

Morning News Script

0730 hrs

13th June 2026

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Nagaland Chief Minister, Neiphiu Rio highlighted the state's progress in sustainable development, governance reforms and human capital development at the 11th Governing Council Meeting of NITI Aayog in New Delhi yesterday. The Chief Minister also sought central support for major infrastructure projects, including an AIIMS, Indian Institute of Technology, Greenfield Airport, Foothill Road and railway expansion. He stated that despite significant progress achieved over the past two decades, Nagaland continues to face fiscal and infrastructural challenges as a resource-constrained and revenue-deficit State. Mr. Rio expressed concern over the discontinuation of Revenue Deficit Grants under the Sixteenth Finance Commission and requested NITI Aayog's support for provision of annual Special Grants during the Commission's award period to ensure fiscal sustainability and continuity of essential public services. The Chief Minister further sought support for expansion of coffee cultivation, promotion of agarwood-based livelihoods, implementation of hydroelectric projects and enhancement of sports infrastructure and youth development programs across the State. Meanwhile, Mr. Rio informed that a tripartite Memorandum of Understanding involving Nagaland, Assam and the Government of India has been signed to facilitate mineral oil operations in the disputed area belt along the Assam-Nagaland border.

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Deputy Chief Minister of Nagaland, T R Zeliang has expressed anguish over the brutal and inhuman killing of six innocent Zeliangrong Nagas in Manipur. Condemning the barbaric and senseless act of violence, he said such acts are a direct assault on the values of humanity, peace, and coexistence that bind our society together. Emphasizing that every human life is sacred and deserve respect regardless of ethnicity, religion, or community, Mr. Zeliang urged the competent authorities to conduct a thorough and impartial investigation and ensure that the perpetrators are tried in accordance with the provisions of law. The Deputy Chief Minister said the victims and their families deserve answers, and those responsible must be brought to justice without delay.

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Nagaland Health Protection Society, in collaboration with Chuomoukedima district administration organized the '100 Days Ayushman Student Coverage Mission' across various educational institutions in Chuomoukedima district under phase-1 yesterday. District Program coordinator, Akumjungshi highlighted that so far, a total of 502 individual Ayushman cards has been generated under Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY) and Chief Minister Health Insurance Scheme (CMHIS) under the district. He informed that eight educational institutions have been covered under the enrollment drive. Mr. Akumjungshi added that the purpose of enrolling students under this mission is to support universal health coverage, to achieve 100 percent card saturation and to ensure health security for students. For any further clarification or assistance regarding AB PM-JAY OR CMHIS, one can contact Toll- free helpline- 1800-202-3380.

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Assistant Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Nagaland, Obendangba has called on the Self-Help Groups (SHGs) to register under Cooperative Societies to access greater opportunities and long-term benefits. He also urged SHGs to adopt proper pricing strategies, improve product shelf life through food preservation techniques, and develop products suited for wider markets beyond Nagaland. Mr. Obendangba was speaking at the 3rd Annual General Meeting of the Liju Federation, Wozhuro Block, under the Nagaland State Rural Livelihoods Mission, at Wozhuro Range in Wokha district yesterday. The meeting reviewed the federation's activities and achievements over the past year and discussed future plans for strengthening livelihoods, women's empowerment and community enterprises.

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Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Zunheboto, Nagaland University, organized the Input Distribution Program under the NABARD-sponsored Farmers' Support Program Fund (FSPF) project at VK Town, Akuluto in Zunheboto District yesterday. The program was held under the theme, "Empowering Rural Women through Kadaknath Poultry Farming: A Sustainable Approach to Livelihood and Nutrition". Speaking on the occasion, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Akuluto, Tiayanger Jamir, encouraged the beneficiaries of rearing Kadaknath into an economic venture which fetches a premium price in the market. Principal Investigator of the Project and Head, KVK Zunheboto, Dr Rakesh Kumar Chaurasia emphasized the importance of Kadaknath poultry farming in improving household nutrition, income generation, and women's empowerment in rural areas. During the programme, essential poultry inputs, including Kadaknath chicks, feeds, medicines, drinkers, and feeders, were distributed to 45 selected women beneficiaries under the project.

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