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CM LEADS SOCIAL MOBILIZATION ON HORTICULTURE MISSION 'FOCUS OF HORTICULTURE MISSION ON INDIGENOUS PLANTS': CM



Chief Minister Dr. Mukul Sangma spearheaded the social mobilization campaign on Horticulture Mission and also distributed agar, coconut and drumstick (moringa) saplings to the partners from Betasing and Zikzak C&RD blocks at Ampati and Zikzak in South West Garo Hills on 18th August 2017.

The social mobilization and sapling distribution programme was also attended by Salmanpara MLA & Government Chief Whip Shri. W.D. Sangma, Mahendraganj MLA & Chairperson Meghalaya Resources & Employment Generation Council Smti. Dikkanchi D. Shira, Deputy Commissioner Shri. C.V.D. Diengdoh, Superintendent of Police Shri. Bobby W. Momin, Joint Director of Agriculture, Garo Hills, B. N. War, officials of Agriculture and Horticulture Departments and others.

During his address on the occasion, the Chief Minister said that it was necessary to have such social mobilization in order to create awareness and generate support from the masses so that the mission will be successful and the farmers can reap full benefits from the programme. Highlighting on the values and numerous uses of agar and coconut plants, the Chief Minister also said that the programme was aimed at fulfilling the shared objective of creating livelihood opportunities through plantation of high value crops like agar, coconut, bamboo along with black pepper and other plants which would not only give remunerative returns to the farmers that will benefit their future generations but also take care of the adverse effects of environmental degradation. He urged the farmers to take up the plantation of these crops in large numbers because only then would the Government be able to tie up with investors to open up factories to create value chain of their products.

On the menace of elephants causing destruction to crops and plantations in certain areas of the district, the Chief Minister announced that the Government was coming up with a scheme for distribution of citrus plantation which the farmers can plant as a natural fencing to protect their plantations. He also informed about the scheme for plantation of fruit bearing trees, among others, adding that sanction has been given for planting material component to the farmers. While the Agar and Coconut saplings were distributed through Agriculture-Horticulture schemes under



Horticulture Mission, the distribution of drumstick saplings was part of the Chief Minister's own initiative to promote plantation of high-value nutritive crops.

On 21st August 2017, continuing with the social mobilization and distribution of saplings under Horticulture Mission, Chief Minister Dr. Mukul Sangma said that the State Government's focus was to promote plantation of high-value plants that are indigenous to the region and ensure that farmers generate a lot of income that would benefit generations to come. The Chief Minister addressed a huge gathering at Songsak Agitokgre in East Garo Hills before distributing Agar, Black Pepper and Drumstick saplings to the beneficiaries in the presence of Minister for School Education & Literacy, Smti. Deborah C. Marak, Parliamentary Secretaries Shri. Cherak W. Momin and Shri. Sengnam Marak, local leaders, officials and farmers among others.

Stressing on scientific utilization of resources available in the State, Dr. Sangma said that the Government was coming up with a programme called Comprehensive Agriculture Planning under the Mission, through which satellite mapping of agricultural lands of the farmers would be undertaken so that they can identify cultivable land for specific crops.

Reiterating on the importance of Agar and its multiple uses, the Chief Minister informed that the State has been getting many applications for starting a factory for extraction of Agar oil, which is famous for its medicinal properties. On Agar being an endangered species, he dwelt at length on how the State Government has framed a policy for plantation and harvesting of Agar wood and at the same time explained the method of plantation and inoculation of Agar plants for enhancing their value.

The Chief Minister also gave away cheques to selected villages for starting community nurseries under Integrated Basin Development & Livelihood Promotion Programme and urged upon the beneficiaries to focus on indigenous and traditional plants that are of high-value.

MBSG INDUCTION CEREMONY



An Induction Ceremony of the Governor of Meghalaya, Shri. Banwarilal Purohit as the Patron, and the Chief Secretary of Meghalaya, Shri Y. Tsering as the President of the Meghalaya Bharat Scouts & Guides (MBSG) was held on 23rd August 2017 at Raj Bhavan, Shillong in the presence of State Chief Commissioner, MBSG and Principal Secretary, Education, Shri D. P. Wahlang, Principal Secretary to the Governor of Meghalaya, Shri K. N. Kumar, Vice President, MBSG and Commissioner & Secretary, Home (Police), Shri E. P. Kharbhih and other senior officials.

In his brief address at the induction ceremony, the Governor of Meghalaya and Patron, MBSG, Shri Banwarilal Purohit stated that the main aim of the movement is to prepare young boys and girls to take on the responsibility to serve the society in a selfless manner. On the occasion, he also invited every citizen to join in and strengthen the movement thus making them worthy citizens of the State and the Country as a whole.

During the programme, State Training Commissioner (Scouts), Shri. Gary James was awarded with the Professional Scout Medallion. Shri. James was the first candidate of the 50th Basic Management Course from India to receive the award. The Professional Scout Medallion is awarded by the World Scout Bureau-Asia Pacific Region Support Centre to Scouting Professionals who have completed the Basic Management Course in Scouting.

The Hon'ble Charge of Leader Trainer (Guides) was also presented to the State Training Commissioner (Guides), Smti. W. Tariang and District Training Commissioner (Guides), East Khasi Hills and Teacher, St. John's School, Laban, Smti. M. Lyngdoh. The Hon'ble Charge of Leader Trainer is the highest training for a Trainer in Scouting and Guiding and capable of conducting trainings for all levels of Adult Leaders. The Hon'ble Charge is issued by the National Training Centre-Pachmarhi, Madhya Pradesh.

MEGHALAYA CELEBRATES 71ST INDEPENDENCE DAY

Meghalaya joined the rest of the country in the celebration of the 71st Independence Day on 15th August, 2017. Chief Minister Dr. Mukul Sangma unfurled the National Flag and took the Rashtriya Salute during the ceremonial parade held at the Polo Grounds, Shillong.

The marching contingents included 58 GTC, CRPF, DEF, SF-10, Border Wing Home Guard, Bharat Scouts & Guides, NCC, Indian Red Cross Society, BSF Secondary School, Pine Mount School, Army Public School, Holy Cross Secondary School, Little Flower School, Loreto Convent School, Assam Rifles Public School, Meghalaya Police Public School and the combined Brass and Pipe Band of Border Wing Home Guard, BSF, Assam Rifles and Military Band from 58 GTC led by Parade Commander Major Sandeep Halder from 58 GTC and 2nd in command Inspector R. C. Bordoloi, ABSI, DEF. The Horse contingent from Assam Rifles Public School Laitkor added grandeur to the parade.

The names of the recipients of Police Medal for Gallantry were also announced during the celebration. Shri Deven Mawlein, Inspector, West Khasi Hills DEF, Shri. Jose Sumer, Constable, West Khasi Hills DEF, Shri. Grohon K. Marak, Constable, West Khasi Hills DEF, Shri. Victor N. Sangma, DSP, SF-10, Shri. Nikcheng Senga Ch. Momin, DSP, North Garo Hills, Shri. Jester A. Sangma, Constable, SF-10 and Shri. Mac Donald Thongni, Constable, SF-10.

The Chief Minister also handed over the District Appreciation Award to Smti. Nancy M. Shadap, Superintendent, Government Shelter Home Girls, Shillong for her selfless service and dedication to duty, GVK EMRI for their prompt and reliable delivery of medical services and Dorbar Shnong Mawshbuit for their sustained efforts in keeping the popular tourist spot Sweet Falls located in the village impeccably clean.

The Chief Minister also handed over the State Level awards and District Incentive Awards to Anganwadi workers. The recipients of the State Level Award for 2016-17 were Smti. Icylda War of Umlingka Lumpongden Anganwadi Centre, Myllem ICDS project and Smti. Aiesty Nongrum of Dewsaw Pathaw Anganwadi Centre, Pynursla ICDS project of East Khasi Hills District. Recipients of the State Level Award for 2017-18 include Smti. Eming Khonglam of Wahpathaw Anganwadi Centre, Pynursla ICDS project, East Khasi Hills District, Smti. Iarlis Syngkli of Diwon 'B' Anganwadi Centre, Umling ICDS project, Ri-Bhoi District, Smti. Dianghun Kharsyntiew of Khliehmawlieh Anganwadi Centre, Nongstoin ICDS project, West Khasi Hills District, Smti. Gentillina R. Marak of Lower Chidegre Anganwadi Centre, Samanda ICDS project, East Garo Hills District, Smti. Chynna Mulieh of Ialong Shnong Thymme Anganwadi Centre, Thadlaskein ICDS project, West Jaintia Hills District, Smti. Dimi Lyngdoh of Tuber Wah Anganwadi Centre, Khliehriat ICDS project, East Jaintia Hills District and Smti. Aftria S Marak of Upper Wadanang Anganwadi Centre, Urban ICDS project, West Garo Hills District.

The recipients of District Incentive Award 2016-17 were Smti. Korben Warjem of Kshepongden Anganwadi Centre, Mawryngkneng ICDS project and Smti. Nosilian Jyrwa of Ummyle Anganwadi Centre, Mawphlang ICDS project. Recipients of District Incentive Award 2017-18 were Smti. Ioida Nongkhaw of Kyrdemkhla Anganwadi Centre, Laitkroh ICDS project and Smti. Brilin Kharkongor of Nongthymmai I Anganwadi Centre, Laitkroh ICDS project.

The Chief Minister also handed over the District Best ODF award for 2017-18 to Mawkasiang village under Myllem C&RD Block and prizes for the winners of school marching contingents. Loreto Convent bagged the first prize in the March Past while Meghalaya Police Public School and Little Flower School bagged the second and third prizes respectively.

Other highlights of the celebration in the city included cultural programs, Independence Day Run



and Green pedal challenge, dog show competition, skills display by dogs from BSF and Meghalaya Police Dog Squad, and live band from BSF and Assam Rifles at Wards Lake, Free cinema shows at Payal, Bijou, Galleria and Gold Cinema, Food court and live performances by various artists at Khyndailad, Shillong.



At Jowai, West Jaintia Hills District, Deputy Chief Minister, Prof. R. C Laloo unfurled the National Flag and took the Rashtriya Salute of the 31 contingents comprising of the District Police Force, Home Guards, NCC students from Thomas Jones Synod College Scouts & Guides and 26 Schools led by Parade Commander DSP Smt. Neena Rabha and 2nd in Command Shri. Ioanis Khongjoh, Inspector Home Guard & Civil Defence.

At Tura, West Garo Hills, School Education and Literacy Minister, Smti. Deborah C. Marak unfurled the National Flag and took the Rashtriya Salute of a 43 strong marching contingent comprising of Meghalaya Police, 2nd MLP Battalion, NCC, Scouts and Guides and school students at the Dikkibandi Stadium, Dakopgre, Tura.

At Nongpoh, Ri Bhoi District, Dr. D. D. Lapang, local MLA and Chief Adviser to the Government of Meghalaya unfurled the National Flag and took the Rashtriya Salute of 26 marching contingents comprising of MLP, school students and Scouts & Guides at NSCA Stadium, Pahamsyiem.

At Resubelpara, North Garo Hills District, Shri. Salseng C Marak, Chairman, State Planning Board unfurled the National Flag and took the Rashtriya salute of the 20 parade contingents comprising of the police, NCC, Black Hawk Squad, Scouts and Guides

and students at the Mini Stadium, Resubelpara.

At Ampati, South West Garo Hills District, Minister for Home (Police), Shri. H.D.R. Lyngdoh unfurled the National Flag and took the Rashtriya Salute before a gathering of over 5000 people and 30 parade contingents consisting of Meghalaya Police, Scouts & Guides and school platoons at Ampati Students' Field. The final match of the Monsoon Soccer Challenge, 2017, organized by Ampati Youth Welfare Club, was also played in the afternoon. The match was attended by Meghalaya Chief Minister Dr. Mukul Sangma as Chief Guest. The match was interspersed with a display of football drills and performances by local artistes.

At Williamnagar, East Garo Hills District, Forest and Environment Minister, Shri. Clement Marak unfurled

the National Flag and took the Rashtriya Salute of the 30 marching contingents led by Shri. Chalang Ch. Momin, DSP at Rongrenggre Higher Secondary School playground, Williamnagar.

At Nongstoin, West Khasi Hills District, Smti. R. Warjri, Meghalaya Minister for Health and Family Welfare unfurled the National Flag and took the Rashtriya Salute of 33 Parade contingents comprising of District Police, NCC, Scouts & Guides and school children at St Peter's playground, Pyndengrei.

At Mawkyrwat, South West Khasi Hills District, Shri. A. T. Mondal, Speaker of the Meghalaya State Legislative Assembly unfurled the National Flag and took the Rashtriya salute of the 18 parade contingents comprising of police, NCC, Scouts & Guides, school students and Brass Band (Home Guards) at Maharam Government Higher Secondary School playground.

At Khliehriat, East Jaintia Hills District, Shri. R. V. Lyngdoh, Minister of Urban Affairs unfurled the National flag and also took the Rashtriya Salute of 22 Parade contingents comprising of Meghalaya Police and school students at Khliehriat Secondary School.

At Baghmara, South Garo Hills District, PHE Minister, Dr. Celestine Lyngdoh unfurled the National Flag and took the Rashtriya Salute of 20 parade contingents at District Sports Complex Baghmara. Freedom Run, Community Sports like competition of Iron man and woman of Baghmara, children sports and an exhibition football match between D.C. XI versus MLA Team and cultural programmes were the other highlights of the celebration.

At Dadenggre Civil Sub-Division, Sports and Youth Affairs Minister, Shri. Zenith M. Sangma unfurled the National Flag and took the Rashtriya Salute of the Marching contingents comprising of DEF, West Garo Hills, Little Flower Secondary School (boys and girls), Dilsigre Secondary School (boys and girls), Dadenggre Puri Govt. Higher Secondary School (boys and girls), Kings Way Academy Secondary School (boys and girls) and Tiny Rose Secondary School (boys and girls).

At Mairang Civil Sub-Division, Smti F.M. Lakiang, SDO (C), Mairang Civil Sub – Division unfurled the National Flag and took the Salute of the 23 marching contingents comprising of police personnel, Junior Division NCC Cadets of St. Thomas Higher Secondary School, Scouts & Guides Company of Pyndengumiong Presbyterian Secondary School and different schools at Dommawlum playground, Pyndengumiong.

At Amlarem Civil Sub-Division, Shri. Stephanson Mukhim, Parliamentary Secretary unfurled the National Flag and took the Rashtriya Salute at Amlarem Government Primary School Playground. The celebration was marked by songs, cultural items, colourful dances and meaningful skits performed by students of various schools and cultural troupes from the Sub-division. The traditional Rongkusi dance was also presented by Nongbareh Lyntiar Dance troupe.

At Sohra Civil Sub-Division, Dr. M. Ampareen Lyngdoh, PWD (B) Minister unfurled the National

Flag and took the salute of the 14 marching contingents comprising of Meghalaya Police, NCC and School students at Sohra Sports Stadium. During the programme, Laitkroh Khatar Shnong C&RD Block was declared as an Open Defecation Free Block.

At Pynursla Civil Sub-Division, Shri A. L. Hek, MLA unfurled the National Flag and took the Rashtriya Salute of the 25 parade contingents comprising of the police and school students at Urksew Umkor Pynursla Sport Club Stadium.

At Mawshynrut Civil Sub-Division, Shri K. C. Khyriem, Parliamentary Secretary unfurled the Nation flag and took the salute of 17 parade contingents at BDO's office ground Riango. Other highlight of the programme include a football match between Tynrong Mawsaw and Seinduli-I wherein Tynrong Mawsaw out-beat Seinduli – I by 2-1 goal.

At Raksamgre Civil Sub-Division, Parliamentary Secretary, Shri Limison Sangma unfurled the National Flag and took the Rashtriya Salute of 11 Parade contingents at Raksamgre Playground, Raksamgre.

At Chokpot Civil Sub-Division, Smti Bluebell R. Sangma, local MLA unfurled the National Flag and took the Rashtriya Salute of 21 Parade contingents at Warima Playground. Other highlights of the day include cultural programmes and childrens' sports.

At Patharkhmah Administrative Unit, Shri Hopeful Bamon, Parliamentary Secretary unfurled the National Flag and took the Rashtriya Salute of 14 parade contingents comprising of MLP and students of various schools at Patharkhmah Playground. Cultural programmes and distribution of prizes by the Chief Guest were the other highlights of the day.

At Ranikor Administrative Unit Shri M. M. Danggo, PWD (Roads) Minister hoisted the National Flag and took the salute of the marching contingents comprising of 8 schools and the Police at Nolikata playground, Ranikor.

At Shangpung Elaka Administrative Unit, Shri. Comingone Ymbon, C&RD Minister unfurled the National flag and took the Rashtriya salute of the 20 marching contingents of school students at Moosyiem football ground.

Eco-tourism camp to come up at Mandalgre, base laid for road construction



Mandalgre village in East Garo Hills - located within the periphery of Nokrek Biosphere Reserve – will soon get its Eco-Tourism Camp as Chief Minister Dr. Mukul Sangma on 28th August 2017 laid the foundation stone for its construction as part of the Government's initiative of developing an Eco-Tourism Circuit in the region. He also laid the foundation stone for construction, including metalling and black-topping of the road from Chinabat to Mandalgre village.

Mandalgre, with nearly 700 house-holds, which existed even before the British era, is one of the oldest villages in the Nokrek region. It is famous for citrus plantation and rich flora and fauna with the potentiality to develop as an eco-tourism resort. Its scenic beauty with rare species of birds and orchids, orange orchards and pleasant weather condition, makes it one of the favourite destinations for trekkers. However, due to the absence of proper road connectivity, the people of this village have been facing a lot of difficulty and hardship in commuting and particularly in transporting and marketing their agricultural produce. With the sanction for construction of this all-weather road from Chinabat, along Tura-Williamnagar road, to the village, the long cherished dream of the people of Mandalgre will soon become a reality.

In his brief address on the occasion, the Chief Minister assured all support from the Government so that the importance of this village will be known to all and the people of the village can flourish without having to go outside for opportunities. Referring to Nokrek Biosphere which is a gene bank of citrus, particularly Citrus Indica (locally known as Me'mang Narang), he said that stories created as such can attract a lot of tourists and bring a lot of revenue to the village and called for all line departments to work in convergence to create tourism products that will relate to the village.

Orange saplings were also distributed to the villagers on the occasion. The Chief Minister said that every family should plant at least 100 of them, and with the area being suitable for cultivating large cardamoms, he urged upon the villagers to opt for large scale plantation so that they can get high returns and create opportunities for themselves and their children.

Base laid for Shillong Government College of Engineering



On 11th August 2017, Chief Minister, Dr Mukul Sangma laid the base for Shillong Government College of Engineering (Funded under RUSA) at Shillong Polytechnic Campus, Mawlai. Speaking to the gathering during his Inaugural Speech, Chief Minister, Dr Mukul Sangma while expressing his happiness in laying the Foundation Stone of the first Engineering College in the State said that everyone besides the student community is connected with the dreams and aspirations of having a college of Engineering in the State. He said that the Government has always endeavored to connect with the dreams and aspirations of people from all walks of life and the Government has initiated a number of measures to respond to the needs of the people, the Engineering College being one of them.

The Chief Minister also said that the establishment of the college in the State will prevent flight of capital and the youth will not need to go outside the State in pursuit of higher professional education. "Education can be a game changer and bring huge transformative changes and Shillong Government College of Engineering will bring a turnaround in the Educational sector", he said. He also informed that the college will provide space for all Diploma students to have lateral entry into the College of Engineering.

Dr Sangma also said that engineering institutions today are not merely centers of knowledge and learning but are also centers of excellence. He said that with the presence of NEHU, NIT, IIM and various other premiere institutes in the State, Meghalaya is becoming a hub of educational pursuit. He added that these institutions not only provide access to quality professional courses but also



attract students from other places to come and study in Meghalaya.

Also present during the occasion was Minister, PWD (Building) etc. Dr M. Ampareen Lyngdoh who expressed happiness that students in Shillong Polytechnic get selected into various technical courses on their own merit with no interference from any quarters into the admission process. She added that the professional way in which admissions have been adhered to in the past continues to be an inspiration to other institutions. She also congratulated Shillong Polytechnic for the commendable efforts put in to ensure that Shillong has technocrats of that cadre that can contribute tremendously to the many aspects of technology. The Minister also said that the infrastructure of the Engineering College should be world class without compromising on the quality of work. She urged the aspiring engineering students to work hard to realize their goals.

Earlier, Principal, Shillong Government of College of Engineering & Shillong Polytechnic, W L Warjri informed that the college will offer courses in three branches of engineering, namely Civil Engineering, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. He added that the students can pursue engineering courses in these three courses at affordable cost and will be available for all meritorious students.

The college is funded under Rashtriya Uchcharat Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA). RUSA or the National Higher Education Mission is centrally sponsored, spearheaded by the Ministry of Human Resource Development with the collaboration of the State Government. The foremost aim of the mission is to develop higher education in the country by ensuring access, equity and quality.

Road Safety Advocacy held



The Road Safety Advocacy on the theme **"Your Safety, secures your family- Be cautious on Roads"** organised by the Transport Department in collaboration with the Office of the Deputy Commissioner, East Khasi Hills District, Shillong was held at U Soso Tham Auditorium, Shillong on 18th August, 2017 wherein Meghalaya Transport Minister, Shri. H. D. R. Lyngdoh graced the occasion as Chief Guest.

Highlighting on safe monitoring tips and safety measures which contribute to road safety, Shri. H. D. R. Lyngdoh asserted that awareness and self discipline can curtail road accidents to a great extent. Shri Lyngdoh urged the officials of the Public Works Department to maintain the roads and take precautionary measures to remove hanging boulders on national highways which pose a threat to commuters. He also called upon the Police to intensify

its highway patrolling to prevent accidents due to rash and drunken driving.

He also added that a good driving etiquette and awareness on traffic rules and road safety measures can make a big difference in saving many a precious life. The Minister appealed to the citizens to contribute to the safety and security of the people of the region and to spread the message on road safety to others. During the function, the Chief Guest administered the Road Safety Pledge and flagged off the rally of school students carrying placards on road safety.

Officials from various departments, teachers and school students also attended the function.

It may be mentioned that similar programmes on road safety advocacy were held at Tura and Nongpoh, on the 16th and 17th August respectively.

Awareness cum Registration Camp for Construction Workers

On 25th August 2017, a One Day Awareness cum Registration Camp for the Muster- Rolls of the Public Health Engineering Department, Government of Meghalaya belonging to eight Divisions of East Khasi Hills was held at the Meghalaya Bharat Scouts and Guides headquarters, Shillong. The programme was organized by the Office of the Chief Engineer, PHE in collaboration with the Office of the Deputy Labour Commissioner, East Khasi Hills under the Meghalaya Building and

Mawsynram Sub Division among others.

In her inaugural address, Dr. Lyngdoh said that construction workers and muster rolls of works departments should carry out their duty with dignity and pride while also informing all gathered that the Labour Department has a scheme called the Building and other Construction Workers Welfare Scheme for registration of construction workers and to provide health and other welfare benefits to them and their immediate family members.



Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board.

Dr. M. Ampareen Lyngdoh, Minister of Labour, etc. attended the programme as the Chief Guest in the presence of Shri. S.K. Blah, Additional CE, PHE, Zone-III, Shri. R. W. Wahlang, Joint Labour Commissioner, East Khasi Hills, Shri. D. Marbaniang, EE, PHE, Sewerage & Drainage Division, Shri. Korbarsing Nongbsaw, SDO, PHE,

Urging the muster rolls of Works Department and other construction workers involved in building and construction works to register themselves with the Labour Department, Government of Meghalaya, Dr. Lyngdoh spoke of the benefits of the Building and other Construction Workers Welfare Scheme which includes maternity

benefit, welfare pension, disability pension, funeral assistance, death benefit, medical assistance to beneficiaries, scholarships for the children of beneficiaries, financial assistance for marriage of the children of beneficiaries, family pension and skill development. During the programme, the Minister also distributed scholarships to the children of registered construction workers.

56th Teachers' Day celebrated



Together with the rest of the Country, the 56th Teachers' Day was celebrated across the State of Meghalaya on 5th June 2017. In the State capital, the day was celebrated in a befitting manner at U Soso Tham Auditorium in the city. Organized by the Education Department, Meghalaya, the celebration was marked by colourful dances and songs presented by school children, besides felicitation of teachers.

Minister for School Education & Literacy, Smti. Deborah C. Marak in her address as Chief Guest said that the celebration of Teachers' Day reminds all of the sacrifices made by teachers, who teach, guide, support and inspire us to climb the ladder of success. To ensure that the lives of students are well secured, the Minister encouraged untrained teachers to get themselves registered at various teachers' training institutes so that they are well equipped to face the ever changing challenges in the field of education.

The Minister also felt the need of providing a window of opportunities for the teachers to improve among which includes usage of latest technology available in order to deliver quality education to the children. She urged upon the teachers to work harder and continue their noble efforts with diligence in order to bring the State at par with the other states of the Country.

Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya, Education Department, Shri W. R. Lyngdoh, Director, School Education & Literacy, Shri A. Ch. Marak, Director, Educational Research & Training, Shri T. G. Momin, Joint Director, MBOSE, Shri M. Marbaniang, Principals, School Teachers and students of various schools were also present during the celebration. During the programme, the Chief Guest felicitated 13 teachers with the State Awards, 3 teachers with the District Awards and 3 teachers with Special Awards.

At Amlarem, the celebration organised by the office of the Sub-Divisional School Education Officer, Amlarem Civil Sub-Division at Enowel Hall, Amlarem was graced by Shri. L. Sumer, MDC as the Chief Guest. The programme was marked



by songs and dances presented by students from various schools of the Sub-Division.

At Jowai, the celebration of Teacher's Day was held in the District Library, Auditorium wherein Shri. Robinus Syngkon, Parliamentary Secretary graced the occasion as Chief Guest and D. M. Wallang, Additional Deputy Commissioner, West Jaintia Hills District as Guest of Honour. On the occasion, the Chief Guest handed awards to District Awardees, Rajendra Prasad, Assistant Teacher, Shangpung Government UP School, Dawansngi Myrten, Head Teacher Pohmusiang Government LP School, Jowai and Richard Uriah, Principal North Liberty Higher Secondary School, Jowai and Best District Scoutmaster & Guides Captain were awarded to Morinda Myrphet, Lady Scoutmaster of Lum Jingshai Mihngi Secondary School, Jowai and Siami Shylla, Guides Captain of Lum Jingshai Mihngi Secondary School, Jowai.

At Nongpoh, the celebration, organised by the office of the District School Education Officer, Nongpoh at St. Paul's Higher Secondary School, Nongpoh and attended by Shri. C. P. Gotmare, Deputy Commissioner, Ri-Bhoi District as Chief Guest witnessed the presentation of awards to Shri. M. Singh, Asst. Teacher of Alpha English Hr. Secondary School, Smti. Wahlang, Asstt. Teacher Jirang Govt. UP School, Shri. D. Marsing, Head Teacher of Umklai Presbyterian LP School and Shri. S. Ronghang of Donbosco Hr. Secondary School, Byrnihat and Smti. I. Nongkseh of Alpha English Hr. Secondary School, for the best Scout master and Guides captain respectively. Songs and cultural items were the other highlights of the celebration.

At Baghmara, the 56th Teachers Day was celebrated at the premises of Don Bosco Higher Secondary School, Baghmara where Shri. A.C. Marak, Addl. Deputy Commissioner was the Chief Guest on the occasion. The recipients of the State Award, Shri. Kewinstone R Sangma Headmaster of Rongara UP School, District Awardee Shri Ananda Mohan Saha, Asstt. Teacher of Rongara Deficit

School and Best Scoutmaster and Guide of the District, Shri. Ananda Mohan of Rongara Deficit School and Smt. Silse Ch Marak of Chokpot English Secondary School were also felicitated during the program. Besides, the celebration was marked by colourful cultural presentations by students.

At Tura, Teacher's Day was celebrated at the District Auditorium where Chief Information Commissioner and Former Chief Secretary, Shri. P B O Warjri graced the occasion as Chief Guest and Deputy Commissioner, West Garo Hills, Tura Shri. Pravin Bakshi as Guest of Honour. Joint Director, School Education and Literacy, S D Sangma, District School Education Officer, S K Saha, Officials of the Education Department, Awardees, Principals, teachers and students were among others present on the occasion. The District Awardees of West Garo Hills District include Smti. Kalyanee Khaund, Assistant Teacher of St. Xavier's Secondary School Tura, Shri. Enderson Ch Marak, Headmaster, Asanang Government Aided Upper Primary School and Smti. Ceolin A Sangma, Headmistress, Upper Chandmary, Government Lower Primary School. The Best Scout Master was awarded to Shri. Dononotho G Sangma, Scout Master & Assistant Teacher, Dalu Sacred Heart Secondary School and Best Guides Captain was awarded to Smti. Josephine N Marak, Guide Captain & Assistant Teacher, St. Xavier's Secondary School. A special award for the recently retired teachers was also presented to Smti. Irolline Ch Momin Retired Principal, Christian Girls Higher Secondary School and Shri. Grenethson Ch Marak, Retired Teacher,

Edenbari Government Lower Primary School in recognition of their dedicated service. It may be mentioned that all the awards has been selected and honoured by the National Foundation for Teacher's Welfare, West Garo Hills, Tura.

Colourful cultural programmes presented by various schools of Tura town enthralled the audience during the function.

At Ampati, three school teachers of South West Garo Hills District, namely, the Asstt. Teacher of Ampati Govt. Higher Secondary School, Rushwaldam, Asstt. Teacher of Nogorpara Govt. U.P. School Saindrick R. Marak and Head Teacher of Bangkapara Govt. L.P. School, Rasang R. Marak were conferred with the District Award while Scout Master of Nogorpara Sec. School, Samson M. Marak and Guide Captain of Boldamgre U.P. School, Julie A. Sangma were honoured as the best Scout Master and the best Guide Captain of the District, respectively. The celebration, organized jointly by the District School Education Office and teachers of the District, was marked by songs and dances by teachers and school children, while rich tributes were also paid to teachers by various speakers on the occasion. Mahendraganj legislator & Chairperson, Meghalaya Resource & Employment Generation Council, Smt. Dikkanchi D. Shira was the Chief Guest on the occasion and gave away the awards along with the Deputy Commissioner, Shri. Cyril V.D. Diengdoh who participated in the celebration as the Guest of Honour.

DIPR FEATURE: Creating livelihood out of incommodious water hyacinths

Water Hyacinths, floating aquatic plants, are found in abundance in South West Garo Hills District, Meghalaya. They are found in every pond and stagnant water bodies in the region and have long been a nuisance to the people as they cover up the whole water space. However, the people of Purasingga village under Betasing C&RD block in South West Garo Hills began to look at these bothersome water plants as a source of livelihood with the intervention of North East Region Community Resource Management Project for Upland areas (NERCORMP), under International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) in 2012.

The Chijongjang Natural Resource Management (NarM) Group, from Purasingga showed keen interest in the art of creating handicraft products out of water hyacinths and NERCORMP sent about 15 members from the Group for training on Thai Technology at NEDFi, Khetri in Assam, where they were trained in making handicrafts from water hyacinth like decorative items, handbags, purses, hats etc.

Today, Chijongjang Narm Group is earning a decent amount from this activity by selling them at different levels of markets according to the demand in the market. They have also participated in various industrial exhibitions at District, State and National levels. It was a zero investment for them as raw materials in the form of water hyacinth were easily available in plenty.

This year, in the month of April, Basin Development Unit, South West Garo Hills, sent 20 partners from the district to NEDFi R&D Centre, Khetri, Guwahati, for Skill Up-gradation Training from 20th to 29th April, 2017, where they learnt advanced craft making. In this training, NEDFi has given looms and equipments to Meghalaya Basin Development Authority, free of cost, which will be utilized by the Group in partnership with MBDA.

On completion of their training course, they brought back - 10 sets of Water Hyacinth craft loom with reid; 2 nos of Water Hyacinth Flattening machine and 2 lots of Moulds.

At present, apart from MBDA and NEDFi, Water Hyacinth Handicraft has invited interest from prominent industrial promotion agents like IIT, Guwahati and District Commerce & Industries Centre (DCIC), Ampati. While IIT, Guwahati has submitted a project based on Water Hyacinth Handicrafts to the Government for review and approval, DCIC, Ampati is on the process of construction of Common Facility Centre at Purasingga, which will start as soon as the land agreement process is settled, for which Smt. Mimosh R Marak from Purasingga has gifted a portion of her land.

Chijongjang Narm Group of Purasingga has come a long way in generating income from water hyacinths - naturally available resources, which has shown them a different way. They have a long way to go with a bright future ahead.



NOTICE FOR GENERAL PUBLIC AND TOURISTS

The Superintendent of Police, East Khasi Hills District has advised all citizens to keep order on public roads, streets and all the tourist spots in East Khasi Hills District and desist from causing obstruction, injury or annoyance to passersby, or cause pollution and littering in public roads and tourist spots in East Khasi Hills District.

Any person not obeying the lawful orders issued, is liable to be arrested u/s 102 of the Meghalaya Police Act, 2010 and on conviction by a Court of law, shall be liable to a fine of Rs. 5000/-. All tourists visiting the tourist spots are advised to carry "Garbage Bags" in their vehicles where small garbage like wrappers, chip covers, water bottles etc. can be dumped and finally those garbage bags may be dumped/ thrown in appropriate dustbins/garbage bins.

ORDER UNDER SECTION 144 CRPC

The Sub Divisional Magistrate, Pynursla Civil Sub-Division, East Khasi Hills District, has promulgated an Order under Section 144 CrPC in the Sub-Division in order to prevent danger to human life, health and safety and to safeguard the environment restraining any person, company or authority from illegal stone quarrying and sand mining in hill slopes and removal of sand from river-bed without obtaining permission/license from the competent authority.

The Order is necessitated in view of the report received that illegal stone quarrying and sand mining on the hill slopes and removal of sand from river beds are taking place in various parts of Pynursla Civil Sub Division and such indiscriminate stone quarrying and sand mining especially along the Shillong - Dawki road which has led to the constant out flow of stones/ boulders and sands from these quarries into the rivers and down from the hills slopes which leads to destruction of vegetation on the slopes, damage of water sources and also destroyed the aquatic life, besides polluting the rivers making such rivers no longer fit for drinking purposes etc.

Moreover, the National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi, had issued an Order which restrains any person, company, authority from carry out any mining of limestone, sand stones, boulder, and sand or removal of sand from river beds without obtaining license or permit from competent authority. This order comes into force with immediate effect and shall remain in force until further orders.

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given for general information that all industries including existing packaged water industries/mineral water industries or any firm extracting ground water without proper valid NOC from Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA), are hereby directed to obtain proper NOC from Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) and to apply online for NOC at <http://www.cgwa-noc.gov.in>. All firms extracting ground water are also requested to report to the Executive Engineer (W.R.) cum Member Secretary, District Level Committee on Ground Water Resources, East Khasi Hills District, Fruit Garden, Shillong on the above matter. This was informed by the Deputy Commissioner, East Khasi Hills District, Shillong.

MULTI-PURPOSE RESERVOIR PROJECT

The Chief Engineer (WR), Meghalaya, Shillong has informed that the Water Resources Department is going to take up Multi-purpose Reservoir Projects. Any land owner/farmer who is interested can come forward with an application and also indicate the land for the site project so that necessary survey and investigation by the office of all Executive Engineers in various Districts can be done for its feasibility.

AWARENESS PROGRAMME ON HUMAN RIGHTS

The Meghalaya Human Rights Commission (MHRC) in collaboration with the office of the District Magistrate, East Jaintia Hills District, Khliehriat organized a one day Awareness Programme on Human Rights for the students at the secondary and college level at Khliehriat Higher Secondary School, Khliehriat on 22nd August 2017.

On the occasion, Shri P. J. P. Hanaman, Member, MHRC, that Meghalaya is the third State in the North East after Assam and Tripura to have a State Human Rights Commission constituted in order to safeguard the rights of every individual. Shri Hanaman also stressed on the basic rights, viz Civil, Political, Economic, Social and Cultural rights of the people while Shri A. Mawlong, Secretary, MHRC, enlightened the students present on the Rights to Liberty, Equality and Dignity.

WORKSHOP ON RAIN WATER HARVESTING SYSTEM

On 17th August 2017, a two day workshop on Rain water Harvesting System in schools for the purpose of drinking water and sanitation was held at Maharam Government Higher Secondary School, Mawkyrwat where Shri. Hadrian Lyngdoh, Local MDC attended as Chief Guest. The programme was organized by the State Project Director, SEMAM, S.S.A & Director of School Education & Literacy, Meghalaya in collaboration with Meghalaya Basin Development Authority (MBDA), Water Resource & Earthanus Auroville Foundation, Pondicherry. It may be mentioned that an innovation of such a system, the second in the State, has been setup at Government Lower Primary School, Mawkyrwat with a water storage tank of about 6000 litres. The first of such innovation was set up at Umthli, Laitlyngkot, East Khasi Hills District.

MHIS HELP DESK

The Government of Meghalaya, Megha Health Insurance Scheme has started a Help Desk at the MHIS – State Nodal Agency Office, Laitumkrah, Shillong for the benefit of the citizens of Meghalaya.

The help desk is placed for the Public -

- To find out about enrolment under MHIS
- To find out about enrolment/registration in their village
- To know about the insurance cover and benefits under the scheme
- To find out about the Package Rates under the scheme
- To know about the list of empanelled hospitals under the scheme
- To know how to utilise the MHIS smart card at hospitals
- In case they face a problem while using the card
- In case of any queries and complaints Beneficiaries can call on **0364 – 2507477** to address any queries.

This was informed by the Chief Executive Officer, Megha Health Insurance Scheme, Meghalaya, Shillong

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO VAs/NGOs/SHGs

Deputy Commissioner, East Jaintia Hills District, Khliehriat invites proposals from Voluntary Agencies/Non Governmental Organizations/Self Help Groups hailing from East Jaintia Hills District, Khliehriat for consideration of Financial Assistance from the Voluntary Action Fund (VAF) of Planning Department, Government of Meghalaya in accordance with the approved Guidelines.

Assistance under this scheme shall include only the following activities namely; Short Term Training/Programme and Short Term Workshops/ Seminars of Socio Economic Importance.

The Financial Assistance to be sanctioned to the VAs/NGOs/SHGs will depend on the merit and nature of the scheme. The proposals of VAs/NGOs/SHGs shall be scrutinized by the District Level Empowered Committee and the decision of the Committee shall be final. The Formats/ Application Forms for submission of proposals can be obtained from the office of the District Planning Officer, East Jaintia Hills District, Khliehriat.

Interested VAs/NGOs/SHGs are to submit their proposals along with the details of the scheme and relevant documents to the office of the District Planning Officer, East Jaintia Hills District on or before 15th September 2017. No proposals will be entertained after the fixed date mentioned above.

DISASTER MANAGEMENT TRAINING FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

A one day programme for the differently abled students & teachers of Lynti Jingkyrmen School was organized by the District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA), South West Khasi Hills District at the Multi-purpose hall, DC office, Mawkyrwat on 31st August, 2017. Additional Deputy Commissioner-cum- CEO, DDMA, Shri. H S Lyngdoh inaugurated the programme in the presence of Smti. D L Kharkongor, District Disaster Management Officer, South West Khasi Hills, Mawkyrwat and other senior Government officials.

During the training, students were sensitized on the concept of Disaster Management, do's and don'ts for earthquake, cyclone, flood, lightning and thunderstorms. They were also imparted practical training on search & rescue and first aid. A mock drill was also conducted by Fire and Emergency Service, South West Khasi Hills which saw active participation of students and teachers.

NOTICE

The Director, Educational Research & Training, Meghalaya, Shillong has informed that the Learning Outcomes for Elementary Stage of Schooling developed by NCERT is available on the office website of the Directorate of Educational Research & Training, Meghalaya, www.megeducation.gov.in. All Elementary teachers are instructed to refer and implement the Learning Outcomes in the class, since the National Achievement Survey (NAS) 2017 will be based on the Learning Outcomes. The Khasi and Garo version for Lower Primary Stage are also available on the website.

RECRUITMENT IN NATIONAL INFORMATICS CENTRE

The National Informatics Centre is advertising for recruitment to 81 posts of Scientist-B & 259 posts of Scientific Technical Assistant-A. Candidates having B.E/B.Tech, Comp. Sc, MCA etc. are to apply online at <http://www.nielit.gov.in/recruitments>. The last date of recruitment is on 28th August, 2017.

PHOTO SPEAK



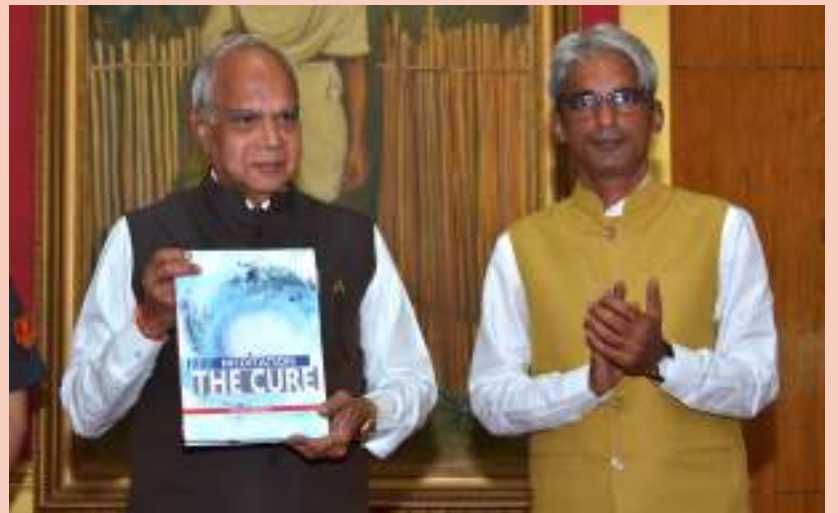
Meghalaya Governor, Shri. Banwarilal Purohit called on Prime Minister of India, Shri. Narendra Modi to brief him on the flood situation in North East, at New Delhi on 18-08-2017.



CM Dr. Mukul Sangma speaking at the Valedictory Function of the Two Days' International Seminar on Cross Border Connectivity & Inclusive Growth at Shillong College on 25-08-2017.



Shri. D V Sadananda Gowda, Minister, Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India pays a courtesy visit to Chief Minister, Dr. Mukul Sangma at his office on 24-08-2017.



Meghalaya Governor, Shri. Banwarilal Purohit releasing a book titled, "Meditation – The Cure" by Shri. Naveen Varshneya at Raj Bhavan, Shillong on 23-08-2017.



Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs, Shri. Zenith M Sangma lighting the inaugural lamp on the occasion of the State Level "Meghalaya Youth Exchange Programme, 2017" at Tura on 21-08-2017.



Dignitaries along with Sports persons during the felicitation programme held at Indoor Sports Hall, Polo Grounds, Shillong on 29-08-2017.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

THE POPULATION OF ALL THE 8
NORTHEASTERN STATES OF INDIA IS
ROUGHLY EQUAL TO THE POPULATION OF
ODISHA, INDIA'S 11TH MOST POPULATED STATE

Northeast India has been
identified as one of the
world's seven richest
biodiversity areas



ALMOST 70% OF THE
WORLD'S ORCHIDS
ARE FOUND IN
INDIA'S NORTHEAST



Snails have
14000 teeth and
some can even
kill you!

Everyone has a
unique tongue print,
just like fingerprints.

There is a Museum in
Russia that hires cats
to protect its Artworks
against rodents



Most Lipstick
contains Fish
Scales



The best part of
going to work is
coming back home
at the end of the
day



Google™

Google originated from a
misspelling of the word
"googol" which is 1 followed
by one hundred zeros

Why do people never eat clocks?
.... Because it's really time consuming.



Do you know how to make
a dumb person curious?
"No, how?"
"I'll tell you tomorrow"



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Directorate of Information & Public Relations,
Meghalaya, Shillong.