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:: THE HEADLINES ::

- Budget session of the 14th Nagaland Legislative Assembly begins
- Governor La Ganesan highlights state government efforts in addressing Naga Political issue
- State government allocates 10 crore rupees under Chief Minister's Corpus Fund for 2024-25
- And, President Droupadi Murmu calls upon educational institutions to be novel in AI field

The budget session of the Nagaland Legislative Assembly (NLA) began today, marking the 6th session of the 14th house. As part of the tradition, the Governor of Nagaland, La Ganesan, addressed the house, setting the stage for the legislative activities of the year. Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio made an obituary reference to the passing of former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh.

Meanwhile, Speaker Sharingain Longkumer also made obituary references to the passing of departed former members — TA Ngullie, K Zungkun, Bendangangshi Ao, Mhavil Khieya, and Kejong Chang. Following this, the House observed a minute silence as a mark of respect to the departed leaders. Later, Advisor Imkong L Imchen moved the motion of thanks on the Governor's address. The House will take up the discussion on the motion of thanks on the Governor's address tomorrow, including laying of annual administrative reports, presentation of

Assembly committee reports, and introduction of government bills. The day will also include presentation of a review of financial trends and supplementary demands for grants for the fiscal year 2024-25.

Governor of Nagaland La Ganesan, today said his government has been working to fulfil its commitment to the people of state. The Governor said this during his address to the 6th Session of the 14th Nagaland Legislative Assembly. Highlighting on the initiatives and steps taken by the state government, he said the House has taken steps to ensure the peaceful resolution of the Naga Political issue.

He said, substantial progress has been made on the Frontier Nagaland Territorial Authority and that the government is hopeful about addressing any remaining concerns of the ENPO. Emphasising the importance of working together to achieve the government's policy objectives, the Governor called for the spirit of cooperation that exists within the House to be extended to the wider society.

Nagaland government has made a significant allocation of 10 crore rupees under the Chief Minister's Corpus Fund for the fiscal year 2024-25. This was highlighted in the third address of Governor La Ganesan to the 14th Assembly which commenced today. The Corpus fund aims to support initiatives focused on promoting education, entrepreneurship, and skill development across various sectors. Currently, there are 29 ongoing projects under NEISIDS (OTRI) with a total cost exceeding 526 crore rupees. Additionally, four ongoing projects under PM-DeVine have been approved at a cost of over 376 crore rupees. Further, the North Eastern Council is implementing 74 projects in various sectors across different districts of Nagaland.

The Department of Geology & Mining is aggressively taking up exploration of the state's three major minerals. This was stated by Governor La Ganesan during his address in the Assembly Session today. He informed that in the coal sector, regional exploration is underway in two blocks in Mokokchung district.

For strategic mineral, that is Nickel and Cobalt bearing iron ore deposits, the Governor said the department plans to take up detailed exploration in Pokphur block in Kiphire district, while G3 exploration of limestone resources in Mimi, Khongka and Hakumute under Kiphire district is also being taken up. He added that the department has strengthened its chemical laboratory with installation of the Wavelength Dispersive X-ray Fluorescence facility. The Governor further assured that efforts are on to resolve the pending issues related to exploration and exploitation of petroleum oil and natural gas with the Government of Assam in the Disputed Area Belt, and with the Central Government for the rest of the state.

Akashvani News Kohima will broadcast the Assembly Review of the Sixth Session of the 14th Nagaland Legislative Assembly at 7:30 PM in Nagamese followed by English at 7:35 PM.

President Droupadi Murmu today presented the 8th Visitors Awards at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi. Speaking on the occasion, she said several educational institutions in the country have the potential to achieve global brand value. She urged leaders of higher education institutions to take new steps in the field of Artificial Intelligence.

The President also stressed the need for further promotion of research in the country.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi called for greater use of traditional knowledge and AI to support wildlife management. He also emphasized the use of AI, machine learning, and geospatial mapping for forest fire and wildlife conflict management, collaborating with BISAG-N and the Forest Survey of India. The Prime Minister was chairing the 7th meeting of the National Board for Wildlife at Sasan Gir in Gujarat today on the occasion of World Wildlife Conservation Day. Mr Modi emphasized the role of eco-tourism in wildlife conservation and stressed the need for improved travel and connectivity for wildlife tourism.

Union Minister of State for Civil Aviation & Cooperation, Murlidhar Mohol, visited Mokokchung today and reviewed the programme and policies of Centrally Sponsored Schemes. During a meeting with heads of department and Civil

Societies, the Minister commended the state government and Mokokchung District in particular for effectively implementing the government schemes despite challenges due to the state's topography. He reiterated that the centre is committed to uplifting the living standard of all sections of the people, and expressed his eagerness in working with the state government for all-round development. Mr Mohol, who is on his maiden visit, also held a meeting with the department of Registrar of Cooperative Societies, and paid visits to the proposed Heliport at Ungma Village, Mini Dairy Cooperative Plant at Marepkong ward, and Mopungchuket Village.

