

**April 30, 2004**

**Press Release No 281/04**

**MEETING FOR WELFARE OF DISABLED HELD**

**Shillong April 30, 2004:** The meeting for the Welfare Of The Disabled was held yesterday at TRYSEM HALL, Nongstoin. The Secretary to the Government of India Ministry of Social Justice, Mr B S Baswan, Director Social Welfare Meghalaya, Ms M.S.L Diengdoh, Deputy Commissioner, Nongstoin, Mr. D Dkhar, various government officials including Doctors, BDOs and members of NGOs attended the meeting.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr Baswan apprised the gathering of the aims and objectives of the People With Disability Act 1995, whereby numerous schemes and facilities are provided for the handicapped persons. He also laid emphasis on grass root level survey so as to ascertain the exact number of the differently abled people who are in real need of attention and assistance.

Discussions were also held on various issues under the Act concerning National Old Age Pension, Kits and Aids for handicapped persons, National Trust and other related matters wherein suggestion were made to impart training to Welfare Organisations in order to enhance their functioning.

Later, Mr. Baswan also visited the orphanage at St. Peter's Parish at Nongstoin and the Aganwandi Centre at old Nongstoin so as to have a first hand information about the functioning of Welfare Organisations at the field level.

It may be mentioned that in a survey carried out by the C&RD Block Officers, 1971 disabled persons have been identified in the District.

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**PUBLIC AUCTION OF ELECTRONIC TYPE WRITER**

**Shillong April 30, 2004:** The Director of Food Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs has informed that the Electronic Type Writer Machine and its accessories belonging to the Directorate will be disposed of on lumpsum or as scrap on June 16, 2004 through public auction. Interested parties/persons may inspect the machine in the office of the Directorate of Food Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Shillong during working days and office hours.

**FLOWER SHOW CUM ARRANGEMENT INAUGURATED**

**Shillong April 30, 2004:** The Meghalaya Minister for Agriculture, Mr K Susngi, yesterday inaugurated the Flower Show cum Floral Arrangement held at the Chutwakhu Club Indoor Auditorium, Jowai.

Speaking in the occasion, Mr Susngi lauded the efforts of the Society for taking the initiative in organising such shows which would serve as an encouragement to the local people to grow flowers not only for recreational purposes but also for commercial activities. Stating that such activities would provide employment opportunities for the unemployed youth of the State, he advised the people to take advantage of various schemes offered by the Government through different Departments.

It may be mentioned that the Flower Show, organised by the Shillong Agri-Horticultural Society in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture was well attended, with people from different walks of life participating in the event.

**PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS OF RILBONG LP SCHOOL INAUGURATED**

**Shillong, April 30, 2004:** Meghalaya Chief Minister, Dr D D Lapang today inaugurated the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations of Rilbong L P School at the Rilbong Community Hall, here in the presence of Mr A. Chaudhuri, the local MLA of the area and some founder members of the school.

While expressing his pleasure to associate himself with the platinum jubilee celebrations, Dr Lapang maintained that primary education is the "mother of all education" for building up a successful career of a student. Observing that the spirit of enterprise in the formative years of the student would ensure stability in their future life, Dr Lapang opined that if such enterprising determination is imbibed on the students in particular and the youth in general, the State would not lack behind in the human resources sector which would prove to be an asset to the development of Meghalaya.

Congratulating the school for having reached a remarkable milestone, Dr Lapang expressed his gratitude to the founder members of the school for their vision and determination and he hope that the present members of the management would continue to follow the footprints of the founders so that the goals and the dreams of the founders could be achieved.

Concluding his speech, Dr Lapang urged upon the students and the youth of the State in general to contribute to build a better Meghalaya.

Among others who spoke include Mr Ardendhu Chaudhuri, the local MLA of the area who appreciated the State Government for its efforts to prioritise education and identified it as a thrust area of development. He said that this would tremendously help in improving the literacy rate of the State.