their households, a move aimed at mitigating the hardships caused by the lockdown.

Isolation & Treatment Block for managing Corona Positive cases in GB Pant Hospital

Port Blair, Apr 9

In pursuance of directions of the Govt. of India, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, New Delhi, COVID-19 Isolation and Treatment Block for managing Corona Positive cases has been earmarked in the GB Pant Hospital, Port Blair with immediate effect. The Isolation and Treatment block has 10 beds in the Isolation Ward (Nursing Home) and 40 beds in the newly constructed ward, a communication from the Director of Health Services said.

Indian Railways gears up to produce reusable face masks, sanitizer

New Delhi, Apr 9

Indian Railways is making all out efforts to supplement the health care initiatives of government. In this direction, Railways is producing reusable face masks and sanitizer in-house in all its Zonal Railways, Production Units and PSUs. About 6 lakhs reusable face

masks and more than 40000 litres hand sanitisers have been produced in-house in its Zonal Railways, Production Units and PSUs. Operation and maintenance staff are working round the clock since freight operations are running 24X7 to maintain essentials and goods supplies.

Port Blair, April 9
The Pradhan, Gram Panchayat Mannarghat, Shri O Bashir has voluntarily collected money from about 86 volunteers for distribution of 298 relief kits among all the daily wage workers residing under GP Mannarghat. The relief kit has been distributed to all the

beneficiaries. The items of the relief kit included 5 kg rice, 2 kg atta, 1 kg each of onion, potato, sugar, dal, besides 1 litre oil and other food items. The Pradhan has also thanked all the volunteers for their monetary contributions and for helping in distribution of the relief kits, a communication said.



Relief kits distributed at Mannarghat

Seven years imprisonment for traders indulging in overpricing of Essential Commodities

Traders advised to refrain from unfair trade practices

Port Blair, Apr 9

Instances have come to the notice of the Administration related to overpricing of essential goods by the traders in the UT of A&N Islands, especially rice, atta, pulses, sugar, edible oils, salt, agriculture produce etc. during the lockdown period. In order to avert the possibility of hoarding and black-marketing, profiteering and speculative trading so as to ensure that price rise of essential goods do not take place, the A&N Administration has also issued a Notification under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 to regulate the wholesale & retail price of all Essential goods during the lockdown period. Traders and consumers have been informed that the rates of all agro-horticultural products in the UT shall never exceed the extent of rates prevailed in the market prior to lockdown due to COVID-19.

Traders involved in the sale of essential commodities including rice, atta, pulses, sugar, edible oils, salt, vegetables, fruits etc. have been advised to refrain from unfair trade practices

such as black marketing, hoarding etc with the malicious intention of creating artificial crisis which shall ultimately lead to exploitation of consumers by charging over and above the actual rate of the commodities in this extraordinary emergency situation. It is also to bring to the notice of all concerned that the offences under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 are Criminal Offences and shall result in imprisonment of 7 years or fine or both. Offenders shall also be detained under the Prevention of Black Marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980.

The consumers have been advised to be vigilant and inform the matter related to overcharging of any essential commodity to the Director, Directorate of Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Port Blair via text message on mobile number 9434266828 or to the Control Room over Toll free Phone No. 18003453197 & on Ph No: 03192-234062, a communication from the Director (CS&CA) said.

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

Health bulletin for containment of COVID-19

Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)

(No. 10/ 09th April 2020)

COVID-19 STATUS AS ON 09.04.2020

> **National as on 09.04.2020 at 1700 Hrs***

Total Confirmed Cases	5865
Cured / Discharged / Migrated	478
Death	169

• Source Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
> **Andaman & Nicobar Islands:**

Total Positive cases	11
Discharged from Hospital	00
Death	00
Admitted at Hospital	11
Migrated out of Country	00
Outside Resident	00

> **Status of Hospitals:**

Name of Hospital	Isolation Beds Available	Occupied	Positive Cases Admitted
G B Pant Hospital, Port Blair	50	11	11

* No cases are admitted at Private Hospital.

* *The Health Condition of all +Ve cases are normal and stable.*

> **Status of Sample Testing:**

Total Samples sent till date	615
Total Reports received till date	574
Total Pending Reports	41

- > House to house surveillance for contact tracing of positive cases is being done by District Administration with the help of Health Workers.
- > Intensive awareness is continued through print and electronic media.
- > 170 passengers from COVID-19 affected countries have been screened at VSI Airport, Port Blair and Port/Harbour of the Islands and placed under surveillance.
- > 2020 passengers screened at VSI Airport till 24.03.2020 by medical teams.
- > Calls received at 102 - 136 calls.
- > 15 lines are activated in State Head Quarter Control Room and District Headquarter Control Room also set up at North & Middle Andaman District and Nicobar District.

SURVEILLANCE DATA

Contacts put under Home Quarantine till date	228
Contacts under Home Quarantine as on today	228
Contacts completed 14 days period of Home Quarantine	NIL
Persons under Institutional Quarantine as on today	293 **
Persons completed 14 days period of Institutional Quarantine	139
Passengers put under Quarantine till date	2020
Passengers under Quarantine as on today	Nil
Passengers completed 14 days period of Quarantine	1812

** *The figure contains institutional Quarantine persons from passengers as well as contacts both.*

Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package: Insurance Scheme for Health Workers Fighting COVID-19

For further information related to the scheme write to pmgkpinsurance2020@gmail.com

24x7 CONTROL ROOM NUMBERS: 240126/232102/1077/1070

(Source: Principal Secretary (Health), A&N Administration)

Centre approves

(Contd. from page 1)

screening process. The Ministry has already disbursed 4113 crore rupees to all the States and Union Territories for dealing with the emergency COVID-19 response.

DoPPW organises webinar for awareness & related issues on COVID-19

New Delhi, Apr 9

Dr Prasun Chatterjee.

Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare (DoPPW) today organised a webinar for awareness and related issues on COVID-19. In the webinar, around 100 pensioners from 22 cities interacted with Dr. Randeep Guleria, Director, AIIMS and Dr Prasun Chatterjee, Associate Professor Geriatric Medicine, AIIMS. These experts deliberated in detail on spread of novel Coronavirus, present health scenario, Dos and Don'ts with precautionary measures and remedial course. During the question and answer sessions, many Pensioners from different parts of the country raised their concerns which were elaborately addressed by Dr. Randeep Guleria and

Union minister Dr Jitendra Singh, while addressing pensioners said that mortality is higher in older population and morbidity is higher in younger people. However due to weaker immune system older people are more vulnerable to COVID-19. Dr Singh said, good hygiene practices are important to fight against this pandemic. He urged pensioners to download Aarogya Setu app which provides relevant information on COVID-19 and also informs people if they come into contact of any COVID-19 positive person. He lauded doctors as Corona warriors for putting all efforts by stretching their limits in order to ensure safety of people.

COVID-19; Administration....

(Contd. from page 1)

the milk demand not only in Port Blair but outside areas also like Sippighat, Chouldari, Tushnabad, Tirur, Mithakhari and Wimberleygunj upto Bambooflat. Both



door to door selling of vegetables by farmers of nimbutala area location(rangat bay) toned milk and cow milk (as per availability) is being distributed to the grocery/bakery shops for easy and assured availability to the people. Besides this, doorstep delivery of milk continues in the PBMC areas. Door to door distribution of milk in areas upto Calicut and Teylorabad are covered on alternate days. On an average, 4200 litres of milk is being distributed by ANIIDCO on a daily basis. With dedicated and assured supply lines, the initial panic and unrest among the people has subsided, a communication from the Nodal Officer Civil Supplies, Smti Anjali Sehrawat said here today.

Andaman & Nicobar Administration
Directorate of Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs

Port Blair, the 09th April, 2020

NOTIFICATION

No. F. No. DCS/LM/73/EC/2017/PF - In exercise of the powers conferred under Section 5, of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 (10 of 1955), read with Section 2 (d) thereof and in pursuance of letter no. D.O. 40-3/2020-DM-I(A) dated 07.04.2020 of Govt. of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, the Lieutenant Governor (Administrator), Andaman and Nicobar Islands hereby makes the following Order, namely:-

1. Short Title, Extent and Commencement :-
i. This Order may be called the Fixation of Wholesale and Retail Prices of Essential Commodities Order, 2020.
ii. It extends to the whole of the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
iii. It shall come into force with immediate effect and shall remain in force up to 30th June, 2020.
2. i. The Wholesale Rate of all essential commodities will be derived at the rate of 05 percent over and above the actual expenditure involved upto the Wholesaler's premises.
ii. The rate of essential commodities in retail market shall be over and above 10 percent permissible as per the Wholesale Rate.
iii. The rate of all the Agro-horticultural products shall be to the extent of the last rates prevailed in the market prior to Lock Down due to COVID19.
3. If any person contravenes any of this order, he/she shall be punished/prosecuted as per Section 7 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and the rules made there under.

By Order and in the Name of Lt. Governor (Administrator)

Andaman & Nicobar Islands
Dr. Navlendra Kumar Singh
Director (CS&CA)
A&N Administration

BSNL launches ATR Kiosk at Telephone Bhavan

All mobile subscribers' validity extended up to April 20, free of cost

Port Blair, April 9

BSNL, Andaman & Nicobar Telecom Circle has started the ATR (Any Time Recharge) facility at Telephone Bhavan, Port Blair today, in presence of the Chief General Manager, BSNL, A&N Circle, Shri Murali Krishna. The CGM stated that the ATR Kiosk is basically a service initiative by BSNL on complementary basis to mitigate the hardships faced by esteemed BSNL customers during the lockdown period on account of COVID-19.

The BSNL has requested the subscribers to 'Go Digital' for recharging their accounts. Several options available for recharge include MyBSNL mobile app, BSNL website www.portal.bsnl.in and other popular wallet services. Service of a Volunteer has been made

available to guide the customers during the transaction by maintaining strict compliance of the COVID-19 norms of social distancing, etc. The mode of recharge is through Internet banking/credit card/debit card/ cash card/wallet/ UPI payment, etc. E-receipt would be provided through SMS or email, which is registered during the transaction. Currently, the service is being provided from 10 am to 5 pm and will be gradually increased to '8 am to 8 pm' on all days.

The CGM stated that with the help and support of A&N Administration, BSNL is able to maintain the telecommunication and ICT services in A&N Islands even during the lockdown period.

For further details customers may contact the telephone no. 220200 or email at atrkiokbsnlpb@gmail.com during office hours. In case of any difficulty in physically accessing the ATR kiosk, at Telephone Bhavan, customers can call on the telephone number 220200 and will be guided telephonically to accomplish their mobile recharge online.

BSNL, as a support to its mobile subscribers, has also extended the validity of all mobile subscribers upto 20th April 2020, free of cost so that the subscribers continue to receive incoming calls. In addition, BSNL is also giving free talk time of Rs.10. to all such subscribers who reach zero balance during the lockdown period. These facilities are extended to facilitate communication by BSNL mobile subscribers in an emergency, a communication from the CGM, BSNL, A&N Circle received here said.

Govt extends premium payment period for Postal Life Insurance till June 30

New Delhi, Apr 9 Government has extended the premium payment period for Postal Life Insurance and Rural Postal Life Insurance till 30th of June this year. Ministry of Communications said, in view of lockdown across the country, the customer of Postal Life Insurance and Rural Postal Life

Insurance are facing difficulty in approaching post offices for payment of premium. The Ministry has given an extension of period for payment of their due premium of March, April and May 2020 upto 30th June without charging any penalty and default fee.

IOC fully geared to meet additional demand for LPG cooking gas

New Delhi, Apr 9 Indian Oil Corporation is fully geared to meet additional demand for LPG cooking gas in the country that may arise in the course of the ongoing COVID-19 crisis. The Corporation has tied up additional imports of the product for April and May to ensure uninterrupted availability of bulk LPG for its bottling plants.

its major refineries by optimising operations, improving LPG yield in LPG producing units. The Corporation's LPG bottling plants too are working extended hours, operating night shifts as well as on public holidays and Sundays to meet the growing demand. The transport infrastructure linking the plants to the distributors has also been optimised for quick distribution.

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Help us to help you

NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

Protective measures against Coronavirus

A distance of at least 1 meter is necessary to ensure safety for all

Wash your hands with soap and water regularly

If soap and water is not available, use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol

Wash hands before touching eyes, nose and mouth

Throw used tissues into closed bins immediately after use

Cover your nose and mouth with handkerchief/tissue while sneezing and coughing

Avoid mass gathering and crowded places

If you are experiencing symptoms like fever, cough or difficulty in breathing, please call the state helpline number or 24x7 helpline numbers of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India and follow the instructions.

1075 (Toll Free) | 011-23978046

Email to: ncov2019@gov.in, ncov2019@gmail.com

mohfw.gov.in
[@MoHFWIndia](https://www.facebook.com/MoHFWIndia)
[@MoHFW_INDIA](https://twitter.com/MoHFW_INDIA)
[mohfwindia](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmohfwindia)

Prime Minister salutes CRPF on Valour Day

New Delhi, Apr 9

Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has saluted the CRPF on its Valour Day today. Shri Modi, remembered the bravery of CRPF personnel in Gujarat's Sardar Patel Post in 1965. In a tweet, Shri Modi said the sacrifices of the brave martyrs will never be forgotten. He added that the courage of CRPF is widely known.

Home Minister, Shri Amit Shah tweeted that a small contingent of the CRPF created history by defeating the invading enemy army several times larger than them on 9th April 1965 at the 'Sardar Post' located in Rann of Kutch,



Gujarat. The Home Minister congratulated the force and saluted the brave martyrs of CRPF. He said, 'Shaurya Divas', is a symbol of indomitable courage, valour and sacrifice.

Centre asks states to sensitize field agencies about exemptions given to farming

New Delhi, Apr 9

Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister, Shri Narendra Singh Tomar chaired a meeting yesterday with State Agriculture Ministers to review relief measures taken for the farmers in the wake of Covid-19 pandemic.

Shri Tomar appreciated the efforts of States for their proactive role in undertaking agriculture activities during the lock down. During the meeting, states have been asked to sensitize field agencies about exemptions given to farming related activities and allow hassle free movement of farm produce, fertilizers and farm machinery. It has also been decided that Kharif

National Conference will be held on 16th April of this month through Video Conferencing. The Minister assured the States that all the necessary help and support would be provided to the states during Covid-19 pandemic. He urged the states to popularize Aarogya App among the farmers and other citizens. Issues related to farming operations, harvesting, agriculture marketing, mandi operations, procurement at MSP, logistics issues, movement of agriculture and horticulture produce were discussed with the states in the meeting. The states were requested to sensitize their field agencies for facilitating smooth farming

operations including sowing, harvesting and marketing. It was also requested to ensure expeditious permission for movement of farm labours, goods, machines and materials related to farming.

It was informed that the Ministry has released e-NAM modules to enable the e-trading and bidding from source point by farmers, FPOs and Cooperatives. States have been asked to issue necessary instructions to give effect to the same which would facilitate the farmers in selling their produce, ensuring availability of produce at consumption centers and decongesting mandis.

US Prez thanks India on decision to allow Hydroxychloroquine export to US

Washington, Apr 9

US President, Mr. Donald Trump today thanked India for Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's decision to allow the export of anti-malaria drug Hydroxychloroquine to the United States. He tweeted that India's gesture would not be forgotten and said that Prime Minister, Shri Modi's leadership was helping not only India, but, humanity as well. President Trump also added that extraordinary times call for global cooperation in the fight against COVID-19. Hydroxychloroquine has been identified by the US Food and Drug Administration as a possible line of treatment for the COVID-19. The disease has inflicted more than four lakh Americans, claiming lives of over 13,000. President Trump had requested the Prime Minister to lift the ban on export of Hydroxychloroquine from India and supply the drug to the United States.



109 time tabled parcel trains introduced for nationwide transportation

New Delhi, Apr 9

In a major boost to the supply chain across the country, Indian Railways has introduced unhindered services of Time tabled Parcel Trains for nationwide transportation of essential commodities and other goods. This is expected to boost the availability of vital goods required for ordinary citizens, industry and agriculture. The Railways has introduced 109 Time Tabled parcel trains over 58 routes to connect all the important centre since the start of lockdown. Till 5th of April, 27 routes were notified, out of which 17 routes were regular scheduled services, while the remaining were for single trip only. Subsequently, 40 new routes have been identified and



notified. With this almost all the important cities of India will get connected for transportation of vital goods at a fast speed. It said, time tabled Parcel Trains are planned as per the demand of the customers. Such Parcel trains connect vital corridors of the country including Delhi,

Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Hyderabad, and Bengaluru.

In addition, proper connectivity has also been ensured to Guwahati, to ensure supplies in the North-eastern region. Local industries, e-commerce companies, interested groups, individuals and any other prospective loaders can book parcels.

Global economy is expected to go into recession in view of COVID-19 pandemic: RBI

New Delhi, Apr 9

In its latest Monetary Policy report, the Reserve Bank of India - RBI has stated that the global economy is expected to go into recession after taking into account the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. It also says that aggregate demand is expected to

be impacted adversely by likely recession in the global economy, caused by disruptions in global supply chains, travel and tourism, and lockdowns in many economies. The report suggests that while efforts are being mounted on a war footing to arrest its spread, COVID-19 would impact

economic activity in India directly through domestic lockdown. Second round effects would operate through a severe slowdown in global trade and growth. It also says that the lockdown is expected to significantly lower aggregate demand in both rural and urban areas.

Center launches learning platform to combat COVID-19

New Delhi, Apr 9

The Center has announced the launch of a learning platform to combat COVID-19 for all front-line workers to equip them with the training and in coping with Pandemic. The target groups for the platform, igot.gov.in are Doctors, Nurses, Paramedics, Hygiene Workers, Technicians, Auxiliary Nursing Midwives, ANMs, Central & State Govt. Officers, Civil Defence Officials, various Police Organisations, National Cadet Corpz, NCC, Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, NYKS, National Service Scheme, NSS, Indian Red Cross Society, Bharat Scouts and Guides and other volunteers.

A Department of Personnel and Training release said, appropriate training will also prepare them for the subsequent stages of the pandemic. By giving COVID 19 training to other potential second line workforce, India will be better prepared for the emergent situations.

The platform delivers curated, role-specific content, to each learner at his place of work or home and to any device of his choice. iGOT platform is designed to population scale, and will provide training to around 1.50 crore workers and volunteers in the coming weeks.

To begin with nine courses on iGOT have been launched on topics like Basics of COVID, ICU Care and Ventilation Management, Clinical Management, Infection Prevention through PPE, Infection Control and Prevention, Quarantine and Isolation, Laboratory Sample Collection and Testing, Management of COVID 19 Cases, COVID 19 Training.

The platform reflects the vision of Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi to 'care for those who serve the nation' and boost their morale. As a critical weapon in the arsenal of all front line COVID-19 healthcare warriors, their knowledge and capacity, will help them and our nation win the battle against COVID-19 Pandemic. The first version of the platform is available with Google Chrome and Mozilla Firefox, and subsequent versions will support other browsers.

TRIFED to launch digital campaign in collaboration with UNICEF for to ensure Tribal Gatherers carry on their work safely

New Delhi, Apr 9

To ensure tribal gatherers carry on their work safely, TRIFED has collaborated with UNICEF for developing a digital communication strategy for promoting a digital campaign for Self Help Groups (SHGs) involved in this work, highlighting the importance of Social Distancing. UNICEF would provide the necessary support to be circulated to the SHG centers in the form of Digital Multimedia content, Webinars for Virtual trainings (basic orientation on COVID response, key preventive behaviours), Social Media campaigns (on social distancing,

home quarantine, etc.) and Vanya Radio. Additionally, TRIFED has reached out to the Art of Living Foundation's #StandWithHumanity Initiative with a Stand With Tribal Families component in providing much needed food and ration for survival of the tribal community.

The webinar, for the promotion of the campaign is scheduled to be held tomorrow i.e. on 9th April, 2020. It is aimed to reach more than 18,000 participants and would cover tribal regions across all the 27 States.

A total of 1205 Van DhanVikasKendras (VDVKs) have been sanctioned in 27 States

and 1 Union territory involving around 18,075 Van Dhan Self Help Groups. This involves over 3.6 Lakhs tribal gatherers in the Scheme. To start with, 15,000 of these SHGs will be promoted as Van Dhan Social Distancing Awareness cum Livelihood Centers' through a digital training program. The SHGs will create awareness among the community about social distancing and steps to be followed. Do's and Don'ts Advisories relating to NTFP to be kept in mind during Covid-19, providing suggestive practices for maintaining personal hygiene, adopting cashless practices, among others will be shared.

Railways distributes over 8,50,000 cooked meals

New Delhi, Apr 9

Railways have distributed over eight lakh 50 thousand cooked meals to needy people in the last 12 days. More than five lakhs of these cooked meals were prepared in IRCTC kitchens. Railways is fully prepared to provide food to the needy during the lock down period. Starting with distribution of food to over five thousand needy persons on 28th of last month, Railways has distributed over eight lakh 50 thousand cooked meals till date. Proper social distancing is being ensured during preparation and distribution of meals.

Govt making all efforts to ensure adequate supply of fertilizers: Minister

New Delhi, Apr 9

Chemicals and Fertilizers Minister Shri D V Sadananda Gowda has said that government is making all efforts to ensure an adequate supply of fertilizers for the upcoming Kharif season. In a tweet, Shri Gowda said, as of now, availability position is comfortable. He said, Department of Fertilizers is closely monitoring the production, movement and availability of fertilizers and is in regular touch with State Governments.

Referring to Karnataka, the Minister said, there is no shortage of seeds, fertilizers and pesticides



in the State. He said, the Ministry is working in close coordination with the Karnataka Government on this matter. Shri Gowda said, as of now, the State has stock of 7.3 lakh tons against monthly requirement of 2.57 lakh tons.

SOME HELPLINE NUMBERS

Police Control room : 100
Fire Service : 101
Coastal Security : 1093
PBMC Control Room : 245798
State control Room: 1077/234287
Extn : 328 / 231179

Shipping : 245555
Women : 1091
Children : 1098
Coast Guard (Search & Rescue) : 1554
District Control Room : 1070 / 238881
Ambulance : 102

National/International
News

Stop Global Warming
Protect future generations from the harmful effects of global warming by reducing emissions from power plants, cars, factories and other sources
You too can help!!



India, US discuss ways to further enhance their cooperation to control COVID-19 pandemic

New Delhi, Apr 9

India and US today discussed ways to further enhance their cooperation to counter and control the COVID-19 pandemic. Foreign Secretary Shri Harsh Vardhan Shringla had a telephonic conversation with U.S. Deputy Secretary of State, Mr Stephen E. Biegun where they exchanged views on the current COVID 19 pandemic situation and associated challenges.

They also discussed how to control the pandemic including through the development of novel therapies and prophylactics against COVID-19 and ensuring



availability of essential medicines, diagnostic and medical equipment, and sharing of best practices and information.

Earlier, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and US President

Mr Donald Trump had telephonic conversation over the issue. External Affairs Minister Dr. S Jaishankar and US Secretary of State Mr Pompeo also spoke over phone to discuss the issue.

Kerala scientists develop new equipment to ensure better treatment, safety of health workers

Thiruvananthapuram, Apr 9

Giving a major boost to the battle against Covid-19, scientists in Kerala had developed new equipment ensuring better treatment and safety of the health workers. The Scientists in Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute of Medical Sciences and Technology, Thiruvananthapuram in Kerala had developed few new equipment for the treatments of COVID-19. One of the main inventions is the Acrylosorb, the equipment to collect body fluids of patients and dispose it safely. Under the system, suction canisters which are spill-proof and that can be sealed after use, is used to collect liquid respiratory secretions from patients. The merit of AcryloSorb

is that there is no risk of re-contamination as the waste is absorbed by the equipment itself and also it can handle more liquid waste at times.

Another major innovation is the isolation pod that restricts COVID-19 patients from having contact with others. It is a special module that can be used to shift the COVID-19 patient safely from one place to another. A sterilized tend cover is attached with a pod that prevents any kind of contact a light bed is also arranged on the isolation pod.

Bubble helmet is the third equipment which will be revolutionary in the treatment COVID-19. Bubble helmet is an alternative option for the traditional

oxygen masks. Bubble helmet completely covers the head of the patient will be connected through a special collar on it. This device will help the patient to overcome breathing problems and avoid using ventilator facility. The automatic disinfection gateway is another equipment developed that is designed for the decontamination of people, one at a time. It is completely controlled electronically as the sensors mounted in the chamber detects the entry of a person and starts the hydrogen peroxide mist generation process. Meanwhile, the hospital authorities said that they will hand over the technology to companies for free without any restrictions on the patent.

Fossil teeth yield oldest genetic material from extinct human species



New Delhi, Apr 9

Fossil teeth yield oldest genetic material from extinct human species Scientists have extracted from dental enamel the oldest human genetic material ever obtained, helping clarify the pivotal place in the human evolutionary lineage of a mysterious extinct species called Homo antecessor known from Spanish cave fossils. The researchers said they obtained genetic material from an 800,000-year-old Homo antecessor molar unearthed near the village of Atapuerca in northern Spain and from a 1.77 million-year-old molar of another extinct human species called Homo erectus found near the town of Dmanisi in Georgia. They retrieved the ancient proteins

from fossilized teeth using a method called palaeoproteomics that can find genetic material in fossils too old to contain DNA because of its chemical degradation over time. "Protein sequences are determined by the DNA sequence of our genomes, and therefore these ancient protein sequences provide some evolutionary information. We have previously shown we are able to extract ancient proteins even from 2 million year old animal fossils," University of Copenhagen molecular anthropologist Frido Welker, lead author of the research published in the journal Nature, said on Monday.

Until now, the oldest genetic material from an extinct human species was

dated to about 420,000 years ago. The Homo antecessor genetic material was especially illuminating, the researchers said, after comparing it to more recent genetic data from our species and extinct human species. It showed Homo antecessor was closely related to the last common ancestor of the evolutionary lineage that led to Homo sapiens and two extinct cousins: the Neanderthals and the lesser-known Denisovans. "It confirms that Homo antecessor may be at the base of an emerging new humanity, probably appearing around a million years ago in Southwest Asia, particularly in the Levantine Corridor (in the Middle East)," said paleoanthropologist and study co-author José-María Bermúdez de Castro of the National Center for Research on Human Evolution in Burgos, Spain. "That region was an important refuge for biodiversity during the ice ages," he added, helping foster the appearance of new species.

The analyzed tooth was found in 2003 and belonged to a male individual. While many aspects of Homo antecessor remain unclear, researchers previously cited evidence suggesting the species engaged in cannibalism.

Scientists develop mathematical model to predict spread of coronavirus

Pune, Apr 9

Scientists from the Savitribai Phule Pune University have been working on solutions to the corona virus epidemic. Last month, Dr. Bhalchandra Pujari and Dr. Snehal

Shekatkar of Centre for Modelling & Simulation (CMS) - developed a mathematical model to predict the spread of the disease by investigating transport links between cities. They found that it was necessary to shut

down the transport network for effective measures. Moreover they are focusing on long term modelling framework that can predict the spread of any future epidemic other than Covid-19.

NGOs permitted to buy food grains directly from FCI for Relief operations

New Delhi, Apr 9

NGOs and Charitable Organizations are playing important role in providing cooked food to thousands of poor and needy people during this time of nationwide lockdown. To ensure uninterrupted supply of foodgrain to these organization Government has directed FCI to provide Wheat and Rice to such organizations at the Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS) rates without going through the e-auction process. Hitherto only state governments and registered bulk users like Roller Flour Mills were allowed to buy stock from FCI under OMSS rates. These organizations can purchase 1 to 10 MT at a time from FCI at the predetermined reserve prices. FCI has network of more than 2000 godowns in the country and such large network of godowns will ensure smooth supply of food grains to these organisations in this hour of crisis. It will help relief camps in their philanthropic work of feeding poor and migrant workers in the country. The details of lifting of foodgrain by such institutions would be intimated to the concerned DMs



to ensure that the foodgrain are utilised for the intended purpose. Maintaining the quick pace of transportation of foodgrain stocks across the country, FCI has moved 2.2 Million tonnes from the surplus states since the beginning of lockdown. It has already handed over about 1 Million Tonnes of foodgrain to the state governments for free distribution under the PMGKAY scheme.

FCI has also delivered about 3.2 Million Tonnes of Foodgrains to state governments to meet the requirements under regular NFSA allocation since 24.03.2020. The stock position of foodgrains in every state/UT in the country is being closely monitored and ensured that sufficient stocks are made available at all places. As on

07.04.2020, FCI is having 54.42 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) foodgrains (30.62 MMT Rice and 23.80 MMT Wheat). While ensuring supply of adequate foodgrains for PDS and other government schemes, FCI is ensuring that supplies in open markets are also maintained at a healthy level to avoid any price shocks. It is regularly providing rice under OMSS directly to state governments and wheat to flour Mills based on the recommendations of respective DM/DC to stabilize supply and prices. So far 1.45 LMT Wheat and 1.33 LMT rice has been allotted. Every possible effort is being made to maintain stable and regular supply of foodgrains in the country during the lockdown period.

Air Canada to rehire 16,500 employees laid off due to pandemic

Canada, Apr 9

Air Canada has said that it will rehire around 16,500 employees, who were laid off because of the Coronavirus pandemic. The step has been taken under a government relief package for businesses. Prime Minister, Mr. Justin Trudeau has extended the benefits of the government program to companies that suffered a drop of more than 15 percent in their revenues in March, against 30 percent previously. The Canadian government stepped in April 1



with the emergency wage subsidy of the pandemic. Canada has plan designed to help employers keep their workers or bring back ones that were laid off because

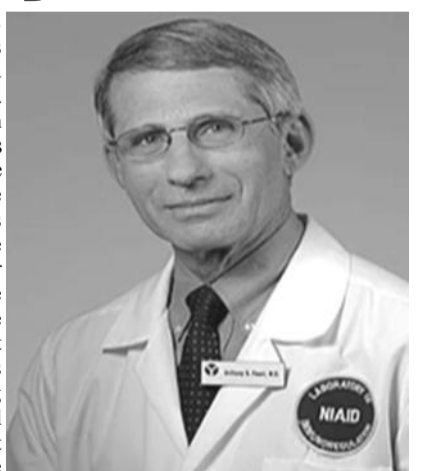
so far. Canada has reported more than 19,000 cases of Coronavirus, and 456 deaths so far.

People should never shake hands again: Anthony Fauci

Washington, Apr 9

US' top infectious disease expert Anthony Fauci has said that People should never shake hands again, underlining that the practise would not only prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus but also decrease instances of influenza dramatically in the world. Fauci, who is the Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and a lead member of the White House Task Force on Coronavirus said that washing hands should be a must in people's daily routine. He further added that it would not only be good to prevent coronavirus disease but probably would decrease instances of influenza dramatically. Because as

a matter of fact, that is one of the major ways you can transmit a respiratory-borne illness. Responding to a question on the possible measures to be taken to contain the spread of the virus, he said, One of them is absolute compulsive hand-washing. The other is you don't ever shake anybody's hands. In the recent weeks, President Donald Trump too has been talking about doing away with the hand shake, which is a part and parcel of the American culture. Globally, 88,538 people have died due to coronavirus and nearly 1.5 million people have been infected.



Dhaka court issues death warrant against captured Mujib killer

Dhaka, Apr 9

Dhaka court on Wednesday issued death warrant against Abdul Majed, the convicted fugitive killer of Bangladesh's founder President Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in 1975. Abdul Majed was arrested on Tuesday by the Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC) unit of Bangladesh from Mirpur area in Dhaka. Abdul Majed is among the 12 former army personnel who were awarded

death sentence in 1998. It was later confirmed by the High Court in 2009. Five of the convicted army personnel were hanged in 2010 while one died. Six of the convicted army personnel have been absconding. Abdul Majed is one of them.

