

Cabinet approves names for the Meghalaya Day Award 2017



The State Cabinet approved the names of three eminent personalities as recipients of the prestigious Meghalaya Day Award which was recommended by the Advisory Committee headed by the Chief Secretary. Briefing media persons after the Cabinet meeting on January 18, Chief Minister, Dr. Mukul Sangma said that the U Tirot Sing Syiem Award will be conferred to Shri. Sumar Sing Sawian, a renowned Khasi writer, Pa Togan Sangma Award for Social Service to Shri. Leander K. Marak and U Kiang Nangbah Award for achievement in Sports to Kum. Dolyne Kharbhih.

The State Cabinet also decided on the names of the VIPs who will take salute at the Republic Day parade on January 26 at the District and Block headquarters. Chief Minister, Dr. Mukul Sangma will be hoisting the Tricolour and take salute at the State Headquarter, Shillong. Deputy Chief Minister, Prof. R. C. Laloo will take the salute in Jowai, Home Minister, Shri. H. D. R. Lyngdoh and Labour Minister, Dr. M. Ampareen Lyngdoh will take the salute at Nongstoin and Nongpoh respectively while Sports and Youth Affairs Minister, Shri. Zenith Sangma will take the salute in Tura.

School Education and Literacy Minister, Smti. Deborah C. Marak and Urban Affairs Minister, Shri. R. V. Lyngdoh will take the salute at Williamnagar and Baghmara respectively. DCA Minister, Shri. Prestone Tynsong will be in Mawkyrwat, Health and Family Welfare Minister, Smti. Roshan Warjri in Resubelpara, PWD (R) Minister, Shri. M. M. Danggo in Ampati, Power Minister, Shri. S. Dhar in Khliehriat and Forest and Environment Minister, Shri. Clement Marak will be in Dadenggre to take the salute.

The State Cabinet also decided to allot 587.78 square metres of land to Shillong College for educational purposes. Deputy Chief Minister in charge Revenue and Disaster Management after the Cabinet meeting said that the Government had received a proposal from the Principal of Shillong College for allotment of land. The Deputy Commissioner was asked to file a report on the matter and as per the report, the area measuring 587.78 sq m under Plot 62 at Laitumkhrah Ward adjacent to the college is a vacant plot, the Deputy Chief Minister said. He also said that the Department had sought the views of the Law and Education Departments and with both having no objection, the proposal was placed before the Cabinet and the same was approved.

National Youth Day 2017 observed in the State



Along with the rest of the country, Meghalaya on January 12 observed "National Youth Day", to commemorate the 154th birth of Swami Vivekananda. The annual celebration was marked with various programmes across the state including a grand function held at Raj Bhavan, Shillong.

The Governor of Meghalaya, Shri. V. Shanmuganathan graced the occasion as the Chief Guest in the presence of Shri. P. B. O. Warjri, State Chief Information Commissioner, Shri. D. P. Wahlang, Commissioner and Secretary, Education department, Shri. F. R. Kharkongor, Commissioner and Secretary, Sports and Youth Affairs, Shri. H. M. Shangpliang, Secretary to the Governor, Dr. Sylvanus Lamare, Principal St. Edmund's College, Shillong, Smti M. W. Nongbri, Director Sports and

Youth Affairs, Shri. John F. Kharshiing, President MSOA, Swami Achyuteshananda Maharaj, Secretary Ramakrishna Mission, Shillong among others.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri. V. Shanmuganathan made an ardent appeal to the youth of the state to be part of the solution to some of the problems faced by the state of Meghalaya among which includes unemployment and lack of marketing avenues. He urged upon the educated youths to come forward and help the young school dropouts with imparting skill training like driving where they could fully engage themselves in the profession and earn their livelihood there from.

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Power Minister flags off Megha Power Vans



On January 12, Meghalaya Power Minister, Shri S. Dhar flagged off 10 Meghapower Vans at MeECL Headquarter, Lum Jingshai, Shillong. The vans will be used for emergency duties related to electricity based complaints. During the day the Minister also launched the newly designed MeECL website: www.meecl.nic.in where the consumers can access information on MeECL, electricity tariff rates, new connections and online payment of electricity bills besides other facilities. The website will also cater to other queries pertaining to any other consumer affairs.

Terming Power sector as a vital sector which deals with each and every household in the State, the Minister in his speech as Chief Guest said that the new initiative taken up by the Government will be able to effectively address the complaints related to power and electricity received on a day to day basis. While highlighting on issues relating to the shortage of power supply and the prevalence of electricity theft, Shri Dhar also urged the Deputy Commissioners in the Districts to convene meetings with Headmen of respective villages in order to address and find a permanent solution to curb electricity theft. He also said that this problem can

also be addressed effectively through awareness programmes.

The Minister also said that the website will not only provide information on MeECL and ease the problem of consumers queuing up for hours in order to pay their electricity bills, but will also provide transparency in its dealings with the public. "I hope that with this new initiative, consumer complaints will be catered and addressed to in a more effective and speedy way", he added.

Additional Chief Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya & CMD, MeECL, Shri P. S. Thangkhiew and Principal Secretary, Power, Shri M. S. Rao also spoke at the function. Director (Distribution), MePDCL, Shri T. Passah delivered the welcome address while Chief Engineer, MeEPDCL, Shri M. Shangpliang proposed the vote of thanks.

CMD, NEEPCO, Shri A. G. West Kharkongor, Commissioner & Secretary, Power, Shri E. P. Kharbhih, Director (Finance), MeECL, Shri A. Bhagotia, Director (Transmission), MePTCL, Shri C. Kharkrang and Technical Director, NEEPCO, Shri V. K. Singh was also present at the function.

National Youth Day 2017 observed in the State

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He also stated that farmers of the state are hard workers and can produce huge quantity of agricultural products but they cannot fetch good prices from their produce due to lack of marketing. "The youths can also come forward in this regard to help the farmers", the Governor suggested.

The Governor also stated that India is witnessing a great economic growth and urged upon the youth to grab the opportunity by fully utilizing the technology available at their disposal to read books as well as to find related sources of important information.

During the occasion, a Dance Drama on Swami Vivekananda, "A Journey to Divinity" was presented by the Department of Arts and Culture, Government of Meghalaya and I.C.C.R, a performance by the Gitanjali Dance Academy and a Short Skit on Vivekananda was also performed by the students of Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Cultural Centre, Shillong. Fashion Show depicting the indigenous dresses of the different tribes of Meghalaya was also on display during the programme.

The Governor on the occasion also felicitated Youth Icons of the State which included Andrea Tariang, R. Passah, Wansuk Myrthong, Marlangki Suting, Empower Warbah, Bonifast Khymdeit and Kitboklang Nongphlang.

Prizes were also distributed to the winners of the National Youth Day Run organized by the Directorate of Sports and Youth Affairs for various categories by the Governor. The winners under 18 boys category were Marso Kyndait 1st prize, Synsharlang Wahlang 2nd

Prize and Batsingstar Kharjarin 3rd prize. In the under 18 girls category first prize goes to Pynhun Shulet, second prize bagged by Aidaris Lyngkhoi and third prize bagged by Evamerry Ramsiej.

In the above 18 category for boys, first prize was bagged by Chitra Bahadur Gaha, second prize was bagged by Sunil Gurung while third prize goes to Jomsingstar Ramsiej. In the girls category first prize bagged by Dateibankynmaw Marwein, second prize bagged by Analiza L. Nonglait and third prize by Jenita Kharbteng.

In the Essay competition organized by the Directorate of Higher and Technical Education for Under Graduate category, Amit Dutta of St. Edmund's College, Laxmi Prabha Das, NIT, Meghalaya and Amethea Kellee Lyngdoh of All Saints Diocesan Hr. Secondary School bagged the 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize respectively.

The winners of Post Graduate category included Patricia Thangkhiew of St. Mary's College B.Ed, Kiran Singh Rana of NEHU and Archana Thakur, IGNOU who bagged the 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize respectively.

Earlier on the day, a similar programme was organized by the Meghalaya AIDS Control Society in collaboration with SHAMAKAMI, Lamjingshai Project, Shillong, at Don Bosco Youth Centre, Shillong where Dr. Jemino Mawthoh, MLA, Nongthymmai Constituency graced the occasion as the Chief Guest in the presence of Dr. (Mrs) B. Mawthoh, Project Director, MACS and representatives from various NGOs and educational institutions.

Constitution of a Search Committee under the Meghalaya Lokayukta Act, 2014

The Government of Meghalaya has constituted a Search Committee for the purpose of making recommendations of names of persons for appointment as the Chairperson and the members of the Lokayukta for consideration of the Selection Committee, consisting of Shri G. P. Wahlang, IAS Retd, Chairman, Shri B. B. Dutta, Member, Shri L. M. Sangma, Member, Smti Theilin Phanbuh, Member and Shri S. G. Momin, Member.

The terms of reference of the Committee shall be in accordance with the Rule 10 and Rule 11 of the Search Committee (Constitution, Terms and Conditions of Appointment of Members and the Manner of Selection of Panel of Names for Appointment of Chairperson and Members of Lokayukta) Rules, 2014.

This was informed by the Commissioner and Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya, Political Department.

20th General Body Meeting of AH & Vety held



The 20th General Body Meeting of the Meghalaya Veterinary Services Association was held on January 13 at the Conference Hall, Directorate of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Department Shillong. Dr. M. Ampareen Lyngdoh, Meghalaya Minister PWD (Buildings), Information & Public Relations, etc., graced the inaugural function as Chief Guest in the presence of Dr. K. B. Sahkhar i/c President, MVSA Apex Body, Dr. B. K. Mawthoh Joint Director A. H & Vety (Adm), Dr. C. J. K. Warjri General Secretary MVSA Apex Body, and others.

Chief Guest, Dr. M. Ampareen Lyngdoh in her address expressed her appreciation to the Department for the hard work and services it has been providing to the people of the state over the years.

“Veterinary is one of the most sought after profession by the young people of the country”, she stated adding that in the coming years, people of the state can look to veterinary not just as an employment option but also, as an opportunity for rendering selfless service to the state, she said. Stating that animal husbandry and animal rearing presents a great job opportunity for the young people of the state, she called upon the officers and staff of the Department to reach out to the remote areas and ensure that proper assistance is given to the farmers.

Others who spoke on the occasion were Dr. B. K. Mawthoh, Dr. K. B. Sahkhar who gave the welcome speech and Dr. C. J. K. Warjri who proposed the vote of thanks.

Ladthadlaboh Dorbar Chnong celebrates its Platinum Jubilee



The Ladthadlaboh Dorbar Chnong celebrated its Platinum Jubilee Celebration on January 17 at Ladthadlaboh Playground. Shri. Paul Lyngdoh, MLA graced the inaugural function as Chief Guest.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri. Lyngdoh congratulated the Ladthadlaboh Dorbar Chnong for having reached the milestone 75 years of its existence. While appreciating the founding members of the Dorbar Chnong for their vision and dedication which has brought tremendous development to the locality, Shri. Lyngdoh encouraged the residents of Ladthadlaboh Dorbar Chnong to face the challenges and to work hand in hand for the development of the locality.

The brief history of the locality was presented by the Waheh Chnong of Ladthadlaboh Dorbar Chnong Shri. L. D Lakiang.

Songs, dances, fashion show, fancy dress performed by the kids of Ladthadlaboh Dorbar Chnong added attraction to the celebration.

Shri. Marki Mulieh, local MDC, Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Council, Shri. L. D Lakiang, Waheh Chnong Ladthadlaboh, Shri. A. B. M. Shullai, General Secretary, present and past executive members of the Dorbar Chnong and residents of the locality attended the celebration.



Two-day 'Tysam fest' kicks off



The two-day Tysam festival started on January 16 amidst pomp and gaiety wherein people from across Garo hills thronged to witness the grand opening at Simsang Beach, Baghmara. Shri Samuel M Sangma, MLA, Shri Rophul S. Marak, MLA, Smti S. N. Marak, Deputy Commissioner, South Garo Hills District, Shri A. M. Sangma, Project Director, DRDA South Garo Hills, Baghmara and other dignitaries were among others present during the inaugural programme.

The term ‘Tysam’ an Atong word, which literally means by the river side, is an annual social and cultural extravaganza organized by the District Administration on the golden beaches of the mighty river Simsang. The two day event, has over the years become a huge hit drawing people from far and wide, providing them with an opportunity to witness the rich culture and tradition of South Garo Hills. Moreover, various developmental aspects of the districts are highlighted during the fest providing wholesome entertainment to the people.

Shri Rophul S Marak in his brief speech stressed on some of the crucial issues that are prevalent in the District. “Promotion of tourism is a panacea for bringing developmental change in the District”, he added. He also urged the leaders and citizens of the District to work hard in promoting the tourism sector.

The highlights of the day included Wangala dance, Ruga dance, flower show, beach soccer, beach volleyball, diving competition, boat race, basketball, inter-block Wangala dance, Ajea/Serejing competition, traditional attire show among others. Besides, the District industrial exhibition was also inaugurated in the same venue with participants from across Garo Hills had put up their stalls at the venue.

Consultative workshop on establishment and implementation of Consumer Services Depots held



A one day Consultative Workshop On Establishment And Implementation Of Consumer Services' Depots (CSDs) organised by the Office of the Registrar of Corporate Societies, Meghalaya in partnership with the Meghalaya Institute of Entrepreneurship (MIE) under the aegis of the Integrated Basin Development and Livelihood Promotion (IDBLP) Government of Meghalaya was held on January 17 at the Meghalaya Bharat Scouts & Guides Hall, Shillong.

Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Meghalaya, Dr. B. D. R. Tiwari graced the workshop as the Chief Guest in the presence of Smti A. L. Mawlong, Managing Director, MECOFED, Shri B. K. Sohliya, Officer on Special Duty, MIE, Smti R. Kharmujai, Joint Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Meghalaya and members of the cooperative societies drawn from different parts of the state.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Tiwari said that the Consumer Service Depots will not only ensure good price for the products and produce of the farmers at the village level but

will also provide a platform where they can buy and sell and at the same time take care of their essential daily needs.

To educate groups and societies on the concept of cooperatives and formation of Consumer Service Depots, the Cooperative Societies in coordination with the Basin Development Units and MIE, MBDA will conduct capacity building programmes from time to time for the members and office bearers of the village level societies enlightening them to make viable business development plans, added Dr. Tiwari.

It may be mentioned that the Consumer Service Depots has been conceptualised by the Government of Meghalaya based on the model of Daily Requirement Depots by the Andhra Pradesh Government. This initiative is part of the confidence building and outreach programme for the tribal community to ensure fair price for their produce and products locally made in the villages and provision for ration and essential commodities at fair price with ease of availability.

Sensitization Programme on Digital India Campaign held



A Sensitization programme on Digital India Campaign was organized by the Deputy Commissioner's office and District Planning Office, on January 12 at DRDA Conference Hall, West Garo Hills, Tura in collaboration with National Informatics Centre (NIC), Shillong. Heads of all Departments in the District, officials of various banks and other stakeholders were present at the awareness programme.

In his opening remark, Deputy Commissioner, West Garo Hills, Shri. Pravin Bakshi informed that the recent demonetization announced by the Central Government has necessitated sensitizing the people of the region adding that one of the important priorities of the Government is to promote opening of new accounts for those without bank accounts. Moreover, he mentioned that this step towards cashless transaction would reduce the difficulties faced for handling cash transactions involving huge amounts, which can easily be transferred directly to concerned persons' bank accounts.

Urging the people to cooperate in the leap forward towards a cashless economy by the Government of India, Shri. Bakshi requested all Heads of Line Departments in the District to direct their staff to open bank accounts since digital payment would be the mode of

payment in the near future.

Technical Director, National Informatics Centre, Meghalaya Shillong, Shri. Benos Lyngskor in his power point presentation, highlighted the background, objectives, digital payment framework, the short term and long term benefits of cashless economy while informing the measures taken up by the Government of India to promote a cashless economy through digital payments where NIC will act as a change agent. "This sensitization aims to enable citizens to access and use Electronic Payment System (EPS) including merchants in the rural areas", he added. He also informed that cashless transactions would include official receipts and payments including purchase of costlier items like vehicles, durables and purchase of daily items like groceries and medicines.

Shri. Lyngskor explained about the different modes of digital payments provided by banks of which using debit, credit and pre-paid cards is common among the people; other means being Rupay, e-Wallet, Aadhaar enabled payment system, and others. Further, he cautioned the people not to share passwords or PIN codes with others and also not to accept offers for free caller tunes, etc which are ways that hackers cheat people.

Draft Electoral Roll published

The Deputy Commissioner (Election), West Garo Hills District, has informed that the lists of amendment to the draft Electoral Roll for 46-Phulbari, 47-Rajabala, 48-Selsella (ST), 50-North Tura (ST), 51-South Tura (ST), 52-Rangsakona (ST), 56-Gambegre (ST) and 57-Dalu (ST) Assembly Constituency has been prepared with reference to 01-01-2017 as the qualifying date and in accordance with the Registration of Electoral Rule, 1960. A copy of the said Roll together with the said list of amendments has been published and available for inspection at the office of the Electoral Registration Officers.

National Lok Adalat

The Meghalaya State Legal Services Authority, Shillong (MSLSA), under the aegis of the National Legal Services Authority, New Delhi, will hold the National Lok Adalat for all relevant matters on the 11th February, 2017 in the High Court of Meghalaya, all District Courts, all District Council Courts and all Sub Divisional Courts. This was informed by the Member Secretary, MSLSA.

Any person or party receiving the Lok Adalat Notice may appear personally before the Lok Adalat benches for settlement of their dispute amicably and for further information.

Notice

The Joint Director of Health Services (SS), Civil Hospital, Shillong has informed that a 50 year old male patient, name, caste and religion unknown, was admitted in the Male Medical Ward, Bed No. 79 on 13.1.2017 at 1:17 AM and expired on the same day at 3:00 AM.

All concerned relatives are hereby requested to collect the dead body from the morgue of the hospital immediately failing which the dead body will be send for disposal by the Shillong Municipal Board.

Government employees asked to surrender PHH Ration Card

The In charge Deputy Commissioner (Supply), East Jaintia Hills District, Khliehriat has informed that all regular government employees holding a Ration Card (PHH) are directed to return the same to the office of the Deputy Commissioner (Supply), East Jaintia Hills District, Khliehriat on or before 31.01.2017 for inclusion of their names in the list of Non-NFSA. Any employee who does not surrender their cards will be prosecuted.

All Rangbah Shnongs under East Jaintia Hills District are requested to extend their Cooperation with the government to find out if there is any government servant who has such Ration Card in their possession and to return it to the competent authority.

SK Oil Price Refixed

The Additional Deputy Commissioner (Supply), East Jaintia Hills District, Khliehriat has informed that the Wholesale and retail price of S. K. Oil in the District has been refixed.

The Wholesale Price at Jaintia Services Station Khliehriat has been refixed at Rs.19.74p, at Sonapur Oil Agency at Rs. 20.17p and at Sutnga Sub-Depot at Rs. 20.54p.

For Dealers lifting S. K. Oil from from Khliehriat, the Retailer Price has been refixed at Rs. 21.00p, for Dealers lifting S.K.Oil from Sonapur Agency at Rs. 21.24p and for Dealers lifting S.K. Oil from Sutnga Sub-Depot Sutnga at Rs. 21.49.

Final Publication of Electoral Roll

The Electoral Registration Officer of 5-Sutnga Saipung (ST) Assembly Constituency and 6-Khliehriat (ST) Assembly Constituency has informed that the list of amendments to the Draft Electoral Roll for 5-Sutnga Saipung (ST) Assembly Constituency and 6-Khliehriat (ST) Assembly Constituency has been prepared with reference to 1st January, 2017 as the qualifying date and in accordance with the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960. A copy of the said Roll together with the said list of amendments has been published and will be available for inspection in the office during office hours.

Notification

For RTI matters pertaining to the Urban Affairs Department, the Government of Meghalaya has designated the Urban Affairs Department, Raitong Building as Public Authority, the Joint Secretary as Appellate Authority, the Under Secretary as Public Information Officer and the Superintendent as Assistant Public Information Officer.

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