

Morning News Script

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Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio has called on the need to reflect Nagaland's financial landscape, strategize economic priorities and the urgent need to achieve sustainable growth. Addressing the Nagaland Credit Empowerment Summit held in Dimapur yesterday, Rio opined that the state is focused on boosting internal resources for financial resilience and independence. He underscored that Nagaland's economy is steadily improving with GDP growth aligning with national recovery trends on key sectors like agriculture, services, and small industries. Speaking of the role of banking sector as critical in driving financial inclusion, the Chief Minister urged banks to enhance lending to sectors like agriculture, small businesses, entrepreneurs and other marginalized sectors. He advised banks to design tailored loans by enhancing digital and mobile based banking services for remote areas of the State. The Chief Minister also asked Banks to set targets to raise Credit Deposit ratio in Nagaland to at least national average. To build a healthier credit ecosystem in Nagaland, Rio said the SARFAESI Act was recently implemented to enable stronger partnership between banks and businesses. This will allow banks to recover Non-Performing Assets without court intervention and reducing lending risks. He said skill and Education loans have to be made more accessible and for this, the state have set targets for 1,000 education loans and 2,000 skills development loans this year. Chief Secretary, Dr. J Alam presented an overview of Banking and Credit status in the state. He mentioned that average household coverage in banking sector is only 55 percent whereas the national average is about 80 percent. The Chief Secretary also added that Credit Deposit ratio is 55 to 57 percent in the state compared to 75 percent of the national average.



Nagaland joined nationwide observation of PM Vishwakarma One Year of Progress and Release of Scheme Benefits programme in Kohima yesterday. Advisor for Industries & Commerce, Hekani Jakhalu expressed that the Scheme is a visionary initiative towards empowering traditional artisans and craftsmen which ensures that their skills are

supported for sustainable growth. She highlighted that beneficiaries registered for the training under the scheme will receive PM Vishwakarma certificate and ID Card, skill upgradation training, toolkit incentive of upto 15 thousand rupees and Credit support of three lakhs rupees collateral-free loans. During the programme, 25 beneficiaries who have completed training from Government ITI, Kohima received certificate and Akhrielie Kirha received loan of one Lakh rupees from PM Vishwakarma benefit scheme



Local author Vishū Rita Krocha published her book titled, Tales from the Enchanted Village yesterday at Zhavame village. During the launch, Rita said, the book is published in memory of her grandparents and also speaks of her love for the village. Fondly remembering her grandparents as one of the most valuable treasures in her life and who were also natural storytellers, Krocha said Zhavame literally means people of the enchanted lake which is the very inspiration of the book title. The book was released by Chakhesang Public Organisation President Vezuhu Keyho where he emphasised the importance of preserving these narratives for future generations.



The Five Tribes Committee on Review of Reservation Policy has asked state government to scrap Nagaland Job Reservation Policy for Backward Tribes or exclusively reserve remaining quota for the 5 tribes which comprises Ao, Angami, Sema, Lotha and Rengma tribes. In a Memorandum to Chief Minister yesterday, the Committee held that the policy has been in effect for past 47 years which was to be reviewed every ten years. It however pointed that in 1989, the government notified that existing policy will continue till further orders. It added that core issues like duration of reservation, internal reservation and flexible options for Backward Tribes, creamy layers, discrepancies in entry age, backlog reserved posts have not been reviewed despite several representations. The committee ruled that such indefinite reservation system in place without proper review poses serious risk of economic imbalance and discrimination among the Scheduled Tribes in Nagaland, leading to inequality and social unrest.

