

15th Asia Media Summit to be hosted by India from May 10-12, 2018 in New Delhi

PIB
New Delhi, May 8,

The 15th Asia Media Summit (AMS) 2018 is being hosted by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, jointly with the

Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC), New Delhi and Broadcast Engineering Consultants India Limited (BECIL), from 10th-12th May, 2018 in New Delhi. Union Minister for Information & Broadcasting and Textiles, Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani would be presiding as the Chief Guest over the Inaugural ceremony of the Summit on 10th May. The AMS 2018, an annual summit of the Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD) Kuala Lumpur, is a prestigious summit in the Asia Pacific Region and India is hosting the event for the first time. The Summit, with the theme 'Telling Our Stories - Asia and More', would be organized in two parts Pre-summit workshop (8th-9th) and Summit (10th-12th). Participants would represent organizations like Ministries responsible for Information and Broadcasting in the Asian region, International Organizations UNESCO, FAO, UN; Regulators; Radio and Television broadcasting companies both national/

public and private broadcasters; Television channels and networks, Institutes/Academies of Communication, Media Research; Community Radio groups; Press and Media, and broadcast equipment manufacturers. The Summit would encourage regional and bilateral dialogue and cooperation to respond to challenges to the broadcasting sector in the region. It would provide a unique opportunity for broadcasters in the Asian region to share their thoughts on software and hardware aspects of Broadcasting. There are also opportunities for networking, facilities for business to business meetings and prospective translation of these meetings into trade and economic relations after the summit. Dignitaries attending the Summit include Minister of Information from **Bangladesh**, H.E. Mr. Hasanul Haq Inu, Minister of Information from **Cambodia**, H.E. Dr. Khieu Kanharith,

H.E. Mr. Sam Seog Ko, Standing Commissioner **Korea** Communications Commission and Dr. Abbas Naseri Taheri, Director General, International Department and Advisor to President, IRIB, **Iran**. Mr. Shigeru Aoyagi Director, UNESCO New Delhi Office would also be present at the inaugural function. Further, participation in the summit includes over 200 foreign delegates representing 39 countries of **SAARC** (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka); **ASEAN** (Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam) **East Asia** (Korea, Hong Kong, Japan); **Africa** (Mauritius, Nigeria, Seychelles, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia); **Oceania** (Australia, Fiji, New Zealand, Fiji, Papua New Guinea) **Europe** (France, Germany, Netherlands, Sweden, United Kingdom) **Syria**, **Uzbekistan**, **USA**, **China**. There are over 100 Indian delegates also.

CM attends 'Go to Village' camp at Mongjam village



DIPR
Imphal, May 8,

A day after Chief Minister N. Biren Singh review the 'Go to Village Mission', he personally attended a camp at Mongjam Community Hall in Imphal East District today. Speaking on the occasion the Chief Minister said that the State Government's 'Go to Village' mission will cover all the rural and urban localities of the State. The camp was organised for Mongjam, Maiba Khul, Koirengei Meitei and Karong villages of Nilakuthi Gram Panchayat. The Chief Minister said that the mission was introduced with the sole objective of bringing the benefits of different schemes at the doorsteps of the common people and also to address to their grievances at their own localities. Stating that people would no more face the inconvenience of visiting different Government offices for enrolment of different schemes or registering their

grievances, the Chief Minister said that officials of different Government Departments would come on their own to different localities across the State to listen/find out people's woes. He also said that those deserving people whose names had been left out in Socio Economic Caste Census (SECC) database, and who do not have BPL/AAY cards may also seek benefits under different social security schemes by simply submitting an application to DCs or SDOs concerned. N. Biren said that people especially youths should not waste such opportunities but draw maximum benefits from these schemes. Exhorting the youths to stay away from drugs and other intoxicants, the Chief Minister also mentioned that Agar and lemongrass plantation is a profitable occupation which they may take up with the assistance from the Government. N. Biren said that 'Go to Village' mission was

launched in 60 selected villages of all the 60 Assembly Constituencies of the State on May 1. On the said day, Shri N. Biren continued, a total of 60,339 applications were received, and out of these total applications, 21,353 grievances could be immediately addressed. Later, the Chief Minister distributed benefits under different social security schemes to selected beneficiaries at the camp. Imphal East Adhyaksha Smt. P. Bimola Devi, Additional Chief Secretary (Works and Forest & Environment) Dr. Suhel Akhtar, Additional Chief Secretary (RD&PR and Relief and Disaster Management) M.H. Khan and Imphal East DC Smt. Th. Chitra were also present at the occasion as dignitaries. 25 different Government Departments opened stalls to address people's grievances at the camp till evening. The Chief Minister also planted a sapling and inspected the stalls on the occasion.

Go to Village mission at Moreh

IT News
Moreh, May 8,

Under the mission 'Go to Village', Tengnoupal district administration today organised a camp at Sibong Khudengthabi village under Moreh Sub-Division. Additional Deputy Commissioner of Moreh N. Bangkim while speaking on the occasion said that the Mission - 'Go to Village' is being launched to find out the grievances of villagers both at Hill and plain and to solve the issue faced by them. Officials of various department will give awareness about the various facilities provided to the people under various schemes of different department. As a part of the campaign, villagers entitle for the Chief Minister Gi Haksel Gi Tengba were distributed CMHT card. Social Welfare department too distributed old aged pension to the beneficiaries of the villagers. Haokip Gas Agency Moreh also distributed LPG Gas Cylinder to beneficiaries under the Ujala scheme.

CPI- M decries inflation on petrol and other essential commodities

IT News
Imphal, May 8,

Communist Party of India (Marxist) decries the inflation of petrol and diesel and other essential items in the country. In a statement issued by State Secretary of CPIU - M, Manipur, Ksh. Shanta, the left party said that excess imposition of excise duty to petroleum product for increase of revenue has cause series impact to the essential items.

The inflation in the petrol and diesel has move backward the life of the common men as it affects and rise the price of the essential commodities. The statement said that Petrol and Diesel price is the highest in India in whole the Asian countries. It further added the in the last 4 years since April 1, 2014, excise duty impose at one liter of petrol is Rs. 9.48, now the duty is rise. This is a rise of 105% and 47.4 % in retail price for increase of

the tax revenue. Since April 1, 2014, the diesel rate has been increase from Rs. 3.56 per liter to Rs. 15.33. This again is a rise of 330% and 38.09 rise in tax. " This government had promised to reduce the excise duty on petrol and diesel but still fail to do so", the statement said. The statement further said that the price of petrol and diesel is the highest during the present government in the history of India.

North Eastern Industrial Development Scheme (NEIDS) 2017: CII calls for a review to make existing units more competitive

IT News
Guwahati, May 8,

In order to give a fillip to industrial activities, the Central Government has come out with the North Eastern Industrial Development Scheme (NEIDS) 2017, a scheme designed to promote MSME through incentivization, and in the process, generate large-scale employment in the region. While the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), the largest industry body in the country, has welcomed the scheme describing it as "positive and growth-oriented", it made a few points. "Overall, NEIDS underlines the Central Government's commitment to promoting small and medium-scale units and catalyzing growth and development of the region," **Mr. Abhijit Barooah**, Co-Chairman, CII North Eastern Council here today. "Not only does the scheme seek to identify and prioritize MSME units as the growth

engine of the North East, it also promises to simplify procedures for claiming benefits. CII is happy that employment generation has a received a special thrust in the scheme," added Mr Barooah, who is also the Managing Director of Premier Cryogenics Ltd. "However, CII feels certain provisions in the scheme need to be looked into and reviewed. For example, while new units are covered under NEIDS, existing ones are kept out of the ambit. This will make it extremely difficult for the existing units in the region to withstand competition from the new units which are incentivised," he commented. "Moreover, there is little on offer to facilitate the units keen to expand, modernize and diversify. This will restrict the growth of the existing units," Mr Barooah, said, adding that "diversification" should form a part of NEIDS along the lines followed in the industrial policies announced for J&K,

Uttaranchal and Himachal on 23rd April 2018. He also pointed out that as per NEIDS, the Central Capital Investment Incentive for Access to Credit (CCIAC) is capped at Rs 5 crore. "CII is of the view that investments in plant and machinery and plant buildings (technical civil works) should be part of CCIAC calculation, and the cap should be raised to Rs 25 crore. The Rs 5-crore capital incentive shall not attract many medium and large industries. It must also be noted that a large part of industrial investments happen in plant buildings. The scheme needs to take that into account," Mr Barooah explained. He also said since MSME limits spectrum has been broadened to turnover of Rs 250 crore, medium-sized units can have a P&M of 100 crore. "Disadvantages of the NER merit a higher capital outlay in any project compared to rest of India," Mr Barooah observed. He also pointed out that

transport incentives via rail, water and air route have been enhanced for products made in the North East to any part of the country. While 20% cost of subsidy for the movement of finished goods transported via rail and water is borne by Railways/ Railway PSU and Inland Waterways Authority of India, 33% air freight on perishable goods (as defined by IATA) transported from the airport nearest to place of production to any airport within the country is also on offer. "But no subsidy is there for transportation by road. We strongly feel that subsidy on road transport should also be extended to the entrepreneurs operating in areas where there is no/very little rail, air and inland waterway connectivity," Mr Barooah said. CII pointed out that the Central Interest Incentive is 3% on working capital credit is advanced by the Scheduled Banks or Central/State financial institutions for first 5 years from the date of commencement of

commercial production/operation is given, but that is restricted to MCLR. Para 6.3 (b) caps working capital requirement of a unit to 25% of a unit's annual turnover. "CII feels that it is disadvantageous for efficient units having good bank rating because they get interest rate near to MCLR under which MSMEs are considered a priority sector. Incentive should be 3% of the working capital limits utilised, without any reference to MCLR," he said, noting that the need for working capital and the assessment for the same is stringently monitored by banks and governed by RBI norms. As per Para 4.1, all new industrial units in manufacturing sector and services sector including biotechnology and hydel power generation units up to 10 MW located in NER, are eligible for incentives. "CII feels that a 'new industrial unit' is a unit which registers itself on DIPP portal on or after the first day of

April 2017 but not later than 31 day of March, 2022, and such a unit has to commence commercial production/operation within 18 months of registration. (Para 5(g)," he said. "But, a cap of 18 months time to start production from date of registration may not be possible for the projects that involve large investments. In a few cases, commercial production may be delayed because of some unforeseen reasons which beyond the control of the owner of the unit," Mr Barooah said. "Also, 18 months from 31 March 2022 implies that the latest possible date of commencement of commercial production/operation is 30th September 2023. While CII wishes to have a greater clarity on the last date of commercial production, it recommends that the period from the date of registration to start production be raised from 18 months to 36 months," Mr Barooah said. As per NEIDS, all eligible new industrial units can get

reimbursement of GST paid on the products manufactured in the North East up to the extent of the central share of the CGST and IGST for a period of 5 years from the date of commencement of commercial production. "This means that new units will have input credit on capital goods which have to be first utilised to have any net payment out go of IGST/CGST for at least the first two years, or so. No CGST/IGST output may occur till such period. It may also be mentioned that while in the past the Centre would refund 100% of the Excise Duty paid, it is now contemplated at 58% of the net CGST and 29% of the net IGST which has reduced the refund quantum considerably," Mr Barooah said. "Moreover, since the North Eastern states are largely consuming states, the quantum of GST refund will be less. The CGST/IGST period to which the benefits are available should be for 10 years," Mr Barooah said.