

NORTH EAST NEWS BULLETIN

DATED:- 19.02.2026

HEADLINES:-

- Election Commission of India announces schedule for upcoming biennial elections to Rajya Sabha to fill 37 seats across 10 states including 3 seats in Assam.
- Chief Election Commissioner, Gyanesh Kumar says dates for conducting Assembly elections in Assam will be announced considering biggest festival, Bihu.
- Meghalaya government will examine and scrutinise proposal to carve out Shillong Agglomerate from East Khasi Hills district to arrive at informed decision for better governance and citizen-centric administration.
- Indian Army carries out month-long area sanitisation and de-mining operation along vulnerable stretch of India–Myanmar border in Manipur.
- Indian Air Force helicopters douse wildfire in Walong of Anjaw district in Arunachal Pradesh after more than five days of relentless operation.
- Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Ram Nath Thakur reviews development works in Longleng district in Nagaland.
- Manipur Chief Minister, Y. Khemchand Singh assures government's unwavering commitment to State's development.
- South Mizoram's Lawngtlai district deputy commissioner, Donny Lalruatsanga administers oath of office to newly appointed Deputy Chief Executive Member and 9 Executive Members of Lai Autonomous District Council.
- Meghalaya will hold joint meeting with Defence authorities and NHIDCL to discuss way forward on construction of flyover in Shillong city.
- Nagaland Chief Minister, Neiphiu Rio inaugurates JSW Women-Centric BPO at Integrated Business Hub and Innovation Centre in Dimapur.
- One-day workshop on child rights, child marriage and other issues organized at AJIMA House by Voluntary Health Association of Tripura.
- Delegation of journalists from Chhattisgarh visits Gyalshing District in Sikkim as part of official exposure visit to observe implementation of key Central and State Government flagship programmes.
- First officer from Arunachal Pradesh to command a Warship, Commander, Ronnie Chowpu represents Indian Navy in International Fleet Review 2026 in Andhra Pradesh.
- Assam Rifles flags off 13-day-long "Eastern Edge Expedition" from Pangasau Pass along India–Myanmar border in Arunachal Pradesh.

NEWS IN ORDER:-

RAJYA SABHA-ASSAM

The Election Commission of India has announced the schedule for the upcoming biennial elections to the Rajya Sabha to fill the 37 seats across 10 states including 3 seats in Assam as members are set to complete their term in April 2026. The notification will be issued on the 26th of this month, commencing the election process.

CEC

Chief Election Commissioner, Gyanesh Kumar said that the dates for conducting the Assembly elections in Assam will be announced, considering the State's biggest festival, Bihu, which falls in mid-April. Addressing media persons in Guwahati after reviewing Assam's preparedness for the upcoming Assembly elections, the Chief Election Commissioner said, at an appropriate time, the Commission will announce the election schedule for the 126 Assembly Constituencies of Assam.

SHILLONG AGGLOMERATE

Meghalaya Chief Minister, Conrad K Sangma yesterday said that a proposal to carve out Shillong Agglomerate from East Khasi Hills district would be examined and scrutinised in detail in order to arrive at an informed decision for better governance and citizen-centric administration. The Chief Minister was replying to a short duration discussion on the issue brought by United Democratic Party MLA, Paul Lyngdoh in Assembly yesterday. Sangma said, the proposal warrants careful deliberation, while acknowledging that Shillong as the State capital, has witnessed rapid urban expansion, placing increasing pressure on civic administration, infrastructure, law enforcement and essential public services.

DE-MINING OPERATION

The Indian Army carried out a major month-long area sanitisation and de-mining operation along a vulnerable stretch of the India–Myanmar border in Manipur. Defence spokesman, Lt Col Mahendra Rawat said that the Red Shield Division of the Indian Army's Spear Corps carried out a major area sanitisation and de-mining operation along the India-Myanmar border at Yangoubung, Manipur from January 16 to February 17. He said that the task was undertaken following a requisition from government agencies to facilitate the resumption of stalled border fencing work amid intelligence inputs regarding Improvised Explosive Devices and unexploded ordinances. Manipur has a 398 km unfenced international border with Myanmar.

WALONG WILDFIRE

Indian Air Force helicopters have doused a wildfire in Walong of Anjaw district in Arunachal Pradesh. The helicopters dropped 139,800 litres of water to douse the fire and the relentless operation was carried on for more than five days.

UNION MoS

Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Ram Nath Thakur yesterday reviewed development works in Longleng district as part of his visit to Nagaland. He also held detailed discussions with district officials and local representatives on initiatives under the Purvottar Sampark Setu programme. The Union Minister asserted that the government is injecting new energy and momentum into the North East through inclusive development.

MANIPUR CM

Manipur Chief Minister, Y. Khemchand Singh assured the public of the government's unwavering commitment to the State's development. Speaking during a reception programme yesterday held at the residence of the MLA of Kumbi Assembly Constituency in Bishnupur district, Khemchand also announced that the construction of road from Moirang to Wangoo via Kumbi will commence within 15 days. He also said that work on Napat Bridge is expected to complete within five days. The Deputy Commissioner of Bishnupur was asked to submit a report on the progress of prefabricated housing construction for Internally Displaced Persons in the district. Later, the Chief Minister attended another reception programme at the residence of the MLA of Thanga Assembly Constituency.

OATH

South Mizoram's Lawngtlai district deputy commissioner, Donny Lalruatsanga administered oath of office to the newly appointed Deputy Chief Executive Member, Sanghuliana Mualchin and 9 Executive Members of the Lai Autonomous District Council in Lawngtlai town. Chief Executive Member, C. Lalsawmzuala also allocated portfolios to the Dy. CEM and EMs. The budget session of the Council will commence from March 27.

FLY OVER

Meghalaya Deputy Chief Minister in-charge PWD Roads, Prestone Tynsong informed that State government will hold a joint meeting with Defence authorities and NHIDCL to discuss the way forward after Defence authorities raised security concerns over the idea of constructing a flyover from Rilbong to Barik as some portions of the flyover would pass through Defence areas in Shillong city. Tynsong said that the government would ensure that a four-lane road can be constructed on the same route. Construction of a flyover is in need to decongest the Shillong city.

WOMEN-CENTRIC BPO

Nagaland Chief Minister, Neiphiu Rio yesterday inaugurated the JSW Women-Centric BPO at the Integrated Business Hub and Innovation Centre in Dimapur. Described as the first women-centric BPO of its kind in the North East, the centre will provide IT-enabled employment opportunities to women aged 18 years and above. Addressing the event, the Chief Minister said, the project aligned with the government's vision to women empowerment, skill development and meaningful employment within the state, and highlighted the immense human potential of Nagaland. The programme concluded with the ceremonial presentation of engagement letters to selected candidates.

CHILD MARRIAGE

A one-day workshop on child rights, child marriage and other issues was organized at AJIMA House by the Voluntary Health Association of Tripura. This workshop is designed to train stakeholders and workers on their duties, methods and strategies so that child rights are protected and child marriage can be eradicated. Child Marriage Free India campaign is underway across the country including Tripura and it will continue till this year.

DELEGATION

A delegation of journalists from Chhattisgarh visited Gyalshing District in Sikkim yesterday as part of an official exposure visit to observe the implementation of key Central and State Government flagship programmes and various developmental initiatives. The delegation visited prominent tourist and heritage destinations of Gyalshing, including the Pelling Skywalk situated at the height of 7200 ft and

Chenrezig Statue, the tallest Chenrezig Statue in the World, besides Pemayangtse Monastery.

TRIPURA

Tripura Chief Minister, Dr. Manik Saha yesterday visited the house of Rajesh De, resident of Tanti Para in ADNagar area, Agartala, which was extensively damaged by fire on the 16th of this month. He spoke to the affected family and shared his grief. The Chief Minister handed over 1 lakh 20 thousand rupees to Rajesh De as initial financial assistance from the State government. He assured that further assistance will be considered in the future as per the need.

WARSHIP

Commander, Ronnie Chowpu, the first officer from Arunachal Pradesh to command a Warship, represented the Indian Navy in the International Fleet Review 2026 in Andhra Pradesh. He commanded INS Khanjar at the Fleet Review. President Droupadi Murmu, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, yesterday reviewed the International Fleet Review 2026 off the coast of Visakhapatnam, underscoring India's growing maritime capability and its commitment to global naval cooperation.

EXPEDITION

The Assam Rifles yesterday flagged off the 13-day-long "Eastern Edge Expedition", starting from Pangsau Pass along the India–Myanmar border in Arunachal Pradesh, and aimed to culminate at Jorhat in Assam. The 'Eastern Edge Expedition', organised in partnership with Hero MotoCorp, was scheduled from February 18 to March 2 under 'Operation Sadbhavana 2025–26' to celebrate resilience, camaraderie and the indomitable spirit of the North East.
