

NORTH EAST NEWS BULLETIN

DATED: 28.11.2025

HEADLINES:-

- University Grants Commission asks higher education institutions to ensure timely exams and prompt issuance of final degrees and certificates to students.
- Assam Legislative Assembly passes Polygamy Bill, 2025; Bill seeks to criminalise individuals who enter into second marriage without legally dissolving first marriage.
- FCI Nagaland Region reviews strategies for improving food grain distribution in state.
- Tripura produces orange nearly 25,328 metric tonnes, informs Agriculture Minister, Ratan Lal Nath as he inaugurates two-day State-Level Orange Festival at Agartala.
- Spices Board, Regional Office Gangtok, organises Buyer-Seller Meet at Ranka in Gangtok to enhance market linkages, promote exports, and strengthen supply chain for Sikkim's premium spices - Large Cardamom, Dalle Chilli, Ginger, and Turmeric.
- Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister, Pema Khandu inspects Kitpi small hydro-electric station Phase-I being upgraded with modern infrastructure.
- Akashvani Shillong unites renowned musicians to bring folk rhythms and celebrate music as it celebrates 67th Sangeet Sammelan in Shillong.

NEWS IN ORDER:-

UGC-COLLEGES

The University Grants Commission has asked the higher education institutions to ensure timely exams and prompt issuance of final degrees and certificates. The Commission said that the delay causes a loss of opportunities for students as it prevents them from securing suitable and quality employment. It stated that students are entitled to timely conduct of examination and declaration of results as specified in the academic calendar in the prospectus, adding that, students are entitled to the award of degree within 180 days of the declaration of results. The Commission also stated that it has power to take punitive action in case of non-compliance.

POLYGAMY BILL

The Assam Legislative Assembly yesterday passed the Assam Prohibition of Polygamy Bill, 2025 one of the strictest legal frameworks against polygamy. The Bill has provisions upto 10 years imprisonment for individuals who conceal a previous marriage, and seven years imprisonment for those who enter into a second marriage without dissolving the first. Repeat offenders will face double punishment under the law. Religious clerics who perform marriages may be penalized upto 1.5 lakh rupees and individuals who intentionally hide or delay information from the authorities may face upto 2 years of jail and a fine of 1 lakh rupees. However, the law will not apply to all 6th Scheduled areas and amongst the

tribal people of Assam. The Bill will become an Act after getting the assent of the President of India.

FCI-NAGALAND

The Food Corporation of India Nagaland Region held the state-level consultative committee meeting in Chümoukedima to review strategies for improving food grain distribution in the state. The meeting was chaired by Rajya Sabha MP, S. Phangnon Konyak and brought together officials from FCI, state Department of Food & Civil Supplies, and committee members. The meeting discussed strategies to strengthen food grain supply-chain management across all districts in Nagaland. A key focus was the need for a special Aadhaar enrolment drive to ensure accurate beneficiary coverage under the food subsidy programme.

NCST

In Tripura, National Commission for Scheduled Tribe, Chairperson, Antar Singh Arya yesterday informed that the Central government has taken several initiatives to improve the socio-economic condition of tribal communities. Arya informed that the Commission has been touring the tribal-dominated areas in Tripura and held meetings with MPs, MLAs, ADC representatives, community leaders and NGOs on tribal development. The Chairperson visited Lefunga Block yesterday and interacted with the tribal youth and took part in a tree-plantation programme at Sindh Foundation English Medium School. Later, a state-level review meeting on tribal welfare was held in the presence of Chief Secretary J.K Sinha.

BUYER-SELLER MEET

In Sikkim, the Spices Board, Regional Office Gangtok, organised a Buyer-Seller Meet at Ranka in Gangtok. The meet aimed at enhancing market linkages, promoting exports, and strengthening the supply chain for Sikkim's premium spices - Large Cardamom, Dalle Chilli, Ginger, and Turmeric. Around 120 stakeholders, including Farmer Producer Organisations, progressive farmers, processors, traders, buyers, and exporters from Sikkim, North Bengal, and other parts of the country participated in the event. Sikkim Minister in-charge Commerce & Industries, Tshering Thendup Bhutia stressed the need to align Sikkim's organic identity with commercial expansion while preserving the state's fragile ecosystem. Secretary, Horticulture Department, T. T. Bhutia, highlighted the need to prioritize cash crops such as Large Cardamom and Dalle Chilli and integrate technology into agriculture while Director (Marketing), Spices Board, B.N Jha stated that the initiative is to link cultivation with marketing channels for a sustainable spice value chain.

HYDRO ELECTRIC STATION

Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister, Pema Khandu yesterday inspected the Kitpi small hydro-electric station Phase-I, the oldest hydel project in Tawang district, originally built in 1977. The plant has now been upgraded with modern infrastructure and the test run is currently in progress. Khandu shared in a social media post that the plant will be dedicated to the public very soon, marking another step forward in strengthening the local power infrastructure.

ORANGE FESTIVAL

Tripura Agriculture Minister, Ratan Lal Nath yesterday inaugurated the two-day State-Level Orange Festival at the Agriculture Department's Progeny Orchard in Agartala. The Minister noted that Tripura is now producing Queen pineapple, Gandharaj lemon, oranges, jackfruit, litchi and several other fruits, and their demand is rising both within the country and abroad. At present, oranges are cultivated on 5,620 hectares in the state, with production reaching nearly 25,328 metric tonnes. Orange cultivation is ongoing in Baramura, Atharomura and

Shakhan hills, while saplings of improved varieties are being provided to expand cultivation in Jampui Hills. This year, more than 100 orange growers from 32 agricultural subdivisions of the state are participating in the festival.

NATIONAL SEMINAR

Arunachal Pradesh Minister in-charge Home and Inter State Border Affairs, Mama Natung yesterday attended the National Seminar on “Temple Heritage and Sacred Places of Worship of the Janjatis of North East Bharat: A Voyage through Time, Art, Sculpture, Architecture and Traditions”. Natung said that North East is a home to some of the most ancient temples, sacred sites and indigenous traditions, each carrying centuries of wisdom, identity and civilisational depth, adding that, such initiatives play a crucial role in preserving the roots and inspiring the younger generation to understand and uphold cultural legacy.

SENIOR OFFICERS’ MEETING

Arunachal Pradesh Chief Secretary, Manish Kumar Gupta yesterday chaired the 14th Senior Officers’ Meeting to review the overall progress of key government programmes and reforms, including major Budget Announcements, SASCI-related actions, compliance-burden reduction, implementation of SNA SPARSH. The meeting also reviewed the status of the Digital India Land Records Modernisation Programme, for which three Divisional Commissioners were asked to closely monitor the progress in their respective divisions. The Chief Secretary urged all departments to enhance monitoring, resolve bottlenecks proactively, and adhere to established timelines to ensure efficient and result-oriented implementation of ongoing initiatives.

SANGEET SAMMELAN

In Meghalaya, the 67th Sangeet Sammelan was organised by Akashvani Shillong yesterday. Celebrated folk and western musicians from across Meghalaya gathered for the musical evening at the North Eastern Hill University which highlighted Akashvani’s commitment to preserving and promoting the country’s rich musical traditions. Folk artist, also Padma Shri awardee, Silbi Passah, Khorsha Kordor Marbaniang and Louvre Venus R. Marak enthralled the audience with soothing vocals, traditional instruments. Gwyneth A. Mawlong, Na Rympei and Colours bands presented their signature styles. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Lapynshai Syiem, Head of the Department of Cultural Studies and Creative Arts, NEHU, termed Akashvani a much revered platform for independent artists and today Akashvani Shillong is regarded as a national stage with its nationwide presence. Cluster Head & Regional Channel Manager, Akashvani Shillong, Hamarlin Diengdoh, said that Akashvani Sangeet Sammelan has stood as a proud testament to Akashvani’s commitment to nurture India’s rich and diverse musical heritage. The Sammelan has played a vital role in preserving, promoting, and popularizing India’s rich musical heritage since its inception in 1954.
