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HEADLINES:-

- President Droupadi Murmu asserts that the Government is fully committed for the development of North Eastern Region.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will share his thoughts with the people of the country and abroad in the 'Mann Ki Baat' programme on Akashvani on Sunday at 11 AM.
- Army engineers of Trishakti Corps constructed a 70-foot Bailey Bridge on the Dikchu-Sanklang road in Sikkim.
- Arunachal Pradesh Chief Secretary Dharmendra chairs the 3rd meeting of the Distribution Reforms Committee for Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme.
- Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K. Sangma urges Union Minister for Civil Aviation, Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu to make Shillong Airport at Umroi operational on Sundays.
- Meghalaya Government launches the Chief Minister's Research Grant to document the culture, tradition and art forms of the state.

PRESIDENT

President Droupadi Murmu yesterday asserted that the Government is fully committed for the development of North Eastern Region. Addressing the joint sitting of both Houses of Parliament the President said her government is is working to make this region a strategic gateway under its Act East Policy. President Murmu added that a semiconductor plant is being established in Assam at a cost of 27 thousand crore rupees. She asserted that the North-East will also be a hub of Made in India chips. Highlighting the initiatives taken by the Government for the North East region, the President observed that the Centre is working for lasting peace in the region and several problems related to the area have been addressed in the last ten years. President Murmu added that phase-wise repealing of Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA) is underway in areas with unrest after making rapid progress in the region. NSD - 15

MODI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will share his thoughts with the people of the country and abroad in the 'Mann Ki Baat' programme on Akashvani on Sunday at 11 AM. It will be the 111th episode of the monthly radio programme. It will also be the first episode after Mr Modi assumed charge of the Prime Minister for the third consecutive time. The programme will be broadcast on the entire network of Akashvani and Doordarshan, AIR News website and newsonair mobile app. It will also be live streamed on the YouTube channels of the AIR News, DD News, PMO and Information and Broadcasting Ministry.

Akashwani will broadcast the programme in regional languages immediately after the Hindi broadcast.

ROAD

Supporting the efforts of the Border Road Organization and local administration in restoring connectivity and returning normalcy to areas cut off due to recent floods in Sikkim, Army engineers of Trishakti Corps constructed a 70-foot Bailey Bridge on the Dikchu-Sanklang road, braving incessant rains and challenging technical constraints. The bridge is an important link to enable vehicular traffic from Dikchu to Sanklang towards Chungthang. The recent floods in Sikkim have led to disruptions of road communications to many areas in North Sikkim.

SANCTION

Arunachal Pradesh Chief Secretary Dharmendra yesterday chaired the 3rd meeting of the Distribution Reforms Committee for Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) under Vibrant Villages Programme in Itanagar. In a significant move towards bolstering rural infrastructure, the committee has recommended and approved the Detailed Project Report of over 133 Crore rupees for 167 villages for 'Extension of electricity distribution infrastructure under Vibrant Villages Programme. In a social media post the Chief Secretary said, it aims at comprehensive development in selected villages through a mission mode approach and multi-pronged strategy.

AIRPORT

Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma recently met Union Minister for Civil Aviation, Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu and urged him to make the Shillong Airport at Umroi operational on Sundays. He urged the ministry to start operations at the Shillong airport in two shifts. The airport remains inoperational on Sunday with no flights either taking off or landing at the airport. Most of the daily flights from the airport leave by the afternoon leaving no option for flights in the evening hours.

CULTURE

The Meghalaya government has launched the Chief Minister's Research Grant to document the culture, tradition and art forms of the state. The focus areas are arts and culture, heritage studies, indigenous communities, land, language and lineage and evaluation studies. After launching the initiative under Arts and Culture department yesterday, Chief Minister Conrad Sangma appealed to scholars to apply for the research. A committee has also been set up to scrutinise the applications. State's Arts and Culture Minister Paul Lyngdoh also stressed the need of encouraging people of the state to take up the research work considering the potential in the field of arts, culture and tradition.
