

NORTH EAST NEWS BULLETIN

DATED:- 02.05.2025

HEADLINES:-

- Vehicles of 15 years old and private vehicles of 35 years old will no longer be on the roads in Meghalaya as state cabinet approves vehicle scrappage policy, 2025 to phase out old cars to reduce pollution, address congestion, as well as recycle of materials.
- Nagaland police issue alert about malicious APK file named "PM Kisan Yojana" being circulated within the state.
- Voting for first phase of panchayat elections is being held today in 14 districts of Assam.
- States in North East commemorate Statehood Day of Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Gujarat with Raj Bhavans in Meghalaya and other states hosting commemorative events.
- Meghalaya Chief Minister, Conrad K. Sangma, along with Sports Minister, Shakliar Warjri awards scholarships to 614 athletes under Chief Minister's Sports Scholarship Scheme for 2022-24 and 2024-25.

UPGRADE:

In Meghalaya, government vehicles of 15 years old and private vehicles of 35 years old will no longer be on the roads with the state cabinet approving the vehicle scrappage policy, 2025 to phase out old vehicles to reduce the pollution level, address congestion, as well as recycle of materials. Minister and government spokesperson, Paul Lyngdoh told reporters in Shillong yesterday that the government will start implementing the policy by taking off around 5,000 government vehicles which are of 15 years old and above, and around 8,000 private vehicles which are of 35 years old. Meanwhile, the Meghalaya Cabinet has also approved upgradation of higher secondary schools to strengthen the state's education system and address the shortage of seats across government schools. Lyngdoh informed that there is a deficit in intake capacity which stands at 12,000 seats. To address these gaps, six government secondary schools will be upgraded to the higher secondary level, and the Cabinet also approved the introduction of new academic streams in several existing higher secondary schools to ensure a more balanced curriculum.

HACKING ALERT:

In Nagaland, police have issued an alert about a malicious APK file named "*PM Kisan Yojana*" which is being circulated within the state. In a press release, the State Police stated that the file is being distributed at the district and block levels through various individuals and groups. The police cautioned that once the APK file is clicked and installed, the affected user will lose control over their mobile device. The malicious file then automatically spreads to all contacts and groups associated with the victim, particularly on WhatsApp. The public has been strongly advised **not** to click, download, or install the APK file. In addition, citizens are requested **not** to share the link, and report any instances of its circulation. The police urged everyone to spread awareness about the threat to ensure broader public safety.

PANCHAYAT:

In Assam, the voting for the first phase of the panchayat elections is being held today. The first phase is covering 14 districts —Tinsukia, Dibrugarh, Charaideo, Sivasagar, Majuli, Jorhat, Golaghat, Dhemaji, Lakhimpur, Sonitpur, Biswanath, Cachar, Hailakandi, and the newly created Sribhumi district. The second phase will be held on the 7th of this month. There are more than 50,000 seats across Gram Panchayats, Anchalik Panchayats, and Zila Parishads. The NDA has already secured an uncontested victory in 37 Zila Parishad and 288 Anchalik Panchayat seats. Assam Chief Minister Sarma hailed as “an unprecedented achievement in Assam’s political landscape.”

FOUNDATION:

States in the North East yesterday commemorated the Statehood Day of Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Gujarat. Raj Bhavans in Meghalaya and other states hosted a commemorative event. In Shillong, Meghalaya Governor, C.H. Vijayashankar addressed the gathering through a video message. He expressed his gratitude to the three states, commending their rich cultural heritage and visionary contributions to the nation’s progress. Recognizing International Labour Day, the Governor emphasized the workers vital role in national development and the importance of treating them with dignity and support.

SCHOLARSHIP:

Meghalaya Chief Minister, Conrad K. Sangma, along with Sports Minister, Shakliar Warjri yesterday awarded scholarships to 614 athletes under the Chief Minister’s Sports Scholarship Scheme for 2022-24 and 2024-25. Organised by the Department of Sports & Youth Affairs, the event also featured a grand send-off ceremony for the Meghalaya State Team, set to represent the state at the Khelo India Youth Games, 2025 in Bihar. Altogether, 614 athletes from various sport disciplines will receive monthly scholarship from 2024-2025. The Meghalaya contingent comprises a total of 44 athletes and 14 officials who will participate in different sports disciplines at the Khelo India, 2025. In his address, the Chief Minister expressed his delight, happiness, and satisfaction at seeing how the entire sports ecosystem had progressed and grown over the last seven years under the MDA Government.
