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:: THE HEADLINES ::

• Chief Secretary of Nagaland Dr. J Alam emphasizes state government's commitment towards child protection.

• Fifth Session of 14th Nagaland Legislative Assembly to commence on August 6.

• Rockfall occur along Chathe (Patkai) Bridge towards Kukidolong; Commissioner of Police Dimapur cautions travelers.

• And, Newly elected members of Kohima Municipal Council takes oath of affirmation; Minister Salhoutuonuo Kruse calls for setting Kohima as model municipal Council.

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Chief Secretary of Nagaland, Dr. J Alam today said the state government is fully committed to implementing the POCSO act and ensuring that cases of child abuse and sexual offences against children are properly dealt with. Dr. Alam was addressing a one-day State-level Symposium on "Model Guidelines with respect to Support Person under Section 39 of the POCSO Act, 2012" organized by the Nagaland State Commission for Protection of Child Rights under the aegis of the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights in Kohima. He said the POCSO Act contains provisions for guidelines to be made by the states, but admitted that states have been slow in framing their own guidelines. Consequently, the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights has provided model guidelines. Dr. Alam expressed confidence that Nagaland will adopt and implement these model guidelines. Emphasizing that although the acts are readily available on the internet, they are not well known, he said bringing people together in this kind of symposium to learn can help clear many queries and doubts. Dr. Alam added that state authorities, police, the judiciary and other agencies dealing with child abuse cases need to be sensitized. In this regard, he called for the collective efforts of all stakeholders in creating awareness, sensitization and implementing the provisions of the acts in their true spirit. Dr. Alam also emphasized the need for strategies to prevent child abuse, stating that much work needs to be done in this direction through sensitization at home and school levels to provide a conducive environment for children.

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The fifth Session of the 14th Nagaland Legislative Assembly will commence on 6th of August. Secretary -in-charge, Khruohituonuo Rio informed that Governor of Nagaland La Ganesan in exercise of the powers conferred by Clause (1) of Article 174 of the Constitution of India has summoned the fifth session of the fourteenth Nagaland Legislative Assembly to meet at 9:30 AM, on Tuesday, the 6th of August 2024, in the Assembly hall of the Nagaland Legislative Assembly Kohima.

In an unfortunate incident, a rockfall occurred along Chathe (Patkai) Bridge towards Kukidolong under New Chümoukedima village on National Highway-29 this evening, damaging a car and injuring the occupants. As per sources, the injured persons were taken to the hospital. more details are awaited. Deputy Chief Minister T R Zeliang has expressed pain and grieve for those injured and wished them a speedy recovery. Taking to social media X, Zeliang said the State Government will take up the matter with the concern authority in all seriousness and ensure accountability. He said, the State Government on its part has been impressing upon the implementing agency NHIDCL to expedite the safety work, for which a short term maintenance contract has also been allotted apart from the main contract for construction of 4-Lane. Zeliang said, in the last review and coordination meeting held on 15th May with NHIDCL and the Short Term Maintenance Contractor, a clear direction has been given, fearing for such incidents as monsoon is almost at its peak. He said Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio has also in no uncertain terms directed NHIDCL that work has to be expedited before and safety measures in place the start of monsoon.



Following a rock fall incident along Chathe (Patkai) Bridge towards Kukidolong of the National Highway-29 and with the incessant rainfall, the Commissioner of Police Dimapur said the stretch of the National Highway 29, has become vulnerable for public commute. Therefore, in the interest of public safety, an advisory has been issued for the commuters not to travel along the said vulnerable National Highway stretch especially during the incessant or heavy rainfall. The advisory stated that non-essential movement and stoppage should be avoided. It also advised commuters to avoid travelling during night. Further, travelers are advised to maintain safe distance along the vulnerable area of the National Highway and maintain extreme caution. \diamond

19 newly elected Councilors including seven women councilor representing 19 wards of Kohima Municipal Council (KMC) took the oath of affirmation today. Deputy Commissioner of Kohima, Kumar Ramnikant administered the oath of affirmation. Congratulating the councilors, Minister for Women Resource Development and Horticulture, Salhoutuonuo Kruse said after much hurdle of two decades, the state government could successfully conduct the ULB Elections with 33 percent Reservation for Women. She noted that KMC is in its nascent and transitional stage and as Councilors of Kohima Municipal Council, they have a great responsibility ahead. Kruse said as mandated by the citizens of 19 wards, they are expected to be the bridge between the community and the council. She urged them to work with integrity and vision in order to set Kohima as a model municipal Council. Stating that they are the decision maker of their ward, Kruse appealed to the councilors to provide services and facilities in a fair and sustainable way for the development of the area. The Minister further assured the councilors that the government would extend all possible assistance to develop and uplift our people and municipality. Earlier, Kumar Ramanikant said the oath of affirmation signifies the commitment of the newly elected councilors to shoulder their responsibilities for whatever fate the people of Kohima district has reposed on them. Ramnikant exuded optimism that not only in Kohima, but the rest of the district will witness phenomenal growth in the urban sector.

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Oath taking ceremony took place in different Municipal and Town Councils across various districts in Nagaland today. Deputy Commissioner of Dimapur, Dr. Tinojongshi Chang administered the oath of Affirmation to 11 councilors for Dimapur Municipal Council in the presence of MLA and Advisor, Labour and Employment and Skill Development and Excise, Moatoshi Longkumer. Newly elected members of Peren, Jalukie and Tening Town Councils took oath of affirmation at a ceremony held at DC's Conference Hall, Peren. Deputy Commissioner of Peren, Vineet Kumar administered the oath of affirmation to the elected members. Elected candidates of Chumoukedima Town Council and Medziphema Town Council also took oath of affirmation at DC's Conference Hall, Chumoukedima. Deputy Commissioner of Chumoukedima, Abhinav Shivam administered oath of affirmation to the newly elected Councilors. Deputy Commissioner of Zunheboto, Rahul Bhanudas Mali administered Oath of Affirmation to elected members of Zunheboto, Atoizu, Satakha and Aghunato Town Councils. In Wokha, Deputy Commissioner K Furhesie Nyuwi administration of oath of affirmation to the elected members. Additional Deputy Commissioner T. Lankonsen Tsanglao administered Oath of affirmation to the

newly elected members of Mangkolemba town council. The nine unopposed elected members of Chiephobozou Town Council also took oath. Meanwhile, the oath taking ceremony for the elected members of Phek Town Council will be held tomorrow.

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