

NORTH EAST NEWS BULLETIN

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HEADLINES:-

- Preparations in full swing for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Sikkim.
- Meghalaya conducts statewide 'ARMEX-I 2026' Air Raid, Blackout mock drill across all districts
- Guwahati high court rejects the anticipatory bail plea filed by senior Congress leader Pawan Khera.
- Manipur's Ukhrul District witnesses fresh clash between communities in which three people died.
- Letter of Agreement signs to strengthen maternal and child health, nutrition, and early childhood development in Nagaland.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will share his thoughts in the Mann Ki Baat programme on Akashvani at 11 a.m. tomorrow
- Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner says the national toll-free helpline number 1855 is now operational across all States and Union Territories

NEWS IN ORDER:-

VISIT:

Sikkim Chief Minister Prem Singh Tamang has reviewed the preparations for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's two-day visit to the Himalayan state from 27th this month. Modi is scheduled to land at Libing Helipad at 3 pm on the 27th this month and undertake a roadshow to Lok Bhawan in the state capital, covering a distance of around 3 km, officials said. On the 28th, the PM will attend a grand function at Paljor Stadium to mark the conclusion of the year-long celebration of 50 years of Sikkim's statehood. The Sikkim government has also issued an official order prohibiting flying of drones across Gangtok district in view of the PM's visit. According to the notification issued by the Department of Tourism and Civil Aviation, the restriction will remain in force from the 26th to 28th this month.

MOCK DRILL

Meghalaya's Directorate of Civil Defence & Home Guards, conducted a Mock Exercise on Air Raid and Blackout titled "ARMEX-I 2026" across all districts of the state yesterday. The exercise was carried out in two stages. Stage-I included simulations of search and rescue operations, fire response, evacuation, and medical response, while Stage-II focused on air raid sirens and a blackout simulation. Following the completion of this stage, a debriefing session was conducted with inputs from all districts. Stage II was conducted from 6:59 PM to 7:02 PM. At 7:00 PM, the Civil Defence siren was sounded to signal an air raid and the commencement of the blackout. The blackout lasted for two minutes and

concluded at 7:02 PM with the sounding of the “All Clear” siren, marking the end of the exercise.

COURT

The Guwahati High Court has rejected the anticipatory bail plea filed by senior Congress leader Pawan Khera. The Bench of Justice Parthivjyoti Saikia yesterday declined to grant him relief in connection with a case registered by the Crime Branch of Guwahati Police. During the hearing held earlier on April 21, senior advocates Abhishek Manu Singhvi and Kamal Nayan Choudhury represented Khera, while Assam’s Advocate General Devajit Saikia strongly opposed the plea. After hearing arguments from both sides, the court had reserved its order, which it pronounced yesterday, rejecting the anticipatory bail application. The case stems from allegations made by Khera during a press conference against Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma’s wife Riniki Bhuyan Sarma regarding alleged multiple passports and foreign assets. Terming the claims baseless, she had filed a complaint with the Crime Branch.

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 a.m. tomorrow. 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.

HEALTH:

The Health Department of Tripura has reaffirmed its commitment to ensure 100 percent screening for non-communicable diseases across the population. A review meeting of the STAR NCD research project was held yesterday at Agartala Secretariat, implemented jointly by National Centre for Chronic Disease Control, AIIMS New Delhi, Agartala Government Medical College & GBP Hospital, and National Health Mission Tripura. Officials informed that free medicines for hypertension and diabetes are being ensured, diagnostic services upgraded, and screening expanded to reach all citizens. The department also plans to introduce AI-based systems for better data management and medicine supply monitoring.

NEPEX:

The Nagaland State Disaster Management Authority Home Department, with support from the National Disaster Management Authority, is all set to conduct the 8th edition of the Nagaland Emergency Preparedness Exercise (NePEX) on the 30th of this month. The mock exercise will be held from 8:00 AM to 12:00 noon. Simultaneously, a Civil Defence air raid and blackout exercise under Operation Night Guard will be conducted in designated Civil Defence towns across 10 districts for 15 minutes starting from 6:30 PM. Secretary to the Government of Nagaland, Sentiwapang Aier, said the drill will simulate earthquakes and extreme weather events to test preparedness, strengthen coordination among departments and response agencies, and improve effectiveness of emergency response system. The Secretary said NePEX and Operation Night Guard signifies the state government’s commitment to strengthening disaster preparedness and ensuring the safety and resilience of communities.

NAGALAND-LOA:

In a step towards better grassroots service delivery, a Letter of Agreement was signed yesterday to strengthen maternal and child health, nutrition, and early childhood development in Nagaland. The signing took place at the office of the

Commissioner of Nagaland, in Kohima, bringing together the Department of School Education, Department of Health & Family Welfare, the Eleuthero's Christian Society, and the District Administration under a unified framework. Under the agreement, departments will coordinate early learning, healthcare, and nutrition services, while the Eleutheros Christian Society will support community mobilization and awareness, and District authorities will oversee implementation and monitoring.

CLASHES:

In Manipur, the Ukhrul district has witnessed a fresh clash between communities and three died in the gunfight which took place yesterday. According to police report, the incident took place between Sinakeithel and Mullom village in Ukhrul district yesterday in between 5 AM to 8 AM. The death of three people among them two have been sent to Kangpokpi for post mortem while the other has been sent to Ukhrul district for further process. Meanwhile it is reported that more than ten houses of Mullom village have been set ablazed yesterday by the armed miscreants. However, the additional security forces have rushed to the areas and search operation has been going on to nab the culprits of the incident. Amid the escalating situation, large groups of women staged road blockades at Yaingangpokpi Bazar, disrupting traffic along routes leading to Ukhrul and protesting the continuing violence. Security forces have been deployed in the area, and the situation remains tense.

HIGH COURT:

The Meghalaya High Court has directed the consolidation of three FIRs lodged against former Member of the District Council (MDC) Sofior Rahman over a Facebook post, which allegedly led to violence that erupted in Garo Hills region following tension over the GHADC elections. A bench headed by Chief Justice Revati Mohite Dere passed the order while disposing of a petition filed by Rahman seeking clubbing of the cases registered at different police stations. "The directions shall be complied with forthwith. The petition is accordingly disposed of," the court said.

ASSAM:

Assam Governor Lakshman Prasad Acharya has lauded the Bharat Scouts and Guides for their yeoman services rendered during the last 75 years to the nation, particular during natural disasters and emergencies, demonstrating exemplary commitment. Speaking at the 24th Rajya Puraskar Award Ceremony of the Bharat Scouts and Guides, Assam chapter held in Guwahati Acharya said that the Bharat Scouts and Guides with over 6.3 million members is among the largest youth organizations in the world and has been playing a vital role in nation-building. Referring to the motto "Be Prepared," the Governor urged the youth to equip themselves with essential life skills and face future challenges with confidence and determination. He expressed confidence that they would utilize their talent and energy for the development of the country.

SPECIES:

A new rare species of "fanged frog," *Limnonectes motijheel*, has been discovered from Namdapha Tiger Reserve in Changlang district of Arunachal Pradesh. It highlights the hidden wonders of the state's rich biodiversity. The newly identified species, also known as the "mud-nesting fanged frog," is notable for building underground cup-shaped nests beneath moist soil layers, concealed under thick evergreen forest leaf litter. This unique nesting behavior, together with its distinct

fanged jaw, separates it from other amphibians and provides new understanding of evolutionary adaptation and survival strategies.

HELPLINE

The Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner has said that the national toll-free helpline number 1855 is now operational across all States and Union Territories for the Census 2027. It provides guidance on the House listing and Housing Census in regional languages and English. The service aims to simplify participation, ensure clarity, and support citizens in contributing effectively to this crucial national exercise.
