

NORTH EAST NEWS BULLETIN

DATED:- 20.01.2025

HEADLINES:-

- Over 13 illegal rat-hole mines sealed and four illegal coal miners arrested in Margherita, Assam.
- Eligible street vendors in Khyndai Lad, Police Bazar, Shillong to be relocated to designated vending zones starting 7th February.
- Manipur emerges as leader in growth of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises in Northeast.
- Assam reports a 16.41 percent decrease in road accident fatalities.
- Mizoram emerges as first state in Northeast to distribute property cards.
- Centre accords approval for extension of the four-lane road from Umiam to Shillong.
- Manipur Police picked up man and woman on charges of using harmful chemicals to ripen green bananas.
- Yesterday marked the arrival of athletes and officials from all districts, at Lad Mukhla ground, West Jaintia Hills for Meghalaya Games.

MINERS:

In Assam, over 13 illegal rat-hole mines were sealed, four illegal coal miners arrested in Margherita, in an operation carried out on Saturday. The Executive Magistrate Pritom Gogoi, Director General of Police GP Singh, Margherita police personnel, officials from North Eastern Coalfields were present during the raids. The action on the rat-hole mines follows the decision of the Assam Cabinet to permanently close down all rat-hole mines.

VENDOR:

Eligible street vendors in Khyndai Lad, Police Bazar in Shillong will be relocated to three designated vending zones starting 7th February, the Shillong Municipal Board has informed. Based on the recommendations of the Town Vending Committee, the government has notified vending zones. The local authority, under government orders, is working to develop these and provide basic amenities.

GROWTH:

Manipur has emerged as a leader in the growth of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises in the Northeast, according to Chief Minister N. Biren Singh. The Chief Minister recently lauded the state's achievements, highlighting that Manipur topped the list of MSME business registrations among the Northeastern states, as per the Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises' annual report for 2018-19. The state's MSME sector has witnessed significant growth, driven by women entrepreneurs making remarkable strides in sectors such as handloom, handicrafts, and food processing. The Manipur government's emphasis on women's empowerment through entrepreneurship has enabled many women to break traditional barriers and lead successful businesses in areas previously dominated by men.

FATALITY:

Assam has reported a 16.41 percent decrease in road accident fatalities, with 163 deaths recorded between 24th December, 2024 and 15th January, 2025, compared to 195 fatalities during the same period in 2024. Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma shared the positive development, while acknowledging the continuing concern over the loss of lives. Mr Sarma expressed cautious optimism, stating, this reduction is encouraging, but the loss of lives is still deeply concerning. The Assam government has been working on improving road safety by enhancing infrastructure, raising awareness, and enforcing stricter traffic regulations.

CARD:

Mizoram has emerged as the first state in the Northeast to distribute property cards under the Centre's Survey of Villages Abadi and Mapping with Improvised Technology in Village Areas Yojana. The distribution ceremony, held virtually on Saturday, was witnessed by Governor General VK Singh, who expressed pride in the state's pioneering role in the region. The first batch of property cards were handed out to 1,754 beneficiaries from 18 villages.

APPROVAL:

The Centre has given its approval for the extension of the four-lane road from Umiam to Shillong. The extension will connect the busy stretch, which has long been plagued by heavy traffic, creating daily bottlenecks for commuters. Meghalaya's Deputy Chief Minister, Prestone Tynsong, announced the approval, stating that the government will soon begin discussions with consultants regarding the road's alignment. While the four-lane road from Guwahati to Umiam has already been constructed, the stretch from Umiam to Shillong remains a bottleneck due to growing traffic volumes. The new extension aims to address this issue and ease travel between the two cities, enhancing connectivity.

BANANA:

The Manipur Police picked up a man and a woman on charges of using harmful chemicals to ripen green bananas at Hwairamband Keithel the main market located in the State capital. However, the duo was later released "after necessary process". The incident came to light after a video went viral on Facebook, in which the man and the woman were seen dipping green bananas in a watery solution suspected to contain harmful chemicals. These bananas were sold in the market.

GAMES:

Yesterday marked the arrival of athletes and officials from all the districts, including the host district, West Jaintia Hills, at Lad Mukhla ground for the Meghalaya Games, which will begin tomorrow. There are 29 disciplines featuring 29 sports. The swimming and golf events will be hosted in Shillong.
