

## 'Clean shores' campaign by Indian Coast Guard

PORT BLAIR, DEC 31/--/ The Indian Coast Guard conducts massive Clean Up drives at various places in A&N Islands including Kalipur beach at Diglipur and Marina beach at Port Blair during the week end. The Coast Guard personnel have undertaken beach cleanup drives, interaction programmes and other activities to spread awareness and motivate among various sections of society to participate in the flagship programme "Swachh Bharat

Abhiyan". The service has been effectively contributing not only towards the Prime Minister's visionary step of Clean India Campaign but also has taken steps towards 'Swachh Sagar Abhiyan' wherein measures have been put in place for keeping our oceans clean. The Coast Guard Air Enclave (CGAE) Port Blair organized a "Swachh Sagar Abhiyan" general awareness drive on 31 Dec 17 at the Marina Park Road. The officers and men of team CGAE conducted camps at multiple loca-

tions on Marine Drive to sensitise the early morning joggers and walkers. The Coast Guard personnel interacted with the local populace highlighting the demerits of marine pollution and importance of waste management. The people were apprised that "Swachh Bharat" is possible only when every person makes an effort and take responsibility of spreading awareness. The event ended with the Coast Guard Team taking the Swachhhta pledge to re-dedicate our commitment and continue the

cleanliness drive in the next year. The Coast Guard station Diglipur along with CG boats C-140 and C-417 also organised Beach cleanliness at "Kalipur beach" today. Considerable amount of manmade non-biodegradable garbage was collected from the Kalipur Beach. The garbage was segregated and disposed off in an environmental friendly manner. The event was witnessed and applauded by the locals and they also extended helping hand towards cleaning the area.

## NGGOS's efforts pay dividends

PORT BLAIR, DEC 31/--/ In a remarkable relief to the government employees, the Andaman and Nicobar Administration has conceded to a few suggestions of the Non-Gazetted Govt. Officers' Association, which will ensure timely settlement of various service and pension benefits. The General Secretary of the Association, Mr T.S.Sreekumar vide letter dated 18.10.2017 had invited the attention of the Chief Secretary, A&N Administration towards non-implementation of certain procedures/rules by a majority of departments resulting undue delay in settlement of various service and pensionary benefits of its employees. The General Secretary demanded for providing copy of the Annual Performance Assessment Report (APAR) to the concerned employee with the remarks of the Reporting & Reviewing Officer; verification of qualifying service after 18 years of service and again 05 years before the date of retirement; frequent administrative training to officers and other dealing hands. In response, the Administration has issued necessary directions to all the Head of Departments to provide copy of APAR to the concerned employee and to order verification of qualifying service of a government servant on completion of 18 years of service or before 05 years from the date of retirement. The Assistant Secretary (Personnel), A & N Administration has conveyed this information vide his letter dated 08.12.2017 addressed to Mr T.S.Sreekumar, General Secretary, NGOs' Association alongwith copies of circulars dated 08.12.2017. The Assistant Secretary (AR&T) vide its letter dated 28th

## Contraband haul

PORT BLAIR, DEC 31/--/ The police team of Police Station Aberdeen has arrested two persons with about 6.090 Kgs of illicit Ganja from Veer Savarkar Airport and a case has been registered under Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Act 1985. After credible information was received by SHO PS Aberdeen that two persons are likely to reach Port Blair by Go Air flight from Kolkata and they are carrying huge quantity of illicit ganja, a raiding team led by Insp. Arun Kumar Singh, SHO PS Aberdeen, ASI Vijay Shanker, HC V. Henthoo, PC D. Shiv Kumar, PC Jayanta Biswas, PC Jagdish Babu and PC Suresh was constituted under the direct supervision of SDPO (SA) Shri Nishant Gupta. The team quickly reached the airport and found that the accused had already left the airport terminal. However, the accused were quickly apprehended at the exit gate of airport and 6.090 Kg of illicit ganja was recovered from the possession of accused persons Ratan Biswas and Ajit Kumar Tete, both residents of Diglipur. They were arrested on the spot under the sections of Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Act 1985. The entire operation took place under the direction of Insp. A. K. Singh, SHO PS Aberdeen and overall supervision of SDPO (SA) Shri Nishant Gupta. The public is requested to share information with Police in full confidence so that such anti-social elements are brought to justice and may pass such information to 03192-232100, 03192-232400 and 9434288673. The informant will be suitably rewarded and his/her identity will be kept secret.



Picture shows students from GSSS Tushnabad accompanied by their teachers visiting Raj Niwas to see the gardens and other attractions last Saturday.

## JNRMA Alumni Assn. mourns

PORT BLAIR, DEC 31/--/ The chairman, Mr D. Ayyappan and other office-bearers of the JNRMA Alumni Association deeply mourn the sudden demise of Dr Iqbal Ahmed, former Principal of the JNRM, Port Blair, today at 4 am at his home town in Bijnor District, UP. He was 67 years. He retired as Principal, JNRM during June, 2015. It was during his tenure as Principal that the JNRM Alumni Association was formed. Alumni Association conveys its heartfelt condolences to the family members of Dr Iqbal Ahmed.

## Timber seized

PORT BLAIR, DEC 31/--/ On 30/12/2017 at about 1530 hrs Sh. Girish Kumar, SHO PS Bamboo Flat along with HC Ram Nag, PC Srinivas Rao, PC T. Anil, PC Apurba Biswas and PC K. Shoaib Ali (PMF unit) were conducting jungle search at the creek opposite Burma Jetty, Shore Point during which they found 59 pieces of padauk timber hidden inside the Mangrove jungle. The timber was measured to be 3.229 cbm. The recovered timber was seized on the spot and Range Officer, Mannarghat was informed. The padauk timber was brought to shore with the help of Forest officials and Forest dinghy and handed over to Range Officer, Mannarghat for further necessary action.

## Death condoled

PORT BLAIR, DEC 31/--/ The South Andaman Teachers' Branch of the Non-Gazetted Government Officers' Association, Andaman and Nicobar Islands condoles the sudden demise of Dr. Iqbal Ahmed, former Principal, Jawaharlal Nehru Rajkeyya Mahavidyalaya at 4 a.m. today (31.12.2017) morning at his residence in Bijnor District, Uttar Pradesh. He was 67 years and was admitted to a hospital in Delhi following a massive cardiac arrest three days ago. The Association conveys its deepest condolence and shares the sorrow with the bereaved members of his family.

## Rough weather

PORT BLAIR, DEC 31/--/ The Indian Meteorological Department, Kolkata has forecast heavy rains (7-11 cm) at isolated places Nicobar Islands. Due to high swell wave along and off Nicobar coasts, fishermen are advised to be cautious while venturing into the sea. The general public are advised to take precautionary measures and contact the State Control Room, District Control Room and Emergency Operation Centres in case of any emergency.

## Youth Parliament by NYK PB

PORT BLAIR, DEC 31/--/ Nehru Yuva Kendra, Port Blair organized "Block Level Neighbourhood Youth Parliament" under the scheme of National Young Leaders Programme (NYLP) in association with Gram Panchayat Wandoor South Andaman on 30th December, 2017 held at Gram Panchayat Hall, Wandoor. The Neighbourhood Youth Parliament made awareness on Adarsh Gaon, National Flagship Programmes, Skill Training Programmes, Model of Youth Leadership & Empowerment. Other issues or concerns of youth and local communities they wish to take up like Education, Health, Family Welfare and Nutrition, Sanitation and Cleanliness, social Issues, Environment Conservation, women Empowerment, Rural Development and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Volunteerism, Good Governance and Civic Education etc. Mr Ram Bala,

Pradhan, Gram Panchayat, Wandoor was the chief guest. Mr Surendra Nath Singh, Project Officer, National Co-operative Union of India, Port Blair elaborated on the topic of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship & self employment. Women Empowerment & Beti bachao beti Padhao abhiyan by Smti Sukhada Sil, Panchayat Samiti Member, Wandoor Constituency, Mr Pradeep Mondal, Forest Guard, Wild Life Division, Mahatma Gandhi National Marine Park, Wandoor delivered speech on Environment Conservation, Volunteers by Mr Deb Kumar Chakraborty, Sarpanch, Wandoor & Social Issues by Mr Sital Das, Police Station Humfringunj. Earlier Mr Kundan Lal, District Youth Coordinator, Nehru Yuva Kendra Port Blair welcome the gathering Mr. Dheeraj Kumar Sharma, National Youth Volunteer of NYK, Port Blair proposed the vote of thanks.

## CGEWCC celebrates annual get-together

PORT BLAIR, DEC 31/--/ The Annual Day function of the Central Government Employees' Welfare Coordination Committee (CGEWCC), Port Blair was held last Friday in the Multipurpose Hall of ALHW. Dr. Anandamoy Kundu, Director, CIARI has presided over function as chief guest. Addressing the gathering, the chief guest, Dr. A. Anandamoy Kundu said that all the Central Government departments are contributing towards development of A & N Islands in close coordination with the A & N Administration and requested to continue the same. He congratulated all the Central Govt. departments on this occasion for the efforts being taken and wished that they will work in MILAN and feel togetherness in building the nation in general and also development of islands in particular. Shri T.N. Krishnamoorthi, Chairman, CGEWCC in his address mentioned the activities and welfare measures being taken by the CGEWCC for the benefit of the Central Govt. staff in A & N Islands. He mentioned that a dedicated website www.cgewcc.and.nic.in has been created for the benefit of central govt. employees by the NIC which will enable to update latest govt. notifications, orders for the welfare of central govt. employees. In addition to this, the Committee has entered

in the social media by creating a group in Whatsapp for sharing the information among the central govt. employees. He also said that Shri Bhupinder Singh, CEO, Central Government Employees Welfare Housing Organisation (CGEWHO), New Delhi had visited Port Blair, met the Chief Secretary, A & N Administration during 1st week of this month and discussed regarding Housing Scheme for Central Govt. employees posted in A & N Islands. The A & N Administration has agreed in principle for the Housing scheme in A & N Islands by CGEWHO for the benefit of the Central Govt. employees posted in A & N Islands and also for the staff of A & N Administration. The general public will also be benefited and it would solve the housing deficiencies in islands. A grand cultural programme was also organized in which Central Govt. employees and their children presented beautiful dance, songs, poems etc. Prizes were given away to the participants of Indoor Games, Elouction completion on the theme of "SWACHH BHARAT ABHIYAN" and Cultural programme by Dr. Anandamoy Kundu and Smt. Kundu. Earlier Dr. N.V. Vinithkumar, Vice Chairman, CGEWCC welcomed the gathering and function concluded with the vote thanks proposed by Shri Sandana Edward, Secretary, CGEWCC."

PORT BLAIR, DEC 31/--/ One Bhim Sardar, C/o Shiva Hotel, Havelock was arrested with stolen goods by a police team comprising ASI Vijay Shanker, HC V. Henthoo, PCs D. Shiv Kumar, Jayanta Biswas and Suresh under the supervision of Insp. Arun Kumar Singh, SHO PS Aberdeen on the basis of the information passed on to them by the PS Havelock that a theft was committed in the Deva Resort area on December 30. The accused tried to flee in a speed boat. As per the details shared by PS Havelock, the said accused person was isolated and searched and the stolen articles and cash were recovered from his possession within hours. Later on, the accused and the stolen articles were handed over to Havelock Police for further course of action. The entire operation took place under the direction of

## Crackdown on burglars

Insp. A. K. Singh, SHO PS Aberdeen, Insp. Rahul Singh, SHO PS Havelock and overall supervision of SDPO (SA) Shri Nishant Gupta. The public is requested to share information with Police in full confidence so that such anti-social elements are brought to justice and may pass such information to 03192-232100, 03192-232400 and 9434288673. The informant will be suitably rewarded and his/her identity will be kept secret. In another case, on the intervening night of 28th December, a PCR call was received where it was told that a person was caught by the public after he had committed theft in a house and a shop. Also, a mobile phone, some cash packets of cigarette were found from his possession

and the said thief was handed over to PCR which brought him to PS Aberdeen. Another complaint was received from the house owner, who identified the mobile recovered from the accused. The accused was then arrested and was also found to be involved in cases of theft committed in a shop at Prem Nagar near Kalimandir and in a paan shop at Phoenix Bay. The entire operation took place under the direction of Insp. A. K. Singh, SHO PS Aberdeen and overall supervision of SDPO (SA) Shri Nishant Gupta. The public is requested to share information with Police in full confidence so that such anti-social elements are brought to justice and may pass such information to 03192-232100, 03192-232400 and 9434288673. The informant will be suitably rewarded and his/her identity will be kept secret.

## Rajinikanth declares political debut, to launch party

I want volunteers who will keep vigil and who will not go to any officials, ministers or MPs, or MLAs for selfish needs..... I am only a representative of the people to monitor such vigilantes  
—Rajinikanth

CHENNAI, DEC 31/--/ In an announcement that could dramatically alter political alignments in Tamil Nadu, superstar Rajinikanth today announced his political debut and said he will launch his own party which will contest all 234 constituencies in the next Assembly polls in the state.

The announcement ends two decades of speculation over the entry of the actor, who enjoys cult status in Tamil cinema, in the political arena. "I am joining politics and it is for sure," said the actor clad in a spotless white kurta and sporting a grey beard, amid thunderous applause from fans. Barring for honesty in politics and good governance, he said, "everything needs to be changed" and declared that "spiritual politics" needs to be ushered in, sans shades of any caste or religion with transparency. "This is my motto and desire," he said and appealed to people to support him in his venture adding it was not possible to do it alone. During the era of kings, they plundered the countries of their enemies. However, in democracy, parties were plundering their own people and such a "sys-



Actor Rajinikanth greeting his fans after confirmed his political entry during the last day of his photo shoot with his fans, in Chennai on Sunday

tem" needs to be changed democratically. Dramatically, he asked for "volunteers," not cadres to see to it that those who prevent amenities and rights reaching the people are thwarted. Asserting that he will not tolerate nepotism or under the table dealings, the acting icon said: "I want volunteers who will keep vigil and who will not go to any officials, ministers or MPs, or MLAs for selfish needs." Such 'volunteers' should question whoever commit mistakes, Rajinikanth said adding he needed only such people for his party.

"I am only a representative of the people to monitor such vigilantes." He said such a force of selfless volunteers who will act as not cadres but as 'vigilantes' was needed and it should be built. The actor said the first task would be streamlining the existing registered and unregistered fan clubs across the State. He appealed to his fans to bring all sections of people into the club so that it could transform into a party and "till then there is no need to indulge in political talk which includes me."

## Isles Sqay team creates history, bags 36 medals in Natn. C'ship

PORT BLAIR, DEC 31/--/ Island SQAY Martial Art team have created history by winning 36 Medals i.e. 21 Golds, 08 Silvers and 07 Bronzes, in 18th National SQAY Martial Art Championship held at Goa from 27th to 29th December, 2017. The 21 player team headed by the President ISMAA Smti. R.S. Uma Bharathy have participated in the individual event as well as in group events in each age group and have brought laurels to our Islands by winning medals and have achieved Vth position in overall championship. First time in the history of Islands, Grand Champion trophy is also won by ISMAA team



player R.Dinesh Student of class Xth from Carmel School and created a record in SQAY Martial Art events. President awardee Kumari

Saniya Subash alone also created a new record by winning three gold medals in all the events. The president ISMAA, Master

M.D.Selvam Technical Director and Senior Instructors congratulates the Players for their outstanding achievements.

## '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: [echopress4@gmail.com](mailto: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 w.e.f. 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.

