

## **NORTH EAST NEWS BULLETIN**

DATED:- 29.01.2026

### **HEADLINES:-**

- Nagaland–Japan Connect 2026 held at Integrated Business Hub and Innovation Centre in Dimapur.
- Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha says State government prioritizing education sector.
- Indian Railways approves 202 additional stoppages of trains at 82 stations across Assam, West Bengal and Bihar.
- Mizoram Rajya Sabha member K. Vanlalvena urges Centre to expedite construction of railway line from Sairang.
- Mizoram to shift school academic calendar from existing April-March cycle to a January-December schedule.
- Meghalaya to organize first-ever Spice Festival, scheduled from 30th January 30 to 1st February in Mumbai.
- Police investigation underway regarding threatening poster, allegedly of Islamic terror outfit ISIS-K in Tura.

### **NEWS IN ORDER:-**

#### **NAGALAND**

The Nagaland–Japan Connect 2026 was held at the Integrated Business Hub and Innovation Centre in Dimapur. The event highlighted the deepening partnership between Nagaland and Japan through people-to-people diplomacy, human resource development, and economic collaboration. Deputy Chief Minister T.R. Zeliang, emphasising a people-centric development approach, said Nagaland's focus is on human capital, particularly youth empowerment through skill development and global exposure. Mr Zeliang highlighted the Centre of Excellence for Foreign Languages and the Memorandum of Understanding with Kochi Prefecture as key initiatives facilitating global employment opportunities, human resource exchange, and skill development. Inviting greater Japanese investment, Mr Zeliang said Nagaland, strategically located as a gateway to Southeast Asia, has the potential to emerge as a hub of innovation.

#### **TRIPURA**

Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha has said that the State government is giving the highest priority to the education sector, with special emphasis on providing quality education to students along with their holistic development. The Chief Minister was speaking after inaugurating a two-day celebration marking the 75th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Higher Secondary School. He said the main objective of the National Education Policy is to nurture and upgrade the latent talents of children. Mr Saha added that the government is working in line

with this goal by strengthening education at the primary level and promoting skill development through various initiatives, so that students can secure a strong platform for their future. He also noted that Tripura currently ranks third in the country in terms of complete literacy.

## **RAIL**

In a significant passenger-centric initiative, Indian Railways has approved 202 additional stoppages of trains at 82 stations across Assam, West Bengal and Bihar under the jurisdiction of Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR). These additional halts have been sanctioned on an experimental basis with the objective of enhancing rail connectivity, improving accessibility for passengers from smaller and emerging locations and catering to long-standing public demand. The stoppages will come into effect soon and will be closely monitored for passenger response and operational feasibility. These are expected to benefit passengers from semi-urban and rural areas by reducing travel time to major junctions and providing better interchange opportunities with long-distance and premium trains.

## **LINE**

Mizoram's lone Rajya Sabha member K. Vanlalvena has urged the Centre to expedite the proposed construction of railway line from Sairang to the southern tip of the state and allocate funds for the project in the 2026-27 Union budget. Speaking at the meeting of All Parliamentary Floor Leaders on the eve of the budget session, Vanlalvena said preliminary survey for the railway project to link Sairang near Aizawl with the Indo-Myanmar border has already been completed. He underscored the strategic importance of the project not only for Mizoram but also the entire country. The Mizoram MP also emphasised the need for widening Aizawl to Sairang road into four lanes to address the increasing traffic congestion triggered by the inauguration of Bairabi-Sairang railway line.

## **ROOTS**

India's nomination dossier 'Jingkieng Jri/Lyu Chrai Cultural Landscape, Meghalaya', pertaining to the living root-bridges was formally submitted by Vishal V Sharma, Ambassador/Permanent Representative of India to UNESCO to Lazare Assomo Eloundou, Director of UNESCO's World Heritage Centre for consideration of inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage list in the 2026-27 evaluation cycle. Located across the Khasi and Jaintia Hills of Meghalaya, the nominated property represents the exceptional living cultural landscape shaped over centuries by indigenous Khasi and Jaintia communities. Central to this cultural landscape is the indigenous worldview anchored in principles of respect, reciprocity and responsibility toward Mei Ramew (Mother Earth).

## **SPICE**

Meghalaya will enter the national spice market with the first-ever Meghalaya Spice Festival, scheduled from 30<sup>th</sup> January 30 to 1<sup>st</sup> February at Jio World Drive in Mumbai's Bandra Kurla Complex. Key products on display will include GI-tagged Lakadong turmeric, ginger, black pepper, bay leaves, cinnamon and indigenous spice blends, reflecting Meghalaya's focus on organic and sustainable cultivation. Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma said the initiative would create direct market linkages and ensure sustainable livelihoods for farmers.

## **DRIVE**

The Divisional Forest Officer, Territorial Division, West and South-West Garo Hills, launched an enforcement drive against unauthorised brick earth mining and illegal stone quarrying across the district. Following field inspections, the Forest Department issued ten show cause notices to brick kiln operators and nine to illegal stone quarry operators. Further identification is underway. Inspections by officials detected illegal operations in several places in violation of the Meghalaya Minor Minerals Concession Rules, 2016.

## **CHILD**

In a bid to curb child labour, a joint drive was conducted in Agartala yesterday by the Tripura State Commission for Protection of Child Rights in collaboration with the West Tripura District Labour Department. Chairperson of the State Commission for Protection of Child Rights, Jayanti Debbarma said that three children were rescued from the GB Bazar area during the operation. The rescued children were immediately shifted to a safe shelter, and steps are being taken to ensure their future safety and rehabilitation. She further informed that one more child was rescued during raids conducted at other locations. Debbarma added that the six-day-long statewide drive, which began on 26<sup>th</sup> January, involves inspections of shops, commercial establishments and other workplaces across Tripura. The drive will conclude on 31<sup>st</sup> January.

## **POSTER**

Police investigation is underway regarding a threatening and provocative poster, allegedly of the Islamic terror outfit ISIS-K, that was found pasted on an electric pole in West Garo Hills district headquarter Tura on Wednesday. Meghalaya Deputy Chief Minister, Prestone Tynsong has asserted that the Government will ensure that such things do not happen in the state. The police have assured that the situation remains under control and appealed to the public to remain calm, avoid spreading rumours or unverified information, and cooperate with the investigation as it progresses.

## **ARUNACHAL**

Former Arunachal Pradesh Home Minister and Deputy Speaker, Takar Marde has passed away. Governor KT Parnaik and Chief Minister Pema Khandu, have condoled his demise. The Governor said that with the passing of Mr Marde, Arunachal has lost a compassionate and dedicated social activist who devoted his life to the uplift of the downtrodden and worked selflessly for the welfare of society. In a social media post chief minister Khandu said, he will always be remembered for his leadership, wisdom, and dedication to public welfare.

## **ACADEMIC**

Mizoram has decided to shift the school academic calendar from the existing April-March cycle to a January-December schedule starting from the 2027-28 academic year. School Education Minister Vanlalhlana said the new academic calendar would be used only in the Primary - High school section, while Classes 11 and 12 will continue to use the existing April - March cycle. Time for Class 10 board examination will remain unchanged and it will be held as per the

existing schedule during February- March. Vanlalthlana also announced that the government will continue to follow the existing school timetable which commences at 9 am.

**MANIPUR**

Manipur Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla yesterday said that the state is the birthplace of Sagol Kangjei, the original and living form of modern polo, and that the game is an inseparable part of Manipur’s cultural heritage and identity. Formally opening the 7th Manipur Women’s International Polo Tournament 2026 at Mapal Kangjeibung, the Imphal Polo Ground, the Governor said the Women’s International Polo Tournament reflects a strong commitment to women's empowerment through sports. The Imphal Polo Ground -- Mapal Kangjeibung -- is regarded as one of the oldest polo grounds in the world.

**SIKKIM**

Arjun Kumar Rai from Gangtok, Sikkim is all set to represent India at two prestigious international paragliding accuracy championships. He will compete in the 10th Thailand Paragliding Accuracy ASEAN Friendships Open – AFA Nation League 2026, scheduled to be held from 31<sup>st</sup> January to 4<sup>th</sup> February in Thailand.

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