NORTH EAST NEWS BULLETIN

DATED:- 22.11.2026

HEADLINES:-

Union Home Minister Amit Shah stresses need for better coordination between Central and State security agencies to maintain peace and security in Arunachal Pradesh.

Death toll in suspected spurious liquor incident in Chandel district of Manipur rises to 16; six persons arrested.

Election duty voting held for polling personnel and deployed government staff ahead of voting for 16 civic bodies in Tripura.

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India in collaboration with Meghalaya Commissionerate of Food Safety organises first 'Eat Sustainable Summit' in Shillong.

Mortal remains of Patsoi MLA, Sapam Kunjakeswor brought to Imphal; Manipur Governor, Chief Minister lead other dignitaries in paying tributes.

Tripura High Court Chief Justice, M.S. Ramachandra Rao calls for greater awareness of Constitution in rural areas.

Manipur Chief Secretary, Rajeev Singh Thakur reviews progress of various government schemes and programmes in Senapati and Kangpokpi districts.

Cyclone Akvan triggers heavy rainfall in isolated places in some states in North East.

Two-day Wangala Mini Hornbill Tribal Festival 2026, organised by Nagaland Garo Tribal Council commences in Dimapur.

Shillong Cherry Blossom Festival concludes in Meghalaya.

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AMIT SHAH

Union Home Minister, Amit Shah has stressed the need for better coordination between Central and State security agencies to maintain peace and security in Arunachal Pradesh. He called for strengthening the local intelligence network and ensuring continuous monitoring of sensitive areas. Considering the strategic importance of Arunachal Pradesh's nearly 1,126-kilometre-long international border with China, Shah also reviewed border security arrangements and the development of strategic infrastructure along the frontier. The Home Minister also emphasised expanding road connectivity, border outposts, helipads and telecommunication facilities in border areas. He stressed for effective implementation of the Vibrant Villages Programme to enhance livelihood opportunities for local residents. Meanwhile the Union Home Minister assured the locals that the Centre would protect their traditions, culture and religious beliefs amid protests against the proposed 11,200-MW Siang Upper Multipurpose Project.

He acknowledged that some of the concerns raised were significant and the government was aware of the aspirations of the local communities.

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DEATH-LIQOUR

The death toll in the suspected spurious liquor incident in Chandel district of Manipur has risen to 16. Around 600 people have been admitted to various government and private hospitals, while 12 patients are currently undergoing treatment in Intensive Care Units. Six persons have been arrested and samples of the suspected liquor have been sent for forensic examination to identify the presence of toxic substances. The Manipur government has constituted a high-level inquiry committee to investigate, identify possible lapses and recommend necessary action. It will submit its report within one month. Meanwhile, the Health Department has issued a public health advisory and urged anyone who had consumed liquor from suspected sources during the last 48 to 72 hours to seek immediate medical evaluation, even if they have no symptoms. The Government also appealed to the public to remain vigilant and cooperate with the authorities to prevent further loss of lives.

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ELECTION DUTY

In Tripura, election duty voting for the upcoming civic poll began yesterday. The two-day election duty voting for polling personnel and deployed government staff —including the Agartala Municipal Corporation— will conclude today. Returning Officer, Manik Lal Das noted that the special exercise ensures voting rights for deployed personnel who cannot reach their home booths on the election day. Similarly, the election duty voting commenced under tight security at Radhakishore Institution in Kailashahar, where 115 polling and security staff are scheduled to cast their votes. Meanwhile, polling for the 16 civic bodies is scheduled for the 27th of this month, and counting of votes on December 2.

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FOOD

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, in collaboration with the Commissionerate of Food Safety, Government of Meghalaya, organised the first 'Eat Sustainable Summit' in Shillong. Centred on the theme 'Plate and Planet – Evoking Traditional Wisdom for a Sustainable Future', the two-day Summit brought together policymakers, food safety officials, institutions, entrepreneurs and other stakeholders to deliberate on sustainable food systems and the role of traditional food practices in promoting responsible consumption. Through the Eat Sustainable initiative, FSSAI aims to move beyond awareness towards sustained behavioural change by encouraging citizens, institutions and food businesses to make informed and responsible food choices.

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FORMER MLA

The mortal remains of Patsoi MLA, Sapam Kunjakeswor, popularly known as Keba Singh, who passed away in Delhi were brought to Imphal yesterday. A large number of people gathered at Imphal Airport to pay their last respects. The mortal remains were taken in a procession through various localities of Patsoi Assembly Constituency. Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla and Chief Minister Yumnam Khemchand Singh led other dignitaries in laying wreaths and offering floral tributes at his residence at Tera Sapam Leirak. A state honour and gun salute were also accorded to the departed leader. Keba Singh was first elected to the Manipur Legislative Assembly from Patsoi as an Independent candidate in 2007 and was re-elected in 2022 on a BJP ticket. Several MLAs, senior police and government

officials, family members and members of the public attended the ceremony and paid their last respects.

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AWARENESS

Tripura High Court Chief Justice, M.S. Ramachandra Rao has called for greater awareness of the Constitution in rural areas. He was speaking after inaugurating the 'Nyaya Sangam 2.0' conclave, organised by the Pro Bono Club of National Law University, Tripura, in Agartala yesterday. He stressed that constitutional awareness should go beyond reading the Constitution and involve understanding and practising its rights, values and ideals. He highlighted the role of Panchayats, local-language media and community discussions in reaching people in remote villages. The conference emphasised promoting constitutional awareness across Gram Panchayats and Village Committees in Tripura. High Court Judge, Justice Dr. T. Amarnath Goud, urged the youth to actively combat drug trafficking, child marriage, POCSO-related offences and HIV. RNU

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REVIEWS

Manipur Chief Secretary, Rajeev Singh Thakur yesterday visited Senapati and Kangpokpi districts and reviewed the progress of various government schemes and programmes. In Senapati, he chaired a district-level review meeting to assess the implementation of government schemes and ongoing projects and inspected key healthcare infrastructure and interacted with representatives of civil society organisations and educational institutions. In Kangpokpi, he held a review meeting with the district officials and discussed staff shortages, manpower utilisation and implementation of welfare schemes. He also interacted with representatives of internally displaced persons and civil society organisations and assured appropriate intervention to address their concerns. He stressed effective coordination among departments and timely implementation of development programmes.

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CYCLONE

Cyclone Akvan has triggered heavy rainfall in isolated places in some states in the North East. Cyclone Akvan moved towards Bengal after making landfall near Gopalpur in Odisha on Friday morning. Inclement weather was reported yesterday in Shillong and other parts of the state. For Assam and Meghalaya, the IMD has forecast isolated to scattered rainfall till Tuesday. Arunachal Pradesh is also expected to receive isolated to scattered rainfall, while other North Eastern states, including Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura, are likely to experience rainfall and isolated heavy showers during the period.

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WANGALA

The two-day Wangala Mini Hornbill Tribal Festival 2026, organised by the Nagaland Garo Tribal Council commenced in Dimapur yesterday. Addressing the gathering, Advisor for Industries and Commerce, Government of Nagaland, Hekani Jakhalu said, the Mini Hornbill Festival was initiated in 2018 with the vision of celebrating the festivals and cultural heritage of all recognised tribes. Describing Wangala as a festival of thanksgiving, she encouraged the community to remain connected to its roots and continue practising traditional customs and festivals, even while adapting to modern lifestyles. The festival brought together members of the Garo and other tribal communities, featuring traditional Wangala dances, folk songs, music and cultural presentations by various cultural troupes and organisations.

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CHERRY BLOSSOM

The Shillong Cherry Blossom Festival in Meghalaya concluded yesterday at Madan Kurkalang Sports Complex in Bhoirymbong. International performers, Khalid, Swae Lee, Galantis and other lineup artists enthralled the audience on the last day of the two-day festival amid inclement weather. American hip-hop star Nelly, popular band Boys Like Girls performed on the first day of the festival on Friday. The event also features local and regional artists and bands. The festival showcases Meghalaya's vibrant culture through local cuisine, art installations, fashion, and other activities. The Cherry Blossom Festival has emerged as one of the major tourism attractions in the state.

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