

Evening News Script

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:: THE HEADLINES ::

1. President Droupadi Murmu appeals women legislators to promote women working in various fields of life
2. World Tuberculosis Day being celebrated today; Health Minister JP Nadda says united efforts of citizens can create TB Mukht Bharat
3. Nagaland observes World Tuberculosis Day
4. And, Total of 166 villages in Nagaland declared TB free



President Droupadi Murmu today appealed to women legislators to always be ready to promote women working in various fields of life. She said, that when women empower each other, our society will become stronger and more sensitive. She was addressing the silver jubilee celebrations of Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly in Raipur.

Addressing the function, the President said, the task of connecting people affected by left wing extremism to the mainstream of society has reached its final and decisive stage.



Today is World Tuberculosis Day. The day is observed on 24th March every year to raise awareness about the devastating health, social and economic consequences of Tuberculosis (TB) and to step up efforts to end the global epidemic. This year's theme is "Yes! We Can End TB: Commit, Invest, and Deliver".



Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Jagat Prakash Nadda today called for people to reaffirm their commitment to eliminating TB and improving health outcomes for vulnerable populations on the occasion of World Tuberculosis Day. In a social media post, the Minister highlighted the steps taken by the government in combating this disease including, the National TB Elimination Programme, the India 100 Days TB Elimination Campaign, and doubling financial support to TB

patients to 1000 rupees per month under the Nikshya Poshan Yojana. Mr Nadda extended gratitude to all healthcare workers delivering comprehensive support to TB patients.



World Tuberculosis (TB) Day was observed today across various districts of Nagaland. A state level event was held at the Nagaland Institute of Medical Sciences & Research (NIMSR), Kohima. The program featured Extempore Speech and Poster Painting competition among the NIMSR students. In her address, Additional Secretary of Health & Family Welfare, S. Tainiu, emphasized the continued heavy burden of TB, particularly on the poor and vulnerable populations. She said a holistic approach by all sectors along with a strong political commitment and support by civil societies and community is essential to achieving the desired goals and objectives in Nagaland.

The Additional Secretary also urged the various stakeholders to support the efforts to end TB in Nagaland and to spread the message to their communities.

About 500 Nikshay Mitras are registered as of today in the state of Nagaland to support around 1500 TB patients who are currently on treatment.



A total of 166 villages in Nagaland have been declared TB free village. On occasion of World TB day today, 14 villages were qualified for the silver category and 126 villages under bronze. Marking the occasion, the award has been given out to these villages by the respective Deputy Commissioners at functions held across the districts. In a programme at NIMSR, Kohima, Principal Director of Health & Family Welfare department, Dr E Motsuthung Patton said, the award carries a certificate, and a statue of Mahatma Gandhi. He informed that the bronze statue is given to villages for maintaining TB free status for a year, while silver color for consecutive two years. The gold color statue is given to villages for being TB free for three consecutive years. The Principal Director exuded hope that more villages from the state will be qualified for the awards next year.

It may be mentioned that the TB Mukht Panchayat or TB-free villages initiative was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2023, aiming to raise awareness about TB among rural population, eliminate stigma attached to the disease and monitor and improve uptake of services.



In an inspiring testament of resilience, ASHA worker Keneivonuo battled through the challenging TB disease and emerged triumphant. Sharing her journey during

the World TB Day celebrations at Kohima today, Ms Keneivonuo, said initially, she mistook her symptoms of fever, cough, and loss of appetite, and took individual medications. After her TB diagnosis, with encouragement from her doctors, she completed the 7-month treatment course and successfully overcame the disease. She received essential nutritional and financial support during her treatment, which she highlighted as crucial for her recovery.

Now TB-free, Ms Keneivonuo actively engages in counseling and encouraging others, spreading awareness about TB, and reaching out to patients who may be left behind. She stressed the importance of timely treatment, and strongly urged all TB patients to ensure they complete their full course of treatment.



Dimapur EAC Litsenthung Kikon today acknowledged that cases of workplace sexual harassment often go unreported in the Naga society due to discomfort and lack of awareness. He was speaking at a sensitization programme on the Implementation of the Sexual Harassment at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013. Mr Kikon said, departments have been urged to set up Internal Complaints Committees to monitor and address instances of sexual harassment in the workplace. These 4-member committees should be headed by a woman president, and at least half of the other members should also be women. Speakers at the event called for strict enforcement of the law and regular awareness programs to empower women to report cases of harassment without fear.

