

THE HEADLINES :-

- **Kohima Police arrest prime accused in the murder of 22-Year-Old Vihozhonu Zao.**
- **Chief Minister Rio says unity remains cornerstone of Naga progress at golden jubilee of Tenyimi Union Dimapur.**
- **Tokhü Emong Mini Hornbill festival begins in Wokha.**
- **In Bihar, polling for the first phase of Assembly elections in 121 constituencies to be held tomorrow.**



In a swift breakthrough in the murder case of 22-year-old Vihozhonu Zao, the Kohima Police have arrested the prime accused, Samuel Zao, who is the victim's uncle. The arrest was made yesterday night at their residence. Addressing a press conference at the Superintendent of Police (SP) office today, Krodi Rhetso informed that the Special Investigation Team (SIT), led by Additional Superintendent of Police K. Soriso and eight other members, conducted a comprehensive and coordinated investigation that led to the arrest. SP Rhetso said, that the accused has confessed to the crime, revealing that the murder took place at around 2:00 PM on October 24.

Mr Rhetso further described the case as extraordinarily challenging, calling it essentially a blind case. The SP explained that the identified crime scene was suspected to be a secondary location, which made it difficult for the investigators to establish a clear motive, sequence of events, or the exact circumstances of the murder. Mr Rhetso also said, the case is still under investigation. It was reported that the accused was adopted by the victim's aunt from Nepal. Further, the Kohima Police expressed appreciation and gratitude to the public for their patience, understanding, and cooperation throughout the investigation.



The Tenyimi Union Dimapur (TUD) celebrated its Golden Jubilee today with the dedication and unveiling of the Jubilee Monolith at the Tenyimi Complex, followed by a public program at the DDSC Stadium. The monolith was dedicated by Rev. Tenga Seb, Pastor of DRBC Khermahal, and unveiled by Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio, while Deputy Chief Minister T.R. Zeliang released the Jubilee balloons. Addressing the gathering, Chief Minister Rio emphasized that unity remains the cornerstone of Naga progress. He highlighted the importance of dialogue and mutual respect among Naga tribes and with neighbouring states. He reiterated that while the four non-Naga tribes listed under the Scheduled Tribes, ST Order, 1970 enjoy ST status, they cannot be regarded as indigenous inhabitants of the state.

On the Inner Line Permit (ILP) system, Mr Rio noted that the 2025 online portal and revised guidelines aim to better protect indigenous populations, calling for cooperation from civil society to ensure effective implementation. Deputy Chief

Minister Zeliang highlighted the shared ancestry and cultural ties that unite the Tenyimi community. He said the formation of TUD in 1975 has been instrumental in promoting inter-tribal harmony and peaceful coexistence, urging all Tenyimi tribes to renew their commitment to unity and collective progress.



The Tokhü Emong Mini Hornbill Festival was inaugurated today at Public Ground, Wokha, with MLA and Chairman SDPDB Bhandari, Achumbemo Kikon, as the Special Guest. Speaking on the occasion, Mr Kikon, underscored the essence of Tokhü Emong as a time for unity, reflection, and strengthening community bonds. He emphasized the need to cultivate responsibility, critical thinking, and a positive mindset to drive growth and social progress within the Lotha community. Kikon stressed the importance of collective effort in improving community welfare, particularly in sanitation and climate resilience initiatives across Wokha district. Following the official launch of the celebration, Kikon inaugurated the Tokhü stalls and declared open the Traditional Competition, which featured events such as traditional weaving and folksong performances across various categories.



In Bihar, polling will be held tomorrow for the first phase of Assembly elections in 121 constituencies spread across 18 districts. Elaborate security arrangements have been made to ensure free, fair and peaceful polling. The assembly segments of 18 districts including Patna, Vaishali, Nalanda, Bhojpur, Munger, Saran, Siwan, Gopalganj, Muzaffarpur will go to polls tomorrow. To monitor the polling process webcasting will be done from all 45341 polling stations. Polling will begin at 7 a.m. and conclude at 6 p.m. However, due to security considerations, polling time has been curtailed to 5 p.m. in some Assembly segment.



The GST Bachat Utsav started on the 22nd of September of this year with the reduction of GST on many items, benefiting citizens across the country. Our correspondent brings a report on how the next generation GST reforms are boosting the economy of Nagaland.

The recent GST reforms mark a crucial step towards strengthening Nagaland's economy by rationalising tax rates across multiple industries. The tourism sector in Nagaland, covering tour operations, hotels, and homestays, is poised to benefit from the GST reforms, making hotel accommodations more affordable and supporting wider tourism growth statewide. The new GST reforms have brewed fresh opportunities for Nagaland Coffee, with rates on roasted beans reduced from 12 percent to 5 percent and on coffee extracts from 18 percent to 5 percent. The reduction is expected to lower overall costs by 6.25 percent to 11 percent, making Nagaland coffee more price-competitive and profitable for growers and MSMEs. The reforms have brought a transformative opportunity for inclusive development, empowering artisans, farmers, and micro-enterprises, positioning Nagaland as a culturally rooted, growing centre for trade and tourism. With SHIVANG MISRA, BHANU PRATAP SINGH , AKASHVANI NEWS, DELHI.



External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar today said that the partnership between India-Japan contributes to enhancing strategic stability in the Indo-Pacific. Addressing the 8th India-Japan Indo-Pacific Forum in New Delhi, Dr. Jaishankar added that India-Japan partnership must focus on leveraging strengths, bolstering supply chains and investing in artificial intelligence, semiconductors, critical minerals, clean energy and space. The external Affairs Minister mentioned that as two major democracies and maritime nations, India and Japan have a larger responsibility towards the Indo-Pacific and the Indo-Pacific Oceans' Initiative has the potential to advance contributions.



Kohima Police have appealed to the public for assistance in tracing a suspect involved in an armed robbery at the State Bank of India (SBI) Chedema Branch, Kohima, which occurred October 31. According to police, the suspect has been identified as Vitoulu Domeh, son of Kho Domeh, a resident of Zhavame Village, Phek district. Authorities have urged anyone with information on the suspect's whereabouts to contact the Officer-in-Charge, North Police Station, Kohima, at 6009308087 or 8974821030. Police assured that all information provided will be treated with the strictest confidentiality.

