

NORTH EAST NEWS BULLETIN

DATED:- 15.02.2025

HEADLINES

- 1. Campaigning intensifies in run-up to election of members of Khasi and Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Councils in Meghalaya.**
- 2. President Droupadi Murmu to inaugurate Aadi Mahotsav 2025 in New Delhi tomorrow.**
- 3. Ri Bhoi District Police in Meghalaya intensify efforts to combat drug smuggling.**
- 4. Group of eight Bangladeshi illegal entrants intercepted by security forces at Tura in Meghalaya.**
- 5. Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Indian Olympic Association president PT Usha hand over National Games flag to Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma.**

NEWS IN ORDER

POLLS

As the day for election of members of the Khasi and Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Councils in Meghalaya draws nearer, candidates and leaders of various political parties are intensifying their campaigns to woo the voters. Over the past few days, many have expressed their views and promises to the people, hoping to gain their support. In the Mawshynrut District Council Constituency, both the HSPDP and NPP, which are part of the current MDA government, showcased their strength at a common platform held at Riango Market. Hundreds of supporters gathered to show solidarity for their respective parties. The district council elections are scheduled to be held on the 21st of this month and the results are expected on the 24th.

PRESIDENT

President Droupadi Murmu will inaugurate the Aadi Mahotsav 2025 at the Major Dhyan Chand Stadium in New Delhi tomorrow. The event aims to celebrate the entrepreneurial spirit, crafts, culture, cuisine, and commerce of tribal communities. Minister of State for Tribal Affairs, Durgadas Uikey said the event aims to provide a platform to tribal artisans and entrepreneurs from different states to showcase their creations and products among others. The event, which will bring together more than 600 tribal entrepreneurs, will feature various cultural and traditional programs laying a cornerstone in fostering unity and diversity of the nation. The nine-day event will culminate on the 24th of this month.

POLICE

The Ri Bhoi Police have intensified efforts to combat drug smuggling in the district, a crucial gateway to Meghalaya located along National Highway-6. In an operation on Thursday evening, police detained five local youth on suspicion of involvement in drug smuggling and consumption. According to Additional Superintendent of Police, Jason Mairom, five individuals, whose names have been withheld, were apprehended during a search operation at Umshangling Junction. Acting on specific intelligence, the police intercepted an auto-rickshaw, but no contraband substances were found in their possession. However, cash and syringes were recovered.

MILITANCY

Former ANVC-B leader and Meghalaya State BJP vice president Bernard N Marak has alleged that ex-militants who surrendered their arms have not received the promised rehabilitation package and livelihood assistance from the government. He stated that many former members of militant organizations, including GNLA, ANVC, and ANVC-B, are still waiting for the benefits assured to them when they joined the mainstream. While he dismissed the possibility of a resurgence in militancy, he emphasized that frustration, uncertainty, and economic struggles persist within these groups.

BANGLADESHI

A group of eight Bangladeshi nationals who had illegally entered India through the Garo Hills border and were making their way out of Tura towards the mainland were intercepted by a joint team of Meghalaya Police, CRPF and BSF on Thursday. An Indian facilitator who was leading them out in a vehicle was also arrested. The Bangladeshi group had planned to cross into Assam and West Bengal, it was reported.

ASSAM

Assam is at the forefront of Northeast India's startup revolution, leading the region with 1,487 recognized startups out of the total 2,054. This is as per data from the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade as of 31st December, 2024. This boost highlights Assam's growing entrepreneurial spirit and its emergence as a key hub for innovation in the region. The data was presented by Sukanta Majumdar, Minister of State in the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region to the Rajya Sabha. It underscores Assam's significant contribution to the startup landscape.

GAMES

Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Indian Olympic Association president PT Usha handed over the National Games flag to Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma during the closing ceremony of the 38th National Games in Uttarakhand yesterday. Meghalaya will host the 39th edition of the National Games in February-March, 2027.
