

## NORTH EAST NEWS BULLETIN

DATED:- 19.01.2026

### HEADLINES:-

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi lays foundation stone of development projects worth over 7,780 crore rupees in Assam and West Bengal and flags off five Amrit Bharat express trains from two states.
- Centre issues strong rebuttals to misleading claims being made regarding the Viksit Bharat-G RAM G Act.
- Union Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs Tokhan Sahu concludes his two day visit to Manipur.
- Arunachal Pradesh Minister for Environment & Forest, Wangki Lowang hosted Padma Shri awardee and eminent Assamese historian Professor Jogendra Nath Phukan for a three-day heritage tour of Tirap district.
- As part of pineapple festival celebrations at Bagra in Arunachal Pradesh's West Siang district, local military authorities organised weapon and equipment display to promote community outreach and military-civil fusion.
- Arunachal Pradesh Rural Works Department Minister Pasang Dorjee Sona issues strong warning against delay to complete PMGSY and Vibrant Village Programme roads in time.

### NEWS IN ORDER:-

#### **PM**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid foundation stone of development projects worth over 7,780 crore rupees in Assam and West Bengal yesterday and flagged off five Amrit Bharat express trains from two states. In Assam, Prime Minister Modi laid the foundation stone of Kaziranga Elevated Corridor Project, worth over six thousand 950 crore rupees at Kaliabor. The elevated wildlife corridor will ensure uninterrupted movement of animals, reduce human-wildlife conflict. The Prime Minister said the 86 kilometre long corridor is an environmentally conscious National Highway project. He highlighted the historical importance of Kaliabor in Assam's past, present and future, noting that it is the gateway to Kaziranga National Park and a hub of connectivity for Upper Assam. The Prime Minister also flagged off two new Amrit Bharat Express trains, from Kamakhya to Rohtak and Dibrugarh to Lucknow. He emphasised that expanding rail connectivity benefits both social and economic levels.

#### **PM 2**

North East Region emerging as new gateway to India's development and the goal of the BJP led government is to accelerate the pace of development at par with the rest of India, said Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the occasion of Bhoomi Pujan of the Kaziranga Elevated Corridor Project and four lane upgradation of Kaliabor-Numaligarh section of NH-715 in Assam. Addressing a public meeting at Mouchanda Pathar in Kaliabor yesterday, the Prime Minister said that BJP government prioritised for the infrastructure development of Assam as these will create new opportunities and long term growth. The PM added that both economy and ecology can go together and does not believe in conflict between them.

#### **VBG RAM G**

The government has issued strong rebuttals to misleading claims being made regarding the Viksit Bharat-G RAM G Act. Calling the opposition's criticism of the act factually incorrect and misleading, it noted that the Viksit Bharat-G RAM G Act, 2025, guarantees at least 125 days of wage employment to every rural household. It said that claims about the right to work being taken away are politically motivated. The government further underlined that the act says that employment must be provided within 15 days, failing which unemployment allowance is mandatory. On wages, the government said that the Act clearly provides that every person who has worked under the Scheme is entitled to wages at the notified wage rate for each day of work. It said that under the act, wage rates will be notified annually and remain higher than MGNREGA rates and guarantee payments to be made weekly or within a fortnight. Responding

to concerns about agricultural-season restrictions, the government said that the 125-day employment guarantee remains fully intact. It also rejected claims of centralisation, calling them baseless, and said contractors are explicitly prohibited. On funding, it said the scheme follows a structured 60:40 and 90:10 cost-sharing pattern and is not an arbitrary burden.

## **VISIT**

The Union Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs Tokhan Sahu concluded his two day visit to Manipur yesterday. He arrived in the State on Saturday and inspected different projects undertaken in Kakching district of Manipur. Tokhan Sahu inspected houses constructed under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana Urban (PMAY-U) at Ward Number 7 under the Kakching Municipal Council . He also visited Salam Project Pukhri Achouba rejuvenated under the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) 2.0. Later he interacted with members of Self Help Group under the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana National Urban Livelihood Mission and inspected the Moramba Solid Waste Management SBM site and Kakching District Hospital.

## **DEFENCE**

The Indian Army continues to showcase its latest weapons systems and operational capabilities across various border states in the Northeast, highlighting its preparedness, technological strength, and commitment to safeguarding the region's security and territorial integrity. Defence spokesman Lieutenant Colonel Mahendra Rawat said that as part of the pineapple festival celebrations at Bagra in Arunachal Pradesh's West Siang district, local military authorities organised a weapon and equipment display to promote community outreach and military–civil fusion. He added that the display formed an integral component of the festival, adding a dimension of awareness and engagement to the cultural event. It witnessed enthusiastic participation from villagers, with keen interest from youth and students, who gained first-hand insight into the Indian Army's capabilities, professionalism and operational preparedness through guided interactions and equipment familiarisation, the Defence official said.

## **TOUR**

Arunachal Pradesh Minister for Environment & Forest, Wangki Lowang hosted Padma Shri awardee and eminent Assamese historian Professor Jogendra Nath Phukan for a three-day heritage tour of Tirap district. Professor Phukan, was accompanied by his research team members Dhiraj Phukan and Dipak Phukan. During the tour, the delegation visited Sumsi village to examine a site believed to be the burial place of the Rajmao (the King's mother) of the 20th Ahom king, Jayadhwaj Singha. The team observed a large isolated earthen mound at Sumsi, locally known as Chopha Mangrup, traditionally regarded as sacred and believed to be a royal Maidam. Minister Lowang assured that archaeological experts would be engaged to scientifically assess the site, in consultation with Professor Phukan, with the possibility of developing it as a heritage and tourism destination if confirmed.

## **RWD**

Arunachal Pradesh Rural Works Department (RWD) Minister Pasang Dorjee Sona yesterday issued a strong warning against delay in executing projects under the PMGSY and Vibrant Village Programme (VVP) roads, stressing that timely completion and quality execution would not be compromised. Chairing a circle level review meeting on the progress of PMGSY and VVP road projects at Rupa circle of West Kameng district, Sona said the roads under these schemes are extremely important for rural connectivity and public convenience and must be completed within the stipulated time, officials said.

## **ARREST**

In a joint operation, the Tripura Police and the Railway Protection Force arrested two suspected arms and drug peddlers yesterday after they arrived in Agartala on an express train, officials said. Deputy Inspector General of Police, Rati Ranjan Debnath, said that security officials recovered a loaded pistol and around 100 bottles of banned cough syrup from the possession of two youths from Bihar after detaining them at Agartala railway station. He said the seizure was made during a joint operation conducted on the Rani Kamalabati Express after the train reached Agartala railway station on the outskirts of the city.