HEADLINES:-

- > Voting for the fifth phase of Lok Sabha elections concluded peacefully.
- District Collector and Chairman of the District Disaster Management Authority of Gangtok District enacts Section 30 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 to mitigate destruction of public properties.
- Indian Army conducts a week-long forward area tour in Arunachal Pradesh for defence experts.
- Newly appointed Director General of Police of Meghalaya, Idashisha Nongrang pays courtesy call on Meghalaya Governor, Phagu Chauhan, at Raj Bhavan.
- River rafting and elephant safari at Manas National Park in Assam temporarily closed from May 20.

NEWS IN ORDER:-

VOTING:

Voting concluded peacefully for the fifth phase of Lok Sabha elections yesterday. Overall, nearly 57 per cent voter turnout was recorded till 5 PM. Forty-nine Parliamentary Constituencies spread over six States and two Union Territories were covered in this phase. These include 14 seats in Uttar Pradesh, 13 in Maharashtra, seven in West Bengal, five each in Odisha and Bihar, three in Jharkhand and one each in Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. Six hundred and ninety-five candidates were in the fray in this phase. The prominent candidates whose fate was decided include BJP leaders and Union Ministers Rajnath Singh, Piyush Goyal and Smriti Irani, Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and KL Sharma, Omar Abdullah of the National Conference, and Chirag Paswan of LJP (Ram Vilas).

CAMPAIGN:

Campaigning has intensified for the remaining two phases of Lok Sabha elections. Senior political leaders are crisscrossing the states, holding public meetings and road shows to garner support for their parties. Prime Minister and senior BJP leader Narendra Modi held multiple rallies in Odisha and West Bengal yesterday. In Odisha, Modi addressed public meetings at Dhenkanal and Cuttack. Mr Modi said, Cuttack is one of the oldest existing cities in India and is the hub of modern education. Prime Minister Modi also led a two km long roadshow in the holy town of Puri.

LANDSLIDE:

In a proactive move to address mounting concerns over landslide threats posed by monsoon rains, Tushar G. Nikhare, District Collector and Chairman of the District Disaster Management Authority of Gangtok District, has enacted Section 30 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005. Effective from June 1st to September 30th, 2024, all new earth excavation works are under a strict prohibition. The measure aims to pre-emptively mitigate potential property damages and protect vulnerable areas. Only endeavours related to protection, restoration, and maintenance have been greenlit during this period. The directive underscores the paramount importance of community safety amidst the looming landslide risks.

TOUR:

The Indian Army has conducted a week-long forward area tour in Arunachal Pradesh for defence experts to provide them a first-hand experience of operational challenges faced by troops and to encourage them to formulate technological solutions to the problems, a communique said. After their arrival at Dinjan Military Station in Assam's Dibrugarh district on May 12, the team visited forward areas in Anjaw district of Arunachal Pradesh along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and gained insights about operational and logistical challenges of the armed forces.

DGP:

The newly appointed Director General of Police (DGP) of Meghalaya, Idashisha Nongrang, IPS, paid a courtesy call on the Governor of Meghalaya, Phagu Chauhan, at Raj Bhavan yesterday. During the meeting, the Governor congratulated her on her appointment, and assured his full support, emphasizing the importance of law and order in the state. Subsequently, the DGP also expressed her gratitude for the opportunity to serve the state and discussed initiatives to further enhance public safety. Also present in the meeting was the Principal Secretary to the Governor, Harish Chandra Chaudhary.

PARK:

The river rafting and elephant safari at Manas National Park in Assam was temporarily closed from May 20, a forest ranger of the national park informed. The forest ranger said, the elephant safari and river rafting was temporarily closed from May 20, however, the jeep safari will continue till 5th June.

FOUNDATION STONE:

In a bid to foster the budding talent in Cricket across the state, Meghalaya Cricket Association, in collaboration with the Ri Bhoi District Cricket Association, laid the foundation stone for an Indoor cricket facility at Madan Kurkalang, Lumdaitkhla village in Ri Bhoi District. Lumdaitkhla Dorbar Shnong donated the land for this facility, crucial for nurturing the state's cricketing talent. The facilities including a swimming pool, four pitches, and dressing rooms, is set to be completed by September this year.
