

:: THE HEADLINES ::

- Nation to conduct civil defence mock drill tomorrow
- Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio appeals all citizens to ensure full participation and preparedness in civil defence mock drill
- Union Health Minister JP Nadda stresses upon early diagnosis, proper treatment to manage asthma
- Nagaland gets first 3D dental laboratory

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India is carrying out a nationwide mock drill tomorrow to evaluate civil defence preparedness in the country. Ahead of the drill, Union Home Secretary Govind Mohan held a meeting today with Chief Secretaries of States and Union Territories through video-conferencing to review the preparations for the Civil Defence Mock Drill. The meeting was attended by the Director General of Civil Defence and the National Disaster Response Force along with other senior officials in the National Capital. Civil Defence Exercise and Rehearsal will be organized across the 244 categorized Civil Defence Districts of the country, up to the village level.

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Nagaland is set to join the countrywide Civil Defence Mock Drill tomorrow. An update from the state Home Department said, the exercise will be carried out under the code name 'Operation Abhyaas' across 10 districts, designated as Civil Defence Districts, namely Dimapur, Kohima, Mokokchung, Wokha, Zunheboto, Mon, Phek, Tuensang, Kiphire and Peren. It will begin at 4:00 PM. More from our correspondent...

(VOICE CAST: The mock drill will simulate various emergency situations, including incoming air raids, activation of sirens, and blackout measures. It will also feature scenarios such as building fires, search and rescue, evacuation of casualties from damaged buildings resulting from aerial offensives, and setting up of temporary hospitals. Civilians will also be evacuated from endangered areas to bunkers or demilitarised zones. Hourly updates will be sent from the State War Room to the Directorate General of Civil Defence in New Delhi.) 33 Secs

The department has sought the active participation of district authorities, civil defence wardens and volunteers, Home Guard, NCC, NSS, NYKS, and students.

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Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio has appealed to all citizens of Nagaland to ensure full participation and preparedness in tomorrow’s civil defence mock drill. As the state joins the nationwide exercise, Mr Rio urged for compliance with the guidelines, and extended best wishes for a successful and effective exercise.



National Cadet Corps cadets across the country are fully geared up to take part in this exercise across the country. Talking to Akashvani News, NCC Director General Lieutenant General Gurbirpal Singh said that the cadets will be taking parts in firefighting, rescue activities, emergency situations and other activities.



In a series of high level meetings following the Pahalgam Terror Attack, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval met Prime Minister Narendra Modi at his residence in New Delhi today. Earlier, the Prime Minister had held separate meetings with Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh and Chiefs of all three defence forces.



World Asthma Day is being observed today. The Day is observed on the first Tuesday in May every year to raise awareness about asthma and the importance of properly managing this chronic respiratory condition. It also emphasizes educating the public about the disease and its impact on daily life. The theme for this year is “Make Inhaled Treatments Accessible for All”.



Union Health Minister JP Nadda said that early diagnosis and proper treatment are crucial to managing asthma. The Union Minister, in a social media post, said that World Asthma Day serves as a crucial platform to raise awareness about asthma and enhance care for those living with this chronic condition. The Minister also urged policymakers, healthcare professionals, and communities to work collectively towards reducing asthma-related complications and promoting respiratory health in the country. Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Anupriya Patel urged people not to ignore symptoms of the respiratory condition and to prevent common asthma triggers. The minister said improvement in lifestyle, pollution control, and awareness are the best ways to prevent this disease.



In a significant milestone for the healthcare sector in Nagaland, the state has received its first 3D dental laboratory at Naga Hospital Authority Kohima (NHAK). The laboratory was inaugurated by Commissioner & Secretary, Health & Family Welfare Anoop Khinchi yesterday. Funded under PM-DevINE scheme, the project

is established by the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region in association with North Eastern Council and Assam Electronics Development Corporation Limited. 3D printing in dental offers several advantages including creating accurate diagnostic models, Surgical guides for precise and safer surgery, and reduced waste. NHAK has invited the public to visit the Dentistry Department to benefit from the technology.



State Mission Director of Samagra Shiksha, Nagaland, L. Jamithung Lotha, has urged education officials to step up efforts in implementing the National Education Policy 2020 and the NIPUN Bharat Mission, with focus on improving foundational literacy and numeracy in government schools. He stated this today during the two-day Orientation and Review Programme for Assistant District Coordinators and EBRC Coordinators at Kohima. Highlighting the policy's vision on experiential learning, encouraging creativity, and critical thinking, Mr Lotha emphasized the need to empower teachers, integrate digital tools, and ensure inclusive quality education across all stages.

Mr Lotha informed that the state has initiated individual child tracking in government schools from pre-primary to Grade 2 since the 2024–25 academic session, assessing over 52 thousand students. However, he noted that only about 20 percent of the children had reached the desired proficiency level. He urged all stakeholders to help every child achieve the goals by the end of the academic session. Mr Lotha also stressed the urgency of meeting the NIPUN Bharat Mission’s deadline to achieve universal foundational literacy and numeracy for children aged 3 to 8 years by 2026–27. Deputy Mission Director Kelhikha Kenye noted that the list of BEACON Schools will be finalized during the two-day programme.



The Naga Hospital Authority, Kohima, (NHAK) has reported multiple incidents of theft of its properties in and around the hospital premises. In a statement, the authority, highlighted in particular, the repeated theft of copper wires connecting the grounding system to the CT Scan machine. It said, the incident occurred twice recently, causing significant delays in the long-awaited commissioning of the CT scan service. An FIR has been filed with the South Police Station in Kohima on April 19. Terming such thefts as major disruptions to essential public health services, NHAK appealed to the public to assist with any information that could help identify the culprits. Citizens have also been urged to safeguard public health infrastructure.

