Chief Minister Dr. Mukul Sangma spearheaded the social mobilization campaign on Horticulture Mission and also distributed agar, coconut and drumstick saplings to the partners from Beyzing and Zikak in West Garo Hills on 18th August 2017.

The social mobilization and sapling distribution programme was also attended by Salmonapa MLA & Government Chief Whip Shri. W.D. Sangma, Mahendraganj MLA & Chairperson Meghalaya Resources & Employment Generation Council Smti. Dikchani D. Shira, Deputy Commissioner Shri. C.V.D. Diengho, 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 plantations which the farmers can plant as a natural fencing to protect their plantations. He also informed about the scheme of plantation of fruit bearing trees, among others, adding that sanction will be granted 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. Sengkham Marak, local leaders, officials and farmers among others.

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 that 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 Bai Bhavan, Shillong in the presence of State Chief Commissioner, MBSP 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, MBSP, 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 Medal. Shri. James was the first candidate of the 50th Basic Management Course from India to receive the award. The Professional Scout Medal 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, Dr. 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-Panchmari, 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 38 GTC led by Parade Commander Major Sandeep Halder from 58 GTC and 2nd in command Inspector R. C. Bordoloi, ARPS.


The Chief Minister also handed over the District Appreciation Award to Smti. Nandy 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 Shongshin Mawsobait 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.Lucyda War of Umlyngka Lumpongong Anganwadi Centre, Mylliem ICDS project and Smti. Shradhanjali of Dewasaw Pathaw Anganwadi Centre, Pynursa ICDS project of East Khali Hills District. Recipients of the State Level Award for 2017-18 were Shri. Eming Khonglam of Wahpathang Anganwadi Centre, Pynursa ICDS project, East Khali Hills District, Smti. Irihas Syngklo of Diawan B’ Anganwadi Centre, Umlang ICDS project, Rj. Bhapsi Shingma, Smti. Dianghum Khysyentew of Khilemawleih Anganwadi Centre, Nongstoin ICDS project, West Khali Hills District, Smti. Gentillina R. Marak of Lower Chidegre Anganwadi Centre, Sambanda ICDS project, East Garo Hills District, Smti. Chynnna Mulie of Ialong Shongsh Thyme Anganwadi Centre, Thadlaskein ICDS project, West Jaintia Hills District, Smti. Dimi Lyngdoh of Tuber Wah Anganwadi Centre, Khitehriat ICDS project, East Jaintia Hills District and Smti. Affrina S Marak of Upper Wadanang Anganwadi Centre, Urban ICDS project, West Garo Hills District.

The recipients of District Incentive Award 2016-17 were Smti. Konwar Woman of Chawky长安 Anganwadi Centre, West Khasi Hills District and Smti. Nosilian Jirwung of Upper Wadanang Anganwadi Centre, Urban ICDS project, West Garo Hills District.

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. The Rashtriya Salute was given by the 30 marching contingents led by Shri. Chalang Ch. Momin, DSP at Rongseongre Higher Secondary School playground, Williamnagar.

At Mawkyrwat, South West Khali Hills District, Shri. A. T. Mondal, Speaker of the Meghalaya State Legislative Assembly unfurled the National Flag and took the Rashtriya Salute of 22 parade contingents comprising of Meghalaya Police and school students at Khitehriat Secondary School.

At Baghmara, South Garo Hills District, PHE Minister, Dr. Celestine Lyngdoh, unfurled the National Flag and took the Rashtriya Salute of 18 parade contingents comprising of police, NCC, Scouts & Guides, school students and Brass Band (Home Guards) at Malaham Government Higher Secondary School playground.

At Khitehriat, 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 Khitehriat Secondary School.


At Mairang Civil Sub-Division, Smti. E.M. Lakang, SDO (C), Mairang Civil Sub Division - Turin unfurled the National Flag and also took the Rashtriya Salute of the 38 marching contingents comprising of police personnel, Junior Division NCC Cadets of the Higher Secondary School, Scouts & Guides Company of Purdampungto Presbyterian Secondary School and different schools at Domawum playground, Purdampungto.

At Amlarem Civil Sub-Division, Shri. Stephonsh Mukhim, Parliamentary Secretary unfurled the National Flag and took the Rashtriya Salute at Amlarem Government Higher Secondary School. The celebration was marked by songs, cultural items, colourful dances and meaningful skits performed by students of various schools and cultural troops from the Sub-Division. The Rashtriya Salute was also presented by Nongbareh Lyntiar Dance troupe.

At Sohra Civil Sub-Division, Dr. M. Ampareen Lyndohg, PWD (B) Minister unfurled the National Flag and took the Rashtriya Salute of 20 parade contingents comprising of the police, NCC, Black Hawk Squad, Scouts and Guides and students at the Mini Stadium, Resubelpara.
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, Lalitkhor Khatar Shnong C/RD Block was declared as an Open Defection 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 Urkew Umkor Pynursla Sport Club Stadium.

At Mawhynrut Civil Sub-Division, Shri K. C. Khryiem, Parliamentary Secretary unfurled the Nation flag and took the salute of 17 parade contingents at BDGO office ground Rianglo. Other highlights of the programme include a football match between Tyrngom Mawwaw and Seinduli-I wherein Tyrngom Mawwaw out-beat Seinduli-I by 1-2 final.

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 Ramon, 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 Shangphung Elaka Administrative Unit, Shri. Comimming Enbon, C/RD Minister unfurled the National flag and took the Rashtriya Salute of the 20 marching contingents of school students at Moosiym football ground.

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 Uchchhatar 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.

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 for the commendable efforts put in to ensure that Shillong has 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.

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 metallting and black-topping of the road from Chimbabat 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 orchards, 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 Chimbabat, along Tara-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.
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 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 distributed 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, MDG 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, Shapingup Government UP School, Dawangi Mertin, 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 Mihangi Secondary School, Jowai and Siami Shylla, Guides Captain of Lum Jingshai Mihangi Secondary School, Jowai.

At Nongjoli, the celebration, organised by the office of the District School Education Officer, Nongjoli at St. Paul’s Higher Secondary School, Nongjoli and attended by Shri. C. P. Gottmare, Deputy Commissioner, Ri-Bhoi District as Chief Guest witnessed the presentation of awards to Shri. M. Singh, Assistant Teacher, Donbosco Hr. Secondary School, Jowai, Mr. D. R. Marpang, Head Teacher Government LP School, Shri. C. P. Gottmare, Deputy Commissioner, Ri-Bhoi District as Guest of Honour and Shri. A. C. Marak, Addl. Deputy Commissioner was the Chief Guest on the occasion.

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. Dewang Pratap Singh Headmaster of Don Bosco Higher Secondary School, Baghmara were Shri. A. C. Marak, Addl. Deputy Commissioner was the Chief Guest on the occasion.
DIPR FEATURE:
Creating livelihood out of incommmodious 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 hyacinths were easily available in plenty. 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.

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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 28th 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. Mimoshra 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. 3000 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months, or both.

**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 restricting 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 sand 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 in which restricts any person, company or 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 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. P. J. 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 of its kind 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 on 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, Laitumkhrah, 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 – 2950777 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 invited applications 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 merits 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 Format/ 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 Linty 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 Smt. D I Kharkongre, 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, lighting 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 classes, since the National Achievement Survey (NAS) of 2017-2018, 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.nic.in/recruitment. The last date of recruitment is on 28th August, 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.


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.

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.

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

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 14,000 teeth and some can even kill you!

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

Everyone has a unique tongue print, just like fingerprints.

Most Lipstick contains Fish Scales.

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

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.”

Your feedback and suggestions are valuable to us. Kindly mail us at megnews2015dipr@gmail.com.