

Air Quality Index (AQI)		
August 18, 2025 (Average of past 24 hours)		
City/Town	Index Value	Air Quality
Guwahati	49	Good
Nalbari	75	Satisfactory
Nagaon	59	Satisfactory
Sivasagar	36	Good
Silchar	58	Satisfactory

WEATHER NorthEast		
Forecast for NE: Moderate rain very likely to occur at many places over Assam, Meghalaya and Manipur and Light to Moderate rain very likely to occur at a few places over Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Mizoram and Tripura.		
Warning: Thunderstorm and Lightning very likely to occur at isolated places over Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura. Heavy rain very likely to occur at isolated places over Assam, Mizoram and Tripura.		
Dibrugarh	Max 34.5	Min 25.6
Tezpur	Max 35.5	Min 27.0
Silchar	Max 37.1	Min 26.8
Dhubri	Max 34.3	Min 27.4
Jorhat	Max 35.0	Min 27.2
N. Lakhimpur	Max 34.8	Min 24.2
Shillong	Max 27.4	Min 19.0
Agartala	Max 34.4	Min 25.8
Aizawl	Max 30.4	Min 22.2
Kohima	Max 28.0	Min 19.4
Itanagar	Max 35.6	Min 25.4
Pasighat	Max 36.6	Min 25.2
Imphal	Max 30.1	Min 20.7
Duty Meteorological Officer, Regional Meteorological Centre, Guwahati		

Tripura Cong to launch agitation from August 22

AGARTALA, Aug 18: The Tripura Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) on Monday announced it will start a statewide agitation titled 'vote chor, gaddi chhod' (vote thief, renounce power) from August 22, a senior party leader said.

The agitational programme, under which nine rallies will be organised in several towns, will continue till September 7.

Rallies will be organised in Agartala, Teliamura, Bishalgarh, Dharmanagar, Ambassa, Kailashahar, Belonia, Khawai and Sonamura, and will be addressed by senior leaders.

The announcement comes after the AICC asked the party's state units to intensify the movement against the "ploy to debar eligible voters from the electoral rolls".

Addressing a press conference here, TPCC president Ashish Kumar Saha alleged that the Election Commission, which has the responsibility to conduct free and fair elections, has deleted 65 lakh voters from the electoral rolls of Bihar, where polls are due later this year, through the special intensive revision (SIR) exercise. – PTI

NESO stages protest against illegal immigrants

Inner line permit demanded

CORRESPONDENT

DIMPAPUR, Aug 18: The Naga Students Federation (NSF) joined the North East Students' Organisation (NESO)-called sit-in protest at Naga Solidarity Park in Kohima on Monday, seeking immediate detection and deportation of illegal immigrants from the region.

Ejanthung Ngullie, State coordinator, NESO, who chaired the programme, reminded that the NESO has been demanding inner line permit (ILP) regime in the entire Northeast region.

He said the NSF took part in the sit-in to demand eviction of all illegal immigrants from the region.

Stating that the ILP issue is very dear and close to the



NSF, Ngullie said it constituted a strong committee called the Inner Line Regulation Commission (ILRC) for total implementation of ILP in Nagaland.

"We are here to demand implementation of ILP through proper policy and measures by respective state governments in the seven Northeast states to preserve our culture, heritage and democratic stability," he said.

Ngullies said it is unfortunate that the ILP regime is in force only in four north-eastern states of Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Mizoram and Manipur.

He demanded that the central government take serious note of "our concern" on the illegal influx of illegal immigrants into the Northeast, which is affecting the demographic pattern of the region.

In his address, NSF president Medovi Rhi questioned whether "we are serious about implementation of ILP".

"We have to be more serious about the issue," Rhi stressed.

He said not only the student community but also the apex Naga tribal bodies should join hands in checking illegal immigrants into Nagaland.

He also asserted that the NSF is not against any Indian citizen but only against illegal immigrants.

Taking the opportunity, Rhi appealed to the Nagaland government not to issue any new ILP to those who have been or are being evicted in the ongoing eviction drive against illegal immigrants in Assam.

Khasi Students' Union protest in Shillong



CORRESPONDENT

SHILLONG, Aug 18: The North East Students' Organisation (NESO) on Monday organised a sit-in demonstration at Khyndailad (Police Bazaar), demanding eviction of illegal immigrants from the region. NESO Chairman, Samuel Jyrwa, said that the Northeast and Meghalaya in particular has witnessed protests and

movement against cross-border migration from Bangladesh.

Jyrwa said, NESO has organised the protest so that the Central and State governments of the different states of the region take note of this "serious issue and take proactive action on the ground to stop this illegal infiltration."

Commenting on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Independence Day

speech this year, Jyrwa said even the PM acknowledges the gravity of the issue and expressed concern over the demography of the country which has been affected.

"We especially think that the Northeast region has been affected because of this large-scale illegal immigration from Bangladesh," Jyrwa said.

Expressing optimism that the State and Central governments should take proactive steps especially after the PM has raised this issue and done everything possible to protect and safeguard the welfare of the indigenous people of the northeastern region.

In the State capital, the protest was headed by the Khasi Students' Union (KSU), a constituent of the NESO.

The KSU, meanwhile, said that it conducts checks and eviction of illegal migrants in the State as the State and Centre have not implemented the Inner Line Permit. The organisation further demanded that Meghalaya be granted a Territorial Army, just like in Mizoram.

Mizo students join stir

CORRESPONDENT

AIZAWL, Aug 18: The Mizo Students' Association (MZP) joined a Northeast-wide sit-in protest, organised by North East Students' Organisation (NESO), against illegal immigration on Monday.

The event, held at Vanapa Hall Square in Aizawl, led by NESO Coordinator H Hrangkung, included speeches by NESO Vice Chairman Ricky Lalbiakmawia and MZP President H Lalthianghlina.

In his address, Lalthianghlina expressed grave concern about the increasing influx of illegal Bangladeshi migrants into the region, particularly into Assam, which he stated is creating significant challenges for the state. He emphasised the potential spillover of this issue into Mizoram, with migrants driven out of Assam seeking refuge in other parts of the Northeast, including Mizoram.

Lalthianghlina also stressed the need for strict enforcement of border security measures, saying, "Mizoram must awaken to the growing threat, and we call for stringent regulations and



vigilant monitoring."

He assured that MZP would stand in solidarity with NESO's stance on illegal immigration and urged the public to support the cause.

Ricky Lalbiakmawia, NESO Vice Chairman, echoed these concerns, citing the worsening situation across India's Northeastern states. He pointed out that despite years of struggle, illegal migration continues to threaten the socio-cultural integrity of the region. He further criticised the Centre for not taking effective action and called for stricter laws to prevent further deterioration.

NESO's memorandum, presented during the protest, outlined several demands, including—strict enforcement of border control measures and sealing of the Indo-Bangladesh border with modern surveillance technol-

ogy and enhanced security, comprehensive review of the situation and establishment of a special review committee to assess the impact of illegal immigration on the region, increased inter-state coordination to prevent the relocation of migrants within the Northeast, legal protection for indigenous communities' rights to land, culture, and political identity.

The organisations highlighted that unchecked illegal migration poses a severe threat to the cultural and political stability of the Northeast, with visible signs of demographic shifts already evident in parts of the region. They demanded both the State and Central governments to take immediate and decisive action to address the issue before it further undermines the region's identity and stability.

Students demonstrate in Imphal

IMPHAL, Aug 18: A number of students on Monday staged a sit-in at Keisamthong in Imphal West district to protest large-scale illegal immigration in the states of the Northeastern region.

Organised by All Manipur Students Union (AMSU) under the aegis of North East Students Organisation (NESO), the protesters held placards demanding NRC in

the State, resettlement of internally displaced persons, and setting up of a review committee to address abnormal population rise.

A memorandum was also submitted by NESO to Manipur Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla, demanding immediate detection and deportation of illegal immigration, sealing of the India-Bangladesh boundary, and strengthen

border control and monitoring.

NESO also demanded that the central and state governments "resolve the ongoing conflict in the state and bring holistic peace at the earliest".

At least 260 people were killed and thousands rendered homeless in ethnic violence between Meitei and Kuki communities since May 2023. – PTI

MBBS students, interneers of JNIMS launch strike

CORRESPONDENT

IMPHAL, Aug 18: The MBBS students and interneers of the State-run Jawaharlal Nehru Institute of Medical Sciences (JNIMS) ceasing their normal medical activities and launched an indefinite protest in Imphal on Monday.

Demanding revision and enhancement of stipend for intern students and condemning the rising admission fees, nearly 800 MBBS students, including 150 interneers staged a sit-in at their JNIMS campus, Porompat Imphal East district.

"We're compelled to launch indefinite protest as the authority is yet to revise the stipend for JNIMS interneers as our current monthly stipend cannot accommodate the daily needs," says Laishram Lenin Singh, president, JNIMS Students' Association.

The State authority is giving Rs 15,120 as stipend

for interns since it was implemented in 2015 which the MBBS students described as significantly lower compared to other states. But, so far, there is no report of review or revision of the stipend.

In July last year, the JNIMS authority had proposed to increase to Rs 31,500 and submitted a reminder to the State government in July this year. But, so far, there is no positive response from the government, according to a member of JNIMS Students' Association.

"We're planning to continue our protest until our demands are fulfilled," an intern, who is currently taking part in the day's protest, said.

Manipur Govt for better delivery of public services: Manipur Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla, chaired a series of meetings at Raj Bhawan, Imphal on Monday, focusing on strengthening the digital ecosystem for better delivery of public services.

Key issues during the meeting included the introduction of an AI-powered case management system for legal matters, enhancing e-Office services, using Geographic Information Systems for village and habitation analysis, improving public information dissemination through government social media platforms, etc.

In the day's meeting, the Secretary (IT & Land Resources) Th Kirankumar, along with senior officers of the IT department, made detailed presentations on these initiatives.

Governor also directed the officers to take concrete steps for timely implementation of the above IT-based services to ensure more efficient and transparent public service delivery. Chief Secretary Dr Puneet Kumar Goel, Secretary to the Governor Sumant Singh and Commissioner (Home) N Ashok Kumar attended the meeting among others.

Drug smugglers arrested

CORRESPONDENT

IMPHAL, Aug 18: Security forces arrested three drug smugglers along with heroin powder during two separate incidents of intelligence-based secret operations in Manipur's Bishnupur district, police said.

"On August 16, security forces arrested a drug smuggler, identified as Md Arub Khan Ipham alias Khansa(26) of Kwakta Khuman ward No 5 (GP) from Kwakta Sabal Leikai along the National Highway 2, Tiddim road under Phoungakchao Ikhai police station, Bishnupur district," says Manipur police control room in a press note on Sunday night.

From his possession, 10 soap cases containing heroin powder weighing 113 grams, one four wheeler and one mobile handset along with SIM card were seized.

Similarly, the security forces arrested two drug smugglers from Kwakta Terakhong-sangbi Bazar along National Highway 2, Tiddim road under Moirang police station, Bishnupur district, police said.

N Zangura takes oath as CEM, LADC

CORRESPONDENT

AIZAWL, Aug 18: In a significant development, BJP leader N Zangura was sworn in as the Chief Executive Member (CEM) of the Lai Autonomous District Council (LADC) for a second time on Monday at Lawngtlai's LADC hall. The oath was administered by Lawngtlai's Additional Deputy Commissioner (DC), David Lalrinawma.

Following the ceremony, Zangura revealed his selection of nine members of the district council (MDCs) to serve as executive members (EMs) in his cabinet.

However, the real test of his leadership will come on Tuesday, as he faces a vote of confidence in the LADC.

Zangura's appointment follows the resignation of former CEM V Zirsanga from the Zoram People's Movement (ZPM). The Mizoram government, via the District Council & Minority Affairs (DC&MA) department, issued a

notification on Friday, officially confirming Zangura's appointment as CEM. The notification noted that Zangura, leader of the United Democratic Alliance (UDA), had been appointed effective August 14, the date approved by the Mizoram Governor, Gen. Vijay Kumar Singh.

Zangura's path to power was not without complications. Zirsanga, who was previously removed after a conviction in a corruption case, had resigned shortly before a scheduled confidence motion in the LADC. Zirsanga's resignation, submitted to the governor on the morning of the LADC session on August 14, rendered the confidence motion moot. Prior to his resignation, Zirsanga had faced a legal battle, challenging his removal from office in the Gauhati High Court. The court, on August 8, ruled in Zirsanga's favour, setting aside the Governor's decision and instructing him

to prove his majority within two weeks.

The political landscape of the LADC remains volatile. Sources revealed that the UDA, now led by Zangura, commands the support of 14 MDCs, including 11 from the Mizo National Front (MNF) and two from the BJP. Additionally, the Congress provides external support to the alliance. On the other hand, Zirsanga continues to enjoy the backing of 11 MDCs from the ZPM.

Political turbulence has been a constant in the LADC, with shifting alliances and frequent changes in leadership, as the major political parties—MNF, Congress, ZPM, and BJP—have all had their representatives heading the executive committee in the current 11th LADC. With Zangura's leadership now in place, all eyes will be on the upcoming vote of confidence, which could determine the future stability of the council.

Arunachal must emerge as contributor to 'Viksit Bharat': Guv

CORRESPONDENT

ITANAGAR, Aug 18: Arunachal Pradesh Governor Lt General (Retd) KT Parnaik on Monday called upon State's legislators to remain a model of transparency and discipline, and urged them to align their vision with the national Sustainable Development Goals, ensuring development that includes social justice, ecological balance, education, healthcare, and livelihood.

"By doing so, Arunachal can emerge as a shining contributor to the dream of a Viksit Bharat by 2047," he said while addressing the Special Session of the Eighth Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly convened to mark the Golden Jubilee of the Assembly at the Assembly Hall in Itanagar.

In his address, the Governor lauded the Assembly for upholding the spirit of democracy through participatory governance, transparent law-making and inclusive development.

"From a remote frontier, the State has grown into a confident democracy rooted in justice, equality, and representation. Over five decades, the Assembly has evolved into a vibrant forum for debate and policymaking," he said.

The Governor stressed that the Assembly must remain a model of transparency, discipline, and respectful debate. Legislators, he said, must always uphold the dignity of the Constitution, ensuring that justice, equality, liberty, and fraternity guide every action and decision.

Golden jubilee of State assembly



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"From a remote frontier, the State has grown into a confident democracy rooted in justice, equality, and representation. Over five decades, the Assembly has evolved into a vibrant forum for debate and policymaking," he said.

The Governor underlined the House's role in nurturing democratic values, protecting tribal traditions and languages, and fostering constructive dialogue. He noted its contri-

butions across education, health, agriculture, connectivity, tribal welfare, entrepreneurship, and conservation—balancing local priorities with national interests.

Commending the Assembly's youth outreach programmes, he said such initiatives instill civic awareness and responsibility among the next generation. Looking ahead, the Governor emphasized harnessing innovation, technology, and digital tools to improve governance, ensure transparency, and connect remote villages with markets, healthcare, and education.

"The Arunachal Pradesh of tomorrow should not only be known for its natural beauty but also as a hub of innovation, sustainable growth, and social harmony," he re-

marked.

Earlier, the Governor released the Golden Jubilee Souvenir and a special journal, along with a 10-minute documentary on the journey of the Arunachal Assembly. Speaker Tesam Pongte also addressed the gathering, while a video message from Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla was screened.

Later, the Governor, along with the Chief Minister, the Speaker, and other dignitaries poured waters and placed stones from various rivers of Arunachal such as Tirap, Lohit, Siang, Subansiri and Kameng, into the Unity Aquarium at the Assembly premises.

They also unveiled the Golden Jubilee Commemorative Pillar, a symbol of 50 years of resilience, representation, and progress.

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
1. Selection of Application Service Provider (ASP) for Loan Origination System, Loan Management System, Loan Collection System, Mobile Application for Business Correspondent/DSA Employee and Customer Portal
2. Selection of Application Service Provider (ASP) for General Ledger/Accounting Solution.
North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Ltd. (NEDFI), a public financial institution registered as NBFC with RBI, is looking for reputed vendors for the above-mentioned requirements. Last date of Bid submission is **09/09/2025 by 3:00 PM**. For further details, please visit www.nedfi.com.
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The following borrowers of Shivalik Small Finance Bank Ltd. are hereby informed that Gold Loans availed by them from the Bank have not been adjusted by them despite various demands and notices including individual notices issued by the Bank. All borrowers are hereby informed that it has been decided to auction the Gold ornaments kept as security with the Bank and accordingly has been fixed at **11:00 am** in the branch premises from where the loan was availed. All, including the borrowers, account holders and public at large can participate in this auction on as per the terms and conditions of auction.
Auction date is 28-08-2025 @ 11:00 am.

S. NO	Branch	Account No.	Actt Holder name
1	INDRAPURAM	101942521799	SIMRAN AGARWAL

The Bank reserves the right to delete any account from the auction or cancel the auction without any prior notice.
Authorised Officer, Shivalik Small Finance Bank Ltd.