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## Meghalaya Receives Agriculture award



Prime Minister, Shri. Narendra Modi on 17<sup>th</sup> 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

(Contd. in Pg. 2)

## Governor attends National Seminar on Himalayan Plant Diversity



The Governor of Meghalaya, Shri. Ganga Prasad on 8<sup>th</sup> 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 a 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

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# Meghalaya Receives Agriculture award

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work of farmers for their achievements in agriculture since independence. He said that today, there is record production of foodgrains, pulses, fruits and vegetables, and milk.

He said that there are important challenges in agriculture today, which reduces the farmer's income, and increases his losses and expenditure. He said the Government is working with a holistic approach to deal with these challenges further adding that the aim remains to double farmers' incomes, and make their lives easier.

Speaking about the progress towards this resolve, the Prime Minister said that more than 11 crore soil health cards have been distributed so far. 100 percent neem coating of Urea has also resulted in lowering expenditure on fertilizer, apart from raising productivity.

He said that through the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, premiums have been lowered, capping on insurance removed, and claims amounts disbursed to farmers have gone up. He said the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana envisions water for every farm. 80,000 crore rupees are being spent to complete pending irrigation projects. The Prime Minister further said that the Kisan Sampada Yojana is helping strengthen the supply chain from the farm to the market, and creating modern agriculture infrastructure. He also said that Operation Greens, announced in the recent budget, will be beneficial for farmers growing fruits and vegetables, especially Tomato, Onion and Potato. He said several Model Acts related to farmers' welfare have been prepared, and States have been urged to implement them.

The Prime Minister also stated that the Government is working to ensure that farmers get modern seeds, adequate power supply, and easy market access. He said that the Union Government has decided that for all notified crops, MSP will be at least one and a half times the cost even as he stated that for this purpose the cost will include elements such as labour, rent for machinery, cost of seeds and fertilizers, revenue being given to State Government, interest on working capital, and rent of leased land.

The Prime Minister on the occasion also said that comprehensive steps are being taken for Agriculture Marketing Reforms. It is important to connect Rural Retail Markets with wholesale and global markets. He said that in the recent Union Budget, Grameen Retail Agriculture Markets have been envisaged. 22,000 rural haats will be upgraded with necessary infrastructure, and integrated with APMC and the e-NAM platform.

He also emphasized on the importance of Farmer Producer Organizations. He said Farmer Producer Organizations, would be given relief on income tax, on the lines of cooperative societies. He said a new chapter in Agriculture Marketing Reform is being added in this programme, with the e-marketing portal for organic products. The Prime Minister also said that along with the Green Revolution and White Revolution, we must stress on Organic Revolution, Water Revolution, Blue Revolution, and Sweet Revolution, adding that the Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) will play a key role in this regard.

On the occasion, the Prime Minister explained how honey-bees could be an important source of additional income for farmers. Similarly, he spoke of the benefits of solar farming stating that about 2.75 lakh solar pumps have reached farmers in the last three years. The Prime Minister also spoke of the Go-Bar Dhan Yojana for creating compost, bio-gas etc from bio-waste. The Prime Minister said crop residue burning has harmful effects, and if the crop residue is instead returned to the soil through machines, it will have beneficial effects. The Prime Minister said that the Government is working to ensure that adequate Agriculture Credit is available. The Prime Minister said that such events should also be held in far-flung areas and called for impact analysis of such events.

## Governor attends National Seminar on Himalayan Plant Diversity

(Contd. from Pg. 1)

to undertake researches on plant diversity, identifying significant species and work on applications for sustainable uses.

Delivering the Presidential Address, Dr. A.A. Moa, President of the EHSST and Chairman of the Seminar gave an insight on the functions of the BSI and EHSST and also focused on the significance, from the ecological and evolutionary point of the view of the Himalayan region, which contains more than one third of the country's total biodiversity.

In his keynote address, Prof. A. K. Koul, Chairman, Research and Advisory Monitoring Committee besides dwelling at length on the rich biodiversity wealth of the Himalayan region, exhorted the taxonomists who are considered as the custodians of green wealth of the country to do more than just document the plant wealth. He urged them to broaden their mandate and plunge in halting species loss in the country, which is likely to lose 1000 plants species in the near future.

Earlier in the programme, the Governor also released a Souvenir commemorating the two days seminar.

## CM attends Natural Resource Management and Climate Change Meet at Tura



On 24<sup>th</sup> 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, Smti. 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 Right 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 Ujjala Scheme.

Stating that air and water are most essential for humans to live in this world, he also suggested the public to resolve 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 Momin, winner of Bronze Medal in the recently held 3<sup>rd</sup> International and Thai Martial Arts and Games Festival, 2018 at Bangkok. It may be mentioned that Jarmin Sangma holds a 3<sup>rd</sup> DAN Black Belt in Muay Thai and Kung Fu, 1<sup>st</sup> DAN Black Belt in Taekwondo, 2nd Dan Black Belt in Kick Boxing and is a world champion of Taekwondo and Wushu under 54 Kg category while Creatwind Momin started practising Martial Arts on his own and got his yellow belt in Taekwondo under Josthia Sokwai.

# CM attends International Inter-Disciplinary Seminar



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.

## International Seminar on Recent Advances in Educational Psychology



On 15<sup>th</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at the Regional Colloquium held at Pastoral Centre, Shillong organised by CBCI 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.

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



Chairperson of Meghalaya Human Rights Commission, Dr. Justice Aftab H Saikia attended a seminar on ‘Sensitization towards Gender Equity and Neutrality’ at Don Bosco Youth Centre, Shillong on 14<sup>th</sup> 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 Aftab 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

## World Tuberculosis Day observed



On 24<sup>th</sup> 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. Nongkynrih among others was also present at the programme.

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, Smti. C. Lyngwa, Commandant, 1st Bn MLP, 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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, DGP (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 SMELC Conference Hall, Dakopgre Tura on 24<sup>th</sup> 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. Biswadeep 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 with substance abuse or suicidal behaviour”, etc., while Ms Shaista K Shah, Senior Technical Expert, NCPCR dwelt 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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, Nokmas, members of village health committees joined in the march from Garobadha PHC to the venue of the Mela at Ambari.

Addressing the inaugural function 7<sup>th</sup> 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.



## NEWS Capsules

### ADMISSION TO BVSC & AH DEGREE COURSE

The Director 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 & AH Degree Course shall be 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 6<sup>th</sup> May, 2018.

### ADMISSION IN JNV - RI BHOI

The Principal Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Niangbari, Ri Bhoi District has informed that online application for admission in Class IX for 2018-19 has started w.e.f. 1/3/2018 – 5/4/2018 at [www.nvshq.org](http://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.

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

### YOUNG TALENT ARTISTES AWARD

The Director of Arts & Culture, Meghalaya has informed that the North East Zone Cultural Centre (NEZCC), Dimapur, invites application for Young Talent Artistes Award for the year 2017-18 from eligible candidates, talented/skilled in the categories of folk music & songs, folk dance, theatre, creative arts/visual arts, handicrafts, etc. Young artistes in the age group of 18 to 30 years as on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2017 are eligible for the award. The award carries a sum amount of Rs. 10,000/- and a citation.

Candidates should be Indian citizens and indigenous to the eight North Eastern States. Candidates who have received any such awards (State/National) in the same field are not eligible for the scheme. Deserving artistes may collect the application form from the office of the Directorate of Arts & Culture, Government of Meghalaya, Shillong and the last date for submission of the form is on the 25<sup>th</sup> April, 2018.

### NOMINATIONS FOR AWARD

The Government of India instituted the Gandhi Prize in 1995 on the occasion of 125<sup>th</sup> 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.

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 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 2018. Detailed information may be obtained from the District Website:- <http://eastkhasihills.gov.in>.

### ARMY RECRUITMENT RALLY AT TURA

The Indian Army is conducting a Recruitment Rally for male candidates at Dikki Bandi Stadium, Tura for all eleven Districts of Meghalaya from 22<sup>nd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> 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 29<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.joinindianarmy.nic.in). Online registration for candidates will commence from 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2018 and close on 6<sup>th</sup> May, 2018. Candidates are requested to generate their admit card after 6<sup>th</sup> May, 2018 and bring the printout of the admit card for participation during the rally.

Candidates should be between 17 ½ and 21 years of age for Soldier General Duty and 17 ½ and 23 years for other categories. Information about the educational qualification and other details can be obtained from the Deputy Commissioner Office of their District or Army Recruiting Office Headquarter, Shillong on telephone number 0364-2506581.

# SWEARING - IN CEREMONY OF NEW CM AND CABINET MINISTERS

6<sup>TH</sup> 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 Lahkmen 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**

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

**Guinea pigs  
and rabbits  
can't sweat**

**"Rhythm" is  
the longest  
English word  
without a  
vowel**

**Women blink  
nearly twice as  
much as men**

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

**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!**

**Polar bears  
are left-handed**

**An ostrich's  
eye is bigger  
than its brain**

Source: Internet

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## PUBLISHER

Directorate of Information & Public Relations,  
Meghalaya, Shillong