

**HEADLINES:-**

- **Sikkim Government to introduce a formal Sabbatical Leave Scheme for Government employees.**
- **Tripura Medical College, Tripura Medical College Nursing Staff Union, and Agartala Rotary Club jointly hold a three-in-one program on health and tree plantation.**
- **This year, Assam receives over 42 per cent rainfall deficit, and 27 districts are experiencing a drought-like situation during this kharif season.**
- **Akashvani Aizawl observes its 60<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day with celebratory events.**
- **In Nagaland, the Ao Nagas celebrate its pre-harvest festival “Tsongremmong”.**
- **Arunachal Pradesh explores international collaboration to strengthen its Orchid Mission.**
- **India Meteorological Department issues an orange alert for heavy to very heavy rainfall over Assam, Meghalaya, and Arunachal Pradesh today**

**REFORM**

In a trailblazing reform that marks Sikkim as the first state in the country to introduce a formal Sabbatical Leave Scheme, the Government has empowered its workforce especially the youth with a rare opportunity for personal and professional growth. The policy allows regular state Government employees who have completed at least five years of continuous service to avail of leave from 365 days up to a maximum of 1,080 days while receiving 50% of their basic pay during their absence.

**PROGRAMME**

Tripura Medical College, Tripura Medical College Nursing Staff Union, and Agartala Rotary Club jointly held a three in one program yesterday, in which, blood donation camp, tree plantation and medical aid giveaway was included.

Tripura Chief Minister Dr. Manik Saha took part in the tree plantation near the Medical College campus in Hapania, Agartala. Later, at the Vivekananda Auditorium, the Chief Minister distributed glasses and various medical aids among the underprivileged.

## **RAIN**

This year, Assam received over 42 per cent rainfall deficit, and 27 districts are experiencing a drought-like situation during this kharif season. Akashvani Correspondent reports that Assam experienced over 42% rainfall deficit between 1st June to 28th July this year. The districts of Barpeta, Bajali, Baksa, Bongaigaon, Dibrugarh, Golaghat, Goalpara, Morigaon, Nagaon, Kamrup (Metro), Kamrup, Nalbari, Tamulpur, Kokrajhar, Dhubri, Sonitpur, South Salmara Mankachar and Lakhimpur are experiencing acute drought-like conditions. To mitigate this, the State government has issued a notification outlining urgent measures to tackle this acute drought-like situation. All District Commissioners have been instructed to immediately assess the functionality of irrigation schemes in affected areas and ensure timely restoration wherever needed.

## **DAY**

Akashvani Aizawl marked its 60th Foundation Day with a celebratory event held at its office in Tuikhuahtlang, Aizawl yesterday. The occasion brought together staff and guests to honor six decades of public service broadcasting in the region. The event's Chief Guest, Akashvani and Doordarshan Additional Director General (Northeast Zone) Ashish Bhatnagar, praised Akashvani Aizawl for reaching this significant milestone. He highlighted radio's long-standing role as a reliable and entertaining medium, even before the rise of television and digital platforms.

## **FESTIVAL**

In Nagaland, the Ao Nagas celebrated its pre-harvest festival "Tsongremmong" yesterday. The festival is traditionally observed to thank the Almighty for a good harvest and to seek blessings for the future. The festival reflects the rich cultural identity of the Ao people through folk music, indigenous games, rituals, and reconciliation practices. A grand Tsongremmong celebration was held at the Amphitheatre, Kisama, Kohima.

## **ORCHID**

Arunachal Pradesh is exploring international collaboration to strengthen its Orchid Mission. The State's Chief Secretary, Manish Kumar Gupta, held a virtual meeting with India's Ambassador to Thailand, Nagesh Singh, yesterday to discuss potential partnerships in orchid cultivation. The state government is seeking the Embassy's support in attracting Thai investment, sourcing high-quality planting materials, and acquiring technical expertise to advance scientific and commercial orchid farming.

In a social media post, the Chief Secretary stated that the government also aims to upskill farmers, Self Help Groups, and Farmer Producer Organizations.

## **IMD**

India Meteorological Department has issued an orange alert for heavy to very heavy rainfall over Assam, Meghalaya, and Arunachal Pradesh today. The weather agency has also predicted heavy rainfall conditions over Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, West Bengal, and Sikkim today.

## **SWEARING-IN**

Justice Biswadeep Bhattacharjee was officially sworn in as a Judge of the High Court of Meghalaya yesterday. The oath of office was administered during a formal ceremony by the Chief Justice of the Meghalaya High Court, Justice Indra Prasanna Mukerji.

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