

Synopsis of the main developments reported in leading newspapers.

12 July- 18 July 2025

Govt envisions BIMSTEC Pact as blueprint to transform Bay of Bengal into global trade hub: Sonowal

Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal envisions the BIMSTEC Maritime Transport Pact as a blueprint to transform the Bay of Bengal into a global trade and tourism hub. He inaugurated the second edition of the BIMSTEC Ports Conclave in Vishakhapatnam, emphasizing the importance of the Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project. A BIMSTEC Sustainable Maritime Transport Centre will also be established in Mumbai.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/govt-envisions-bimstec-pact-as-blueprint-to-transform-bay-of-bengal-into-global-trade-hub-sonowal/articleshow/122452815.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst

Sitharaman underscores need for balancing ecological preservation with development

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Saturday underscored the need to balance ecological preservation with the aspirations of development, particularly in regions like Meghalaya. Speaking at an interactive session in Shillong, she acknowledged that the climate crisis has intensified to the point where even the best meteorological tools cannot predict weather patterns accurately.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/india/sitharaman-underscores-need-for-balancing-ecological-preservation-with-development/articleshow/122404636.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst

Oil breakthrough: Assam to become first state in India to produce and profit from crude

Assam is set to become the first state government in India to take a direct role in oil production, marking a significant turning point in the country's energy sector. The move follows a hydrocarbon discovery in the Namrup Borhat-1 well, located in the Dibrugarh district, a project in which the Assam government holds a "significant stake" alongside Oil India Limited (OIL).

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/oil-gas/oil-breakthrough-assam-to-become-the-first-state-government-in-india-to-produce-and-profit-from-crude/articleshow/122565232.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst

Arunachal govt initiates process for forming administrative reforms panel

Itanagar, July 18: The process to identify distinguished individuals who will be part of the proposed Administrative Reforms Commission (ARC) has been initiated by the Arunachal Pradesh government, according to officials on Friday. The panel is expected to usher in transformative changes in public administration and governance in the state, he said. The process formally began with a meeting of the selection committee held here on Thursday, the official said.

https://assamtribune.com/north-east/arunachal-govt-initiates-process-for-forming-administrative-reforms-panel-1585241

Mizoram eyes Rajdhani Express for inaugural run on Bairabi–Sairang line

New Delhi, July 16: The Bairabi-Sairang railway line, which has finally brought Mizoram's capital, Aizawl, on the country's railway network, will have to wait for a few more months for Vande Bharat trains. According to officials, since the Bairabi-Sairang broad gauge line is not electrified yet, only diesel-propelled engines can be run here. "Vande Bharat is an electric trainset and can be plied only on those routes which are fully electrified. Other express or mail trains can have separate diesel or electric locomotives as per the route requirement," an NFR official said

https://assamtribune.com/north-east/mizoram-eyes-rajdhani-express-for-inaugural-run-on-bairabisairang-line-1584931

Meghalaya HC pushes defence ministry, AAI to speed up Shillong Airport work

Shillong, July 16: The Meghalaya High Court today directed the Ministry of Defence, Meghalaya State Government, Airports Authority of India (AAI), and the Di-rector General of Civil Aviation to take steps to expedite the long-pending expansion of the Shillong Airport. The directive came after the court examined a report submitted by the AAI in response to a public interest litigation (PIL).

https://assamtribune.com/north-east/meghalaya-hc-pushes-defence-ministry-aai-to-speed-up-shillong-airport-work-1584930

Medical college coming up in Namsai, says Arunachal CM; 1,000 health posts in pipeline

Medical college coming up in Namsai, says Arunachal CM; 1,000 health posts in pipeline. Itanagar, July 12: Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu, while inaugurating the newly constructed Maternal and Child Health (MCH) wing of the Namsai District Hospital on Saturday, announced that 1,000 new posts have been created in the state's health department and are currently at various stages of recruitment.

https://assamtribune.com/north-east/medical-college-coming-up-in-namsai-says-arunachal-cm-1000-health-posts-in-pipeline-1584545