

NORTH EAST NEWS BULLETIN

DATED:- 30.05.2024

HEADLINES:-

1. Death toll in multiple landslides in Mizoram's Aizawl district climbs to 29 after two more bodies recovered from two locations; search and rescue operations will continue as seven more persons are still missing.
2. National Highway-6 in Meghalaya which connects with as many as four North Eastern states witnesses heavy landslides due to heavy rainfall; East Jaiñtia Hills district administration urges commuters to carry food and water while traveling on this highway.
3. Low lying dwelling areas in different districts in Manipur submerged as water overflows from nearby rivers due to incessant rainfall in last 48 hours.
4. Meghalaya and Nagaland exempted from Common University Entrance Test (CUET) for Under Graduates; colleges affiliated with Central Universities - North Eastern Hill University and Nagaland University - are allowed to take admission as per prevailing practice.
5. Nagaland transport department launches Nirbhaya Vehicle Location Tracking System Command and Control Centre; real-time movement of vehicles will be monitored through Geographic Information System and other devices for safety of travellers.

CUET

Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad Sangma in a social media post yesterday informed that the Centre has exempted CUET in Meghalaya. He wrote that admissions to affiliated colleges to Central University's in Meghalaya have been exempted from CUET for this academic year. Meanwhile, the Voice of the Peoples Party (VPP) had met Education Minister Rakkam A Sangma on the problems faced by students who appeared for, or were meant to appear for, the Common University Entrance Test (CUET), in Shillong. During the meeting with Sangma, the VPP urged the government to direct the colleges to base the admissions of students seeking to join undergraduate programmes on the basis of their Class 12 marks.

HEALTH

Union Health Secretary, Apurva Chandra said that India in collaboration with World Health Organisation intends to further strengthen the drug regulatory system to ensure quick access to high-quality medical products for all. Addressing the Plenary Session of 77th World Health Assembly in Geneva, Mr. Chandra said that Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana which stands as the world's largest health assurance scheme is providing over three hundred million beneficiaries a health

cover of six thousand US dollars per family per year. Mr. Chandra said that India is on track to attain the SDG targets and added that India has emerged as a lighthouse country in digital public goods for global collaborations.

COMMITTEE

The Expert Committee on State Reservation Policy will hold consultation with the stakeholders by holding public hearings in Shillong and all other district headquarters or in any other places of the state. Besides consultations, it will also visit various locations of the state to solicit the views of all stakeholders and then submit report/recommendations/ suggestions to the state government on the matter. The dates of public hearings will be notified after receipt of suggestions and comments of the stakeholders. A public notice will be issued to inform the stakeholders.

LANDSLIDE

National Highway 6 (NH-6), which connects as many as four northeastern states with the rest of the country, is prone to landslides. Rocks and debris fell on the highway in the Sonapur area on Tuesday that blocked vehicular movement on that route, and the administration deployed a workforce to clear the mudslide. Deputy Commissioner of East Jaintia Hills district, Abhilash Baranwal, said that traffic movement was restored on one carriageway and is hopeful of restoring complete traffic movement. He however advised commuters on this route to stay cautious and keep sufficient food and water while traveling through this highway.

HANM

The Hynniewtrep Achik National Movement (HANM) South West Khasi Hills District had met the officials of the Meghalaya Power Distribution Corporation Limited (MePDCL) on frequent power cuts in Mawkyrwat area and South West Khasi Hills District as a whole which has brought lots of problems to the people and especially students who are now preparing for the Half-yearly Examination. The HANM members said that the office of the MePDCL in Mawkyrwat has failed to deliver services to the people in the area and the whole District. They said that if this keeps on happening, the HANM will be forced to complaint to the higher authorities so that people gets justice.

HELPLINE

In a significant milestone, the National Tele Mental Health Programme Tele-MANAS Helpline received over 10 lakh calls since its launch in October 2022. Launched by the Government of India to enhance mental health service delivery nationwide, the Programme operates 51 Tele-MANAS cells across all States and Union territories. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare said that the Tele-MANAS helpline has seen a steady increase in the number of callers, growing from around 12 thousand in December 2022 to over 90 thousand in May 2024. It said that this increase in engagement underscores the importance of continued investment and expansion of mental health initiatives to ensure that everyone has access to the required support.

RAJKHOWA

Chinmoyee Rajkhowa, a student from the Department of Social Work at the University of Science and Technology Meghalaya (USTM), has been selected to represent India in the BRICS Sports Games 2024. The event will be held from June 19 to 25 in Kazan, Russia. Rajkhowa was chosen by the All India Traditional Wrestling and Pankration Federation during a selection process in New Delhi from May 5 to 7. She will compete in the Belt Wrestling women's 64 kg category. This will be Rajkhowa's eighth international event and will be attending a training camp in Dehradun before the event.

ADVISORY

The Deputy Commissioner and Chairman DDMA, East Khasi Hills District has issued an advisory that due to the strong wind and heavy rainfall, people are advised to stay away from tall structures and towers as they may collapse. People staying near tall structures are to be extra cautious during rainfall and strong winds. They are to keep necessary documents ready in case of emergency evacuation.

MET

Extremely heavy rainfall and landslides caused by the Cyclone Remal has brought the normal life of Northeast India to a grinding halt. Meteorological Department has issued Red Alert for the different states of North East, where at least 33 people have killed during last 24 hours due to the cyclone. Yesterday, Assam's CM, Himanta Biswa Sarma has ordered to close all educational institutions in districts of Nagaon, Hojai, Karbi Anglong, Golaghat, Dima Hasao, Cachar, Hailakandi and Karimganj. Landslides caused by continuous rain has cut off the road connectivity of Barak Valley, Tripura, Manipur and Mizoram with the North Assam and rest of India. The flood situation is setting in Barak Valley, where the Water level of the river Barak has increased by more than two and half meter till yesterday evening.
