

Morning News Script

0730 hrs

18th June 2026

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National Health Authority, Government of India CEO, Dr. Sunil Kumar Barnwal yesterday called on Governor Nand Kishore Yadav at Lok Bhavan Kohima. During the meeting, officials discussed avenues to strengthen state's digital healthcare ecosystem under Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana. Dr. Barnwal, on social media X said the meeting deliberated on accelerating digital health adoption, strengthening digital health records for evidence-based care and developing model districts & Model Health facilities among others.

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Keponzo Kapuh, a postgraduate student of Political Science from Nagaland was conferred the Best Responder Award at the Viksit Bharat Youth Parliament 2026, held from June 15 to 17 in New Delhi. Representing Nagaland, he participated as Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment and engaged in debates alongside delegates selected from various states and Union Territories through a rigorous multi-stage selection process. His performance during the Question Hour and parliamentary deliberations earned him the Best Responder Award, carrying a cash prize of one lakh rupees. Mr. Kapuh is currently pursuing MA in Political Science at St Joseph's College (Autonomous), Jakhama. The national-level programme was organised by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in collaboration with MY Bharat.

This year's Youth Parliament was conducted under the theme "Nari Shakti Vandan: Catalysing Inclusivity and Viksit Bharat 2047," with discussions centred on women's leadership, inclusivity, social justice, empowerment and the role of young people in shaping a developed India by 2047.

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Commissioner & Secretary, Information Technology & Communication, and State CISO, Arenla Jamir has underscored that Nagaland has made significant progress in digital governance, although much remains to be done in expanding digital services. Addressing the State Consultative Workshop on Strengthening Cybersecurity Frameworks for State Data in Kohima yesterday she highlighted initiatives such as CMHIS, CM Alliance Online Scholarship, PIMS and e-Treasury, which have transformed governance and service delivery. Ms. Jamir said despite digital transformation, it has increased risks associated with safeguarding sensitive data and noted that cybersecurity is a shared responsibility among IT department, government offices and employees handling digital information. Senior Technical Director and State Informatics Officer, NIC Nagaland, I. Lanusungkum Aier emphasised the need for data in government applications to be consistent with records maintained by departments.

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A Naga Indigenous Inn-cum-Learning Centre was inaugurated at Phesama Village, Kohima yesterday. Commissioner & Secretary Art & Culture department Bodeno S Colo emphasized the importance of preserving indigenous knowledge, cultural practices, and traditional values for future generations. She

extended gratitude to Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region and North Eastern Council for supporting the project and highlighted Centre's potential to promote cultural tourism, indigenous studies, experiential learning, and community-based economic development. Executive Engineer, Kakheli Swu highlighted the objectives and key infrastructural features of the project.

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Nasha Mukta Bharat Saptaha under the theme Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan – Viksit Bharat Ki Pehchaan was launched at various districts yesterday as part of the nationwide awareness week. At Nuland, Deputy Commissioner, TL Kiusumong Tikhir called for collective responsibility from parents, teachers, students, and community leaders to build drug-free communities. In Meluri, Deputy Commissioner Phuleshe K. Yephthomi said human resources are the most valuable asset of the nation urged public to work together in protecting and developing human resources through awareness, education, and a drug-free environment for sustainable growth and development. Meanwhile, District Administration and Social Welfare Department, Tseminyu also organized the launching programme at District Program Office, Tseminyu. Deputy Commissioner Tseminyu, Japheth Woch, spoke on action plan to be carried out, and appealed for collective effort with outreach and awareness campaign for a Drug Free District.

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Nagaland is likely to witness a marked increase in rainfall activity today with the India Meteorological Department's forecast of a fairly widespread to widespread rain across the state. The IMD in this regard has issued an orange colour warning for Heavy to Very Heavy Rainfall over parts of North East India and Sub Himalayan West Bengal for tomorrow. This weather condition will likely prevail till the 22nd June.

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