

Illicit liquor toll up, up, up



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JORHAT: The ghost of spurious liquor continues to haunt the state after it claimed 150 lives in Jorhat and Golaghat districts from Friday. Around 137 others are still battling to survive at Jorhat Medical College Hospital and Golaghat Civil Hospital being attended by a section of medical specialists.

Doctors told Assam Times that the toll might touch 200 mark since as many as 40 patients are in critical condition. “We have been closely monitoring the patients who need further observation. Some others who are slight hit have also been examined separately,” said a doctor at the Jorhat Medical College Hospital.

According to Golaghat district administration, in Golaghat Civil Hospital alone 68 people died while on Sunday morning 4 bodies were recovered inside the Salamara Tea Estate.

The toll in Titabor, another worst hit area in the neighbouring Jorhat district have gone up to 47 till Sunday morning forcing the authorities to launch crackdown on the illicit liquor traders.

A section of local youths and women has also been lunching the crackdown while some others have been helping the administration in the operation. “But the illicit liquor traders, mostly, are absconding and the liquor manufacturing spots are abandoned. These traders have managed to flee before the arrival of the operation team,” said a police official in Salmara area.

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