

GST fails to ensure 100 pc tax collection

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The total amount of tax collected from July to October this year was Rs 24126.64 lakh and the corresponding figure for last year was Rs 17666.24 lakh.

The total amount of Rs 24126.64 lakh is inclusive of taxes levied upon petroleum products and service sector is the one which has been paying taxes most regularly, informed the sources.

The total amount of Rs 24126.64 lakh was collected from around 2500 tax payers even though there are 8500 tax payers in the State.

If all the 8500 tax payers are motivated to pay taxes regularly, the State's revenue can be multiplied manifold, added the sources.

Zeliang writes to PM, HM, Ravi

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according to sources.

The Nagaland Chief Minister wrote the letters to the five influential leaders of the Government of India soon after the Assembly session which concluded today.

In his letter, the Chief Minister of Nagaland "appealed for early solution in view of the strategic placement of the Nagas in the polity of India," the sources said.

The letters of the Nagaland Chief Minister were attached/enclosed with the "resolution on Naga political issue" passed today by the just concluded winter session of the Nagaland Legislative Assembly.

Govt to give Hakshelgi Tengbang gift on New Year's day

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proper publicity about the scheme, he added.

He further said that officials of Social Welfare Department have been deputed here to assist the needy people and forms are being provided to the needy people.

Underscoring the importance of Neuro Surgery Department, the Chief Minister said that a Neuro Surgery Department would be opened soon at JNIMS. The required infrastructure and machinery have been already bought and 6 Nurses are being given special hands-on training to assist the doctors in Neuro Surgery Department, he added.

The operation theatre is almost ready for use, he added. Condemning the incident of acid attack, Biren said that the attack is the first of its kind in the State and the Government would deal with the matter seriously.

Such attack is 'crime against humanity', he added.

He further stated that the Government would provide free medical treatment to the victim. The Government is also planning to provide livelihood to the victim's family, he added. To curb such incidents in future, he said, the case would be brought before the Fast Track Court which was set up to deal with crimes against women.

The Chief Minister stated that awareness programmes regarding the organ transplant from the dead bodies would be started soon in the State.

Seeking people's support, Chief Minister stated that such organ transplant would save many lives in the State.

On the occasion, the Chief Minister released a half yearly bilingual journal titled "Phijeegi Mani Laktagee" (The Hidden Treasure). The journal is published by the Relief Centre for the Welfare of Differently Aabled Persons, Manipur.

Centre approves scheme for NE with 100 pc funding

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Investment Subsidy Scheme (CCISS), 2007 of North East Industrial Investment and Promotion Policy (NEIIPP), 2007.

The CCEA has revised financial powers for approval of capital investment subsidy claims up to Rs 500 crore which will be now approved by the Minister of Commerce and Industry. This will facilitate expeditious settlement of claims.

The grant of subsidy to the industrial units will not only provide incentives to the operational units but also boost confidence of existing investors as well as potential investors in the states of NE, another statement said.

The Central Government has been implementing this scheme to promote industrialisation in the North Eastern region. *PTI*

TMNL denounces plan to inaugurate Mapithel project

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assessment of the impact on socio-economy and forests, major components like hydro power house, irrigation and tunnelling for supply of water are far from being completed.

Rehabilitation and resettlement packages are yet to be paid to the affected people while issues pertaining to forest and water are yet to be addressed.

Moreover the stake holders and the authority concerned of the area were not consulted on the proposed inauguration of the project by Water Department Minister Letpao Haokip, added TMNL.

Until and unless the pending issues are settled, the dam should not be inaugurated, added TMNL.

Transfer and posting of 26 MFS officers effected

By Our Staff Reporter

IMPHAL, Dec 15 : The State Government has effected the transfer and posting of 26 MFS officers with immediate effect. An order to this effect was issued by the Joint Secretary of DP today evening.

Ineligible, expired pensioners removed: Nemcha

By Our Staff Reporter

IMPHAL, Dec 15: Social Welfare and Cooperation Minister Nemcha Kipgen today announced that 9800 individuals who have been taking pensions even though they have not yet reached eligibility age as well as those who have already expired, have been cancelled from the list of old age pension beneficiaries.



Nemcha Kipgen (File photo)

Speaking to The Sangai Express at her New Secretariat office yesterday, Minister Nemcha Kipgen said that the step of cancelling the said names or individuals were taken after the Department received complaints from the people regarding the list of old age pension beneficiaries the

Dept put up in its website. Pointing out that some Government employees were among those taking pension from the old age pension scheme, she said that the old age pensions will be transferred to the accounts of the pensioners by means of Direct Benefit

Transfer. The District Level Officers are also taking up necessary steps to transfer the said amounts to respective accounts of the beneficiaries. The funds will be transferred to the respective accounts after the process of linking bank ac-

counts with the Aadhaar numbers has been completed and the Department has enough funds to provide old age pensions for 17 months, she added.

Nemcha Kipgen explained that all necessary process will be completed by December 29 and the concerned officials have been instructed to identify the exact number of old age pension beneficiaries.

Stating that the Department also carries out regular surveys to see if various Centres under its supervision are operating properly, Minister Nemcha Kipgen appealed to the people to provide necessary feedback to her if they find any discrepancies in the Department or its works.

PM Modi to open Tuirial hydro project in Mizoram

NEW DELHI, Dec 15

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will dedicate the Tuirial Hydroelectric Power Project in Mizoram to the nation tomorrow, the power ministry said today.

Mizoram Governor Nirbhay Sharma, Chief Minister Lal Thanhawla and several ministers as well as officials will be present on the occasion, the Power Ministry said in a statement.

The 60 MW Tuirial Hydro Electric Power Project (HEPP) has been constructed as a Central Sector Project and implemented by North Eastern Electric Power Corporation (NEEPCO), under the administrative control of the Union power ministry.

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) cleared the project for implementation in July 1998 with commissioning scheduled in July 2006.

After the completion of about 30 percent of the project activities, the work was totally suspended from June 2004

due to local agitation. The work resumed in January 2011.

The remotely located project faced various hindrances ranging from inadequate communication infrastructure, massive failure of the Power House slopes due to poor soil condition to lack of availability of skilled manpower.

Unit-I of the project was commissioned on August 25 this year, and Unit-II on November 28.

The project has been built at a cost of Rs 1,302 crore. It is the biggest power project in Mizoram and will feed the entire energy to be generated to the state, which will help it achieve the Centre's ambitious and flagship Mission '24x7 Affordable Clean Power for All'.

The state's current demand of electricity is only 87 MW and this is being met by the state's mini power projects and availability of its share of power from central sector projects.

Mizoram will now be the third power-surplus state in North East India after Sikkim and Tripura. *PTI*

Sumatran rhino 'hanging on by a thread'

WASHINGTON, Dec 14

Scientists have decoded the genome of the Sumatran rhinoceros - one of the most threatened mammals on Earth.

Its genetic blueprint shows that populations have been in decline for a very long time.

The rhino's troubles began during the last Ice Age, when its habitat shrank, says a US team.

Since then, human pressures have caused numbers to dwindle further. There are now thought to be fewer than 250 individuals left in the wild.

"This species has been well on its way to extinction for a very long time," said study researcher, Terri Roth at the Center for Conservation and Research of Endangered Wildlife at the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden.

The genome sequence data revealed the Pleistocene "was a roller-coaster ride for Sumatran rhinoceros populations," added lead researcher, Dr Herman Mays of Marshall University in West Virginia.

The Pleistocene is the geological time period that lasted from about 2,588,000 to 11,700 years ago, spanning the world's most recent Ice Age. The researchers sequenced and analysed the first whole Sumatran rhino genome from a sample belonging to a well-known male at Cincinnati Zoo. Ipuh lived at the zoo from the 1990s, but died four years ago at the age of 33. He sired three offspring, more than any other Sumatran rhino in the world, and deposited his genetic material in a gene bank.

From his DNA, scientists were able to model the population history of the Sumatran rhino.

They say the population approached 60,000 individuals about 950,000 years ago.

By about 12,000 years ago - the end of the Pleistocene - Sumatran rhinos had lost much of their suitable habitat, like many other large mammals.

Land bridges exposed during the Ice Age connecting the islands of Borneo, Java, and Sumatra to the Malay Peninsula and mainland Asia had disappeared into the sea.

By 9,000 years ago, numbers had declined dramatically due to climate pressures. "Their population bottomed out and never showed signs of recovery," said Prof Mays.

"The Sumatran rhinoceros species is hanging on by a thread," Dr Roth added. "We need to do more to save it."

The Sumatran rhino once roamed from the foothills of the Himalayas in Bhutan and north-eastern India, through southern China, Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam and the Malay Peninsula, and onto the islands of Sumatra and Borneo in Indonesia.

The species is now confined mainly to Sumatra and is listed as Critically Endangered by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

The IUCN says over-hunting for its horn and other medicinal products has driven the animal to the brink of extinction. There are over 20 Sumatran rhinos in captivity, mostly in Indonesia and Malaysia, with a few in the US.

Hundreds of large mammal species disappeared after the last Ice Age, due to climate change, loss of vegetation and human hunting.

Genetics gives researchers a window into the past; from a single whole genome sequence, they are able to model how the size of a population has changed over time.

AMSU protests in front of CM's office, 17 held

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proved futile.

Peter Laishram decried that girl students who took part in the AMSU's agitation were manhandled and physically assaulted by male police personnel.

If all the student volunteers arrested today are not released at the earliest without any condition, AMSU would launch violent modes of agitation and the Government should be held accountable for such agitation, Peter said.

On being enquired about denial of appointment order to Pikeswar who has been recommended to the post of TRI Deputy Director, AMSU claimed that TRI informed them that they would take up the matter with the higher authority concerned but the Chief Minister has been refusing to meet AMSU to talk the matter.

The way the Government has been dealing with the matter is highly questionable, he added.

Nagaland House passes resolution to expedite solution

Newmai News Network

DIMAPUR, DEC 15: The 12th Nagaland Legislative Assembly passed a resolution on Naga political issue today, the second and the concluding day of the winter session that, "solution to the Naga political issue cannot afford any more delay and thereby interminably deny the Nagas their democratic right to self-determination and other concomitant rights and vestments". The resolution also said, "And therefore the 12th Nagaland Legislative Assembly assembled on December 15, 2017 during the session, hereby urged upon the Government of India to take emergent and extraordinary steps to usher in an honourable and acceptable solution to the Naga political issue well before the Assembly elections to the 13th Nagaland Legislative Assembly slated for March, 2018".

It can be noted here that, at the 'consultative meet' of the Nagaland Legislators' Forum (NLF) with the parliamentarians and ex-parliamentarians held on December 7, 2017 in Kohima, a resolution was passed urging the Nagaland Legislative Assembly to pass a separate resolution on similar lines for "solution before election" during the "current session" (December 14 and 15) of the Nagaland Legislative Assembly.

To this effect, a note containing today's resolution issued by the Speaker of the Nagaland Legislative Assembly said, "This House appreciated the various measures taken by the Government of India in regard to early solution of the protracted Naga political issue, especially the Framework Agreement on August 3, 2015 between the Government of India and the NSCN (IM) as well as the further written Agreement on November 27, 2017 between the Government of India and the Working Group of the six Naga National Political Groups (NNPGs)". The note also said that various stake holders are sincerely and seriously engaging their minds to the core details of the Naga political issue in order to arrive at an early solution.

The Nagaland Legislative Assembly then urged upon the Election Commission of India (ECI) not to announce the assembly elections to the 13th Nagaland Legislative Assembly until the Govt of India arrives at "an honourable and acceptable solution to the Naga political issue."

Imphal Book Fair opened

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opened in the book fair. Organizers informed that a few more publishing firms/houses are likely to arrive soon.

Arts and Culture Minister L Jayantakumar declared the opening of the 26th edition of Imphal Book Fair during its inaugural function held at the venue.

Speaking at the function, Jayantakumar stressed on the importance of books and library telling the most successful man is the man who has the best and the latest information.

He pointed out that even the lawyers read books regularly to update information and knowledge.

Lamenting that the people in the State lack reading habits, he said many books in various libraries are even found with their covers unwrapped even once.

Observing that knowledge is some sort of motivation to come out in the society and do good things, he asked all to acquire knowledge by reading books and apply the knowledge gained from reading books for the welfare of the society.

He further sought people's participation stating the success of organizing book fair will be determined by the number of book lovers coming to the book fair.

Noting that the Manipur Public Libraries Act, 1988 is implemented in the State, he maintained that the implementation is debatable as there is no separate Director for Library and there is no proper infrastructure and adequate manpower.

He assured that he would approach the Chief Minister and his Cabinet colleagues to open a full-fledged directorate for library with the construction of proper infrastructure after finding an appropriate site and by doing other needful works like strengthening the manpower.

Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution Minister Karam Shyam decried that a meagre section of the youth show interest in book fairs and opined that bringing out the youth and introducing them to books would be quite beneficial for the society.

Pointing out that the library movement in the State is lagging far behind the other States, the Minister said that it is high time for the Government, intellectuals and all to take initiative for fostering the movement.

He drew the attention of the Minister concerned while admitting that the Government alone cannot take responsibility to promote library movement in the State.

He then observed that organizing book fairs will not bring much changes without improving the libraries.

He urged the youth to develop reading habits and share knowledge with each other to make the society prosperous and peaceful.

The function was presided by Art and Culture Commissioner M Lakshmikumhar Singh.

Many events like children spot painting competition, symposium, meeting the successful personalities and interaction programme with film stars, Shumang Leela artistes and singers are being added this year to attract more people.

Stolen SUV from Assam 'surrendered' to PS here

Contd from page 1

Imphal yesterday in connection with an investigation into a missing Scorpio.

After making a requisition at Porompat police station about the presence of the missing (Contd P 4)

SUV (AS-01-DA-4534) at the residence of the said MLA, the Assam Police team assisted by a team of Porompat police went to the residence of the MLA this morning but returned empty handed, informed a source.

The vehicle which has been 'surrendered' to Porompat police station would be taken to Assam tomorrow.

The vehicle was reported missing from Assam in April this year.

Incidentally, a PIL has been filed before the High Court of Manipur seeking direction from the Court for investigation by CBI into rampant registration of missing/stolen vehicles in the State.

The PIL sought the High Court's intervention to put an end to the practice of issuing registration numbers without proper verification and punish the offenders involved in issuing such unlawful registration numbers.

The PIL also mentioned that these vehicles being very costly are mostly used by influential persons who have contacts with the powers that be.

Sagar School celebrates founder's day

The Sagar School celebrated their 18th Founder's Day with the fervour they always do.

Prasad Chandran, former Chairman and Managing Director of BASF India Limited presided over the celebrations. The programme was a mix of gaiety and profound bliss.

The Sagar School's Chairperson Rosemary Sagar briefly recounted Dr.Sagar's life and incredible journey to success, narrating how her father had a growth mind set, exhorted the same 'I can' attitude become part of the education at school.

The School's Director, Sharmistha Julka conveyed in her crisp message that the School's team of educators and staff are its biggest asset and applauded their commitment and contribution towards the upward progression in student performance.



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