

Morning News Script

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As part of the nationwide commemoration of 90 years of broadcasting in India, Akashvani Kohima organised a marathon this morning. The event saw participation from students of six Government High Schools in Kohima, running from Old MLA Hostel Junction till at High School Junction. The event was flagged off by Deputy Commissioner of Kohima, B. Henok Buchem. The DC said,

The closing ceremony was graced by the Director of Youth Resources and Sports, Government of Nagaland, Kethosituo Sekhose. Apart from Government school students, staff of Akashvani Kohima also took part in the event.

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Nagaland has recorded a high level of income inequality, with the top 5 percent of households earning a significantly larger share of the state's income compared to the bottom half of the population, according to the 'Report on Income Disparity in Nagaland' released in March this year by the State Economics and Statistics Department. The report revealed that the state's Gini coefficient stands at 0.46, indicating a wide income gap across Nagaland. While rural areas recorded a coefficient of 0.42, urban areas registered a slightly higher 0.44, showing that income disparity remains prevalent in both sectors. The findings further showed that the bottom 50 percent of households receive only about 18 percent of the total income of the state, whereas nearly 21 percent of the gross income is concentrated among the top 5 percent of households. In terms of average monthly earnings, the top 5 percent receive around 71 thousand 28 rupees while the bottom 50 percent earn an average of only 1 thousand 639 rupees per month. The survey, carried out between October and December 2024, covered 4,396 households across the state, including 1,315 urban households from 60 wards and 3,080 rural households from 140 villages. Among the districts, Longleng recorded the highest income inequality with a Gini coefficient of 0.492, while Phek registered the lowest disparity at 0.366. In both rural and urban categories, Longleng recorded the highest inequality, whereas Zunheboto showed the lowest income disparity.

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In a major effort to preserve and promote the cultural heritage of the indigenous tribes of the state, the Nagaland Indigenous Tribes Cultural Resource Centre was opened in Kohima yesterday. Constructed at a total cost of 1,283.08 lakh rupees, the project received a Central share of 583.54 lakh rupees, while the state government contributed 699.54 lakh. Speaking at the inaugural programme, Advisor for Art and Culture and Treasuries and Accounts & MLA, K Konngam Konyak said the centre reflected a “thoughtful and forward-looking vision” aimed not only at preserving traditions but also at creating a living cultural space where heritage could be practiced and passed on to future generations. He added that the centre would promote mutual respect, understanding, and unity among the people. The building will house cultural spaces for 15 tribes of Nagaland to showcase their distinct identities through art, craft, music, and storytelling. It will also accommodate the District Museum, District Library, and the office of the District Cultural Officer, among others.

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The 5th edition of the Cucumber Festival was held yesterday at Aliba village under Mokokchung district, showcasing the success of off-season cucumber cultivation and promoting sustainable agricultural practices in the state. Gracing the festival, Director Agriculture & SNO ATMA, Sanuzo Neinu said that the festival is not merely a celebration of a crop, but a celebration of resilience, innovation and community spirit. He noted that Aliba village has demonstrated what determination and collective effort can achieve, adding that what began as an experimental effort has today become a model of success in off-season cucumber cultivation.

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Encouraging farmers to strengthen their farming systems, he urged farmers to adopt good agricultural practices, organic and natural farming methods, and promote branding of products as “Organic” or “Natural” or “Chemical Free” to secure better market opportunities. He further suggested expanding the successful Aliba farming model to other villages across Nagaland, while promoting branding, packaging, processing, digital marketing and agri-entrepreneurship among the youth.

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