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22/06/2022

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LG Appeals to the Youth to not be Misled by the Disinformation Campaign Over 'Agnipath'; Calls 'Agnipath' a Transformational Scheme

Scuba Divers Perform Underwater Yoga to Spread Awareness on International Day of Yoga

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Tarun Karthick

Tarun Karthick

Campbell Bay, 21 June 2022

Admiral D K Joshi, PVSM, AVSM, YSM, NM, VSM (Retd), Lt Governor, A&N Islands and Vice Chairman, Islands Development Agency has made a fervent appeal to the youth not to be misled by misinformation and disinformation being spread on the 'Agnipath Scheme' announced by the Govt. of India.

Calling it an 'important scheme' for the country and for those interested in working for the defence

forces, Lt Governor advised the youth to look into the positive aspects of the scheme which provides financial benefit and also has the option of continuing the service.

In an interview telecasted by Doordarshan, Port Blair and broadcasted by All India Radio, Port Blair on 'Agnipath Scheme', the Lt Governor said, as per the scheme, some will be retained while for others the options are unlimited.

Allaying apprehensions surrounding the scheme, the Lt Governor stated that this scheme is voluntary

and it gives a golden opportunity for those who have a passion to serve the country by joining the Armed Forces. The Lt Governor urged the youth not to resort to violence by destroying public property, but to sort out their grievances in a peaceful manner. It's a transformational scheme which will immensely benefit the youth as well as the country.

The Lt Governor further remarked that the Govt. has brought the scheme to involve the younger generation for command assignment. The focus is on

lowering the command age limit and to create a lean and efficient organization. He opined that under the scheme, food, accommodation, uniform, travel, medical and other facilities are totally free while in service and the salary would be saved. After the initial tenure, they will have sufficient starting capital, based on which, they can avail loan to setup their own self employment venture. They can also pursue their studies or take part in competitions. The Lt Governor stated that many State Governments have announced that 'Agniveers', after serving the Armed

Force for four years will be given preferences in filling up of vacancies in Police Forces as well as in various Departments.





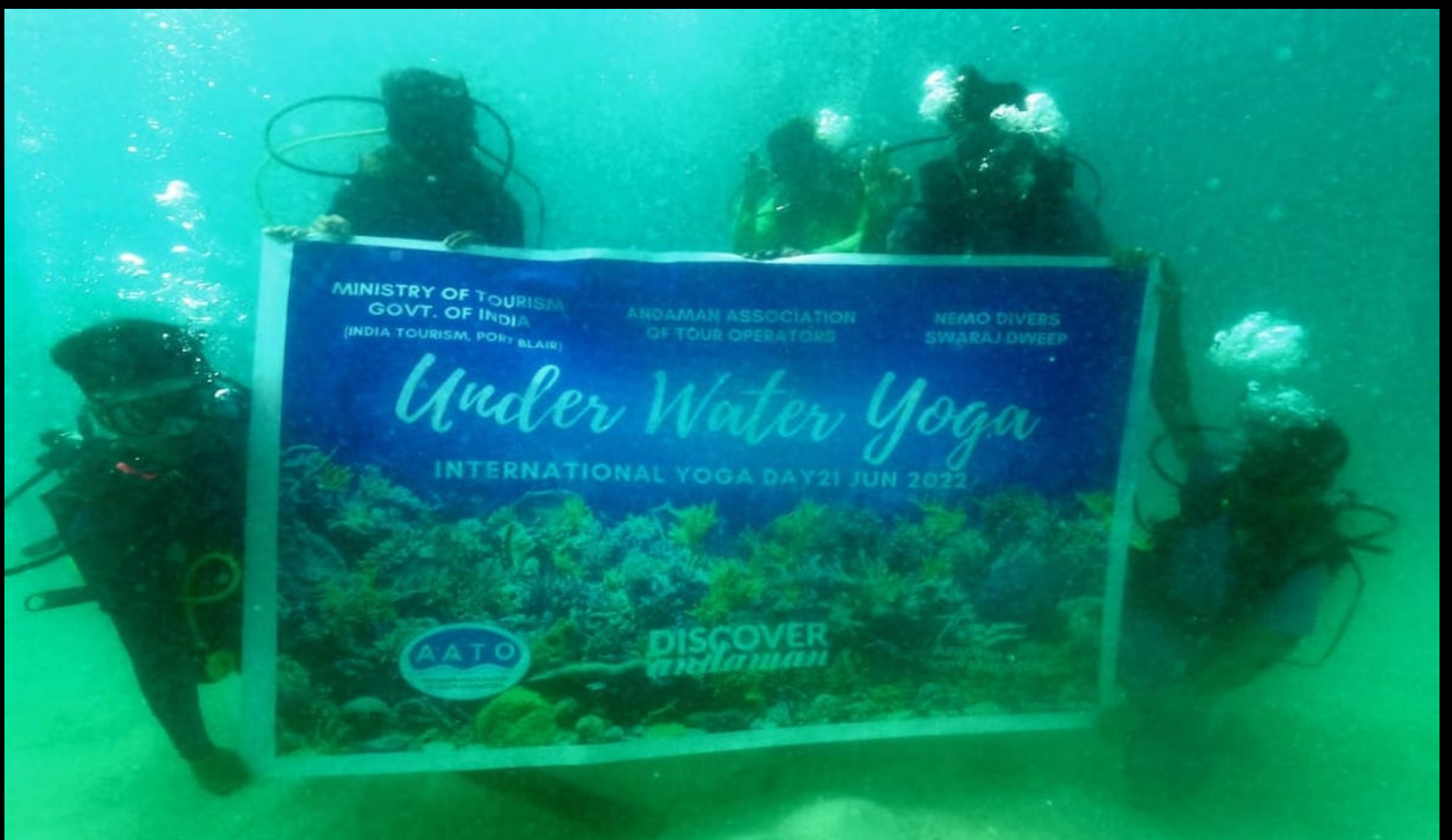
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Scuba Divers Perform Underwater Yoga to Spread Awareness on International Day of Yoga



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Campbell Bay, 21 June 2022

Ministry of Tourism, Govt. of India in collaboration with Andaman Association of Tour Operators organised Underwater Yoga Demonstration at Swaraj Dweep.

Scuba Divers from Nemo Divers demonstrated Underwater Yoga at Nemo Reef in Swaraj Dweep Island (Havelock).

Scuba Diving is an adventure sport which demands high level of fitness and divers from

lacross the globe practice
Yoga to stay fit.

nternational Day of Yoga is
celebrated every year on
the 21st of June to spread
awareness about the
importance and health
benefits of Yoga.

In Andaman and Nicobar
Islands Yoga
demonstrations and
practice sessions were
organised at different
places from Diglipur to
Campbell Bay to spread
awareness on the
International Day of Yoga.





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MoWCD Organises Sub Zonal Meet on 8 years of Achievement - The Impact on Women & Children



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[Rohit Kumar](#)

Rohit Kumar

Port Blair, 21 June 2022

Ministry of Women & Child Development, Govt. of India organized a Sub Zonal Meet on 8 Years of Achievement- the impact on women and children in the auditorium of Tagore Government College of Education at Port Blair on 20 June 2022. Representatives from States/UTs of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Puducherry and host A&N Islands participated in the meet. The meet was chaired by Dr. Munjpara Mahendrabhai,

Hon'ble Minister of State for Women & Child Development and AYUSH in the presence of the Admiral D K Joshi, PVSM, AVSM, YSM, NM, VSM (Retd.), Hon'ble Lt Governor, A&N Islands and Vice Chairman, Islands Development Agency.

In his keynote address, the Hon'ble Minister of State, Women and Child Development and AYUSH said, "as part of holistic development of the nation, women & child development has been of paramount importance to the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Mr. Narendra Modi and we

have gathered here today to celebrate the achievements of our goals under his guidance". With 8 years of tireless commitment and the drive to promote, protect and empower women and children of this nation, the Govt. has made several first hand policy interventions which have borne fruitful results, said the Minister. The Ministry of Women and Child Development is dedicated to working towards protecting women and girl child from violence and discrimination, he said.

The Minister stated that 708 One Stop Centres have been operationalised

in India since 2015 to provide integrated support and assistance under one roof to women affected by violence. Over 5.2 lakh women have been assisted by these Centres which are being supported through Women Helpline Service and over 70 lakh calls related to women in distress have been addressed. A total of 971 Working Women's Hostels have been built which are benefitting about 75 thousand working women all over the country since 2017. The Nirbhaya Fund constituted by the Centre has supported 34 new projects/schemes with targeted interventions

taking the total amount to nearly Rs.10,000 crore. The purpose of the fund is to enhance protection and security to women and make the public spaces safer for them, the Minister said.

Dwelling upon PMMVY, the Minister said, cash incentives are provided to pregnant and lactating mothers for supplementing maternal nutrition and dietary diversification, thereby promoting better health among women. Under this, more than 2.78 cr beneficiaries have been enrolled and more than 2.47 cr. beneficiaries have been paid maternity benefit

amounting to nearly Rs.10,793.34 cr. He remarked that the introduction of National Crèche Scheme for children of working mothers in 2017 has helped countless working women by providing day care facilities to children. This has provided respite for working women and takes a step closer to achieving holistic empowerment and promoting income generation among women.

The Minister further mentioned that the Government gives utmost priority to ensure gender equality in all spheres of life and has taken several steps

to ensure that women do not face any gender based disadvantage.

The Minister informed that the foundation of all the learnings are laid during early years from 0 to 8 years and good quality early childhood education and early childhood development programmes have helped in reducing the chance of drop outs and repetitions, thereby improving the outcome at all level of education. The Beti Bachao Beti Padao campaign has increased awareness and sensitized the masses on gender equality, said the Minister. This has yielded tangible

results in the area of sex ratio at birth. Gross enrolment ratio of girls in schools at secondary level has increased more than that of boys. Over 6 lakh children have been assisted through child protection service schemes. He said, nutrition is the focal point of health and wellbeing which is directly linked to human resource development, productivity and ultimately leads to national growth. In the last 5 years, the Ministry has distributed nearly 12 lakhs growth monitoring device, 11 lakhs smart phones to Anganwadi workers and rolled out Poshan Tracker to improve

governance to identify and ensure the treatment of malnourished children.

Touching upon women centric

interventions/schemes

implemented by Govt. for

welfare of women and

children, the Minister said,

schemes and initiatives

such as Pradhan Mantri

Mudra Yojana has provided

financial support

mechanism for women

entrepreneurs. About 68%

of Mudra accounts are in

the name of women, which,

he said, is an indication that

women have been in the

right direction for women

related income generating

activities. The Stand Up

India scheme has been monumental in alleviating women from financial constraints for setting up a green field enterprise in manufacturing and agriculture and allied sectors, he said. PM Jan Arogya Yojana has provided health care service to women households, thus expanding the idea of Aatmanirbhar Bharat for women households. The Minister stated that the goals of all these schemes and efforts remains in ensuring balance nutrition for women and children, assuring empowerment, safety and protection

of women and children under three umbrella visions viz. Poshan Abhiyan, Mission Shakti and Mission Vatsalya.

With the support of State and inter-ministerial Department, it is aimed to ensure balanced and sustained growth and development for women and children for holistic national growth, said the Minister adding that as we celebrate 8 years of achievement under the aegis of Hon'ble Prime Minister, we need to continue to support and recognise incredible role played by women and

children in the future of our nation.

The Lt Governor in his address on the occasion expressed his happiness that A&N Islands got an opportunity to host the Sub- Zonal Meet. He stated that A&N Administration is committed towards providing better health, nutrition, education, economic empowerment, gender equality, security, protection and shelter for women & children through different schemes. He mentioned that Administration is ensuring complete nutrition, health check up, growth monitoring and referral

services to children through 719 Anganwadi Centres functioning in A&N Islands. The Administration has also taken various initiatives for upgrading all the Anganwadi Centres as 'Shaksham Anganwadi Centres' in a phased manner as per the laid down guidelines of the Ministry, the Lt. Governor said. The cases of malnutrition among children below 6 years of age in the Islands have declined due to effective implementation of 'Poshan Abhiyan', the Lt Governor stated.

The Lt Governor informed

that as per the report of Universal Immunization programme, all the children have been completely vaccinated. To minimise the mother and child mortality rate, the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana has been successfully implemented in Isles through which 99 percent Institutional Delivery has been ensured, the Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor further stated that due to better implementation of law, social evils like dowry, domestic violence and sexual assault are nil in A&N Islands. Timely

assistance is being provided to women in distress through 'One Stop Centre' who are facing atrocities. Significant success has been achieved in making A&N Islands a crime free state for children and in this direction, the A&N Administration is working constantly with UTCPCR, CWC, JJB and Civil Societies, Lt Governor said. To provide a safe environment for destitute children, 11 Child Care Institutions are functioning to take care of them. Due to such efforts, the number of destitute children, child labour and beggars are nil in A&N Islands, the Lt Governor stated.

Lt Governor remarked that children are the future of our Country and for their better future, quality education is being provided through 471 schools spread across the Islands. Scholarship and financial assistance are also provided to poor and needy students, the Lt Governor said.

During the programme, Shri Dhrijesh Tiwari, Statistical Adviser, MWCD gave a presentation on 8 years of achievements of Ministry of Women and Child Development- impact on women and children. A video on schemes related to women and child

development viz. POSHAN Abhiyan, OSC, BBBP, PMMVY, etc. were screened for the gathering. On the occasion, women beneficiaries also shared their experiences on various schemes like Health, Mudra, Start Up, MWCD Schemes. Student beneficiaries also shared their experiences and the benefit of the schemes like Beti Bachao Beti Padao (BBBP), Education, JJ Act, Scholarship schemes etc. implemented by the Govt. for the holistic development of students. The panel was moderated by Mrs. Aditi Das Rout,

Additional Secretary,
Ministry of Women & Child
Development. An
interaction with Child Care
Institutions and Civil Society
Organizations dealing with
women related schemes
was also held. The Minister
also ascertained on ground
from each beneficiary who
shared their experiences
regarding the impact of the
schemes in their lives and
how well they have been
benefited from such
schemes and their
aspirations for the future.

Videos on Poshan, One
Stop Centre, PMMVY, BBBP
were also screened on the
occasion.

Representative from UN Women gave a presentation on 'Financial Inclusion and Economic Empowerment of Women' while representative from UNICEF highlighted on 'Impact on children over the last 8 years'.

Earlier, the Commissioner-cum-Secretary (WCD/Social Welfare), A&N Administration, Mr. Santosh D Vaidya welcomed the gathering and briefed about the implementation of the schemes related to women and child development in A&N Islands. The programme concluded with the vote of thanks

proposed by Secretary (WCD/Social Welfare), A&N Administration, Ms Vedittha Reddy. The meet was also attended by Heads of Zilla Parishad, South Andaman, PBMC & Panchayats, International Agencies like UNICEF and Civil Society Organizations.

Women SHG Mela was also organized as a part of the programme. The dignitaries also visited the stalls put up by women SHGs.

Later in the evening, the Minister visited National Memorial Cellular Jail.





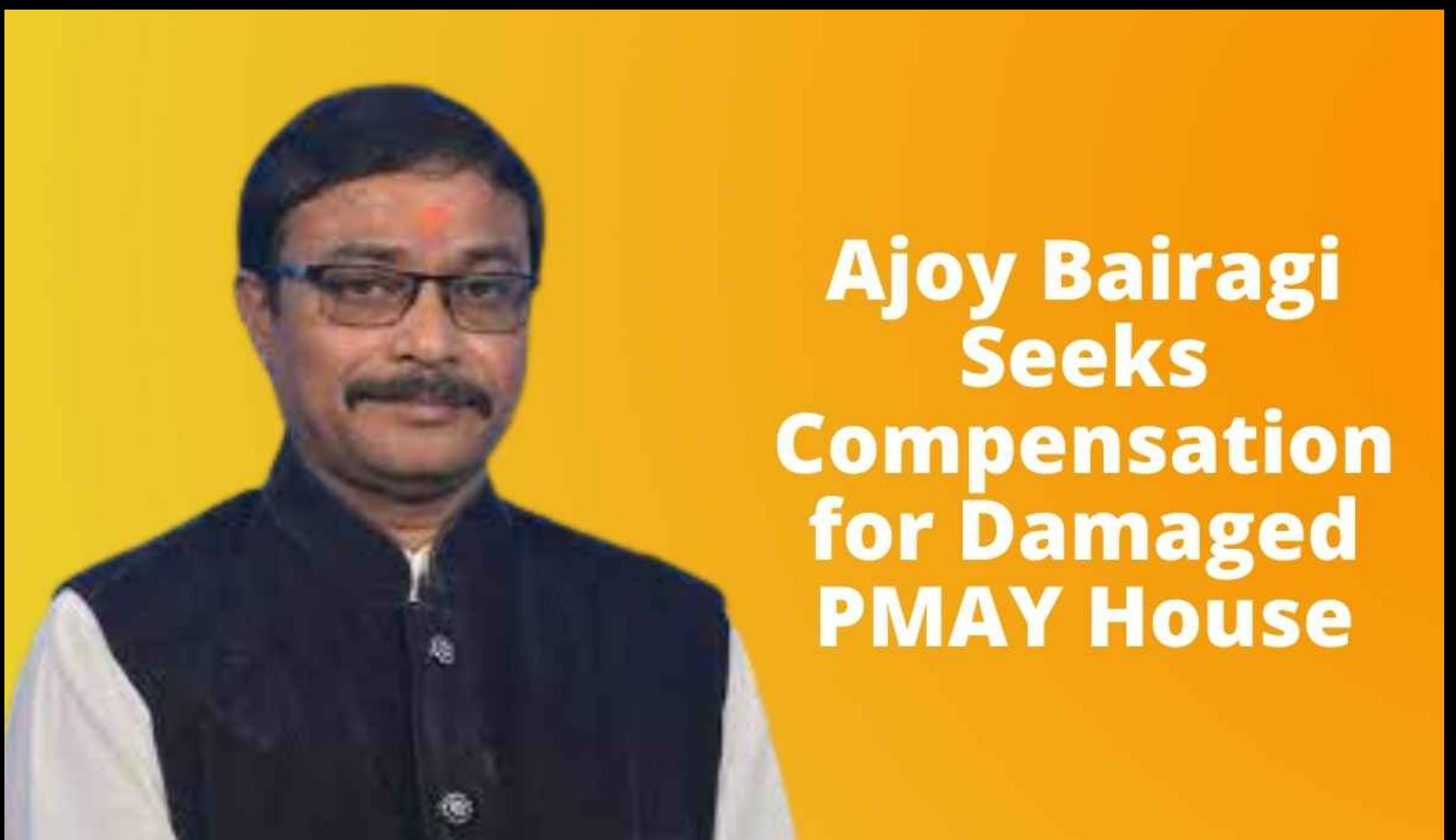
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Ajoy Bairagi Seeks Compensation for Damaged PMAY House



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Rohit Kumar

Port Blair, 21 June 2022

Mr. Ajoy Bairagi, State President, Bharatiya Janata Party, Andaman and Nicobar Islands wrote a letter to the Secretary, Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Andaman and Nicobar Administration and sought compensation for the fully damaged PMAY House of Mr. Pradeep Sil.

Mr. Bairagi informed the Secretary that the PMAY house of Mr. Pradeep located at Kishorinagar,

Mohanpur, N & M Andaman got completely damaged due to a tree fall even before the construction of the house could be completed.

He added that the house is beyond repair. He requested that necessary compensation be released to reconstruct the house so that the family can be accommodated safely during the monsoon.





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Villagers of Teylerabad & Bimblitan to Protest on 22nd June to Press for Repair of Garacharma - Bimblitan Road



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Port Blair, 21 June 2022

Villagers of Teylerabad & Bimblitan had organised a protest on 24th September 2021 to press for the repair of the road between Garacharma to Bimbitan. They had called off their protest after a written assurance regarding the repair of the road was given by Mr. Harish Kumar, EE, CD-II, APWD, Prothrapur.

The Executive Engineer in the written assurance had informed that the maintenance work will be

taken up within one month subject to the sanction of the Estimate.

Now, the villagers of Teylerabad are organising another protest on 22nd of June 2022 to press for the repair of the same road as no action was taken on their demand.

In a letter to the Chief Secretary, the villagers have alleged that no action has been taken in their favour and there is no progress regarding the repair of the roads even after written assurance from the EE.

The villagers have further mentioned that the poorly maintained roads are causing a lot of trouble for the pedestrians as well as for those travelling on vehicles. They also informed that there are numerous pits and ditches in the said stretch of road and several accidents have been reported because of the bad condition of the road.

They have further informed the Chief Secretary that the monsoon has only added to their woes as water logging is causing more difficulty.

The villagers in their letter had mentioned that they would go for a protest on 22nd of June 2022 if the letter fails to attract the attention of the authorities.





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