

THE HEADLINES:

- **Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio urges reforms in funding for Externally Aided Projects in Northeast**
- **Governor Nand Kishore Yadav reviews research initiatives at ICAR Nagaland Centre**
- **President Droupadi Murmu says, India on track to eliminate sickle cell disease before 2047 target**
- **Results declared for three municipal council by-elections**



Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio has called for advance financing support and a dedicated fast-track clearance mechanism for North Eastern states to improve the implementation of Externally Aided Projects (EAPs). Addressing a seminar on 'Leveraging Externally Aided Projects in the North-Eastern States' held in Shillong, Mr Rio said the reimbursement-based funding model of EAPs poses challenges for smaller states, which are required to pre-finance projects. He also noted that delays in statutory clearances and extensive community consultations often affect project timelines. He stressed the need to strengthen project preparation, enhance institutional capacity and deepen collaboration among stakeholders. Mr Rio said Nagaland has significant opportunities for partnership in areas such as climate resilience, sustainable agriculture, renewable energy, digital governance, and entrepreneurship, reaffirming the state's commitment to effective implementation of EAPs. The seminar was attended by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and Chief Ministers of the region.



Nagaland Governor Nand Kishore Yadav visited the ICAR Research Complex for North Eastern Hill Region, Nagaland Centre at Medziphema today to review its ongoing research and agricultural development initiatives. During the visit, officials highlighted the centre's work in crop improvement, integrated farming, livestock development, water conservation, and climate-resilient agriculture. The Governor was briefed on key achievements, including high-yielding crop varieties, rainwater harvesting and technologies for improving farm productivity and innovations in pig and poultry production. The

Governor also toured various research and farm facilities, and interacting with scientists and staff. Commending their efforts, he stressed the importance of translating scientific research into practical solutions that benefit farming communities and contribute to the State's agricultural growth and food security.



President Droupadi Murmu has expressed confidence that India would eradicate sickle cell disease well before its national target year of 2047. She called for concerted efforts to raise awareness about the genetic blood disorder, particularly among tribal communities. The President was addressing a state-level programme in Madhya Pradesh on the occasion of World Sickle Cell Day today. She appealed all state governments and officials not to take the disease lightly because it is passed on from one generation to another. She noted the key goal of large-scale screening set under the National Mission has been achieved ahead of schedule.

Ms Murmu said, efforts should be made to eradicate the disease completely because treatment is possible.



Results of Urban Local Body by-elections to three wards across Nagaland were declared today. In Ward No. 9, Samba Ghoki, of Atoizu Town Council in Zunheboto district, Independent candidate Inaka Z. Chishi defeated NPF candidate G. Shikavi Kiba by 17 votes, securing 102 votes against 85. One vote was declared invalid. In Ward No. 8 Tsumang B Colony under Wokha Town Council, NPF candidate Aling Lotha won with 296 votes, defeating BJP's Mhomo Humtsoe by a margin of 37 votes. Meanwhile, in Ward No. 11, Chaara, under Chümoukedima Town Council, Neichüu Kuotsu of NPF secured victory with 326 votes, defeating BJP candidate Kezhangutuo Zhotso by a margin of 90 votes. Voting took place on the 16th of this month. The counting process was conducted peacefully in the presence of election officials, observers, and party representatives.



The All Tribal Women Bodies of Kohima today held a public rally at Phoolbari, Old MLA Hostel Junction, demanding speedy justice in the sexual harassment case involving IAS officer Reny Wilfred. The rally saw participation from women, youth, students, and various civil society organisations. Following the rally, the organisations submitted a memorandum to the Governor of

Nagaland, seeking his intervention to ensure the early disposal of the case and prevent further delays in the trial. They also presented their charter of demands calling for a fair, impartial and time-bound trial.

The memorandum also condemned recent cases of sexual violence against women and children in the state and urged authorities to ensure speedy investigation and disposal of such cases. They said prompt justice is essential to uphold public confidence in the rule of law.



India has undergone a remarkable transformation, driven by the principles of “Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas and Sabka Prayas,” under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Modi in the last 12 years. Akashvani News brings you a special feature 12 Saal – Vishwas Ke, Vikas ke, Jankalyan ke. Today, we focus on the steps taken by the government to transform the North East.



The International Day of Yoga is now only two days away, with the theme 'Yoga for Healthy Ageing.' In the run-up to the occasion, Akashvani News Kohima brings a special series on the benefits of practicing yoga. Today we focus on mental well-being. Meditation and mindful breathing are key components of yoga that enhance concentration, emotional balance, and resilience. The practice of *Nadiśodhana* or Alternate Nostril Breathing, is said to purify the body's energy channels, promote calmness, improve focus, and reduce stress and anxiety.



The National Testing Agency (NTA) has launched an official WhatsApp communication channel for candidates appearing in the NEET-UG re-examination scheduled to be held on Sunday. The NTA clarified that all official WhatsApp communications will be sent only through its verified account number 78 27 98 02 87. Meanwhile, the Delhi High Court has upheld the Centre’s decision to temporarily restrict access to the Telegram messaging platform ahead of the NEET-UG re-examination on June 21, saying the move was not disproportionate and complied with the law.

