



Barak Festival
NE INDIA ADVENTURE SPORTS,
ART & CULTURE PROMOTION



Barak Valley, Assam | JAN-MAR 2025
www.krctimes.com
Mo: 8721 838313

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

Being alone is a power that very few can handle.

Lovlina Borgohain objects to India map without Northeast at Glasgow restaurant

GLASGOW Olympic bronze medalist Lovlina Borgohain has raised objections over an inaccurate map of India printed on paper napkins at a popular Indian restaurant in Glasgow, alleging that the country's Northeastern region was omitted from the depiction. The issue came to light during the ongoing Commonwealth Games 2026 when members of the Indian boxing contingent visited Mister Singh's India - The Home of Curry following their campaign at the Games. According to officials, the restaurant was using paper napkins featuring an outline map of India that allegedly excluded the Northeast. Expressing concern over the depiction, the Assam boxer said every part of the country deserves equal representation. "The map on the napkins is missing our Northeast. Every part of India is important and should be represented," Lovlina said. The matter prompted an immediate protest from the Boxing Federation of India (BFI), which termed the depiction unacceptable and took up the issue with the restaurant management as well as local authorities. According to BFI officials, members of the Indian delegation also noticed that the printed map omitted the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, raising concerns over the inaccurate representation of India's territorial boundaries. Officials of the federation, along with Lovlina, formally objected to the depiction and urged the restaurant to withdraw the printed napkins from circulation. They maintained that any misrepresentation of India's map was unacceptable, particularly during an international sporting event where Indian athletes were representing the country.

WHO SAID WHAT



We are taking a multi-faceted approach to help our people affected by floods and opening every possible avenue to give them cash in hand. Through releasing @PMSuryaGhar State subsidy, we have utilised another instrument of help those affected by #AssamFloods. ~ Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma, CM, Assam

National Award-winning producer and Assamese actor Sulakhyana Baruah set for Bollywood debut with Amit Rai's 'Ohh My Dog'



GUWAHATI

After establishing herself as one of Assam's most accomplished actors and National Award-winning film producers, Sulakhyana Baruah is set to make her Bollywood debut with acclaimed filmmaker Amit Rai's upcoming Hindi feature film 'Ohh My Dog', scheduled for a nationwide theatrical release on August 7.

Directed by Amit Rai, whose previous film 'OMG 2' received widespread critical acclaim, 'Ohh My Dog' is an

emotional family drama centred on the extraordinary bond between a young child and a stray dog. Starring Pankaj Tripathi, Pawan Malhotra, Geeta Aggarwal Sharma, Rajesh Kumar, Maa-hi Rai and Sulakhyana Baruah, the film explores themes of compassion, friendship and the healing connection between humans and animals.

For Sulakhyana, the film marks an important milestone in a journey that has consistently balanced artistic excellence with meaningful storytelling.

A graduate in Mass Media from St.

Xavier's College, Mumbai, and a film-making alumnus of the Film and TV School of the Academy of Performing Arts (FAMU), Prague, Sulakhyana began her acting career with 'Adomya' before earning critical acclaim through films such as 'Maj Rati Keteki', 'Anunaad' and 'Rador Pakhi'. Her performances have been part of films that have travelled extensively to national and international film festivals. 'Maj Rati Keteki' won the National Award for Best Assamese Feature Film, while 'Anunaad' received the National Award for Best Film on Social Issues.

Beyond acting, Sulakhyana has also carved a niche as a producer committed to meaningful regional cinema. Her productions 'Mishing' and 'Sikaisil' have both received National Awards, reflecting her continued efforts to preserve indigenous languages and cultures through cinema.

Speaking about her Bollywood debut, Sulakhyana said, "Making my Bollywood debut with 'Ohh My Dog' couldn't have been more special. Amit Rai creates an environment where every actor feels valued, and his clarity of vision makes the entire creative process immensely rewarding. It was

a privilege to work alongside exceptional performers like Pankaj Tripathi Sir, Pawan Malhotra Sir, and Geeta Aggarwal Sharma Ma'am whose dedication and generosity as artistes left a lasting impression on me. I carry with me everything I have learnt from Assamese cinema, and I hope this film becomes the beginning of many meaningful stories that I can tell across India while continuing to represent the rich storytelling traditions of the Northeast." Apart from her work in front of the camera, Sulakhyana has emerged as an influential voice in Indian cinema through her attendance in major international film festivals, including Cannes and others, and her participation in the preview committees of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI). She has also served as a jury member at film festivals, reflecting her growing contribution to India's cinematic landscape.

For audiences in Assam and the Northeast, Sulakhyana's Bollywood debut represents another significant milestone for the region's growing presence in mainstream Indian cinema. As she steps onto the national stage with 'Ohh My Dog', she continues to champion the values that have



defined her career – authentic storytelling, cultural rootedness and artistic excellence.

'Ohh My Dog' is slated for a nationwide theatrical release on August 7, 2026.

KRC TIMES

STAY ENRICHED

VOLUME:1, ISSUE 839 | SILCHAR MONDAY, AUGUST 03, 2026. EAST AND NE INDIA EDITION | e-mail: krctimes@gmail.com ,www.krctimes.com

Petrol product transporters stay away from convoy of trucks escorted by CRPF from Imphal

IMPHAL

Despite an agreement between the Manipur government and the Core Committee of the Consortium of Manipur Petroleum Product Transporters Fraternity, Retail Outlet Dealers, LPG Distributors and Drivers Association for a security convoy, petroleum product transporters did not join the convoy.

However, 150 empty goods trucks with heavy CRPF security, including COBRA Force, left Imphal for Jiribam.

Earlier, the steering-down strike launched by the petroleum product transporters on July 31 was called off following assurances from the state government regarding enhanced security measures along National Highway-37 amid complaints of "extortion" on the route.

According to a press release issued by the Core Committee of the Consortium of Manipur



Petroleum Product Transporters' Fraternity, Retail Outlet Dealers, LPG Distributors and Drivers' Associations, the decision was made after assurances from the Chief Minister, the Home Department and the CAF & PD Department that the

existing Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for convoy movement would be reviewed and revised.

The revised SOP will be published in the State Gazette as a permanent measure to address extortion-related issues

faced by transporters.

With the strike withdrawn, normal distribution, loading and unloading of petroleum products is expected to resume at all locations concerned.

The office of the Additional Director General of Police

(Law & Order) has issued a circular strengthening security arrangements for convoy movement and petroleum transport along NH-37. In view of rampant extortion along the Imphal-Jiribam road (NH-37), the state government has decided to deploy dedicated security teams along the Kambiron-Siblong and Makru-Old Kaiphundai stretches of the highway in Tamenglong district.

The circular states that IGP Zone-III Kamei Angam Romanus has been appointed as the nodal officer to oversee security arrangements. He will be assisted by Sub-Nodal Police Commanders in each district.

District Superintendents of Police (SPs) have also been directed to strictly implement the existing SOP, conduct special drives against extortion and engage with the public to prevent illegal activities along

the highway.

Dedicated police teams will be deployed along two vulnerable stretches, Kambiron to Siblong and Makru to Old Kaiphundai in Tamenglong, to prevent extortion, intimidation, abduction and other unlawful activities. The circular further states that effective coordination and communication will be maintained by all stakeholders with the Central Armed Police Force (CAPF), Assam Rifles and the Army along the highway, especially during convoy movement.

The association had earlier submitted a memorandum to Chief Minister Y Khemchand on July 15 to address rampant tax collection along NH-37 by July 30.

The "Steering Wheel Down Strike" began on July 31 and brought the transportation of essential commodities to a standstill, before the government gave the assurance.

Assam Begins Flood Relief Payout, Releases Rs 112 Crore for 75,000 Families



GUWAHATI

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma announced the release of the first instalment of interim financial assistance for families affected by the recent floods, with the state government sanctioning Rs 112 crore to support relief and rehabilitation efforts in the worst-hit districts of Upper Assam.

Under the package, each eligible flood-affected household will receive Rs 15,000 as interim relief. The first phase of disbursement is expected to benefit more than 60,000 families across four severely impacted districts, while the total number of beneficiaries is likely to increase to around 75,000 as damage assessments continue.

Addressing the media, Sarma said over 35,000 families in Sivasagar, more than 19,000 in Charaideo, over 4,000 in Jorhat and more than 2,000 families in Golaghat have been identified for the initial round of assistance.

He said the government is continuing

ground-level verification in flood-affected areas and additional households will be included if found eligible during the assessment process.

The chief minister also announced further financial support for displaced families in Sivasagar and Charaideo who remain unable to return to their homes due to extensive flood damage.

According to Sarma, families in these two districts who are still living in relief camps or temporary shelters and are unable to return home by August 9 will receive an additional assistance of Rs 10,000 from August 10.

The supplementary relief is intended to help households whose homes have been damaged or rendered uninhabitable by the floods and who continue to face displacement.

Sarma further said that a comprehensive field survey to assess flood-related losses to houses, agriculture, livestock and other assets in Sivasagar, Charaideo, Jorhat and Golaghat will begin on August 10.

Based on the findings of the assessment, compensation and other financial assistance will be released to eligible families in accordance with government norms, he added.

In a separate announcement, the chief minister said the Assam government has also released its share of the subsidy under the PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana, enabling beneficiaries to install rooftop solar systems and reduce household electricity expenses.

The relief measures come as the state government intensifies rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts following one of the most damaging flood spells in recent years, which caused widespread destruction of homes, agricultural land, livestock and public infrastructure across several districts of Upper Assam.

India Post suspends three key mail routes in Manipur over security concerns

IMPHAL

The Department of Posts has temporarily suspended operations on three major mail routes in Manipur with immediate effect, citing the prevailing security situation and recent incidents involving the burning of postal mail. According to an order issued by the Office of the Superintendent of Post Offices, Manipur Division, mail services on the Imphal-Dimapur, Imphal-Mao and Imphal-Ukhrul routes have been suspended until further notice. As a result, the booking of all surface mail services in the affected areas has also been suspended. The order stated that the decision was taken following directions from the Chief Postmaster General, North-East Circle, in view of the disrupted movement of postal mail and the prevailing security concerns in the state. The directive has been circulated to all concerned postal officials across the Manipur Division, including Assistant Superintendents of Post Offices, Sub-Divisional Inspectors of Post Offices, the Assistant Postmaster (Mails), the Transit Mail Office at Imphal Head Post Office, and all Sub-Postmasters, with instructions for immediate implementation. The postal department said the suspension will remain in force until further orders, adding that normal services will resume once the security situation improves. The move comes days after incidents of postal mail being set on fire disrupted mail operations in Manipur, prompting the postal authorities to review the safety of transportation routes and take precautionary measures to safeguard postal personnel and consignments.

Officials have not indicated when the suspended services are likely to resume, stating that the situation will be monitored before a decision is taken to restore operations.

Tripura begins first phase of Census 2027 with digital houselisting after 15-year gap



AGARTALA

Tripura commenced the first phase of Census 2027, launching the nationwide houselisting operation in the state after a gap of 15 years.

The month-long exercise, which began on August 1, will see trained enumerators visit every household to digitally collect information using a questionnaire comprising 33 questions spread across five sections prescribed by the Centre.

Director of Census Operations, Tripura, Ratan Biswas said the exercise started smoothly across the state, with enumerators carrying out the survey as

scheduled.

"The first phase of Census 2027 began across Tripura after a gap of 15 years without any problem. The enumerators, who have been well trained, are enthusiastic about performing their assigned duties," Biswas told reporters.

He urged residents to cooperate with the survey teams by providing accurate information to help ensure an error-free Census.

Biswas clarified that enumerators would not ask citizens to produce any supporting documents while collecting information during the houselisting exercise.

He also assured the public that all information collected during the Census would remain strictly confidential and would not be shared or used for any individual purpose.

The houselisting operation is the first stage of Census 2027 and focuses on recording details of residential buildings, households and the amenities available in each dwelling. The data collected during this phase will serve as the foundation for the population enumeration exercise to be conducted in the next stage of the Census.

The Census 2027 exercise is being conducted using digital data collection tools, with officials expecting the technology-driven approach to improve the accuracy, efficiency and timeliness of the country's decennial population count.



VOLUME:1, ISSUE 839



There are moments in a nation's legislative calendar that do more than amend a statute; they close a circle left open for far too long. The Rajya Sabha's passage of the Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Bill, 2026, marks one such moment. In extending to "Vande Mataram" the same statutory shield that has since 1971 protected the National Flag, the Constitution, and the National Anthem, Parliament has done more than tidy up a legal anomaly. It has restored to a song of extraordinary historical weight the dignity that its role in India's freedom struggle always deserved.

The weight of history behind two words is just unimaginable. It is worth pausing on just how singular "Vande Mataram" is in the story of the Indian nation. Composed by Bankin Chandra Chatterjee in the 1870s and published as part of his novel Anandmath in 1882, the song did not remain confined to the page. It travelled from Bengal's literary salons into the throats of protestors, into prison cells, and onto the lips of men and women walking to the gallows. Long before the Republic had a flag it could call its own in the modern sense, or a formally adopted anthem, it had this song—a cry that turned personal grief into collective resolve. Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityanand Rai's reminder in the Rajya Sabha that many freedom fighters uttered these very words as their last is not a rhetorical flourish; it is documented history. A nation that owes so much of its emotional unity during the independence movement to two words draped in devotion to the motherland cannot be faulted for wanting to protect them in law.

Stripped of the political theatre that inevitably surrounds any amendment moved in a fractious House, the legislative substance is straightforward. The Bill amends the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971, so that "Vande Mataram" now sits alongside the National Flag, the Constitution and "Jana Gana Mana" as a protected national symbol. Three categories of conduct are brought within its ambit: deliberately insulting the song, intentionally preventing or obstructing its singing, and any other act treated as contrary to its honour. The penalty structure mirrors what already exists for the Anthem — imprisonment of up to three years, a fine, or both for a first offence, with a mandatory minimum term of one year for any subsequent conviction. The Bill also makes the playing of "Vande Mataram" mandatory at official events in state assemblies. What the legislation amounts to, in plain terms, is parity rather than novelty. The legal architecture for protecting national symbols has existed for over five decades; this Bill simply widens its umbrella to include a song whose absence from that list had long struck many as an oversight rather than a considered choice.

The Bill arrived with objections. The Opposition's walkout during the debate and its insistence that mandatory recitation provisions risk brushing against India's plural and secular character. Concerns about state autonomy, about coercing observance rather than inspiring it, and about the timing of the Bill's passage amid unrelated political tensions over the paper leak protests were few objections by the opposition. Yet these are, at their core, questions of implementation and tone rather than objections to the underlying principle. Protecting a symbol from deliberate insult is a narrower and more defensible act than compelling reverence from every citizen in every circumstance, and the explanatory notes accompanying the 1971 Act have long made clear that genuine criticism or dissent, expressed lawfully, is not what the law targets.

As India marks the 150th anniversary of the composition of "Vande Mataram", this legislative step feels less like a departure and more like an overdue acknowledgement. Cultural memory, left unprotected, thins with each generation that does not live the history it commemorates. Codifying respect for a song that once steadied a nation on its long walk to freedom is a modest but meaningful way of ensuring that the generations who did not have to make that walk still understand, in their minds, why it mattered. It's a matter of pride for the entire nation that historically leftover has been corrected, a true tribute to our freedom fighters.

QUOTE OF THE DAY
Anytime you learn,
you gain. - Bob Ross

Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill, 2026. Beyond Punishment: Restoring the Soul of India's Examination System



PRAMOD BORO

"The future of a nation is not stolen only on the battlefield; sometimes it is stolen silently, in a room where a question paper is sold before the examination begins."

Every year, millions of young Indians walk into examination halls carrying more than admit cards. They carry the dreams of parents who sacrificed comforts, teachers who nurtured hope, and a nation that believes education remains the fairest path to opportunity. For many families, a single examination is not merely a test—it is the turning point of generations.

Yet, when a question paper is leaked, something far greater than an examination is compromised. It is not merely the sanctity of a test that is broken; it is the faith of honest students, the dignity of public institutions, and the moral promise of our Republic.

The Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill, 2026, passed by both Houses of Parliament during the Monsoon Session - 2026, is therefore more than an amendment to the law enacted in 2024. It serves as an affirmation that the dreams of India's youth are not commodities to be bought and sold. It is a national resolve that merit shall never again become the victim of organised crime.

For too long, irregularities in the examination process have been treated as isolated incidents. In truth, every paper leak is an organised assault on justice. Behind every leaked question paper lies a chain of corruption—brokers, middlemen, technology experts, dishonest officials, organised criminal syndicates, and those who profit from the desperation of students. As noted by the K. Radhakrishnan led Committee of experts, established in 2024, vulnerabilities exist around the entire testing cycle, that have been exploited for a long time.

History teaches us an uncomfortable truth. The crisis before us did not arise overnight, nor is it the failure of any one government or one institution. Successive governments, across decades, struggled with recurring weaknesses in examination security, investigation, and accountability. Institutions often reacted after the damage had already been done. Criminals learnt that the rewards were enormous

while the risks remained limited. Such softness emboldened organised networks whose only objective was profit, regardless of the shattered futures they left behind.

The world now watches India not merely as the largest democracy but as a rising knowledge economy. Every examination scandal echoes beyond our borders, raising questions about the credibility of our educational institutions. A nation aspiring to lead in science, technology, medicine and innovation cannot afford uncertainty in the very examinations that identify its future talent.

For this reason, stronger punishment is both necessary and justified. Those who organise paper leaks are not committing ordinary offences; they are committing crimes against the future of the nation. The law must therefore impose exemplary imprisonment, confiscation of illegal wealth, lifetime debarment from public service, and severe financial penalties on individuals, institutions, and organised networks that profit from examination fraud.

Yet punishment alone cannot restore trust.

It has been observed that in many of the recent cases, leaks have come to light after citizens, including whistleblowers and teachers/professors found out that some copies of papers that were already in circulation, matched exactly with the papers that were used in the examination. The inability of the testing agencies and concerned authorities to identify irregularities reflect key gaps in the internal detection machinery of examination authorities. Therefore, a robust preventive framework needs to be developed that can nip this malaise in the bud and avert the considerable economic and human costs that follow.

A revamped dedicated Vigilance wing must be created in all public examination bodies, that should be manned by permanent staff, without adequate safeguards against Conflict of interest.

A law that punishes criminals but ignores institutional shortcomings remain incomplete. Accountability must extend beyond the accused to every authority entrusted with protecting public examinations.

The National Testing Agency and every examination-conducting body must become institutions that are transparent, answerable, and willing to learn from every mistake. After every major examination, they should publish an Examination Integrity Report explaining what worked, what failed, what vulnerabilities were identified, and how those weaknesses will be permanently corrected. The Government should also take necessary steps to bring the National Testing Agency within the scope of Statutory Audits by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG).

The Ministry of Education must also complete an equally important responsibility. Numerous expert bodies—including the K. Rad-

hakrishnan Committee, the Justice A. K. Ranjan Committee, parliamentary committees, and ministerial panels—have invested immense intellectual effort in examining examination reforms. Their recommendations should not remain confined to government files. A comprehensive Action Taken Report detailing which recommendations have been implemented, must be placed before both Houses of Parliament, for perusal by elected representatives.

The greatest lesson emerging from these committees is that technology should become our strongest ally.

In the twenty-first century, we trust technology with our banking, our taxation, our passports, our digital identities, and even the conduct of elections. It is therefore legitimate to ask: why should millions of high-stakes examinations continue to rely predominantly on vulnerable paper-based systems when safer technological alternatives are available?

India must gradually embrace secure Computer-Based Testing wherever infrastructure permits. Artificial intelligence, encrypted digital transmission, blockchain-enabled audit trails, biometric authentication, cyber-security monitoring, and real-time digital surveillance should become the guardians of examination integrity. Technology cannot eliminate every risk, but it can make organised fraud extraordinarily difficult and far easier to detect. A strong forensic infrastructure is indispensable for the effective investigation and prosecution of paper leak offences, as modern examination fraud is increasingly orchestrated through digital means rather than conventional physical methods. Therefore, efforts should be made to expand digital forensics' infrastructure, while also investing in sustained capacity building of all stakeholders associated with the testing and examination architecture.

However, technology alone cannot solve an educational problem whose roots lie much deeper.

The dependence of students on expensive private coaching reflects another challenge. When success in national entrance examinations appears impossible without years of coaching, it raises serious questions about the strength of our school education system.

Low government investment in education remains a critical structural challenge in India, with combined union and state spending hovering around 4.1% of GDP—falling well short of the long-standing 6% target recommended by various panels.

Government schools must once again become centres of academic excellence, by sustained investments in enhancing their competitiveness. Science education at the higher secondary level should be modernised, laboratories strengthened, and teachers continuously trained in contemporary teaching

methods. The curriculum should develop analytical thinking, conceptual understanding, and scientific reasoning so that students completing Class XII possess the competence to compete confidently in examinations such as NEET, JEE, and other national entrance tests without feeling compelled to depend upon costly coaching institutions.

Private coaching centres undoubtedly support many students, but their rapid expansion also demands responsible regulation. Transparent fee structures, ethical advertising, academic standards,

DIGITAL WAR OF WORDS

Breast milk is the ideal first food for a baby.

It's safe, clean and contains antibodies which protect against dangerous illnesses.

- Start within 1 hour after birth
- Breastfeed exclusively for the first 6 months
- Continue alongside healthy family foods until the baby is at least 2 years old

<https://bit.ly/4wyTpzy>
#WorldBreastfeedingWeek

~ World Health Organisation (WHO)

WHEN SHOULD I BREASTFEED AND FOR HOW LONG?

Start breastfeeding within an hour after birth

Breastfeed with no other solids or liquids for the first six months

Continue breastfeeding until the baby is at least 2 years old

Breastmilk is the ideal first food for babies. It is safe, clean and contains antibodies which help protect against illnesses.

student welfare measures, and strict penalties against institutions involved in unfair practices are essential. Education must remain a public good, not merely a commercial enterprise.

Perhaps the most overlooked voices in examination reform are those who experience the system first-hand. Students know where fear exists. Parents understand the emotional burden of uncertainty. Teachers witness the strengths and weaknesses of the process from within. Their collective wisdom should become part of public policy. Every major examination should therefore conclude with structured feedback from students, guardians, teachers, and examination personnel, followed by independent evaluation and public reporting. Institutions improve when they listen.

Ultimately, no reform can succeed without leadership.

Leadership is not measured only by authority during moments of success; it is measured by responsibility during moments of failure. A confident nation expects its institutions to acknowledge shortcomings, communicate transparently, and act decisively. Accountability should never be viewed as blame. It is the foundation upon which public trust is rebuilt.

India's youth deserve more than promises. They deserve an examination system where preparation matters more than privilege, honesty triumphs over manipulation, and merit is never defeated by money or influence. The Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill, 2026 should therefore be remembered not merely as legislation prescribing harsher punishment, but as the beginning of a wider, systemic and moral transformation.

For every examination hall is more than a room filled with desks and answer sheets. It is a place where the Republic renews its promise that every child, regardless of wealth, geography, language, or social background, shall rise by ability and hard work alone.

If that promise is ever broken, a law has failed. If that promise is protected, a nation succeeds.

The integrity of an examination is, in the end, the integrity of the Republic itself.

Pramod Boro,
Member of Parliament
Rajya Sabha (Assam)

Manipur CM calls on youth to reject drugs, support Viksit Bharat at anti-narcotics campaign launch

IMPHAL

Manipur Chief Minister Yumnam Khemchand Singh on Sunday called upon the state's youth to stay away from drugs and actively contribute to nation-building, asserting that a healthy and drug-free generation is vital to achieving the vision of Viksit Bharat @2047.

The chief minister was speaking at the state-level launch of the "Nasha Mukta Yuva for Viksit Bharat Sankalp Abhiyaan" at Manipur University, where Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated the nationwide anti-drug campaign from New Delhi.

The event was organised by the NSS Cell of Manipur University in collaboration with the State NSS Cell under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

In his virtual address, Prime Minister



Modi said the goal of building a developed India could only be real-

ised through physically and mentally healthy youth who remain free from substance abuse. He urged young people across the country to actively participate in the movement against drugs.

Addressing the gathering in Imphal, Khemchand Singh said the country's long-term development aspirations depended on a disciplined, healthy and drug-free younger generation. He appealed to the youth of Manipur to reject narcotics and play a constructive role in the progress of both the state and the nation. Recalling a period when drug abuse was widespread, the chief minister said he had consciously stayed away from narcotic substances, allowing him to focus on public service. He encouraged young people to make similar life choices and become responsible citizens committed to society.

Expressing concern over the grow-

ing menace of substance abuse, Khemchand Singh said discussions with various non-governmental organisations had revealed the existence of organised networks targeting young people with narcotics. He assured that the state government would intensify its campaign against drug trafficking and continue taking stringent measures to protect the youth. Highlighting Manipur's strategic importance under India's Act East Policy, the chief minister said the state is poised to emerge as the country's gateway to Southeast Asia. He noted that the government is working to complete railway connectivity to Imphal by December 2023, a project expected to enhance trade and improve connectivity towards Moreh and neighbouring countries.

He, however, stressed that the benefits of these development initiatives could only be fully realised if the young-

er generation remained free from drug addiction.

The chief minister also underscored the importance of peace for sustained development, appealing to all communities to work together to restore harmony in the state. He reiterated the government's commitment to ensuring justice against those responsible for violence while continuing efforts to rebuild trust among communities and facilitate free and secure movement across Manipur.

The programme concluded with participants taking a pledge for a drug-free India, reaffirming their commitment to stay away from intoxicants and spread awareness against substance abuse.

The event was attended by Manipur University Vice-Chancellor Prof. R.K. Hemakumar Singh, faculty members, NSS volunteers, students and other dignitaries.

Assam CM urges public to join Census 2027 self-enumeration as online process begins

GUWAHATI

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Sunday urged residents to participate in the Census 2027 self-enumeration exercise, which commenced across the state, and appealed to citizens to provide accurate information while completing their details online.

The chief minister also completed his own self-enumeration and encouraged people to take advantage of the digital facility from the comfort of their homes.

"Today marks the beginning of online self-enumeration for Census 2027 in Assam, where you can sit in the comfort of your home and fill in your details. I just did mine; requesting everyone to fill their details correctly and be a part of this exercise," Sarma said in a post on social media. In a video message, the chief minister urged citizens to furnish accurate data and fulfil their civic responsibility by actively participating in the nationwide census exercise.

The online self-enumeration facility will remain open from August 2 to August 16 through the official Census self-enumeration portal, allowing residents to digitally submit household and individual information before field verification. According to officials, the House Listing Operations (HLO) and Housing Census will be carried out from August 17 to September 15, following the completion of the online self-enumeration phase.

Authorities, however, said the census exercise has been deferred in Sivasagar and Charaideo districts owing to the ongoing flood situation, which has severely affected both districts.

The self-enumeration initiative forms part of the preparations for Census 2027, enabling citizens to complete the initial stage of the census online before enumerators undertake field verification during the subsequent phases.

Dimapur police bust interstate cocaine racket, arrest five; probe reveals interstate and international links

DIMAPUR

Dimapur Police have dismantled an alleged interstate cocaine trafficking network, arrested five persons and seized around 33 grams of suspected cocaine, in what officials described as a major breakthrough against organised narcotics trafficking.

According to Deputy Commissioner of Police (Crime), the operation led to the arrest of an alleged key cocaine supplier in Dimapur, Tohuka Sema alias Toka (35), whose interrogation exposed a structured drug trafficking syndicate operating across multiple states with suspected international links.

The other accused have been identified as Yeka Awomi (30), Biresh Kumar (22), Akhtar Hussain (35) and Swanthai Inkah (25).

Police said Awomi was ap-

prehended in Pune, Maharashtra, while Biresh Kumar and Akhtar Hussain were arrested in Delhi. Swanthai Inkah, who worked as a delivery agent, allegedly facilitated the transportation and delivery of the contraband.

Officials said two other suspects believed to be part of the network are currently absconding outside Nagaland, and efforts are underway to trace and arrest them.

A case has been registered at West Police Station, Dimapur, under the provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985.

Preliminary investigations suggest that the syndicate procured and distributed cocaine through commercial courier and parcel delivery services using a well-organised network of suppliers, handlers and delivery agents.

Tension in Silchar after alleged cow slaughter; Bajrang Dal gives Assam police 24-hour deadline

SILCHAR

Tension prevailed in the Ghaniala area of Malugram in Assam's Silchar town on Sunday after an alleged incident of cow slaughter triggered protests, police intervention and reports of assault, prompting authorities to deploy additional security personnel to prevent any escalation.

According to local sources, the alleged cow slaughter came to light around 6 a.m., following which members of the Bajrang Dal reached the area and staged a protest, demanding the immediate arrest of those responsible.

Police personnel rushed to the spot and launched an investigation into the incident. As part of the preliminary inquiry, an auto-rickshaw driver was detained for questioning.

According to police sources, when the main suspect could not be traced, a section of the protesters allegedly assaulted the detained individual. The crowd also reportedly brought one of his rela-



tives for questioning before police intervened, rescued the individual and restored order.

The situation became more tense after a person at the scene allegedly raised religious slogans, leading to another confrontation.

The individual was reportedly assaulted by protesters before police stepped in to prevent further violence.

Additional police and paramilitary personnel were subsequently deployed in the locality to main-

tain law and order and ensure that the situation remained under control.

The Bajrang Dal demanded strict implementation of the Assam Cattle Preservation Act, 2021, and issued a 24-hour ultimatum to the authorities, seeking the arrest of the main accused and immediate legal action in connection with the alleged cow slaughter.

The organisation warned that it would launch a larger agitation in the Malugram and Ghaniala areas if the accused was not arrested within the stipulated period. Police said an investigation is underway into both the alleged cow slaughter and the incidents of assault that followed. Authorities are working to ascertain the facts, identify those involved and take action in accordance with the law.

Security remains heightened in the area, with police maintaining a vigil to prevent any further disturbance and urging residents to maintain peace.

Assam May Have to Rebuild Entire Villages in Sivasagar, Charaideo After Devastating Floods: Himanta



GUWAHATI

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Monday said the devastation caused by the recent floods in Sivasagar and Charaideo districts is far more extensive than what has been portrayed on television, indicating that the government may have to undertake the recon-

struction of entire villages in some of the worst-affected areas.

After visiting the flood-ravaged village of Nepali Khuti by tractor to assess the damage firsthand, Sarma said the destruction of homes, livestock and public infrastructure was so severe that immediate financial assistance alone would not be enough to restore normalcy.

"The damage in Sivasagar and Charaideo is far more severe than what is being shown on television. Flood relief alone will not be enough," the chief minister said during his visit.

He identified Bihubor, Nepali Khuti, Betbari and Nimaijan among the worst-affected areas, stating that large-scale rehabilitation and reconstruction may be required.

"In places such as Bihubor, Nepali Khuti, Betbari and Nimaijan, we may have to rebuild entire villages," Sarma said.

The chief minister interacted with flood-affected residents during his visit and reviewed the widespread destruction caused by the floods, which damaged houses, washed away livestock and severely disrupted livelihoods across the region.

His remarks suggest that the state government is considering a comprehensive rehabilitation plan

that extends beyond the distribution of immediate relief. The proposed measures are expected to include detailed assessments of damaged homes, public infrastructure and livelihood losses before long-term reconstruction begins.

The recent floods have left widespread devastation across Upper Assam, with Sivasagar and Charaideo emerging among the worst-hit districts. Thousands of families were displaced after floodwaters inundated villages, destroyed homes, submerged agricultural land and caused extensive losses to livestock.

Sarma said the government would continue evaluating the ground situation and take all necessary steps to ensure the long-term rehabilitation of affected families, signalling a shift from emergency relief to sustained recovery and rebuilding efforts in the flood-ravaged districts.

Manipur CSOs threaten statewide shutdown from August 9, demand NRC update before Census



IMPHAL

Fourteen civil society organisations (CSOs) in Manipur have threatened to launch a statewide shutdown from midnight on August 9 if the state government fails to take concrete steps towards updating the National Register of Citizens (NRC) before the upcoming national Census. The announcement was made during a press conference at the IPSEA office in Keishampat, where the organisations accused the government of failing to honour commitments made on the issue despite repeated assurances.

Addressing the media, convener Nahakpam Shanta said the Manipur Legislative Assembly had already passed resolutions on August 5, 2022, and March 1, 2024, recommending the formation of a State Population Commission and the updat-

ing of the NRC. He alleged that despite these resolutions, the government had not initiated any meaningful action.

Shanta further said the government had earlier assured the organisations that an expert seminar on the NRC, involving legal experts and subject specialists, would be organised in the first week of August. However, no official notification has been issued, raising doubts over the government's commitment to the process. The CSOs have set August 8 as the deadline for the government to organise the proposed workshop. They warned that if the Census is conducted before the NRC is updated, illegal immigrants could be included in the population records, potentially paving the way for their recognition as Indian citizens. The organisations said they would hold a review meeting on the evening of August 8 to determine the duration and nature of the proposed shutdown if their demands remain unmet. Reiterating their stand, the CSOs maintained that the NRC must be updated before the commencement of Census-related activities, including house-listing and population enumeration, arguing that the exercise is necessary to identify illegal immigrants and address demographic concerns in the state.

Prolonged 'Compulsory Waiting' of Tripura's Senior Most IAS Officer Raises Humanitarian Concerns as Family Reportedly Battles Mental Trauma

JAYANTA DEBNATH

The prolonged compulsory waiting of senior IAS officer Barun Kumar Sahu (1992 batch) has emerged as a matter of growing humanitarian concern, with administrative sources claiming that the nearly three-year period without any official posting has taken a severe psychological toll on both the officer and his family.

According to highly placed Secretariat sources, Sahu has remained on compulsory waiting since October 2023, following his removal from the post of Secretary of the Tripura Human Rights Commission (THRC). During this period, he has continued to remain in government service, receiving salary and admissible service benefits under the applicable rules, but has not been assigned any departmental responsibilities.

While the administrative aspects of the case have already drawn attention, officials familiar with the matter now say the prolonged uncer-



tainty has reportedly resulted in serious mental distress. Sources close to the family alleged that Sahu has been undergoing significant psychological trauma, while his wife has also been under immense emotional strain.

According to these sources, the situation has become so serious that his wife is said to be keeping a constant watch over him out of concern for his safety.

The concerns have reportedly in-

tensified following the recent death of Tripura Director General of Police Anurag Dhankar, IPS. While the circumstances surrounding the DGP's death remain a separate matter, administrative sources claimed the incident has had a profound emotional impact on Sahu and his family, further aggravating their fragile mental state.

Secretariat sources said two departmental inquiries had reportedly found Sahu guilty of misconduct, following which the matter was referred to the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) for its advice under the All India Services (Discipline and Appeal) Rules.

According to these sources, although the UPSC is understood to have communicated its recommendations to the State Government, a final order has yet to be issued. The prolonged delay has prompted concern among sections of serving and retired IAS officers, who argue that administrative proceedings should reach their logical conclusion without undue delay. They contend that if the allegations are substantiated, an appropriate penalty should be imposed strictly in accordance with the law. Conversely, if no further action is warranted, the officer should either be reinstated or assigned an

appropriate posting. Administrative experts point out that compulsory waiting is ordinarily intended as a temporary arrangement pending transfer or fresh assignment, rather than an indefinite status extending over several years. They say prolonged uncertainty not only affects the officer concerned but may also have wider implications for administrative morale and institutional fairness. Some officials have also questioned whether keeping a senior officer without any official responsibilities for such an extended period serves the interests of either governance or justice. They argue that prolonged administrative limbo can result in significant psychological and emotional consequences for the individual and family concerned. With the matter now entering its third year, voices within administrative circles are increasingly calling upon the State Government to bring the disciplinary proceedings to their logical conclusion at the earliest, ensuring that due process is followed while also addressing the humanitarian dimensions of the case. Such a decision, they believe, would provide clarity not only for the officer concerned but also for the credibility and efficiency of the state's administrative system.

Quest!

The space between your eyebrows is called the Glabella

STUDENT 5E for SUCCESS INTERNSHIP

STOP DREAMING AND START DOING.

APPLY NOW

5eforsuccess@gmail.com

Live Project

Incentives

Certificate

Free Training

Ministers unable to convince anyone of E20’s harmlessness: Jairam Ramesh

Enemy countries use drugs supply as part of their terror plans: PM

NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday asked the country’s youth to take a pledge against substance abuse, saying drugs can give them a “high” for some time, but would make their entire career and personal life “low”.

Launching the ‘Nasha Mukti Yuva for Viksit Bharat Sankalp Abhiyan’, Modi said the country’s youth must be mentally and physically fit, for which it is necessary for them to stay away from all kinds of substance abuse.

He also said that enemy countries use the supply of drugs as part of their terror plans because they know that “youth are the future of our country”.

“Drugs can give you a high for some time, but it makes your entire career and personal life low,” he said.

Questioning the taboo around drug addicts, Modi said those who come out of drug addiction are fighters and should be honoured by society.

“Society should respect them, embrace them and give them a second chance,” he said.

The prime minister launched the campaign virtually in the presence of a large number of youth, who described themselves as representatives of Gen-Z, days after large-scale protests by students demanding reforms in the public examination system rocked Delhi and other parts of the country.

“Our culture teaches us that one can get rid of substance abuse with the support of society, yoga and meditation,” Modi said.

The ‘Nasha Mukti Yuva’ campaign is a resolve for the individual, family, society and, most importantly, the nation, and the name of the initiative itself reflected its objective, the prime minister said.

“When the country has set the goal of building a developed India, it is essential that the youth stay away from harmful addictions to remain physically and mentally healthy and full of self-confi-



dence,” Modi said.

“This is the objective of this campaign,” he added, urging everyone to take a pledge to ensure that young people understand the dangers of drug addiction and remain aware and vigilant in every possible way.

“From today, the Nasha Mukti Yuva Abhiyan is being launched across the country. When this becomes a collective campaign, even those who are unable to do something on their own will receive new energy.

“The resolve taken today will move forward in the same manner for the next 100 weeks. Every Sunday, activities related to art, culture, sports, meditation, spirituality and service will be organised. The message of de-addiction will reach new people,” Modi said.

“The coming 100 Sundays will mark 100 strong steps towards a drug-free India,” he added.

The prime minister also said that addiction not only harms the body,

but also takes away a mother’s smile, shatters a father’s dreams, weakens a sister’s hope, and takes away the respect of a younger brother.

“Family members live with this pain every day, watching their children gradually lose themselves before their eyes,” he said.

Modi also said the Government stands firmly with the youth in this campaign against drugs.

“Strict action is being taken against drug traffickers across the country. The arrests have gone up several times as compared to before, and drugs worth thousands of crores of rupees have been seized. This shows how strongly our government is acting against drugs,” the prime minister said.

He also urged families not to hide their children’s addiction out of concern for social reputation, and instead communicate openly with them and seek expert and medical help to help them overcome substance abuse.

The ‘Nasha Mukti Yuva for Viksit Bharat Sankalp Abhiyan’ aims to inspire youth to stay away from substance abuse and encourages them to become ambassadors of positive social change in their communities.

The launch marked the beginning of a 100-week nationwide ‘Jan Bhagidari’ campaign, under which activities will be organised every Sunday across the country to promote awareness and encourage public participation in building a drug-free society.

The activities will include sports events, walkathons, meditation sessions, cultural programmes, awareness campaigns, nukkad natak, discussion forums, art competitions and community engagement programmes.

The Nasha Mukti Bharat Abhiyaan was launched in 2020 in line with the prime minister’s vision of creating a Nasha Mukti Bharat, Union Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs, Mansukh Mandaviya, said at the launch.

NEW DELHI

The Congress on Monday questioned the nationwide rollout of E20 petrol, alleging that the Modi government has failed to provide sufficient data and reports to address concerns over its impact on vehicles.

Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari’s response in Parliament on July 29 regarding E20 petrol raised more questions than it answered.

Gadkari had said that E20 fuel was introduced after years of scientific testing and that there was no evidence of widespread vehicle damage. Responding to the claim, Ramesh said consumers and mechanics across the country had reported issues including reduced mileage, engine performance problems, cold-start difficulties, and concerns over

long-term effects on vehicles, particularly those manufactured before 2023.

In a post on X, Ramesh claimed that users had reported instances of clogged injectors, corroded fuel lines and damage to rubber components in older vehicles.

He said consumers had little choice as E20 petrol was being supplied nationwide and cited a June 2026 independent survey of more than 44,000 owners of pre-2023 petrol vehicles, claiming that a significant number reported adverse effects after the introduction of E20.

Ramesh also criticised Petroleum Minister Hardeep Puri’s earlier dismissal of complaints regarding biofuel-related vehicle damage, and alleged that the government continued to ignore concerns despite findings cited in policy documents and reports.

Referring to the NITI Aayog’s 2021 Ethanol Policy

Roadmap and an Automotive Research Association of India (ARAI) report, Ramesh claimed that E20 could accelerate deterioration of rubber components such as hoses, seals, gaskets and O-rings in vehicles designed for E10 fuel.

He further alleged that durability tests had recorded engine malfunctions and failures, and claimed that E20 could increase the risk of corrosion in fuel tanks and internal metal components.

Ramesh said E20 could reduce fuel efficiency by 6-7% in older four-wheelers, 3-4% in older two-wheelers and 1-2% in E20-compatible four-wheelers.

“Public anger is growing. People are demanding accountability and transparency. Meanwhile, the Modi government’s ministers are unable to convince anyone of E20’s harmlessness because no real data or reports exist,” he said.

INTERNATIONAL

Iran déjà vu: Trump once again threatens massive escalation against Tehran, only to walk back

WASHINGTON

President Donald Trump has played this hand before during the 5-month-old Iran war.

It starts with a grim warning to Tehran that he’s on the cusp of ordering U.S. forces to “obliterate” its power plants or seize key parts of its oil industry if its leaders don’t quickly agree to U.S. terms to end the war. It ends with him edging away with a last-minute declaration, sometimes at the behest of Gulf allies, that he’s going to give diplomacy more time.

The hardball strategy — one that Trump honed during his years competing in New York’s real estate scene and has employed in politics — aims to create movement in negotiation through pressure and chaos. But the tactic is facing a challenge with an Iranian theocracy that believes it holds a higher threshold for strategic pain than Washington.

While Trump has reveled in the U.S. military decimating layers of Tehran’s leadership and devastating its air force and navy, Iran is betting it can outlast Trump as he faces diminished stockpiles of munitions and the difficulty of executing a war that is unpopular with the American electorate ahead of November’s midterm election.

The latest episode began on Friday when Trump, surrounded by his Cabinet, grimly declared that he was “losing faith” in negotiations with Iran and warned that the U.S. military “will be hitting them very hard.”

Hours later, the White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt heightened speculation in Washington — and around the globe — with an ominous statement asserting “Iran will continue to pay until they come to the table in, what President Trump deems, a meaningful way.”

But by late Saturday night, Trump declared on social media that there were signs of progress on reaching an agreement and he was calling off a plan



to carry out new, massive strikes for the time being.

President Donald Trump speaks as Secretary of State Marco Rubio, left, and Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth listen during a cabinet meeting, Friday, July 31, 2026, at Camp David, the presidential retreat, near Thurmont.

The next day Trump emphasized that requests to give diplomacy more time from unnamed Iranian officials as well as leaders from Gulf allies — Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates — were key to his about-face.

“It would have been disastrous for them. And they didn’t want us to do it,” Trump said of Iran as he spoke to reporters on his way back to Washington from a weekend at his New Jersey golf club. “And frankly, Saudi Arabia didn’t want it either. They thought that a deal is imminent.”

Trump may still come to the conclusion that a massive escalation in the conflict with Iran is necessary.

But critics say his hesitation also might reflect an unspoken understanding inside the administration that U.S. military might alone may not be enough to compel Iran to back down and bring an end to a now months-long war that

Trump had earlier downplayed as a weeks-long excursion.

“I think what we’re seeing here is a president who has an approach that’s just rather erratic,” said Sen. Mark Kelly, an Arizona Democrat on the Senate Armed Services Committee, on CBS News’ “Face the Nation.” “At this point, he’s trying to get us back to February. And I think if he could — if he had a big reset button he could hit — he would certainly take that option.”

There have been several moments over the course of the conflict when Trump has demonstrated his proclivity for the bellicose only to back off at the last minute, while declaring his threats spurred progress.

In early April, the United States and Iran agreed to a two-week ceasefire in an announcement that came less than two hours before a deadline Trump had set for Tehran to capitulate or face attacks on bridges and power plants — strikes he said would mean “a whole civilization will die.”

After days of dire threats against Iran, Trump announced on May 18 he was holding off on a major planned military strike because “serious negotiations” were underway, crediting

Gulf allies for persuading him to show restraint.

Then in June, Trump threatened to hit Iran “VERY HARD” and seize Iran’s energy base on Kharg Island to “assume total control of their Oil and Gas Markets,” he wrote on social media, only to call off the strikes in a later post after claiming that peace negotiations had progressed with high-level Iranian leaders.

Left unsaid by the president was that such an endeavor would require U.S. boots on the ground in Iran — a risky proposition politically for a president who campaigned on avoiding foreign entanglements and criticized past administrations for getting bogged down in endless wars.

With this latest episode, Trump suggested that Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman played a particularly important role in him turning away from escalating the fight.

The U.S. president spoke by phone with the de facto leader of the kingdom on Saturday before announcing he was halting strikes that he later boasted would have one of the biggest U.S. operations since World War II.

The crown prince conveyed that an escalation in fighting could have a severe impact on the global economy if Tehran responded to a new U.S. bombardment by targeting some of the United States’ Gulf allies, according to a person briefed on the call who was not authorized to comment publicly and requested anonymity.

Saudi officials, the person added, have underscored in their engagements with the Trump administration that the kingdom is in a good position to defend itself against further potential Iranian strikes — as are fellow energy titans Qatar and the United Arab Emirates — but that Kuwait could be more vulnerable to attacks by Iranian-backed militias in Iraq.

At least 14 killed in suicide bombing at peace rally in northwest Pakistan



PESHAWAR

A suicide bomber targeted a peace rally in northwestern Pakistan on Sunday, killing at least 14 people, including five police officers, and injuring more than two dozen others, officials said.

The attack took place in Kabal, a town in the Swat Valley of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, where demonstrators had gathered near a police station, chanting anti-militant slogans and demanding peace, district police chief Omar Khan said.

The Swat Peace Rally was organised by the Swat Aman Jirga, a local tribal council. Participants carried placards and raised slogans calling for peace in the region, alleging that police inaction had contributed to a deteriorating security situation over the past few months.

According to the District

Police Officer (DPO) Swat, the suspected suicide bomber attempted to enter the Kabal Police Station and Police Lines compound but was intercepted by police personnel at the main gate.

The attacker then detonated the explosive device, damaging the main gate and preventing entry into the heavily secured compound, the DPO said.

Pakistan’s President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif condemned the bombing, expressing deep sorrow over the loss of life.

In separate statements they offered condolences to the families of those killed, prayed for the recovery of the wounded and directed authorities to ensure the wounded receive the best possible medical treatment. Zardari and Sharif also said Pakistan’s fight against terrorism would continue until it

is eradicated. Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi also condemned the attack. In a statement, he extending condolences to the families of those killed and prayers for the speedy recovery of the wounded.

The Swat Valley was once a stronghold of Islamic militants who imposed a strict interpretation of Sharia, or Islamic law, before the Pakistani military launched a major operation in 2007 that drove them out and restored government control.

However, militants have resurfaced in Pakistan’s Swat Valley in recent months, fueling fears that the Pakistani Taliban are seeking to regain a foothold in the region. In response, residents have repeatedly staged anti-Taliban rallies to protest the militants’ presence across the valley.

No group immediately claimed responsibility for the bombing, but suspicion is likely to fall on the Pakistani Taliban, known as Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan, or TTP. The TTP is separate from, but allied with, Afghanistan’s Taliban rulers. Many of its leaders and fighters have found sanctuary in Afghanistan since the Taliban returned to power there in 2021.

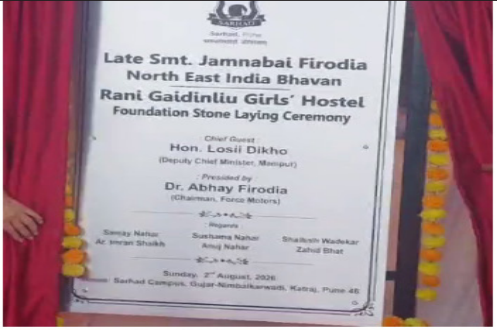
Pakistan has long accused Afghanistan’s Taliban government of harboring TTP militants, an allegation Kabul denies.

Pakistan has experienced a surge in militant attacks in recent years, particularly targeting police and security forces.

On Friday, Pakistan’s military spokesman Ahmad Sharif Chaudhry said that Pakistan has recorded 3,145 “terrorism incidents” since January.

He said Pakistan had killed 2,084 militants since January, while 819 Pakistanis, including soldiers, police officers and civilians, had been killed.

Manipur Dy. CM lays stone for NE India Bhavan - Rani Gaidinliu Girls' Hostel in Pune



BISWADEEP GUPTA

Extending a helping hand to the people affected by conflicts in the North-east, particularly Manipur, Sarhad, a prominent NGO in the country, has begun work on setting up a girls' hostel for which its foundation stone was laid on Sunday.

Manipur deputy chief minister and Naga leader Losli Dikho laid the stone of the around rupees ten crore project christened "Late Smt. Jamnabai Firodia North East India Bhavan - Rani Gaidinliu Girls' Hostel," at Gujar-Nimbalkarwadi, Katraj, here on Sunday. Chairman of automobile giant Force Motors, Abhay Firodia, attended the stone-laying ceremony as president in the presence of three distinguished invitees - senior scribes from Manipur - Brozendra Ningomba, K Sarojkumar Sharma and Keisham Yaiphaba.

The landmark initiative has helped spread the glorification of the nation's iconic freedom fighter Rani Gaidinliu, a Zelianrong woman from Manipur, across the western parts of the country.

For over three years, ethnic strife has devastated Manipur — killing over 250 people and displacing around 70,000 — even as the government and civil groups work to restore peace.

Impressed by the yeomen service rendered by Sarhad, Dikho lauded Sanjay Nahar, founder president of the NGO, for taking up such a meaningful and visionary initiative for the welfare of students of strife-riddled northeast.

He also expressed special appreciation to the three journalists from Manipur whom he described as the backbone behind making the programme possible.

Dikho remarked that the project is much more than just a building, saying, "It represents our shared commitment to supporting the youth from every part of the country. The North Eastern region is a vital part of

contributes to the nation's progress."

As India moves towards the vision of Viksit Bharat, every young person, irrespective of where they come from, should have equal access to quality education and opportunities, added the deputy CM.

Describing the proposed Bhavan as a "home away from home" for students from the northeast, Dikho said it would provide a safe, secure, and nurturing environment that would support their education, personal growth, and long-term success. He added that the Bhavan would become a permanent sanctuary, especially for students from Manipur studying in Pune. He praised Sarhad for its remarkable work in Punjab and Kashmir through education and community development programmes, promoting national integration, unity, and peace by bringing people together.

He also thanked the Firodia family for their generous contribution and hoped their legacy of philanthropy would continue for generations to come. He assured that the Manipur government would continue to support such initiatives aimed at empowering the youth and expanding educational opportunities for students from the northeast.

Dr Abhay said that though the ceremony was a small event, it would have a far-reaching impact in the future. Stressing the importance of national integration, he said that connecting the people of India is essential for building a stronger nation. He observed that certain foreign elements have attempted to create a sense of alienation among the people of the North East from the rest of the country, but such efforts have not succeeded.

Referring to the strategic importance of the 20-kilometre-wide Siliguri Corridor, popularly known as the "Chicken's Neck", Dr. Firodia said that strengthening emotional and cultural ties between the North East and the rest of India is equally important.

The renowned industrialist expressed confidence that the upcoming hostel would serve as a bridge connecting the people of the North East, particularly Manipur, with the rest of the country. He said the hostel would provide a safe environment for students while promoting cultural ex-

change, national unity, and a sense of belonging.

Sanjay Nahar said the hostel, whose completion target is set within one and a half years, would play a significant role in fostering harmony and understanding among the different communities of Manipur.

Students from diverse backgrounds and communities would stay together, live together, study together, and interact with one another under one roof, he said.

"Such an environment would promote mutual respect, friendship, and trust, sending a strong message of peace, unity, and national integration," he continued.

He expressed confidence that the Bhavan would become a symbol of hope and togetherness, helping strengthen bonds not only among the people of Manipur but also between the North East and the rest of India.

The programme concluded with a renewed commitment from all stakeholders to strengthen educational opportunities, national integration, and the welfare of students from the North Eastern states through this landmark initiative.

SPACE FOR YOU ONLY

Rs. 150/- per day

PLACEMENT

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

VOLUNTEERS REGISTERS @ NEIR 2026

We are looking for volunteers across NE & West Bengal Interested candidates (College students, youths) can register at https://northeastintegrationrally.in/Volunteer_Registration.aspx, send an email: neintegrationrally@gmail.com

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 InfoComSolutions@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/krcstudentinternship> or www.krcfoundation.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 participant receives a digital participation certificates. Send articles at: info@krcfoundation.org. For Details Visit: <https://bit.ly/NEIndiaWritingStarContest> www.krcfoundation.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@krcfoundation.org / WP: 9330830083 For Subscription: krctimes@gmail.com / WP: 8721838313 Editor: biswadeep.gupta@gmail.com / WP: 8721838313



Every Successful Journey Begins With The First Step

5E for Success
Conversation on Education
with
Dr. R. Singh
Founder, Gurji Delhi
&
Biswadeep Gupta,
Founder, 5E for Success



GROW YOUR BRAND WITH US!

KRC TIMES

Our media platform can help elevate your brand's reach and build awareness to a niche market and cover the last miles that align with your business goals and purposes.

OUR PLATFORMS:

Website

YouTube

Social Media

Magazine

E-Copy

Events

For more information, please contact us at:
www.krctimes.com info@krcfoundation.org



DOWNLOAD ADVERTISEMENT RATE CARD
<https://bit.ly/krctimesratecard>



Brain VISION

KRC
Shaping Careers
For a Successful Tomorrow

Ironically, the word "verb" is a noun.



WE'RE
HIRING

TECHNICAL
SALES
EXECUTIVE

ABOUT JIGYASU

Jigyasu, a brand of Dasco Education Pvt. Ltd., is transforming education through experiential learning. We develop innovative science and technology models that simplify complex concepts and make learning engaging for students.

ROLE

Drive sales by demonstrating products to schools and offering technical solutions.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Conduct demos & presentations
- Understand client needs
- Travel for meetings
- Achieve sales targets

REQUIREMENTS

- Graduate/PG in Science and Engineering
- Good communication skills
- Sales interest & willingness to travel

DETAILS

₹25,000-₹35,000/month + incentives

Locations: Kolkata, Delhi, Bhubaneswar, Bangalore, Guwahati, Silchar

APPLY NOW & BE PART OF EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING!

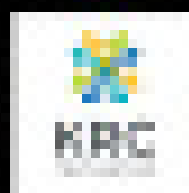


InfoCom

DIARY

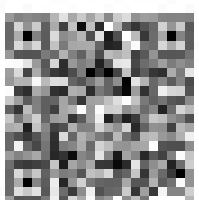


An Initiative of
KRC Foundation

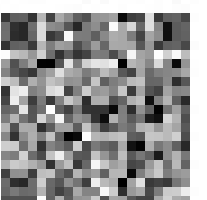


info@krc@gmail.com
www.krcfoundation.org
Tel: 0728038518

Know More



Apply Here





SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

KRC TIMES membership
e-copy @Rs.300 annually



ABOUT US

KRC TIMES Is a Journalistic Initiative from KRC Foundation where we follow our core philosophy of 'Connecting the unconnected' We cater to the untold and unheard stories with an aim to reach the last mile.

KRC TIMES E-COPY NE India Edition

- 5 Page e-copy published every evening
- Front Page, Editorial, Regional, National & 5Es/Advertorials

Why e-paper

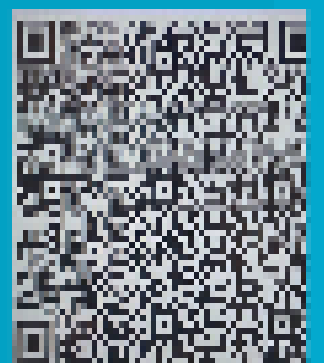
Get the most of the day's news, information, insights, etc. that can be processed quickly every evening

Support clean journalism

By subscribing to the e-copy, you support our sincere efforts to provide non-biased news and information

How to Subscribe

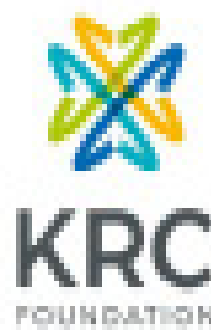
Scan and pay Rs. 300
Send the screen shot in our
WhatsApp: 8721838313
e-mail: krctimes@gmail.com



CONTACT US

+91-8721838313

www.krctimes.com



Presents



OPEN TO ALL FOR
| 5 CATEGORY | 8 NE STATES |
| 5 BROAD TOPICS |

Writing Star Contest

MAY-NOV 2026

DIGITAL PARTICIPATION CERTIFICATE
THE SELECTED ARTICLE WILL BE PUBLISHED ON
WWW.KRCTIMES.COM

"I can shake off everything as I write;
my sorrows disappear, my courage is
reborn."
- Anne Frank

TOPICS

- INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT OF NER (ROADS, RAILS, AVIATION, HYDROPOWER & SECURITY)
- PROMOTING TOURISM, MSME, AGRO & HORTICULTURE, ACT EAST DIPLOMACY
- DISASTER MANAGEMENT, ADVENTURE SPORTS & CLIMATE CHANGE
- ART & CULTURE, THEATRE, CINEMA, MEDIA & ENTERTAINMENT
- SE FOR SUCCESS- PROMOTING EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, EMPLOYABILITY, ENTREPRENEURSHIP & EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE

Open to Students from Class VI to Senior Citizens, divided into 5 categories+topics

Each entry will receive a digital participation certificate

There is NO fee for participation

The selected entry will be published on www.krcetimes.com

email articles: info@krcfoundation.org

5 categories: A- Class- VI, VII, VIII | B- Class- IX, X, XI, XII | C-College & PG Students | D- Working Class & Homemaker | E- Retired & Senior Citizen (60+)

FOR RULES AND DETAILS, PLEASE VISIT

www.krcfoundation.org

<https://bit.ly/NEIndiaWritingStarContest>

e-mail articles at: info@krcfoundation.org