

NORTH EAST NEWS BULLETIN

DATED:- 28.02.2026

HEADLINES:-

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi to launch the nationwide Human Papillomavirus Vaccination Programme for girls aged 14 years today.
- Budget session of the Meghalaya Assembly adjourned sine die.
- Centre appoints former Supreme Court judge ,Justice Balbir Singh Chauhan as the new Chairperson of the Commission of Inquiry investigating the violence in Manipur.
- Union Minister of State for Steel and Heavy Industries, Bhupathiraju Srinivasa Varma visits Manipur, reviews implementation of Central Schemes.
- Assam BJP to announce list of party candidates for the upcoming Assembly after Holi celebrations
- Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad Sangma flags off a fleet of 84 new buses inducted under the PM eBus Sewa Scheme in Shillong
- Mizoram government to aggressively pursue a policy of decentralization to streamline governance and correct long-standing developmental disparities
- Sikkim government to rename the Pakyong airport after freedom fighter Trilochan Pokhrel

VACCINE

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch the nationwide Human Papillomavirus Vaccination Programme for girls aged 14 years from Ajmer in Rajasthan today. The nationwide roll-out marks a decisive move in the country's public health journey and fulfils the government's commitment to advancing the vision of Swastha Nari, ensuring prevention, protection and equity at the core of women's healthcare. The programme will target approximately 1.15 crore girls aged 14 years every year across all States and Union Territories. The vaccine will be provided free of cost at designated government health facilities. The State launch in Meghalaya will be held today at Ganesh Das Hospital in Shillong. Vaccination will be voluntary and informed consent from parents or guardians will be obtained prior to administration.

ASSEMBLY

The Budget session of the Meghalaya Assembly was adjourned sine die on Friday after two long weeks of exhaustive discussions and debate on various issues of the state. The session was adjourned with State and National anthem even as on the last day of the session, several important legislations were passed by the House. Government Bills like Meghalaya Prisons and Correctional Services Bill, 2026, The Park University Meghalaya Bill, 2026, Meghalaya Police (Amendment) Bill 2026, Meghalaya Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2026, Meghalaya Flood

Plain Zoning Bill, 2026, Institute of Public Health Shillong Bill, 2026 were passed on the last day of the session.

ASSAM

Assam BJP President and Lok Sabha MP Dilip Saikia said on Friday that the party's list of candidates for the upcoming Assembly elections will be announced in a phased manner after the conclusion of the Holi (Dol Utsav). Speaking to reporters in Nalbari, Saikia said the BJP is finalising its strategy and will soon make public its candidates at an appropriate time. Making a significant remark on candidate selection, the State BJP Chief said that preference would be given to familiar and trusted faces. Saikia was in Nalbari to inaugurate the Uttar Nalbari Mandal BJP office, marking another step in strengthening the party's organisational structure ahead of the polls. Addressing BJP workers and leaders, Saikia emphasised the importance of organisational unity, booth-level preparedness and sustained public outreach in the coming months.

INQUIRY

The Centre has appointed former Supreme Court judge Justice Balbir Singh Chauhan as the new Chairperson of the Commission of Inquiry investigating the violence in Manipur. The Home Ministry, in a notification said that Justice Chauhan will assume charge of the Commission on 1st March. The appointment of Justice Chauhan came after the resignation of the Chairperson of the Commission and former Chief Justice of Gauhati High Court, Justice Ajai Lamba.

MINISTER

The Union Minister of State for Steel and Heavy Industries, Bhupathiraju Srinivasa Varma, visited Noney district in Manipur on Friday. The visit comes amid signs of normalcy and stabilisation in the state following the formation of a popular government. During his visit, the Minister distributed Ayushman Bharat (PMJAY) cards to four beneficiaries at Longmai Primary Health Centre and also handed over house keys to PMAY-G beneficiaries in Rangkhung region. The Minister also inspected the Railway's tallest pier bridge (Bridge No. 164) in Noney district and reviewed the progress of major infrastructure works, including the NHIDCL project along NH-37 and construction of Awangkhul Railway Station construction. Later, the Minister chaired a review meeting at the DC Office assess the implementation of various Central Sector Schemes in the district.

BUS

Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad Sangma on Friday flagged off a fleet of 84 new buses, including 55 electric buses inducted under the PM eBus Sewa Scheme, at a programme held at the New Meghalaya Legislative Assembly in Shillong. The launch marked the formal introduction of "Ka Bos Jong Ngi" under the Urban Affairs Department. The newly inducted buses are equipped with air-conditioning, mobile charging points, real-time tracking systems, and e-ticketing facilities to ensure convenience, safety, and efficiency for passengers. A pilot run commenced on the IIM Shillong–Upper Shillong route, with services scheduled to operate daily from 7:00 AM to 9:00 PM in Shilong. The initiative is expected to improve urban connectivity and provide citizens with a reliable, comfortable, and eco-friendly mode of transportation.

MIZORAM

Mizoram Chief Minister Lalduhoma on Friday announced in the State Assembly that his government is set to aggressively pursue a policy of decentralization to streamline governance and correct long-standing developmental disparities. While participating in the discussion on the Mizoram State University (Amendment) Bill, 2026, Lalduhoma, who also holds the finance portfolio, revealed that a comprehensive plan for financial decentralization is imminent. Under the proposed reforms, the state will bypass the traditional bottleneck of seeking constant Finance Department clearance for routine operations. The Chief Minister characterized this shift as a significant transformation in the state's administrative machinery. Lalduhoma further stated that his government aims to address the existing regional imbalances and uneven development by ensuring a more equitable distribution.

CROP

Mizoram government will launch a comprehensive crop insurance scheme to protect farmers from financial losses caused by natural disasters, pests or diseases. State Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister PC Vanlalruata informed the state Assembly that the insurance scheme will be introduced for five key crops under the state government's flagship 'Bana Kaih' (Handholding) scheme. He said that the state Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department is currently taking steps to implement the Centre's Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY). A State Level Coordination Committee on Crop Insurance constituted to implement the PMFBY scheme has already issued a notification to cover five specific crops- paddy, ginger, Mizo chili, cabbage, and brinjal (eggplant). The Minister clarified that the insurance scheme would initially be rolled out in specific districts with high production potential.

WREATH

Khonsa Battalion of Assam Rifles in Arunachal Pradesh organised a solemn wreath-laying ceremony recently to pay tribute to Late Rfn Md Rajen, who made the supreme sacrifice in the service of the Nation. The ceremony was held at the Battalion War Memorial, where the Commandant and personnel of the unit laid wreaths and offered floral tributes in honour of the fallen soldier. The ceremony reaffirmed the values of honour, duty, and sacrifice that form the foundation of the Assam Rifles.

AIRPORT

The Sikkim government will rename the Pakyong airport, the sole airport located in the mountain state that sits on the India-China border, after freedom fighter Trilochan Pokhrel. Sikkim Chief Minister P.S. Tamang while addressing a celebration on the occasion of the 31st Foundation Day of the Akhil Sikkim Khas Chhetri Bahun Kalyan Sangh made the announcement. Trilochan Pokhrel, who was born in the Tareything region of Pakyong subdivision of east Sikkim, was influenced by the ideals of non-violence and Satyagraha of Mahatma Gandhi.

DEBATE

A Youth Parliament programme under the theme "Viksit Bharat Youth Parliament" was held on Friday at Sonamura Kabi Nazrul Mahavidyalaya in Agartala with the support of the Union Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and organised by the college in collaboration with the District Youth Affairs and Sports Office. The event featured a debate competition on the theme "50 Years of Emergency," in which a total of 35 students participated. The participants presented their views

both in favour of and against the topic, engaging in thoughtful discussions. A similar Viksit Bharat Youth Parliament was successfully organized by MY Bharat, Itanagar in collaboration with Dera Natung Government College. The programme was chaired by Dr. M.Q. Khan, Principal, Dera Natung Government College and witnessed enthusiastic participation from students making the event intellectually vibrant and engaging.
