

NORTH EAST NEWS BULLETIN

DATED:- 22.05.2026

HEADLINES:-

1. Prime Minister Narendra Modi concludes five-nation tour, gifts Assam's Eri Silk stole to Italy's Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni
2. The first session of the 16th Assam Legislative Assembly began yesterday
3. Meghalaya government unveils four new initiatives to boost youth employment and entrepreneurship
4. Five-day Revival of Indigenous Native Games 2026 commenced at Mapal Kangjeibung of Imphal West district of Manipur.
5. Nagaland launches Eliona AI supercomputer for climate and disaster intelligence
6. In Manipur's West Imphal district security forces arrested four members of the proscribed UNLF (Pambei).
7. Mizoram to observe every Wednesday as "No Official Vehicle Day" encourage government employees to walk or use public transport.
8. International Tea Day being observed today globally
9. Arunachal Pradesh declares all hospital premises 'Tobacco-Free Zones'.

NEWS IN ORDER:-

ERI SILK:

The rich culture and traditional heritage of the Northeastern states received global attention during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Italy and the United Arab Emirates. During his visit, Prime Minister Narendra Modi presented an Eri Silk stole from Assam and Shirui Lily silk stole from Manipur to the Prime Minister of Italy, Giorgia Meloni. While the Eri silk is one of Assam's most treasured traditional products, the Shirui Lily silk carries the spirit of indigenous tradition and folklore. For the Tangkhul Naga community of Manipur, it symbolizes purity, identity and cultural pride. Meghalaya's GI-tagged pineapples, which are regarded among the finest in the world, were showcased as a special gift to the President of the United Arab Emirates. The gifts highlighted the centuries-old handloom craftsmanship, sustainable tradition and agricultural heritage on the international stage.

ASSAM:

The first session of the 16th Assam Legislative Assembly commenced yesterday with a focus on constitutional tradition and linguistic inclusivity,

marking a significant beginning for the newly elected representatives of the state. Pro-tem Speaker Chandra Mohan Patowary chaired the House and administered the oath of office of the newly elected members. In a landmark move towards inclusivity, the Assembly allowed tribal MLAs to take oath in their mother tongue following a formal request by the Chief Minister to honour the state's diverse linguistic heritage. Later, NDA candidate from BJP Ranjit Kr. Das was elected as the Speaker of the house unopposed. The session will continue till May 26. Governor Lakshman Prasad Acharya is scheduled to address the Assembly today.

SKILL:

The Skillerate 2026 was held yesterday in Tura, Meghalaya. Addressing the programme Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma said that the programme reflected the larger vision of the government's CM Connect initiative, through which citizens can directly communicate their concerns, aspirations, and suggestions to the government. He reaffirmed the government's commitment to strengthening skill development, employment generation, and entrepreneurship opportunities for the youth of the state. During the programme, 34 work orders were distributed under Skills Meghalaya and Supporting Human Capital Development in Meghalaya for training 4,830 trainees. The total work order value stood at over 16 crore rupees. Start-up tools were also distributed to 798 beneficiaries across multiple trades and livelihood sectors to support entrepreneurship and self-employment initiatives.

NAGALAND:

In Nagaland, an AI supercomputer, ELIONA was launched yesterday to enhance disaster preparedness and climate resilience in the state. Developed by the Nagaland State Disaster Management Authority, the system is expected to significantly strengthen disaster preparedness, climate resilience, scientific research and technology-based governance in the state. The AI-powered platform is designed to process large volumes of weather, satellite, terrain, and disaster-related data to support weather forecasting, flood and landslide analysis, hazard mapping, climate risk assessment, and AI-based disaster management applications.

AUSTERITY:

The Mizoram government announced a series of austerity measures to conserve fuel and reduce expenditure amid the ongoing West Asia conflict. Under the measures, every Wednesday will be observed as "No Official Vehicle Day" with government employees encouraged to walk or use public transport. The government has also introduced work-from home arrangements for 20 percent employees while essential services such as healthcare, emergency response, water and power supply, transport and law enforcement have been exempted.

UNLF:

Four members of the proscribed UNLF (Pambei) were arrested and more than 60 weapons, including assault rifles and an RPG launcher, were recovered in Manipur's Imphal West district yesterday. SP Shivakanta Singh said police had received intelligence inputs that arms looted from security forces were being brought to Lamdeng for sale. Acting on the tip-off, a special team of Manipur Police launched a cordon-and-search operation at an UNLF(P) camp in Lamdeng and arrested two persons, he said. During the operation, 29 firearms, including AK-

series rifles, M-series rifles, pistols and ammunition, were recovered. The SP said the associates of the arrested men opened fire on the police team during the operation, triggering a gunfight. Two more cadres were subsequently apprehended. The joint teams of Manipur Police, Assam Rifles and CRPF carried out extensive searches at the camp and adjoining areas, leading to the recovery of another 38 weapons, he said.

GAMES:

In Manipur, the five-day Revival of Indigenous Native Games 2026 commenced yesterday at Mapal Kangjeibung of Imphal West district. Organised by the Manipur Upliftment Centre and National Yuva Cooperative Society, the event celebrates indigenous games and living traditions that embody the spirit, history and identity of communities across generations. The initiative aims to empower youths while promoting leadership through sports and shared cultural heritage. The inauguration ceremony was attended by the Commissioner of Youth Affairs and Sports, Naorem Praven, Senior Journalist and Editor of the Imphal Review of Arts and Politics, Pradeep Phanjoubam, Recipient of the Padma Shri, Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award and Arjuna Award in Weightlifting, Director of Manipur Tourism Department- Lourembam Bikram, among others. The celebration features demonstrations of several indigenous sports and martial traditions and the later phase of the event will be held in different parts of Imphal.

TEA:

Tripura Governor Indra Sena Reddy Nallu announced yesterday that the “Agartala Tea Auction Centre” will soon be inaugurated in the state. The announcement was made on the occasion of International Tea Day, a programme was organised yesterday at the College of Agriculture in Lembucherra, near Agartala. Addressing the gathering, Governor Indra Sena Reddy Nallu said that following a visionary proposal by the Government of India in 2015, the United Nations officially began observing May 21 as International Tea Day from 2020 onwards. Referring to this year’s theme, “Sustaining Tea, Supporting Communities,” the Governor said the theme is especially relevant for Tripura. He described Tripura as a vibrant and emerging star in the tea industry. He also proposed exploring the possibility of establishing a research centre at the College of Agriculture for the development of Tripura’s tea industry.

TOBACCO:

The Department of Health & Family Welfare of Arunachal Pradesh has declared all hospital and healthcare premises across the state as strict "Tobacco-Free Zones". The directive is being implemented under the provisions of the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act 2003, applies to all Government hospitals, Community Health Centres, Primary Health Centres, Sub-centres, medical colleges, and private healthcare facilities in every district. In the meantime, the Department of Health & Family Welfare appeals to all citizens, patients, and healthcare workers to cooperate in making this initiative a success.

DEMISE:

The Manipur State Film Development Society has expressed profound grief and deep sorrow at the untimely demise of Shri Khangembam Kuleswar Singh,

Chairman of the Film Forum Manipur, whose passing has left a deep void in Manipur's media and cinematic fraternity. Shri Kuleswar served as a valued nominated member of the Executive Board of MSFDS and had earlier rendered distinguished service as a Member of the Board of Directors of the erstwhile Manipur Film Development Corporation. His contributions to the institutional growth and strengthening of Manipuri cinema were significant and enduring. At the age of 68, driven by an unwavering passion for cinema, Shri Kuleswar contested and was elected Chairman of Film Forum Manipur. Even during his brief tenure, he envisioned meaningful initiatives for the growth of Manipuri cinema, including a proposal to nurture short films in Manipur, supported by MSFDS and submitted to the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Government of India.

CAMP:

A free health camp was successfully organised by the Composite Regional Centre for Skill Development, Rehabilitation and Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities yesterday at its premises at Dhankheti, Shillong. Addressing the gathering, Dr. Ram Shakal Sahani, Director, CRCSRE-Shillong emphasised the importance of preventive healthcare, timely diagnosis and regular health screening and encouraged participants to prioritise their overall well-being through routine medical check-ups. The camp provided various healthcare services including General Physician Consultation, ENT Specialist Consultation, Orthopaedic Consultation, Free Hearing Assessment and distribution of aids and appliances. The camp witnessed active participation from beneficiaries and members of the public.
