

Morning News Script

0730 hrs

12th September 2024

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The Cabinet has given nod to providing health coverage to all senior citizens above 70 years of age irrespective of income under Ayushman Bharat PM Jan Arogya Yojana. Briefing media after the Cabinet meeting in Delhi yesterday , Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said, the senior citizens will get the facility of free treatment up to 5 lakh rupees. Senior citizens aged 70 years and above who are already availing benefits of other public health insurance schemes such as Central Government Health Scheme, Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme, Ayushman Central Armed Police Force may either choose their existing scheme or opt for AB PMJAY. Senior citizens who are under private health insurance policies or Employees' State Insurance scheme will also be eligible to avail benefits under AB PM-JAY.

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Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh said the government is fully committed to holistic development of the border villages. Addressing the Border Area Development Conclave in New Delhi yesterday , Singh said Border Roads Organisation has constructed over 8 thousand 500 kilometres of roads and more than 400 permanent bridges in the last decade. The Minister said on promoting tourism in border areas is being given special emphasis by the Government.

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Deputy Chief Minister and Minister In-charge of Planning & Transformation and National Highway, TR Zeliang chaired a meeting yesterday to discuss issues related to the road sector in the State. The meeting was attended by the Chief Secretary, Engineer-in-Chief NPWD, Chief Engineer PWD (NH), Chief Engineer PWD (R&B), Executive Director (RO Kohima) NHIDCL, and a representative from Project Sewak (BRO). During the meeting, Zeliang took serious cognisance of the condition of roads in the State, marred by incessant rains and other natural causes and called upon the implementing agencies to work diligently for their

restoration. On the road stretches under the NHIDCL particularly NH-29 , 4 Lane road and NH-2, continuously affected by landslides, mudslides, and sinking, the NHIDCL assured restoration of a smooth two-way traffic by the end of October. The NHIDCL also presented a short-term plan to ensure uninterrupted traffic flow for Paglapahar, where a major portion of the highway has been swept away by the river. For a long-term solution, it suggested diverting the course of the Chathe River. On Dzüdza landslide, NHIDCL has requested the State Government to close the traffic for a week as the progress of restoration work is being hampered. For the fresh landslide in NH-29 near KMC Old dumping site, the NPWD (NH) assured that the road would be open by the evening of September 11. Both Deputy Chief Minister and Chief Secretary stressed that the maintenance of the seven different routes at various locations should be a priority given the uncertain state of NH-29.

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Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio has expressed sadness on the demise of Daisy Yaden, mother of Geoffrey Yaden, Editor and publisher of Nagaland Post, on September 11. Rio described Daisy as a woman of faith filled with compassion, who was known for selflessly helping those in need. A recipient of the Governor's Medal for her benevolent contributions as a Social Worker, the Chief Minister said, she will always be remembered for her warmth, kindness, and the beautiful legacy she leaves behind. Rio along with his family extended their deepest condolences to the bereaved family members and prayed for Yaden family's strength and comfort. Kohima Press Club, Dimapur Press Club, Mokokchung Press Club, and the Rising People's Party have mourned the passing away of Daisy Yaden.

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A "Vertical Garden" has been set up at NBCC Convention Centre Kohima , under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP). Over 300 ornamental plants were planted yesterday by Kohima Forest Division to serve as air purifiers within the premises of the NBCC Convention Centre. The Kohima Forest Division as well as the NBCC members has requested the general public to appreciate the initiative and refrain from damaging the installation.

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The India Meteorological Department has predicted heavy rainfall over Assam, Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh for the next 6 days. Similar weather conditions are also expected over Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, West Bengal, Sikkim and Bihar till 14th September.

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