

THE HEADLINES ::

- **India and Italy agree to further develop India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor**
- **Nagaland launches Eliona AI supercomputer for climate and disaster management**
- **Nagaland received nearly 68 crore rupees from North Eastern Council in 2025-26**
- **Kohima district administration re-enforces total ban on single-use plastics**



India and Italy have agreed to further develop the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) to strengthen trade, investment and supply-chain resilience. In a joint statement, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Italian counterpart Giorgia Meloni reaffirmed their commitment on the Corridor. Appreciating preliminary discussions around the project, they encouraged the first IMEC Ministerial meeting to take concrete steps for advancing this initiative in 2026.



ELIONA, the Nagaland State Disaster Management Authority's new supercomputer, was launched today by Advisor NSDMA and NRE Z Nyusietho Nyuthe at the Nagaland Centre for Disaster Management and Atmospheric Research in Kohima. Speaking at the event, Mr Nyuthe said ELIONA will strengthen disaster preparedness, climate resilience, scientific research and technology-based governance in the state. He noted that Nagaland's difficult terrain, rainfall pattern and vulnerability to landslides, flash floods, and earthquakes require stronger systems for monitoring, early warning, and timely response.

The Advisor said ELIONA will also support important initiatives of the NSDMA, including the Nagaland State Disaster Management Information System, disaster risk financing, urban resilience planning, damage and loss assessment, and community-based preparedness.

Earlier, NSDMA Joint CEO, Johnny Ruangmei said ELIONA is designed for real-time weather prediction, disaster analytics, atmospheric modelling, and predictive disaster governance. He highlighted the strategic vision to establish ELIONA as one of India's leading AI-powered climate and disaster intelligence supercomputing platforms. Nagaland Chief Secretary Sentiyanger Imchen and Home Commissioner Abhijit Sinha were also present at the launch.



The North Eastern Council (NEC) sanctioned four major projects worth nearly 68 crore rupees for Nagaland in the 2025–26 financial year, aimed at strengthening agriculture, infrastructure, and livelihood generation. Key initiatives include the flagship Cluster-Based Coffee Value Chain Development project to promote cultivation, processing and marketing of Nagaland’s Arabica coffee, along with support for post-harvest processing facilities, as well as an irrigation and water management project in the Phomching Assembly Constituency of Mon district. Under NESIDS Roads, NEC released over 17 crore rupees during April for upgradation of roads in Mon and Peren districts as well as upgradation of Glory Peak Tourist Road in Phek. Meanwhile, NEC said Nagaland recorded major development investments during the 15th Finance Commission period. During this period, NEC invested over 515 crore rupees supporting major projects in several sectors across the state. Of the total, 205 crore rupees was spent under Schemes of NEC for sports and tourism infrastructure, education, skill development, agriculture and projects for tribal and backward communities. While, more than 309 crore rupees was spent under NESIDS Roads on nine projects, out of which five have already completed. NEC said, Nagaland recorded one of the most dynamic project portfolios among all Northeastern states during the period, with a strong focus on value-chain development and industry-led economic advancement.



Union Health Minister J P Nadda has said that India has undertaken one of the world’s largest screening and early detection efforts to eliminate tuberculosis under the National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme. Addressing an event during the 79th Session of the World Health Assembly in Geneva, Mr. Nadda said India has significantly scaled up modern diagnostics to detect TB and other lung diseases. Highlighting the transformative potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in reshaping healthcare systems, he called for sound regulation, rigorous research and ethical oversight.



Deputy Commissioner Kohima, B. Henok Buchem, has re-emphasized the total ban on single-use plastics across all villages under Kohima district. The DC has issued a new notification following directives of the Home Department earlier this month, a Supreme Court order, and the Plastic Waste Management Rules. Reiterating earlier notifications issued by the State Urban Development Department, the DC directed all villages in Kohima district to strictly enforce the ban on plastic carry bags, disposable cutlery, thermocol decorative materials, flex banners, wrapping or packing films, and other single-use plastic items. The notification also reaffirmed the total ban on packaged drinking water bottles below 20 litres capacity during meetings, seminars and public functions.



The Indian Red Cross Society, IRCS, has officially launched its Shamator Branch. Addressing the launch event at Shamator yesterday, General Secretary of IRCS Nagaland, V. Khamo, highlighted the humanitarian initiatives of the Red Cross and encouraged people to actively participate in community service through the organisation. Deputy Commissioner Shamator and President of IRCS Shamator

Branch, Chubatemjen, also spoke on the significance of establishing the branch in the district. The programme included a session on blood donation, and was attended by students, tribal bodies, village councils and newly selected members of the Shamator Branch. The event concluded with Community First Responder training for participants to strengthen humanitarian service and community welfare in the district.



And, District Administration of Mon has imposed restrictions on the import and export of pigs and sale of pork following reports of African Swine Fever, or ASF, in parts of Nagaland, including adjoining districts. Deputy Commissioner Mon, Wennyei Konyak, said the highly contagious viral disease poses a serious threat to pig populations and requires immediate containment measures. The order prohibits transport of pigs into and out of Mon District without clearance from the Department of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services. Sale of pork across the district has also been banned until ASF is neutralized. The DC has directed check gates, police and veterinary officials to strictly enforce the restrictions, and urged cooperation from village authorities and citizens in reporting pigs showing symptoms such as high fever, weakness or sudden death. Meanwhile, in Medziphema Sub-Division, Additional Deputy Commissioner James Swu has restricted the slaughter of pigs for commercial sale without prior permission from the district administration. The order was issued following reports of a possible ASF outbreak and pending laboratory test results. Authorities have warned of legal action against violations of the orders.

