

HEADLINES:-

- New government is set to be formed in Manipur with former Minister, Y Khemchand Singh elected as leader of NDA legislature party.
- Assam Chief Minister, Himanta Biswa Sarma says proposed underground rail link along strategic 'Chicken's Neck' corridor will ensure secure transportation route, connecting the North East.
- Meghalaya hosts Reverse Buyer–Seller Meet, 2026 in Shillong with participation of more than 25 international delegates from over 16 countries.
- 13th edition of joint military exercise KHANJAR between India and Kyrgyzstan begins at Misamari in Sonitpur district of Assam.
- Labour, Employment, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship festival in Mizoram will be held from 10 to 14 of this month.
- Tripura Chief Minister Dr. Manik Saha says state is steadily progressing in various sectors including education, health, tourism and information technology.
- Nagaland Chief Minister, Neiphiu Rio welcomes India–US trade agreement.
- Entrepreneurship Development Institute Jote, Papumpare district, inaugurates its first batch of six days Residential Entrepreneurship Skill Development Programme.
- Nagaland Directorate of Economics and Statistics will conduct special drive for online registration and digitisation of old manual Birth and Death Certificates.
- Tripura Governor, Indrasena Reddy Nallu emphasises role of media in strengthening democracy in the country and the State.
- Nagaland will host Under-13 ASMITA Zonal Football League 2025-26 for East Zone at Chümoukedima Football Stadium.

MANIPUR:

Former Minister, Y Khemchand Singh was elected as the leader of the NDA legislature party in Manipur yesterday, paving the way for the formation of a new government with him as the Chief Minister. Nemcha Kipgen, a woman Kuki leader and former minister, is likely to be the deputy chief minister in the new government. The BJP legislature party of Manipur elected 62-year-old Singh as its leader at a meeting held at the BJP headquarters in New Delhi. The meeting was attended by 35 of the 37 BJP MLAs, besides the party's central observer Tarun Chugh, BJP North East in-charge, Sambit Patra, and BJP state president A Sharda Devi, among others. Two BJP MLAs who did not attend the meeting were unwell. Another meeting was also held at Manipur Bhavan, where MLAs of the NDA constituents in Manipur -- six National People's Party, five Naga People's Front and three Independents, along with BJP legislators were in attendance. Manipur has been under President's rule since February 13, 2025 after Biren Singh resigned as Chief Minister following months of ethnic violence in the state.

CHICKEN'S NECK:

Assam Chief Minister, Himanta Biswa Sarma yesterday said that the proposed underground rail link along the strategic 'Chicken's Neck' corridor in West Bengal will ensure a secure transportation route, connecting the North East. Sarma said in a post on X that the "strategic vulnerability" of the narrow strip of land should have been addressed in the aftermath of 1971. For decades, the 'Chicken's Neck' has been used as an intimidation tactic by anti-national forces, both within and beyond our borders. Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw had stated that plans are afoot to lay underground railway tracks along the 40-km strategic corridor and also make the existing tracks four-line. The strategic corridor, called the 'Chicken's Neck' for its shape, is

sandwiched between Nepal and Bangladesh, with Bhutan and China a few hundred kilometres away.

REVERSE BUYER–SELLER MEET:

The Reverse Buyer–Seller Meet, 2026 was inaugurated yesterday in Shillong, marking a major milestone in Meghalaya’s efforts to connect local enterprises with global markets. Inaugurating the two-day event, Chief Minister Conrad K. Sangma emphasised that the focus of the meet should be on real trade outcomes and long-term partnerships rather than symbolic Memorandums of Understanding. On the occasion, the Chief Minister also launched the ‘MeghaRISE’ project under the RAMP scheme of the Ministry of MSME, aimed at strengthening the MSME ecosystem through competitiveness, value addition, capacity building and improved market access. The event has drawn more than 25 international delegates from over 16 countries, and the international buyers represent diverse sectors such as agri and food processing, handlooms and handicrafts, textiles, bamboo and wood-based products, honey, spices, and herbal and wellness products and value-added consumer goods.

MILITARY EXERCISE:

The 13th edition of the joint military Exercise KHANJAR between India and Kyrgyzstan began at Misamari in Sonitpur district of Assam yesterday. The 14-day long military exercise aims to enhance inter-operability between the Special Forces of both the nations, with a focus on joint operations in urban warfare and counter-terrorism scenarios under the United Nations mandate. The KHANJAR exercise will further strengthen bilateral defence cooperation and deepen the enduring military partnership between India and Kyrgyzstan. India’s elite Parachute Regiment and Kyrgyzstan’s Scorpion Brigade will practice advanced skills such as sniping, room intervention, building clearance, mountain craft and specialised counter-terrorism drills.

LABOUR:

Mizoram Minister, Lalnghinglova Hmar has announced that the Labour, Employment, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship festival will be held from 10 to 14 of this month, featuring a wide range of handicrafts produced by artisans from across Mizoram. During an interaction with journalists at his office, the Minister said, the festival is envisioned as a platform to foster collaboration between agencies under the Mizoram government and the Central government. He also highlighted initiatives to organise a State-level Special Vendor Development Programme where several central public sector undertakings and agencies, including the National Highways & Infrastructure Corporation Limited, Power Grid Corporation of India, North East Frontier Railway are expected to participate in the programme.

TRIPURA:

Tripura Chief Minister Dr. Manik Saha said that the state is steadily progressing in various sectors including education, health, tourism and information technology. He stated that over the past eight years, Tripura has received as many as 347 awards at the national and regional levels, reflecting its overall development. Dr. Saha made these remarks while inaugurating the third regional workshop of NITI Aayog’s State Support Mission at Agartala yesterday. He further highlighted that the state government is working with a clear vision to ensure sustainable and inclusive growth, with special emphasis on innovation, infrastructure development and people-centric governance.

NAGALAND CM:

Nagaland Chief Minister, Neiphiu Rio has welcomed the India–US trade agreement, describing it as a step towards strengthening the strategic partnership that benefits both economies. Rio said that it will ease pressure on Indian exporters, boost competitiveness, and further strengthen the strategic partnership, benefiting both economies.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP:

The Entrepreneurship Development Institute Jote, Papumpare district, inaugurated its first batch of the six days Residential Entrepreneurship Skill Development Programme yesterday. In his address, Arunachal Pradesh Minister for Labour & Employment, Nyato Dukam emphasized the importance of numerous skill development initiatives launched by the State government aimed at empowering the youth of the state. He encouraged the participants to complete the training, highlighting its importance in their entrepreneurial journeys.

DRIVE:

The Nagaland Directorate of Economics and Statistics will conduct a special drive for online registration and digitisation of old manual Birth and Death Certificates across the state from 5th to 20th of this month. During this period, citizens with old manual birth or death certificates may approach the concerned registrars to have their records officially registered and digitised. For assistance or queries, individuals may contact the helpline number 7005404269 during office hours.

JOURNALISTS:

Tripura Governor, Indrasena Reddy Nallu yesterday emphasised that the role of the media is extremely important in strengthening democracy in the country and the State. The Governor was addressing the State Journalist Felicitation programme held at the Tripura Legislative Assembly. Highlighting the responsibility of the media, the Governor stated that by constructively pointing out shortcomings of the government, performing duties with dedication and integrity, and upholding freedom of expression, journalists play a vital role in reinforcing democracy. During the programme, 21 journalists and photojournalists were felicitated in recognition of their contributions to journalism.

SIGN LANGUAGE:

To promote accessibility and inclusive communication for persons with hearing and speech impairment in Arunachal Pradesh, a three-day Sign Language Training Workshop commenced yesterday. Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment, Kento Jini who attended the programme as the chief guest, emphasised the importance of sign language in bridging communication gaps and ensuring equal opportunities for persons with disabilities. He also stressed the need to build trained human resources in sign language to meet the growing demand.

FOOTBALL:

Nagaland will host the Under-13 ASMITA Zonal Football League 2025-26 for the East Zone at Chümoukedima Football Stadium from tomorrow. The league aims to promote grassroots football and identify young talent. Currently, zonal leagues are being conducted across four zones - North, South, East, and West. The East Zone includes Tripura, Assam, Mizoram, Sikkim and hosts Nagaland. Winners and runners-up from each zonal league will advance to the National Round of the ASMITA Football League 2025-26.
