

NORTH EAST NEWS BULLETIN

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HEADLINES:-

- Assam Chief Minister, Himanta Biswa Sarma says Assam is the best fiscally managed and fastest-growing state in the country.
- Tripura Agriculture Minister, Ratan Lal Nath flags off consignment of 15,000 aromatic lemons from Agartala Railway Station to Kolkata.
- Mizoram Governor, Vijay Kumar Singh summons budget session of Mizoram Legislative Assembly from February 17.
- Transparency International Bangladesh criticises interim government in Bangladesh over eight recently issued ordinances.
- Central Goods & Services Tax Office, Dimapur arrests one person for alleged GST fraud involving fake invoices and wrong Input Tax Credit worth over 53 crore rupees.
- Representatives of COCOMI and Internally Displaced Persons in Manipur call on Governor, Ajay Kumar Bhalla at Lok Bhavan in Imphal.
- Arunachal Pradesh Governor, K.T Parnaik highlights deep commonalities between Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim, saying both states are endowed with rich biodiversity and shared cultural heritage.

Assam's first satellite, Lachit-1, developed by students of Assam Don Bosco University carried onboard Indian Space Research Organisation's PSLV-C62 rocket.

Federation of Shillong Hotels asks Meghalaya government to reinstate inter-state flights to Shillong Airport under UDAN scheme.

NEWS IN DETAILS:-

ASSAM FINANCE

Assam Chief Minister, Himanta Biswa Sarma yesterday said that Assam is the best fiscally managed and fastest-growing state in the country. Reacting to criticism related to state borrowings and financial health, Sarma said, Assam's fiscal discipline is well within all permissible limits and strictly adheres to established norms. He maintained that the Assam government has followed a transparent and rule-based borrowing policy, leaving no scope for irregularities or financial mismanagement. Sarma said that repeated allegations by the opposition were politically motivated and lacked factual backing. He added that the RBI has ranked Assam at the top in terms of financial growth and development.

LEMON

Tripura Agriculture Minister, Ratan Lal Nath yesterday formally flagged off a consignment of 15,000 aromatic lemons from Agartala Railway Station to Kolkata. The consignment was dispatched through a joint initiative of the Tripura State Organic Farming Development Agency and Baramura Organic Produce Company Limited. The Minister noted that for the first time such a large quantity of aromatic lemons has been exported to Kolkata in a single shipment. The lemons were cultivated by around 80 farmers from South Hadrai and Hawaibari areas of Khowai district across nearly 100 hectares of land. The programme was attended by MLA Kalyani Saha Roy and other senior officials.

BUDGET

Mizoram Governor, Vijay Kumar Singh has summoned the budget session of the Mizoram Legislative Assembly from February 17. A detailed programme, including the date for the presentation of budget for the year 2026-27 will be chalked out by the Business Advisory Committee including the duration of the budget session based on the number of businesses. The upcoming budget session is the sixth session of the current 9th Mizoram Legislative Assembly.

TIB

Transparency International Bangladesh has criticised the interim government in Bangladesh over eight recently issued ordinances, alleging that reform efforts were undermined by the influence of powerful sections of the bureaucracy. Presenting its observations at a press conference in Dhaka, TIB Executive Director Iftekharuzzaman said, the government had “given in to anti-reform forces” while drafting ordinances related to the Anti-Corruption Commission, Police Commission, National Human Rights Commission, cyber security, personal data protection, national data management, public audit and revenue administration. According to TIB, most ordinances were drafted unilaterally without meaningful consultation with stakeholders, while limited public disclosure was sometimes used as a token gesture.

ARREST

In Nagaland, the Central Goods & Services Tax Office, Dimapur has arrested a person for alleged GST fraud involving fake invoices and wrong Input Tax Credit worth over 53 crore rupees. The person, was found to have committed offences under the CGST Act, 2017 by issuing invoice or bill without supply of goods or services and also fraudulently availing tax credit. The arrested person is said to be a director of two coal supply companies namely, M/s Bendangtoshi Mining Private Limited and M/s Kevitho Mining Private Limited. But the firms were found to be non-existent or non-operational at the declared addresses. This is the second such GST fraud arrest by CGST Dimapur in recent months.

IDPs

In Manipur, representatives of COCOMI and Internally Displaced Persons called on the Governor, Ajay Kumar Bhalla at Lok Bhavan in Imphal yesterday. During the meeting, they shared broad concerns related to the situation of IDPs and raised various issues requiring attention. Discussion also touched upon matters linked to arrangements in certain areas adjoining the valley and hills. The Governor listened to the delegation and noted that steps related to resettlement and rehabilitation are already underway. AIR IMPHAL = 8

CHILD RIGHTS

Arunachal Pradesh Parliamentary Affairs Minister, P D Sona held a meeting with Arunachal Pradesh State Commission for Protection of Child Rights led by the Chairperson, Ratan Anya, along with members and Member Secretary in the presence of the Commissioner Education Amjad Tak Ji. The Commission submitted its Special Report on the inquiry conducted at Sainik School, Niglok, East Siang District in connection with the tragic incident where a 12-year-old boy lost his life. The Commission shared its key findings and important recommendations to ensure stronger safety mechanisms for children.

SEEDS

The Assam State Cooperative Federation and the Bharatiya Beej Sahakari Samiti Limited yesterday signed a pact to improve the availability of quality agricultural inputs and strengthen the cooperative movement. With this, Assam became the 14th state to enter into a formal partnership with the Bharatiya Beej Sahakari Samiti Limited. The collaboration will enable farmers in Assam to access certified, high-quality seeds at affordable prices, while also addressing the existing issue of shortfall in seed availability in the state.

NAGALAND

Nagaland Chief Minister, Neiphiu Rio met with Union Minister of State for Coal and Mines, Satish Chandra Dubey. In a social media post, Dubey said, the meeting focused on avenues in mining sector, local job creation and sustainable development besides the focus on strengthening the centre-state coordination for effective implementation of central schemes. During his two-day visit to Kohima, the Union Minister reviewed the progress of various projects, reaffirming

the Centre's commitment to work closely with the state government for all round development of Nagaland.

GOVERNOR

Arunachal Pradesh Governor K.T. Parnaik yesterday highlighted the deep commonalities between the two North Eastern Himalayan states, saying that both are endowed with rich biodiversity and shared cultural heritage. The Governor who is on a two-day official visit to Sikkim said, Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim have vibrant ethnic cultures, unique traditions, and immense tourism potential. He specifically referred to shared strengths in eco-tourism, orchids, and the preservation of flora and fauna. Sikkim Chief Minister Prem Singh Tamang called on the Governor and discussed various issues. The Governor commended the Chief Minister for Sikkim's remarkable achievement in emerging as the cleanest state in the country.

MAINTENANCE

In Manipur, a tribunal of Maintenance and Welfare of Senior Citizens Act, 2007 has made remarkable judgement by ordering the concerned family to provide an amount of rupees ten thousand per month to the senior citizen and dependent parents. The final hearing was held yesterday by the tribunal. This is the first case to be resolved under the recently approved Manipur Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Rules, 2023, under the Maintenance and Welfare of Senior Citizen Act, 2007, in the State.

SATELLITE

It was a moment of pride for Assam as the state's first satellite, Lachit-1, developed by students of the Assam Don Bosco University was carried onboard Indian Space Research Organisation's PSLV-C62 rocket that lifted off yesterday. Although the mission did not achieve its intended outcome due to the launch failure, the event marked a historic milestone for Assam and the North East, symbolising the growing participation of regional academic institutions in India's space journey. The satellite project involved nearly 50 students of the University, making it a landmark achievement in terms of student-led space research and innovation.

UDAN

In Meghalaya, the Federation of Shillong Hotels have asked the Government to reinstate inter-state flights to Shillong Airport under UDAN scheme. President of the Federation, Parambir Singh Sehdev said that the Shillong Airport was connected with cities like Agartala and Dimapur under UDAN scheme but the services were stopped few years and many tourists who were coming to Shillong for their weekends have been severely affected.
