

NORTH EAST NEWS

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HEADLINES:-

- 1. India is a secular nation and minorities are safest in this country says Union minister Kiren Rijiju.**
- 2. A one-day media workshop titled “Vartalap”, focusing on '11 Years of Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s Government' held at Dimapur in Nagaland.**
- 3. In Sikkim, the pious journey to the Kailash Mansarovar is going on smoothly through the Nathula pass.**
- 4. First-ever Mango Festival celebrated at Longmatra in Kiphire district of Nagaland.**
- 5. Meghalaya Climate Change Centre conducts an assessment on climate vulnerability across the 39 Community & Rural Development Blocks of Meghalaya.**
- 6. Meghalaya Health Minister Ampareen Lyngdoh discloses preliminary findings in the investigation into the recent food poisoning incident in Mairang.**

SECULARISM

India is a secular nation and minorities are safest in this country, Union minister Kiren Rijiju has said, asserting that minorities are enjoying absolute freedom and protection because of the Hindu majority. In an interview with T.V. Channel in New Delhi, the Minority Affairs Minister said he has not come across a single case where a member of the minority community is willing to migrate out of India because of being deprived of anything in the country. He accused the opposition parties of running a relentless campaign that minorities are being "tortured, butchered, lynched and killed, and are not safe in India".

VARTALAP

In Nagaland, a one-day media workshop titled “Vartalap”, focusing on '11 Years of Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s Government', was held at Dimapur yesterday. Addressing the inaugural session, Deputy Commissioner of Dimapur, Tinojongshi Chang, underscored the pivotal role of media in bridging the gap between government programmes and the public, especially in rural areas. He also encouraged journalists to highlight success stories which can serve as inspiration for others. Meanwhile, PRO Defence for Nagaland, Manipur, and Arunachal Pradesh, Lieutenant Colonel Amit Shukla, highlighted recent reforms in the Defence

Ministry including integration of Artificial Intelligence and indigenous products, and civil-military coordination.

YATRA

In Sikkim, the pious journey to the Kailash Mansarovar is going on smoothly through the Nathula pass. Yesterday, the sixth batch has started their journey to the Tibetan Autonomous Region from the Nathula. Senior officials flagged off the yatra. So far four batches have successfully completed their yatra, while the 5th batch is on their way to Gangtok after completing the yatra. Four more batches to do the yatra this year via Nathula. All the batches have been accompanied by doctor, cook and liaison officer. Before starting the yatra, all the pilgrims are to go through 4 to 5 days of mandatory acclimatisation process at various places in Sikkim.

MANGO

In a boost to local agriculture and entrepreneurship, the first-ever Mango Festival was celebrated today at Longmatra in Kiphire district of Nagaland. The Festival was initiated by the District Administration and the Department of Horticulture, Kiphire. This festival is confined to the Longmatra area, covering 13 villages, where mangoes are grown very well. Advisor for Home Guard & Civil Defence Services, Relief and Rehabilitation Kiusumew Yimchunger encouraged farmers to continue mango cultivation beyond the festival, and stressed on bringing produce to the markets. He also highlighted the government's commitment in supporting agri activities through modern machinery and other systems. Deputy Commissioner of Kiphire, Temsuwati Longkumer urged farmers to adopt cluster farming and organic branding.

VULNERABILITY

Researchers from the Meghalaya Climate Change Centre, Government of Meghalaya have conducted an assessment profiling a comprehensive climate vulnerability across the 39 Community & Rural Development Blocks of Meghalaya. The assessment, & Integrated climate vulnerability assessment of Meghalaya at block level & is published as a research article in Discover Sustainability, a journal published by the Europe based Springer Nature Group. The assessment revealed vulnerability in 25 C&RD Blocks in the very high and high categories, contributed by limited access to credit, low household incomes, inadequate public health

infrastructure, such as Anganwadi centres, and low forest resource availability besides other factors.

INVESTIGATION

Meghalaya Health Minister Ampareen Lyngdoh has disclosed preliminary findings in the investigation into the recent food poisoning incident in Mairang, where a 15-year-old student died after consuming tomatoes. Speaking to media persons, Lyngdoh said she is awaiting the detailed report, which would provide more information on the incident.
