

NORTH EAST NEWS BULLETIN

DATED:- 21.08.2025

HEADLINES:-

- Army initiates collaboration with state officials of Assam and Manipur to foster efficient cooperation.
- Meghalaya's Civil Defence & Home Guards Minister Comingone Ymbon distributes appointment letters to 445 new recruits.
- Mizoram Chief Minister Lalduhoma meets leaders of Mizoram Rubber Society to expand and approve Rubber Mission.
- Centre releases 55 crore rupees to Nagaland under Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin.
- Mizoram Commerce and Industries Department organises workshop on Small and Medium Enterprises.
- Arunachal Pradesh Governor Lieutenant General KT Parnaik administers oath of office to chairperson and member of Lokayukta.
- Member of Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council Ricky Shullai raises concern over tree felling in upper Shillong.
- Meghalaya Government intensifies anti-narcotics drive.
- Ri Bhoi District Police arrest five leaders of Hynniewtrep National Youth Movement for extorting money from tourist taxis.
- 34th Manipuri Language Day observed yesterday.

NEWS IN ORDER:-

ARMY:

The Army has initiated a landmark collaboration with state officials of Assam and Manipur to foster efficient cooperation, cohesion and mutual understanding. Exercise Samanvay Shakti 2025 was inaugurated yesterday at Laipuli, in Tinsukia district of Assam. This Military-Civil Integration Exercise aims at fostering synergy between security forces, government departments and civil institutions to address the region's complex challenges through a unified and coordinated approach. A similar exercise is being undertaken in Manipur from 20th to 30th August through Operation Sadbhavna. The 10 days' Exercise Samanvay Shakti seeks to further strengthen the bond of trust between the people of upper Assam and Manipur and the institutions that serve them. The exercise is also aimed at contributing towards preparedness for security challenges and reinforcing national integration.

ROZGAR:

Meghalaya's Civil Defence & Home Guards Minister Comingone Ymbon distributed appointment letters to 445 new recruits at the department's first-ever Rozgar Mela held at its Parade Ground at Mawdiangdiang, New Shillong yesterday. The recruits included four Sub Inspectors, 284 Guardsmen, 17 Drivers, and 140 Non-Combatant Employees. Mr Ymbon urged the recruits to uphold service, sacrifice, and discipline while strengthening the state's resilience during disasters and emergencies. Commissioner & Secretary Vijay Kumar Mantri lauded the transparent recruitment process. Director M.K. Sangma

informed that 233 more personnel will soon be recruited and proposals have been made to strengthen the State Disaster Response Force.

MIZORAM:

Mizoram Chief Minister Lalduhoma held a meeting with leaders of the Mizoram Rubber Society (MIRSO) yesterday, during which the proposal to expand the Rubber Mission – 2nd Phase by an additional 173 hectares was approved. MIRSO president Hrangzuala submitted a report on the proposed activities to be undertaken in villages of Mamit District, bordering Tripura and Bangladesh as entrusted by the Government. Rubber growers expressed their appreciation of the mission and showed keen interest in further participation. The Chief Minister announced that 100 rubber processing units would be provided with subsidy support to boost production across Mizoram.

FINANCE:

The central government has released around 55 crore rupees to Nagaland under the Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) scheme, including PM-JANMAN for the financial year 2024-25. Under the PMAY-G scheme, Nagaland has been allocated a target of 48,830 houses, out of which more than 48,700 have been sanctioned and over 36,200 have been completed. The Union Cabinet has approved the extension of PMAY-G till 2028-29 for the construction of two crore additional rural houses in Nagaland. This was informed by Union Minister of State for Rural Development, Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani in the Lok Sabha recently.

INDUSTRY:

The Mizoram Commerce and Industries Department organised a workshop on the Promotion, Development and Empowerment of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in Aizawl yesterday. Chief Secretary Khilli Ram Meena emphasized that MSMEs are more than just businesses—especially in a state where over 50 percent of the population lives in rural areas. He pointed out that 44 percent of enterprises registered in Mizoram fall under the MSME category. The Chief Secretary also outlined challenges faced by the sector, including limited infrastructure, lack of market access and regulatory bottlenecks. He reaffirmed the Government of India's commitment to support Mizoram, highlighting the flagship Handholding Scheme under which loans worth 50 crore rupees have already been disbursed.

ARUNACHAL:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh, Lieutenant General KT Parnaik yesterday administered the oath of office to the chairperson and member of Lokayukta at Raj Bhavan, Itanagar. Justice Prasanta Kumar Deka was sworn-in as chairperson and Sang Phuntsok was sworn-in as member of the Lokayukta, Arunachal Pradesh. The Governor advised the chairperson to play a proactive role in promoting transparency, ensuring public accountability and combating corruption. Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu, Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein, Cabinet Ministers, senior officers and other officials were present on the occasion.

ROPEWAY:

Member of the Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council from Laban-Mawprem, Ricky Shullai, met Meghalaya Tourism Minister Paul Lyngdoh yesterday to raise concern over large-scale tree felling for the Shillong Ropeway project. He urged the Minister to conduct a joint inspection with the Dorbar Shnong and other stakeholders. Minister Lyngdoh reportedly agreed to the request. The MDC claimed that several trees have been cut and a catchment area lies close to the project site. The ropeway project is already under scrutiny, with a PIL pending before the High Court challenging the tree felling.

MAIKHULI:

Two days after clashes between people at Maikhuli in Ri-Bhoi along the Meghalaya-Assam boundary, the District authorities and Jirang MLA Sosthenes Sohtun visited the village to listen to the residents' grievances and seek peace. Deputy Commissioner Abhilash Baranwal, SP V.S. Rathore, Magistrate Eric Dkhar and other officials were also on spot. The villagers highlighted the hardships faced after the dismantling of Assam State Electricity Board poles sparked the conflict, urging urgent intervention. The MLA

directed the DC to file a formal report to the government and assured of personally pursuing the issue with the chief minister.

NAGALAND:

The Nagaland University and the University of California, Santa Cruz, recently co-hosted the ‘Ecologies of Care’ workshop in Kohima focusing on indigenous philosophies, environmental change, and collaborative dialogue. Professor Tiatoshi Jamir highlighted the lack of indigenous archaeologists and emphasized the significance of ancient oral tradition of passing folklores. The event featured the launch of the Naga Lithic Worlds exhibition, featuring Naga stone artifacts. Over 150 participants engaged in discussions on Naga storytelling, burial practices, songs, language, salt production, pottery, and more.

NARCOTICS:

The Meghalaya Government has intensified its anti-narcotics drive, with the Anti-Narcotics Task Force seizing drugs worth over 4 crore rupees and arresting several peddlers last week. Since August 2024, detention orders have been issued against five repeat offenders. Their bank accounts and those of their families have also been frozen. The government also plans to form a Territorial Army for Meghalaya, relocate hawkers in Shillong by November, launch a 220 crore rupees Sohra tourism project, develop a heritage resort at Lawsotun, and commission a film on U Tirot Sing Syiem.

EXTORTION:

The Ri Bhoi District Police yesterday arrested five leaders of the Hynniewtrep National Youth Movement (HNYM) for extorting money from tourist taxis entering Meghalaya, carrying non-tribal passengers, including tourists. All these passengers had valid documents and had been cleared to enter Meghalaya by the Anti-Infiltration Check Post, Byrnihat. The police said that apart from extortion, these anti-social elements were also harassing and physically assaulting the drivers and passengers. The arrested persons were produced before the District Court, even as investigations continue, senior superintendent of police, Ri-Bhoi, Vivekanand Singh Rathore informed.

MANIPUR:

The 34th Manipuri Language Day was observed yesterday in commemoration of the inclusion of Manipuri Language in the Eighth Schedule to the Indian Constitution on 20th August, 1992. On the other hand, Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla inaugurated the Lamangdong Women’s Market, locally known as Ima Keithel at Bishnupur district headquarters yesterday.

TRIPURA:

On the occasion of National Scientific Temper Day, the India March for Science – Agartala Organising Committee organized a science march in the city yesterday. The day is observed in memory of scientist Narendra Dabholkar, whose martyrdom is commemorated as National Scientific Temper Day across India. During the march, demands were raised for effective action to combat global warming and climate crisis, promotion of scientific outlook among the public, increased government funding for education and basic research and enactment of anti-superstition legislation.
