

Press Release

GREETINGS

On the historic occasion of Republic Day, I extend my heartiest felicitations and best wishes to the people of Andaman & Nicobar Islands. On this Day, India became a Sovereign, Socialist and Democratic Republic.

The Day commemorates the coming into effect of the Constitution of India, in 1950. Republic Day reminds us of the martyrs and heroes of our freedom struggle who made the supreme sacrifice for our motherland. We also pay homage to martyrs and heroes of various conflicts who made the supreme sacrifice to safeguard India.

We are justifiably proud of being the largest and a vibrant democracy where people live in harmony. Our country has a variety of cultures, languages, social norms, traditions and customs. Republic Day is an appropriate occasion to celebrate this unity in diversity.

I appeal to the people of Andaman & Nicobar Islands to reinforce the values enshrined in our Constitution and continue to strive to make India a strong and prosperous nation.

Sd/-

Lt Gen (Retd) A K Singh
Lieutenant Governor
Andaman & Nicobar Islands

4th National Voters' Day-2014

"We are proud of our vibrant democracy and committed to uphold our democratic traditions": LG

Port Blair, Jan 25: Lt Governor, Lt Gen (Retd) A K Singh, today called upon the people of the Islands to exercise their rights and vote without fear and as per their choices. He was addressing the 'National Voters Day' function at JNRM, Port Blair here today. The Lt Governor also administered voters' pledge to all the eligible voters present on the occasion and launched the website of the Election Department, which will help citizens to verify whether their names are enrolled in the electoral list besides providing other useful information to the citizens.

Speaking on the occasion, the Lt Governor described the 'National Voters Day' as an important day as on this day the people of the country reiterate their belief in our democracy. "On this day, we reiterate that we are proud of our vibrant democracy and also reiterate our commitment to follow the democratic path", he said. The Lt Governor further stated that when our country became Independent in 1947, not many people abroad believed that democratic India will be able to progress and do so well, but we have proved them wrong. The great success story of modern India tells us that democracy has developed deep roots in our country. He further stated that today India has become a shining light for other nations to follow our democratic traditions and processes.

Referring to the good work of the Election Commission of India, the Lt Governor stated that it is a matter of pride that our Election Commission has been requested by other countries of the world to help them conduct free and fair elections in their country.

Turning to the challenges, he said as enlightened citizens, we have to stop and ponder whether we have been able to achieve the desired goals. Though we have had great success stories but at the same time, we have great challenges, and added that despite progress, there is a divide and disparity in society, and this is growing. The growing disparities in our society need to be reduced if India is to achieve the cherished goals. He appealed to all citizens of the Islands to work for strengthening democracy by exercising their right to vote.

Earlier, welcoming the chief guest and others present, the Chief Electoral Officer, Smt Rina Ray highlighted the significance of the day. She said that the celebration of the 'National Voters Day' is a new and unique initiative of the Election Commission to involve the voters and motivate them, especially the youth to vote. She also appealed to all the voters to come forward and vote in large numbers, so that Andaman and Nicobar Islands become an example for others.

