

THE HEADLINES : -

- **Nagaland observes International Day of Older Persons.**
- **Union Cabinet approves Dearness Allowance to Central Government employees & Dearness Relief to pensioners by three per cent**
- **Kohima District Task Force on Food Safety conducts inspection in Kohima.**
- **Zeliangrong Youth Organisation Nagaland sets October 9 as deadline in Pimla murder case.**

||<><><>||

The state-level observation of International Day of Older Persons 2025 and commemoration of 25th Anniversary of the Senior Citizens' Association of Nagaland, with the theme "Older Persons Driving Local and Global Action: Our Aspirations, Our Well-Being, Our Right" was held today in Kohima. Special guest, Advisor, Social Welfare, Wangpang Konyak said, the day is not just a celebration, but also a reminder of the invaluable roles played by our elders in the fabric of our Naga society. Secretary of Social Welfare, Limawabang Jamir said, with the establishment of 12 Senior Citizens Homes across the state, the department is ensuring that senior citizens have a safe place where they can receive care, love, and respect. On the occasion, 'Distinguished Senior Citizen Award' was presented to Neidonuo Angami and Rev. Dr L. Anjo Keikung for their outstanding contribution towards society and State. On the occasion, Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio honoured the invaluable contributions of the elders in shaping society. Mr Rio said as custodians of tradition and community life, they enrich the communities, and urged all to uphold the dignity and well-being of every senior citizen.

||<><><>||

In Wokha, Department of Social Welfare in collaboration with Senior Citizens Association, Wokha, observed the International Day of Older Persons today at VDB Hall, under the theme "Older Persons Driving Local and Global Action: Our Aspiration, Our Well-being, Our Rights." On the occasion, district awards were presented to two senior citizens, Rev. M.

Wosumo Humentsoe and Anymro Lotha, for their contributions. Extra Assistant Commissioner, Wokha, Sangmou Khamniungan, attending as special guest, acknowledged the sacrifices of senior citizens in shaping the lives of younger generations. He also encouraged them to continue playing an active role in addressing social issues and guiding the community. Meanwhile, Vice Principal of Mt. Tiya College, Dr. Khyopenthung Tsopoe, while sharing on the theme, described senior citizens as bearers of wisdom and lifelong inspiration, urging their continued involvement in societal growth.

||<><><>||

Union Cabinet has approved Dearness Allowance to Central Government employees and Dearness Relief to pensioners by three per cent. Briefing media after the cabinet meeting in New Delhi today, Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said that this will benefit about 49.2 lakh Central Government employees and 68.7 lakhs pensioners. He said that this will be effective from 1st July this year.

Meanwhile, Union Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has also approved opening of 57 new Kendriya Vidyalayas across the country with an outlay of more than five thousand 862 crore rupees. Mr Vaishnaw said that twenty Kendriya Vidyalayas will be opened in those districts where no Kendriya Vidyalayas exists. He said, 14 Kendriya Vidyalayas are proposed to be open in Aspirational districts, four in Left Wing Extremism districts and five in North East region and Hilly areas.

||<><><>||

The Kohima District Task Force on Food Safety, led by EAC (Revenue), Khriethozo, conducted inspections across the city yesterday. The team covered five hotels and 25 restaurants as part of its ongoing drive to ensure compliance with food safety standards. Following the inspection, eight restaurants will be served with Improvement Notices under Section 32 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, for failing to meet hygiene and safety requirements. While, one restaurant, which had previously been issued an Improvement Notice at the end of 2024 and subsequently underwent post-inspection, was again found operating under unhygienic conditions in violation of earlier directives. Consequently, the authorities

have decided to suspend its licence, with official papers to be served on October 3.

||<><><>||

Zeliangrong Youth Organisation Nagaland (ZYON) has warned that they would launch an intensive, non-peaceful agitation the state government fails to act by October 9, with no further extensions. Addressing a press conference yesterday at Dimapur in connection with Pimla murder case, ZYON President R. John Zeliang said, the organization and allied groups have repeatedly pursued the matter through peaceful, democratic agitations and multiple memorandums but have met with what they described as government negligence. Mr. Zeliang added that they held a protest rally in Dimapur on August 25 and gave a 15-day ultimatum but received no response. Criticizing the delays in investigation and state's lack of adequate forensic and polygraph facilities, the organization questioned the government's seriousness and accountability in the probe.

||<><><>||

Guided by the mantra of Seva and Sushasan, that is, Public Service and Good Governance, the Government, under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has been working tirelessly to bring transformation and progress. Today, in this Special Series – 'Seva Parv', we bring to you how the Modi government has extended support beyond borders, making India a trusted friend and first responder in times of global crisis.

Under the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India has been the first responder to crises beyond its borders. In the past five years, India has provided humanitarian assistance and disaster relief to over 150 countries. It has deployed medical teams, relief supplies, and expert manpower to address crises ranging from pandemics to natural disasters. Addressing a community event in Nigeria, Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke about India's role as a first responder during crises.

During the COVID-19 crisis, India launched the Vaccine Maitri initiative as a testament to its human-centric diplomacy. From Operation Ganga in Ukraine to Operation Kaveri in Sudan and Operation Ajay in Israel, India has been swift, organised and inclusive, helping not only its own citizens

but also foreigners. Operation Raahat had rescued nearly two thousand foreign nationals stranded in war-torn Yemen, apart from over 4 thousand 700 Indians. Whether it's sending rice to Madagascar, anti-TB drugs to North Korea, or relief kits to Tonga and earthquake-hit Afghanistan, India does so with discretion and dignity. It avoids fanfare but never shies away from action. Whether through diplomacy or humanitarian aid, India has crafted a new narrative. Through its response to crises, India has emerged as a global friend, a Vishwabandhu.

||<><><>||

Under the Next Generation GST Reforms, the government has introduced notable tax cuts in the handicrafts sector to ease the financial burden on traders, artisans, and consumers. Everyday items such as ceramic pots and jars, as well as porcelain and terracotta utensils and kitchen utensils, are now being taxed at only 5 per cent, down from 12 per cent previously. Similarly, in the handicraft sector, the GST rates on statues, decorative ceramics, including blue pottery, and mirrors with decorative frames have been reduced from 12 per cent to 5 per cent, providing a direct boost to artisans and traditional craft markets. Glass artifacts, including statues, vases, jars, votives, and decorative items, now attract only a 5 per cent GST, down from the previous 12 per cent, making India's handmade glasswork more accessible to consumers.

||<><><>||