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Meghalaya CM launches Radio Mirchi 91.1 FM in Shillong



Meghalaya Chief Minister, Dr. Mukul Sangma on March 17 launched Radio Mirchi 91.1 FM at a function held at the State Convention Centre, Shillong in the presence of Meghalaya Sports and Youth Affairs Minister, Shri Zenith M. Sangma and others.

In his brief address at the launch programme, Chief Minister Dr. Mukul Sangma expressed elation of the fact that a national brand of such repute is setting up shop in Shillong. "I am sure we will soon see Radio Mirchi becoming an integral part of the cultural and social fabric of Shillong", he said. "It is befitting to the people and the music lovers of the State, where the whole way of life revolves around music", he further added.

The RJs who will host the shows on Radio Mirchi 91.1 FM were also introduced during the launch.

High Court of Meghalaya celebrates 4th Establishment Day



The High Court of Meghalaya celebrated its 4th Establishment Day at a programme held at the Court premises on March 23. The function was attended by Mr. Justice Dinesh Maheshwari, Chief Justice, High Court of Meghalaya in the presence of Judges of the High Court of Meghalaya, Mr. Justice Sudip Ranjan Sen and Mr. Justice Ved Prakash Vaish, Registrar General of the High Court of Meghalaya, Secretary of the High Court of Meghalaya Bar Association, East Khasi Hills Deputy Commissioner and other dignitaries including family members of the judges.

Speaking at the cultural programme to mark the celebration, the Chief Justice expressed his appreciation to the members of the Meghalaya High Court and the Meghalaya Judiciary for their commitment and dedication while also seeking the co-operation of all concerned to ensure expeditious delivery of justice.

Expressing his appreciation to the learned members of the bar, the Chief Justice stated that the bench and the bar are but parts of the same wheel that progress together as one component. He also expressed optimism that the separation of

the judiciary and the executive in all districts of the state of Meghalaya would be realised in the near future, with the separation having been completed in 6 districts of the state.

Mr. Justice Maheshwari also took the occasion to appeal to the entire judicial fraternity to sit together, share views and take a vow to ensure that Meghalaya Judiciary becomes a role model to those of the region and in the entire country.

The cultural evening was made memorable by traditional songs and dances, performed by the Arts and Culture Department, members of the newly appointed Judicial Officers, Meghalaya State Judicial Academy (MSJA) and others.

Prior to the cultural programme, a discourse on the topic "Role of Equity in Justice Delivery System" was held at the Conference Hall of the High Court which was addressed by the Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Dinesh Maheshwari, Dr. Shishir Tiwari, Asst. Professor, Department of Law, NEHU and Shri. G.S Massar, Senior Advocate.

State set to host National Games 2022



Meghalaya is all set to host the 39th edition of the National Games in 2022. This was informed by the Sports and Youth Affairs Minister, Shri. Zenith Sangma in a press briefing held on March 23 at the Main Secretariat Building, Shillong. The announcement was made following passing of the official order by the India Olympics Association, which was received by the State Government on March 20.

Shri. Zenith Sangma further informed that the State Government has proposed to host 38 disciplines in the mega event and that a sum of Rs 1,300-1,500 crore would be required to host the event, of which 60-70 percent of the funding would be provided by the Union government.

Referring to the Kerala model, the Sports Minister said that the government would create infrastructure in such a way that the same could be used even for holding international sporting events after the National Games.

Working president of the Meghalaya State Olympic Association, Shri. John Kharshiing, said the event would require joint participation of all stakeholders. "When Manipur could do it way back in the nineties, why can't Meghalaya host the event," he said.

He said the Meghalaya Sports Policy, which has been placed on the floor of the House, will be of great help in guiding the successful organization of the event.

Till date, only two states in the North East have hosted the National Games – Manipur in 1999 and Assam in 2007.

Awareness Programme

In order to promote digital and cashless transaction, the District Sericulture Office, East Garo Hills, Williamnagar organized a one day Awareness Programme on Promoting Digital Payment at DRDA Hall, Williamnagar on March 18.

It may be mentioned that the main objective is to bring a radical shift from cash to digital transactions and to push farmers to use digital payment. Hundreds of farmers from Samanda Development Block area attended the programme.

District Sericulture Officer, Smti. Sanre Momin informed that the aim of the programme was to achieve the objective of educating, enabling and informing farmers about the benefits of a cashless economy.

Resource person, Shri. Prakash Newar, HDFC Bank Manager, enlightened the participants about accessing the basic banking services on digital payment and bank transactions by using mobile phones.

Similar awareness programmes were also conducted at Songsak and Rongjeng.

World TB Day observed

Along with the rest of the world, World Tuberculosis Day on the theme "Unite to End TB" was observed in the state on March 24.

In the state capital, the day was observed by the Meghalaya State Health Society, Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme in collaboration with the District Health Society (RNTCP), East Khasi Hills, Government of Meghalaya at U Soso Tham Auditorium, Shillong wherein Meghalaya Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Smti. Roshan Warjri was the Chief Guest. Also present among others were Shri. H M Shangpliang, Mission Director, NHM, Dr. R O Budnah, Director of Health Services (MI) and other health officials of the State.

In her address, Smti. Warjri said that World TB Day envisages to build public awareness on the effects of TB and also to be partners so that we can reduce, if not eradicate, this dreadful disease. She said that in the past, people are apprehensive to get themselves tested, fearing the taboo connected with it, but the time has come for each one of us to change our mindset regarding this health problem. TB can be cured if we create awareness and partner with all concerned to help people in timely detection and proper medication, she said. She informed that the government has made available facilities and treatment free of cost for the people of the state. Therefore, she called upon the health department and other line departments to work together and disseminate this important message to the masses especially to the remote areas so that this disease can be prevented and curbed.

Shri. H M Shangpliang, Mission Director, NHM, in his speech, said that TB is a common and deceptive disease, where people suffer in quietness and spread it out to the families, the community and the society because they hesitate to go to the public hospital for fear of stigmatization. He said that it is important to make the people aware about the basic and essential knowledge of tuberculosis, its causes, prevention and cure. He said that the government is ready to work together with NGOs and civil societies including health agencies in organising various campaigns related with this disease. Active participation is required by the communities and government agencies to broadcast the real messages to each and every individual.

In her keynote address, Dr. M. Hooroo, State Tuberculosis Officer, Meghalaya, gave a detailed overview of the TB situation in the world and the State of Meghalaya in particular.



The Chief Guest on the occasion also felicitated Nazareth Hospital Laboratory, the RNTCP accredited Laboratory in the State of Meghalaya, for diagnosis and follow up test of MDR-TB. She also gave away prizes to the Best DOT Providers of the District.

The welcome address was delivered by Dr. R O Budnah, Director of Health Services (MI) while Dr. M Mawrie, District Tuberculosis Officer, East Khasi Hills proposed the vote of thanks. Skit by Rapsbun School of Nursing and welcome song by the staff of R P Chest Hospital were the other highlights of the programme.

Feature

NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY MISSION: A BOON FOR FARMERS



Shri Ayub Hussain a farmer of Fershakandi Village, Salsella Block, West Garo Hills District has 1 Ha of land for Paddy Cultivation. In the previous years the farmer was growing only local Varieties of Paddy (Kaneri and Ranga Kishore) during Sali and Boro season but in the year 2015-16 under National Food Security Mission (NFSM) he started cultivating Hybrid Varieties like Arize Gold and Tej during Sali and Boro season and there was an increased in production during Sali Season and a bumper harvest is also expected from Boro Paddy.

Shri N. Hajong a farmer of Rudu B Village, South West Khasi Hills has around 2 Ha of land for cultivating paddy. In the year 2014-15, he started growing Boro paddy only in 1 acre of land and found that the harvest from this plot of land was sufficient for his family. During the year 2015-16, he increased the area upto 4 acre, with the hope that with sufficient water supply he will get a good harvest, which will go beyond making him self sufficient but will also give him surplus yield, which will help in uplifting his economic condition.



Other farmers who have found success under NFSM 2015-16, include Shri. Phubon Patho at Barigaon, Ri-Bhoi District, who has an area of 4 ha of land under paddy cultivation.

Smti. Albna Shangoi of Mawkynbad Village, West Khasi Hills District is another farmer who has seen success under the scheme, wherein her foray in planting paddy (MEG-II) variety has given her good dividends as this variety of paddy gives better yield and can withstand the environmental condition of the upper region.



Smti B.Lymphuid, Kyrдем Village, Ri-Bhoi District undertook lentil cultivation under Zero Tillage cultivation (Rice followed by Lentil). During the previous years, after harvesting of Sali Paddy her paddy field remained fallow but in the year 2015-16 an extra income of Rs. 30,000/- was generated from this same field

With the hope of a bountiful harvest, Shri S. Basaiawmoit of Nongtraw Village, Ri- Bhoi District has adopted intercropping of Maize with Soybean for the first time in his field. With this initiative, not only has he benefited with extra income from his field and it also has helped in maintaining soil health.



(Source: www.megagriculture.gov.in)

Meghalaya Bags Silver at the Skoch Health Awards 2017



Meghalaya Health & Family Welfare Department was conferred the 'Skoch Health Award 2017' for the Bio-Medical Waste Water Treatment (BIOWAT), a low cost environment friendly improvised liquid waste management, operating at Nartiang Public Health Centre, Nartiang, West Jaintia Hills District at a function during the 47th Skoch Summit held at the Constitution Club of India, New Delhi on March 18.

The presentation of the BIOWAT was given by Dr. R. Pohsnem at New Delhi before an eminent jury. The award was received by Dr. R. Pohsnem, on behalf of the Meghalaya Health Department from Shri. Sameer Kocchar, Chairman, Skoch Foundation and author of ModiNomics, in the presence of eminent personalities of Delhi.

Indian army, SWGH dist admin conducts pre recruitment rally



The two-day Pre-recruitment rally for physical test for recruitment to the prestigious Indian Army began on March 24 at Ampati in South West Garo Hills. The pre recruitment rally is being organized by the South West Garo Hills district administration under the Chief Minister's Career Guidance and Counseling Scheme (CMCGCS) and supported by the Indian Army.

The pre-recruitment rally is being held to prepare and enhance the chances of eligible candidates of the region to get into the Indian Army.

Eligible candidates from far flung areas came cycling to register their names at the pre recruitment rally at Ampati student's field throughout the day.

During the rally, officers and personnel from the Red Horns Division of the Indian Army aided by the officers from the district administration conducted pre-recruitment physical test assessment of the candidates who have registered to attend the recruitment rally being conducted by the Indian Army at Dikki Bandi stadium, Tura from April 2 to April 8, 2017. Candidates were weighed and acquainted with the grilling selection procedures of the Indian Army and familiarized with horizontal bars, chin ups, push ups, etc.

Coaching for the written examination will also be held from April 10 to April 28, 2017 at Ampati Government Higher Secondary school during which free guide books will be distributed for registered candidates.

CHANGE OF NAMES

The Government of Meghalaya has renamed Ganesh Das Hospital, Shillong as Ganesh Das Government Maternal and Child Health Hospital, Shillong; the road surrounding Thomas Jones Synod College, Jowai as Thomas Jones Road, Garampani as Saphai and Rilbong Chowk as Clifford Nongrum Square. This was informed by the Under Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya, General Administration Department (B).

MEETING OF THE SUPPORT GROUP FOR WOMEN

The Support Group for Women, an initiative of the Meghalaya State Commission for Women, will start its first meeting for women on the 31st March, 2017 between 3:00PM-5:00 PM and consequently on every last Friday of the month. This was informed by its Convenor. The meeting will be held in the office of the Meghalaya State Commission for Women, Lower Lachumiere, Shillong. Aggrieved women are welcome to attend the meeting. For any information interested persons can contact Telephone No. 0364-2501998.

CHANGING OF F&ES CONTROL ROOM TELEPHONE NUMBER

The Superintendent of Police, Fire and Emergency Services has informed that the BSNL authority has changed the landline telephone number of Shillong Fire and Emergency Services Control Room from 2227000 to 2520004.

ENROLMENT PERIOD FOR MIGRATING TO GST EXTENDED

The Commissioner of Taxes has informed that the time period to migrate to GST has been extended till 31st March, 2017. All existing tax payers registered under MVAT, CST, Luxury Tax and paying Entertainment Tax who are yet to migrate to GST may login to the Department website www.megvat.gov.in or GSTN portal www.gst.gov.in and to follow the instructions therein for completing the process of migration.

NOTIFICATION

For RTI matters pertaining to the Excise, Registration, Taxation and Stamps Department, the Government of Meghalaya has designated the Office of the Commissioner of Taxes, Meghalaya as Public Authority and Shri L. Khongsit, Assistant Commissioner of Taxes as Public Information Officer.

This was informed by the Under Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya, Excise, Registration, Taxation and Stamps Department.

APPLICANTS FOR CHAIRPERSON AND MEMBERS OF LOKAYUKTA UPLOADED IN WEB PORTAL

The Commissioner & Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya, Political Department & Convener, Search Committee has informed that the lists of names, designation, age and address of the applicants for the Post of Chairperson and Members of the Lokayukta of Meghalaya have been uploaded in the Government State Portal www.meghalaya.gov.in.

BSNL TO OFFER 2GB DATA/DAY

The Assistant General Manager, Marketing, CGMT, NE-I Circle has informed that the State owned telecom giant Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has introduced a special promotional offer under prepaid mobile services with effect from 16th March, 2017 for the period of 90 days on PAN India basis.

The benefits customer will get under the Combo STV of Rs.399/- are unlimited calls in BSNL network and unlimited data with fair use policy of 2gb/day with validity of 28days. The data of 2gb/day is one of the best in the industry. The free calls to other network will be for 25minutes/day and after that the charges will be @25paisa/min.

According to Shri K. K. Saxena, CGM, BSNL, NE-I, Circle, BSNL is committed to provide affordable and efficient services to all segment of BSNL loyal mobile customers. He also added that BSNL offer the best prices to the customers considering the present trend of Indian telecom industry.