



U. S. Ambassador Richard Verma called on Chief Minister Dr Mukul Sangma at the latter's Office Chamber on November 29. Ambassador Verma's visit to Shillong was part of his wide-ranging visit to North East India.

Meghalaya Pavilion Bags Gold Medal at IITF-2016



Meghalaya bagged Gold Medal for excellence in display under the North Eastern States Category at the 36th edition of the India International Trade Fair (IITF) 2016 organized by the India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi from 14th-27th November 2016. The theme selected for the Trade Fair this year was "Digital India".

Representing Meghalaya at the Trade Fair were Departments of Agriculture, Horticulture, Commerce & Industries, Tourism, Cooperative Societies, Sericulture and Weaving, Information Technology and Communication, Meghalaya Handloom And Handicrafts Development Corporation (MHHDC) and Meghalaya Khadi and Village Industries Board (MKVIB) with the Department of Information and Public Relations as the Nodal Department. Apart from Government Departments, 17 units sponsored by different Departments drawn from various parts of the State also participated at the Fair.



Besides providing a platform for the State to display its diverse indigenous products and exhibits, the annual fair was also an opportunity for Meghalaya to showcase its rich cultural heritage to the national audience during the Meghalaya Day Celebration held on November 24. The cultural evening held at Lal Chowk Theatre was attended by Minister for Information and Public Relations, Dr. M. Ampareen Lyngdoh, Smti M.N.Nampui, Director of Information and Public Relations, Shri T. Dkhar, Senior Informatics Officer, Meghalaya, Smti S.R. Marak, Joint Resident Commissioner, Meghalaya House, New Delhi and officers from various Government Departments.

In her brief speech, Dr. Lyngdoh appreciated the India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) for providing the platform for showcasing the rich cultural heritage of the State. She also invited the people gathered at the event to visit Meghalaya and enjoy the serenity and scenic beauty of the State.



The main attractions of the cultural evening included Ka Shad Shad Mastieh, Wangala dance, Chad Bet Symbe (seed sowing dance) performed by the Khasi, Jaintia and Garo Troupes and songs rendered by Gracyl Ropmay and by Melinda & Group which enthralled the huge crowd in attendance at the programme.



It is worth mentioning that the Meghalaya Pavilion was thronged by thousands of people during the fortnight long Trade Fair with Meghalaya products like handicraft, handloom, lakadong turmeric and others being a hit among visitors.

National Press Day observed in the city



The Shillong Press Club in collaboration with the Directorate of Information and Public Relations, Government of Meghalaya celebrated the 50th National Press Day at a function held at Shillong Club in the city on November 30.

Dr. M. Ampareen Lyngdoh, Meghalaya Minister for Information and Public Relations graced the occasion as Chief Guest. The programme was also attended by Smti M. N. Nampui, Director, Information & Public Relations, Shri Manas Ranjan Mahapatra, Director, Information and Public Relations, NEC and members of the print and electronic media among others.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. M. Ampareen Lyngdoh lauded the vibrant media of the State for achieving many important milestones in the last few decades. Expressing concern over the rise of crimes committed against women and children, Dr. Lyngdoh said that the media has an important role to play in

building a better society by way of proper and factual dissemination of news and information. She further added that sensitive reporting of news pertaining to crimes against women and children is needed taking into account the welfare and betterment of the society and the State as a whole.

During the programme, the Minister also felicitated the winners of the Carrom Board Competition held as part of the National Press Day celebration.

Earlier in the programme, a talk session moderated by Shri Bidhayak Das, Senior Independent Journalist was held where Smti Rubina Subba, Standing Counsel, Meghalaya State Commission for Women, Shri M. Kharkrang, Superintendent of Police, East Khasi Hills and Smti Meena Kharkongor, Chairperson, State Commission for Protection of Child Rights spoke on the theme: "Crimes against Women and Children: Challenges Faced".

Laying Of Foundation Stone for MBT Road at Marmain and Inauguration of Renovated School Building at Jowe



Chief Adviser to the Government of Meghalaya Dr D. D. Lapang laid the foundation stone for the Construction of the Motorable Blacktopped Road at Marmain village on November 30 in the presence of Shri D. Hynniewta, ADC & Project Director, DRDA, Ri Bhoi District, Shri M. Makri, Chairman, Umling C&RD Block, Shri R. R. Makdoh, Ex-MDC, Shri R. Kharbihkhiew, BDO, Umling C&RD Block among others besides headmen and village elders from different villages of Marmain area. This MBT Road was a Pilot Project sanctioned under the Meghalaya Livelihood Access to Market Programme (MLAMP) Scheme of the Meghalaya Basin Development Agency (MBDA) under Umling C&RD Block at an amount of Rs. 30 Lakhs for 1 Km from Marmain towards Pisamhuru village.

Later, Dr Lapang inaugurated the renovated school building of Jowe Presbyterian Lower Primary School in the presence of Shri M. Makri, Chairman, Umling C&RD Block, Shri R. R. Makdoh, Ex-MDC, Shri F. Khymdeit, Shri J. Mallai, Headman of Jowe, village elders and others. The school building which was damaged by a cyclone was renovated under Relief Funds from Umling C&RD Block at a sanctioned amount of Rs. 1.50 lakh.

Mega Financial Literacy & Credit Counselling Camp held at Ampati



In order to generate awareness on financial inclusion and financial schemes, a day-long Mega Financial Literacy & Credit Counselling Camp was organized by the State Bank of India, Ampati Branch in collaboration with the District Administration, South West Garo Hills under Financial Information Forum managed by NABARD at Ampati on December 1.

Delivering the keynote address on the occasion, Deputy Commissioner of the District, Shri. CVD Diengdoh said that the programme was being organized to spread the message of financial inclusion and make the people of the district aware of the benefits of opening bank accounts and various financial schemes and also to discuss the problems and issues faced by the people particularly after the recent demonetization. He informed that the District Administration has held series of meetings with the bankers and officials concerned to ease the problems of the people post demonetization and said that there was a need for more of such interactions between the bankers and the people. The Deputy Commissioner also informed that all payments for Government schemes like MGNREGS, Old Age pension, etc would be routed through their respective bank accounts and called upon VECs and village secretaries to ensure that all job card holders open their accounts and register their bank accounts with the BDOs.

AGM, RBI, Shillong, L. Hangmuanthang deliberated at length on Financial Inclusion and benefits of opening bank accounts. He highlighted on the constraints and negativities of cash economy, adding that financial inclusion which means bringing every citizen into the financial fold was the first step in moving towards a cashless economy.

Chief Manager, Lead Bank i/c West, South and South West Garo Hills, K. Leivang, spoke on how to cover unbankable areas through basic minimum banking services like banking correspondents (BCs), Customer Service Points (CSPs) and POS machines and informed that there are six SBI CSPs in South West Garo Hills till date.

Deputy Labour Commissioner, M. N. Marak, spoke on the Building & Other Construction Workers Welfare Board, FI Manager, RBI, Sameer Dey and Branch Manager, SBI Ampati A. W. Momin were among others who spoke on the occasion. An interactive session was also held as part of the programme where the villagers were given the opportunity to interact with the bankers regarding their problems, doubts and apprehensions, while a video presentation was made to create awareness to the audience on internet banking.

JNV, Mukhla Celebrates Silver Jubilee



Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Mukhla celebrated its glorious 25 years of existence at JNV campus, Mukhla, West Jaintia Hills District on December 1.

West Jaintia Hills Deputy Commissioner, Shri. Arunkumar Kembhavi attended the momentous occasion as Chief Guest in the presence of Superintendent of Police, West Jaintia Hills District, Shri. R. Muthu, Deputy CEM Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Council, Shri. Andrew Shullai and others.

During his speech, Shri. Kembhavi congratulated the School management, teachers and students on achieving the Silver Jubilee milestone. He reminded the students that education is not only about aiming to get employed but it is also about being holistic and compassionate. He further encouraged the students to develop a reading habit, to set a goal in life and to work hard in order to be successful. He also requested the teachers to inculcate in the students, a sense of reading in order that their knowledge can be improved.

Earlier in the programme, School Principal, Shri. Ravindra Kumar Dixit briefly spoke about the activities and achievements of the school.



Songs and dances performed by students of the school added fervour to the celebration.

It may be mentioned that JNV Mukhla, a co-educational institution nestled amidst the pine covered rolling hills at Mukhla Village in Thadlaskein Block of West Jaintia Hills District was established in the year 1991 with a motto to provide quality education to gifted children from predominantly rural families. The school is affiliated to the Central Board of School Education (CBSE), New Delhi. The School offers education to students from classes VI to XII and the total number of students for the 2016-2017 Session is 558 with 294 girls and 264 boys all of whom are accommodated at the hostels located in the school campus premises.

Section 144 CrPC

For the conduct of free and fair election to the Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Council Bye-Election 2016, the District Magistrate, West Jaintia Hills has issued an order under Section 144 CrPC prohibiting all Contesting Candidates or their agent or the Political parties from wall writing, pasting posters, papers or defacement in any form or erecting of cutouts, hoardings, banners in public property or public premises however for putting of banners, pasting of posters in private property or private wall a written permission from the house owner and approval from the office of the District Magistrate is required.

No political parties or candidates will be allowed to put up banners on roads or thoroughfares. No Election meetings would be allowed without taking permission from the office of the Returning Officer, District Council Election, West Jaintia Hills District, Jowai and subsequently local headman regarding the venue of the meeting. No P.A. System will be allowed to be used between 10:00 PM to 6:00 AM and in case P.A System or loud speakers are used without permission from the Returning Officer, West Jaintia Hills the same will be seized immediately by the local authorities and no rallies and procession will be allowed without the permission from the Returning Officer.

This order will extend throughout the 1-War East District Council Constituency and will come into force with immediate effect and will remain in force till Election process is over.

Meanwhile, the District Magistrate, West Jaintia Hills has promulgated an order under Section 144 CrPC prohibiting person or group of persons from carrying cash above Rs. 50,000 (Rupees fifty thousand) only in the 1-War East, District Council Constituency.

The order has been issued in view of the information received that some people are likely to carry large amount of hard cash to bribe the voters for casting their vote in favour of a particular candidate and that such action, if allowed, would affect the conduct of free and fair by-poll to the Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Council, 2016 and is likely to cause frustration, quarrel and fight between members of the public leading to law and order problem, breach of peace and tranquility.

This order will come into force with immediate effect and remain till election process is over.

Notice

The Deputy Commissioner & Returning Officer, District Council Election, West Jaintia Hills District, Jowai has informed that the forms and Nomination Papers to Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Council for the 1-War East District Council Constituency can be obtained from the office of the Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil) Amlarem Sub-Division and the same may be delivered by the candidate or his proposer between 11:00 AM and 3:00 PM on any day (other than public holiday not later than the 28th November, 2016 to the said office and the Nomination papers will be taken up for scrutiny at the Deputy Commissioner's Chamber on 28th November, 2016.

The Notice for withdrawal of candidature may be delivered by a candidate or his proposer or his Election agent, who has been authorised in writing by the candidate to deliver it to the Returning Officer at his office before 3:00 PM on the 1st December, 2016.

Election will be held on 13th December, 2016 and the hours of commence and close of poll from 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

Weighbridges notified to issue weightment certificates

The weighbridge at Dalu (exiting to Bangladesh), West Garo Hills District; weighbridge at Gasuapara (exiting to Bangladesh), South Garo Hills District; weighbridge at Mawpun, West Khasi Hills District, via Athiabari Road that exits to Assam; weighbridge at Borsora, Cherragoan and Bagli (exiting to Bangladesh), South West Khasi Hills District; weighbridge at Byndihati and Ratacherra, NH-44, East Jaintia Hills District and weighbridge at Garampani (exiting to Assam), West Jaintia Hills District has been notified to issue weightment certificates to all goods laden vehicles that should pass through the weighbridge with immediate effect and until further orders.

Meanwhile, the weighbridge at Umtyr-a, East Jaintia Hills District belonging to Smti Patricia Sympli has been notified to issue weightment certificates to all goods laden vehicles that should pass through the weighbridge for a period of 1 year and until further orders.

This was informed by the Under Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya, Transport Department.