

NORTH EAST NEWS BULLETIN

DATED:- 26.04.2026

HEADLINES:-

- Assam's Office of Chief Electoral Officer organises programme for election officials to ensure smooth conduct of vote counting for Assam Legislative Assembly Elections, 2026
- Manipur Chief Minister Yumnam Khemchand requests Civil Society Organizations and general public to co-operate Government's initiative to restore peace in the state.
- Meghalaya Basin Management Agency signs MOU with ICAR to enhance both productivity and quality of Lakadong turmeric.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will share his thoughts in the Mann Ki Baat programme on Akashvani at 11 AM. Today
- Centre takes several steps to ensure uninterrupted availability of petroleum products and LPG across the country.
- Sanjay Jaju Secretary of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region is on a three-day visit to Tripura.
- Arunachal Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein underscores importance of accuracy, ethics and legal awareness in journalism plays vital role in strengthening democracy and maintaining social harmony.
- Three persons arrested with 5 kg of heroin in Manipur's Churachandpur district

NEWS IN ORDER:-

ASSAM:

The Office of the Chief Electoral Officer, Assam yesterday organized a comprehensive training programme in Guwahati for District Election Officers, Returning Officers, and other election officials to ensure the smooth conduct of vote counting for the Assam Legislative Assembly Elections, 2026. The programme covered detailed planning and various aspects of implementation of the counting process. The Chief Electoral Officer, Assam, Anurag Goel, instructed all concerned officials to ensure that the counting process is carried out strictly in accordance with the guidelines of the Election Commission of India. He also highlighted the arrangements to be made in the counting halls and emphasized the need for special vigilance in the management of EVMs and VVPATs during the counting process.

REQUEST:

Manipur Chief Minister Yumnam Khemchand requests civil society organisations based in the valley and the hills of Manipur to seek the route of negotiation and deliberations with the Government before launching agitations. He pleaded with the CSOs and general public to not hamper the Government initiative to restore peace with the ongoing agitations. He made the statement in a press briefing held at the CM Secretariat, Imphal. Home Minister and senior leader Govindas

Konhoujam attending the press briefing called the 7 point question of the Coordinating Committee on Manipur Integrity (COCOMI) as a sensitive matter. He assured that safeguarding the lives of the citizens and restoration of peace have been the top most priority for the Government. Equating the Union ministry's efforts to end Naxalism in the country by 31st March 2026, Shri Govindas said the central ministry is firmly committed to resolving North-East Insurgency by 2029 and communication in this regard has already been made to the State Government.

MOU

In a significant push to strengthen Meghalaya's high-value turmeric sector, the Meghalaya Basin Management Agency has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Umiam, to enhance both productivity and quality of Lakadong turmeric. Lakadong turmeric, grown in Meghalaya's Jaintia Hills, stands out for its exceptionally high curcumin content, ranging from 7% to 12%, compared to the usual 2–5% in other varieties. The cool, high-altitude climate, rich loamy soil, frequent rainfall, and traditional organic cultivation methods contribute to its potent quality. It has earned a GI tag securing its unique identity and linking it directly to its Meghalaya origins. As part of the partnership, MBMA will set up a dedicated mother block along with a network of decentralized nurseries to ensure a steady supply of high-quality planting material. The initiative will also roll out field-level demonstrations of improved cultivation practices across turmeric clusters.

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. today. It will be the 133rd episode of the monthly radio programme. The programme will be broadcast across the entire Akashvani and Doordarshan network, the AIR News website, and the Newsonair mobile app. It will also be live-streamed on the YouTube channels of AIR News, DD News, the PMO, and the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. Akashvani will broadcast the programme in regional languages immediately after the Hindi broadcast.

VISIT

Sanjay Jaju, Secretary of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MDoNER), currently on a three-day visit to Tripura, focused on economic potential and cultural heritage during the second leg of his tour yesterday. Addressing farmers' concerns regarding export hurdles, Mr. Jaju noted that specific recommendations from the Task Force are being implemented, including the recent approval of export quotas to streamline international trade. Following his visit to the agar plantations, the Secretary proceeded to the historic Unakoti archaeological site in Kailashahar. Accompanied by his wife, Jyoti Jaju, MDoNER Director Vivek Goel, and District Magistrate Dr. Tamal Majumdar, he inspected the site's world-renowned rock-cut sculptures. During his review of the Archaeological Survey of India's (ASI) conservation efforts, Mr. Jaju expressed his profound admiration for the "Angkor Wat of the North-East," stating to Akashvani that his visit serves as a vital on-ground assessment of centrally funded projects aimed at bolstering Tripura's economic and tourism landscape.

PRODUCTS

The Government has taken several steps to ensure the uninterrupted availability of petroleum products and LPG across the country. The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has said that the supply of LPG to domestic households has been

prioritized and no dry-outs have been reported at any LPG distributorship. Online LPG cylinder bookings have increased to about 99 per cent across the country, and OTP-based deliveries have increased to more than 94.5 per cent. Further, about six Lakh customers have been registered for new PNG connections. More than 42 thousand PNG consumers have surrendered their LPG connections as of yesterday. All refineries are operating at high capacity with adequate crude inventories, while sufficient stocks of petrol and diesel are being maintained. Retail outlets across the country are operating normally.

DEBUNK

Government has debunked social media posts claiming that Assam Rifles personnel were caught transporting tactical uniforms, bulletproof vests, and other equipment to armed groups in the Ukhrul district of Manipur. The Fact Check Unit of the Press Information Bureau stated that the claim is fake. The PIB has urged citizens to avoid sharing unverified and sensitive claims that can incite tension or spread misinformation. The Government has also asked citizens to always verify information from official sources before trusting and forwarding it.

DAY:

In Manipur, Assam Rifles organised a series of community outreach programmes across Bishnupur, Kakching and Tengnoupal districts. As part of the programme, Assam Rifles observed World Malaria Day 2026 under the global theme 'Driven to End Malaria: Now We Can, Now We Must' at Nambol in Bishnupur district in which around 76 participants including 45 local residents and community heads attended. Participants were given practical cum demonstration on the correct method of using mosquito nets and educated on early symptom identification and other medical precautions.

SERVICE

Assam Governor Lakshman Prasad Acharya said that social service is a shared responsibility, and voluntary organizations play a pivotal role in building an inclusive and progressive society. He said this while speaking at the Annual Conference of Bharat Vikas Parishad, Assam Prant, in Guwahati yesterday. The Governor lauded Bharat Vikas Parishad for its noteworthy contribution to nation-building through the principles of contact, cooperation, values, service, and dedication. He appreciated the organization's sustained efforts over the years in fostering social harmony and advancing developmental initiatives across society. Mr. Acharya also emphasized the crucial role of youth as a driving force for the nation's progress.

WORKSHOP:

Arunachal Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein yesterday underscored the importance of accuracy, ethics and legal awareness in journalism, stating that responsible reporting is vital for strengthening democracy and maintaining social harmony. Addressing a workshop on 'Responsible Media Initiative', organised by the Arunachal Pradesh Union of Working Journalists (APUWJ) in Namsai district, Mein said journalism is not merely a profession but a responsibility towards society. Highlighting the challenges of the digital age, the deputy chief minister stressed the need for fact-checking and sensitivity in reporting. Responsible journalism plays a key role in strengthening democracy, building public trust, and maintaining harmony in society. He also called for improved legal awareness among journalists to enable them to function with greater confidence.

ARREST:

Three persons have been arrested with 5 kg of heroin in Manipur's Churachandpur district, police said yesterday. In a statement, police said the arrests were made in Bolkot under the Singngat police station area. Those arrested have been identified. Heroin weighing 5.43 kg has been seized from the arrested, the police statement said. On April 20, police arrested a 28-year-old man from his house in Saidan village of Churachandpur district and recovered 11.7 kg of raw opium from him, an official said.
