

NORTH EAST NEWS BULLETIN

DATED:- 20.02.2025

HEADLINES:-

- Government releases the 15th Finance Commission Grants for the Financial Year 2024-25 for the Rural Local Bodies of Bihar, Haryana, and Sikkim.
- Arunachal Pradesh celebrates its 39th statehood day today.
- Union Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, Food, and Public Distribution, Smt. Nimuben J. Bambhaniya, visits several key facilities across the state of Meghalaya.
- Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma inaugurates the Apollo Trinity Medical Center in Shillong.
- The campaign for the two Autonomous District Councils, the Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council and Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Council election ended yesterday
- The District Administration of West Karbi Anglong, Assam pledges its full support and cooperation for smooth conduct of election to the Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Council.

GRANT:

The Government has released the 15th Finance Commission Grants for the Financial Year 2024-25 for the Rural Local Bodies of Bihar, Haryana, and Sikkim. The Ministry of Panchayati Raj, in a statement, said these funds are for the 18 eligible District Panchayats, 142 eligible Block Panchayats, and nearly 6,200 eligible Gram Panchayats. Sikkim received the 2nd installment of Untied Grants amounting to over 6 crore rupees during the Financial Year 2024-25. These funds are for the 4 eligible District Panchayats and 186 eligible Gram Panchayats that fulfilled the mandatory conditions for release.

STATEHOOD:

Arunachal Pradesh is celebrating its 39th statehood day today. The main state celebration will be held at IG Park in the capital city Itanagar. Governor Lt Gen (Retd) KT Parnaik will be the Chief Guest of the event. Chief Minister Pema Khandu and Union Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Minority Affairs Kiren Rijiju will also attend the celebration. Arunachal Pradesh attained full statehood on February 20, 1987. Before that, it was known as the North-East Frontier Agency (NEFA) until 1972, when it was granted Union Territory status and renamed Arunachal Pradesh. Today, the state is administratively divided into 27 districts, each contributing to its unique cultural and traditional fabric. Known for its rich cultural heritage, Arunachal Pradesh is home to over 100 tribes and sub-tribes, each with a distinct identity, making it one of the most diverse states in India.

PROJECTS:

In a move to strengthen the implementation of essential government programs and assess local development projects, the Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, Food, and Public Distribution, Smt. Nimuben J. Bambhaniya, visited several key facilities across the state of Meghalaya yesterday. Bambhaniya began her visit at the Rynjah State Dispensary, where she interacted with healthcare professionals including doctors and nurses. The Union Minister also visited the *Anapurti Grain ATM* at the Fair Price Shop in Rynjah RR Colony. Smt. Bambhaniya interacted with National Food Security Act (NFSA) beneficiaries and observed the smooth online transactions carried out by recipients. In Mawdiangdiang, Smt. Bambhaniya inspected the *Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Seva Kendra (BNRGSK)*, which plays a crucial role in the administration of rural development programs such as MGNREGA and PMAY-G. The minister visited Mawkasiang village, where she inspected homes constructed under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G). Smt. Bambhaniya also visited the government-run Children's Home for Boys in Mawkasiang, a facility that currently cares for 31 children.

INAUGURATION:

Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma yesterday inaugurated the Apollo Trinity Medical Center in Shillong, marking a significant milestone in Meghalaya's healthcare sector. The state-of-the-art healthcare facility is a collaborative effort with Apollo Hospitals Enterprise Limited. In his inaugural address, Chief Minister Sangma expressed immense pride in the completion of the

medical center, highlighting his personal involvement since its inception. He reiterated the government’s commitment to improving healthcare services, noting that Meghalaya allocates nearly 9% of its total budget to healthcare, the highest in the country. The Chief Minister also outlined several healthcare initiatives undertaken by the government, including the recruitment of 500 doctors, the introduction of solar-powered sub-centers, and the digitization of medical records.

CAMPAIGN:

The campaign for the two Autonomous District Councils, the Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council and Jaiñtia Hills Autonomous District Council election ended yesterday. Voting in all 29 constituencies in both KHADC and JHADC will be held on February 21. Preparations are in full swing across Meghalaya. Commissioner and Secretary of the District Council Affairs (DCA) Department, Cyril Diengdoh, confirmed that multiple reviews have been conducted by Deputy Commissioners to ensure a smooth electoral process. Security has been ramped with additional forces deployed to sensitive areas to maintain law and order. The Meghalaya government has allocated over 22 crore rupees for conducting the KHADC and JHADC elections, covering logistics, security, and overall poll management.

SUPPORT:

The District Administration of West Karbi Anglong, Assam has pledged its full support and cooperation to the District Administration of West Jaintia Hills, Meghalaya to ensure a peaceful conduct of the JHADCs election in the border areas of Assam-Meghalaya spanning the two districts. In an official statement, the Meghalaya Police has indicated that they are placing special emphasis on areas situated along the inter-state border. Security deployment will be bolstered leading up to the Polling Day. The Meghalaya Police will be deploying 550 police officers and personnel to ensure a smooth and fair polling process during the general election of JHADC on the 21st of this month in West Jaintia Hills District.
