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Amit Shah at New Delhi;
Highlights Important Issues of
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**No Vegetables for In-Patients
at PHC Campbell Bay for Over
Two Months; No Potable
Water for Over Two Years**

**Cycling Star & Island's Pride
Deborah Herold Alleges
Physical Abuse & Harassment
by R K Sharma**

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Tarun Karthick

Campbell Bay, 16 June 2022

Mr. Ajoy Bairagi, State President, Bharatiya Janata Party, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Mr Vishal Jolly, National Executive Member, Bharatiya Janata Party and Mr. Bishnu Pada Ray, Ex-Member of Parliament, Andaman and Nicobar Islands met Mr. Amit Shah, Hon'ble Union Home Minister. The delegation of the top brass of leaders from BJP, Andaman and Nicobar Islands was led by Mr. Y Satya Kumar, National Secretary, BJP.

The leaders highlighted important issues of Andaman and Nicobar Islands before the Union Home Minister for his consideration.

Mr. Amit Shah heard and took note of various issues raised by the leaders.

Mr. Bairagi has thanked the Union Home Minister for meeting the delegation amidst his busy schedule.





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No Vegetables for In-Patients at PHC Campbell Bay for Over Two Months; No Potable Water for Over Two Years



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Campbell Bay, 16 June 2022

The In-Patients at PHC Campbell Bay are being served plain Rice and Dal for over two months now. The helpless patients who get admitted to the PHC from remote areas of Great Nicobar for treatment do not even get clean potable drinking water at the hospital.

PHC Campbell Bay is the main hospital in Great Nicobar Island. Patients from all corners of the Islands both tribals and non-tribals are completely dependent on PHC

PHC Campbell Bay for their treatment.

While the doctors and other medical staff gives the best possible care to the patients, the lack of basic facilities voids their effort.

Due to non-payment of bills, the supplier of vegetables had stopped the supply of vegetables around two months ago. The hospital administration had to call for a new tender for the supply of vegetables which is still due and the in-patients are made to suffer.

While the patients who live nearby and have relatives living at Campbell Bay are able to manage their food requirements, the patients from remote hamlets are the ones who are the real sufferers.

Potable water is not available at the PHC for more than two years now. The Reverse Osmosis Water Purifier installed at the PHC has gone defunct and it has not been repaired even after multiple complaints to the hospital authorities and higher authorities of the Directorate of Health Services.

The office of PHC Campbell Bay lacks adequate infrastructure and manpower. PHC Campbell Bay office is responsible for the official works of all health establishments in Great Nicobar Island.

The Office of PHC Campbell Bay is operating with only a single computer and no peons or MTS are posted at the office. The office is also short of one Lower Grade Clerk to handle the official responsibilities.





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Cycling Star & Island's Pride Deborah Herold Alleges Physical Abuse & Harassment by R K Sharma



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Tarun Karthick

Campbell Bay, 16 June 2022

Cycling Star Deborah Herold who hails from Andaman and Nicobar Islands has alleged that R.K Sharma, India's Ex-National Cycling Coach, slapped her twice and harassed her for years. Deborah informed Deccan Herald, Ex-Coach and the team's assistant Gautamni Devi ridiculed her for years and removed her from the national team as Gautamni Devi thought she was in a relationship with another female cyclist.

“She (Devi) thought I was in a relationship with another female cyclist, and harassed me a lot. She taunted, ignored, and isolated me from the rest of the cyclists. Eventually, I was removed from the national camp. In truth, there was nothing like it...we are just good friends,” Deborah told the Deccan Herald.

Deborah also informed the Deccan Herald, that Gautamni Devi taunted and passed derogatory remarks against her, R.K Sharma started to harass her mentally. She alleged that both the

coaches made rude and discouraging statements during training and made personal remarks against the friendship between Deborah and her teammate from Andaman.

Deborah also informed that she was asked to stay away from all the other cyclists and was ultimately isolated from the team. "The assistant coach and the chief coach harassed us mentally. It affected me so much that I started losing weight because I couldn't eat properly... I was pulled up if I spoke with any teammate, male or female. If I bumped into someone in the dining room, I

would be shouted at. It reached a stage where, on some days, I started eating alone in my hostel room. I was singled out and harassed for no fault of mine," she said to Deccan Herald.

Deccan Herald confronted Gautamni Devi about the allegations. Devi in response informed that she was following the instructions given to her by the federation. When she was confronted with the allegations of removing Deborah from the National Team for her friendship with another cyclist, Devi said, "This wasn't in my hands. Who am I? Just a

coach who works under the federation..Nothing is in my hands. I do what the federation tells me.”

R.K Sharma was recently sacked as the National Cycling Coach after allegations of sexual harassment by another female cyclist. The female cyclist had alleged inappropriate behaviour by the coach during a foreign exposure trip to Slovenia. An FIR was recently filed by the cyclist on the advice of the Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) of the Sports Authority of India.





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