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HRS Requests Revamping of Street Vendor Licensing System for Empowerment and Economic Growth of Islanders



Tarun Karthick

Sri Vijaya Puram, 06 January 2025

Mr. Rakeshwar Lall, the State licenses. President of Hindu Rashtra Shakti, has submitted a letter Governor of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, requesting significant changes to the current street vendor license The system. proposed modifications are proposed to prioritise the livelihoods of islanders. stimulate local economic arowth. and preserve the unique cultural heritage of the region.

In his letter, Lall outlines four existing system. First, he region. advocates for reserving street vendor licenses exclusively for island residents. To ensure Lastly, the proposal includes that only locals benefit from the requirement of a No this initiative, the proposal Objection Certificate (NOC) suggests requiring official from the concerned ward documents such as a Ration Card, Islander Card, or Local Certificate. This, Lall argues, that the guarantee economic benefits of the street vendor sector stay within the local community.

Second, the proposal calls for the creation of a user-friendly online platform where island vendors can easily apply for, track, and renew their This digital approach is aimed at streamlining the process, to the Hon'ble Lieutenant making it more efficient and accessible to all islanders.

The third proposed change involves the creation of a publicly accessible database or portal to view and verify licensed vendors. Lall stresses that this move will improve transparency and accountability the system, ensuring that both vendors and the public can easily confirm the legitimacy key modifications to the of street vendors in the

> councillor before issuing a street vendor license. This step is meant to involve local communities in the decisionmaking process, ensuring that vendors have the support of residents their

designated

Lall emphasized that these changes would not only promote economic growth and self-sufficiency but also preserve the region's cultural identity by ensuring that the street vending sector is controlled by locals rather than external labour. He believes these modifications lead to improved monitoring, enforcement, and a simpler application and renewal process, further boosting the local economy and ensuring cultural preservation.

The letter concludes with a call for the Lieutenant Governor to consider the proposed changes, urging the implementation of a more inclusive and sustainable street vendor license system that would serve the public interest. The letter has been forwarded to several key officials, including the Member of Parliament, Chief Secretary A&N Administration. Deputy Commissioner South Andaman, and local media outlets.

Anti-Narcotics Police Station Seizes 155 Grams of Gania from Parcel Received Through Post, One **Apprehended**



Tarun Karthick

Sri Vijaya Puram, 06 January 2025

areas.

On January 3, 2025, Anti-Narcotics Police Station conducted successful operation in Sri Vijaya Puram, leading to the seizure of 155 grams of Ganja and the arrest of a 24-Year-Old, Gourab Mridha. The raid, carried out near the Junglighat Post Office, followed a tip-off received by Inspector Pritam Behari, SHO of the Anti-Narcotics Police Station.

Pritam Inspector Behari received credible information about Mridha, a cook at a hotel Dollygunj, who expected to receive a parcel containing illicit drugs. The parcel was reportedly sent via Speed Post. Based on this information, a raiding team was formed under the direction of Dy. SP Palak Goel (DANIPS), and they proceeded to the location.

The team, which included Inspector Pritam Behari, SHO, Mridha was arrested and PC Nanak Singh, PC Ratan

Das, PC Vishal Kumar, PC M. Raja Rao and PC Nandita Mistry, arrived near the post office, Mridha was observed leaving the post office holding a parcel and was stopped by the police near the Registrar of Co-operative Societies office. Upon questioning, Mridha confirmed his identity and was informed of his legal rights.

The police team, after serving a notice under Section 50 of the NDPS Act, proceeded with the search in presence of independent witnesses. Inside the parcel, they discovered two black plastic polythene bags hidden inside a pair of shoes, each containing a dry, leafy substance. The substance, confirmed through preliminary drug test, tested positive for Ganja. The total weight of the seized drugs was grams.

Following the discovery, the Ganja was sealed and the parcel, along with the shoes, was seized under a formal seizure memo

PS Anti-Narcotics, SI Mohd. charged under Section 20(b)(ii) Rahil Islam, ASI Sanjay Yadav, (A) of the NDPS Act for possession of narcotic drugs.

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Crescent Senior Secondary School Hosts 23rd Annual Athletic Meet at Wimberly Gunj



Tarun Karthick

Sri Vijaya Puram, 06 January 2025

The 23rd Annual Athletic Meet of Senior The Crescent Secondary School took ceremony place enthusiasm Stadium, Wimberly Chief graced

distinguished showcased spirit of sportsmanship well-choreographed school

saw participation at the Mini and Sports, as the sportsmanship, Guest. Gunj, on 4th January officially declared the importance 2025. The event was athletic meet open after incorporating

Officer for the Wimberly winners Guni Zone, attended as athletic the Guest of Honor. Ms. School, welcomed the attendees.

Students from Classes guests II to VIII added a and featured a series of colourful touch to the performances event with lively dance the performances and pride. aerobic drill, celebrating the diversity of Indian inaugural culture. Mr. Mr. Singh, in his address, great Vikram Singh, DANICS, applauded the students and Director of Education for their dedication and Mr. P. Abdul Basheer, demonstrating He stressing

Principal of Crescent was followed by a Vote and girls, along with the Secondary of Thanks by Mr. P. overall Rehman, trophy, Mujib Manager of Crescent claimed Secondary Andaman Senior School, and a memento Eagle of appreciation was presented to Mr. Vikram In a symbolic gesture, Singh

Vikram The closing ceremony, conclusion of the event. held later in the day, The athletic meet was a was presided over by resounding Pradhan the Panchayat of Kanyapuram, with Mr. teamwork, both Rizwan Hassan, SHO sportsmanship several lighting the ceremonial sports and Yoga into of Bambooflat Police its

torch. Dr. Manoharan, daily routines. He also Station, attending as Education distributed prizes to the the Guest of Honour. various The event culminated events, with the awarding of prizes to individual N. Bhavani Vijayakala, The inaugural session champions among boys championship which by the Serpent House.

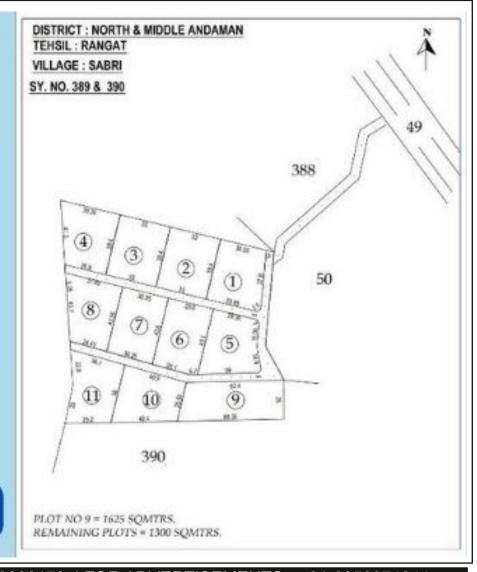
> MK Mr. P. Abdul Basheer Mohammed, Secretary brought the meet to a school close by lowering the athletic meet officially marking the the Gram school's commitment to fostering and among students.

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Inspiring Celebration of World Braille Day Promotes Inclusivity at GSSS Diglipur



Tarun Karthick Sri Vijaya Puram, 06 January 2025

World Braille Day was observed with enthusiasm and purpose at the Block Level Resource Room of GSSS Diglipur under the Inclusive Education initiative of Samagra Shiksha. The event, held on January 4, aimed to inspire Children with Special Needs (CwSN) and their parents by highlighting the life and achievements of Louis Braille, the inventor of the Braille system. The program was organized under the coordination of Ms. S. Vijaya Block

Resource Person (CwSN), and attended by distinguished guests, parents, and children. Ms. Salochna, Block Project Officer, Diglipur, inaugurated the event as the chief guest. Mr. Manoranjan, Branch Manager, SBI Diglipur, graced the occasion as the guest of honour, while

Resource Person (CwSN), and Dr. C. Pushpavalli, Principal of GSSS attended by distinguished guests, Diglipur, attended as a special guest. parents, and children. Ms. Salochna, Block Project Officer, Diglipur, was a special invitee.

Manoranjan, Branch In her inaugural address, the chief I Diglipur, graced the guest, Ms. Salochna, encouraged the guest of honour, while children and parents to recognize their

unique potential and work diligently toward their goals. She emphasized the importance of fostering a positive outlook and unlocking every child's capabilities.

The event commenced with a warm welcome speech by Ms. N. Riya Nandan, PSRT, who set an engaging and vibrant tone for the day.

A highlight of the program was a motivational story shared by Mr. Manoranjan, who recounted the inspiring journey of a staff member with disabilities who overcame challenges to achieve personal and professional milestones. ID kits were distributed to the children during the event, further adding to the significance of the occasion.

Parents and teachers benefited from insightful sessions conducted by experts. Mr. Pankaj Sarkar, Special Educator, presented an inspiring biography of Louis Braille, connecting his achievements to the importance of inclusive education. Ms. Rakhi Kabiraj, BRP (CwSN), introduced the fundamentals of the Braille system, while Mr. Jai Singh, Special Educator (SS), demonstrated orientation and mobility techniques to the participants.

The program concluded with a joyful dance activity for the children, spreading happiness and fostering a sense of unity among the attendees. The event left a lasting impression, reinforcing the commitment to inclusivity and progress in education for all.



Deadline Extended for e-KYC Update of Ration Card Beneficiaries: Final Date Set for 31st January 2025



Tarun Karthick

Sri Vijaya Puram, 06 January 2025

The Department of Civil Supplies January

31.

extended the deadline for updating extensive efforts, a significant CS&CA Directorate at Sri Vijaya e-KYC for left-out Ration Card number of beneficiaries are yet to Puram (Room No. 20), or their beneficiaries under the Antyodaya update their e-KYC. The respective Supply Units in the inter- The department has urged all Anna Yojana (AAY) and Priority department has urged all AAY and islands with their Aadhaar numbers Households (PHH) categories to PHH beneficiaries who have not yet to ensure the e-KYC is completed 2025. completed the process to visit their for all members listed on the Ration

Beneficiaries have been reminded that failure to update their e-KYC by the deadline will result in those members being marked as bogus, and appropriate action will be taken per

department has also highlighted that many children aged between 1 to 17 years have been unable to complete their e-KYC because their Aadhaar cards were issued before the age of five. Parents or guardians of such children are requested to update their Aadhaar details at the nearest Enrolment Assistance for Aadhaar updating is also available at the CS&CA Directorate.

The list of left-out beneficiaries is available at the respective Fair Price Shops for reference. For further details or assistance, beneficiaries can contact the department's toll-free helpline at 03192-230337.

eligible beneficiaries to act promptly to avoid disruptions in entitlements.



STA Warns of Crackdown Against Autorickshaws Refusing to Use Fare Meters and Overcharging Passengers



Tarun Karthick

Sri Vijaya Puram, 06 January 2025

The State Transport Authority (STA) has reiterated its commitment to addressing

in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands fare meters in autorickshaws and taxis. who fail to use fare meters and charge exorbitant fares. The STA emphasized that such practices violate Section 74(2) (viii) and Section 96(xx) of the Motor Vehicles Act. 1988, which mandate the

repeated notices issued through local media, instances of noncompliance persist. The STA has warned autorickshaw permit holders

complaints about autorickshaw drivers use of properly calibrated and functional that repeated violations could lead to the cancellation of permits. Enforcement drives will soon be conducted to ensure strict adherence to permit conditions.

> The STA, with approval from the Hon'ble Governor, Lt. revised

autorickshaw fares via a notification dated January 11, 2023. Following this. autorickshaw drivers were directed to have their fare meters calibrated and stamped in line with the revised rates by the Legal Metrology wing of the Directorate of Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs. Additionally, drivers were instructed to prominently display the official fare chart in their vehicles.

Passengers must be charged strictly according to the fare meter. Any incidents of overcharging, refusal to operate as per passenger requests, or misconduct by drivers will be dealt with

The STA encourages the public to report violations such as refusal to use fare meters, excessive fare demands, or refusal to provide service Complaints should include the autorickshaw's registration number and details of the incident. Reports can be submitted to the Secretary (STA), Directorate of Transport, Sri Vijaya Puram, or through the helpline numbers 03192-240059, 240062, and 230259. Complaints can also be registered with the Traffic Section at 03192-243812.

The STA remains committed to safeguarding passenger rights and ensuring fair practices within the public



ITF Concludes with Grandeur, Celebrates Culture and **Creativity**



Tarun Karthick

Sri Vijaya Puram, 06 January 2025

The Island Tourism Festival (ITF)

drawing impressive crowd to the ITF Pavilion on its final day. The Dr. Chandra Bhushan Kumar, event celebrated the diverse cultural heritage and innovative achievements of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, leaving

an visitors with lasting memories.

IAS, Chief Secretary of the A&N Administration, graced festival's closing day and attended a spectacular cultural program presented by artists various cultural organisations. The evening was marked by the felicitation of outstanding participants, with Dr. Kumar presenting awards to the

sector.

The Sri Vijaya Puram Municipal Council (SVPMC) Stall, themed "Waste to Wealth," won the first prize, emphasising innovative approaches to sustainable living. The award was received by the Secretary, Azharuddin Zahiruddin Quazi, IAS. The second prize was awarded to the Nicobar District Stall for its vibrant showcase of tribal life, while the North & Middle Andaman District Stall secured third place highlighting the limestone caves and other district projects. The Department of Environment & Forests earned the fourth prize for their detailed model of Chatham Saw Mill and wooden artefacts.

The evening resonated with the spirit of celebration as a seamless lineup of performances unfolded, portraying the rich cultural tapestry of 'Mini India.' From soulful melodies to electrifying dances, artists adorned in vibrant costumes mesmerised the audience with traditional and contemporary styles from across the nation.

As the curtains fell on ITF 2025. the festival stood as a testament to the islands' culture, tradition. and joy. It left an indelible mark on attendees, celebrating the best stalls in the government unique spirit of unity in diversity.



Nutritional Kits Distributed to TB Patients in South Andaman Under Pradhan Mantri TB Mukt Bharat Abhiyan



Rohit Kumai

Sri Viiava Puram. 06 January 2025

The District Health Society, in collaboration with the South Andaman

special event at Kaitan Kalyana Mandapam in Junglighat recently. The graced the occasion and personally event saw the distribution of nutritional kits to tuberculosis (TB) patients as part of the ongoing Pradhan Mantri TB support TB patients but also to Bharat Abhivan.

District Administration, organised a Mr. Arjun Sharma, IAS, the Deputy

handed over the kits to the TB patients. The initiative aims not only to motivate the community to take responsibility for TB care and raise awareness about TB prevention, early

Addressing the gathering, Mr. Sharma collective emphasized responsibility of society in the fight against TB. He underscored the importance of early diagnosis, treatment,

community involvement in eradicating the disease. "Equally important is addressing the social stigma attached to TB. With increased awareness and community engagement, we can significantly reduce the disease's prevalence improve patient and outcomes " said Mr Sharma

Deputy Commissioner highlighted the ongoing success of the Nikshay Mitra initiative in the region. A total of 41 Nikshay Mitras have already registered, and 133 TB patients have been adopted under this initiative in South Andaman. Mr. Sharma encouraged the public to support the cause by registering as Nikshay Mitras and contributing to TB care through the Nikshay portal. Interested individuals can register at https://reports.nikshav.in/FormIO/ DonorRegistration.

Notable figures such as Dr. Chandra Bhushan Kumar, IAS, Chief Secretary of Andaman & Nicobar Administration, along with other senior officers, have already taken part in the initiative by adopting TB patients under the Pradhan Mantri TB Mukt Bharat Abhivan.

This event marks a significant step in South Andaman's efforts to combat TB and ensure that every individual affected by the disease receives the



South Andaman District Administration Intensifies Action Against Encroachments



Rohit Kumar

Sri Vijaya Puram, 06 January 2025

its efforts to tackle encroachments status. free across the district, launching occupation by continuous eviction drives to elements. remove unauthorised structures from government lands and public In a recent operation at Hutbay original state, marking another integrity of public spaces and The District Administration of spaces. This initiative seeks to village, South Andaman has ramped up restore these areas to their rightful successfully

removed

unlawful temporary encroachments. unscrupulous clearing a total area of 300 square meters of government land. The area has now been returned to its revenue officials step in the Administration's ensuring their proper use for the two ongoing efforts to protect public welfare

government properties.

The Administration has remained vigilant in combating unauthorised constructions, ensuring swift and decisive action against violators. The reclaimed land will be for safequarded future development and public welfare projects, benefiting the broader community.

In a public advisory, the District Administration urges citizens to respect government land and warns that any attempts at encroachment will lead to stringent legal consequences. The public is also encouraged to any incidents report encroachment or seek further information by contacting the District Control Room at 03192-240127 / 238881 / 1070 or WhatsApp through 9531888844. To protect the identity of informants, all reports be confidential. kept

District Administration's The continuous vigilance highlights its commitment to maintaining the of the community.

