WEEKLY

NORTH EAST ECONOMY WRAP

Synopsis of the main developments reported in leading newspapers

North East Advisory Council

FICCI

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16th – 22nd May 2026.

1: Assam tea drives India's export surge as tea shipments rise 93% to Rs 8,719 crore



India's tea exports recorded a sharp 93 per cent rise, reaching Rs 8,719 crore in FY 2025–26 compared to Rs 4,509 crore in 2013–14, according to Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal. Marking International Tea Day on May 21, Goyal highlighted the growing global demand for Indian tea and showcased the country's diverse tea-producing regions through a series of posts on social media platform X.

https://www.indiatodayne.in/assam/story/assam-tea-drives-indias-export-surge-as-tea-shipments-rise-93-to-rs-8719-crore-1395309-2026-05-21

2. Assam among States selected for Google's AI educator programme



Google has announced a major initiative to expand artificial intelligence (AI) education and digital literacy in India, with Assam among the key States selected for a new educator training programme. The announcement was made during the Education World Forum 2026 in London, where the US-based technology giant unveiled partnerships with several State governments, education boards and UNICEF to strengthen AI integration in schools and higher education institutions.

https://www.indiatodayne.in/assam/story/assam-among-states-selected-for-googles-ai-educator-programme-1394909-2026-05-20

3: Assam emerges as India's fastest-growing state, govt highlights economic gains



Assam has positioned itself as one of India's fastest-growing economies, with the state government highlighting strong economic indicators and infrastructure-led development as key drivers behind its growth trajectory. Sharing the development figures, CM Himanta Biswa Sarma said Assam recorded a 17.3 per cent compound annual growth rate (CAGR) and witnessed a 45 per cent expansion in Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) over the last five years.

https://www.indiatodayne.in/assam/story/assam-emerges-as-indias-fastest-growing-state-govt-highlights-economic-gains-1394899-2026-05-20

4: Mission Arunachal Kiwi to empower farmers, strengthen organic ecosystem: Dy CM Chowna Mein



Arunachal Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein on Thursday, May 21, described the launch of "Mission Arunachal Kiwi: The USP of Arunachal Pradesh" as a major initiative aimed at empowering farmers and building a globally competitive organic kiwi ecosystem in the state.

The Deputy Chief Minister said the mission would strengthen the entire kiwi value chain, from cultivation and post-harvest management to branding, exports and agri-tourism, while creating new economic opportunities for farmers across Arunachal Pradesh.

https://www.indiatodayne.in/arunachal-pradesh/story/mission-arunachal-kiwi-to-empower-farmers-strengthen-organic-ecosystem-dy-cm-chowna-mein-1395668-2026-05-22

5. Nagaland bets big on coffee economy with Rs 49 crore 'Coffees of Nagaland' mission



Union DoNER Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia and Neiphiu Rio on May 18 jointly launched a major cluster-based coffee value chain project aimed at transforming Nagaland into a premium coffee-producing state.The project, launched virtually under the broader mission "Coffees of Nagaland", seeks to build an end-to-end coffee ecosystem from cultivation to branding and marketing.

https://www.indiatodayne.in/nagaland/story/nagaland-bets-big-on-coffee-economy-with-rs-49-crore-coffees-of-nagaland-mission-1393861-2026-05-18

6 Manipur University scholar meets President after Kauna craft venture turns Rs 3,000 into Rs 3 crore business



A doctoral student from Manipur University, who built a handicraft business from a seed investment of Rs 3,000 into an enterprise projecting a Rs 3 crore turnover was received by President Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan on May 19. Sanju Akoijam, a PhD scholar in the Department of Economics at Canchipur, was the sole woman representative from Manipur in a group of artisans and weavers from the northeastern states invited for the special interaction.

https://www.indiatodayne.in/manipur/story/manipur-university-scholar-meets-president-after-kauna-craft-venture-turns-rs-3000-into-rs-3-crore-business-1395698-2026-05-22

7. Mizoram launches online medical referral system for out-of-state treatment



The Mizoram government on May 20 launched an online medical referral system under the Mizoram Universal Health Care Scheme (MUHCS) to streamline treatment referral procedures for patients requiring medical care outside the state. The digital platform, developed primarily for government employees, was inaugurated by Health Minister Lalrinpuii in Aizawl.

https://www.indiatodayne.in/mizoram/story/mizoram-launches-online-medical-referral-system-for-out-of-state-treatment-1394957-2026-05-20

8. Tripura becomes first state to integrate 'Track Me' feature in 112 India App: CM



Tripura Chief Minister Dr Manik Saha on May 21 announced that Tripura has become the first state in India to integrate the "Track Me" feature into the 112 India mobile application, which has now been activated in the state.

The Chief Minister said the "Track Me" feature is especially designed for women, elderly persons, or individuals travelling alone, particularly during odd hours or without an accompanying adult male member.

https://www.indiatodayne.in/tripura/story/tripura-becomes-first-state-to-integrate-track-me-feature-in-112-india-app-cm-1395320-2026-05-21

9. Meghalaya launches Rs 150 crore urban development projects for Tura



Tura is set to witness major urban transformation projects worth over Rs 150 crore aimed at improving infrastructure, tourism, public amenities and urban living standards. The projects include the redevelopment of Najing Bazar into a modern commercial hub featuring upgraded market spaces, parking facilities, hotel infrastructure and dedicated vending zones.

https://www.indiatodayne.in/meghalaya/story/meghalaya-launches-rs-150-crore-urban-development-projects-for-tura-1395885-2026-05-22

10. Sikkim's fish production crosses 1,000 metric tonnes under PMMSY boost



Fish production in Sikkim has crossed the 1,000 metric tonne mark for the first time, marking a major turnaround in the State's fisheries sector, officials said.

According to the Directorate of Fisheries, Government of Sikkim, fish production increased to 1,070 metric tonnes in 2025–26, a sharp rise from around 400 metric tonnes recorded in 2021–22.

https://www.indiatodayne.in/sikkim/story/sikkims-fish-production-crosses-1000-metric-tonnes-under-pmmsy-boost-1394822-2026-05-20