NORTH EAST NEWS BULLETIN

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HEADLINES:-

- Sikkim Chief Minister, PS Tamang chairs meeting to assess current disaster situation and suggests formation of high-level technical committee to carry out detailed study and devise concrete road map for future.
- Power Ministry monitors situation arising out of flash floods in Teesta Basin in Sikkim; all bridges in downstream of Teesta-V Hydropower Station submerged and power station is under shutdown presently.
- Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma lays down government's mission for next 5 years to revamp different sectors, and emphasizes need to elevate Meghalaya from 'better to best.'
- Assam Chief Minister, Himanta Biswa Sarma announces to provide 500 crore rupees for improving road infrastructure in Bodoland Territorial Region.
- Arunachal Pradesh State Cooperative Development Committee holds its first meeting at State Secretariat in Itanagar and approves district-wise plan to set up 491 cooperative societies across the state in next five years.
- Mizoram Governor Dr HB Kambhampati says enactment of RTI Act in 2005 helps in bringing about good governance, and citizens have the right as well as responsibility to keep authorities in check.

SIKKIM:

Sikkim Chief Minister, PS Tamang chaired a meeting yesterday to assess the current disaster situation in the State with Chief Secretary VB Pathak, among others. The Chief Secretary briefed him about steps being taken by the State government in coordination with the Indian Army and concerned agencies to provide relief, rehabilitation and restoration. He also updated about the National Crisis Management Committee meeting held with the Union Cabinet Secretary on Wednesday. During the meeting, the Chief Minister suggested the formation of a high-level technical committee to carry out a detailed study of the incident and devise a concrete road map for the future. He said that permits to tourist areas like Tsomgo, Baba Mandir and Nathula was stopped since yesterday. Tamang informed that people staying at relief camps will be provided medicines free of cost and the district collectors will ensure that the relief camps are comfortable. Along with schools, all government and private colleges in Mangan, Gangtok, Pakyong and Namchi districts will remain closed till further notice.

MONITOR:

The Power Ministry is continuously monitoring the situation arising out of flash floods in the Teesta Basin in Sikkim. Power Secretary Pankaj Agrawal held an emergency meeting yesterday with the NHPC where senior officers of the Ministry of Power and Central Electricity Authority were also present. All bridges in the downstream of Teesta-V Hydropower Station up to Tarkhola and Pamphok have been submerged and the power station is under shutdown presently. The NHPC had timely evacuated the manpower on all its projects and ensured that they were shifted to safer places. One casualty has been reported from the Teesta-V power station. Ongoing works of under construction hydro project Teesta-VI have been disrupted. Two crane operators working at the project site are reported missing and efforts are being made to trace them. All possible measures are being taken to get the hydropower projects operational as soon as possible. The Central government will make a detailed assessment of the damage to hydropower projects after the flood water recedes.

CONFERENCE:

Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma yesterday laid down the government's mission for the next 5 years to revamp different sectors, and emphasized the need to elevate Meghalaya from 'better to best.' The Chief Minister attended the Deputy Commissioners and SDO (Civil) conference in Shillong that brought together key policy makers and experts to deliberate on the various aspects of governance, sustainable development, public service delivery, administrative infrastructure and inter-departmental cooperation. The Chief Minister also launched the 'DC Connect Initiative' which aims to initiate timely decision making on administrative matters and better implementation of schemes.

BTR:

Assam Chief Minister, Himanta Biswa Sarma has announced to provide 500 crore rupees for improving road infrastructure in the Bodoland Territorial Region. Attending an event at Baksa district yesterday, the Chief Minister informed that the government will fill up 5 thousand 600 vacancies in the Assam Police. The Chief Minister appealed to the youth of Bodoland Territorial Region to make the best use of this employment opportunity.

COMMITTEE:

In Arunachal Pradesh, the State Cooperative Development Committee held its first meeting at the State Secretariat in Itanagar yesterday and approved the district-wise plan to set up 491 cooperative societies across the state in the next five years. These include 150 Large Sized Multi Purpose Cooperative Societies, 157 Dairy Cooperative Societies and 184 Fisheries Cooperative Societies. The committee also approved the setting up of a 500 metric ton grain storage plan by the Namsai Large Sized Multi Purpose Cooperative Societies on a pilot basis. The meeting chaired by the Chief Secretary also reviewed the steps taken by the Department of Cooperation in the implementation of various schemes and initiatives of the Central government in the state.

RTI:

In Mizoram, Governor Dr HB Kambhampati said that the enactment of the Right to Information Act in 2005 was a historic occasion for the country and added that the Act has helped in bringing about good governance. Addressing the inauguration session of the 'RTI Week 2023' in Aizawl yesterday, the Governor said, in this digital age, access to information has become important and the citizens have the right as well as responsibility to keep the authorities in check.