Port Blair March 30, 2016.

Press Release

LG launches Disaster Management website
Takes stock of disaster preparedness and ability to respond

**Port Blair, March 30:** At a simple function at Raj Niwas today, the Hon’ble Lt Governor, Lt Gen A K Singh (Retd), launched the website of Disaster Management Department which is geared towards creation of awareness amongst the people with regard to disaster management in terms of emergency contact nos., relief centres, Do’s & Don’ts as well as other relevant details. The website further provides information about the state disaster management plan, state of preparedness, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), various manuals including manuals on monsoon preparedness etc.

Taking stock of the disaster preparedness, the Lt Governor directed the department to build on what has been done and plan out response in each disaster scenario by designating nodal departments and take it to its logical conclusion. This will enable assessment of preparedness levels & in coordinating responses. He further said that disaster management should take top priority.

Chief Secretary, Pr. Secretaries, Secretaries & Senior Defence & Civil officers were present.
LG inaugurates Japanese language Course in JNRM
Emphasises need to introduce more foreign languages to facilitate Isles youth in seeking employment in different arenas

Port Blair, Mar 30: A basic course in Japanese language commenced at JNRM today with its inauguration by the Lt. Governor, A&N Islands, Lt. Gen AK Singh (Retd.) in the auditorium of JNRM this evening. The Chief Secretary, A&N Administration, Shri Anindo Majumdar, Smt. Rupa Ray, Secretary (Education), Ms. Tanvi Garg, senior officers of the Administration, learners of Japanese language, students and Lecturers of JNRM, representatives of ACCI besides stakeholders in the tourism sector were present during the inaugural ceremony. “There is a great joy in learning new language and you will feel connected to another part of the world”, he said.

Addressing the gathering, the Lt. Governor emphasized that in today’s competitive world our students should also move forward and starting this course in the Islands is one such step in this direction. “Learning an additional language, especially a foreign language, will give our students an edge in seeking job not only in tourism sector but in other arenas too”, the Lt. Governor said. Learning any language is a great confidence building measure, he said, adding that the demand for having a course in this language here is an old one.

Emphasising the clarion call given by the Hon’ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi to ‘Make in India’, the Lt. Governor said “we should be able to speak the language of the foreign investors in our country”.

Speaking about the progress being made in the communication sector in the Isles and the opportunities it will bring for the Islanders, the Lt. Governor stated that by 2018 the undersea Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) from Chennai connecting Port Blair and five other Islands will become reality. The work in this regard will commence in another 5 to 6 months, he said. The Lt. Governor reiterated that with this, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands will become the best place for IT related industries and services like call centre etc. “Since our children are very good at languages, they will pick up foreign languages too, very fast, and as they are highly disciplined, they will find good job opportunities too”, he said, and called upon the youth to develop proficiency in foreign languages to prepare for 2019, by when the undersea optical fibre cable will be completely in place.

The Lt. Governor also asked the Principal, ANCOL and DBRAIT to start courses in other foreign languages in their colleges. Apart from Japanese, four more foreign languages viz. German, French, Russian, Chinese should be started in the Islands, he said. He also mentioned that owing to their hardwork and precision, Japan has come up post World War-II and asked the new learners to also understand Japanese culture and their good qualities.
Complementing all stakeholders for this initiative, the Lt. Governor also asked the Secretary (Education) to explore possibilities of providing advanced course in Japanese language to the learners.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Secretary, Shri Anindo Majumdar expressed happiness on the launch of this basic course in Japanese language. “It will fulfil the long felt demand of the people of the Islands to learn Japanese”, he said, emphasizing the need to learn other international languages as well. Learning foreign languages will open many job opportunities for the Islanders, the Chief Secretary said. The Chief Secretary also thanked Prof. Jayanta Misra for volunteering to teach Japanese language.

Prof. Jayanta Kr. Mishra, HoD, Marine Biology, Pondicherry University, Campus, Brookshabad, who is the resource person of this course, in his address, expressed gratitude to the Lt. Governor for starting this course. About the language, he said Japanese is a very simple language and one can learn to speak and read Japanese very easily. He expressed hope that the learners will enjoy learning the language.

A two minutes’ silence was also observed to pay respect to those who achieved martyrdom during Japanese occupation in these Islands.

Earlier welcoming the gathering, the Principal, JNRM, Dr. Francis Xavier said that arrangements to start the basic course in Japanese language in JNRM has been done within a very short span of time and assured that a course in French will be started soon. Besides, some skill development courses will also be introduced in JNRM in the coming days, he said. The students of JNRM presented a Japanese dance befitting the occasion.

The programme was coordinated by Asst. Professor, JNRM, Ms. Jochi Bed while it concluded with the vote of thanks proposed by Ms. Maseem, Member, Student Council, JNRM.
Arrangements on Coastal Security Exercise – Tatsurakasha 01/16 reviewed

A detailed meeting has been conducted under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary Shri Anindo Mazumdar on Coastal Security Exercise – Tatsurakasha 01/16 on 29th March 2016. Apart from Inspector General, Coast Guard, A&NI Shri Kuldip Singh Sheoran, Home Secretary, Shri N.K.Sharma, PCCF Shri M.S.Negi, DGP (i/c) Shri N.S. Bundela, the senior officers of the
Coast Guard, various line departments of A&N Administration and A&N Police also attended the meeting. At the outset, Commander, Coast Guard Region (Andaman and Nicobar) Inspector General Shri Kuldip Singh Sheoran, PTM, TM briefed all present in the meeting on the tactical plans of the Coastal Security Exercise- Tatsuraksha 01/16, specific role of each agency and strategies to synergize the joint efforts. The bi-annual Coastal Security Exercise is being conducted in the month of April in Andaman & Nicobar Islands. The importance of the exercise and points meriting attention from the previous Coastal Security Exercise were discussed at length with the various stake holders in the meeting. The exercise is conducted by HQANC and Indian Coast Guard is responsible for Coordinating efforts of the stake holders to achieve a robust Coastal Security matrix. The pending and new agenda points towards Coastal Security were discussed during the meeting with all the stake holders. The Chief Secretary reviewed the progress on various outstanding agenda points and preparedness of the administration towards Coastal Security.

**Advance reservation of Chartered flight tickets for April and May 2016 on Kolkata-Port Blair-Kolkata sectors**

Advance booking of chartered flight tickets for the month of April and May, 2016 for sector Kolkata-Port Blair-Kolkata will commence from 1st April 2016 at 1000 hrs onwards upto 4.00 PM on all working days. Intending passengers can book their tickets from any of the following centres/offices on first come first serve basis:-

- Any of the Common Service Centers (CSC)s – e-Dweep outlets.
- Ticket counter at Inter-Island Helicopter Terminal, Port Blair.
- Office of Dy. Commissioner (Nicobar), Car Nicobar.
- Office of Dy. Commissioner (North & Middle Andaman), Mayabunder.
- Office of Asst. Director, Shipping Services, Chennai.

Schedule of chartered flights:

**Kolkata-Port Blair-Kolkata:**

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**Procedure for reservation of Tickets:-**

- Application has to be made on prescribed format available on A&N Administration’s website www.and.nic.in.
- Only one ticket will be issued per applicant. But in case of family, a maximum of 4 tickets will be issued per application.
- The reservation will be done on first come first serve basis by the respective reservation offices/CSC’s.
- The CSC’s and booking offices will book the tickets subject to availability. The CSC operator will obtain the required details and documents of the Passengers and issue a confirmation slip to the passengers. A SMS alert will be sent with confirmation number to those passengers booked the tickets.
- Those passengers having confirmation slip issued by the CSC should remit payment within 24 hours in any of the following offices (1) Inter Island helicopter terminal, Port Blair (2) Deputy Commissioner, North & Middle Andaman

Formal Tickets will be issued to individual passenger by the concerned booking office a day or two prior to the date of journey.

Cancellation of Tickets:

No refund will be allowed for cancellation of ticket(s), in case the seat remains unoccupied due to such cancellation. However, 20% cancellation charges will be deducted in case of 100% occupancy.

Flea Market at Marina Park on April 2-3

With the motto to promote the local cuisine, culture, art and handicrafts and also to encourage the participation of the local people towards promotion of Tourism in the Islands, the Tourism Department of A & N Administration is once again presenting a truly “Relaxing, Rejuvenating Rejoicing eve Weekend Utsav (Flea Market) on 2nd & 3rd April, 2016 at Marina Park from 4 pm to 10 pm.

The event is successful merely because of the involvement of people from all walks of life particularly the Islanders, NGOs, SHGs, Cultural Associations, Tourism stakeholders etc. Hence, fresh applications are invited from interested participants for setting up KIOSKs/stalls during the flea market on 2nd & 3rd April, 2016. The interested local cultural groups/individuals, who wish to perform voluntarily at flea market on 2nd & 3rd April, 2016 may approach to Tourism Department for registration. The Tourism Department will give the opportunity to them to perform before large gathering on turn basis.

The application form in this regard can be obtained from the Manager (GH), Directorate of Tourism, Tel No.03192-244081. The filled in application form should reach to this office on or before 01/04/2016. (01.00 PM).

Free coaching classes for students

With the sincere efforts of the Education Department, A&N Administration is conducting free coaching classes for JEE (Mains) and JEE (Architecture) at Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Rabindra Bangla Vidyalaya, Port Blair w. e. from 16th March, 2016 and it will continue till 1st April, 2016.

Similarly, the coaching classes for Pre-Medical Entrance Test-2016 will also begin from 4th April, 2016 to till 30th April, 2016.
Altogether 410 students have registered their names as on date for both JEE-2016 and Pre-Medical Entrance Test-2016; however, about 140 students are attending JEE (Mains) & JEE (Architecture) classes. A mock test for JEE (Mains) is also being conducted in between on similar fashion of All India standard to acquaint the students about the JEE (Main) Entrance Examination, which is scheduled on 3\textsuperscript{rd} April, 2016.

In this regard, all the registered students are requested to attend the coaching classes regularly to receive the benefit of free coaching for their better career prospects. The interested students who are yet to register their names for coaching classes are also requested to take initiatives to get them registered and take benefit of this very effort of the Education department.

It is further reiterated that the coaching classes for Pre-Medical Entrance Test-2016 will begin from 4\textsuperscript{th} April, 2016 and continue till 30\textsuperscript{th} April, 2016 (Excluding Sunday) on all working days from 9.00 AM to 1.00 PM. All the needy students are requested to attend the same without fail. Fresh registrations will also be entertained during the entire course.

**Power suspension**

Power supply will remain suspended in some of the areas on 01.04.2016 from 0800 hours to 1200 hours in connection with construction of culvert, RCC retaining wall and CC drain between D. K. Workshop and Minnie Bay junction by APWD.

The areas to be affected by power disruption are part of Old Pahargaon, Minnie Bay, School Line and Lamba Line.