



KRC TIMES

STAY-ENRICHED



VOLUME:1, ISSUE 566 | SILCHAR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 03, 2025. EAST AND NE INDIA EDITION | e-mail: krctimes@gmail.com , www.krctimes.com

Get all the latest and updated news of today in the evening. For subscribing to this e-paper contact at -8721838313

SUBSCRIBE
₹300 / year

WhatsApp payment details : 8721838313
info@krctimes.com

PERSPECTIVE

Music makes life so much better.

Nagaland Assembly discusses protected area permit, border fencing and road projects

KOHIMA
The Nagaland Legislative Assembly, on September 2, deliberated on key issues ranging from the re-imposition of the Protected Area Permit (PAP) to progress under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY). Replying to a starred question raised by MLA Achumbemo Kikon, Deputy Chief Minister and Home Minister Y. Patton informed the House that the Ministry of Home Affairs had reimposed PAP in Manipur, Mizoram, and Nagaland with effect from December 17, 2024, citing security concerns in the border areas. He further clarified that there is no active fencing along Nagaland's 215 km stretch of the India-Myanmar border. On the issue of the Free Movement Regime (FMR), Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio reiterated the Cabinet's opposition to both PAP and FMR. He told the House that he had conveyed the state government's position to the Union Home Minister and expressed hope that the Centre would review Nagaland's demands.

Meanwhile, replying to a query from MLA Nuklutoshi, Minister for Roads & Bridges G. Kaito Aye updated the Assembly on the status of PMGSY Package-3. He said the project had achieved 17% physical progress and 6% financial progress so far. The deadline for completion, initially delayed, has now been extended to March 2026 by the Ministry of Rural Development.

WHO SAID WHAT



Concluding a productive visit to China, where I attended the SCO Summit and interacted with various world leaders. Also emphasised India's stand on key global issues. Thankful to President Xi Jinping, the Chinese government and people for the successful organisation of this Summit.
~ Narendra Modi, PM India

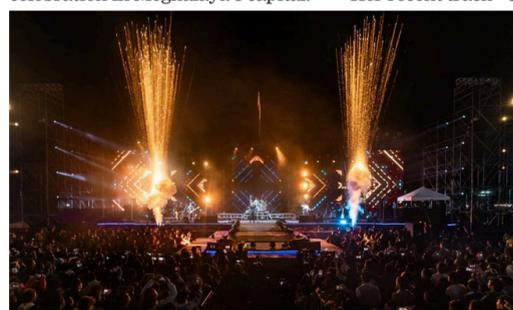
Nora Fatehi to headline historic opening night at Shillong Cherry Blossom Festival



SHILLONG
Global sensation Nora Fatehi will

make her Indian festival debut at the Shillong Cherry Blossom Festival 2025, joining an unprecedented lineup that includes Jason Derulo and The Script for the November 14 opening night.

The announcement marks a significant milestone for both the artist and the festival, as Fatehi becomes the first major Indian performer to headline the international music celebration in Meghalaya's capital.



Festival organisers revealed that gallery seating has already sold out following the announcement, with remaining tickets moving at record speed through RockskiTickets.com.

Fatehi brings considerable momentum to the stage after a breakthrough year that saw her collaboration "Snake" with Jason Derulo surpass 130 million views globally. Her recent track "Oh Mama! Tete-ma" featuring Rayvanny dominated Spotify's Global Viral Songs Chart, cementing her crossover appeal beyond Bollywood's traditional boundaries.

"Her dynamic energy, global reach, and boundary-breaking performances are a perfect match for the

spirit of the festival," said Jason Manners of The Cherry Blossom Festival organising committee. "This will be a historic night."

The multi-hyphenate entertainer has expanded her influence across multiple industries this year. Her fashion presence has grown significantly, with appearances at Paris Fashion Week wearing Louis Vuitton and red carpet moments at the AMAs and Oscars after-parties in Oscar de la Renta designs.

Her acting portfolio continues diversifying with her role as Ayesha Dhondi in "The Royals," a lead part in "Kanchana 4," and the upcoming release "Uff Yeh Siyapaa." The Cherry Blossom Festival has evolved into one of India's premier cultural events, drawing over 30,000 daily visitors to Shillong during the blooming season. The festival combines international music acts with local culture against the scenic backdrop of Meghalaya's famous cherry blossoms, with support from the state tourism department.

ONLY 3 OF 12 CAA Applications Cleared in Assam, Says CM Sarma

GUWAHATI:

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, on Wednesday, said that only three people in the state have been granted Indian citizenship under the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA) against 12 applications received so far.

Addressing the press on the sidelines of an event in Guwahati, Sarma said the numbers show that earlier apprehensions about lakhs of foreigners gaining citizenship through the Act were unfounded.

"In Assam, only three people have got citizenship under the CAA so far. We have received just 12 applications, nine of which are under consideration," the Chief Minister said.

He added that discussions around the CAA have lost relevance given the low number of applicants compared to the projections made by opponents of the legislation.

"There was a hue and cry that 20-25 lakh people would get citizenship in Assam. Now, when we received only 12 applications, you can yourself decide whether it is relevant to discuss

CAA anymore," Sarma said.

The Chief Minister, however, did not disclose the country of origin of the newly granted citizens. Notably, Dulon Das, a 50-year-old man, was the first person in Assam to receive citizenship under the CAA in August 2024. Although the Government of India began accepting applications for citizenship under the CAA in March last year, progress in Assam has been minimal.

Official data shows that 24 applications were filed by 23 individuals, with one person applying twice. The applications undergo scrutiny by district-level committees before being forwarded to a state-level committee for approval.

To qualify, applicants must belong to the Hindu, Christian, Jain, Buddhist, Sikh, or Parsi communities and have entered India from Bangladesh, Pakistan, or Afghanistan before December 31, 2014.

Applicants must apply through the online portal launched by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and provide key details such as the exact date

of entry into India and proof of origin, including a valid or expired passport, certificates from community institutions, or documents like birth certificates, land records, and tenancy agreements from their country of origin.

However, officials admit that most migrants who entered Assam illegally are unlikely to possess such documents.

Complicating matters further, many had already applied for inclusion in the National Register of Citizens (NRC) by claiming to be Indian, making it difficult for them to now assert Bangladeshi origin.

Experts say this explains the low number of applications despite initial fears of a flood of claimants.

Many of those who have been living in India for decades are unwilling to stir controversy by admitting foreign origin, especially with multiple petitions against the CAA still pending before the Supreme Court.

Against this backdrop, officials believe only a handful of applications are likely to move forward in Assam in the coming years.

Northeast continues to record country's highest cancer rates

GUWAHATI

Based on information from 43 population-based cancer registries (PBCRs), tracked 7.08 lakh cancer cases and 2.06 lakh deaths in the five-year period. Women made up a slightly larger share of the cases at 51.1 per cent, while men accounted for a higher share of deaths at 55 per cent.

Mizoram stood out with a lifetime cancer risk of 21.1 per cent in men and 18.9 per cent in women — nearly double the national average of 11 per cent. Aizawl district registered the country's highest age-adjusted incidence rate (AAIR) for both sexes.

The analysis found that oral, lung, and prostate cancers were most common among men, while breast, cervical, and ovarian cancers dominated among women.

Oral cancer cases rose sharply in several parts of the country, especially in western, central, and northern regions such as Ahmedabad, Bhopal, Mumbai, Pune, and Varanasi. Tobacco and alcohol use were identified as key drivers.

Metropolitan cities also reflected troubling trends. Delhi recorded the highest overall AAIR for men, while

Srinagar reported the highest for lung cancer. In the south and major cities such as Bengaluru, Chennai, and Visakhapatnam, lung cancer emerged as the leading cancer among men.

Researchers highlighted that lung cancer patients in India often present at a younger age compared to Western countries, with a median diagnosis age between 54 and 70 years. Half of these patients are detected at advanced stages, further complicating treatment outcomes.

For women, breast cancer continues to rise even as cervical cancer rates decline — a pattern researchers linked to generational shifts in risk factors. Disparities in survival outcomes between the two remain significant.

The report stressed the urgent need for stronger cancer prevention and control strategies. Key recommendations included expanding quit-line services, boosting awareness of tobacco and alcohol risks, and rolling out early detection programmes. It also called for improving cancer care facilities in high-incidence regions to address disparities in access and treatment.

Congress slams Modi's planned Manipur visit as 'Too Little, Too Late'

NEW DELHI

With Prime Minister Narendra Modi likely to visit Manipur on September 13 for the first time since ethnic violence erupted in May 2023, the Congress has dismissed the move as "too little, too late." The party accused the prime minister of showing complete neglect towards the crisis-hit state for over two years.

Congress general secretary in charge of communications, Jairam Ramesh, said the prime minister travelled extensively across the world and even visited Assam and Arunachal Pradesh in the last two-and-a-half years, but chose to ignore Manipur at a time when it was burning. "It appears that the prime minister may finally summon up the courage and empathy to visit Manipur briefly on September 13. But that may be a case of TLTL — too little too late," Ramesh wrote on X. The northeastern state has been reeling under ethnic strife since May 3, 2023, when the Kuki-Zo tribes opposed a high court order recommending Scheduled Tribe status for the Meiteis. The clashes left at least 260 people dead and thousands displaced, forcing tens of thousands to take shelter in relief camps.

Ramesh alleged that the "double-engine sarkar" in Manipur completely collapsed under its own failures despite having a strong mandate. He said hundreds were killed, thousands displaced, and social harmony destroyed while the prime minister chose silence. "The

neglect of Manipur by the prime minister, combined with the loud-mouthed incompetence of the Union home minister, has deepened the pain, distress, and agony of all communities," he charged.

He also pointed to the Supreme Court's observation on August 1, 2023, that there had been an "absolute breakdown of constitutional machinery" in Manipur, yet the prime minister did not intervene. The Congress leader further criticised the BJP for encouraging Chief Minister N. Biren Singh to "play his games," until President's Rule was imposed in February 2025.

Ramesh said President's Rule, extended last month, has not improved conditions on the ground. He alleged that for 29 months, the prime minister refused to meet any political delegation or civil society group from Manipur, and even failed to condole the death of legendary theatre personality Ratan Thiyam, who passed away in Imphal in July 2025.

Meanwhile, preparations are underway for the prime minister's proposed visit. According to officials, Modi will first visit Mizoram to inaugurate the new Bairabi-Sairang railway station before flying to Manipur, where functions are planned at Kangla in Imphal and the Peace Ground in Churachandpur. Chief Secretaries of both states chaired review meetings with security agencies to finalise arrangements, though officials in Imphal said the final itinerary has not yet been confirmed.

SILCHAR

A research project from Barak Valley in Assam earned national recognition at Semicon India 2025, with a breakthrough semiconductor chip developed at the National Institute of Technology (NIT), Silchar.

The indigenously designed neural amplifier chip, aimed at detecting brain signals, was showcased at the global semiconductor summit, underscoring Assam's growing role in India's silicon revolution.

The project was spearheaded by Prof. Krishna Lal Baishnab, Chief Investigator, along with Dr. Sourav Nath, Project Associate-II and designer of the chip, and Dr. Koushik Guha, Head of the Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering and Co-Chief Investigator.

Together, the team translated a research idea into a functioning prototype that now carries national recognition.

NIT Silchar Director Prof. Dilip Kumar Baidya hailed the recognition as a landmark moment.

"Semiconductors represent the next big leap in technology. At NIT Silchar, we are proud to be part of India's vision for indigenous technological growth. This achievement inspires us to innovate further in this critical domain," he said.

The chip, code-named C2S0042,



was fabricated at the Semiconductor Laboratory (SCL), Mohali, under the Chip to Startup (C2S) initiative funded by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY). The innovation is intended for a wearable device capable of predicting epileptic seizures. Adding perspective, Dr. Sourav Nath remarked, "This chip proves that innovation in semiconductors is not limited to metro cities. From Silchar, Assam, we too can contribute meaningfully to India's semiconductor future."

With its low-noise neural amplifiers and 600Hz bandwidth, the chip can detect subtle high-frequency EEG changes linked to seizures. This would offer patients life-saving early alerts and greater independence.

At the conference, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on Tues-

day, announced a revamped Design-Linked Incentive (DLI) scheme to boost India's chip design ecosystem, aligning perfectly with Assam's achievement. Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma celebrated the milestone by posting on a microblogging site.

"The first Made in India Chips displayed at Semicon India 2025 and proudly taking their place are two chips from Assam, the Tata OSAT Chip and the Neural Amplifier Frontend IC from NIT Silchar! Assam is moving steadily to ensure that it fuels India's semiconductor journey", he posted.

For NIT Silchar, the achievement moment marks a milestone and places strong evidence that a small town in the Barak Valley can dream big, innovate boldly, and make a mark on India's silicon revolution.

Fake doctor caught at Silchar hospital, investigation underway



SILCHAR

A 23-year-old man posing as a gynaecologist at Silchar Medical College and Hospital (SMCH) has been arrested, exposing yet another case of medical fraud in Assam's Cachar district.

The accused, identified as Mir Hussain Ahmed Barbhuiya from Ganeergram, was detained by police after hospital authorities received a complaint. He had allegedly been examining patients in the gynaecology outpatient department for three consecutive days before being caught inside the facility.

Cachar Superintendent of

Police confirmed that a case has been registered, and investigators are now looking into how Barbhuiya managed to enter and function within the hospital without immediate detection. Officials have not ruled out possible involvement of insiders.

The incident has sparked alarm among patients and hospital staff, raising serious questions about security and verification practices in government-run healthcare institutions. When contacted, SMCH Principal Dr Bhaskar Gupta declined to comment on the matter. This is not the first such case in Silchar. Just a month earlier, police arrested another fake doctor, Pulak Malakar, from a private hospital in the town. The back-to-back incidents have drawn sharp criticism and fueled concerns about patient safety across the region.

Police have assured strict action against those responsible and urged citizens to remain cautious while seeking treatment.



VOLUME:1, ISSUE 566

TIME INDIA STOPS BEING AMERICA'S SUBORDINATE ALLY

One should, ironically, thank Donald Trump for compelling the Narendra Modi government to undertake a long-overdue course correction in India's foreign policy. For nearly three decades—beginning with the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government, to the Manmohan Singh government, and then with accelerating speed during the Modi government—India was set on a course of becoming a subordinate ally of the United States. This was a strategic policy orientation which eroded the basis of an independent foreign policy and the scope for strategic autonomy.

Till recently, the Modi government had proudly proclaimed that it had signed all the 'foundational' military agreements with the United States and aligned itself with its geopolitical strategy in the Indo-Pacific region. The QUAD (the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue between India, Australia, Japan, and the United States) was a manifestation of this emerging alliance. During the first term of the Trump presidency, India had meekly stopped buying oil from Iran, to our great detriment, falling in line with the unilateral sanctions imposed by Trump; this was followed by stoppage of buying oil from Venezuela.

The second coming of Trump was seen as a heaven-sent opportunity for India to further cosy up to the United States banking on the personal friendship between Trump and Modi. Such an approach has led to the shameful silence on Israel's ongoing genocide in Gaza—a project that Trump actively supports and abets. Neither did India condemn the bombing of Iran's nuclear installations by the United States, an act of aggression against a friendly country, which was heightened by the danger of nuclear proliferation.

But Trump's ultra-nationalist stance and extremism in using tariffs as a weapon to bully India is something which even Modi and the BJP are unable to stomach. Nor can they countenance being treated on par with Pakistan. The reality is that the moment India and Pakistan became nuclear weapon states, any military conflict between them opens the way for the United States to act as the arbiter, given the strategic ties that bind both countries to America.

Even before Trump assumed the presidency this year, the United States under President Joe Biden had occasion to remind the Modi government of its obligations as a 'strategic partner'. When Modi visited Russia and met President Vladimir Putin in July 2024, the Biden administration made known its displeasure. The US ambassador to India, Eric Garcetti, warned, "Don't take the relationship for granted," and added: "I know India likes its strategic autonomy. But, in times of conflict, there is no such thing as strategic autonomy."

There have been ample indications of India reducing its dependence on Russia for its defence supplies while substantially increasing the purchase of US weaponry and equipment—a demand that was made by successive US administrations and now being vociferously raised by Trump's cabinet ministers.

The consequences of joining the American bandwagon in South Asia and the Asia-Pacific region have been unfolding over time. India's foreign policy is in shambles as a result. In South Asia, India has become isolated from its neighbouring countries as never before. Both the futile quest to counter China's rising influence in the region and the obsessive Pakistan-centric policy have been the causes. The Hindutva worldview being imported into foreign policy and international relations have dented India's image and standing in the world. Now that the Hindutva ethno-nationalism has collided with the racist nationalism of MAGA, India's pro-US strategic and foreign policies are at a dead-end. MAGA + MIGA do not make MEGA. In this context, the recent steps to improve relations with China and Modi's visit to Tianjin to attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation summit and the bilateral meeting with President Xi Jinping are positive developments. There is much to be done to overcome blind anti-China hostility and to adopt a realistic approach to bridge differences between the two countries. There is tremendous scope to use Chinese investments and technology to boost the manufacturing sector in India. This requires withdrawing the restrictions placed on investments from Chinese companies in various sectors. For instance, the government had refused to give clearance in 2023 for a \$1-billion investment by the giant electric vehicle manufacturer BYD in a joint venture with an Indian company to produce EVs and batteries. This venture would have enabled India to acquire the latest technical knowhow and production capacities, as BYD is the leading EV company in the world. There are various other sectors where economic cooperation with China will significantly benefit Indian industry and infrastructure development.

The US-led international order has been in decline for some time and is being increasingly challenged by multipolarity. The pro-US policies have actually hampered India from utilising the opportunities to strengthen itself in a growing multipolar world. India, as a member of BRICS and SCO, has not put its full weight behind developing and emerging these forums. It is not accidental that Trump has levied the highest tariffs on three of the founding members of BRICS, apart from Russia and China—50 percent on Brazil, 30 percent on South Africa and 50 percent on India. These three are the major countries of the Global South, representing South America, Africa and Asia, respectively. India will chair the BRICS next year. This is an opportunity to take the lead to formulate policies which can enhance Global South cooperation in trade and investment. Does the Modi government have the resolve and vision to boldly strike out on a new path that will restore an independent foreign policy and truly assure strategic autonomy? Or, will it bide time to wait for the next favourable turn in Trump's mood swings to get back on the beaten track of becoming a subordinate ally?

QUOTE OF THE DAY

The lesson intended by an author is hardly ever the lesson the world chooses to learn from his book. - George Bernard Shaw

Breaking India: A colonial strategy that still haunts us

DR RAJ NEHRU

Sarsanghchak (PP) Mohan Bhagwat recently reminded us that "living in harmony is our culture" -asserting that despite centuries of diversity, the people of undivided India have shared the same DNA for over 40,000 years. In his address, he reminded the nation that India's strength has always been in its unity, when Indians stand together, no power can defeat us; when divided, even small challenges overwhelm us. This timeless truth was well understood by those who sought to rule India. Ever since the British set foot on Indian soil, they discovered one truth that helped them govern a vast and diverse land with a small foreign elite. India could not be conquered by force alone, but it could be controlled by division. What started as a commercial enterprise of the East India Company soon became an empire built on fracturing Indian society along caste, religion, language and region.

The Revolt of 1857 shook the foundations of British rule in India. What unnerved the colonial masters most was not just the scale of the uprising but the unity it revealed. Hindus, Muslims and different jatis fighting shoulder to shoulder against a common oppressor. Bahadur Shah Zafar, a Muslim emperor, became the symbolic head, while leaders like Rani Lakshmi Bai, Nana Saheb and Tantia Toppe rallied Hindu forces. For the British, this was a nightmare: a united India rising in defiance.

Determined never to face such unity again, the colonial state perfected its strategy of divide and rule, using censuses to harden caste lines, introducing separate electorates to pit communities against each other and playing language and region as tools of division. The lesson they drew from 1857 was clear: Indians together were unbreakable, but divided, they could be ruled.

The Partition of Bengal in 1905 was one of the first deliberate attempts, splitting a thriving province along religious lines to weaken nationalist unity. The Morley-Minto Reforms of 1909 institutionalized communal politics by granting separate electorates to Muslims and others, ensuring that Indians no longer voted as one people but as fragmented communities. The 1932 Communal Award, which extended separate electorates even to depressed class, almost cemented divisions within Hindu society until the Poona Pact tried to salvage unity. Even the colonial census, starting in 1871, turned India's fluid and overlapping caste identities into rigid, politicized categories-laying the seeds of caste-based mobilization that continue to this day.

The British actively encouraged communal divisions by supporting the formation of the All India Muslim League in 1906, presenting it as the sole representative body of Muslims, even though the Indian National Congress already included leaders from all communities. By promoting the League and granting it separate political weight, the British deepened Hindu-Muslim divides and institutionalized communal politics, which later became a major factor in the partition of India.

The British perfected the art of "divide and rule" after 1857, kept Indians fighting amongst themselves so they would never unite against the empire. And it worked, for nearly two centuries.

Let me share another striking example of Sylhet, a Hindu-equal majority district in Assam before Partition. In the crucial 1947 Sylhet referendum, where people had to decide whether to remain with Assam or join East Bengal (Pakistan), Dalit votes became decisive. Jogendra Nath Mandal, a prominent Dalit leader during Partition, believed that Dalits might have a better future in Pakistan since, unlike caste Hindus, Muslims did not practice untouchability. Convinced by Jinnah, he allied

with the Muslim League and urged Dalits to support Pakistan. Mandal, believed Muhammad Ali Jinnah's promise that Dalits would find greater dignity in Pakistan than in "upper-caste Hindu-dominated" India. On Jinnah's instructions, Mandal campaigned among Dalits, many of whom voted for Pakistan. Despite its Hindu majority, intense campaigning and communal divisions led to a narrow vote in favour of Pakistan. Families were uprooted, a vibrant culture was scattered, and Assam lost an integral part of its geography. As a reward, Jinnah appointed him Pakistan's first Law and Labour Minister.

However, Mandal's hopes of Dalit-Muslim unity soon collapsed. By 1950, Mandal's dreams of Dalit-Muslim brotherhood were shattered. He realised, a little too late perhaps, that in the newly formed Pakistan, it did not matter if you were a Dalit or a caste Hindu. Being Hindu was enough to get you harmed, raped, killed or forcibly converted. Mandal's pleas for the protection of his people fell on deaf ears. By 1950, Hindus in East Pakistan, including Dalits, faced persecution, violence, forced conversions and mass killings. Realising the betrayal, Mandal resigned and wrote a scathing letter to Prime Minister Liaquat Ali Khan, warning that Hindus in Pakistan would either be forced to convert or exterminated. Disillusioned, he returned to India, broken by the fate of the very people he had asked to trust Pakistan.

These episodes weren't accidents but strategic manipulations, engineered to splinter communities and curb unity and also indicates how leaders and communities misled by short-term promises ended up victims of the same divide-and-rule strategy.

Past forward to today, and disturbingly, echoes of this colonial script have been seen resurfacing, not from imperial masters this time but from domestic political actors and their global allies who are unnerved by India's growing unity and strength. Since 2014, under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the BJP has steadily consolidated electoral dominance, winning a majority in 2014, expanding it in 2019 with 303 Lok Sabha seats, and securing a rare third term in 2024. For opposition parties at home and certain international groups, this has been deeply frustrating. When a direct electoral challenge failed, the focus shifted, if Modi cannot be dismantled in a straight fight, then Hindu unity itself must be weakened.

This is where the colonial playbook resurfaces in full force. The sudden push for a caste census, not as a genuine welfare instrument but as a tool to fracture Hindu society, echoes the British-era divide-and-rule strategy. The pattern does not stop at politics; it extends into academia and activism. In 2021, the "Dismantling Global Hindutva" conference, hosted by Western universities, openly discussed strategies to "contain" Hindutva. Western foundations, such as the Henry Luce Foundation, have funded projects that portray Hindu nationalism as a global threat, adding intellectual weight to divisive narratives. In India, remarks like Tamil Nadu minister Udhayanidhi Stalin's call to "eradicate Sanatana Dharma" in 2023 further deepened religious fault lines. On campuses, slogans such as "Bharat tere tukde honge, Insha Allah, Insha Allah," once heard at JNU, echoed the same rhetoric that colonial rulers would have cheered.

Even policy debates have been twisted, whether around the NRC or CAA, where genuine concerns of citizenship have often been overshadowed by fear-mongering and deliberate distortions. Regional tensions, too, are repeatedly stoked, claims that the "south subsidizes the north," resentment toward migrant workers in Telangana or language disputes in Maharashtra. None

of these are random, they mirror exactly the methods used by the British, exaggerating divisions, inflaming insecurities and preventing a united national voice.

The danger is clear, many politicians, willingly or otherwise, are playing into this old colonial experiment. They may hope for short-term political advantage, but the long-term cost is far greater, the weakening of India's unity. The caste divide weakened India's social fabric by eroding unity and collective strength. It fuelled mistrust among communities, stifled social mobility and restricted opportunities for large sections of society. Politically, it was exploited by colonial powers and later by vote-bank politics, deepening divisions instead of fostering inclusivity.

Economically, it curtailed talent and productivity by confining individuals to rigid roles. Above all, it distracted the nation from larger goals of freedom, progress and nation-building. Perhaps, history reminds us that unity is India's greatest strength, the same strength that shook the British Empire in 1857 and is powering India's rise in the 21st century.

Just as the British once exploited caste divisions to weaken India from within, today we also witness new strategies by global powers to counter India's rise. Western nations, baffled by India's rapid economic growth, technological advancement and increasing global influence, are attempting to create obstacles. U.S. President Donald Trump's recent announcement of steep tariffs on Indian goods is one such indication.

These moves are not isolated trade issues, they reflect a broader pattern where global powers, threatened by India's ascent as a self-reliant nation seek to destabilize its growth trajectory. Such external pressures remind us that unity within is the strongest shield against attempts to divide and weaken India from outside.

Perhaps, India today faces a serious risk of internal fragmentation, where the unity of the nation is constantly tested by forces that thrive on division. Whether it is the sudden push for a caste census positioned more as a political weapon than as a welfare tool or the incendiary slogans once heard in JNU, "Bharat tere tukde honge, Insha Allah, Insha Allah", the underlying message is the same, to break India into pieces by exploiting its fault lines. If citizens are not vigilant, these wedges can deepen, creating fractures in India's social and cultural fabric.

It reminds me one of the powerful scenes from the movie Gladiator, that I watched few years back. In Gladiator, when Russell Crowe (Maximus) is thrown into the Colosseum with other gladiators, they are expected to be slaughtered by the Roman cavalry. Instead of panicking or scattering, he shouts "Single column! Single column!", forcing the men to stand together, shields locked, spears outward. The cavalry, used to fighting broken, disorganized individuals, suddenly meets a united force that is almost impossible to penetrate. That single act of discipline and unity not only saves their lives but also wins them respect.

India today finds itself in a similar position. External pressures, whether through economic tariffs, geopolitical manoeuvring or subtle attempts to sow social discord are designed to weaken our resolve. Yet, just as in that arena, our true strength lies in unity, standing shoulder to shoulder, transcending divisions of caste, creed and region. If we allow ourselves to scatter, we risk falling prey to those who seek to exploit our differences. But if we move as one, bound by a shared civilizational ethos and national purpose, India becomes not only resilient but unstoppable. Our unity is our shield, and our shared vision is our sword.

History shows us that forces of division thrive when people are scattered, but they fail when faced with unity. And

if reports are to be believed, in the same spirit, when President Trump reportedly tried reaching out to Prime Minister Modi multiple times over stalled trade talks, Mr Modi chose not to respond, signalling that India would not be pressured or dictated to.

This quiet resilience, standing firm and united like Maximus, shows that India's power is once again being recognized on the global stage. The lesson for us as a society is clear, unity is our greatest shield and discipline in thought and action is the true strength of a nation. Our nation's true strength lies in remaining resiliently united in purpose, discipline, and vision.

In Bhawani Mandir, Sri Aurobindo writes that, "India is not a piece of earth, nor a figure of speech, nor a fiction of the mind. She is a power, a godhead, a living being."

DIGITAL WAR OF WORDS

It breaks my heart to see my state Manipur, a land of strength, fall into the grip of drugs. The shifting of the Golden Triangle towards India has brought a dangerous transformation, especially for my state. Manipur, once celebrated for its natural beauty and resilience, has now become a hotspot for poppy cultivation, fuelling a cycle of addiction and trafficking that threatens the youth of our nation and the very fabric of society.

Recognising this early, the BJP-led government launched a determined "War on Drugs." The large-scale destruction of poppy fields and prosecution of offenders gave people hope that the menace could be curbed. Since its launch, the campaign has shown tremendous results, creating widespread awareness and instilling fear among those involved.

However, after the 3rd May 2023 incident, cartels exploited the reduced enforcement of the War on Drugs, and poppy cultivation spread once again across different parts of the hills. Recent photographs from villages in the adjoining forest areas of Kangpokpi and Ukhrul districts like Challengbung, Chingphei, Sangkai and Yoleng reveal the alarming scale of these operations.

This grave situation demands urgent intervention. I urge all authorities to confront this menace with an iron hand, and I call upon the national media to conduct ground surveys and let the world see what is really happening in Manipur.

The problem must be uprooted before it consumes all of us. Manipur cannot be left to fight this battle alone. It needs urgent and collective action to prevent irreversible damage and to achieve Nasha Mukta Bharat.

~ N. Biren Singh, Former CM, Manipur



THE UNFINISHED PROJECT OF GENDER EQUALITY

DR ASHWANI KUMAR

Mainly, the discourse of gender equality is framed around wages, workplace opportunities, political representation, or access to education. Yet one domain remains an obstinately unequal one despite reform: the domain of love. Romantic relationships, marriages, and families are not immune to the asymmetries of gender. They are culturally inflected residues that weigh heavily on women and men in different ways. The paradox of contemporary time is that even as laws attempt to create fairness, love generally reproduces inequality, which perhaps explains the most subtle consequences of loneliness.

India's legal trajectory related to gender equality has been transformative. With the outlawing of dowry and child marriage and the criminalisation of domestic violence and sexual harassment at workplaces, the law has managed to protect women from structural harm. Progressive judgements on privacy, live-in relationships, and same-sex rights have also indicated that intimacy is no longer outside the reach of justice. However, limitations of law are inherent. Law may outlaw exploitation, but it cannot legislate the everyday dynamics of affection, care, and responsibility. A marriage may be legally equal, yet if the woman carries

the invisible burden of emotional care and domestic labour, the relationship continues to reproduce inequality. As situations change with women's access to income, the law does not demand that men be breadwinners; social expectations often chain them to the role of financial provider.

This imbalance becomes pronounced when taking into account the unquestioned emotional labour that women in our society perform. The emotional labour of remembering birthdays and anniversaries, initiating difficult conversations, acting as a mediator in conflict, and sustaining the emotional architecture of intimacy. What looks like a voluntary expression of love is, in truth, a deeply socialised expectation that women must be carers both within and outside the household. Even as they achieve professional success and economic independence, the demand for emotional caregiving rarely diminishes. Independence often doubles the pressure, as women are expected to excel at work while simultaneously managing the invisible scaffolding of love and family.

In contrast, men face the burden of affordability. Even with the rise of working women, masculinity is still evaluated in terms of financial stability, the income to afford gifts, pay for weddings, provide housing, and sustain lifestyles. Many men delay

marriage not because they are unwilling to love, but because they feel economically unprepared. Others withdraw emotionally because they internalise the belief that their value lies in their capacity to provide, not in their ability to nurture. In a culture shaped by consumerism, a man's worth is still too often tied to his wallet.

The result of these dual burdens is a strange type of loneliness in today's times. Women become isolated even in established relationships because the work of intimacy disproportionately rests with them. Men, in contrast, have the burden of economic weights and the loss of the cultural liberty to be vulnerable and to experience emotional need.

Both are alone together, being in relationships that express inequality, not transcend it. The result is a culture in which love is tenuously visible in postponed weddings, speeding divorces, casual affairs, and the booming business of dating apps. What was imagined as a respite from the world comes to increasingly resemble the world itself.

If gender equality is to be realised, it must extend into the sphere of intimacy. Law can only provide a framework; culture must complete the project. A more equal love would require men to share emotional labour actively-to listen, empathise, and take responsibility for sustaining relation-

ships. It would also require women to be freed from the expectation that caregiving is their natural duty. Affordability, too, must be shared. The ability to sustain a relationship cannot be measured by material display. A gift or a wedding should not define love; rather, mutual recognition and care should.

Sociological imagination states that love is not just a private feeling but a social institution and is shaped by gender, culture, and popular media. The personal is always political, and inequality in relationships is not simply an individual failing or a relational issue but a structural concern. Until we understand that emotional labour must be both acknowledged and shared, love will always reflect and reproduce hierarchies, not dismantle them.

Loneliness, in this sense, is less about individual isolation and more about the unfinished project of gender equality. If the twentieth century was about securing women's rights through law, the twenty-first must be about achieving emotional and relational justice. Only people can love if they are able to move beyond the cultural burdens imposed, becoming what they expect from each other. The ideal love is when people are able to form a partnership of equals, free from the hidden hierarchies of gender.

BTC Polls 2025: Hagrama Mohilary and Khampa Borgoyary set for high-stakes duel

KOKRAJHAR

With the Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) elections just three weeks away, the political battlefield in the Bodo heartland has intensified, as heavy-weight leaders Hagrama Mohilary of the Bodoland People's Front (BPF) and Khampa Borgoyary of the United People's Party Liberal (UPPL) gear up for a dramatic showdown.

Once close allies during the armed movement era, Hagrama and Khampa are now on opposing sides, contesting in two separate constituencies — a rare political spectacle attracting attention across Assam.

In Debergaon (Constituency No. 10) of Kokrajhar district, BPF chief and former BTC head Hagrama Mohilary will face off against Khampa Borgoyary, who is contesting on a UPPL ticket. Conversely, in Chirang Duar (Constituency No. 14), Khampa is seeking victory under the

UPPL banner, while Hagrama is fielded by BPF, setting the stage for a dual battle between the two political titans.

Both leaders filed their nominations amidst massive crowds and a show of strength by supporters, reflecting the high stakes of this contest. Speaking to the media after filing his nomination, Hagrama Mohilary launched a scathing attack on Khampa Borgoyary and former minister Chandan Brahma, accusing the UPPL of fielding them "to destroy their political careers." He claimed that during their tenure in BPF, Khampa and Chandan had "oppressed the people," and their departure had brought relief to the public. Expressing confidence in BPF's prospects, Mohilary said, "BPF will emerge number one in this election, followed by BJP, then Congress, and lastly UPPL." Khampa Borgoyary hit back after filing his nomination, declaring, "Hagrama Mohilary will face a decisive defeat and be politically wiped



out in both constituencies." He asserted that UPPL was confident of retaining Chirang Duar and vowed that Hagrama would lose in both Debergaon and Chirang Duar.

As one of the most closely watched political duels in recent BTC history unfolds, all eyes will be on the vote counting scheduled for September 26, which is set to determine whether the old guard or the emerging leadership will domi-

nate Bodo politics. Hagrama Mohilary and Khampa Borgoyary Set for High-Stakes Duel With just three weeks to go for the Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) elections, the political battlefield in the Bodo heartland has intensified, as heavyweight leaders Hagrama Mohilary of the Bodoland People's Front (BPF) and Khampa Borgoyary of the United People's Party Liberal (UPPL) gear up for a dramatic showdown. Once close

allies during the armed movement era, Hagrama and Khampa are now on opposing sides, contesting in two separate constituencies — a rare political spectacle attracting attention across Assam. In Debergaon (Constituency No. 10) of Kokrajhar district, BPF chief and former BTC head Hagrama Mohilary will face off against Khampa Borgoyary, who is contesting on a UPPL ticket. Conversely, in Chirang Duar (Constituency No. 14), Khampa is seeking victory under the UPPL banner, while Hagrama is fielded by BPF, setting the stage for a dual battle between the two political titans.

Both leaders filed their nominations amidst massive crowds and show of strength by supporters, reflecting the high stakes of this contest.

Speaking to the media after filing his nomination, Hagrama Mohilary launched a scathing attack on Khampa Borgoyary and former minister Chandan Brahma, accusing the UPPL of

fielding them "to destroy their political careers." He claimed that during their tenure in BPF, Khampa and Chandan had "oppressed the people," and their departure had brought relief to the public. Expressing confidence in BPF's prospects, Mohilary said, "BPF will emerge number one in this election, followed by BJP, then Congress, and lastly UPPL."

Khampa Borgoyary hit back after filing his nomination, declaring, "Hagrama Mohilary will face a decisive defeat and be politically wiped out in both constituencies." He asserted that UPPL was confident of retaining Chirang Duar and vowed that Hagrama would lose in both Debergaon and Chirang Duar.

As one of the most closely watched political duels in recent BTC history unfolds, all eyes will be on the vote counting scheduled for September 26, which is set to determine whether the old guard or the emerging leadership will dominate Bodo politics.

Nagaland CM terms GST as 'backbone of state's economy'; urges timely tax compliance

KOHIMA

Goods and Services Tax (GST) is the prime source of revenue for Nagaland and must become a collective responsibility, Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio told the Assembly on September 2, appealing to citizens to turn tax payment into a "people's movement" for the state's financial stability.

During Zero Hour, Rio was responding to concerns raised by MLA A. Pongshi Phom, who highlighted GST's role as the backbone of the state's exchequer. Phom stressed that despite Nagaland's potential in sectors such as food packaging, juices, pickles, and biofuels, tax collection gaps remain, particularly between VAT and GST. He noted that state GST revenue saw a 104% year-on-year jump in June 2025, following robust growth of 43% in April and 44% in May, driven by reforms, enforcement, and growing business compliance.

Phom also urged the government to expand GST to areas such as commercial house rents, sand and stone chips, and unauthorized transporters, besides calling for amendments to outdated GST laws and timely filing of returns by DDOs. He proposed setting up a State GST Grievance Redressal Committee with representation from government, trade bodies, and tax professionals.

Rio, in his reply, assured that preventing leakages in GST deductions and collections remains the state's top priority. He reiterated that no government can survive without taxes and appealed to businesses and citizens alike to pay on time, saying such compliance would directly strengthen Nagaland's economic base.

Manipur Bar Association urges CJI to increase HC judge strength to 7; 3,651 cases pending

IMPHAL

The High Court Bar Association of Manipur (HCBAM) has urged Union Law and Justice Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal and Chief Justice of India (CJI) Bhusan Ramkrishna Gavai to raise the sanctioned strength of judges in the Manipur High Court from five to seven. A delegation from HCBAM met both the Union Law Minister and the CJI recently in New Delhi.

During the meeting, they requested the immediate appointment of two judges to fill the existing vacancies and called for an increase in the court's sanctioned judge strength.

HCBAM President, Senior Advocate Naorem Kumarjit, shared these details with the media in Imphal on Tuesday. Since its establishment in 2013, the Manipur High

Court has consistently functioned with at least one vacant judge position. As of now, the court has only three judges, even though the sanctioned strength stands at four judges and one Chief Justice. Kumarjit stated that the ongoing vacancies have contributed to a significant backlog of cases, which has resulted in delayed justice. He added that litigants often blame advocates for the delays, even though the shortage of judges is a major cause.

As of December 31, 2024, the Manipur High Court had 3,651 pending cases, including 3,241 civil cases and 410 criminal cases.

According to the Constitution, a High Court includes a Chief Justice and additional judges. The President of India determines the total number of judges based on the court's workload.

Congress slams BJP-backed council: 6 villagers 'arrested' in Dima Hasao for opposing land grab by cement firm

GUWAHATI

The Congress has launched a scathing attack on the BJP-backed North Cachar Hills Autonomous Council (NCHAC) after six villagers were allegedly arrested in Dima Hasao for challenging the allotment of tribal land to a private cement company.

The arrests, made without warrant on Tuesday evening, September 2, came just hours before a crucial hearing in the Gauhati High Court, drawing allegations of political vendetta and suppression of democratic rights.

Congress leader Bapujit Langthasa accused the council's Land and Revenue Department of

"illegally and unethically" handing over 3,000 bighas of land in Nobdi Longkukro village of Umrangso to Mahabali Cement Company. He said 22 villagers had moved the Gauhati High Court against the allotment, but the ruling establishment was now resorting to intimidation to derail the case. "Three of those arrested are petitioners. This is not just an attack on them; it is an attack on justice itself. The BJP-backed council wants to silence the voices of the poor and protect the interests of a private company," Langthasa told reporters.

He warned that police would be held directly responsible if any harm came to the detainees. Langthasa fur-

ther alleged that over the past week, senior council members and revenue officials had been pressuring villagers to withdraw the case. "This is a calculated conspiracy to stop the petitioners from appearing before the High Court. The arrests are nothing but a crude attempt to subvert the judicial process," he said, adding that the matter has already been escalated to the Congress high command. The land row, simmering since 2024, has exposed what the opposition calls the "dark nexus of money, muscle, and political power" in Assam's hill district.

Villagers claim they were duped into surrendering their ancestral

land in exchange for meagre cheques, while the council pocketed crores. When protests erupted, allegations surfaced that a BJP-aligned executive member of the council even opened fire to intimidate demonstrators—charges denied by the accused. The Gauhati High Court has already expressed shock at the allocation, questioning how nearly 3,000 bighas—virtually an entire district—could be handed to a private company in a Sixth Schedule area where tribal land rights are supposed to be protected.

Congress has framed the arrests as part of a broader pattern of authoritarianism under the BJP.

BTR leads the way in digitizing tribal land records

KOKRAJHAR

Despite India's rapid shift toward digital governance, the Sixth Schedule tribal councils in the Northeast still face significant challenges in digitizing their land records. While the national Digital India Mission aims for transparency and efficiency, the councils grapple with complex customary landholding laws, poor infrastructure, and a lack of digital literacy.

There are 10 such autonomous councils across the region, including three in Assam (Bodoland Territorial Council, Karbi Anglong, and Dima Hasao), three in Meghalaya (Garochills, Jaintia Hills, and Khasi Hills), three in Mizoram (Chakma, Mara, and Lai), and one in Tripura. These councils are empowered to manage land, forests, and local governance under the special provisions of the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution.

Bodoland Sets a New Standard for Digital Transformation

In a historic move, the Bodoland Territorial Region (BTR) has become the first



Sixth Schedule council to achieve 100% digitization of land records. Led by Chief Executive Member (CEM) Pramod Boro, this initiative has earned praise from the central government and positioned BTR as a benchmark for other councils to follow.

The project successfully digitized over 1.5 million land documents, including texts and maps. This achievement is a major step toward transparent governance and efficient service delivery in one of Assam's most strategically important tribal regions. By aligning its governance model with the national vision of "Minimum

Government, Maximum Governance," BTR has set a new standard for administrative reform in the region.

The BTR government's adoption of technology is seen as a turning point for its governance. The new e-Office system replaces outdated manual file systems, enabling electronic file movement, real-time tracking, and online approvals.

Simultaneously, the complete digitization of land records ensures that every land parcel is now mapped and stored in a secure digital format. For citizens, this means they can now access land records, apply for mutations, and verify ownership online, eliminating the need for middlemen and multiple trips to government offices.

According to Dhiraj Saud, Secretary of the BTC, the digitization process began in early 2023, involving ground surveys and the use of Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping to ensure accuracy. The new digital platform allows farmers and landowners to check their land status through kiosks, mobile apps, and web portals. A BTR Land Revenue Department official stated, "Land disputes have often caused social tension in our area. By digitizing records, we are ensuring transparency and minimizing chances of corruption, forgery, and conflict."

The initiative has also been well-re-

ceived by the public. A farmer from the Baksa district noted, "Earlier, we had to wait for months for land documents. Now it's available in minutes. This has given us confidence that the government is truly working for the people."

While BTR's achievement is significant, challenges remain. Internet penetration is still limited in remote areas, and many residents lack digital literacy. To address this, the administration has begun training sessions and is setting up digital kiosks in villages to provide assistance. The BTR administration has also taken measures to ensure the security of sensitive land data from cyber threats.

Political observers believe this digital milestone could boost the popularity of the ruling United People's Party Liberal (UPPL) in the upcoming 2025 Bodoland Territorial Council elections, as it demonstrates a clear commitment to reform and good governance.

The BTR model is now a case study for other autonomous councils in Karbi Anglong, Tripura, and Meghalaya, paving the way for a new era of digital governance in tribal regions across Northeast India. As Dhiraj Saud aptly put it, "Digitization is only the first step. The real challenge lies in making these services accessible to the last mile and ensuring people trust and adopt the system."

Ex-ADC Forum Manipur urges state government to hold pending ADC elections without delay

IMPHAL

A delegation of the Ex-Autonomous District Council (ADC) Members' Forum of Manipur, led by Convenor RS Ngaranchui, met Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Tribal Affairs and Hills, Anurag Bajpai (IFS), on Tuesday September 2 to press for urgent action on long-pending ADC elections.

During the meeting, the delegation submitted a memorandum highlighting the adverse impacts of delayed polls in the hill districts. They pointed to the High Court's recent directive mandating the state government to conduct overdue Panchayat elections within six months, stressing that a similar timeline was urgently needed for ADC elections. The memorandum noted that the absence of elected local bodies since the expiry of ADC terms in November 2020 has hindered develop-

ment and weakened local governance in the tribal hill regions.

In response, ACS Bajpai acknowledged the concerns and assured the delegation that the government is positively considering steps to strengthen ADC functioning.

He emphasized that the Tribal Affairs and Hills Department has prioritized education, health, connectivity, and livelihood generation in the hill districts.

Bajpai underlined that strengthening education is a top priority, with a goal to establish one Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS) in every tribal block. While EMRS Riha has been commissioned and EMRS Churachandpur is ready for launch, EMRS Chandel is expected to be completed by year-end. Proposals for six new EMRS projects are also being submitted to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

The ACS reiterated the government's commitment to expanding health infrastructure and ensuring availability of medical staff in remote and border villages. He highlighted the ongoing push to improve road connectivity under PMGSY and Inter Village Roads (IVRs) for economic growth in the hills.

On industry, Bajpai noted that 78% of Manipur's land is forested and serves as a critical source of raw material. Plans are underway to establish industrial estates in uncovered hill districts such as Kangpokpi, Senapati, Tengnoupal, Kamjong, and Pherzawl. Industrial estates in Ukhrul and Chandel are nearly ready for inauguration, each equipped with common facility centers, high-end machinery, packaging units, and marketing outlets.

Bajpai also highlighted the role of Van Dhan Vikas Kendras (VDVKs), largely managed

by women self-help groups, in providing livelihood through value addition and marketing of forest produce.

On the long-pending demand for pensions to ex-ADC members, Bajpai informed that the issue is under active review. He also briefed the delegation on new initiatives for carbon trading projects, with village authorities from Noney district already participating.

Emphasizing the importance of peace and stability, Bajpai said a peaceful regime is essential for investment, industrial growth, and overall prosperity.

The Ex-ADC Forum expressed gratitude for the department's inclusive and people-centric governance under Bajpai's leadership, noting progress in clearing pending works and establishing transparent, accountable systems in the last five months.

CPIM gave birth to terrorism, BJP brought peace: Tripura CM Manik Saha

AGARTALA

Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha on Tuesday, September 2 slammed the opposition CPIM saying that the party has given birth to terrorism while BJP brought peace in the state.

Addressing the gathering, Manik Saha said the people of Tripura have realized that true development of the state and the country is possible only with the BJP, as the CPI(M) and Congress have historically used the Janajati community merely as a vote bank.

Today he welcomed 610 voters in BJP. "I extend a warm welcome to all those who have joined the BJP today. Just two days ago, I visited Asarambari to attend the popular 'Mann Ki Baat' programme—a non-political initiative unlike anything done before. Last month, when our karyakartas were listening to the programme, they were attacked. We are ready to sacrifice for the nation, and whenever our karyakartas face attacks, the party stands firmly with them," Dr. Saha said.

The Chief Minister emphasized that the BJP rejects the politics of violence and terror that marked 35 years of CPI(M)-Congress rule.

"BJP does not believe in such dirty politics. People have witnessed the violent politics of CPI(M) and Congress. The citizens want peace, and peace requires strength. If necessary, we are prepared to use power to ensure it. While CPI(M) used the Janajati people merely as a vote bank, PM Modi has consistently emphasized development for all. Our government has made the state terrorism-free, and since 2014, the Northeast has seen remarkable development. Peace now prevails in Tripura, connectivity has improved, and the HIRA model has been successfully implemented," he said. The chief minister also criticized CPI(M) for failing to honor Maharaja Bir Bikram's contributions to Tripura's development.

"We have restored respect to the Manikya Dynasty. Maharaja Bir Bikram contributed immensely to Tripura, establishing schools, colleges, markets, and other institutions. CPI(M) never recognized his efforts. Since 2014, PM Modi has championed the development of the Janajati people. BJP ensures not only development but also respect for the Janajati community. Unity is essential for the progress of our state," he added.

Quest!
Crocodiles are fast on their feet, but cannot turn very well. If one is chasing you, run in zig zag lines.

STUDENT INTERNSHIP

Join as an Intern@
North East Integration Rally 2026

WHO CAN JOIN

- HS to PG Students

WHAT YOU GET

- Certificates + Paid Internship*
- KRC Placement Membership

APPLY NOW <https://bit.ly/nejrinternshipform>
E: Seforsuccess@gmail.com

9330830083 www.northeastintegrationrally.in

Trump sent India back toward Russia, closer to China, 'shredded' decades of efforts: US' former NSA



NEW YORK

President Donald Trump has 'shredded' decades of Western efforts to wean India away from Russia and caution it on the threat posed by China, US' former National Security Adviser John Bolton has said, noting that the American leader's tariff policies and claims of ending the recent India-Pakistan military conflict worsened the situation.

Bolton, who served as NSA in the first Trump administration, has been very critical of his former boss.

"The West has spent decades trying to wean India away from its Cold War attachment to Soviet Union Russia, and cautioning India on the threat posed by China. Donald Trump has shredded decades of efforts with his disastrous tariff policy," Bolton said in a post on X Monday.

In an interview with Sky News, Bolton elaborated that the West, and the US in particular, has spent decades trying to wean India away from Russia, buying sophisticated weapons from them and cautioning New Delhi on the danger posed by China.

This was symbolised by the

Quad grouping of Japan, India, Australia and the United States.

"A lot of effort (was made) to make India more amenable to cooperation with these countries. Donald Trump, in the past weeks, has essentially upended that and, for a variety of reasons, now sent India back toward Russia, to grow closer to China, and just shredding these decades of efforts," he said.

The former NSA stressed that while the situation can be repaired, it would require significant work, which he does not see happening in the near term.

Bolton said there are a series of things that Trump has done that have offended the Indians on the basic tariffs that Trump wants, which he said at a macro level economic phenomena are a "disaster" for everybody.

He said India believed it was close to resolving disputes with Washington, only to be hit with 25 per cent duties.

Trump then carried through on his threat to impose secondary tariffs on countries buying Russian oil and gas.

"Trump whacked India with another 25%, (but) did not tariff Russia, did not tariff China, the largest purchaser of Russian oil

and gas.

"And then, to make it worse, when the recent escalation between Pakistan and India over a terrorist attack in Kashmir occurred.

Trump took full credit for it as one of the six or seven wars that he stopped this year to deserve the Nobel Peace Prize, which has made India incandescent," said Bolton, a long-time critic of Trump.

Since May 10, when Trump announced on social media that India and Pakistan had agreed to a 'full and immediate' ceasefire after a long night of talks mediated by Washington, he has repeated his claim over 40 times that he 'helped settle' the tensions between India and Pakistan.

India has been consistently maintaining that the understanding on cessation of hostilities with Pakistan was reached following direct talks between the Directors General of Military Operations (DGMOs) of the two militaries. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said in Parliament that no leader of any country asked India to stop Operation Sindoor.

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has categorically said there was no third-party intervention in bringing about a ceasefire with Pakistan during Operation Sindoor.

Bolton has earlier said that the tariffs imposed by the Trump administration on India for its purchase of Russian oil may have pushed New Delhi closer to the Beijing-Moscow axis, describing it as an "unforced error".

Bolton's Maryland home and Washington office were recently searched by the FBI as part of a criminal probe into the alleged mishandling of classified material.

India-China relations moving towards normalcy: Minister Piyush Goyal

NEW DELHI

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Tuesday said India-China relations are gradually moving towards normalcy, noting that as border issues get resolved, easing of tensions is a natural consequence.

At the meeting held on the margins of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit, Modi and Xi agreed to work towards a "fair, reasonable and mutually-acceptable" solution to the India-China border issue, and pledged to expand trade and investment ties, recognising the role of the two economies to stabilise global trade.

"This was an SCO summit, where all the SCO members participated. We had a problem in Galwan, due to which we had a blip in the relationship. As the border gets resolved, I think the situation getting back to normal is a very natural consequence," Goyal told reporters when asked if with India and China resetting their relationship and if there is a scope for relaxations in PN3.

At present, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) applications from countries sharing land borders, such as China, have to mandatorily seek government approval for all sectors.

This policy was issued in April 2020 as Press Note 3 (PN3).

The domestic industry is urging the government to ease these FDI norms to attract more investments from China.

In July 2024, the pre-budget Economic Survey made a strong case for seeking foreign direct investments from Beijing to boost local manufacturing and tap the export market.

It said that increased overseas inflows from the neighbouring countries can help increase India's global supply chain participation and push



exports.

China stands at 23rd position with only 0.34 per cent share (USD 2.5 billion) in total FDI equity inflow reported in India from April 2000 to March 2025.

The ties between the two countries nosedived significantly following the fierce clash in the Galwan Valley in June 2020 that marked the most serious military conflict between the two sides in decades.

Following these tensions, India had earlier banned over 200 Chinese mobile apps such as Tiktok, Wechat, and Alibaba's UC browser.

The country has also rejected a

major investment proposal from EV maker BYD.

Experts are suggesting the government to have a re-look at PN3, which subjects investments to additional scrutiny even if there is a single shareholder from China.

The experts have also suggested that the committee which oversees investment proposals under this press note should be asked to expeditiously clear the FDI proposals from the land border countries, including China.

There is an inter-ministerial committee headed by the Home Secretary to consider applications

under that press note.

Though India has received minimal FDI from China, the bilateral trade between the two nations has grown multi-fold.

In 2024-25, India's exports stood at USD 14.25 billion, while imports were USD 113.5 billion.

Trade deficit (difference between imports and exports) rose from USD 1.1 billion in 2003-04 to USD 99.2 billion in 2024-25.

China's trade deficit accounted for about 35 per cent of India's total trade imbalance (USD 283 billion) in the last fiscal. The gap was USD 85.1 billion in 2023-24.

INTERNATIONAL

Construction intensifies at site linked to Israel's suspected nuclear program, satellite photos reveal

DUBAI

Construction work has intensified on a major new structure at a facility key to Israel's long-suspected atomic weapons program, according to satellite images analyzed by experts. They say it could be a new reactor or a facility to assemble nuclear arms — but secrecy shrouding the program makes it difficult to know for sure.

The work at the Shimon Peres Negev Nuclear Research Center near the city of Dimona will renew questions about Israel's widely believed status as the Mideast's only nuclear-armed state.

It could also draw international criticism, especially since it comes after Israel and the United States bombed nuclear sites across Iran in June over their fears that the Islamic Republic could use its enrichment facilities to pursue an atomic weapon. Among the sites attacked was Iran's heavy water reactor at Arak.

Seven experts who examined the images all said they believed the construction was related to Israel's long-suspected nuclear weapons program, given its proximity to the reactor at Dimona, where no civilian power plant exists. However, they split on what the new construction could be.

Three said the location and size of the area under construction and the fact that it appeared to have multiple floors meant the most likely explanation for the work was the construction of a new heavy water reactor. Such reactors can produce plutonium and another material key to nuclear weapons.

The other four acknowledged it could be a heavy water reactor but also suggested the work could be related to a new facility for assembling nuclear weapons. They declined to be definitive given the construction was still in an early stage.

"It's probably a reactor — that judgement is circumstantial but that's the nature of these things," said Jeffrey



Lewis, an expert at the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies, who based his assessment on the images and Dimona's history. "It's very hard to imagine it is anything else." Israel does not confirm or deny having atomic weapons, and its government did not respond to requests for comment. The White House, which is Israel's staunchest ally, also did not respond to requests for comment.

The Associated Press first reported on excavations at the facility, some 90 kilometers (55 miles) south of Jerusalem, in 2021. Then, satellite images only showed workers digging a hole some 150 meters (165 yards) long and 60 meters (65 yards) wide near the site's original heavy water reactor.

Images taken July 5 by Planet Labs PBC show intensified construction at the site of the dig. Thick concrete retaining walls seem to be laid at the site, which appears to have multiple floors underground. Cranes loom overhead.

There's no containment dome or other features typically associated with a heavy water reactor now visible at the site. However, one could be added later or a reactor could be designed without one.

Dimona's current heavy water reactor, which came online in the 1960s, has been operating far longer than most

reactors of the same era. That suggests it will need to be replaced or retrofitted soon.

"It's tall, which you would expect, because the reactor core is going to be pretty tall," Lewis said. "Based on the location, size and general lack of construction there, it's more likely a reactor than anything."

Edwin Lyman, a nuclear expert at the Cambridge, Massachusetts-based Union of Concerned Scientists, also said the new construction could be a box-shaped reactor that doesn't have a visible containment dome, though he acknowledged the lack of transparency made it difficult to be certain.

Israel "doesn't allow any international inspections or verification of what it's doing, which forces the public to speculate," said Lyman.

While details about Dimona remain closely held secrets in Israel, a whistleblower in the 1980s released details and photos of the facility that led experts to conclude that Israel had produced dozens of nuclear warheads.

"If it's a heavy water reactor, they're seeking to maintain the capability to produce spent fuel that they then can process to separate plutonium for more nuclear weapons," said Daryl G. Kimball, the executive director of the Washington-based Arms Control Association. "Or they are building a

facility to maintain their arsenal or build additional warheads."

Israel, like India and Pakistan, is believed to rely on a heavy water reactor to make its nuclear weapons. The reactors can be used for scientific purposes, but plutonium — which causes the nuclear chain reaction needed in an atomic bomb — is a byproduct of the process. Tritium is another byproduct and can be used to boost the explosive yield of warheads.

Given the secrecy of Israel's program, it remains difficult to estimate just how many nuclear weapons it possesses. The Bulletin of Atomic Scientists in 2022 put the number at around 90 warheads.

Obtaining more tritium to replace decaying material may be the reason for the construction at Dimona, as Lyman noted it decays 5% each year.

"If they're building a new production reactor," he said, "it doesn't necessarily mean they're looking to expand the plutonium they have, but to manufacture tritium."

Israel is believed to have begun building the nuclear site in the desert in the late 1950s after facing several wars with its Arab neighbors surrounding its founding in 1948 in the wake of the Holocaust.

Its policy of nuclear ambiguity is thought to have helped deter its enemies. It is among nine countries confirmed or believed to have atomic weapons and among just four that have never joined the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, a landmark international accord meant to stop the spread of nuclear arms. That means the International Atomic Energy Agency, the United Nations' nuclear watchdog, has no right to conduct inspections of Dimona.

Asked about the construction, the Vienna-based IAEA reiterated that Israel "is not obligated to provide information about other nuclear facilities in the country" outside of its Soreq research reactor.

BEIJING

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and Russia's Vladimir Putin flanked Xi Jinping at a massive parade in Beijing on Wednesday, capping a week of diplomatic grandstanding by the Chinese president and his allies against the West.

In unprecedented scenes, Xi shook both their hands and chatted with the pair as they walked down a red carpet by Tiananmen Square, with Putin to Xi's right and Kim to his left.

The 90-minute event, ostensibly to mark 80 years since the end of World War II, was a chance for Xi to put on an extravaganza to showcase China's military prowess and bring together friendly leaders to send a message to the rest of the world.

Kicking off the parade, President Xi warned the world was still "faced with a choice of peace or war", but said China was "unstoppable".

The heavily choreographed event drew an acidic response from President Donald Trump who accused the three leaders of plotting against the United States.

"Give my warmest regards to Vladimir Putin, and Kim Jong Un, as you conspire against The United States of America," he wrote on Truth Social.

In a show of military strength, Xi inspected the massed troops and weaponry from an open-topped limousine down Beijing's vast Chang'an Avenue before turning back to join his guests in a seating area above the iconic portrait of Mao Zedong on Tiananmen, the entrance gate of the historic Forbidden City.

China's huge collection of military vehicles and heavy weapons rolled past the dignitaries, while images

of thousands of servicemen and women in immaculate uniforms marching in tight ranks and soldiers jumping in and out of vehicles were shown in a slick state media broadcast.

Beijing residents went out into the streets to catch a glimpse of a spectacular fly-past involving scores of warplanes and helicopters, some making an "80" formation.

Millions of Chinese people were killed during a prolonged war with imperial Japan in the 1930s and 40s, which became part of a global conflict following Tokyo's attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941.

All eyes were on how the trio of Xi, Putin and Kim -- who rarely leaves secretive North Korea -- interacted with each other, but the state media broadcast only offered rare snapshots of the three together and foreign journalists were kept at a distance and told not to film or photograph the leaders.

The event was the climax of a whirlwind week for Xi, who on Sunday and Monday hosted a slew of Eurasian leaders for a summit in the northern port city of Tianjin aimed at putting China front and centre of regional relations.

The club of 10 countries, named the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), touts itself as a non-Western style of collaboration in the region and seeks to be an alternative to traditional alliances.

During the summit, Xi slammed "bullying behaviour" from certain countries -- a veiled reference to the United States -- while Putin defended Russia's Ukraine offensive, blaming the West for triggering the conflict.

Many of the guests from the Tianjin gathering, including Putin, Belarusian President Alexander

Lukashenko and several other leaders, have joined Xi for the parade in Beijing.

However, no major Western dignitaries were among the two dozen world leaders at the event.

Security around Beijing has tightened in recent days and weeks, with road closures, military personnel stationed on bridges and street corners, and miles upon miles of white barriers lining the capital's wide boulevards.

China has touted the parade as a show of unity with other countries, and Kim's attendance is the first time he has been seen with Xi and Putin at the same event. It is only his second reported trip abroad in six years.

AFP journalists captured the moment his olive-green train approached Beijing Railway Station on Tuesday afternoon, with small North Korean flags flying over one coach. He was accompanied by his daughter Kim Ju Ae.

Kim enjoyed a brief bout of high-profile international diplomacy from around 2018, meeting US President Donald Trump and then South Korean president Moon Jae-in multiple times.

But he withdrew from the global scene after the collapse of a summit with Trump in Hanoi, Vietnam, in 2019.

Kim stayed in North Korea throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, but met Putin in Russia's far east in 2023.

Lam Peng Er, principal research fellow from the East Asian Institute at the National University of Singapore, said Kim's visit "demonstrates to the North Koreans and the world that he has powerful Russian and Chinese friends who treat him with respect".

"China also shows that it has convening power and political influence to bring Putin and Kim Jong Un together," he told AFP.

China 'unstoppable', says Xi with Kim, Putin at his side

THE END OF EMERGENCY IN MYANMAR WILL THIS BE A NEW DAWN FOR NORTH EAST INDIA?



HAOROKCHAM ANIL

Secy. Manipur Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) Email: anilhaorok@gmail.com

The whole world is astounded by the sudden declaration of ending the emergency in Myanmar by the Junta leader Min Aung Hlaing on 31st July, 2025 followed by the announcement to hold election in between December 2025 and January, 2026. Experts, especially in the field of geopolitics started expressing their opinions based on different perspectives from their own lenses and with a framing design to draw their own conclusions. Even more astounding is the lifting of sanctions in certain areas by the US which was imposed on Myanmar post military coup at 21st February 2021. This has defied or diluted the very concept of sanctions imposed related with the coup which had dethroned the Government elected by the people and have committed heinous human rights violations in the aftermath of the coup. UN experts are reported to be appalled by the US sudden withdrawal of sanctions against companies providing weapons to Myanmar junta that are emboldening the regime.

It is quite evident that the interest of US in Myanmar is very strong, an obligatory move for retaining its supremacy in the larger geopolitical game contesting with China through a very calculative step at the crucial juncture by empowering themselves to monitor and regulate both China and India, the two rising power in the region using helpless Myanmar as a harbor - one stone for two birds. The imposition of unprecedented tariff by Trump especially aimed at China has provoked with the reciprocal ban on the export of Rare Earth Elements (REE), a precision strike at the Achilles Heel, hampering US to a great extent across varied sectors including its EVs, Smart-phones, defence sectors manufacturing military hardware like the state-of-the-art missiles, fighter jets, night vision goggles etc. as US imports between 80 to 95% of its requirement from China.

On the other hand, China had already monopolized the production and export of these elements because of the full-scale mining technology and the immense deposits they have, which is assumed to be more than the total deposits of all countries combined. Myanmar also have large deposits of rare earth elements unfortunately lacking the technology for mining, processing and production like China. India and many other countries fall in this category.

With an aim to capitalize on the opportunity of harvesting the REE deposits found in Myanmar, US has lifted sanctions imposed on Myanmar. Presently mining of these REE is done under the Chinese shadow at Kachin Province where the majority of the population are Christians and are fighting against the military Junta. Myanmar on the other hand has no other options but to maneuver between the contesting US and Chinese policies because of their weak economy through long isolation and sanctions at the International trade arena by the US and its allied countries. These sanctions had weakened the country's economy to the grave. The recent warming up of relations between US-Pak and US-Myanmar leading to the partial lifting of sanctions and ending of State of Emergency, declaration of election might be a game changer and a direct threat to the Chinese by the present geopolitical development of the regions as CPEC and CMEC are strategic and functioning as a bypass against Malacca-Dilemma.

While the above is the canvas of a larger geopolitical game in the region, but if we focus, funneling down and framing the scope to "Trade and Economy", we can question ourselves as what does the end of emergency and the changing policy of Myanmar holds for the NE states of India, particularly Manipur? Manipur, gateway to South East Asia because of the location and the land port, Integrated Check Post (ICP)



Nothing drains high performers faster than realizing their reward for excellence is cleaning up someone else's mess.

historical backgrounds. Long before the formal inauguration of Indo-Myanmar Border Trade in April 1995, Moreh-Tamu border market had served the people of Manipur and the rest of NE India with an affordable items of consumer goods like garments, house hold items, electronic gadgets etc. that are originated from China and partly from Thailand, Vietnam, South Korea etc. These has been acting as a major component of the market and economy of the state of Manipur since past many decades. In spite of the turmoil due to the coup in Myanmar, Feb., 2021 and the prevailing ethnic crises in the state of Manipur between the Meiteis and the Kukis that begun

a hotspot of multisectoral investments and an attractive tourist spot owing to its geographical location, scenic beauty and serenity of the state. Moreover, the opportunities for development of NE India, especially Manipur is again enhanced by the India Myanmar Thailand (IMT), 1360 Km long corridor starting from Maesot-Myawaddy (Thailand - Myanmar) border passing through Mandalay and finally reaching Tamu-Moreh. The connectivity from Mandalay to Tamu-Moreh becomes confluence of two giant economic zones; the ASEAN and the world largest manufacturer, China. Unfortunately, India's limited interest in the BCIM-EC and IMT Trilateral

maneuvers had dimmed the enthusiasm and hope of realizing the economic potential of the region for the people of Manipur and NE India. The fear of dumping by Chinese and ASEAN's products in the Indian market and especially NE region is another big factor that cannot be ignored as India is comparatively weak in the manufacturing sector. The aftermath of Covid-19 pandemic and the continuing crises in Myanmar arising from the coup of Feb.2021 is another issue which can also be considered as "blame on the faith". Under these circumstances, IMT trilateral highway and BCIM-EC became stalled against the hope, anticipation and is now looking more like a hollow HYPE.

On the flip side, the China - India bilateral trade continues to grow through conventional ports with the present size pegged at 114 billion US\$ import and export amounting to around 14.25 billion US\$ resulting in a negative trade balance of 99.75 billion US\$. Similar is the case with the ASEAN, India imports about 68.55 billion US\$ and exports around 32.71 billion US\$ making a negative trade balance of 35.84 billion USD.

The recent geopolitical development in the region especially signs of thawing of India-China relations signalled by the visit of Chinese foreign Minister at New Delhi and announcement of enhanced bilateral relationship including opening of Border Trade (India-China) at one hand, US-Myanmar relationship development marked by partial lifting of sanctions, ending of Emergency, declaration of national election in Dec.2025 on the other side gives a golden opportunity in the region to bring peace and harmony in the region and an opportunity of restarting the economic activities at BCIM-EC, IMT etc. This land route (trade route) has almost shortened by almost 5 times or lesser from the distance of nearest sea port from China to India making a significant reduction in transport cost, allowing more people-to-people connect.

The opportunities with these corridors are tremendous for the people of the region. For a state like Manipur with minimal revenue contribution to the nation's growth as indicated in state budget and other statistical data & reports, there is an utmost requirement of these routes and to formalize the trade as it will be a major contributing factor to the development of state economy. This may also work as common economic force for all ethnic communities of the region giving a possible & positive change towards their political outlook and aspirations with the ultimate goal of peace and progress. At the conclusion of this article, I would like to emphasize that, with the activation of these routes, goods would be much cheaper and affordability issues would be addressed up to certain extent. Whether you buy things from our own domestic industry or from the foreign countries, the one giving you more economic and developmental mileage is more important as "Saving a pie is a national saving and wasting a pie is a national wastage"

Haorokcham Anil
Secy. Manipur Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) Email: anilhaorok@gmail.com

(This article was published in the Sangai Express on 24th August, 2025.)



from 3rd May, 2023, these third country products of unofficial in nature still played the vital role in the economy of state. December, 2025 will mark the "Decade of Normal Trade", of Indo-Myanmar Border Trade signed in 1994 and implemented 1995 and upgraded in 2015 as normal trade, which is a part of the most ambitious foreign policy of India back then, "Look East Policy". Unfortunately, the most awaited, i.e. the inclusion of third countries products originating from China, Thailand, Vietnam, South Korea etc. have not been included as whitelisted items and could not be traded through the land routes reaching Tamu-Moreh as there are no formal Trade Agreements with these countries. Ironically, there's almost no house in the state that does not have goods originated from these countries that are transported through the border town of Moreh-Tamu which ultimately reaches Manipur and the other parts of India.

BCIM (Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar), Economic corridor which is 2800 Km long formerly known as Kunming Initiative, was established as proposed by the eminent Bangladeshi economist Prof. Rehman Sobhan with the purpose of connecting the landlocked southwestern province of China, Yunnan to India, starting from Kunming to Kolkata. The idea is to boost regional economic activities, promote investments, improve tourism and to enhance people to people connect amongst these regional parts of South East Asian countries with China. The corridor passes through Kunming, Longling, Ruili, (China), Muse, Mandalay, Tamu (Myanmar), Moreh, Imphal, Silchar, (India), Sylhet, Dhaka, Jessore (Bangladesh) then finally reaching Kolkotta (India). This corridor connects the world's most populous countries with fastest growing economies. Manipur which is lying in the transit zone naturally becomes the land connector, a land bridge and a land link giving an immense opportunity for the development from the lens of economy and employment generation. Given these emerging circumstances, Manipur will also act as

Highway perhaps looking at the larger geopolitical game and a passive resistance opposing the economic strategies of China as it encompasses as a part of BRI (Belt & Road Initiatives) which India is wary of mainly because of CPEC (China-Pakistan Economic Corridor) that passes through POK (Pakistan occupied Kashmir) which is a disputed area and a bone of contention between India and Pakistan since 1947. These geopolitical

North East Integration Rally
Peace | Progress | Prosperity
2026
4th January - 4th February 2026
www.northeastintegrationrally.in

SPACE FOR YOU ONLY

Rs. 150/- per day

NAME CHANGE

I, M. GunadhonSingha, S/o. Purnachand B Singha, R/o. House No. 33, New Link Road, ADC Colony, Rongpur Part-IV, Silchar Pin Code - 788009, Cachar, Assam have changed my name to GunadhonSingha for all future purposes.

PLACEMENT SERVICES

Fresher, job seekers can register with KRC Placements. Send resume to - 5eforsuccess@gmail.com To source candidates, organisation can contact KRC Placements at info@krccfoundation.org For Details Visit: https://bit.ly/krccplacements Apply here: https://bit.ly/KRCPlacementForm

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Business establishments, educational institutions, individual service providers etc. can enlist themselves or advertise their products or services at the most reasonable cost in InfoCom Diary. Send your details to InfoCom Solutions at: info.com.krc@gmail.com Submit Here: https://bit.ly/InfoComDiaryForm

STUDENTS' INTERNSHIP

Students can apply for a three-months internship with KRC Foundation. During the internship the student can get an opportunity to work on a live project. On successful completion the student is awarded a certificate. Apply to 5E for Success: 5eforsuccess@gmail.com For Details Visit: https://bit.ly/krccstudentinternship or www.krccfoundation.org/products-services/training-development-5e-for-success/internship

NE INDIA WRITING STAR CONTEST

Participate in NE India Writing Star Contest and get your writings published. Eligibility: From Class VI onwards. Each participants receives a digital participation certificates. Send articles at: info@krccfoundation.org For Details Visit: https://bit.ly/NEIndiaWritingStarContest www.krccfoundation.org/campaigns-csr/ne-india-writing-star-contest

CONNECT@ KRC TIMES



KRC TIMES

To engage with KRC TIMES, please use the following e-mails and WhatsApp Nos:
For News: krctimes@gmail.com / WP: 8721838313
For Advertisement: info@krccfoundation.org / WP: 9330830083
For Subscription: krctimes@gmail.com / WP: 8721838313
Editor: biswadeep.gupta@gmail.com / WP: 8721838313



BARAK FESTIVAL

JANUARY 10-12, 2025

ACTIVITY PROGRAM



10 JAN
NE Cultural Fest
 Any Form of Art and Cultural showcase can be showcased here. The Top performances will be invited to perform in the Main Event. Schools, Colleges, University Department, Individual & Group Competition.



11 JAN
Adventure Sports
 Trekking & Canoe, Obstacle Navigations, Sport Climbing, Disaster Management Technique, Water Sports.



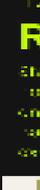
11 JAN
Barak Valley Conclave
 Potential Issues and Challenges of Barak Valley to be discussed by stakeholders. Includes NGOs, and Government officials, for better planning, awareness, and disaster management and preparedness strategies. Participation through invitation only. Subject to event schedule and availability.



10 JAN
Online Global Fest
 All can participate online and send a video clip on Poems, Songs, and Dance Performances, Bengali, English, Hindi & Manipuri. Last Date: 31st December 2024.



12 JAN
River-Climate Conclave
 Climate Change will influence on Climate Change, pollution and river flooding. The Conclave will focus on the importance, technical and practical of River Barak, Planning & Geology, environmental and health in the River Barak, Climate Change.



10 JAN
Media Conclave
 Media Conclave, Media Awards, Workshops, and the Fund, Talks and Conferences are part of the 'Barak Festival 2025'. Theme: 'One for All, All for One'. Welcome journalists, students, photographers, media & corporate PR, sponsors, guests, speakers, members.

Barak Festival 2025

Barak Festival 2025

Barak Festival
 Adventure Sports, Art & Culture Promotion



11 JAN
5E For Success Conclave
 The 4th 5E For Success Conclave is going to be held on the theme: 'From School to Campus to Corporate'. Schools, Educational Institutions and corporate houses can join the Conclave as sponsors. Quiz and Group Discussion for Barak valley Schools & Colleges, Extension, Seminar, Public Speaking (College). In the online event, various students of NE India Schools and Colleges can participate.



10 JAN
Media Conclave
 Media Conclave, Media Awards, Workshops, and the Fund, Talks and Conferences are part of the 'Barak Festival 2025'. Theme: 'One for All, All for One'. Welcome journalists, students, photographers, media & corporate PR, sponsors, guests, speakers, members.

10-12 JAN
Science Studio
 Get a glimpse of Science to its new heights. Class VI-XI | Teachers | Seniors, Administrators | Parents. Raw science out of textbooks into real-life experiences of students.

10-12 JAN
E-Sports
 Full-Blown Demos | CASH PRIZES | Trophy



DEC-24-JAN'25
Photography
 Online Photography Contest: River Barak | NE India | Art & Culture of NE | NE Culture. Real-Time Photography Contest of 'Barak Festival 2025'.



Barak Festival 2025

Barak Festival 2025

Barak Festival
 Band Night | 10 JAN
 Musical Night | 11 JAN



11 JAN
film festival
 Award-Giving Ceremony | Film from Mizoram. Short Films from Barak Valley, NE India, W. Media Talk | Exhibitions | Meet & Greet.



10-12 JAN
Book Bank
 #NoOneLeftBehind Campaign | Book Bank | e-books | e-audio | e-video

10-12 JAN
Book Club
 Meet Authors, Publishers, Read & Discuss, Buy and Sell Books

10-12 JAN
Painting Carnival
 Water Colour and Oil and Sawdust Painting Campaign



5E SUCCESS
STUDENT INTERNSHIP
 Discover valuable experience and learn more about the Industry.

- Outreach Executive
- Event Management
- Programme Coordinator

APPLY NOW | 0721300010 | www.5eindia.org.in