

HEADLINES:-

- Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari lays foundation for four new National Highways and upgradation of two National Highways in Meghalaya.
- Assam Finance Minister, Jayanta Mallabaruah reviews performance of Commissionerate of Taxes in Guwahati and stresses need to increase state's revenue without imposing additional burden on honest taxpayers and businesses.
- Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal highlights rapid expansion of transport infrastructure and potential for future growth in North Eastern Region during North East India Infrastructure Summit and Exhibition, 2026 in Shillong.
- Nagaland Chief Minister, Neiphiu Rio describes Trans-Nagaland Highway (Foothill Road) as transformative project as he highlights key development priorities at North East India Infrastructure Summit & Exhibition 2026 in Shillong.
- Manipur Chief Minister, Yumnam Khemchand Singh flags off fertilizer distribution trucks and launches organic fertilizer 'Oorja' during Fertilizer Distribution Camp for Kharif 2026 at Sanjenthong in Imphal.
- Tripura Chief Minister, Dr. Manik Saha reiterates state government's commitment to promoting education and women's welfare through various initiatives.
- Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister, Pema Khandu says Act prohibiting forced conversion will not be implemented without extensive consultations with all stakeholders.
- Sikkim government withdraws all restrictions on movement of government vehicles in state with immediate effect.
- Three persons sustain bullet injuries in firing incident near Leilon Vaiphei and Konsakhul villages of Kangpokpi district.
- Assam's cultural heritage and traditional products - Bah Silpa-Assamese Bamboo Craft, Karbi Anglong Handloom, Bihu Pepa and Deori Handloom Products - gain global recognition with Geographical Indication tags.
- Young Mizo Association, largest philanthropic and most powerful civil society organisation in Mizoram celebrates its 91st raising day across the state.

NEWS IN ORDER:-

FOUNDATION-GADKARI:

Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari yesterday laid the foundation for four new National Highways and upgradation of two National Highways in Meghalaya with an investment of 3,214 crore rupees. Attending the foundation stone laying ceremony in Shillong, the Union Minister reiterated the need for infrastructure development and stressed that roads, transport, power, and communication are the key pillars of development. The new projects are the Tura Bypass on NH-127B and NH-217, the Dhubri-Phulbari Bridge to Selsella Simbukolgre section on NH-127B, which will strengthen connectivity in the West Garo Hills region, the Pynursla Bypass on NH-206, which will decongest Pynursla town and improve travel efficiency to Dawki, and the Selsella Simbukolgre to Goeragre. The two upgradation projects are Shillong-Dawki Road and Jowai Bypass. These projects are expected to strengthen connectivity, boost economic growth, improve mobility, and open new opportunities for the people of Meghalaya. The ceremony was attended by Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma, Deputy Chief Ministers Prestone Tynsong, other Ministers and officials.

TAXES:

Assam Finance Minister, Jayanta Mallabaruah yesterday reviewed the performance of the Commissionerate of Taxes at Kar Bhawan in Guwahati and discussed measures to strengthen revenue mobilisation through better compliance and administrative efficiency. The Minister stressed on the need to increase the state's revenue without imposing any additional burden on honest taxpayers and businesses, and called for expanding the tax base and bringing more eligible individuals and entities under the tax net. Noting that Assam's taxpayer-to-population ratio remains slightly below the national average, he directed the officials to intensify data-driven analysis to identify gaps in tax compliance and strengthen monitoring mechanisms to prevent revenue leakages. He also reviewed measures to curb fraudulent tax practices and enhance transparency in tax administration. The Minister also called for adoption of advanced systems for better tracking of goods movement and strengthening compliance mechanisms with minimal human intervention.

SUMMIT-SONOWAL:

Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal, yesterday highlighted the rapid expansion of transport infrastructure and potential for future growth in the North Eastern Region. Addressing the North East India Infrastructure Summit and Exhibition, 2026 in Shillong, Sonowal said, the region has emerged as a strategic growth engine of the Indian economy driven by unprecedented investments in connectivity, digital infrastructure, logistics, energy and industry. He said that allocation for the Northeast under the Gross Budgetary Support framework has increased from around 20,000 crore rupees in 2014 to more than 1.08 lakh crore rupees in 2025-26. Sonowal also outlined Meghalaya's progress in ease of doing business and governance reforms and noted that the state secured the third rank in Compliance Reduction and Deregulation 1.0 after completing all 23 priority reform areas. The Union Minister also interacted with leading business leaders from the region during the CEO Roundtable.

NAGALAND CM:

Nagaland Chief Minister, Neiphiu Rio yesterday highlighted key development priorities at the North East India Infrastructure Summit & Exhibition 2026. Addressing the Summit in Shillong, Rio described the Trans-Nagaland

Highway (Foothill Road) as a transformative project that will improve connectivity, boost economic growth and unlock investment opportunities across the state. He also highlighted the recent petroleum exploration MoU with the Centre and Assam, while calling on industry leaders and development partners to invest in Nagaland's growth journey towards Viksit Bharat 2047. He also pitched for the proposed Ciethu Greenfield Airport, Nagaki City in Chümoukedima, and an IIT for the state. The Chief Minister further highlighted challenges arising from Nagaland's unique community-owned landholding system protected under Article 371A, while stressing the need to balance these safeguards with infrastructure development and investment requirements.

FERTILIZER:

Manipur Chief Minister, Yumnam Khemchand Singh yesterday flagged off fertilizer distribution trucks and launched an organic fertilizer 'Oorja' during the Fertilizer Distribution Camp for Kharif 2026 at Sanjenthong in Imphal. The distribution of Oorja fertilizers was held at eight locations spread across different districts. As part of the initiative to promote sustainable farming practices, Oorja is being provided to farmers at a subsidized rate of two hundred fifty rupees per bag against its market price of four hundred eighty rupees. The Chief Minister instructed officials of the Agriculture Department to closely monitor the distribution in all districts. He also highlighted the government's efforts to reduce dependence on chemical fertilizer and efforts to bring another four thousand hectares under organic farming in the coming years.

WOMEN TRIPURA:

Tripura Chief Minister, Dr. Manik Saha reiterated the state government's commitment to promoting education and women's welfare through various initiatives. Addressing a programme in Agartala, the Chief Minister said, the government is taking several measures for the empowerment and safety of women which include construction of 110 additional hostels for working women, establishment of pink toilets at various locations, providing free bicycles to students of Classes IX to XII across the state and self-defence training being imparted to girl students of Classes IX and X in 1,727 schools. Highlighting steps to prevent child marriage, the Chief Minister said, financial assistance of 50,000 rupees is being provided to girls from Antyodaya families and fixed deposits of 50,000 rupees each have been created for 105 girl children born in Antyodaya families to support their future education and marriage expenses.

ACT:

Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister, Pema Khandu yesterday said that the Act prohibiting forced conversion in the state would not be implemented without extensive consultations with all stakeholders, asserting that peace and inclusiveness would remain the government's guiding principles while dealing with the sensitive issue. Following a meeting with the newly elected central executive members of the Arunachal Christian Forum, Khandu described the interaction as "positive and meaningful" and underscored the government's commitment to protecting the interests of every community in the state.

SIKKIM:

The Sikkim government yesterday withdrew all restrictions on the movement of government vehicles in the state with immediate effect. As per the notification issued by Chief Secretary, R Telang, all state government vehicles in Sikkim will ply without any restrictions with immediate effect. The restrictive measures were taken last month due to the fuel crisis. However, various austerity measures taken by the state government due to fuel shortage will remain in place.

FIRING INCIDENT:

In Manipur, three persons sustained bullet injuries in the firing incident that took place near Leilon Vaiphei and Konsakhul villages of Kangpokpi district yesterday. According to a police report, three persons sustained bullet and mortar injuries during the gunfight and they were shifted to RIMS hospital in Imphal for further treatment under tight security measures. As people gathered in RIMS hospital, security forces resorted to tear gas and smoke bombs to disperse the protestors.

ASSAM CULTURAL HERITAGE:

Assam's cultural heritage and traditional products have gained global recognition, with four unique products from the state being awarded Geographical Indication (GI) tags. The products include Bah Silpa-Assamese Bamboo Craft, Karbi Anglong Handloom, Bihu Pepa and Deori Handloom Products. In a social media post, Union Minister for Development of North Eastern Region, Jyotiraditya Scindia termed it as another proud milestone as the rich traditions of Ashtalakshmi States have received the recognition.

YMA:

Young Mizo Association, the largest philanthropic and most powerful civil society organisation in Mizoram yesterday celebrated its 91st raising day across the state. The organisation branches across the state organised their own programmes during which members undertook their priorities as in some places cleaning their localities, villages and streets and even reached out to orphanage homes, rehabilitation centres, and poor people with relief aid and money. Greeting the people on the occasion, Mizoram Governor, VK Singh commended the organisation for its continued efforts in assisting the needy, preserving and promoting Mizo culture, traditions and heritage, and supporting the government in implementing various public welfare initiatives across the state. He also appealed to the people to foster unity among different sections of society, show respect for elders and remain connected to their rich cultural heritage.
