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Himanta calls on FM, discusses plans to build ₹ 10 lakh cr GSDP by 2027-28

CM also updated Sitharaman on Assam's economic progress

NEW DELHI, May 22: Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Thursday met Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and apprised her about the rapid strides made by Assam on the economic front following a slew of initiatives taken by the state government.

The initiatives include mobilisation of resources and generating revenue resulting in Assam emerging as one of the country's fastest growing states, an official release said.

During the meeting, chief minister Sarma outlined Assam's growth trajectory and the plans on the anvil to build a ₹ 10 lakh crore Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) by 2027-2028.

He also apprised the Union finance minister about the rapid strides made

by Assam on the economic front following a slew of initiatives by the state government, the release said.

Sitharaman appreciated the initiatives taken by the Assam government to bolster the economy of the state and the country as a whole and assured to extend all possible help and support in the days ahead.

Later, taking to X, the chief minister wrote, "It was a privilege to call upon Hon'ble Finance Minister Smt @nsitharaman Ji today in New Delhi. We had a good discussion on Assam's growth trajectory, how it has emerged among the country's fastest growing States and on our plans to build a ₹ 10 lakh cr GSDP by 2027-2028."

Senior officials from the Ministry of Finance and the government of Assam were present during the meeting. (PTI)



Assam govt forms commission to resolve KAAC territorial disputes under 6th Schedule

HT Correspondent

KHERONI, May 22: The Government of Assam has announced the formation of a commission to examine claims, counterclaims, objections, and demands related to the inclusion and exclusion of areas within the Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council (KAAC) under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution of India.

This move follows provisions outlined in the Memorandum of Settlement (MoS) signed with various Karbi groups.

According to an official notification, the commission will be chaired by Dr. Ballepu Kalyan Chakravarty, IAS, additional chief secretary to the Government of

Assam. "It will be supported by the Deputy Commissioners of Morigaon, Nagaon, Hojai, West Karbi Anglong, Karbi Anglong, and Dima Hasao, who will serve as ex-officio members," the notification stated.

The commission aims to establish a formal mechanism to evaluate and resolve issues concerning the territorial and administrative jurisdiction of the KAAC.

This initiative is considered a significant step toward addressing long-standing demands of the Karbi community while ensuring a transparent and structured process for resolving disputes. The commission is expected to play a vital role in promoting peace and development in Assam's hill areas.

Mob kills Royal Bengal tiger in Golaghat

GOLAGHAT, May 22: A Royal Bengal tiger was killed by a mob, who also took away some of the body parts of the animal, in Golaghat district of Assam on Thursday, officials said.

The incident took place at Dumukhia village in Khumtai area where the villagers killed the adult male tiger, who had attacked a few people in the last couple of days, a forest department official said.

"The people considered the tiger to be a man-eater and so killed it. We retrieved the carcass and found that some body parts like a portion of skin, one leg and some meat are missing," he added.

As per reports, the villagers surrounded the tiger from different sides and then chased it before killing it. They used local weapons like machetes, sticks and rods to attack the tiger. "On receiving information about the attack, a team of forest and police officials rushed to the spot. But the big cat had already been (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

All party delegations brief UAE, Japan about Op Sindoor, Pak-backed terror

ABU DHABI/TOKYO, May 22: India on Thursday launched its global outreach against terrorism emanating from Pakistan as multi-party delegations reached the United Arab Emirates and Japan to assert the right to self-defence following Operation Sindoor.

The delegation to Japan is led by JD(U) MP Sanjay Jha while Shiv Sena MP Shrikant Shinde is leading the delegation to the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The two delegations held multiple meetings with ministers, prominent persons and think-tank officials too. The Indian embassy in the UAE said that the UAE was the first country to receive the multi-party delegation in the context of Operation Sindoor, underlining the deep bonds of friendship between the two nations.



"Together in the fight against terrorism! The All-party delegation led by @DrSEShinde held a fruitful meeting with HE Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan @uaetolerance in Abu Dhabi. Reaffirmed their commitment to combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations," said the Indian Embassy in the UAE.

"They highlighted the ethos of harmony and tolerance of India and UAE," it added and

posted photos from the meeting. The delegation also met Dr Ali Alnuaimi, chairman of Defence Affairs, Interior & Foreign Affairs Committee, and "they underscored India-UAE's shared resolve for zero tolerance against terrorism," the Embassy said.

Earlier, the delegation led by Shinde met Ahmed Mir Khooori, member of the UAE Federal National Council at Abu (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

Two-day NE Investors Summit from today

Event will showcase our wonderful 'Ashta Lakshmi': Scindia

NEW DELHI, May 22: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate a two-day investors summit on Friday that will showcase the investment potentials in the northeastern states and opportunities to access the captive markets in the region and the neighbouring countries.

The 'Rising Northeast Investors Summit', to be held here on May 23 and 24, aims to attract investments to the Northeast and will see the participation of chief ministers from northeastern states, Union ministers, top bureaucrats, foreign diplomats and more than 2,000 delegates, policy-makers, industry leaders and investors, among others, officials said.

They will participate in discussions across nine-plus priority sectors such as agriculture, food processing, textiles, tourism, entertainment, education, healthcare, IT and energy.

Minister for Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), Jyotiraditya Scindia, said the greatest potential for India in the future is the northeastern region.

"The event will showcase our wonderful 'Ashta Lakshmi' -- our eight states, which stand at the heart of the transformative growth that our country represents," Scindia said.

The prime minister's resolve, commitment and vision aim to ensure that the northeastern region becomes the pivot for the future growth and the future path of India, as the country advances towards its goal of 'Viksit

Bharat' by 2047, he said.

"Northeast's cultural tapestry along with the reservoir of natural resources and the strategic geographical positioning of the region have translated it into the most powerful gateway to Southeast Asia," Scindia said.

The minister also said that last 10 years' committed investment, the prime minister's resolve on infrastructure, healthcare and education have set the platform for the rise of the Northeast into an economic power, not just for India, but for the world.

The Northeast's geo-strategic advantage, abundant natural resources, skilled workforce and access to captive markets in the neighbouring countries will also be showcased at the summit, officials said.

The region is an emerging frontier for businesses and the summit will offer an ideal platform for forging alliances, partnerships and acquiring a clear vision of the opportunities available for expanding businesses, making new investments, setting up green field manufacturing projects and associated activities, an official in the DoNER ministry said. The pre-summit activities organised by the ministry attracted investment proposals worth more than Rs 1 lakh crore across all the northeastern states, the officials said. In the run-up to the summit, an Ambassadors' Meet was organised here in coordination with the Ministry of External Affairs on April 15 to give exposure to foreign investors on the northeastern region. (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

Tender for Jorhat-Majuli Bridge floated: CM



NEW DELHI, May 22: The Road Transport and Highways ministry has floated the tender for the much-awaited Jorhat-Majuli bridge over the Brahmaputra, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said on Thursday.

The 6.81-km-long two-lane bridge will be built at an estimated cost of Rs 600.51 crore, according to a state government release.

Sarma has been persuading the ministry to expedite the tender process.

He thanked Union minister Minister of Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari for turning the dream project into a reality.

Later, taking to X, Sarma wrote, "Great news for Assam. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has today floated the tender for the much-awaited Jorhat-Majuli Bridge - 7a 6.81 km, 2-lane bridge with an estimated cost of Rs. 600.51 crore."

"My heartfelt gratitude to Hon'ble Union Minister @nitin_gadkari Ji for making this effort into a reality," he said. (PTI)

Freedom for Sumi Borah after over 8 months

HT Correspondent

DIBRUGARH, May 22: Sumi Borah, one of the prime accused in the multi-crore online trading scam, was released from Dibrugarh Central Jail on Thursday evening after securing bail