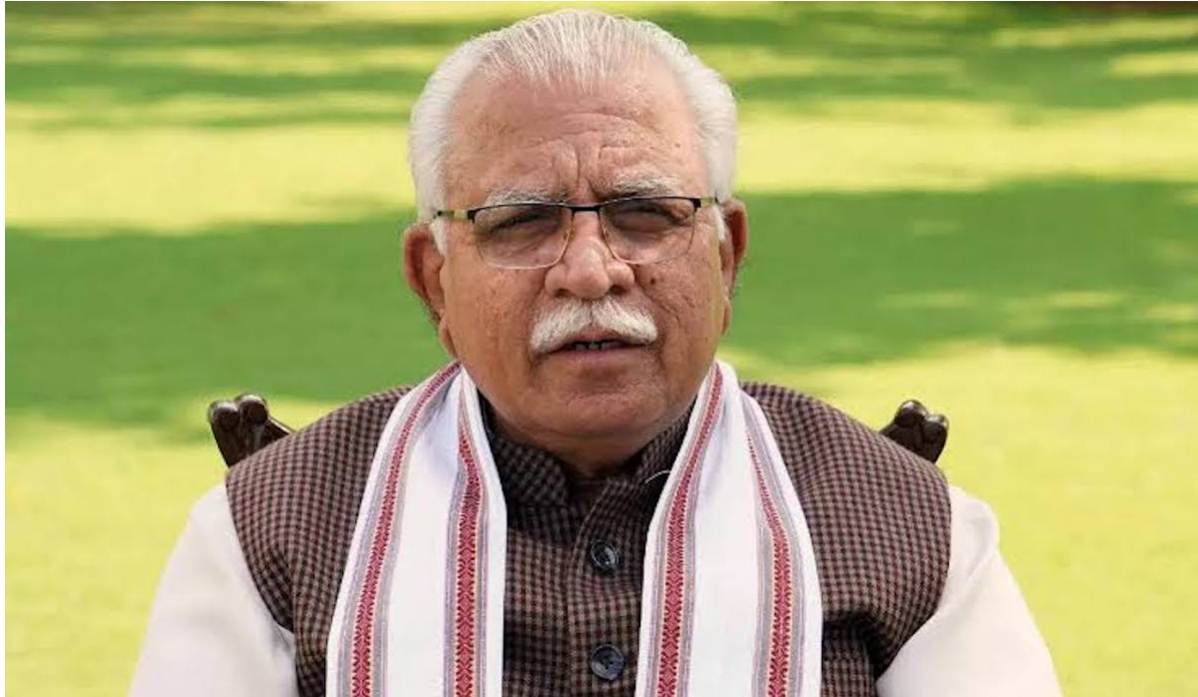


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## Union Minister of Power and Housing & Urban Affairs to Visit A&N Islands Today



**Rohit Kumar**

**Sri Vijaya Puram, 25 October 2024**

The Hon'ble Union Minister of Power and Housing & Urban Affairs, Mr. Manohar Lal Khattar, will arrive in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands today for a day-long visit. The visit comes as part of the government's ongoing efforts to assess and improve infrastructure in the region.

Upon arrival, Mr. Manohar Lal Khattar is scheduled to meet the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of the A&N Islands at Raj Niwas. The meeting is expected

to focus on key issues pertaining to power and urban development in the Islands.

Following the meeting, the Union Minister will hold discussions with officials from the Andaman and Nicobar administration regarding ongoing and future projects related to power and urban development in the Islands.

Later in the day, Mr. Manohar Lal Khattar will visit the NLC Solar Plant at Dollygunj and the 5 MW NTPC Solar Plant located at Garacharma, where he will review the progress of these

solar energy projects aimed at boosting the renewable energy capacity of the Islands.

In the afternoon, the Minister is scheduled to visit Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Island (NSCB Island). He will also visit the National Memorial Cellular Jail, a key historical landmark, and attend the Light and Sound Show, which narrates the struggles of India's freedom fighters.

The Union Minister will conclude his visit tomorrow, Oct. 26, when he departs for the mainland.

## ANIIMS 2nd Graduation Ceremony Overshadowed by MP's Exclusion Controversy



**Tarun Karthick**

**Sri Vijaya Puram, 25 October 2024**

The 2nd Graduation Ceremony for the MBBS Batch of 2018 at the Andaman & Nicobar Islands Institute of Medical Sciences (ANIIMS) took place at Ambedkar Auditorium on 24th October 2024. The event, which was attended by the Hon'ble Lt. Governor, the Chief Secretary, and several senior officers of the Islands' administration, was marred by controversy over the absence of an invitation to Mr. Bishnu Pada Ray, the lone Member of Parliament from the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Mr. Ray, known for his vocal stance on various issues, made an uninvited appearance at the venue, expressing his displeasure at being left out of the guest list. His dissatisfaction was particularly pointed given his instrumental role in the establishment of ANIIMS, the only medical college in the Islands.

The event saw a tense moment when senior officers, including the Chief Secretary, were seen attempting to pacify the MP, urging him to join them on stage. Videos of the incident, which quickly went viral on social media, show Mr. Ray publicly voicing his displeasure. In the videos, senior officials can be seen engaging with the MP in an effort to resolve the situation, highlighting the unexpected turn of events during what was meant to be a celebratory occasion.

Eventually, after much persuasion, Mr. Ray agreed to join the officers on stage, allowing the program to proceed without further disruption. He later participated in the ceremony,

distributing certificates to the graduating students.

The Hon'ble Lt. Governor, who had earlier declared the convocation open, also took part in the day's proceedings. He virtually inaugurated ANIIMS' newly constructed Administrative Block and Library Block and unveiled the institution's annual report, marking significant milestones for the medical college.

In her address, Director of ANIIMS, Dr. Pragma Sharma, congratulated the graduates and their families, describing the ceremony as a momentous occasion that marked both the end of a challenging academic journey and the beginning of a new chapter in the lives of the graduates. Her remarks underscored the significance of the event, which was meant to be a day of celebration for the graduating students and their families.

However, the controversy surrounding the MP's exclusion continued to dominate discussions, both at the event and across social media platforms. WhatsApp groups across the Andaman and Nicobar Islands were abuzz with videos of Mr. Ray's public expression of dissatisfaction, sparking widespread criticism of the ANIIMS administration for not extending an invitation to the MP. Even individuals who typically oppose Mr. Ray voiced their support for him on this matter, adding to the chorus of disapproval directed at the organisers.

Despite the early disruption, the ceremony concluded successfully, leaving the controversy over the MP's exclusion as a point of contention among the Islands' political and administrative circles.

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# Two Separate Raids in South Andaman Leads to Arrests of Two Individuals and Seizure of 2.341 Kg of Ganja



**Tarun Karthick** trafficking in the region.

**Sri Vijaya Puram, 25 October 2024**

In a series of operations this week, the South Andaman District Police apprehended two drug peddlers and seized 2.341 kilograms of ganja, reinforcing their commitment to curbing drug

Based on specific intelligence inputs, officers from Police Station Aberdeen conducted targeted raids at two locations. On

October 24, 2024, a team led by Inspector Vishal Ram, Station House Officer (SHO) of PS Aberdeen, raided a

location at Phoenix Bay. The operation, which included Inspector Mithun Kirtania, Sub Inspector Abhishek Haldar, Head Constable S. Jiju, and Constables Jairaj, Mohd Rafique, Jagdish Babu, Surender Singh, and Naw Elieen, resulted in the arrest of Rajib Sarkar, 33, a private worker residing in Delanipur. Sarkar was found in possession of 2.140 kilograms of ganja.

Earlier in the week, on October 22, 2024, the same team carried out another successful raid near the Junglighat

cremation ground. This operation led to the apprehension of Superintendent of Police, South Andaman District, known as Rahul, a 29-year-old resident of Junglighat. Chandveer was found with 201 grams of ganja. Both individuals have been booked under relevant sections of the law, and investigations are ongoing to uncover any additional links to drug networks.

The raids were conducted under the supervision of Miss Anushtha Kalia, IPS, Sub-Divisional Police Officer (SDPO) of South Andaman, and

overseen by Ms. Niharika Bhatt, IPS, Superintendent of Police, South Andaman District. Authorities have urged the public to report any suspicious or illegal activities to the police by dialing 112 or contacting local police stations. All information provided by informants will be kept confidential.

These swift operations highlight the ongoing efforts of the South Andaman Police to combat drug trafficking and ensure a safer community.

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# ANTCC President Urges DHS to Address Healthcare Issues at CHC Rangat



restored immediately to protect the well-being of the patients," he stressed.

In addition to the medication shortage, Mr. Halder drew attention to the non-operational thyroid testing equipment at CHC Rangat. The malfunctioning equipment has left patients unable to access essential service of thyroid function tests locally, which are vital for diagnosing and managing their conditions.

"The lack of functioning thyroid testing equipment is forcing patients to travel long distances for tests, which not only creates financial strain but also imposes logistical challenges on them," Mr. Halder explained. He urged the DHS to take immediate action to ensure that these critical services are restored at the CHC, allowing patients to receive the necessary care without further delay.

Tarun Karthick

Sri Vijaya Puram,  
25 October 2024

The President of the Andaman Nicobar Territorial Congress Committee

(ANTCC), Rangalal Halder, has called on the Directorate of Health Services (DHS) to address pressing healthcare concerns at the Community Health Center (CHC) in Rangat. In a letter sent to the DHS, Mr. Halder highlighted

two significant issues affecting patient care at the centre.

One of the primary concerns raised by Mr. Halder is the acute shortage of thyroid medication, which is critical for managing thyroid-related

conditions. "The unavailability of thyroid medication is putting many individuals at serious health risk, as they rely on these medicines for managing their condition. It is essential that the supply of these life-saving drugs be

The issues raised by Mr. Halder reflect growing concerns about the healthcare services in Rangat, with local residents and patients hopeful for a swift resolution to these pressing challenges.



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## South Andaman District Police Connects with Senior Citizens During Police Commemoration Week



being of the elderly but also to strengthen the bonds between the community and the police force, fostering trust and support. As part of the celebrations for Police Commemoration Week, these activities reflect the South Andaman Police's dedication to serving and protecting all citizens, especially those who may require additional care and attention.

During these interactions, many senior citizens and retired government servants expressed their happiness at the visits, highlighting the positive impact of the initiative.

"This effort by our staff is commendable. Our senior citizens and retired government servants have devoted their lives to the service of the nation, and it is our responsibility to ensure they feel safe and cared for," a Press Release from the SP of South Andaman District Police said. "This outreach is a small yet meaningful step in that direction."

The South Andaman District Police remains committed to the well-being of all community members and will continue to engage in such initiatives to ensure the safety, security, and comfort of its residents.

**Tarun Karthick**  
Sri Vijaya Puram,  
25 October 2024

As part of the ongoing Police Commemoration Week 2024, the South Andaman District Police launched a heartfelt

outreach initiative aimed at connecting with senior citizens and retired government servants within the district.

In a demonstration of gratitude and care, beat staff from all police stations under the South

Andaman jurisdiction visited the homes of elderly residents to ensure their well-being and address any concerns they may have. This initiative provided essential support and assistance, reinforcing the police department's commitment to the

safety and welfare of its citizens, particularly vulnerable groups who have made significant contributions to society.

The outreach effort was designed not only to enhance the physical and emotional well-



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# Chatham Police Conducts Beach Cleanliness Drive to Mark Police Commemoration Day



During the drive, police staff actively engaged in cleaning the beach, meticulously removing plastic waste and debris. This hands-on effort underscored their commitment to public service and environmental preservation.

The event also highlighted the values of unity, dedication, and national integration, which are central to the spirit of Rashtriya Ekta Diwas. Community members expressed appreciation for the police department's multifaceted role, recognizing its efforts not only in maintaining law and order but also in fostering social and environmental responsibility.

The drive received positive feedback from local residents, reinforcing the bond between the police and the community they serve. Through such initiatives, the police department continues to demonstrate its dedication to creating a cleaner, safer, and more united society.

Tarun Karthick

Sri Vijaya Puram,  
25 October 2024

community service, the staff of Police Station Chatham organized a beach cleanliness drive at Haddo Seashore Road on 24th October 2024, to mark Commemoration Day, Rashtriya Ekta Diwas, and Police Flag Day.

The initiative aimed to honour

the bravery and sacrifices of police personnel who have lost their lives in the line of duty, while also contributing to a cleaner and safer environment for the community.

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# Cooperative Department Establishes 'Fathers Home Creche' to Support Working Parents



to the growing needs of working parents.

The 'Fathers Home Creche' aims to create a secure, nurturing, and educational environment for children aged six months to 12 years. The initiative, developed in collaboration with the NGO 'Pankh,' seeks to provide working parents with accessible childcare options, facilitating a better balance between their professional and family responsibilities.

Swami Shudhananda Saraswati, the Resident Acharya of the Chinmaya Mission, praised the Cooperative Department for its forward-thinking approach in establishing the creche, recognising the vital support it offers to working families. Mrs. Komal Anand, President of 'Pankh,' expressed gratitude towards the Cooperative Department for the collaboration, affirming the organisation's commitment to running the facility.

Located centrally in the heart of the city, the creche is conveniently accessible for employees of various departments within the A&N Administration, enabling them to enroll their children in a safe and supportive environment.

This initiative marks a significant step towards creating a family-friendly workplace in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, fostering a culture that prioritises the well-being of working parents and their children.

**Tarun Karthick**

**Sri Vijaya Puram,  
25 October 2024**

In a commendable initiative to support working parents, the Cooperative Department of the Andaman and Nicobar

Administration inaugurated the 'Fathers Home Creche' on October 24, 2024. The new facility, located within the RCS Office Building on VIP Road, was officially inaugurated by Chief Secretary Mr. Keshav Chandra, IAS, in the presence of several dignitaries, including Commissioner-cum-

Secretary (Coop.) Ms. Nandini Paliwal, Special Secretary (Coop.)-cum-RCS Ms. Nandini Maharaj, Deputy Commissioner of South Andaman Mr. Arjun Sharma, and representatives from the Chinmaya Mission and the NGO 'Pankh.' During the inauguration, Ms.

Paliwal highlighted the importance of such facilities, stating, "As per the guidelines of the Ministry of Women & Child Development, every establishment with fifty or more employees must provide crèche services." She emphasized the need for more such initiatives across various departments to cater



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# 21st Livestock Census Launches Today Across India Including in A & N Islands



Animal Husbandry & Dairying, New Delhi. census will collect sex-wise data on stray cattle for the first time.

The primary objective of the Livestock Census is to gather detailed information on livestock populations, including domestic animals and poultry birds, along with their breed, sex, age, and purpose. This vital data will facilitate effective planning, implementation, and monitoring of programs aimed at improving the livestock sector. Key objectives include data collection, identification of trends, resource allocation, and international reporting.

In the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, the Department of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services serves as the nodal agency for this initiative, which includes 551 villages across three districts. A dedicated team of 55 enumerators, eight supervisors, and three District Nodal Officers will operate under the guidance of the Assistant State Nodal Officer and State Nodal Officer to ensure a smooth process.

Tarun Karthick

Sri Vijaya Puram,  
25 October 2024

The 21st Livestock Census will officially be launched today and will continue until February 2025, covering the entire country. Conducted every five years, this

comprehensive exercise aims to assess the livestock population, aiding in planning and development of initiatives to enhance the livestock sector and its contribution to the nation's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). For the second consecutive

census, the entire enumeration process will be conducted digitally, utilizing electronic devices such as tablets and smartphones. These gadgets are equipped with specially designed software developed by the National Digital Livestock Management (NDLM) wing of the Ministry of Fisheries,

The census will encompass all districts across states and Union Territories, reaching out to households, non-households, enterprises, and institutions in both rural and urban areas. It will also cover defence establishments, paramilitary forces, and state police units. Notably, the

As the census unfolds, all livestock owners are encouraged to cooperate with the designated enumerators, providing accurate information to aid in this significant national effort. The final results are expected to be submitted by February 2025.



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