Prime Minister, Shri. Narendra Modi on 17th March 2018 awarded Meghalaya for its growth in the agriculture sector. Chief Minister of Meghalaya, Shri. Conrad K. Sangma received the award on behalf of the people of the State in presence of Agriculture Minister, Shri. Banteidor Lyngdoh.

The Chief Minister has dedicated the award to the people of the State especially farmers. “It gives an immense pleasure that I have received the award on behalf of the farmers of the State, who have scripted a success story. It is just the beginning and we are looking forward to support our farmers in the best possible way”. Chief Minister, Shri. Conrad K. Sangma thanked the Prime Minister, Shri. Narendra Modi and the Ministry of Agriculture for recognizing Meghalaya with an award, which was possible because of the hard work of the farmers and the officials of the Department of Agriculture and other stakeholders. Shri. Modi handed over the award to the Chief Minister during the Krishi Unnati Mela held at India Agriculture Research Institute Mela Groud at Pusa in New Delhi.

Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister said that such Unnati Melas play a key role in paving the way for New India. He said that today, he has the opportunity to simultaneously speak to two sentinels of New India – farmers and scientists. He said farmers and scientists have to work together to transform agriculture. The Prime Minister specially mentioned the State of Meghalaya, which received an award for its achievements in agriculture, in the period under review. The Prime Minister appreciated the spirit and the hard

Governor attends National Seminar on Himalayan Plant Diversity

The Governor of Meghalaya, Shri. Ganga Prasad on 8th March 2018 attended the two days National Seminar on Himalayan Plant Diversity: Taxonomy Conservation and Sustainable Utilization held at the auditorium of the Botanical Survey of India, Lower New Colony. The Seminar is being organised by the Botanical Survey of India (BSI), Eastern Regional Centre in collaboration with the East Himalayan Society for Spermatophyte Taxonomy (EHSST) and the North Eastern Hill University.

Speaking on the occasion, the Governor said that our Nation is rich in biological resources due to the diversified climatic conditions and geographical condition ranging from the sea level to the high hills of the Himalayas. The North Eastern region which is the abode of almost 50 percent of India’s biodiversity alone, is recognised as a “biodiversity hotspot” worldwide. The Governor added that the different kinds of unique and valuable plants found abundantly in the North Eastern Hills are of immense value in sustaining our existence today and a treasure for future generations. Therefore he stressed on the importance of plant research for the welfare of mankind and expressed hope that such seminars would help create awareness and encourage more scientists, researchers
Meghalaya Receives Agriculture award

On 24th March, 2018, The Natural Resource Management and Climate Change – Opportunities and Challenges for Entrepreneurs in Garo Hills meet was held at Dikki Bandi Stadium, Dakopgre, Tura where Meghalaya Chief Minister, Shri. Conrad K Sangma graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Adviser to the Chief Minister and MLA, North Tura, Shri. Thomas A Sangma, MLA, South Tura, Smt. Agatha K Sangma, MLA, Raksamgre, Shri. Benedic R Marak, MLA, Siju-Rongara, Shri. Rakkam Sangma, Deputy Commissioner, West Garo Hills, Shri. Ram Singh, Superintendent of Police, West Garo Hills, Dr. M. G. R. Kumar, Pastor, Tura Baptist Church, Rev. Wetterfield Marak, Bishop of Tura Diocese, Rev. Bishop Andrew R Marak, President, Nokma Council, Tura, Shri. Skylance G Momin, other distinguished dignitaries, Heads of Departments and people of the region were amongst others present at the function.

While addressing the gathering as Chief Guest, the Chief Minister said that the impact of Climate change and increase in temperature can be seen everywhere in the world and informed that the new Government is making efforts to minimise high consumption of energy and opt for using non-conventional sources of energy like, solar power, etc. He urged upon the people to make a resolution and stop using bulbs since it consumes high power and increases the electricity bills and instead use LED lights which are being provided by the Government of India at a subsidised rate under the Ujala Scheme.

Stating that air and water are most essential for humans to live in this world, he also suggested the public to plant one tree for one person on the theme “My life – My Tree” while also stating that such a practice may be incorporated in the school curriculum as well. Referring to the sustainable practices of the Garo society, he assured that the Government would work in right earnest for conserving the forest cover and protection of catchment areas along with development of agriculture and horticulture sector in the region.

“The Government is giving utmost priority to the education sector and has allocated maximum funds for the sector since education is the agent of change and it is the opportunities and quality education provided to the students of the region which can bring change in the society”, he added. Moreover, improvement of roads and bridges needs to be addressed to bring change in the rural population and uplift the rural economy by creating marketing linkages.

Further, he urged all the District officials and public in general to give their valuable suggestions and work as a team to take Meghalaya into new heights and make it a Model State in future.

Earlier during the function, Shri. Conrad K Sangma was also felicitated during his maiden visit to Garo Hills as Chief Minister of Meghalaya.

During the function, the Chief Minister also felicitated Jarmin M Sangma and Creatwind Ch Memin, winner of Bronze Medal in the recently held 3rd International and Thai Martial Arts and Games Festival, 2018 at Bangkok. It may be mentioned that Jarmin Sangma holds a 3rd DAN Black Belt in Muay Thai and Kung Fu, 1st DAN Black Belt in Taekwondo, 2nd Dan Black Belt in Kick Boxing and is also a world champion of Taekwondo and Wushu under 54 Kg category while Creatwind Memin started practising Martial Arts on his own and got his yellow belt in Taekwondo under Joshua Sokwai.

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Meghalaya Chief Minister, Shri. Conrad K. Sangma has said that there are challenges as well as opportunities for the youth in the State and the Government is making an attempt to address the issue by framing a dedicated Youth Policy.

Addressing the International Inter-Disciplinary Seminar on “Human Resource Development in South Asia: Capabilities, Challenges and Prospects” at Synod College, Shillong on 16th March 2018, the Chief Minister said, “We are looking into all aspects of development of the youth in the State to the best advantage of providing opportunities to them”. He said that paramount thrust is being put by the Government to improve the education infrastructure and facilities in the State with the framing of the Education Policy.

He expressed concern on the status of education infrastructure in the State while mentioning about the sizeable number of untrained teachers and lack of Higher Secondary and Government Colleges in different parts of the State. “90 per cent of the budget for Education is spent on salaries of the teachers. It is a matter of concern and we are trying to work out measures to ensure adequate funds are made available to improve infrastructure and facilities in both elementary, secondary and higher education”, the Chief Minister said.

Speaking of the Government’s commitment to push forward the agenda of youth through sports, arts and culture, the Chief Minister said, “We are trying to leverage upon areas of interest and concern for the youth to put an economic push for their growth and development”. He said that the Government is working out modalities to create a conducive atmosphere for entrepreneurship and infrastructure that would aid the youth and motivate them to take calculate risks and venture into business. “I urge the youth to plunge into business ventures and take the economy forward”, he added.

The Chief Minister also expressed the Government’s intention for a major shift in policy decision to boost trade, commerce and provide opportunities to the youth with a focus on improving the socio-economic condition of the State. Reiterating on business relations with Bangladesh and other South Asian nations, the Chief Minister said that Government is working out modalities to set up Passport Seva Kendras along the border areas of Meghalaya, which will help people to avail passport. “Real opportunities are lying before us and we have to focus on strengthening our ties with neighbouring nations to boost our economic and trade relationship”, the Chief Minister added.

On 15th March, 2018, Meghalaya Chief Minister, Shri. Conrad K. Sangma attended the International Seminar on Recent Advances in Educational Psychology held at North-Eastern Hill University (NEHU), Shillong.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister said that efforts are on to bring forth the Meghalaya State Education Policy with the Government engaging different stakeholders including educationists and institutions for the purpose.

He also expressed concern on hurdles, which have posed a challenge to achieving quality education at elementary and secondary levels in the rural areas of the State even as he stated that the Government would ensure that thrust is put on improvement and enhancement of the quality of education in the State, and expressed optimism that there will be a turnaround in the situation in the near future.

The Chief Minister said that the core focus of the Government would be to accelerate the momentum of growth with proper implementation of the programmes. “Every Rupee spent by the Government has to be accounted and should translate into productive outcome. We have a vision for the State of Meghalaya and with right approach we will do our best to achieve the desired goals with a concerted effort and effective monitoring system in place”, the Chief Minister said.

Speaking on the Act East Policy, the Chief Minister said that the vast opportunities of trade and business with Bangladesh could open new vistas for development and ensure socio-economic upliftment for the people of the State. He also sought cooperation and partnership from Universities and academicians to come up with suggestions and feedbacks on different sectors, so that the Government will be able to take corrective measures in areas of concern.
CM urges Youth to look for opportunities beyond State at Regional Colloquium

Meghalaya Chief Minister, Shri. Conrad K. Sangma has urged the youth of the State to look for opportunities not only within the State but also beyond it by taking advantage of the rich resources that the region has to offer. He said that the youth of the region have the potential to compete and must think beyond reservation and strive hard to achieve their goals.

During his address on 15th March 2018 at the Regional Colloquium held at Pastoral Centre, Shillong organised by CRCI office for Tribal Affairs in collaboration with North East Office for Tribal Affairs, the Chief Minister stated that most of the tribal areas in the country are economically backward and neglected. However, with social media penetration, the mindset of the people is changing for the better, he added.

"Our Government’s commitment is to accord more thrust on the youth sector and required policies to address the issues and challenges are being worked out to ensure that our youth are productive," the Chief Minister said. He said that the theme of the colloquium - "Tribals Towards Unity, Equity and Sustainable Development with Human Rights Approaches", is very close to his political belief and ideology, and assured that all support would be extended by the Government to address issues concerning the welfare of tribals.

Expressing concern on the challenges and issues related to development and welfare of tribals, the Chief Minister said, "Our people are very simple and committed. Many think that we are not enterprising but if we are given an opportunity, we are equally talented and enterprising. "Through entrepreneurship activities, the tribal society can be uplifted. Our Government is committed and will work closely with like-minded organisations to ensure that there is productive growth in Meghalaya," he added further.

World Tuberculosis Day observed

On 24th March 2018, the Meghalaya State Health Society (RNTCP) in collaboration with the District Health Society (RNTCP), East Khasi Hills, Shillong and Reid Provincial Chest Hospital, Shillong observed World TB Day, 2018 under the theme- “Wanted: Leaders for a TB-Free World” at Reid Provincial Chest Hospital’s Hall, Shillong, Meghalaya Health & Family Welfare Minister, Shri A. L. Hek graced the programme as Chief Guest.

Addressing the function, the Health Minister said that the theme itself has put forth the need to act diligently towards the goal of eradicating the deadly disease from the society. Stating that it is a collective responsibility of one and all, the Minister also called for concerted efforts from NGOs, community and religious leaders in the fight to eradicate TB.

During the programme, the Health Minister launched the Medical Mobile Van at the Hospital premises and also released 79 nos of Android tablets, supplied by the Government of India which will be used for online recording, data entry and reporting.

West Shillong MLA, Shri M. Rapsang, Additional Chief Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya, Shri P. W. Ingty, Secretary, Health & Family Welfare cum MD, NHM, Shri Pravin Bakshi, Joint Director of Health Services (MI), Dr. A. War and State Tuberculosis Officer, Dr. D. G. Nongkynrimh among others was also present at the programme.

Chairperson MHRC attends Awareness Programme on Human Rights and Visits Shillong District Jail

Chairperson of Meghalaya Human Rights Commission, Dr. Justice Aflab H Saikia attended a seminar on ‘Sensitization towards Gender Equity and Neutrality’ at Don Bosco Youth Centre, Shillong on 14th March 2018. The seminar was organized by National Institute of Fashion Technology, Shillong in collaboration with Meghalaya Human Rights Commission (MHRC), Government of Meghalaya.

Speaking to the gathering of students, Chief Guest, Dr. Justice Aflab H Saikia said that every citizen of India is obliged to know the Constitution. He stated that 92 percent of the population still has not seen the Constitution and remarked that it should be given free to every citizen. He also said that Human Rights relating to Right, Equality, Liberty, Dignity of an individual is guaranteed in the Constitution.

Dr. Saikia also urged the gathering to promote harmony and spirit of brotherhood and to renounce the practices which are derogatory to the dignity of the people.

Earlier during the day Dr. Saikia also launched the official website of MHRC at the new office premises of the commission at the old Arunachal Pradesh Secretariat Building, Shillong Cantonment.

Other speakers included Shri. P. J. P. Hanaman, Member, MHRC, who gave an overview of MHRC, Shri. C. Lyngva, Commandant, 1st Bn MILP, who spoke on the Role of the Police in Dealing with Crimes Against Women, Shri. W. Diengdoh who spoke on Role of Courts and Shri. A. Kharwanlang from Grassroots who spoke on Role of NGOs in Human Rights. The opening remarks were given by Secretary, MHRC, Shri. A. Mawlong, who informed that the Commission is proposing to the government to establish Human Rights courts in every district of the State so that cases can be disposed off at the district level itself.

On 15th March 2018, the Chairperson and Member of MHRC visited the Shillong District Jail. They were accompanied by the Secretary of the Meghalaya Human Rights Commission, Shri. Aldous Mawlong, DG (Prisons) Shri. R. P. Agarwal and other senior jail officials.

The aim of the visit was to get an overview of the living conditions of the jail inmates. During the inspection, the Chairperson visited all eight male wards including the hospital, female ward and the high security ward and also interacted with the inmates.
Workshop on Continuing Professional Development of Counsellors

The State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCR), Meghalaya in collaboration with National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), New Delhi organised a day long Workshop on Continuing Professional Development of Counsellors working in CCIs at SMEC Conference Hall, Dakopgre Tura on 24th March, 2018.

Speaking at the inaugural function, Deputy Commissioner, West Garo Hills, Shri. Ram Singh highlighted on the importance of child rights and issues of children while adding that issues related to children in urban areas are more sensitive in nature than those faced by children in rural areas. Further, he stressed on the need for providing serious counselling for parents and teachers as well as children in order to strengthen the respective role and level of understanding amongst each other and thereby aid in the development of the physical and mental well being of a child thus delivering better child protection services.

In the Technical Session, Dr. Biwadeep Chatterjee, Associate Professor, NDDTC, Department of Psychiatry, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) New Delhi explained in detail about the “Identification of Mental Health needs of children” and also about “Dealing with Children with problematic behaviour children with substance abuse or suicidal behaviour”, etc., while Ms Shaista K Shah, Senior Technical Expert, NCPCR dwell at length on the “Application of Counselling Skills”.

Earlier, during the inaugural session, Smti. Meena Kharkongor, Chairperson, SCPCR, Meghalaya gave the welcome address to the gathering.

Safety TIPS for using Zebra Crossings

To educate the general public and drivers of two-wheelers and four-wheelers about the importance of Zebra Crossings and the manner in which the pedestrians should be allowed to walk on the Zebra Crossings, the Superintendent of Police, East Khasi Hills District has issued safety tips for using Zebra Crossings.

As a Motorist

• Slow down or stop to make sure pedestrians can cross safely
• If there is traffic behind you, use your hazard lights for warning
• If there are two or more lanes and another car already stopped for pedestrians, you must stop too!
• If you approach a zebra crossing and you see pedestrians on the street already crossing, you must stop!
• Be very careful, mindful and polite when you approach zebra crossings!
• Don’t forget, once you step out of your car, you are also a pedestrian and you also desire that drivers watch out for you!
• Watch the children! Children have a different view of the traffic and often they lack experience of traffic movements

As a Pedestrian

• Don’t be distracted when using a zebra crossing (get off your phone!)
• Be mindful that you are the weakest traffic participant
• As much as possible, try using the footpaths/footbridge where available
• Take no risks and don’t force your way (even if motorists have a yield-sign)
• Don’t cross when traffic police allowed the vehicular traffic to proceed
• Cross the street using pedestrian bridges, underpasses or dedicated crossings
• At zebra crossings without traffic lights, you must be very careful, since not all cars will stop for you. Only walk when you can cross safely all lanes of the street
• A good tip is also to make eye contact with drivers, so you are sure they noticed you
• Reversing cars: be extra careful when you walk near reversing cars
• Drivers often have a obstructed view and they might not see you when you are passing close to the car
• Make sure kids don’t play close to streets or reversing cars
• Always use sidewalks – this protects pedestrians!
• If there are no sidewalks, walk on the left side of the street facing the oncoming traffic
Two-Day Mega Health Mela Concludes

The two-day Mega Health Mela organized by the District Health Society of South West Garo Hills at Sonamite LP School Playground, Ambari near Garobadha concluded on 8th March 2018. The theme of the Health Mela was “Achieving Safe and Healthy Future”.

Close to a thousand people from Sonamite, Ambari and nearby villages and other parts of the District availed health check up and medicines free of cost for various ailments during the two-day mela. The check up was conducted by specialists from Tura Civil Hospital and other doctors from the District, including eye specialists, gynaecologists, dentists as well as homeopathy and Ayush doctors.

Besides the free health check up, IEC activities on maternal, child and adolescent health, healthy baby show, public hearing and discussion on issues relating to MHIS, etc were other highlights of the two-day Mela. A Health Rally was also held on the second day where hundreds of people including medical officers, ASHAs, Nomkas, members of village health committees joined in the march from Garobadha PHC to the venue of the Mela at Ambari.

Addressing the inaugural function 7th March, Dr. Debashish Sarkar M.D stressed on prevention of diseases and spoke of the socio-economic implications that diseases can have in one’s life. He advocated healthy habits and regular check up for building healthy families and a healthy society.

District Medical & Health Officer, Ampati, Dr. K. A. Sangma highlighted on various schemes and services available under Health Department and also urged upon the villagers to avail the opportunity being given to them for free during the mela.

ADMISSION TO BVSC & AH DEGREE COURSE

The Directorate of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary (AH & Vety), Meghalaya, has informed that the Veterinary Council of India will use National Eligibility Cum Entrance Test (UG)-2018 (NEET (UG)-2018) qualified Merit List for admission of students to BVSc & AH Degree Course during the academic year 2018-2019 for filling up of seats in recognized Veterinary Colleges (except Jammu and Kashmir) under 15% All India Quota. The other criteria for admission/selection of students of admission to BVSc 8AH Degree Course shall as per Veterinary Council of India-Minimum Standards of Veterinary Education-Degree Course (BVSc & AH) Regulations, 2016.

All those students desirous to take admission to BVSc & AH Degree Course under 15% seats of All India Basis are advised to appear in NEET (UG)-2018 to be conducted by Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) on 6th May, 2018.

YOUNG TALENT ARTISTES AWARD

The Government of India instituted the Gandhi Prize in 1995 on the occasion of 125th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi as a tribute to the ideals espoused by Mahatma Gandhi. It is a prestigious Award carrying an amount of Rs. 1 Crore and a citation.

This Award is given to individual(s) and institution(s) for their outstanding contribution towards social, economic and political transformation through non-violence and other Gandhian methods, for amelioration of human sufferings, particularly of the less privileged sections of the society, contributing towards social justice and harmony. The Award is open to all persons regardless of nationality, race, creed or sex.

ARMY RECRUITMENT RALLY AT TURA

The Indian Army is conducting a Recruitment Rally for male candidates at Dikki Randi Stadium, Tura for all eleven Districts of Meghalaya from 22nd - 25th May, 2018. The recruitment is for the posts of Soldier General Duty, Soldier Clerks/Store Keeper Technical, Soldier Technical, Soldier Tradesman and Soldier Nursing Assistance. All India Common Entrance Exam (CEE) for all selected candidates will be conducted at Army Public School, Shillong on 29th July, 2018 from 6:00 hours onwards.

Online registration and application is compulsory, without which the candidates will not be able to participate in the rally. For detailed information for online registration, the candidates are advised to visit the website www.joinindianarmy.nic.in. Online registration for candidates will commence from 23rd March 2018 and close on 6th May, 2018. Candidates are recommended to generate their admit card after 6th May, 2018 and bring the printout of the admit card for participation during the rally.

Candidates should be between 17 years and 21 years of age for Soldier General Duty and 17 years and 23 years for other categories.

Intending individuals from East Khasi Hills District who desire their names to be recommended to the Government for the Award are required to send their nominations to the Deputy Commissioner, East Khasi Hills District, Shillong on or before the 25th April, 2018. Detailed information may be obtained from the District Website:- http://eastkhashills.gov.in.

The Principal Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Nongbargi, Ri Bhoi District has informed that online application for admission in Class IX for the academic year 2018-19 has started w.e.f. 13/3/2018 – 5/4/2018at www.nvshq.org.

Candidates appearing for the admission test must qualify / pass Class VIII in the academic session 2017-2018 from Government/ Government recognized school in the district. They must be born between 1/5/2002 and 30/4/2006 (both days inclusive) for both ST & SC.

The school authority reserves the right to refer any candidate to the medical board for confirmation of the age in case of any doubt arises.

CANDIDATE TO THE MEDICAL BOARD FOR CONFIRMATION OF AGE IN CASE OF ANY DOUBT ARISES.

The admission is through an all India test to be conducted on Saturday 19/5/2018 at 10 am in JNV and the medium of the test is English / Hindi.
SWEARING -
IN CEREMONY
OF NEW CM
AND CABINET
MINISTERS

6TH MARCH 2018

1. Shri Conrad Sangma,
Chief Minister
Personnel, Political, Cabinet Affairs,
Finance, Planning and any other
department not allotted to any
other Minister

2. Shri Prestone Tynsong,
Minister
PWD (Roads), Animal Husbandry
and Veterinary, Housing,
Parliamentary Affairs, Labour

3. Shri James P. K. Sangma,
Minister
Home (Police), Home (Jail), Home
(Passport), Food, Civil Supplies and
Consumer Affairs, Power, District
Council Affairs, Law

4. Shri A. L. Hek,
Minister
Health and Family Welfare,
Information & Public Relations,
Arts and Culture

5. Shri Sniawbhalang Dhar,
Minister
Transport, Commerce and
Industries, C&RD, Soil & Water
Conservation

6. Shri Comingone Ymbon,
Minister
PWD (Buildings), GAD, Fisheries

7. Shri Metbah Lyngdoh,
Minister
Water Resources, Tourism, Excise,
Home Guards & Civil Defence

8. Shri Lakhmen Rymbui,
Minister
Forest & Environment, Education,
Border Area Development

9. Shri Kyrmen Shylla,
Minister
Revenue & Disaster Management,
Social Welfare, Printing &
Stationary

10. Shri Banteidor Lyngdoh,
Minister
Agriculture, Horticulture, Sports
& Youth Affairs, Sericulture &
Weaving

11. Shri Hamletson Dohling,
Minister
Urban Affairs including Municipal
Administration, Information
Technology

12. Shri Samlin Malngiang,
Minister
PHE, SAD, Legal Metrology
ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

THE HAWAIIAN ALPHABET HAS ONLY 12 LETTERS

THE WORD "SET" HAS THE MOST DEFINITIONS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

An octopus has 3 hearts

An ostrich’s eye is bigger than its brain

A chameleon can move its eyes in two directions at the same time.

"Rhythm" is the longest English word without a vowel

Women blink nearly twice as much as men

Guinea pigs and rabbits can’t sweat

Trees didn’t exist for the first 90 percent of Earth’s history

Polar bears are left-handed

Celery has negative calories! It takes more calories to eat a piece of celery than the celery has in it to begin with. It’s the same with apples!

On the Lighter Side

Source: Internet

Your feedback and suggestions are valuable to us. Kindly mail us at megnews2015dipr@gmail.com