NORTH EAST NEWS BULLETIN

DATED:- 21.05.2025

HEADLINES:-

1. Mizoram Chief Minister, Lalduhoma, along with Union Minister of State for Education, Jayant Chaudhary, declares Mizoram fully literate state, placing Mizoram as first state in India to achieve full literacy.

2. All Manipur Working Journalists' Union, an apex body of working journalists in Manipur decides not to publish any State Government's related news from today after team of journalists halted by Central security forces on their way to cover Shirui Lily Festival 2025 in Ukhrul District.

3. Sikkim Chief Minister, Prem Singh Tamang meets Prime Minister Narendra Modi and extends formal invitation to him to grace Year-long Statehood Day celebrations.

4. Meghalaya government asks State Urban Affairs department to find solution for implementation of 15th Finance Commission grants in urban constituencies of autonomous district councils in state.

5. Mizoram Chief Minister, Lalduhoma and Union Minister of State Jayant Chaudhary jointly launches pilot initiative, “special intervention for promotion of Apprenticeship in North Eastern Region" at Administrative Training Institute in Aizawl.

6. Manipur Governor, Ajay Kumar Bhalla inaugurates 5th edition of State Level Shirui Lily Festival 2025 at Vangayan Heritage Site in Ukhrul district and witnesses from Shirui mountain blooming of State Flower- Shirui Lily.

7. Department of Sports & Youth Affairs in collaboration with Meghalaya Athletics Association, organises State-Level Inter-School Athletic Meet, 2025 at SAI Special Training Centre, NEHU Campus in Shillong which aims to identify and nurture budding talents and promote grassroot-level sports development in Meghalaya.

NEWS IN ORDER:-

LITERACY-MIZORAM

Mizoram Chief Minister, Lalduhoma, along with Union Minister of State for Education, Jayant Chaudhary, declared Mizoram a fully literate state yesterday, marking a historic milestone in its educational journey. This achievement places Mizoram as the first state in India to achieve full literacy. Based on projections from the 2011 census data, surveys under the New India Literacy Programme identified 3,026 illiterates, out of which 1,692 were potential learners across the state. In a true spirit of community service, 292 volunteer teachers stepped forward to lead this mission. They undertook their work with a deep sense of duty, exemplifying the Mizo cultural value of 'Tlawmngaihna'. Their collective efforts, dedication, and community mobilization have resulted in Mizoram achieving full literacy.

JOURNALISTS

In Manipur, the All Manipur Working Journalists' Union, an apex body of working journalists has decided not to publish any State Government's related news from today. The Union took this decision after a party of state journalists who went to cover the Shirui Lily Festival 2025 in Ukhrul District on a Manipur State Transport bus was halted by a team of Central Security forces enroute at Gwaltabi village. The journalist team was reportedly asked to cover the word 'Manipur' which was written on the bus. Following the incident, an emergency meeting of the Union and Editors Guild Manipur was convened. Later journalists from various local media houses staged a protest and submitted a memorandum to the Governor. The scribes bodies announced a Pen Down Strike and all normal duties by journalists' fraternity will be suspended from today. AKASVHANI

SIKKIM

Sikkim Chief Minister, Prem Singh Tamang, met Prime Minister Narendra Modi yesterday as part of the ongoing glorious celebrations commemorating the 50th year of Sikkim’s Statehood. On behalf of the people of Sikkim, Tamang extended a formal invitation to the Prime Minister to

grace the Year-long Statehood Day celebrations. PM Modi has graciously accepted the invitation and conveyed his willingness to visit Sikkim on 29th of this month. During the meeting, Tamang also extended his heartiest congratulations to the Prime Minister on the resounding success of Operation Sindoor, a landmark achievement in the nation's unwavering fight against terrorism.

FINANCE

The Meghalaya government has asked the State Urban Affairs department to find a solution for the implementation of the 15th Finance Commission grants in urban constituencies of the autonomous district councils in the state. A meeting with the three Autonomous District Councils to discuss the issue was held yesterday in which Deputy Chief Minister in-charge District Council Affairs, Prestone Tynsong informed that grants from the 15th Finance Commission can only be implemented in rural constituencies of the District Councils and it was silent on the implementation in urban constituencies. He said that the Urban Affairs department would soon come out with some solution on the matter.

PILOT INITIATIVE

Mizoram Chief Minister, Lalduhoma and Union Minister of State Jayant Chaudhary yesterday jointly launched a pilot initiative, "special intervention for promotion of Apprenticeship in North Eastern Region" at the Administrative Training Institute in Aizawl. The pilot initiative represents a crucial milestone in advancing the Prime Minister's vision of 'Viksit Bharat, Viksit North East, positioning the eight North Eastern states as key drivers of India's economic growth. It also aims to take forward the Prime Minister's vision of 'Ashta Lakshmi' for Development of the region. This project will be implemented on a pilot mode during 2025-26. Based on the success, it will be evaluated and continued further.

SHIRUI

Manipur Governor, Ajay Kumar Bhalla inaugurated the 5th edition of State Level Shirui Lily Festival 2025 at Vangayan Heritage Site at the foothill of Shirui Mountain in Ukhrul district yesterday. The Governor also inaugurated the Art Residency cum Exhibition Centre constructed at the Heritage Site. The Governor was accompanied by Chief Secretary, Prashant Kumar Singh and other officers. With the inauguration of the five-day festival, various activities and competitions as part of the festival have begun. The Governor and the Chief Secretary also trekked the mountain to witness the blooming of the State Flower- Shirui Lily. The 5th Shirui Lily Festival coincides with the 75th anniversary of the discovery of this endangered State Flower. This festival is celebrated to showcase and promote the endangered plant- Lilium Mackliniae, locally known as Shirui Lily, which blooms exclusively in the Shirui Hills of Ukhrul district. This species cannot be replanted elsewhere and is found only in Manipur.

ATHLETICS

In Meghalaya, the Department of Sports & Youth Affairs in collaboration with the Meghalaya Athletics Association, organised the State-Level Inter-School Athletic Meet, 2025 yesterday at SAI Special Training Centre, NEHU Campus in Shillong. Joint Secretary of the Directorate of Sports & Youth Affairs, Richard Yanthan graced the opening ceremony and inaugurated the event. In his speech, he encouraged the youth to embrace discipline and dedication through sports. The three-day event brings together top student-athletes from across the state to compete in their respective categories and it aims to identify and nurture budding talents and promote grassroots-level sports development in Meghalaya.

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