

Exhibition at GDMS

PORT BLAIR, DEC 31 /- The Science, Arts and Craft Exhibition of GDMS(Secondary) was inaugurated on Saturday by Dr.Suman Devi Verma, Deputy Director of Education (Academy) in the presence of Mr. H. Nathaniel.



Deputy Education Officer, South Andaman, Smt Protima Banerjee, Ward Councillor and the School SMC chairperson and members. After the inauguration, all the guests witnessed the exhibits and took keen interest during the explanation presented by the students. Smt Sarika Devi, vice principal congratulated the GDMS (Sec.) family and appreciated the efforts made by the students and teachers on this occasion.

Kejriwal hopes stalled works will be expedited under new L-G

NEW DELHI, DEC 31 /- Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal today said he is hopeful the works that have come to a standstill in the national capital will be expedited under new Lt Governor Anil Bajaj. (70), a former Union home secretary, took over as the Lt Governor of Delhi today.

"I am very hopeful that in the future, we all - MLAs, Delhi government, people of Delhi - will work with the Lt Governor for development of Delhi. In the last few months, some works of Delhi government have come to standstill. I hope that these works will be expedited," Kejriwal said. Bajaj's predecessor Najeb Jung and the Delhi government have been at loggerheads on a range of issues including transfer and posting of officers since AAP came to power. On being asked about his relationship with the AAP government after taking oath, Bajaj said, "This is a speculative thing and I don't know how the relationship will improve. We will sit together and talk." Bajaj was administered the oath of office and secrecy of Lt Governor by Chief Justice of Delhi High Court G Rohini.

Apart from the Chief Minister, National Security Adviser Ajit Doval, judges, Delhi Chief Secretary M M Kutty, Deputy CM Manish Sisodia, Water Minister Kapil Mishra, New Delhi MP Meenakshi Lekhi, Opposition leader Vijender Gupta and other two BJP MLAs O P Sharma and Jagdish Pradhan, senior bureaucrats attended the oath-taking ceremony. Bajaj, a 1969 batch IAS officer, had served as Union Home Secretary under the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government, besides holding key positions in other ministries.

Will wipe out drug menace from Punjab within 4 weeks: Capt Amarinder

NEW DELHI, DEC 31 /- Hitting out at Arvind Kejriwal, Punjab Congress president Amarinder Singh today said the AAP national convener was trivialising the state's drugs problem to divert the attention from substance abuse charges against his party's leaders.

"AAP workers are themselves making allegations of drugs abuse against their party leaders, many of whom are caught in corruption and sex scandals. Kejriwal was now resorting to diversion tactics by indulging in blatant lies against the Congress," Singh said. Rebutting Kejriwal's allegation of drug peddling against Congress, the former Punjab chief minister said the AAP leader was resorting to falsehood in a desperate bid to divert the attention from drug abuse charges against his party's leaders. Congress is committed to fight the drug menace in Punjab and the state party chief is committed to wipe out drugs from Punjab within four weeks of assuming power, a statement from the party said. Singh also blamed Kejriwal for ditching the people of Punjab on key issues such as Sutlej-Yamuna Link (SYL) canal. Again challenging Kejriwal for an open debate on issues vital to Punjab's interest, Singh said he was ready to debate him on all issues - including drugs and SYL. "Kejriwal should debate instead of making unfounded allegations and resorting to cheap gimmickry," Singh said. The people of Punjab want Kejriwal to convince them of their seriousness in the matter, especially given his track record of changing his mind 10 times a day, he claimed adding that the AAP leader should make his stand clear on the drug problem in the state. (PTI)

K'taka has released Rs.862 cr for drought relief: Siddaramaiah

BENGALURU, DEC 31 /- Karnataka chief minister Siddaramaiah today said the state government has released Rs 862 crore for drought relief measures. "We are not sitting quiet waiting for funds from the central government. We have already released Rs 862 crore for drought relief measures," Siddaramaiah said. He said Rs 400 crore has been released for drinking water and fodder for cattle, and Rs 325 crore is already available with the District Deputy Commissioners. Maintaining that the state was reeling under severe drought, the chief minister said there is scarcity of drinking water with no adequate water in reservoirs and lakes being dried up. District Deputy Commissioners have been directed to take adequate measures in ensuring the availability of drinking water and fod-

der for cattle," he told reporters. Karnataka is reeling under successive years of drought, and the state government has already declared 129 taluks in 29 districts as drought-hit. The Chief Minister had earlier said the state has incurred an estimated loss of Rs 25,000 crore this year due to severe drought. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had yesterday assured the all-party delegation led by Siddaramaiah that a decision on release of Rs 4,702 crore drought relief to Karnataka for this year crop loss in 2016 will be taken on January 4. Speaking about the meeting with the Prime Minister, Siddaramaiah said in a few districts the damage to crops due to floods, for which Rs 388 crore had been sought for relief. Pointing out to the deficit rainfall, he said

state has efficiently implemented job guarantee scheme and "we have requested Union government's support in making this more effective to support drought affected families." On the Mahadayi river water dispute with Goa, Siddaramaiah said during the meeting with Prime Minister "we requested his intervention, as the court has provided an opportunity for finding a solution through discussion, and it was also informed to him about Karnataka legislature's resolution seeking his intervention." He said "Prime Minister heard us, but did not give any assurance. BJP members in the delegation remained silent, only Ananth Kumar (Union Minister) said they have had discussions with Goa and Maharashtra Chief Ministers." (PTI)

KVK holds Kisan Mela at Sippighat

PORT BLAIR, DEC 31 /- ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sippighat organized a Kisan Mela -2016 at the campus on Friday for the farmers and other stakeholders of South Andaman district, which was sponsored by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, New Delhi. The exhibition on farmers' produce, information on relevant agricultural technologies and farm machineries and equipment was inaugurated by Dr. S. Dam Roy, Director, ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair in the presence of Smti. S. M. Pradhan, Hamphrigunj Panchayat, Smti. Ranjitha Dam Roy, Chairman, Women's Club, CIARI, HoDs of different disciplines, CIARI, Scientists, Farmers at the Training Hall of KVK, Port Blair. During the inaugural address Dr. S. Dam Roy appreciated the enthusiasm shown by the farmers and other stakeholder for actively participating and making the Kisan Mela -2016 a grand success. He also highlighted the importance of various technologies available at the Institute, different programmes and projects undertaken by the Institute for the welfare of farmers and other stakeholders.

Speaking on the occasion, Smti. S. Mary lauded the effort of ICAR-KVK and ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair for enriching the farmers with the much needed knowledge for developing agricultural sector. She called upon the farmers to spread the information provided in the Kisan Mela to the counterparts in their neighbourhood and also to visit the KVK regularly for getting latest information on agricultural technologies. Smti. Ranjitha Dam Roy, Chairperson, Women's Club, CIARI also graced the occasion and appreciated the ex-



hibits and farm produce displayed by the farmers in the Kisan Mela at KVK. She also urged the KVK to organizing more such activities to motivate women in agricultural and allied field. During the session, Dr A Kundu, HoD, Animal Sciences, Dr. B. Gangaiya, HoD, NRM, Dr. R.K. Gautam, HoD (I/c), FC and H&F and Dr. S.K. Zamir Ahmed, In-Charge, NSS briefed about the technologies available at their respective Division / Section under ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair during the programme four extension

literatures were released for the benefit of farmers. A colourful cultural programme was organized by the children of farmers. A quiz programme for farmers and farmer-scientist interaction was also conducted.

Earlier, Dr. Nagesh Ram, Senior Scientist and Head of KVK stressed upon promoting and adopting organic farming in these islands for better future of our children and islanders. Mr.L.B. Singh, SMS (Horticulture,) proposed vote of thanks. More than 150 farmers and other stakeholder participated in the programme and benefited.

ANA celebrates 'historic' 30th Dec



PORT BLAIR, DEC 31 /- On the occasion of 30th anniversary of the historic day, 30th December, 1943, the hoisting of tricolor flag of Azad Hind Government at Gymkhana Ground, Port Blair for the first time by the great revolutionary leader Netaji Subash Chandra Bose, a colourful cultural programme was organised by Aditya Natya Academy (ANA), an eminent theatre group on Friday (30th Dec) in its premises. Mr Ashutosh Karmakar, President of ANA

presided over the function. A couple of poetry recitals and songs were rendered by Nanda Lal Debsharma, Sampa Sarkar, Kavari Debsharma and Lakshmi Roy. Mr. Bhittaranjan Roy, highlighted the significance of the occasion in details. The programme was conducted by general secretary, Mr Anadirajan Bhattacharjee and vote of thanks was proposed by Mr Sushen Kumar Pat, vice president of ANA.

Heart surgery performed on 3 children from Liberia

KOCHI, DEC 31 /- Three children from Liberia, who arrived here with congenital heart defect, have undergone free heart surgeries successfully at a private hospital here, recently Lisse Hospital, pioneer in the field of cardiac care in the state, said as a gesture of goodwill it has joined hands with Moolan Foundation and Rotary Club of Cochin Global to perform free heart surgeries for the three children. The hospital in a release said today it has added another feather to its cap by providing "Care with Love" to children with heart disease from Africa. The children, aged from seven months to eight years, were under the treatment of Dr

Lokayukta Police deposits Rs 1.61 cr in old notes as FDS

INDORE, DEC 31 /- Lokayukta Police has converted Rs 1.61 crores, seized in new banned 500 and Rs 1,000 denomination notes in the last 10 years, into fixed deposits as per Madhya Pradesh High Court order. "We have deposited Rs 1.61,56,000 cash seized during raids at various premises of government officials and deposited it as fixed deposits at a nationalised bank," Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) Lokayukta Indore, B S Pathar said. The amount was seized in connection with 30 cases of alleged corruption in the last one decade. He said as per rules, the money seized in raids is deposited in the government treasury and then court while deciding the matter takes a call to whom the cash should be handed over. As per the court order, the sum was withdrawn from the government treasury in the last 10 days and has been now parked as fixed deposits with a bank, the senior official said. The Indore bench of MP high court while hearing a case of alleged corruption against a former government employee on December 19, had directed the Lokayukta to deposit the seized cash as fixed deposits in a nationalised bank ahead of December 30, the date of depositing old notes, post demonetisation. (PTI)

Steps-Aid India hails LG's revised excise policy

PORT BLAIR, DEC 31 /- Steps-Aid India (NGO), Austimabad, a charitable organization has expressed its gratitude to the Lt. Governor of Andaman and Nicobar Islands for reducing the functioning of bar timing and IMFL liquor shops from 4pm to 10pm and for increasing the number of dry days in the year w.e.f. 01.01.2017. Earlier, the organization conducted public signature campaign at various places and submitted the representation and its suggestions to the District Administration on 11.12.2015 requesting to reduce the functioning of bar and IMFL liquor shops in a uniform time (i.e. 5.00 pm to 10 pm) throughout the islands in the larger interest of social concern. Further, the organization highly appreciated the formation of a separate department viz. The Directorate of Prohibition to check out and control the prohibited activities and make these islands for a better place of living. As per communication received from Mr. C. Vivanan, chairman-cum-director, Steps-Aid India, Port Blair.

Good Morning Port Blair

PORT BLAIR, DEC 31 /- The Lt. Governor of Andaman Nicobar Islands, Prof. Jagdish Mukhi will be part of "Good Morning Port Blair" on January 2, 2017. He will express his views on "Efforts to boost Tourism" in the programme which will be broadcast at 7.20 am. This will be followed by LIVE interactive Phone-in programme on 'New initiatives to make the Islands a world-class tourist destination'. In this Programme, Secretary (Tourism), Smt Ankita Misra Bundela, will be answering to the queries of the listeners on the said topic.

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