

NORTH EAST NEWS BULLETIN

DATED:- 23.08.2024

HEADLINES:-

- Rescue and relief operation ramped up with NDRF teams being pressed into service in flood-ravaged Tripura; Agriculture sector incurs loss of more than 531 crore rupees.
- Union Minister of State for Jal Shakti, Dr Raj Bhushan Choudhary visits South West Khasi Hills District in Meghalaya and reviews status of progress of central schemes.
- Nagaland Government decides to revisit Nagaland Liquor Total Prohibition Act, 1989, with possibility of partially lifting prohibition in certain areas.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will share his thoughts with people of country and abroad in 'Mann Ki Baat' programme on Akashvani on Sunday at 11 AM.
- Durand Cup Organising Committee announces venue and date of semi-final fixtures for ongoing 133rd Durand Cup Football Tournament; Semi-final match between North East United and Shillong Lajong FC will be held at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, Shillong on Monday.

FLOOD:

In flood-ravaged Tripura, the rescue and relief operation has been ramped up with the NDRF teams being pressed into service. Apart from the NDRF teams, three helicopters are also airlifting stranded people due to floods. The four-day incessant rain has caused extensive damage to the agriculture and power sectors. According to state agriculture and power minister, a massive six thousand eight hundred and 70 hectares of land has been affected with crops being submerged under the flood water. In addition to this, the agriculture sector has incurred a loss of more than 531 crore rupees which has above one lakh 40 thousand farmers linked to the sector. The power sector too, has suffered huge losses of more than 3 crore rupees with poles, transformers and wires getting severely damaged. The state revenue department asserted that 17 lakh people have been affected due to floods. Meanwhile, the state government has announced that schools across Tripura will remain shut until further notice.

JAL SHAKTI:

Union Minister of State for Jal Shakti, Dr Raj Bhushan Choudhary visited South West Khasi Hills District in Meghalaya yesterday and reviewed the status of progress of central schemes in the district. Dr. Choudhary who was accompanied by Minister in-charge Water Resources, Comingone Ymbon, inspected various centrally sponsored projects including the Hydro meteorological station under the National Hydrology Project at Umngi River, besides the Flow Irrigation Project being implemented by the Water Resource Department. He also reviewed the implementation of other schemes and met representatives of different departments and district administration at Circuit House, Mawkyrwat. The Minister reiterated the central government's focus and priority in developing the North Eastern region in various sectors and the special focus of the Prime Minister for the development of the region. He said that Union Ministers are visiting the region every fortnight to ensure speedy implementation of the Centre's developmental programmes.

LIQUOR:

In a significant move, the Nagaland Government has decided to revisit The Nagaland Liquor Total Prohibition Act, 1989, with the possibility of partially lifting the prohibition in certain areas. This decision was taken during a cabinet meeting at Civil Secretariat Kohima yesterday. Briefing the media after the meeting, Minister for Power and government's spokesperson, K G Kenye highlighted the need to reconsider the Act, which has not been reviewed since its enactment over three decades ago. He emphasized that the state must address critical issues such as the unchecked and unregulated inflow of illegal liquor, which poses serious health risks, particularly to the younger generation. He pointed out that the absence of regulatory mechanisms has given free rein to bootleggers, allowing them to smuggle in substandard and potentially harmful liquor. The Minister said that the state government might consider partial lifting of the prohibition in specific areas, coupled with strict regulations to manage liquor distribution and consumption.

MANN KI BAAT:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will share his thoughts with the people of the country and abroad in the 'Mann Ki Baat' programme on Akashvani at 11 AM on Sunday. It will be the 113th episode of the monthly radio programme and the third episode after Modi assumed charge for the third consecutive time as Prime Minister. The programme will be broadcast on the entire network of Akashvani and Doordarshan, AIR News website and the 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. Akashvani will broadcast the programme in regional languages immediately after the Hindi broadcast.

DURAND:

The Durand Cup Organising Committee has announced the venue and date of the semi-final fixtures for the ongoing 133rd Durand Cup Football Tournament. The semi-final match between North East United and Shillong Lajong FC will now be held at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, Shillong on Monday at 5:30 PM. Responding to strong request from the supporters of both the clubs and recognizing the cultural significance of Shillong as a football hub, the organising committee has opted to relocate the match and reschedule it one day later. All the other fixtures will remain unchanged.
