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Chief Minister lays Foundation Stone for Shillong Medical College

Chief Minister, Dr. Mukul Sangma laid the Foundation Stone for Shillong Medical College on PPP mode at Reid Chest Hospital, Mawbah, Shillong in the presence of Minister, PWD (B) etc Dr. M Ampareen Lyngdoh and Minister, Urban Affairs etc., Shri. R V Lyngdoh on 6th December, 2017.

Addressing the gathering, Chief Minister Dr. Mukul Sangma expressing happiness in laying the foundation for the medical institution in the region on PPP mode said that establishing infrastructures and taking up projects on PPP mode is a very challenging task for the Government as the concept of PPP model is still new for many. He however added that the Government of Meghalaya has successfully taken up many developmental programmes in the State on PPP mode and that the establishment of medical colleges in Shillong and Tura will bridge the shortage of medical professionals while providing better health facilities to the people of the State.

The Chief Minister also said that a medical college is not only an institution for aspiring students who wish to become medical professionals but also a centre with the wherewithal to assist the Government and policy makers in respect of the challenges associated with the health care sector. "Having such medical colleges in our own State will not compel our beloved people to travel to Delhi,

Vellore or Chennai for tertiary health care," he said. "It is not just for medical students but for a comprehensive health care system that we need to put in place for our people," he informed.

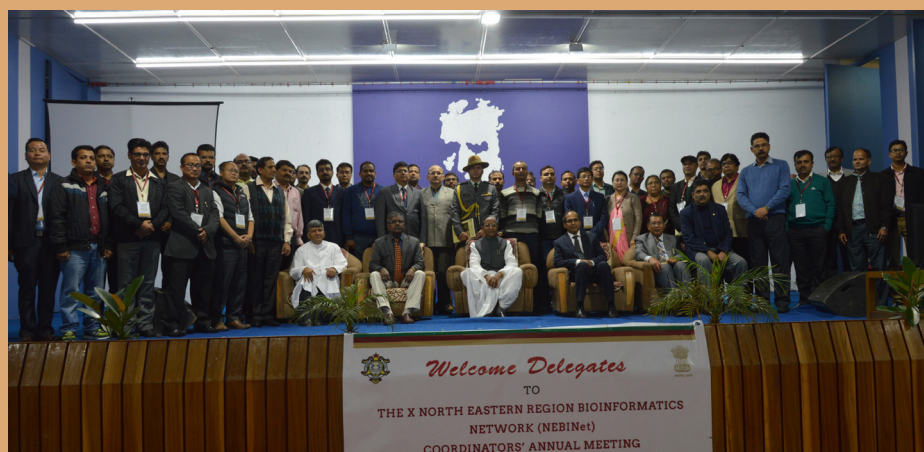
Dr. Sangma also said that a new strategy for giving treatment has to be adopted and doctors and nurses need to equip themselves with knowledge and skill while treating and taking care of patients. He expressed hope that with the coming up the medical colleges in Shillong and Tura, the challenge of providing space for competent young men and women who want to become medical professionals will be addressed while providing access to better health care facilities for the people.

Among others who spoke during the Foundation Stone laying ceremony were Minister, Urban Affairs etc Shri. R V Lyngdoh, Minister, PWD (B) etc., Dr. M Ampareen Lyngdoh, Secretary of KPC Medical College, Kolkata, Shri. Krishna Das, Finance Secretary, KPC Medical College, Kolkata, Shri. Uttam Das and Dr. D Lyngdoh, Director, Health Services (MI) who delivered the Welcome address. Also present was Additional Chief Secretary, Health & Family Welfare etc Shri. P W Ingty.

10TH NEBINET ANNUAL COORDINATORS' MEET

The 10th North East Bioinformatics Network (NEBINet) Annual Coordinators' Meeting organized by the Bioinformatics Centre, St. Edmund's College, Shillong and sponsored by the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India was held on 16th November 2017 at St. Edmund's College Auditorium, Shillong. The Governor of Meghalaya, Shri. Ganga Prasad graced the inaugural programme as Chief Guest.

The Governor, in his inaugural address said that the panorama of scientific scenario has greatly changed over the years, the thrust areas have undergone a metamorphosis but the conceptual underpinning of the basic sciences still continues. "Of late, the activity of basic research has been intricately intertwined with technology and we are determined to carry forward this change, for it is through technology that science can actually reach the masses in our Country and afar, and the changing times have also inculcated a culture of cross-departmental and interdisciplinary research. Science and technology has always played a pivotal role in taking a nation towards greater heights by way of innovations and inventions", he added. The Governor also expressed optimism that discussions, suggestions and sharing of innovative ideas during the two-day Meet opens up new avenues to make



substantial advancement in Biological Sciences which will provide a platform for proper and effective delivery mechanism for the common man.

During the inaugural function, Advisor, Department of Biotechnology, Government of India, Dr. T. Madhan Mohan gave an overview of the NEBINet and Bioinformatics Program and President, Epygen Biotech FZ LLC, Dubai, UAE, Dr. Debayan Ghosh delivered the Keynote address. Bro Simon Coelho, Secretary, Governing Body, St. Edmund's College, Shillong and Dr. Sylvanus Lamare, Principal, St. Edmund's College, Shillong also spoke during the function.



BASE FOR ENGINEERING COLLEGE AT AMPATI LAID

Meghalaya Chief Minister Dr. Mukul Sangma, accompanied by School Education and Literacy Minister, Smti. Deborah C Marak on 24th November 2017, laid the base for the first Engineering College in Garo Hills at Ampati, South West Garo Hills. The Engineering College which will be the second in the State for which the base has been laid, will be constructed at Kebolpara, around 4 kilometers from Ampati.

The Chief Minister while addressing the gathering stated that an amount of Rs. 41 crores has been sanctioned for the construction of the College. The establishment of an engineering college in Garo Hills will fulfil the ambition of aspiring engineers and at the same time usher in socio-economic change, said Dr Sangma.

He also said that educational institutions are partners that would aid the Government in finding solutions through innovation. "A Nation gains when we have productive people, if they are capable of doing something good, if they

are capable of providing solution. An institution provides an opportunity for continuous learning", he added, while speaking about how an unproductive person becomes a liability for the family, community and the nation.

Emphasizing on the need for qualitative improvement in the education sector Dr. Sangma said that the education system should be able to produce productive citizens responsible for the growth of the State. "Every child born should be provided with the education they deserve so that they are capable of competing and becomes an asset to the Nation", the Chief Minister added.

School Education & Literacy Minister, Smti. Deborah C Marak who also spoke on the occasion emphasized on the Government's commitment to improve the education sector of the State. She said that the creation of dedicated educational institutions within the reach of the underprivileged would enable aspiring students to flourish.

CM LAYS BASE FOR STATE'S FIRST TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY, NE'S FIRST COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE & URBAN PLANNING



Meghalaya Chief Minister, Dr. Mukul Sangma in the presence of Sports and Youth Affairs Minister Shri. Zenith Sangma, laid the base for the first State Sponsored University, Captain Williamson Sangma State Technical University, Tura and College of Architecture and Urban Planning at Jewilgre in South West Garo Hills on 1st December, 2017.

In his speech, the Chief Minister informed that Rs. 19 crores has been sanctioned for construction of the university building at Jewilgre, about 20 km from Tura in an area spanning over 100 acres. "The construction of the university has already begun and efforts are being made to ensure that it is completed soon", he added. Shri. R D Shira and Shri. K R Marak have been respectively appointed as Pro Vice-Chancellor and Registrar of the Captain Williamson Sangma State Technical University.

The Chief Minister said that in the next five years Meghalaya would celebrate 50 glorious year of statehood and there are lots of expectations. He said that the State has made its humble beginning to ensure development in the State and there will



be lot of welfare programmes for the people. "We have to ensure that the State is capable of nurturing the young ones and pave the way to enable the generation next to realize their dreams as per their true potentialities", he added.

He also informed that the College of Architecture and Urban Planning would be the first of its kind in the North East and that Rs. 26 crores has been sanctioned for initial infrastructure development. "We invite all our educated people working outside the region to come back with their enriching experiences and join our universities and institutes and contribute to the welfare of the State", the Chief Minister said.

The Chief Minister further stated that the Government has embarked upon an agenda to pave way for a future where the State will be self reliant and not dependent on other states. "Leaders must be able to connect with the aspiration and expectation of the people and on their behalf, the leaders must be able to dream so that further course of action will culminate out of their actions", the Chief Minister added.

BASE FOR M&CH HOSPITAL, SCIENCE & COMMERCE COLLEGE LAID AT MAHENDRAGANJ



Meghalaya Chief Minister Dr. Mukul Sangma on 27th November 2017 laid the base for a dedicated college of Science and Commerce including the Maternity and Child Health (M&CH) Hospital at Mahendraganj. Dr. Sangma was accompanied by Sports & Youth Affairs Minister Shri. Zenith Sangma, Government Chief Whip Shri. Winnerson D Sangma, Mahendraganj MLA Smti. Dikkanchi D Shira and GHADC CEM, Shri. Boston Marak.

The M&CH Hospital will be constructed at Mahendraganj while the dedicated college of Science and Commerce will be constructed at a land donated by the Nokma of Baksapara, a few kilometers from Mahendraganj.

Addressing the gathering, the Chief Minister said that the Education Department has the highest number of Government employees in terms of human resource that has the potential to be developed into an advantage and as such the Government has put more focus into the sector. Education and Health are the basis of any socio-economic development and the Government has left no stone unturned to improve the sectors in the State, he said.

Speaking on the Government's decision to open the educational institution at Baksapara, Dr. Sangma stated that there was an urgent need to reverse the trend of migration of the youth in search of higher education to urban settlements. Educational institutions need not be clustered in urban settlements such as the State capital but evenly distributed throughout the Districts so that the youth are ensured equal opportunities to pursue higher studies Dr. Sangma stated further.

Stressing on socio-economic development through the medical and education sector, the Chief Minister said that the M&CH Hospital and the Science & Commerce College would act as the hub and spoke of future development in the region. A new town will come up once the college is completed while justice will be done for underprivileged mothers at the Maternity and Child Health Hospital at Mahendraganj Dr. Sangma opined.

Speaking on the occasion, local MLA Smti. Dikkanchi D Shira lauded the Government for its efforts to deliver the aims and aspirations of the people. The institutions will be a legacy dedicated to the people by the Government she said.

Chief Minister distributes Digital Learning Aids to students of CI XII

Chief Minister, Dr. Mukul Sangma distributed M-Tabs Under the 'Students Digital Learning Aid Scheme 2017' to Class XII students of East Khasi Hills at a function held on 12th December 2017 at Dalang Stage, 5th Ground Polo, Shillong which was also attended by Minister, Information Technology etc Dr. M Ampareen Lyngdoh as the Guest of Honour.

Speaking to a large gathering of students, Chief Minister, Dr. Sangma expressing happiness that the Government continues to implement the Digital Learning Aid programme to the students, said that the programme that was initiated on 2nd Oct 2013 continues for the larger benefit and empowerment of students. Adding that the State of Meghalaya has faced many challenges in the field of Education, said "We have struggled to fight back against the problem of school dropouts and dropout rates in the elementary and secondary levels have fallen significantly between 2006-07 and 2011-12 from 30% to 9.5% and from 39% to 11.5% respectively and will continue to work out to ensure that the dropout rates comes to 0%", he said.

The Chief Minister also said that with technology we are no longer insulated from what happens globally and technology has even changed Education therefore it was necessary to initiate a programme so that the children of the state do not feel less privileged or inferior to the rest of the world. He also added that the Digital Learning Aid programme goes beyond the content available in the tablets as it will inspire the youth to be innovative as they use this digital platform. He therefore urged the students to utilize and acclimatize themselves with the whole unlimited access to content available on the web and also to explore the opportunities and spaces available in the digital platform.

Dr. Sangma also informed that the Government has invested in having institutions of higher and professional courses across the State and urged students to take advantage of the institutions available in their own backyard to pursue their studies. "With the coming up of two medical colleges, two engineering colleges and a College of Architecture and Urban Planning in the State, the challenges of pursuing studies outside the State will be minimized and it will also reverse the



process of flight of capital," said the Chief Minister while adding that Education is an economic stimulus and all need to collectively endeavour and resolve to make Education remunerative and sustainable.

Also speaking during the occasion, Minister, Information Technology etc Dr. M Ampareen Lyngdoh said that that CI XII is a crossroad for students in their life and with access to the tablets, young students of Meghalaya will join the global community of techno savvy students. The Minister urged the students to work hard investing time and attention to studies while urging the students also to use the tablets wisely.

The tablets distributed are Windows based and contain Class XI & XII syllabus for Arts, Science & Commerce with NEET & JEE study and preparation material. It also contains practice papers for self evaluation with latest technology of multimedia and interactive content. The Government has selected iBall Tablets one of the leading Indian Electronic Brands through an e-tendering process.

All registered students of CI XII will also receive the tablets in other parts of the state.

LAUNCHING OF RASHTRIYA VAYOSHRI YOJANA SCHEME FOR SENIOR CITIZENS OF RI BHOI DISTRICT AT NONGPOH

The Department of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India in association with the Department of Social Welfare, Government of Meghalaya launched its first Mega Camp in Ri Bhoi District at NSCA Mini Stadium, Pahamsyiem, Nongpoh on 12th December 2017.

The event was graced by the Union Minister of State, incharge Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Shri. Krishan Pal Gurjar, as the Chief Guest and Dr C. Lyngdoh, Minister in charge PHE Department, Government of Meghalaya as the Guest of Honour.

The Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana is a Central Sector Scheme fully funded by the Central Government which aims at providing

physical Aids and Assistive Living Devices for senior citizens belonging to Below-Poverty-Line Category. This scheme was implemented through the Artificial Limb Manufacturing Corp, a Public Sector Unit under the Social Justice Ministry.

During the programme, as many as 1027 beneficiaries were presented with 4752 Aids and Assisted Living Devices which included 267 walking sticks, 10 Crutches, 519 Walkers, 731 Tripods, 586 Hearing Aids, 377 Wheelchairs, 197 Artificial Dentures and 715 Spectacles valuing over Rs. 69.32 Lacs to the senior citizens of Umsning, Umling, Jirang C&RD Block identified through assessment camps conducted by ALIMCO this year.

Delivering his speech to the gathering, Shri. Krishan Pal, expressed thankfulness to the huge number of beneficiaries who participated in the event. He also lauded the tireless efforts rendered by the officers of the Social Welfare Department, Meghalaya in making the programme a grand success.

He further said that the Central Government is sensitive to the cause of persons with disabilities and is dedicatedly working for the upliftment of the poor including persons with disabilities. He also pointed out that the Government has taken several steps for the welfare of the elderly persons, of which include Schemes like RVY which aims to offer free elder care assistance devices to seniors citizens belonging to BPL and also free medical treatment to children with disabilities. He expressed optimism that the devices which have been distributed will help the 1027 beneficiaries to overcome their age related physical impairment and to lead a dignified and productive life with minimal dependence on care givers and other members of their respective families.

Also, the Union Minister appealed to the officials concerned to continue conducting the assessment camp for surveying the elders persons and children with disabilities to facilitate their enrolment under the scheme.



NATIONAL PRESS DAY CELEBRATED



Along with the rest of the country, National Press Day 2017 was observed on 16th November, 2017 at the Shillong Club, Shillong wherein Chief Minister, Dr. Mukul Sangma graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. The theme of this year's celebration was, 'Challenges before the Media: Press and Elections'.

In his address, Chief Minister, Dr. Mukul Sangma said that the media fraternity has demonstrated the capacity to overcome the challenges that confront the media. He however said that there are still a many new and not anticipated challenges that the media has to face and a synergy is required to be put in place by all concerned to deal with the challenges. "It is important to collectively look at the areas of challenges and address them," he said.

The Chief Minister also said that there is a conflict of interest when corporate houses and politicians own media houses. "I appeal to all politicians to withdraw from this and allow the role to be played by people who can really fit in so that we can see the desired changes," he said. He also stated that the media has to be seen as a whistle blower telling people the truth while engaging its responsibility in the truest terms of freedom of press.

Dr. Sangma further said that there is a need for the State Government to step in to ensure that media can withstand and insulate itself from the challenges. Acknowledging the contribution made by the press in Meghalaya in empowering the people, the Chief Minister said that the issues and challenges confronted by the media need to be addressed and resolved.

The Chief Minister also handed over a cheque of rupees one lakh only as ex gratia to Smti. Bema Kharhunai, wife of (Late) Kenny Warjri, an Accredited Journalist, who lost his life in a tragic road accident on 11th October 2015 in Assam.

Earlier, a townhall meet was also organized as a part of the celebration. Among others who spoke during the celebration were Minister, Information & Public Relations etc Dr. M. Ampareen Lyngdoh, Secretary, Information & Public Relations, Shri. M. Synrem and Director, Information & Public Relations, Smti. M. N. Nampui. Also present was Editor of DNA Strategic Affairs, Shri. Iftikhar Gilani.

STATE LEVEL WORKSHOP ON PPP FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION & CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

A State Level Workshop on Public Private Partnership for Disaster Risk Reduction & Climate Change Adaptation organized by the United Nation Development Programme (UNDP), New Delhi in collaboration with the State Disaster Management Authority (SDMA), Meghalaya, was held on 24th November 2017 at Pinewood Hotel, Shillong. Meghalaya Deputy Chief Minister, Prof. R. C. Laloo graced the inaugural programme as Chief Guest.

Prof. R. C. Laloo in his inaugural address said that Public Private Partnership for Disaster Risk Reduction & Climate Change Adaptation is very relevant in today's time where we are witnessing a rise not only in urbanization and industrialization but also in the number of disasters, both man-made and natural. Though Meghalaya is not a highly industrialized State, we are definitely ambitious on this account and have a fair share of private medium and small scale industries spread all over the State, apart from the public industries, he added.

Stating that this medium paced rise of industrialization in the State needs to be partnered with appropriate disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation activities so as to ensure that disasters does not impede industrial development and also industrial development does not lead to any disasters, Prof. Laloo said that Meghalaya has the opportunity of steering its industrial development in a manner that takes hazards, risks and vulnerability into account for the safety and continuity of not only the industrial plants but also the population, infrastructure and the environment that the industry is placed in.

Government-industry-community interface plays a major role in off-site risk management and in responses during emergencies. Role of various services and subject experts ranging from geologists, meteorologists, hydrologists, GIS/ geography and land-use/regional planning, law and jurisprudence, emergency and community medicine, socio-psychological and trauma care, communication, etc. can be accessed for resilience building activities. At the State level – State Disaster Management Authority, Department of Factories and Boilers/Industrial Health and Safety, Labour, Department of Health, Environment, Pollution Control, Police, Fire, Industry & Commerce etc., are directly responsible for disaster response and can play a major role in disaster prevention-mitigation and disaster response related organizations in the context of industrial disasters, he informed.



The objective of the workshop was to develop a better understanding of the need for risk sensitive investment planning in private sector to secure their assets and investment, promote business continuity planning in private sector industries and corporate houses in the events of disasters, facilitate partnership between private sector and State and city Authorities to promote DRR by ensuring CSR investment in disaster risk reduction activities, promote private sector to act as supporting pillar during disaster response to mitigate the impact and reduce the loss of life and property and to improve urban resilience by engaging public-private players through new business opportunities in disaster risk reduction.

Additional Chief Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya in charge Revenue & Disaster Management, Shri. P. W. Ingty, Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya, Revenue & Disaster Management, Shri. H. B. Marak, Deputy Commissioner, East Khasi Hills District, Shri. P. S. Dkhar, Executive Director, SDMA, Meghalaya, Smti. I. Mawlong, Consultant, Disaster Risk Reduction & Climate Change Adaptation, New Delhi, Shri. S. Tandon and City Project Coordinator, UNDP, Shillong, Smti. M. Mukherjee, among others was also present at the inaugural programme.

The inaugural programme was followed by a technical session on the topics, viz, "USAID-MHA-UNDP Project on Developing Resilient Cities through Risk Reduction in the Context of Disaster and Climate - An Overview", "Role of Public and Private Sector Industries in Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation in Meghalaya" and "Public Private Partnership for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation".

Feature

Deceased Organ Donation

Organ donation is the process of donating organs or biological tissue to a living recipient, who is in need of a transplant. That is, when a person allows an organ of theirs to be removed, legally, either by consent while the donor is alive or after death with the assent of the next of kin.

The person in need of an organ is called the Recipient and the live or deceased person whose organs are retrieved or procured for transplantation into the recipient is called the Donor. The process of recovering the organs is called Harvesting.

There are two types of organ donation - Live Donation and Deceased or Cadaver Donation.

Live Organ Donation is from a healthy and living person. This can only be done in the case of a kidney or a part of a liver because a donor can survive on one kidney and the liver can grow back to almost its normal size. So if your near relative needs a liver or kidney, anyone in the immediate family can donate to them. Parts of the skin may be donated as well.

Deceased Organ Donation or Cadaver Organ Donation is organ donation from a person who has been declared brain dead by a team of authorized doctors at a hospital. [As per the Transplantation of Human Organs (Amendment) Act 2011, "Brain-stem death" means the stage at which all functions of the brain stem have permanently and irreversibly ceased and is so certified under sub-section (6) of section 3].

A brain death results from a severe irreversible injury to the brain (RTA) or (Stroke) which causes all the brain activity to stop. All areas of the brain are damaged and no longer function due to which a person cannot sustain his/her own life, but vital body functions may be maintained by an artificial support system. This maintains circulation to vital organs long enough to facilitate organ donation. Patients classified as brain dead can have their organs surgically removed for organ donation. The time between the onset of brain death and cardiac death (when the heart also stops beating in addition to the brain being dead), is the time when organs have to be retrieved and transplanted into waiting recipients. Countries around the world have developed their own systems that efficiently and transparently retrieve organs and transplant them into others.

A brain dead person has absolutely no chance of recovering and NO ONE has recovered from brain-stem death. BSD is a form of death and is irreversible. Once brain death has been declared, the person is dead - But - his/ her organs are still alive because they have been kept alive by artificial means.

This means that if a person dies at home or anywhere else, and their heart stops beating they cannot donate their vital organs. The kind of death that follows after the heart stops beating is known in medical terms as Cardio-respiratory failure in which case, if the donated body is kept at a temperature of 4 degree Celsius within 6 hours of death the cornea, skin, heart valves, bones, bone marrow, cartilages, tendons,



muscle tissues and ear cartilages from the body is fit for transplantation till 24 hours. Mainly 5 organs, kidney, liver, heart, lungs, pancreas and intestine quite rarely and different kinds of tissues may be harvested and transplanted. (In addition to organs, you can also donate tissue, blood stem cells, blood and platelets, and even your body).

Cornea: One of the most commonly transplanted tissues each year is the cornea. It is a transparent covering over the eye - is the eye's primary focusing component. A cornea transplant restores sight to recipients blinded by an accident, infection or disease. Corneas require no anti-rejection drugs in the recipient.

While the incidence of brain death is obviously less common than cardiac death, it is only if everyone is aware about when and how they can donate organs, will donations actually happen in hospitals. Unfortunately, mostly due to unawareness and prejudices, there is a huge shortage of organs that are needed for transplants. It has been seen that relatives are hesitant and unwilling to donate the organs of their loved ones, who have been declared brain dead. When people are familiar with the concept of organ donation and how even in their time of loss, they can actually help another person live, they would be more open to make a decision when suddenly faced with the possibility at some point in their lives.

The total number of brain deaths due to accidents is nearly 1.5 lakhs annually. Other causes of brain death would potentially add many more numbers. There is a need of 2 lakh kidneys, 50,000 hearts and 50,000 livers for transplantation every year. Even if 5-10% of all brain deaths are harvested properly for organ donation, there would be no requirement for a living person to donate organs. One person dies of kidney failure every 5 minutes. This amounts to roughly 290 deaths every day due to kidney failure. These numbers suggest that with adequate systems in place, people succumbing to accident-prone injuries could meet a major portion of the demand.

HOW TO PLEDGE YOUR ORGANS AND BECOME A DONOR

At the moment in India, legally, it is the next of kin of the donor who will decide whether to donate their organs or not. Even if you have pledged your organs, no donation will happen unless the next of kin gives the go ahead. Therefore when you do register anywhere to be an organ donor, it is very important that you discuss your wish to donate with your family. This is to enable your family to carry out your wishes in case the need arises.

So, until the time that Organ Retrieval/Transplant is feasible in our state, let us be aware that we can be the answer to someone's prayer, even in death.

Organ donation is not a tragedy, it can be a beautiful light in the midst of one.

Compiled by Dr (Mrs) Y. A. Phira, Sr. M&HO, Gr- I and Nodal Officer, Organ Transplant, Dte. of Health Services (MI) Meghalaya, Shillong.

LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT CENTRE INAUGURATED



Meghalaya Minister for Animal Husbandry & Veterinary, Shri. H D R Lyngdoh inaugurated the Livestock Development Centre at Krang Veterinary Dispensary, East Khasi Hills District on 13th November 2017. The inaugural function was also attended by Dr. B Rijal, Director, AH & Veterinary Department, Shri B. K. Sohliya, OSD Meghalaya Institute of Entrepreneurship, Dr. K K Kharmihpen, Jt. Director, AH & Veterinary Department and Shri. L Stepwar, President, Synjuk ki Rangbah Shnong, Krang village.

The function was organized by the office of the District A H & Veterinary Officer, East Khasi Hills District in collaboration with Meghalaya Institute of Entrepreneurship (MIE).

In his inaugural speech, Shri. Lyngdoh informed that the Livestock Development Centre (LDC) was the first of its kind in the State, adding that more LDCs are on the pipeline for the entire State of Meghalaya. He also lauded the effort of the District A H & Veterinary Officer, East Khasi Hills District and Meghalaya Institute of Entrepreneurship (MIE) for their untiring work and dedication towards the upliftment of the farmers. Shri. Lyngdoh also informed that the Livestock Mission is an ambitious program of the State Government which will not only address the demand and supply gap in meat production but will to a great extent reduce rural to urban migration. Stating that the Government is concerned by the huge gap of demand and supply, Shri. Lyngdoh said the objective of the mission is also to ensure that the State become a surplus state in terms of meat production by having the right kind of investment.

Inauguration of Damalgre C&RD Block Office



Sports & Youth Affairs Minister Zenith Sangma on 6th December, 2017 inaugurated the Damalgre Community and Rural Development (C&RD) Block Office at Rerapara under South West Garo Hills. The Minister also laid the base for a suspension bridge over river Ganol at Anggalgre in lower Damalgre in the presence of GHADC Chairperson, Smti. S M Sangma, South West Garo Hills Deputy Commissioner, Shri. Cyril Darlong Diengdoh, DRDA project Director and Additional Deputy Commissioner, Shri. H D B Sangma, Damalgre C&RD Block Development Officer Shri. A G Momin and a host of other officials.

The Damalgre C&RD Block Office which will cater to over 149 villages is constructed on a plot of land measuring 10.71 hectares acquired from the Nokma of Rerapara. The suspension bridge at Anggalgre, spanning 140 meters was sanctioned under the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund XXIII with an estimate of 2.70 crores and its construction is being undertaken by the PWD (R) department.

Addressing the gathering Shri. Zenith Sangma acknowledged the efforts of the Block Development Committee and remarked that the day was worth remembering as their tireless efforts to demand for the creation of a C&RD Block in their area had finally resulted in the realization of the aspiration of the people of the region. He said that though the Block Office had become fully functional there were still some minor hiccups that have to be straightened out.

Speaking on the endeavour of the Government to bring administration closer to the people Shri. Sangma stated that new Damalgre C&RD Block was fully staffed with all the required employees

and officers for a block administration to function optimally. He informed that they had been attached to the office of the Betasing C&RD Block Development Officer and given induction training besides other capacity building trainings and were more than able to cater to the needs of the people.

“The suspension bridge at Anggalgre has since long been the demand of the people on the other side of river Ganol at lower Damalgre” said Shri. Sangma. He said that the present bridge will be built with the use of the latest technologies and enable the bridge to sustain the weight of a small car. The Minister also urged the people to provide land to the Government to accelerate the establishment of necessary infrastructures to take the region forward.

GHADC Chairperson and Dengnakpara MDC Smti. S M Sangma thanked the Government for creating the Damalgre Block and bringing the administration closer to the people. “I believe that the new block will immensely benefit the people of the region who otherwise had to go all the way to Gambegre, Selsella, Rongram and Betasing C&RD Blocks to meet their needs”, she said.

Earlier, Deputy Commissioner Shri. Cyril Darlong Diengdoh while delivering the welcome address congratulated the people of the area and said that the new block will cater to all the block level needs of the people. “We are happy to announce that the block has been staffed with all the necessary employees and officers. DEOs, JEs and Extension Officers were recruited during the month of June and inducted into the Betasing C&RD Block. They were provided necessary training to build their capacities and make them efficient”, he said.

NEWS Capsules

ORDER UNDER SECTION 144 CRPC

The District Magistrate, East Khasi Hills District, Shillong has promulgated an order under Section 144 CrPC restraining illegal mining and quarrying in the hill slopes and removal of sand from river-beds by any person, company or authority without obtaining Mining Licence/ Quarry Permit and other Clearance Certificates from the Competent Authority/(s).

The order has been issued in view of the notice received that illegal quarrying and mining on hill slopes and removal of sand from river-beds are taking place in various parts of East Khasi Hills District and that such indiscriminate quarrying and mining activities has led to the constant out-flow of stone, sand and other minerals into the rivers and down from the hill slopes which ultimately lead to destruction of vegetation on the slopes and damages the water sources and destroyed the aquatic life. It may be mentioned that most of the rivers have been polluted due to stone and sand mining and as such the water are no longer potable and fit for drinking purposes, etc., and whereas, it is necessary to ensure compliance of the aforesaid order within the District to prevent danger to human life, health and safety and to protect the environment.

This order shall come into force with immediate effect throughout the entire East Khasi Hills District until further orders.

SALE OF CIGARETTES AND OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS TO MINORS PROHIBITED

The Deputy Commissioner, East Khasi Hills District, Shillong has prohibited the sale of cigarettes and other tobacco products to any person who is under eighteen years of age, at the market place and in an area within a radius of one hundred yards of any educational institution and vendors and shopkeepers where tobacco products are sold, shall display a notice containing the warning: “Sale of cigarettes and other tobacco products to a person under the age of eighteen years is strictly prohibited and is a punishable offence”.

The order has been issued in view of the notice received that vendors and stall/shopkeepers are selling cigarettes and other tobacco products to minors at market places and within the proximity of educational institutions openly without any hindrances thereby violating section 6 of the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act, 2003 (COTPA), which prohibits sale of tobacco products to minors, i.e. below the age of 18 years.

Any person who contravenes the provisions of section 6 shall be guilty of an offence under this Act and shall be punishable with the imposition of fines and other prescribed penalties.

MEGHALAYA IT AWARDS TO MERITORIOUS STUDENTS

The Government of Meghalaya will be awarding laptops to meritorious students who have passed MBOSE, SSLC, MBOSE HSSLC, ICSE, CBSE Class-XII, ISC and Specially abled Students during the year 2017. The IT Award Ceremony will be held at Yojana Bhavan Auditorium, Main Secretariat Building, Shillong on 22nd December, 2017 from 1:30 PM onwards. IT&C Minister, Dr. M. Ampareen Lyngdoh will grace the function as Chief Guest.

All the awardees who have registered with the IT&C Department are requested to report to the reception at the venue by 11:30 AM positively.

Photo Speak



Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Shri. Dharmendra Pradhan called on Chief Minister, Dr. Mukul Sangma at the latter's residence on 09-12-2017 during the Union Minister's visit to Shillong. A Memorandum of Understanding was also signed between the Government of Meghalaya and Indian Oil Corporation Ltd on the occasion.



Deputy Chief Minister, Dr. R C Laloo administering the National Integration Pledge during the observance of Quami Ekta Week (National Integration Week) at the Secretariat premises, Shillong on 20-11-2017.



Meghalaya Minister for Civil Defense and Home Guards, etc. Smti. Deborah C Marak during the observance of the 55th Annual Day of the Meghalaya Civil Defense and Home Guards held at Rongrenggre Govt. Higher Secondary School, Williamnagar on 06-12-2017.



Govt. Chief Whip & Salmanpara MLA, Shri. W. D. Sangma distributes Kuroiler chickens feeding troughs, feed etc to partners under Special Plan Scheme at Zikzak on 22-11-2017.



Shri. A. K. Srivastava, Chief Commissioner Investment Promotion Centre, Meghalaya inaugurating the Meghalaya Pavilion at the 37th India International Trade Fair (IITF) 2017 held at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi on 14-11-2017.



Participants during the one day Orientation programme of Urban Local Bodies on National Urban Health Mission (NUHM) held at Pasteur Institute, Lawmali, Shillong on 05-12-2017.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

**NO PIECE OF SQUARE
PAPER CAN BE
FOLDED MORE THAN
7 TIMES IN HALF.**



**LEONARDO DA
VINCI COULD
WRITE WITH ONE
HAND AND DRAW
WITH THE OTHER
AT THE SAME
TIME.**

Wearing headphones
for just an hour
will increase the
bacteria in your ear
by 700 times.

**A duck's quack
doesn't echo,
and nobody can
figure out why.**

There is a hotel
in Sweden built
entirely out of
ice; it is rebuilt
every year.

Earth is the
only planet
not named
after a god.

**The word
"queue" is the
only word in
the English
language that is
still pronounced
the same way
when the last
four letters are
removed.**

**Months that begin
on a Sunday will
always have a
"Friday the 13th."**

Butterflies were
originally called
flutterflies.

**Chewing gum while
peeling onions will keep
you from crying!**



Source: Internet

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