

## THE HEADLINES:-

- NDPP welcomes NPF's offer of merger; final decision to be made at NDPP General Convention
- CP Radhakrishnan sworn in as 15th Vice President of India
- Kohima DC B. Henok Buchem cautions against random urbanization that threatens natural ecology
- Kohima air quality exceeds national permissible limit

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The Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party (NDPP) has welcomed the offer of the Naga Peoples Front (NPF) to merge. However, a final decision will be taken up at the NDPP General Convention. During the NDPP's Central Executive Board (CEB) meeting held in Kohima today, the house discussed the matter in detail, following explanation made by the President, Chief Minister and the Secretary General. The members were apprised that the party's Parliamentary Board had already welcomed the offer of the NPF. However, the NDPP, being a recognized political party, needs to follow all constitutional and democratic procedures mandated in the party Constitution. Therefore, the CEB decided to call a General Convention of the NDPP, where a final decision will be taken. The house unanimously endorsed the President and the Chief Minister to take all necessary decisions in regards to the General Convention.

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CP Radhakrishnan has been sworn in as the 15th Vice President of India. President Droupadi Murmu administered the oath of Office to him at a Swearing-in-Ceremony at Rashtrapati Bhavan this morning.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, former President Ram Nath Kovind, former Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar and several Union Ministers were present

on the occasion. Prime Minister Modi wished CP Radhakrishnan a successful Vice Presidential tenure, dedicated to the service of the people. In a social media post, Mr Modi called Mr. Radhakrishnan a dedicated public servant, and said that he has devoted his life to nation-building, social service and strengthening democratic values

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Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio has congratulated CP Radhakrishnan on being sworn in as the 15th Vice President of India. In a social media post, Mr Rio extended best wishes to Mr. Radhakrishnan for a successful and impactful tenure. Also extending his wishes, Deputy Chief Minister Y Patton said, Mr. Radhakrishnan's long years of public service, deep understanding of national issues, and commitment to the people will bring strength and experience to the office of the Vice President.

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Deputy Commissioner, DC, of Kohima, B. Henok Buchem has cautioned against random urbanization that threatens the natural ecology. Addressing the one-day workshop on National Clean Air Programme, organised by the Kohima District Administration in collaboration with the Kohima Press Club (KPC) today, he called for planned urban growth to preserve the forests and biodiversity that act as 'natural allies' against pollution.

Highlighting the role of the media, the DC urged journalists to practice responsible reporting, demand accountability, and build public awareness to drive change in the society. Mr Buchem also appealed citizens to adopt simple but effective habits like avoiding littering, reducing vehicle use for short distances, and managing construction waste responsibly. The DC emphasized that Kohima is a shared home for all Naga communities, and called for shared responsibility in preserving air quality and civic standards.

The event was held as part of KPC's yearlong Silver Jubilee celebrations.

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Kohima's annual average concentration of particulate matter stood at 78 in 2024, higher than the permissible limit of 60 set by National Ambient Air Quality Standards. This was informed by Scientist B from Nagaland Pollution Control Board, Yanathung Kithan during the workshop on National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) organised by the Kohima District Administration and KPC. Mr Kikon highlighted that Kohima and Dimapur are listed among 131 non-attainment cities in India, where air quality fail to meet national standards.

He cited dust from bad roads, vehicular emissions, burning of wastes, and construction activities, among major contributors to poor air quality. He also cautioned that indoor air pollution from firewood burning continues to affect households. Mr Kithan noted that the cumulative effect of these everyday practices has resulted in lower air quality and rising health risks. He emphasized upon constant monitoring, data collection, and better waste management systems. Mr Kithan also highlighted the national target of reducing pollution levels by 40 percent by 2026, under NCAP.

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Under the Next Generation GST reforms, the government has provided significant relief to the middle class by making household electronic items more affordable. GST rates on products such as Air Conditioners, dishwashers, and LCD/LED TVs have been lowered from 28 per cent to 18 per cent. This lower tax will directly boost demand for these appliances, helping domestic producers expand the market size. The Next Generation GST Reforms will enhance affordability for consumers and help build a stronger electronics manufacturing sector in India, and will also encourage localisation efforts by reducing dependence on imports.

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Department of School Education has sought details of Orphan Children aged between 3 and 14 years, not enrolled in any School or dropped out before completing Elementary Education. It appealed NGOs, Municipal, Town,

Village Councils, Churches, Student Unions and General Public to register such details at the Orphan Out of School Children Data Link provided on the department website at [www.dosenl.in](http://www.dosenl.in), by the end of this month. The department said, this will enable it to come up with mechanism for arranging special training and mainstreaming them in Schools.

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Traffic along the Pagala Pahar stretch has been completely blocked following multiple mudslides this afternoon. More from our correspondent...

Authorities have urged commuters to avoid travelling through the Pagala Pahar area until further notice, as the stretch remains unsafe and not pliable for traffic.

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And, in weather, the India Meteorological Department has forecast enhance rainfall activity over the Northeastern states in the coming days. It said, heavy to very heavy rains are likely over isolated locations in Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura till the 15th of September. Light to moderate rain with thunderstorm is also likely at many places during the period.

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