

NORTH EAST NEWS BULLETIN

DATED:- 13.10.2026

HEADLINES:-

- Dushyant Gautam appointed as new Governor of Sikkim by President Droupadi Murmu.
- Union Minister for Development of North Eastern Region, Jyotiraditya Madhavrao Scindia inaugurates several development projects for Mizoram.
- Banks to support people in northeastern states, beginning own businesses, DoNER Secretary Katikithala Srinivas says.
- Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K. Sangma inaugurates Jirang C&RD Block Office at Patharkhmah, Ri-Bhoi district.
- Manipur Chief Minister Yumnam Khemchand Singh launches Pony Registration System web portal.
- Nagaland records 25,440 activities during the 9th Rashtriya Poshan Maah, 2026.
- Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha inaugurates 46 development projects in Unakoti and North Tripura districts.
- Sixth Shillong Literary Festival to be held at Ward's Lake from 12th to 14th November.
- East Khasi Hills police seek additional forces across Shillong to strengthen security at puja pandals.

SIKKIM

Dushyant Gautam was appointed as the new Governor of Sikkim by President Droupadi Murmu yesterday, while incumbent Om Prakash Mathur was appointed as the Governor of Kerala. Gautam is a former Rajya Sabha MP & former National General Secretary of the Bhartiya Janta Party.

SCINDIA

Union Minister for Development of North Eastern Region, Jyotiraditya Madhavrao Scindia yesterday inaugurated the Institute of Arts and Music for the North Eastern Region at Tuivamit in Aizawl. The (DoNER) minister virtually cemented foundations for nine other projects worth a combined 350 crore rupees across Mizoram. Scindia said Mizoram had an important role to play in India's development goals under the Viksit Bharat 2047 vision. Describing Mizoram as a state rich in natural beauty and musical talent, Scindia stressed the need to preserve its unique cultural heritage while

continuing to pursue development. He said around 375 projects were being implemented in Mizoram under the DoNER Ministry, of which 75 percent had been completed.

TOURISM

DoNER minister Jyotiraditya Scindia has highlighted Mizoram's progress in tourism, saying around 2.5 lakh tourists had visited the state in the first six months of this year, including about 9,000 foreign visitors. On a visit to Mizoram since yesterday, the Union minister also praised two Mizo women hockey players for bringing recognition to India through their performance at the recently concluded Asian Games. Chief Minister Lalduhoma thanked Scindia for his efforts towards the development of Mizoram and the North East.

BANKS

DoNER Secretary Katikithala Srinivas has said banks will make every effort to support people in the northeastern states who want to start their own businesses. Speaking to reporters on the sidelines of the North East Bankers' Conclave 3.0 in Aizawl yesterday, Srinivas said banks were working to improve access to financial services for entrepreneurs, small business owners and those seeking to become self-employed. As of September, this year, the northeastern states had 6,674 bank branches, 5,823 ATMs and 63,461 Business Correspondent outlets, including India Post Payments Bank, he said.

CM

Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K. Sangma yesterday inaugurated the newly constructed Jirang Community and Rural Development Block Office, also known as the Block Integrated Development Complex, at Patharkhmah. Underlining the government's focus on grassroots administration, Sangma said modern block offices were being developed to improve public access to welfare schemes and streamline service delivery. The Chief Minister said more than 184 development projects worth over 1,847 crore rupees were being implemented in Ri-Bhoi district. The Meghalaya government has also sanctioned 4.50 crore rupees for a new block office in Mawhati.

MANIPUR

Manipur Chief Minister Yumnam Khemchand Singh yesterday launched the Pony Registration System web portal at the Conference Hall of the Chief Minister's Office, Mantripukhri. He also chaired the first meeting of the reconstituted Manipuri Pony Conservation and Development Board. Developed by the National Informatics Centre, Manipur State Centre, in collaboration with the Department of Veterinary and Animal Husbandry, the portal is a digital initiative aimed at ensuring the systematic registration and unique identification of Manipuri Ponies. It will facilitate accurate population monitoring, traceability and scientific conservation planning for the indigenous breed of pony, which holds immense cultural and historical significance for Manipur.

NAGALAND

Nagaland recorded 25,440 activities across all 17 districts during the 9th Rashtriya Poshan Maah, 2026. Observed under the theme, 'Hamari Anganwadi, Hamari Jimmedari', the month-long campaign focused on improving nutrition, maternal health and early childhood development through community participation. Nutrition, Early Stimulation and Education for Childhood Development recorded the highest number of activities in Nagaland, at 5,679. It was followed by Community Ownership and Accountability with 5,093, and fresh hot cooked meals at Anganwadi Centres with 4,903 activities.

HEALTH

Sikkim Chief Minister Prem Singh Tamang yesterday felicitated the Soreng District Administration for securing first position nationally in the health & nutrition theme in the June, 2026 Quarter Delta Ranking. It was enumerated under NITI Aayog's Aspirational Districts Programme. Soreng District Collector Dhiraj Subedi, CMO (Health) Dr. Smriti Rai and other district officials were felicitated by Tamang for their dedicated efforts towards strengthening health and nutrition outcomes in Soreng. Over the years since its inception, Soreng has always been in the Top 10 Districts under the NITI Aayog's Aspirational District Programme.

TRIPURA

Tripura Chief Minister Dr. Manik Saha yesterday inaugurated 46 development projects and cemented foundation stones for several others in Unakoti and North Tripura districts, involving investments of over 600 crore rupees. At Gitanjali Auditorium in Kumarghat, Unakoti district, he inaugurated 18 projects and cemented foundations for three. In Dharmanagar, North Tripura, the Chief Minister inaugurated 25 projects and cemented foundations for 16 across administrative infrastructure, roads, healthcare, education, sports, social welfare and Bru refugee rehabilitation.

FACILITY

The Meghalaya Government plans to establish a dedicated tourist parking facility at Umtyngar as tourist arrivals gradually recover following a slowdown after the 19th August violent incidents in Shillong. Deputy Chief Minister Sniawbhalang Dhar, who holds the transport portfolio, said yesterday that the proposed facility would include a food court, café, toilets and other amenities. The government is also considering round-the-clock police monitoring and CCTV cameras along routes towards Sohra, Cherrapunji, to improve tourist safety. A committee comprising representatives of taxi operators, hotels, homestays and tour guides has been formed to improve coordination and promote local transport services. Federation of Shillong Hotels president Parambir Singh Sehdev said bookings had improved after a difficult August and September.

LIT-FEST

The sixth Shillong Literary Festival will be held at Ward’s Lake from the 12th to 14th November, bringing together writers, artists and readers for discussions, performances and cultural exchange. Supported by the Meghalaya Government’s Tourism Department, the festival will showcase Khasi, Jaintia and Garo folklore alongside contemporary writing. A key attraction is ‘First Bloom: Discovering New Writing from the Northeast’, which offers a prize pool of 75,000 rupees for emerging fiction and narrative non-fiction writers. Two workshops on literary career opportunities are scheduled for 26th of October at the State Convention Centre in Shillong. It will feature Kanishka Gupta, Mitra Phukan and Lalnunsanga Ralte. Last year’s edition attracted over 13,000 visitors.

BLOSSOM

Shillong’s Cherry Blossom Festival 2026 is heading back to Madan Kurkalang in Bhoirymbong, reversing an earlier decision to shift the event to the newly developed New Shillong Highland Grounds at Mawkhanu. Organisers took the decision to continue in the venue associated with the event in previous editions, following public demand. The Shillong Cherry Blossom Festival is scheduled for the 20th and the 21st November this year.

PUJA

With Durga Puja celebrations beginning this week, the East Khasi Hills police have sought additional forces and planned round-the-clock mobile patrols and tactical team deployments across Shillong to strengthen security at puja pandals and other crowded locations. The measures come amid petrol bomb attacks and arson incidents reported in the Meghalaya capital last month. East Khasi Hills Superintendent of Police Vivek Syiem said the district police were working on a deployment plan, with the requirement for additional personnel yet to be finalised. The police will review security arrangements periodically as state police forces are mobilised across Meghalaya. The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) is also available in assisting the state police in maintaining vigilance during the upcoming Durga Puja celebrations in Shillong.
