

NORTH EAST NEWS BULLETIN

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HEADLINES:-

- Centre announces the release of a significant instalment of one crore thirty thousand 750 crore rupees in tax devolution to states.
- Cabinet Minister Kiren Rijiju assumes charge of the Ministry of Minority Affairs.
- Governor Lakshman Prasad Acharya administers the oath of office to Sanjeet Kharel as the Speaker Pro-Term of the Sikkim Legislative Assembly.
- University Grants Commission decided to allow higher education institutions to admit students twice a year, starting from the next academic year.
- Bharti Institute of Public Policy is working closely with Meghalaya Government to offer capacity-building support to public policy leaders and officials.
- Two BJP Central observers to oversee the process of selection of new Chief Minister in Arunachal Pradesh.

TAX:

The Centre has announced the release of a significant instalment of one crore thirty thousand 750 crore rupees in tax devolution to states. The Finance Ministry said yesterday that the release, which includes both the regular allocation for June and an additional instalment, is aimed at bolstering state government capacity to accelerate development and capital expenditure. It further said that as of today, the total amount devolved to states for the fiscal year 2024-25 stands at two crore 79 thousand, and five hundred crore rupees. The Interim Budget 2024-25 had allocated 12 lakh, 19 thousand and 783 crore rupees for the devolution of taxes to states. States with significant allocations include Uttar Pradesh which stands at 25 thousand crores, followed by 14 thousand crores for Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal nearly ten thousand crore rupees each.

ASSUMPTION:

Cabinet Minister Kiren Rijiju assumed charge of the Ministry of Minority Affairs in New Delhi yesterday. Addressing a press conference, Mr Rijiju noted that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call of Sabka Saath-Sabka Vikas is vital to the functioning of the ministry. Replying to the allegations of persecution of minorities, the Minister said that the Government treats every citizen equally and has always implemented schemes and policies that are inclusive.

PROTERM SPEAKER:

In a significant event at Raj Bhavan yesterday, Governor Lakshman Prasad Acharya administered the oath of office to Sanjeet Kharel as the Speaker Pro-Term of the Sikkim Legislative Assembly. Governor Acharya congratulated Kharel on his appointment expressing confidence in his ability to uphold the responsibilities with integrity and dedication. This ceremony marked the commencement of a new legislative term, underscoring the democratic spirit and governance in Sikkim. As Speaker Pro-Term, Kharel will preside over the inaugural session of the 11th Sikkim State Legislative Assembly, including the oath-taking of newly elected members. The swearing-in ceremony was attended by prominent figures including Chief Minister Prem Singh Tamang, the Chief Secretary, Secretary Sikkim Legislative Assembly, Secretary Law Department, and other dignitaries.

UGC:

The University Grants Commission has decided to allow higher education institutions to admit students twice a year, starting from the next academic year. Admissions will now be open in January and February and July and August. Currently, UGC Regulations allow admissions in one academic session in a year. Talking to Akashvani News, UGC Chairman Prof. M. Jagadesh Kumar said that this decision will be very beneficial to the students who miss the admission due to various reasons and they had to wait for another year. He added that it will reduce the waiting time for enrollment and increase their motivation.

TEAM:

The team of the Bharti Institute of Public Policy (BIPP), Indian School of Business is working closely with the state government of Meghalaya to offer capacity-building support to public policy leaders, government officials, private corporations, and the developmental sector, among other initiatives. As part of the ongoing collaborations, the team of the Bharti Institute, with the support of the state Planning Department has developed the Meghalaya Data Portal, www.meghalayadataportal.com, an open-access data platform. The portal is useful to administrators, researchers, students, journalists, and the general public as a whole.

OBSERVERS:

The suspense over the election of new leader of the BJP Legislature Party in Arunachal Pradesh is expected to be over 'very soon' with the party leadership appointing two central observers to oversee the process of election of a new Chief Minister in the state. The BJP Parliamentary Board has appointed MP Ravi Shankar Prasad and its national general secretary Tarun Chugh as central observers for the election of the leader of BJP Legislature Party in Arunachal Pradesh, the party said in a statement yesterday. The two central observers are likely to arrive in Itanagar today. They will hold meeting with BJP legislators and come to a consensus before announcing the name of the new Chief Minister, a party leader said. The new BJP Legislature Party leader will then stake claim before the Governor to form the next government in the State, he said, adding that the swearing-in ceremony of the new Chief Minister and his Council of Ministers is likely to be held on Thursday.
