

Top directives snubbed to favour blue-eyed boy of civic body

FOI CORRESPONDENT

PORT BLAIR, AUG 19/-—/The Port Blair Municipal Council is likely to come under intense fire for allegedly trying to shield some corrupt officials posted in the engineering wing of the body. Complaints submitted to Lt. Governor, Chief Vigilance Officer of the UT Administration and other senior officials notwithstanding, an incumbent Assistant Engineer has been bestowed the Current Duty Charge of Executive Engineer in the Municipal Council. Even directives from the Prime Minister's Office to initiate an appropriate inquiry into the allegations failed to stir the top officials of the Council to order an investigation into

some serious allegations. Documents obtained under the Right to Information Act reveal that the Assistant Engineer of the Municipal Council, currently looking after as Executive Engineer on Current Duty Charge, passed the All India Secondary School Examination (CBSE Class X) from a government school in Mayabunder in the year 1982. As per the marks sheet issued by the CBSE, the incumbent appeared for the subjects of Hindi, English, Science, Social Science, Physical and Health Education and 80S in the Class X exams. Further in the year 1984, the incumbent cleared the Class XII CBSE Board exams from the Mayabunder School from the Arts Stream.



Subsequently in the year 1986, the incumbent obtained a Diploma in Automobile Engineering from the College of Engineering Technology, Madras. While a Diploma course is of three years duration, the incumbent completed the Diploma in Auto-

mobile Engineering in just two years. After obtaining the Diploma Certificate in Automobile Engineering, alleged to be invalid or forged, the incumbent initially obtained the job of Junior Engineer in the Municipal Council. As per docu-

ments, Dr BR Ambedkar Institute of Technology in response to a query from the Municipal Council pertaining to the Diploma Certificate of the incumbent, categorically stated that as per the All India Council of Technical Education, the certificate issued to the incumbent by the College of Engineering Technology, Chennai, is not recognized for conduct of Diploma in Automobile Engineering.

"It is crystal clear from the RTI documents that the incumbent got a government job on the basis of false educational certificates. He continued his services for the past many years and was recently given the charge of Executive Engineer (E&M) on Current Duty Charge in the

Council. It is reliably learnt that the incumbent greased palms of many senior officials in the Council with money to the tune of lakh. When the corrupt practices were raised before the appropriate authorities, the Council preferred to overlook them. Despite a complaint to the Prime Minister's Office, which asked the Administrator to take appropriate action in the matter, the Municipal Council has till date not ordered a probe against the incumbent. The Municipal Council is acting in an autocratic fashion giving a complete snub to the zero corruption, transparent and proactive governance policy of the Narendra Modi government," said a civic worker on conditions of anonymity. **(File Pix)**

Congratulations to Esow Alben

It is with great pride and happiness, that I note the historical medal winning performance of Sri Esow Alben on 18th August 2018 at the UCI Junior Track Cycling World Championship held in Aigle, Switzerland.

Join the millions of Indians and especially islanders of the A & N Islands and its sporting fraternity in extending my heartiest congratulations to Sri Esow Alben on this glorious achievement. I also extend my congratulations to National Cycling Academy, SAI, New Delhi for providing him with support in The Splendence and medal hardly a he has performer for some that he was prior World event ready a medals for the country at the Asian Junior Track Cycling Championship in Malaysia. It is heartening to see the hard efforts, passion and perseverance of this young Indian to be recognized at the World Championships. I am also hopeful that, this remarkable achievement will contribute in a major way to the promotion of sports and athletics in these remote islands. Sri Esow Alben will inspire hundreds of young children to excel in sports. I am certain that, the ace sportsman that Sri Esow Alben is, this performance will be only one of the landmarks of his young career. There will be many more to come in a long distinguished career that lies before him and Sri Esow Alben would strive to better his own record and will bring many more laurels for our country. A & N Administration is committed to providing all support in his efforts. My best wishes to Sri Esow Alben for a distinguished and bright future. Andaman Nicobar Islands are proud of him.

Sd/-
(Admiral D K Joshi)
PVSMS, AVSMM, YSM, NM, VSM (Retd.)
Lieutenant Governor,
Andaman & Nicobar Islands

Islanders organise collection of relief materials for flood-hit Kerala



ROOPA LALL

PORT BLAIR, AUG 19/-—/Along with the rest of the country, benevolent islanders have pitched in to help alleviate the humanitarian crisis being faced by people of Kerala, which continues to battle torrential rains and worsening floods. Under the banner of Contribution from the People of Andamans, islanders mobilised collection of essential items such as bedsheets, clothes, sanitary napkins, diapers and food to help the victims of Kerala floods since Saturday. The Member of Parliament too joined the cause and extended all possible assistance to the volunteers, as per sources. The president of Dr BR Ambedkar Institute of Technology Alumni Association took the initiative. "We've survived the tsunami and do well understand the trauma being faced by people in the State of Kerala. We don't need any recognition and have all assembled here to help alleviate the sufferings of the people in Kerala. The Commander in Chief, A & N Command and

The Members of Parliament are rendering all support for the cause. Personnel from the Navy, Coast Guard, students of DERAIT have been engaged non-stop packaging relief materials since Saturday for dispatch to Kerala. All the 1000 packets readied so far contain basic articles like rice, sanitary napkins, tooth brush, soap, oil, water, biscuit, medicine etc," said a volunteer. "An air force aircraft transported all the relief materials to Tambaram in Chennai from where the materials were dispatched to different flood affected areas in Kerala. We request people to contribute for the noble cause in any manner they can. As per the request of Kerala government, we are sending only unused dress materials, bed-sheets, blankets and other essential items. Many shopkeepers here also came forward for the relief operation and handed over their old stocks to for the cause," he added.

JNRM students visit Beodnabad to promote Unnat Bharat Abhiyan

PORT BLAIR, AUG 19/-—/Around 30 students of JNRM led by Mr K Venkatesan, Assistant Professor and Head, Department of Home Science and Nodal Officer for Unnat Bharat Abhiyan visited Beodnabad Gram Panchayat under Unnat Bharat Abhiyan for attending the Gram Sabha. The team interacted with the various stakeholders to identify the problems to be addressed in the presence of the panchayat functionaries. Smt Shanti Varadarajan, Pradhan informed the team that the Beodnabad Gram Panchayat is in the forefront of implementing various flagship programmes of



Government of India like housing schemes, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan and Unnat Bharat Abhiyan. Smt Shanthi Varadarajan expressed her gratitude to Principal, JNRM on behalf of the entire Beodnabad PRI members for coming forward to work in Beodnabad under Unnat Bharat Abhiyan through initiating the Gram Sabha

meeting. Dr N Francis Xavier, Principal JNRM expressed his happiness that JNRM was the only institution that was selected by MHRD, Govt of India under Unnat Bharat Abhiyan to carry out rural development activities in the island. He assured the Pradhan that more activities will be carried out in the village in future.

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EVENTS TODAY

YATRA: Vanvasi Kalyan Ashram to organise Kanwar Yatra from Gandhi Park from 8 am.

DEFERRED: First year classes for Diploma Programme at Govt Polytechnic Diglipur scheduled to start from August 20 have been postponed to August 27.

SAILING: MV Coral Queen to sail for Diglipur via Mayabunder at 9 pm from Haddo wharf.

DDT SPRAY: First round of DDT spray and anti-larval activities being carried out in all districts of these islands.

LAKMÉ SALON
FOR HIM AND HER

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