

HEADLINES:-

- Centre enhances the material cost by 9.50 percent under Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman Scheme.
- Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board, in collaboration with the Forest and Environment Department, Government of Meghalaya organize a workshop under the National Clean Air Program.
- Meghalaya Education Minister Rakkam Sangma slams Voice of the People Party for demanding scrapping of the CM Impact Guidebooks.
- Meghalaya Legislative Assembly donates vehicle to Meghalaya AIDS Control Society.
- Meghalaya Government intends to build a Guest House in the territory of Meghalaya between Byrnihat and Khanapara.
- Meghalaya's Ri-Bhoi District Police apprehended five Bangladeshi nationals for illegally entering India.

POSHAN

Centre has enhanced the material cost by 9.50 percent under the Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman Scheme. The scheme is a centrally sponsored scheme under which hot cooked meals are served to over eleven crore students studying in Balvatika and classes 1 to 8 in government and government-aided schools. The Union Education Ministry has said that the new rates will be applicable across all the States and Union Territories with effect from 1st of next month. The Central Government will bear the additional cost of 954 crore rupees in 2025-26 due to this enhancement. In addition to the material cost, the Central Government provides about 26 lakh metric tonnes of foodgrains through the Food Corporation of India.

POLLUTION

In a concerted effort to combat air pollution and promote sustainable industrial practices, the Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board, in collaboration with the Forest and Environment Department, Government of Meghalaya, organized a workshop under the National Clean Air Program. The event, held at La Nicholas Da Kine Resort in Umbir was sponsored by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India.

The workshop brought together a wide array of stakeholders, including environmental experts, industry leaders, policymakers, and government officials, to engage in meaningful discussions on effective strategies for controlling and mitigating air pollution. Topics ranged from region-specific air quality challenges and advanced emission control technologies to the integration of sustainable practices in industrial processes.

EDUCATION

Meghalaya Education Minister Rakkam Sangma has slammed Voice of the People Party for demanding scrapping of the CM Impact Guidebooks. The statement came from Rakkam Sangma a day after VPP called for the scrapping of the CM Impact guidebook, while asserting that the standard of examinations should not be lowered to the extent that they feel like no examinations at all. Questioning the double standard of the party, he said that people earlier were questioning the low pass percentage and now when the pass percentage has increased, some people are not happy with it. Defending the CM Impact guidebook, he said that such statements of VPP despite being an academicians would only underline and demoralize the hard work of the students.

VEHICLE

In a significant step toward ensuring equitable access to HIV/AIDS services across Meghalaya especially in remote and underserved areas, the Meghalaya Legislative Assembly has handed over a Mahindra Bolero vehicle to the Meghalaya AIDS Control Society. The vehicle was officially presented to Dr. Wallambok Langstieh, Project Director of MACS and other officials by Shri Malthus S. Sangma, Additional Secretary of the Meghalaya Legislative Assembly, on behalf of Mr. Thomas A. Sangma, Speaker of the State Legislative Assembly. The Speaker has been a steadfast advocate for strengthening the HIV/AIDS response in the state and played a pivotal role in driving this initiative forward. The vehicle will subsequently be transferred to the Meghalaya State Network of Positive People, where it will be used to trace and re-engage individuals classified as Loss to Follow-Up (LFU) cases.

GUEST HOUSE

Meghalaya General Administration Department Minister, Rakkam Sangma said the Government is exploring the idea of constructing a state guest house in the territory of Meghalaya between Byrnihat and Khanapara. The idea has been mooted as the existing Meghalaya House in Guwahati is small and congested. He said that the idea is to construct a state guest house within the jurisdiction of Meghalaya Byrnihat and Khanapara. According to Sangma, if the Guest House can be constructed in the area, people would be able to reach Guwahati Airport from Khanapara within 15 to 20 minutes.

APPREHENSION

Meghalaya's Ri-Bhoi District Police have apprehended five Bangladeshi nationals for illegally entering India and attempting to impersonate as Indian citizens by presenting forged documents, including fake Aadhaar cards. Upon verification, the police discovered that the presented documents, particularly the Aadhaar cards, were forged and unverified by UIDAI, raising serious doubts about their authenticity.