# ANDAMAN DAILY

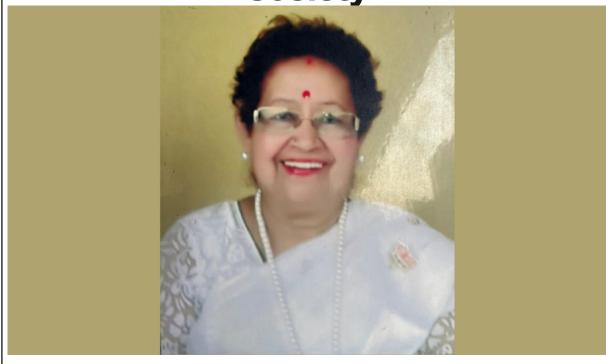
**News & Views from Andaman and Nicobar Islands** 

by **NICOBAR TIMES** 

#### 08 JANUARY 2025 | WEDNESDAY | SRI VIJAYA PURAM | WWW.NICOBARTIMES.COM

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#### Rupa Ray Passes Away at 81; **Condolences Pour in From Across** Society



**Tarun Karthick** 

Sri Vijaya Puram,

08 January 2025

sorrow, Mrs. Rupa Ray, the esteemed wife of Hon'ble rites of Mrs. Member of Parliament for the performed Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Mr. Bishnu Pada Ray, passed away at G.B. Pant Hospital at 4:30 AM on January 7, 2024. She was 81 years old and had together been receiving treatment for age-related illnesses over the months. past six

A resident of Round Basti, Dignabad, Mrs. Ray dedicated a significant portion of her life to serving in the A&N Administration, where she an Assistant President worked as Secretary before retiring. Known for her kindness, compassion, and dedication to community service, she was a pillar of strength for her legacy of compassion and husband, Mr. Bishnu Pada dedication. We pray that her Ray, and actively engaged in soul rests in eternal peace." social work throughout her life. Her approachable nature and Former Member of Parliament need made her beloved by many.

Following her passing, her body was first kept at "Praja Niwas," the official residence of the MP, and later briefly at BJP Bhavan, allowing wellwishers, party workers, and In a moment of profound members of the community to pay their respects. The final Ray were at Junglighat cremation ground, where leaders from various political parties, including local citizens and representatives, came honour to memory.

> Condolence messages have been pouring in from all corners of society, expressing grief and paying tribute to her life of service. Mr. Vishal Jolly, National Executive Member of BJP and Former State of BJP-ANI. conveyed heartfelt sympathies, stating, "Mrs. Rupa Ray was a remarkable woman who left behind a

willingness to assist those in Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma also shared his condolences, stating, "Mrs. Rupa Ray was a

woman of immense grace and strength, always at the forefront of community service. She will be deeply missed."

Social workers, including Mrs. V.D. Leju from Hope Town Area of South Andaman. expressed sorrow, calling her "a compassionate soul whose warmth and humility touched lives."

Fishermen Welfare Association of Andaman & Nicobar Islands also mourned her loss, with General Secretary Mr. B Hema Raju extending condolences to MP Bishnu Pada Ray, offering prayers for strength during this time. difficult

Mrs. Rupa Ray's life was one of grace, humility, and selflessness. Her memory will continue to inspire all who had the privilege of knowing her. Her departure leaves an irreplaceable void, but the love and impact she left behind will continue to shine brightly in hearts of many.

May her soul attain eternal peace.

#### **Historic Drug Bust Case: Court Approves Pre-Trial** Disposal of INR 36,000 **Crore Methamphetamine Seized by Andaman Police**



Tarun Karthick

Sri Vijaya Puram, 08 January 2025

In the last week of November 2024, news of one of the largest drug busts in Indian history made headlines both nationally and internationally. The Andaman and Nicobar Police seized 6.016.870 kilograms of methamphetamine, worth approximately INR 36,000 crore. The operation began when an Indian Coast Guard Dornier aircraft detected a suspicious fishing vessel near Barren Island. Upon investigation by Indian Coast Guard Ship, the suspicious fishing vessel was found to be loaded with illegal drugs and was subsequently escorted to Sri Vijaya Puram for further examination.

Six Myanmar nationals aboard the vessel—Kyan Lin Khing, Zay Yar Soe, Moe Zar Oo, Htet Myat Aung, Zin Minsoe, and Khin Mg Kyi—were arrested. Currently, the judicial accused in custody.

Meanwhile, on January 3, 2025, the Special Court threat and the vigilance of (NDPS) in Sri Vijaya Puram granted permission for the pre-

trial disposal of the seized contraband upon a petition filed by the Investigating Officer (IO). According to court records, the contraband, consisting of 222 plastic bags containing methamphetamine, is stored at the Central Storage Room of the CID Unit in Sri Vijaya Puram. The court noted that the procedure of sampling and certification, as mandated by Section 52-A of the NDPS Act, 1985, had already been completed, and chemical samples had been analysed at CFSL Kolkata.

The Special Public Prosecutor emphasised the urgency of disposing of the massive drug haul to prevent theft, mishaps, or further circulation. After reviewing the matter, the court ruled that the petition aligned with the NDPS Act and directed the IO to proceed with the disposal of the contraband in accordance with the law. A certificate confirming destruction of the seized substances is to be submitted January

This landmark drug seizure and its subsequent legal handling have underscored the gravity of the narcotics enforcement agencies safeguarding society.

## Condolence Message

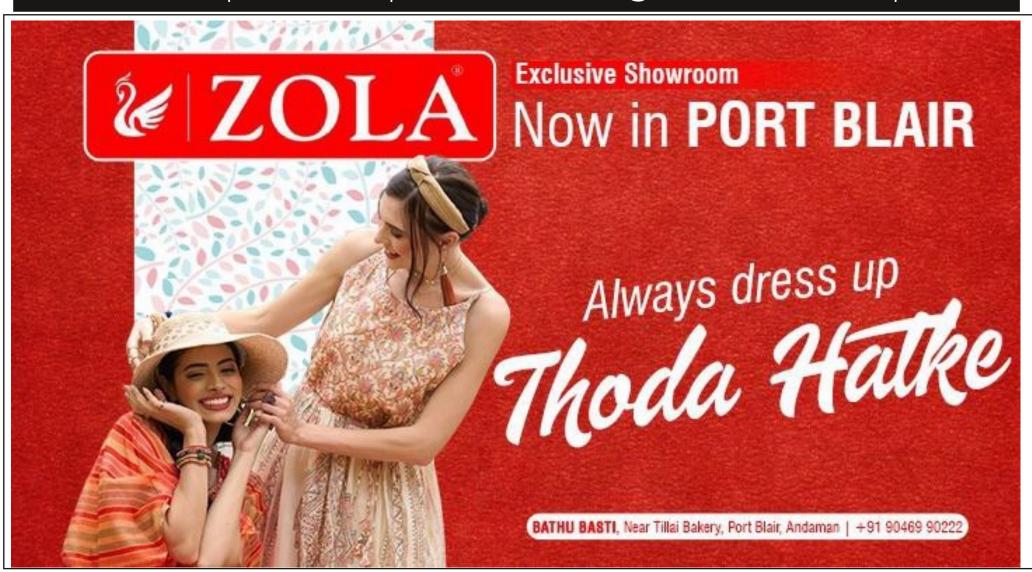
Nicobar Times expresses its deepest condolences on the demise of Mrs. Rupa Ray, the esteemed wife of Mr. Bishnu Pada Ray, Hon'ble Member of Parliament representing the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Mrs. Ray passed away in the early hours of 07 January 2025 at Sri Vijaya Puram, leaving behind a legacy of warmth and grace. Her departure is an immense loss to her family, friends, and the entire community.

Our prayers and thoughts are with the bereaved family.

- Tarun Karthick, Editor - Nicobar Times; Rohit Kumar,
Associate Editor & All Other Staff Members







# TO REPORT A NEWS CALL OR WHATSAPP ON 7063998178

#### **Decade-Long Plea for Indoor Sports Hall in Campbell Bay Gains Urgency Amid Rising Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Youth**



Tarun Karthick

Sri Vijaya Puram, 08 January 2025

The lack of adequate sports infrastructure in Campbell Bay, Great Nicobar, is a pressing concern continues to hamper the potential of its youth. With the region grappling with the rising menace of drug and alcohol abuse among the younger population, community leaders and residents have renewed calls for the construction of a multipurpose indoor sports hall—a facility that promises to transform the lives of the islanders by fostering both recreational and professional

sports

For over a decade, the youth of Great Nicobar have been advocating for a state-of-theart indoor sports facility in island's sports infrastructure is materialised, that limited to a mini-stadium, community's which provides an open ground for outdoor sports like cricket, football, and other often disrupts outdoor sports, to leaving young people without avenues and stay physically

activities.

addition to the

stadium, there exists substandard gym maintained Gram Panchayat (GP) Campbell Bay, which suffers from poor maintenance and outdated equipment. Beyond these two facilities, the island lacks any venue for sports, leaving the youth with limited options to pursue fitness or competitive sports during the frequent rainy months.

The demand for multipurpose indoor sports hall is not new. Plans for such a facility were previously by the Andaman initiated Works Department Public (APWD), which even prepared estimate for the project. for Campbell Bay. Currently, the unknown, the proposal never leaving aspirations unfulfilled.

"The recent years have seen similar activities. While this a surge in youth going astray stadium serves its purpose due to drug and alcohol abuse during fair weather, the in Great Nicobar. It has region's unpredictable climate become increasingly important provide recreational channel the consistent opportunities to energy of our youth in the active. right direction," said Mr. T. Shiva Raj, General Secretary mini- of the BJP Youth Wing of

Bay. Campbell

opportunities but also help pursue and athletes aspiring sports. professional present, there are no facilities for indoor sports on the island. The During most of the year, when multipurpose indoor it rains, the youth are left with hall is not just about building no option to stay physically infrastructure; active," he added.

that the proposed sports hall would benefit all sections of away from harmful distractions society, catering to both and towards a healthier, goalcasual enthusiasts and those oriented seeking to build a career in sports. He further revealed that a suitable site for the The people of Campbell Bay facility already exists near the are now mini-stadium and the Zonal Andaman Library, which had been Administration to take decisive earmarked for this project action and fulfil this longearlier. With land availability standing demand. With the no longer a hurdle, he urged necessary the Andaman & Administration to act swiftly place, the time to act is nowand prioritise the construction facility.

In addition to the indoor sports transformed

Campbell Bay Mandal and an hall, Mr. T Shiva Raj also elected Ward Member of GP called for the inclusion of a 25-meter swimming pool in the project. "Several youth of He highlighted the urgent Great Nicobar are exceptional need for a multipurpose swimmers. With the right indoor sports hall that would training and daily practice in a not only offer recreational proper facility, they have the potential to excel in national international "At competitions," stated.

construction sports it's about the nurturing aspirations of Great Nicobar's Mr. T. Shiva Raj emphasized youth. It represents an opportunity to steer them

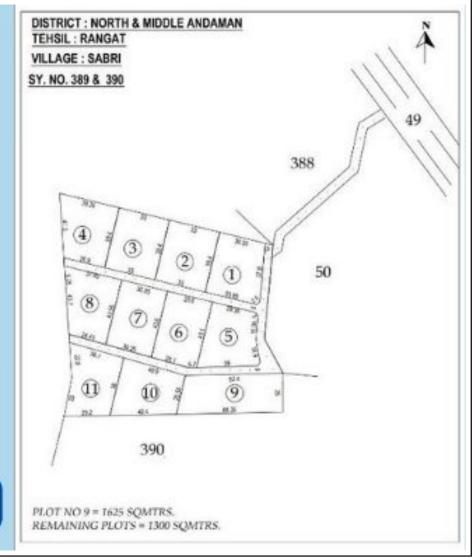
> looking Nicobar community support already in to ensure that the dreams of Great Nicobar's youth are no deferred but longer reality.



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## Contributions Invited for Showcasing Andaman's Maritime Heritage at NMHC



Tarun Karthick

Sri Vijaya Puram, 08 January 2025

Andaman & Nicobar Administration will develop its coastal Union Territory Pavilion at the upcoming National Maritime Heritage Complex

(NMHC) in Lothal, Gujarat. The NMHC is envisioned as an international tourist destination to showcase India's rich and diverse maritime heritage.

The complex will consolidate diverse artefacts and exhibits from ancient to modern times, providing public

access to learn about and appreciate the country's maritime history. It aims to inspire the public by highlighting India's maritime legacy.

All pavilions, including the one from Andaman & Nicobar, will be designed and themed to reflect the architecture, culture, lifestyle, and

maritime heritage of their respective regions. It will showcase the following elements:

-Coastal archaeological sites and historic port towns.

-Artefacts and antiquities such as sculptures, terracotta figurines,

coins, paintings, and manuscripts that depict the rich maritime traditions.

- -Monuments, temples, forts, and cave sites along with sculptures and inscriptions.
- -Coastal communities, their culture, and traditions.
- -Traditional boat-building techniques and the legacy of shipbuilding.
- -Historical trade, cultural, and religious interactions of the UT/State with foreign nations.
- -Continuity of traditional art and craft practices like bead-making, pottery, textiles, and metalwork.
- -Replicas of forts, ancient ships, coastline activities, and celebrations of festivals, regional maritime culture, folklore, and cuisine.

To enrich the Pavilion, the general public, voluntary organisations, and individuals have been requested to contribute relevant information and materials related to the Andaman & Nicobar maritime heritage. Those interested are encouraged to inform the Secretary (Art & Culture), Andaman & Nicobar Administration, via email at artand.culture@and.nic.in.

Administration has assured that all contributions will be duly acknowledged. Your cooperation is solicited to help the Andaman & Nicobar Administration showcase the region's rich and diverse maritime heritage at the National Maritime Heritage Complex in Lothal, Gujarat.



#### **Fisheries Training Centre to Host Training Programme on Fish Value Addition**



Tarun Karthick

Sri Vijaya Puram, 08 January 2025

Marine under

(NFDB), Hyderabad, is set to (PMMSY). organise a three-day training The Fisheries Training Centre, programme on 'Fish Value The training, scheduled for the on fish handling, cutting, or 9594801891 during office

collaboration with the National under the Pradhan Mantri hands-on skills in developing For Fisheries Development Board Matsya Sampada Yojana fish and fishery products and applicants can contact the

the Addition' in January 2025. The third or fourth week of January, primary processing, pickling, hours.

drying, and the preparation of breaded/battered products, fish sausages, and

A total of 25 beneficiaries will be selected for the training, and the Department of Fisheries will provide additional support to the trained groups for pursuing commercial ventures under the PMMSY scheme

Applications are invited from interested fishers, self-help groups (SHGs), entrepreneurs, individuals, tribal unemployed youths of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Interested individuals collect application forms from the nearest Zonal Fisheries Offices or Fisheries Sub-Stations. Completed applications must be submitted to the respective Fisheries Offices by January 15, 2025.

further information. by-products. The programme Fisheries Training Centre, will include practical sessions Marine Hill, at 03192-241497















### **NEURO CONSULTATION CLINIC**

11th JAN 2025 (SATURDAY) TIME: 02:00PM (ONWARDS)





#### Dr. M. BALAMURGAN

MBBS, DNB (Neurosurgery), FNS(Japan), FNS (Aust), **FAANS (USA)** Senior Consultant Neurosurgeon

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#### **Additional Ferry Services Announced for Vivekananda Mela** at Shaheed Dweep



**Rohit Kumar** 

Sri Vijaya Puram, 08 January 2025

the upcoming Vivekananda Puram and Shaheed Dweep are intended to facilitate the the Directorate of Shipping 19, Services (DSS) arranged

Mela at Shaheed Dweep, from January 12 to January

additional ferry The DSS has announced In view of the celebration of services between Sri Vijaya that the extra ferry services

increased number commuters during the event. Passengers can avail of the services as per the following schedule:

From January 12 to January 2025:

Departure from Sri Vijaya Puram: 1300 Hrs & Arrival at Shaheed Dweep: 1445 Hrs Departure from Shaheed Dweep: 1500 Hrs & Arrival at Sri Vijaya Puram: 1645 Hrs

Tickets for these additional services will be available starting January 10, 2025. Passengers can book tickets through the DSS e-ticketing portal at https:// dss.andaman.gov.in/ eticketing from 9 am to 4 pm daily, or at the STARS Ticketing Counter on all working days from 9 am to 4 pm, except Saturdays when the counter will operate from am to 12

Residents and visitors are encouraged to plan their journeys early to avoid lastminute inconvenience.



#### Hindi Bhasha Sanchetana Shivir Inaugurated at Dr. S. R. **DIET in Garacharma**



**Rohit Kumar** 

Sri Vijaya Puram, 08 January 2025

Shivir was inaugurated on 7th of Hindi, Hyderabad, was Ms. The Hindi Bhasha Sanchetana organized by the Central Institute India.

January 2025 at Dr. S. R. DIET, attended by key dignitaries who marking the emphasized the significance of beginning of its second year for the Hindi language in fostering D.El.Ed. Trainees. The event, unity and cultural awareness in

Chand, the Principal of SIE, served as the chief guest at the inaugural ceremony, while Ms. Archana features various workshops, Singh, Principal of GSSS Girls,

address, Ms. Chand highlighted the unifying power of Hindi and the importance of such initiatives in promoting linguistic harmony. Ms. Singh lauded the efforts of the Central Institute of Hindi in encouraging pride in the Hindi language and its rich literary heritage.

Prof. Sunil Kulkarni, Director of the Central Institute of Hindi, Agra (MoE, GoI), spoke on the occasion, emphasising the linguistic richness of Hindi, while Prof. Gangadhar Wanode, Area-Director at the Central Institute of Hindi, Hyderabad Center (MoE, Gol), underlined the language's role in shaping India's cultural identity.

Earlier, Mr. J. Dasan Pushparaj, Principal of DIET, welcomed the gathering. The Hindi Bhasha Sanchetana Shivir aims to develop Hindi language skills among educators and students while creating awareness about its historical and cultural importance. Runnina from January 7 to 18, the event seminars, and cultural activities was the guest of honour. In her designed for D.El.Ed. Trainees.



## ICAR-CIARI Successfully Hosts Annual Sports - 2024



Tarun Karthick

Sri Vijaya Puram, 08 January 2025

The ICAR-Central Island Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR-CIARI) concluded its highly anticipated Annual Sports 2024 with a vibrant prize

distribution ceremony held from 10th December 2024 to 3rd January 2025. The event saw enthusiastic participation from staff members, including project staff, contractual staff, and their families, coming together to showcase their sporting

Spanning over 71 events, the sports

included a variety of indoor, outdoor, and athletic activities, creating a platform that fostered camaraderie, inclusivity, and team spirit among the participants. This year's event attracted a wide array of competitors, reflecting the Institute's commitment to promoting sports as a vital aspect of physical and mental well-being.

Mrs. Sandhya Kispotta, a celebrated National and International Awardee in Kayaking, graced the event as the Chief Guest. She emphasised the vital role sports play in nurturing physical health and mental resilience, especially within organisational settings. Adding to the occasion, Mr. S. Sengupta, a renowned cycling coach, shared his insights on

how sports cultivate discipline, perseverance, and teamwork.

The much-anticipated prize distribution ceremony took place at ICAR-CIARI on 3rd January 2025, meticulously coordinated by Dr. K. Saravanan, the Member Secretary of the Sports Committee. The ceremony began with a warm welcome address delivered by Dr. Jai Sunder, Chairman of the Sports Committee.

The event recognised the efforts of referees and umpires, such as Mr. Prshish Kumar, Mr. A. Babuswamy, and Mr. Surya, who were honoured with their mementos for invaluable contributions to the successful organisation of the sporting events. Prizes were distributed to the winners of various sports categories, celebrating exceptional performances

The Overall Championship Trophy was proudly claimed by Swaraj Lions House, while Mr. Shyam Sundar Rao and Ms. Nutan Roy were named the Best Athletes in the men's and women's categories, respectively.

In his closing remarks, Dr. Eaknath B Chakurkar, Director of ICAR-CIARI, commended the participants for their enthusiastic spirit and healthy competition, urging everyone lifestyle. maintain an active ceremony concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Sharath S. Yeligar, the Organising Secretary, who expressed gratitude to all involved in making the event a grand success



#### Prime Minister Extends Heartfelt Condolences to Bishnu Pada Ray on the Passing of His Wife



प्रधान मंत्री Prime Minister

New Delhi पौष 17, शक संवत् 1946 07 January, 2025

#### Shri Bishnupada Ray Ji,

I received the news of the demise of Smt. Rupa Ray Ji with a feeling of grief and sadness. Such a loss leaves a void that can never be filled.

The values that Smt. Rupa Ray Ji instilled will continue to inspire the family. Memories of the times spent with her will provide you solace and comfort in this difficult hour.

She will be missed by family, friends and well-wishers, but she will always continue to reside in hearts.

My heartfelt condolences and thoughts are with you and the family. May you gather the strength and fortitude to endure this grievous loss.

Om Shanti!

212 85 KIT

(Narendra Modi)

Shri Bishnupada Ray Near Fire Brigade Water Tank Aberdeen Round Village PO Port Blair Port Blair Andaman and Nicobar Islands - 744101

**Rohit Kumar** 

Sri Vijava Puram, 08 January 2025

The Prime Minister of India, Mr. Narendra Modi, has extended

condolences to Mr. Bishnu a.m. on January 7, 2024, at Pada Ray, Pada Ray, Hon'ble Member G.B. of Parliament Andaman and Islands, on the passing of past his wife, Mrs. Rupa Ray. Ray, 81, In Mrs aged deepest breathed her last at 4:30 addressed to Mr. Bishnu leaves a void that can never

Pant from following treatment for age- and sorrow at the loss. Nicobar related illnesses over the received the news of the six months.

> heartfelt а

the Prime Hospital, Minister expressed his grief demise of Smt. Rupa Ray Ji with a feeling of grief and letter sadness. Such a loss

be filled," wrote Mr. Modi. He highlighted the inspiring values that Mrs. Rupa Ray imparted to her family, noting that her cherished memories would provide solace and comfort during difficult this time.

Acknowledging profound impact of her life, the Prime Minister remarked, "She will be missed by family, friends, and well-wishers, but she will always continue to reside in hearts." He He concluded the letter with a message of strength and resilience for Mr. Ray and his family: "My heartfelt condolences and thoughts are with you and the family. May you gather the strength and fortitude to endure this grievous loss. Shanti!" Om

The news of Mrs. Rupa Ray's demise has deeply saddened the people of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, where Mr. Bishnu Pada Ray has long been a prominent figure. Tributes continue to pour in from across the region, honouring her legacy and offering support to her bereaved family.



