**Evening News** 

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## **THE HEADLINES:-**

• Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio says Nagaland's close association with Japan has now matured into bi–lateral cooperation.

· Ambassador of Japan to India, Hiroshi Suzuki and Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio inaugurate Kohima Peace Memorial and lay foundation stone of Eco Park Kohima.

· Japanese envoy says Japan and Nagaland witnessing another chapter of friendship.

· Indian Red Cross Society Nagaland State Branch observes World Red Cross Day.



Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio today said that Nagaland's close association with Japan has now matured into bi-lateral cooperation. Speaking at soft inauguration of the Kohima Peace Memorial and Eco Park Kohima, Rio said, the GENESIS programme which is under implementation is helping the youths of Nagaland get the opportunity to experience the rich culture of Japan. Asserting that Nagaland sees itself at the forefront of the Government of India's Act East policy, Rio said, the State singed an MoU to establish a Centre of **Excellence for Foreign Languages where the first comprehensive language** programme offered is Japanese language. He assured the Japanese Government that every possible step will be taken to ensure best practices and transparent standards in carrying out the projects. Rio said that the inauguration of the Kohima Peace Memorial and the laying of Foundation Stone for the Eco- Park is an expression of the commitment to forge stronger ties between the Nagas and the Japanese. He thanked the Government of Japan, JICA and others for their pro-active engagement and co-operation with the State of Nagaland. Rio said Nagaland government has planned a number of events to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of the Battle of Kohima this year.

The Chief Minister exuded hope that the Japanese friends will also be part of the programme as both collectively work to communicate peace and oneness.

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Ambassador of Japan to India, Hiroshi Suzuki and Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio today inaugurated the Kohima Peace Memorial and laid the foundation stone of Eco Park Kohima. Speaking at the programme, Ambassador Suzuki said that the Japanese remembered the Battle of Kohima along with the Battle of Imphal, as one of the most disastrous battles in World War II. He acknowledged that people of Nagaland, who had nothing to do with the war, inevitably had to go through a great ordeal. The Ambassador prayed for the souls of all lives lost in the war including people of Nagaland, the Japanese and the Indian National Army soldiers and those who fought on the British Common wealth side. Suzuki expressed happiness to witness the inauguration of the Kohima Peace Memorial. He said that the monument enables everyone to stand in solemn silence and offer sincere prayers to all the victims of the battle. Suzuki expressed his gratitude to the people of Nagaland for their magnanimous generosity extended to the Japanese. This generosity has fostered a new friendship between Japan and Nagaland, Ambassador Suzuki added. He said, today, next to the Kohima Peace Memorial, an Eco-Park is being developed as part of the Nagaland Forest Management Project with Japanese Official Development Assistance from the **Government's** Japanese Government. Suzuki viewed that many people in Nagaland will visit the Eco-Park to have a relaxing stroll with their families and friends, and enjoy the nature. He exuded hope that the Eco-Park will be loved by all and will become a new landmark in Kohima, symbolizing the friendship between Japan and Nagaland.



Ambassador of Japan to India, Hiroshi Suzuki today said that Japan and Nagaland is witnessing another chapter of friendship being fostered, with many young people from Nagaland starting to travel to Japan for skill training and job opportunities. He said the Naga youths are getting very good reputation in Japan and the Japanese host companies are keen to welcome more of them. The Ambassador also informed that In December last year, a Japanese sending organization called ARMS signed an MOU with Nagaland University to establish a Japanese language course in Kohima. He hoped that this will encourage more and more Naga youths to learn Japanese language and seize skill training and job opportunities in Japan. Suzuki added that the friendship between Japan and Nagaland will be further strengthened through the construction of Eco-Park as well as the exchange of young people who will act as new bridges between India and Japan. Later, Ambassador Suzuki along with Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio visited the Kohima War Cemetery, Kohima Cathedral, World War II Museum at Naga Heritage Village, Kisama and Kohima Village.

Indian Red Cross Society, IRCS Nagaland State Branch today observed the World Red Cross Day with Member of Initiatives of Change (India) Niketu Iralu as the Special Quest. Speaking on the occasion, Iralu emphasized on the need for the Red Cross Movement to become a movement that would also heal the hurts and hates, fears, greed and want of Power at all costs. The program was held in commemorating 196th Birth Anniversary of its founder Jean Henry Dunant. Iralu said that the Red Cross Society's theme for this year is Keeping Humanity Alive and that its official Motto is With Humanity, Towards Peace. Iralu said both themes bring in humanity in its entirety as the decisive factor in achieving peace and keeping humanity alive by stopping all that lead to killings. Also speaking on the occasion, MC Member IRCS Nagaland Branch, R Rose Chakesang said that Humanity is still alive and called upon the people to love each other with compassionate heart and support the needy. Meanwhile, the Managing Committee Members of the Indian Red Cross Society, Nagaland State Branch, today pinned a Red Cross sticker on Governor La Ganesan at the Raj Bhavan in Kohima.

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PWD Minister (Housing and Mechanical), P Bashang Chang today graced the silver jubilee celebration of Nyaklangbou Sector Union, Tuensang. Addressing the event held at Holy Angel School, Bashang dwelt on his personal connection to the sector and emphasized on the importance of setting an example for fellow citizens. The Minister recalled the illustrious history of the sector, noting its reputation for producing great leaders and successful individuals, and encouraged unity among its residents.

National People's Party, NPP Phek district has called upon the National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited, NHIDCL to immediately give its special attention to the Kohima-Jessami road. NPP Phek district in a press communique pointed out in particular that the stretch between Chakhaba and Kikruma serves as the lifeline of Phek district and several other districts in the State. It said that no sign of road construction is seen till date despite work being awarded to M/s Ratna infra Projects Private Limited with 5th January 2024 as the appointed date. NPP Phek district called upon the contractor to immediately commence work without any further delay.

The Wokha District sports council led by the District Sports officer Libemo Jami today conducted pre-basic and introductory training for Sepaktakraw and badminton at Don Bosco school, Riphyim village. During the programme, sports kits like Sepaktakraw and badminton kits were provided to the students. The initiative aimed to train students and emphasize on the importance of sports.



Nagaland Board of School Education, NBSE has compiled a booklet titled Transforming School Education through NEP. The booklet features some of the key reforms in the perspective of the National Curriculum Framework for School Education, 2023. The Board has directed all institutions to develop a plan to implement the recommended reforms and take steps to put the plan in action. Further institutions have been directed to document and share the effective and innovative strategies they have developed in implementing. NBSE said soft copy of the booklet is made available in the Board's portal <u>nbsenl.edu.in</u>. The hard copy can be collected anytime from the Board's office.