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## THE HEADLINES ::

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah appeals Northeast insurgents to surrender and join mainstream
- Former Nagaland legislator and veteran politician Kejong Chang passes away; Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio, other leaders mourn loss
- BJP MLA Rekha Gupta sworn in, assumes charge as new Chief Minister of Delhi
- And, Centre launches nationwide campaign to screen individuals above 30 years of age for Non-Communicable Diseases

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Home Minister Amit Shah today said that around 10,500 youths of Northeast have surrendered their weapons since 2014 and joined the mainstream. The Home Minister said this while addressing the Unity Utsav - One Voice, One Nation organised by Assam Rifles in collaboration with the North East Association for Social Welfare in New Delhi.

He added that from economic and cultural development to sports, education, agriculture and entrepreneurship, work has been done to open the doors of unlimited opportunities for the youth of the Northeast in every field.

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Former Nagaland legislator and veteran politician Kejong Chang passed away in Dimapur this morning. He was 91, and is survived by his wife and three sons. Mr Chang, who served as treasurer of the Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party (NDPP) Tuensang Sadar II, was a six-time elected member of the Nagaland Legislative Assembly with his last term in 13th House.

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Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio, Deputy Chief Minister Yanthungo Patton, Rajya Sabha MP S. Phangnon Konyak, and leaders across party lines have expressed grief over the demise of former Minister Kejong Chang. In a condolence message, Chief Minister Rio described the departed leader as a simple man, yet a visionary leader who had long standing affinity with the people, especially the grassroots. Mr Rio said, in his demise, the Chang community in particular and the Nagas, in general, have lost a father figure and a guardian. Mr Rio prayed that his good legacy will continue. Deputy CM Patton recalled Mr Chang as a leader who dedicated his life to public service, and said his contributions to the people will always be remembered. MP S. Phangnon Konyak said Mr Chang's extensive political career was a testament to his deep connection with the people and unwavering commitment to public service. She said his legacy is one of resilience, wisdom, and an enduring passion for the state and the welfare of his community. Lok Sabha MP S. Supongmeren Jamir also paid tribute to Mr Chang at Wokha. Meanwhile, NDPP and Naga People's Front also mourned the passing of the former Minister.

Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta today assumed charge at Delhi Secretariat. She was welcomed by Chief Secretary Dharmedra Kumar and other senior officials.

Earlier, BJP's first-time MLA Gupta was sworn in as the new Chief Minister of Delhi at the iconic Ramlila Maidan in the national capital. Delhi Lieutenant Governor VK Saxena administered the oath of office and secrecy to Ms Gupta and six Cabinet Ministers. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, several Union Ministers, besides Chief Ministers and Deputy Chief Ministers of several states, including from Nagaland, attended the event. Congratulating Ms Gupta, Prime Minister Modi said, she has risen from the grassroots, and expressed confidence that she will work for Delhi's development with full vigour. Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio, Deputy Chief Ministers Yanthungo Patton and TR Zeliang, also congratulated Ms Gupta and wished her cabinet a successful tenure.



The Centre today launched an intensified special Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) screening campaign to ensure hundred percent coverage of all individuals aged 30 years and above. Union Health Ministry said, the initiative aims to achieve screening of all individuals for prevalent NCD, including Diabetes, Hypertension, and three common cancers - Oral, Breast, and Cervical. The 40-day campaign aims to ensure early detection and timely intervention for NCD and will be executed across Ayushman Arogya Mandirs and various healthcare facilities nationwide.



As of February 16, a total of 30,379 claims worth 57.34 crore rupees have been approved under the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojna in Nagaland. Of these, 22,914 claims totaling 42.71 crore rupees have been paid to various hospitals, according to Nagaland Health Protection Society. Meanwhile, Under Chief Minister Health Insurance Scheme, 17,501 claims amounting to 72.32 crore rupees have been approved, with 11,638 claims totaling 47.20 crore rupees disbursed to hospitals.

Commissioner & Secretary, Information and Technology & Communication, Mohammed Ali Shihab, said 397 villages in Nagaland are yet to have mobile towers. He also reaffirmed the government's efforts to provide 4G network. He was speaking at the inaugural programme for Training on the online inner line permit system and Right of Way (ROW) portal for telecom infrastructure at Kohima today. Home Commissioner, Nagaland, Vyasan R. said ROW provides a single platform for telecom companies for all necessary approvals, and added that without clear ROW policies, connectivity projects often face delay leading to poor internet services. Officials from the 17 districts are attending the two-day training.

Angami Public Organisation, APO, is all geared up to organise the Sekrenyi cum Mini Hornbill 2025 on 25th and 26th of this month at Amphitheatre, Kisama. Addressing media persons in Kohima today, members of the Planning committee for Sekrenyi 2025 informed that this year's celebration focuses on exhibiting and showcasing the diverse culture of Angami tradition. Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio will be the Chief Host of the festival and grace the main event on 26th February.

This year's event will witness exhibition of Angami ethnic cultural and indigenous games on 25th February. While, exhibition of Naga wrestling for under 12 and 15, and tug of war among the four Angami ranges will be held on 26th February. Besides, display of antique attires, stalls of Angami cuisine and delicacies, and others. Meanwhile, the Planning committee invited all the Angami community and other Naga tribes to be a part of the festivities.

