

NORTH EAST NEWS BULLETIN

DATED: 10.01.2026

HEADLINES:-

- Tripura Chief Minister Dr Manik Saha says the state is rich in natural resources and its soil and climatic conditions are highly suitable for agar cultivation.
- Nagaland GIS and Remote Sensing Centre and World Resources Institute India sign+ Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in Kohima.
- Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha says VB-GRAM-G 2025 Act is a historic step towards achieving Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of building a Developed India and Developed Tripura by 2047.
- Meghalaya Chief, Conrad K Sangma formally distributes appointment letters to newly recruited Unarmed Branch Sub-Inspectors of the Meghalaya Police.
- Mizoram Governor Vijay Kumar Singh felicitates Esther Hnamte, a child singing prodigy from south Mizoram's Lunglei town, for bagging Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar.

NEWS IN DETAILS:-

CULTIVATION

Tripura Chief Minister Dr Manik Saha said that the state is rich in natural resources and its soil and climatic conditions are highly suitable for agar cultivation. He invited industrialists from outside the State to set up new industries by utilising locally produced raw materials. The Chief Minister was speaking after inaugurating the 5th International Agarwood Conclave and Buyer-Seller Meet yesterday, being held from January 8 to 10 at Pragya Bhavan, Agartala, organised through the NTFP Centre of Excellence under the Forest Department. Dr Saha said that Tripura enjoys a peaceful environment, which is conducive to business and trade. He assured that the State government would extend all possible support to entrepreneurs interested in setting up industries in Tripura. He added that products derived from Agarwood have strong domestic and international demand, leading to growing interest in agar cultivation, which has also contributed to an increase in the state's GST revenue.

MOU:

The Nagaland GIS and Remote Sensing Centre and World Resources Institute (WRI) India has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in Kohima to adopt the Energy Access Explorer (EAE), an open-source, interactive geospatial

platform aimed at identifying high-priority areas for clean energy interventions in the State. EAE is the first digital public good focused on enabling climate-friendly energy transitions. The platform will support data-driven planning to expand energy access and promote sustainable development across Nagaland. Senior Project Director, Mhathung Kithan said the collaboration strengthens transparency, shared responsibility and impact in inclusive planning for the State's sustainable development.

MELA

The Swadeshi Mela 2026, organized by the Agartala Municipal Corporation, began yesterday at Swami Vivekananda Maidan in Agartala. Tripura Chief Minister Dr. Manik Saha inaugurated the fair. The fair has been organized with the objective of promoting 'Vocal for Local'. While addressing the gathering Chief Minister Dr. Manik Saha said, the Swadeshi Mela has been organized in response to the Prime Minister's call for 'Vocal for Local'. Following the Prime Minister's words, he said that we should be proud of any product made in our country. He also urged local producers not to harbor any feelings of inferiority. In his welcome address, Mayor of Agartala Municipal Corporation Deepak Majumdar said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call is 'Vocal for Local' and 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' (Self-reliant India). At the event, Member of Parliament Rajib Bhattacharya urged everyone to come forward and use indigenous products.

PROTEST

The Nagaland Pradesh Congress Committee (NPCC) yesterday launched a statewide protest against the proposed repeal of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA). The protest was launched by Congress MP and Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka, at Congress Bhavan in Kohima. Mr Ulaka accused the centre for weakening MGNREGA over the past 11 years through delayed wage payments and material costs, low wage rates, and chronic underfunding. Mr Ulaka alleged that the new Viksit Bharat GRAM G Act was a deliberate attempt to dismantle MGNREGA by removing legal guarantee of employment, shifting financial burden to states, and centralising decision-making, thereby undermining gram panchayats and violating the spirit of the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments governing the Panchayati Raj system. NPCC President and Lok Sabha MP S Supongmeren Jamir reiterated the party's firm stand to restoring the MGNREGA in its original form, to safeguard the rights of rural and poor communities.

TRIBUTE

In Manipur, the 192nd Death Anniversary of Maharaja Gambhir Singh was observed across the State by different groups. The State level observation was held at the Samadhi of the Maharaja at Langthabal in which people were led by the Governor of Manipur Ajay Kumar Bhalla in floral tribute to the statues of Maharaja Gambhir Singh, Meidingu Nara Singh and Sana Herachandra. Addressing the observance, Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla said that Manipur's history, while marked by glory, also endured profound suffering during the Burmese occupation of 1819 to 1826 remembered as Chahi Taret Khuntakpa. He

noted that the period of devastation threatened the very survival of the kingdom, but also gave rise to exceptional leadership in Maharaja Gambhir Singh whose courage and unity of purpose inspired a determined struggle for freedom.

HPC:

The Nagaland government has constituted a Standing High Powered Committee (HPC) Governing Body for the Hornbill Festival to provide overall policy direction, strategic oversight and inter-departmental coordination. The HPC will be chaired by Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio and comprise 15 members, including both Deputy Chief Ministers and the tourism minister. The committee will be responsible for providing strategic vision and policy guidance, ensuring inter-departmental convergence, approving major strategic initiatives, partnerships and frameworks, monitoring progress against defined outcomes, allotment of sites, monitoring rates for materials sold and events, and taking all key policy decisions related to the festival. A Convenor and Festival Director for the Hornbill Festival will be appointed from among the members of the HPC.

GRAM

Tripura Chief Minister Dr. Manik Saha yesterday said that the VB-GRAM-G 2025 Act is a historic step towards achieving Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of building a Developed India and Developed Tripura by 2047. Addressing a press conference at the BJP state office in Agartala, the Chief Minister said that the Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission(Grameen) is a significant reform and replacement of the MGNREGA rural employment scheme. He explained that the new Act aims to ensure 125 days of guaranteed employment, strengthening income security through better integration with infrastructure development, and enhance digital implementation. The scheme also seeks to move from a purely demand-based system to a more predictable and assured funding mechanism. Dr. Saha said that the Act will help in increasing employment opportunities, enhancing unemployment allowance, and ensuring timely payment of wages.

FELICIATE

Mizoram Governor Vijay Kumar Singh yesterday felicitated Esther Hnamte, a child singing prodigy from south Mizoram's Lunglei town, for bagging Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar, the country's highest civilian honour for children, Lok Bhavan sources said. Earlier on Wednesday, Hnamte was felicitated by state Women and Child Development department in the presence of minister Lalrinpuii. Inviting her at the Lok Bhavan, Singh congratulated Hnamte on her remarkable achievement and praised her success as a matter of immense pride not only for Mizoram but for the entire nation, the sources said. Hnamte was among several children, who received the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar in recognition of their achievements in music and cultural contribution at a young age. The 9-year-old singing prodigy received the prestigious award from President Droupadi Murmu in a function held at Rashtrapati Bhavan on December 26.

SANGMA

Chief Minister of Meghalaya, Conrad K Sangma formally distributed appointment letters to newly recruited Unarmed Branch (UB) Sub-Inspectors of the Meghalaya Police yesterday during the ceremony held at the 2nd MLP Battalion headquarters at Goeragre in Garo Hills. 76 new recruits officially joined the ranks. Chief Minister Shri Conrad K Sangma in his address, described the new Sub-Inspectors as the "ears and eyes" of the state government at the grassroots level. He outlined their primary duties as maintaining law and order, intelligence collection, and ensuring the smooth functioning of administrative mechanisms.
