

## 2017: Karman, triple talaq, privacy hogged limelight in SC

**NEW DELHI, DEC 28/-** The Supreme Court dealt with 'hostile' high court judge C S Karman and the issue of trust deficit among its judges in 2017 and delivered historic verdicts like banning triple talaq and gifting citizens the most cherished fundamental right of privacy.

The year also saw a judgement in the Jayalalithaa graft case whereby her close aide Sasikala Natarajan was convicted and put behind bars which virtually created political upheavals in Tamil Nadu and a split in the AIADMK.

However, the apex court, which gave a reprieve to Prime Minister Narendra Modi by trashing a plea for an independent probe into the Birla Sahara diary case allegedly speaking about bribes being paid to top politicians, kept his government on tenterhooks for its stand on Rohingya Muslims by making it clear that human rights of the refugees need to be protected.

In yet another case in which the Centre courted controversy was the issue of forcible conversion of women in Kerala by linking it to 'love jihad' in which NIA alleged that the marriage of 25-year-old woman Hadiya was a classic example of the concept in which it said that the man who married her was purportedly connected with terror group ISIS.

In the midst of all these developments, the verdicts cherished most by citizens and that hogged the international glare was the history-defining decisions by five judges trashing the 1,400-year-old Islamic practice of triple talaq and the path-breaking ruling by nine judges adding right to privacy as a fundamental right in the Constitution. While triple talaq among Sunni Muslims was declared as against the basis tenets of the Holy Quran and the Shar'at, the top court which ruled that right to privacy was protected as an intrinsic part of right to life and personal liberty under Article 21, grappled throughout the year with yet another sensitive issue of Aadhaar having bearing on the privacy.

Though a five-judge constitution bench will examine if Aadhaar scheme violated privacy, it has been made clear that government notifications making national biometric identifier mandatory for various services and welfare schemes would not be enforced by extending the deadline to March 31, 2018.

Notwithstanding all these matters, the year would go into the annals of history as the first time the apex court's seven senior-most judges took upon themselves the task of fixing rough elements into the judiciary by holding sitting Calcutta High Court judge C S Karman guilty of contempt and sending him to jail for six months for levelling allegations against serving and retired judges.

Justice Karman had gone to the extreme of staying his own transfer from Madras High Court to Calcutta High Court. Even before the judiciary could overcome from the Karman episode, internal squabbles among the judges of the apex court surfaced with the number two judge in the seniority, Justice C Chelameswar usurping the administrative function of Chief Justice of India Dipak Misra in allocating and setting up the bench when CJI court was seized of the constitutional matters.

The incident led to the constitution of five-judge bench which held as wrong the decision of Justice Chelameswar by holding that "chief justice is the master of the roster". The issue drew lot of media attention as an activist lawyer and an NGO had raised the issue of bribes being taken in the name of judges for favourable orders in a medical college matter. Keeping aside the two sordid saga concerning the judges, the apex court, which in the year 2017 saw three Chief Justices - T S Thakur, J S Khehar and Dipak Misra - at the helm, delivered a plethora of path-breaking verdicts including the terming as corrupt practice the use of caste and religion in elections, notwithstanding the over use of Hindutva and soft-Hindutva cards in bitterly-fought recent Gujarat polls.

Shedding the cloak of opaqueness, the most common criticism of judiciary, the apex court for the first time since its inception decided to allow video-recording of proceedings, besides ordering to upload on its website the decisions taken by its collegium on elevation, transfer and confirmation of High Courts and Supreme Court judges.

The vexatious 25-year-old Babri demolition case and the Ayodhya land dispute matter came up in the apex court which paved way for day-to-day trial of BJP veteran L K Advani and others and rejected the plea of Muslim bodies like Sunni Waqf Board to hear the title dispute post 2019 general elections. The Ayodhya matter would also be remembered as the BJP utilised the statement of senior Congress leader Kapil Sibal in Gujarat polls that the issue be not heard till next general election to the hilt.

Cracking the whip on rising pollution, the apex court termed health of citizens as "far, far more important than the commercial interests of the manufacturers" and banned sale of vehicles, which are not BS-IV compliant, from April 1. The bitterly-fought Gujarat and Haryana Pradesh polls saw for the first time use of Voter-verified paper audit trail (VVPAT) system at the instance of the top court which later thwarted the last-ditch attempt of Congress party seeking counting of 20 per cent paper trail in both per constituency.

The fate of tainted politicians - V K Sasikala and Lalu Prasad - was also sealed by the apex court.

## Housing scam: Delhi court acquits ex-minister Thungon

**NEW DELHI, DEC 27/-** Former union minister P K Thungon, facing trial for 21 years in a corruption case relating to allotment of government quarters, has been acquitted by a special court which said the CBI has failed to prove that he abused his official position. Besides 71-

year-old Thungon, the court also acquitted 14 others, including several government officials, in the case while three accused died during the trial. Special CBI Judge Kamini Lau held that the prosecution has not been able to prove that Thungon, then minister of State (MoS) for Urban Development, had abused his official position and directly entertained applications for allotment of government accommodation. The court, in its 440-page judgement, said the CBI has also failed to prove that he had used as genuine forged application forms wherein forgery relating to particulars of quarter, scale of pay and date of priority were committed by conspirators. During the trial, former Arunachal Pradesh chief minister Thungon had claimed that he was innocent and had been falsely implicated being a victim of political vendetta and that he had not violated any rules while discharging his duties (PT)



**AWARD CERTIFICATE AND CASH PRIZE OF Rs. 50,000/-**

**EOI ISLES ICON 2018**  
Celebrating centenary of Andaman & Nicobar Islands

**NOMINATIONS OPEN**

The most widely circulating newspaper in the islands, THE ECHO OF INDIA is announcing EOI ISLES ICON award 2018 for a person, organization or group who have excelled in making Andaman and Nicobar islands proud nationally or internationally in the field of culture, social, sports, journalism, business or in any field deemed fit. To be selected by an esteemed jury, the award will be presented in a glittering ceremony at Port Blair in the month of March, 2018 to be attended by the chief as a witness of the Islands.

Please fill this form with the name, address, phone number and email of the person, organization or group you would like to nominate and send the first EOI ISLES ICON 2018 to also include your photo. Attach photograph (you can download picture from the internet too) of the nominee along with the cut out of this form.

**IMPORTANT:** Please do not forget to cut this filled form from this newspaper (if you do not, then the nomination will be deemed rejected) and attach to a detailed list of the achievements, personal profile and photograph in a separate paper or document. No photocopy of newspaper cut out will be entertained.

**LAST DATE OF SUBMISSION-1ST JANUARY, 2018**

NOTE: Please get your nomination with cut out of this form to EOI ISLES ICON award 2018, THE ECHO OF INDIA, Post Cross, MG. Road, Junglighat (Post Mital Box 30mg, Port Blair - 744103).

NAME	PHONE	POSTO
NAME OF ENTRANT		
ADDRESS		
PERSONAL NO.		
EMAIL		

NE: No staff members or their families of the ECHO OF INDIA group of publications can participate in the nomination process. No telephone calls or emails will be entertained.

### 'Publish your Painting' Contest for Kids

THE ECHO OF INDIA gladly announces re-launch of its weekly column for school students to promote fine arts among budding artists. Students from different government and private schools of these islands pursuing education in the middle school level (Class I to VIII) can participate in the weekly painting contest by sending their artwork along with particulars like name, postal address, telephone number by post to The Echo of India, 1st Cross, MG Road, Junglighat, Port Blair - 744103 or a scanned copy of the painting over email to [le.echopress4@gmail.com](mailto:le.echopress4@gmail.com). Heads of different schools across these islands are also requested to circulate the message among their wards and forward their paintings to the aforesaid address. The paintings so received will be published on Page 6 of The Echo of India every Friday of 1st December 2017 and the best painter will be suitably rewarded.

Note: The best artwork of the week will be published in THE ECHO OF INDIA with the budding artist's Name and Address.



### Tender for Supply & Installation of CCTV Cameras & related accessories at Dolphin Resort-Havelock & Hornbill Resort-Port Blair, ANIDCO.

Sealed tenders are invited from manufacturer/ authorized distributor / dealer/ agent /partner of manufacturer for Supply & Installation of CCTV Cameras & related accessories at Dolphin Resort-Havelock & Hornbill Resort-Port Blair, ANIDCO.

The tender document containing detail terms and Conditions can be downloaded from the website [www.and.nic.in](http://www.and.nic.in) or obtained from DM(II), Vikas Bhawan, Port Blair during working hours upto 5.00 PM on or before 21/01/2018.

The sealed tender should be placed in the tender box kept in the office at Vikas Bhawan, Port Blair upto 3PM on 22/01/2018 and technical bid will be opened on same day at 3.30PM in presence of the tenderer or their authorized representatives if any.

The Managing Director, ANIDCO reserves the right to accept or reject any tender without assigning any reason thereof.

General Manager  
F.No.1-383/ANIDCO/IT/2017-18/4246 ANIDCO  
Unique No.50141  
1130/17

INDIA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT  
METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, SHADIPUR  
PORT BLAIR - 744106

LOCAL WEATHER FORECAST FOR PORT BLAIR  
AND ITS NEIGHBOURHOOD VALID TILL 1730 HRS OF 29/12/2017

ISSUE TIME: 1730 Hrs IST DATE: 28/12/2017

Rain or thundershower likely to occur at few places.

Maximum and Minimum temperature will be around 29°C and 24°C respectively on Friday 29/12/2017

Maximum Temperature (°C) of Date:	29.0	Sunrise Time for tomorrow (in IST):	0538
Minimum Temperature (°C) of Date:	25.3	Sunset Time for tomorrow (in IST):	1705
Relative Humidity(%) at 0830 IST	089	Rainfall upto 0830 hrs of date (last 24 hrs) in mm:	002.4
Relative Humidity(%) at 1730 IST	092	Rainfall upto 1730 hrs of date in mm:	011.4
		Rainfall (Progressive total from 1st January 17 upto 0830 hrs (of date) in mm	3276.8

M.O. Port Blair  
Tele/fax: 229480

**SHORT TENDER NOTICE**

The Director of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services invites sealed tender from the local reputed contractors for construction /Erection/Fabrication of Tableaux on truck for the occasion of Republic Day 2018 Celebration. The last day for receipt of tender is 10.01.2018 up to 03.00 PM.

The details of tender document can be obtained from the Development Section of Directorate of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services, Haddo during any working hours and also available in the official website of A & N Administration [www.and.nic.in](http://www.and.nic.in).

Unique ID: 50115  
1122/17

Assistant Director (Admin)  
Directorate of AH & VS

## REGIONAL MEDICAL RESEARCH CENTRE, (Indian Council of Medical Research) Dollygunj, Post Bag No.13 PORT BLAIR - 744 101 Andaman & Nicobar Islands

**VACANCY NOTICE No.1-51/Appt/Proj/CDC-NIV/AMMP/ZIKV/RMRC/PB/1113 Dated :27/12/2017**

A walk-in interview/written test is proposed to be held on 17/01/2018 at 10:00 am to fill up the following posts on consolidated salary, under the above projects as detailed below. Candidates, who fulfil the requisite qualifications, may appear for the walk-in interview/written test. The candidate should submit the prescribed application form available in the website of ICMR- REGIONAL MEDICAL RESEARCH CENTRE ([www.rmrcres.in](http://www.rmrcres.in)), Dollygunj, PORT BLAIR together with self attested copies of all the certificates relating to educational qualification, date of birth, working experiences etc., on the day of the walk-in interview/written test. Candidates are also required to bring their original certificates for verification. The registration process will start at 10:00 AM. The exact time of interview/ written test will be intimated to the candidates on 17/01/2018, after completion of the registration process.

- I) NAME of the project : Phytochemical Investigation And Anti-Malarial Activity Evaluation of Medicinal Plants Used by Indigenous Tribes of A & N Islands.**
- a. Name of the Post - JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW**  
Number of post - ONE (GEN)  
Salary - Rs.25,000/- + 20% HRA per month (Consolidated)
- QUALIFICATION & EXPERIENCE**  
**Essential**  
Post Graduate Degree in Microbiology/Biotechnology/Molecular Biology and Biologia with NET qualification or Graduate Degree in Medicine or Engineering (Biotechnology/Bioinformatics) with NET qualification or Post Graduate Degree in Medicine or Engineering (Biotechnology/Bioinformatics)
- Desirable**  
Working experience in Malaria culturing in-vitro and in-vivo studies.  
Knowledge of Computer Applications.
- Age - 30 years**
- b. Name of the Post - PROJECT ASSISTANT (PROJECT TECHNICIAN-II)**  
Number of post - ONE (GEN)  
Salary - Rs.17,000/- per month (consolidated).
- QUALIFICATION & EXPERIENCE**  
**Essential**  
High school "or equivalent with five years experience in laboratory/field work from a Government institution or recognized institute. Or certificate course of one year in related subject (laboratory/field).  
Intermediate with science subjects and B.Sc. shall be treated as equivalent to 2 and 3 years experience respectively.
- Desirable**  
Working experience in Laboratory.  
Field survey works in life science  
Knowledge of Computer Applications.
- Age - 28 years**
- II) Name of the project : Vector Surveillance for ZIKV/JEV in selected high risk areas in India" (Duration: one year)**
- a. Name of the Post - RESEARCH ASSISTANT (PROJECT ASSISTANT)**  
Number of post - ONE (SC)  
Salary - Rs.31,000/- (Consolidated)
- QUALIFICATION & EXPERIENCE**  
**Essential**  
Graduate in zoology/medical entomology/molecular biology/ microbiology/ biotechnology from a recognized university with three years work experience from a recognized institution or Master's degree in relevant subject.
- Desirable**  
Working experience in microbiology/biotechnology/medical entomology.  
Knowledge of Computer Applications.
- Age - 30 years**
- b. Name of the Post - INSECT COLLECTOR (PROJECT TECHNICIAN-I)**  
Number of post - THREE (GEN -01, OBC-01 & SC-01)  
Salary - Rs.16,000/- per month (consolidated).
- QUALIFICATION & EXPERIENCE**  
**Essential**  
High school "or equivalent with one year experience in laboratory/field work from a Government institution or recognized institute.  
Intermediate with science subjects shall be treated as equivalent to 2 experience.
- Desirable**  
Working experience in laboratory / field.  
Field survey works in life science  
Knowledge of Computer Applications.
- Age - 25 years**
- III) Name of the project: Enhancing bio-risk mitigation awareness in Public Health Community and laboratory networks for enhanced diagnostic capabilities to deal with surveillance and outbreaks of high-risk group viral pathogens causing viral hemorrhagic fevers and respiratory infections. As a VHF centre in collaboration with NIV, Pune. (Duration: 9 months)**
- a. Name of the Post - RESEARCH ASSISTANT (PROJECT TECHNICIAN ASST.)**  
Number of post - ONE (OBC).  
Salary - Rs.31,000/- per month (consolidated).
- QUALIFICATION & EXPERIENCE**  
**Essential**  
Graduate in molecular biology/ microbiology/ biotechnology from a recognized university with three years work experience from a recognized institution or Master's degree in relevant subject.
- Desirable**  
Working experience in Laboratory.  
Knowledge of Computer Applications.
- Age - 30 years**
- Note:** Interested candidates may go through the websites of ICMR (<http://icmr.nic.in>) or RMRC (<http://rmrcres.in>) to acquire information on the areas of research and activities of the centre.  
Age relaxation will be allowed to SC/ST/OBC candidates as per rules. Age is relaxable up to 5 years for Government servants in accordance with the instructions issued by the Department of Personal and Training from time to time in this regard.  
Age concession to the extent of service rendered in other research projects will also be admissible for experienced and skilled persons.  
Selected candidate should be prepared to work anywhere in Andaman Nicobar Islands.

APPLICATION FOR THE POST OF:  
TITLE OF THE PROJECT : **REGIONAL MEDICAL RESEARCH CENTRE (ICMR), PORT BLAIR**

Self Attested Photo

1.	Name of the Applicant		
2.	Father's/Husband's name		
3.	Sex		
4.	Date of Birth		
5.	Category		
6.	QUALIFICATION	UNIV./Board	Year of Passing Percentage/ Div.
6.	RELATED WORKING EXPERIENCE, IF ANY		
	Name of the post held	Name of the department/institution	Period of working From To
8.	Any other details		
9.	Address for correspondence		
10.	Telephone/Mobile No., if any		

Date: / / Signature: \_\_\_\_\_