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THE HEADLINES:-

- Manipur Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla sworn in as 22nd Governor of Nagaland
- Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla calls for collective action toward Nagaland's inclusive growth
- India, Fiji exchange seven agreements including on health, standardization capacity building
- Nagaland's CMHIS wins CIPS Innovation Award 2024 in health sector
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Manipur Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla was sworn in today as the 22nd Governor of Nagaland. He was administered the oath of office by the Chief Justice of the Gauhati High Court, Justice Ashutosh Kumar, at Raj Bhavan, Kohima.

Mr. Bhalla has been given additional charge of Nagaland following the demise of Governor La Ganesan on August 15. The oath-taking ceremony was attended by Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio, Deputy Chief Ministers T.R. Zeliang and Y. Patton, Members of Parliament, Ministers, MLAs, senior officials from state and central government, Padma Shri awardees, representatives of civil society organizations, and other dignitaries. Governor Bhalla was also accorded a ceremonial guard of honour by Nagaland Police Mahila (IR) as part of the swearing-in ceremony. Following the oath, Mr. Bhalla held his first interaction with the State Cabinet led by Chief Minister Rio. Later, the Governor and his wife visited the Kohima War Cemetery to pay homage to the soldiers who made the supreme sacrifice.

Newly sworn-in Nagaland Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla has called for collective efforts from the government, civil society, tribal bodies, and every citizen to ensure that Nagaland not only keeps pace with the rest of the country but also emerges as a model of inclusive and sustainable development. In his first address after assuming office today, Governor Bhalla highlighted the state's strategic location and rich cultural heritage as key assets in India's growth story.

Emphasizing the state's immense potential, he pointed to youth entrepreneurship, organic farming, tourism, and the rich traditions of art and

craft as areas for sustainable growth. At the same time, he acknowledged the pressing need to improve connectivity, healthcare, education, and employment opportunities. He assured the state government of his fullest support in these efforts. The Governor also expressed deep gratitude and humility upon assuming office, calling it a 'sacred responsibility' to serve the people of the state. Paying tribute to his late predecessor, La Ganesan, Mr Bhalla described him as 'a people's Governor' who served with dedication, selflessness and empathy.

Immediately following this news bulletin, the first address of the newly sworn-in Governor of Nagaland and Manipur Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla to the people of Nagaland will be broadcast on Akashvani Kohima's Primary channel at 639 kilohertz and FM Tragopan 103 Megahertz.

Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio has congratulated Ajay Kumar Bhalla on being sworn in as the Governor of Nagaland. In a social media post, he said the state looks forward to his leadership and guidance in advancing development and progress. Mr Rio wished the new governor a successful and an impactful tenure in service to the people.

India and Fiji today exchanged seven agreements including on Health, Standardization Capacity Building and on Big Impact projects in New Delhi. In his press statements after delegation level talks with his Fijian counterpart Sitiveni Ligamamada Rabuka, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said a 100-bed super specialty hospital will be built in Suva, the capital of Fiji.

Mr Modi highlighted that India and Fiji have prepared an action plan to strengthen mutual cooperation in defense and security. He underscored that both countries are ready to share their experience in the fields of cybersecurity and data protection and agree that terrorism is a huge challenge for humanity. Mr Modi said, both countries are working together on renewable energy to tackle climate change. Mr Rabuka said, that India and Fiji stand together in promoting peace, stability, welfare and development.

Nagaland's flagship health initiative, the Chief Minister Health Insurance Scheme (CMHIS), has been awarded the CIPS Innovation Award 2024 in the Health Sector for its inclusive and innovative approach to universal health protection. The award was presented by the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, Manoj Sinha, at a ceremony in Srinagar on August 22. Receiving the award on behalf of the Nagaland Health Protection Society (NHPS) were Joint CEO, Dr. Kika Longkumer and Deputy CEO, Dr. Yingnei Kongyak. Designed to

ensure affordable and equitable healthcare, CMHIS integrates digital enrolment, cashless services, and real-time claims. The NHPS has expressed gratitude to all stakeholders and citizens for their support in making the scheme a success.

The Staff Selection Commission, SSC, today reiterated its commitment to conducting fair and transparent exams. SSC chairman S. Gopalkrishnan highlighted that the Commission has taken a series of steps to rectify the technical glitches and malpractices, including Aadhar authentication.

On the Combined Graduate level Examination, which was postponed, the commission has said that the exam will be held from mid-September onwards.

In Dimapur, a recent joint inspection by the District Administration, Food Safety Authority, and Police uncovered multiple violations among packaged drinking water and RO treatment units operating without valid licenses. Thirteen units were issued summon orders, and penalties were imposed. Four operators, namely M/S Kugaho, M/S AA Water, M/S Elixir, and M/S Drizzle, opted to shut operations entirely. Currently, 34 bottling units across Dimapur, Chümoukedima, Medziphema, and Niuland hold valid licenses from the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India. Authorities said regular inspections will continue, and advised citizens to contact the hotline at 03862-366349 for more information.

