NORTH EAST NEWS BULLETIN

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HEADLINES:-

- Union Finance Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman continues her visit to Nagaland with a series of engagements aimed at empowering local communities and fostering development
- Meghalaya Cabinet approves acquisition of additional land in the New Shillong Township and amendments to service rules governing Group D recruitment
- Mizoram's main opposition Mizo National Front wins the by-election to Dampa assembly seat
- Meghalaya Governor, CH Vijayashankar directs Social Welfare Department to prepare an exhaustive record of visually impaired children
- Nagaland Chief Minister, Neiphu Rio congratulates NDA on securing the mandate of the people in the Bihar Elections
- Ministry of Tourism organizes the 13th International Tourism Mart for North-Eastern Region in Sikkim
- Three-Day Multidisciplinary International Seminar on "Northeast India and Beyond: Past, Present and Future" begins in Arunachal Pradesh

NEWS IN ORDER:-

SITHARAMAN

Union Finance Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman continued her visit to Nagaland yesterday with a series of engagements aimed at empowering local communities and fostering development in the state. In Kiphire, Sitharaman inaugurated the new Industrial Training Institute, and handed over 9 lakh rupees as part of SBI's CSR initiative to enhance skill development. Later, at a Credit Outreach Programme, she virtually inaugurated nine bank branches across the Northeast, and handed over sanction letters to beneficiaries of various Central Government Schemes. At the event, loans totaling 28.02 crore rupees were disbursed to 350 beneficiaries. Addressing the event, the Union Minister highlighted the government's ongoing efforts to develop the Northeast, stressing its importance in India's growth trajectory. Underscoring the progress of financial inclusion programs, Ms Sitharaman pointed to the reduction of unbanked villages in Nagaland from 1,143 in 2019 to just 15 today. She also interacted with Lakhpati Didis and encouraged them to inspire other women across the country.

CABINET

The Meghalaya Cabinet on Friday approved a series of key measures, including the acquisition of additional land in the New Shillong Township, amendments to service rules governing Group D recruitment, and revision of the state's fiscal deficit limit. Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma said the cabinet has cleared a proposal to acquire 35 acres of land at Tynring to create a corridor linking the Administrative City and the Knowledge City within the New Shillong Township. The land will also support the proposed relocation of the Central Jail from its current location. The Cabinet also approved an amendment to Rule 6(D) of the

Meghalaya Ministerial District Establishment Service Rules, 2017, to clarify recruitment norms for Group D posts. For years, two conflicting office memorandums (OM) – one issued in 1996 and another in 2017 – had created uncertainty over whether 50 per cent of Group D vacancies should be filled through Regular Casual Workers (RCWs) or via direct recruitment and hence the Cabinet approved the proposal for the amendment.

MIZORAM

Mizoram's main opposition Mizo National Front (MNF) on Friday won the byelection to Dampa assembly seat in north-western Mizoram's Mamit district to retain the legacy of its former member whose death has necessitated the bypoll. MNF candidate, Dr. R. Lalthangliana defeated his nearest opponent Vanlalsailova of ruling Zoram People's Movement (ZPM) by a margin of 562 votes. Lalthangliana secured 6,981 votes, which is 40.23 per cent of the total votes share. With 6,419 votes Vanlalsailova bagged 36.61 per cent of the total polled votes. Congress nominee John Rotluangalian stood third securing 2,395 votes, while BJP candidate Lalhmingthanga clinched fourth spot securing 1,541 votes. The Dampa seat fell vacant following the death of incumbent Mizo National Front (MNF) legislator Lalrintluanga Sailo on July 21.

RIO

Nagaland Chief Minister, Neiphu Rio has congratulated the NDA on securing the mandate of the people in the Bihar Elections. In a social media post, Rio said, the outcome reflects the democratic will of the electorate and their confidence in the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister of Bihar Nitish Kumar. It may be mentioned that the BJP and NDA has secured a landslide victory in the Bihar Assembly elections for which the results were declared yesterday.

GOVERNOR

Meghalaya Governor, Chandrashekhar H. Vijayashankar has directed the Social Welfare Department to prepare an exhaustive record of visually impaired children in Meghalaya—those born blind as well as those who lost their sight later in life—to enable the state to chart out appropriate interventions. Speaking at a Children's Day programme at Raj Bhavan that brought together children with different abilities on Friday, the Meghalaya Governor said that many youngsters who became visually impaired due to illness or accidents might still have a chance of recovering their sight with timely medical care and donor support. He noted that certain hospitals, especially in Kerala, are equipped to treat children below 14 years and are known for specialised Ayurvedic eye therapies. For children who are partially blind, he said a structured 15-day treatment could lead to significant improvement when followed properly. The Governor added that the state would request these hospitals to accept Meghalaya's children in batches to facilitate their treatment.

MART

The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India in collaboration with Department of Tourism & Civil Aviation, Government of Sikkim is organizing the 13th International Tourism Mart for North-Eastern Region at Pangthang in Gangtok district. A Press conference followed by a formal inaugural ceremony set the tune for a four-day long Tourism Mart. Chief Minister and Tourism Minister of several North Eastern States attended the mart. Speaking on the occasion, Tourism Minister of Assam, Ranjeet Kumar Dass reminded that North-East has witnessed a significant growth in Tourism sector. Dass also invited everyone to visit Haflong in Assam and to enjoy the mesmerizing scenic beauty of the place. Lok Sabha MP from Sikkim, Hang Subba assured the audience that a parallel Highway is being planned to address the issue of frequent disruption of NH10.

ANNIVERSARY

In commemoration of 150th Birth Anniversary of Sadar Vallabhai Patel, the Senapati District Level Sardar @150 Padyatra- Unity March continued on Saturday on the theme "Ek Bharat- Aatmanirbhar BharatK" at Don Bosco College (Autonomous), Maram under Lairouching Sub- Division, Senapati. The programme was organised by Mera Yuva Bharat, Senapati together with District Youth Affairs and Sports, and National Service Scheme Cell. Altogether, around 200 students and teachers participated in the Unity March. The Padyatra- Unity March began with the floral tribute and lighting of candle to the portrait of Sardar Vallabhai Patel led by Rev. Fr. Dr. Sabastian K.D. SDB, Principal, Don Bosco College followed by programme. Addressing the gathering, Rev. Fr. Dr. K. O. Sabastian, emphasized on the life of Sardar Vallabhai Patel who had united more than 300 princely states under one during the British colonial period.

SEMINAR

The Three-Day Multidisciplinary International Seminar on "Northeast India and Beyond: Past, Present and Future" commenced yesterday at Rajiv Gandhi University, Doimukh, Papumpare district in Arunachal Pradesh. The event, organized by the Rajiv Gandhi University Research Scholars' Forum, brought together leading scholars, eminent academicians, and international participants to deliberate on the complex socio-cultural, historical, and environmental dynamics of the Northeast region. The dignitaries also launched the 'Book of Abstracts', a compilation of research papers presented during the seminar. The seminar will continue till 16 November.

DIABETES

In Manipur, Diabetes Day was observed across the State to raise awareness about diabetes, its growing global impact and the need for accessible care. The State Directorate of Health Services observed the day at Imphal under the theme 'Diabetes and Well Being at the Workplace'. Addressing the gathering, the Director of State Health Services, Dr. N. Hemantakumar said that eating carbohydrate concentrated food in the morning is dangerous for health. He urged all to change lifestyle and food habits to avoid this non communicable disease. The Director of State Family Welfare Department- Dr. N. Bono Singh and State Mission Director of NHM Dr. M. Dinesh attended the function. The Regional Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS) Imphal also observed the day at its complex in Imphal. NCB Cell of CMO Imphal East, Lions Club of Thoubal district and other organisations also observed the day in Manipur.
