

:::THE HEADLINES:::

- Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio and Deputy Chief Minister TR Zeliang inspects ongoing road repair works along National Highway in Kohima.
- Chairman, Nagaland State Commission for Protection of Child Rights Alun Hansing stresses the role of policing and police officers in child protection.
- Additional Secretary & Director General, NACO V. Hekali Zhimomi emphasizes youth as present and future drivers of change against HIV AIDS.
- Commissioner of Police, Dimapur Aotula T Imchen exhorts achievers of Mayangnokcha Awards for Academic Excellence.

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Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio and Deputy Chief Minister in charge of National Highways, TR Zeliang visited the ongoing road repair works along the National Highway at Kezanu and Liezocha stretches under Jotsoma village in Kohima district today. During the inspection, Executive Engineer PWD (NH) Bendang informed that the stream responsible for recent landslide, along with two adjoining streams, has been diverted to another valley. These streams are being channelled into a single reinforced concrete box drainage system designed to ensure better water flow and stability. The Chief Minister expressed concern over the need for slope protection to prevent future landslides and emphasized the importance of constructing proper drainage systems. He urged engineers and contractors to ensure quality workmanship and expedite the completion of the road repair to restore safe passage for commuters.

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Nagaland State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NSCPCR) in Collaboration with Commissioner of Police, Dimapur, organised a One Day Awareness Programme on "Child Rights & Child Protection" at Commissioner's office, Dimapur yesterday. Chairman NSCPCR, Alun Hansing in his key note address said with advent of technology, things are becoming complicated particularly for police officers who are dealing with child abuse cases and children in conflict with law. Reminding that the children are the backbone of the nation, Mr Hansing questioned the actual implementation to reach the target of making the children as the backbone of the nation. He stressed the role of policing and police officers as their presence gives children a sense of security. Meanwhile, DCP, Headquarters Ruth Murru, said that the programme was particularly targeted for the police community, as they are the important stakeholder where delivery of justices and protection of children is concerned.

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Additional Secretary and Director General, National AIDS Control Organization (NACO) V. Hekali Zhimomi, has highlighted that youths are both the future and present drivers of change against HIV AIDS. Speaking at the grand finale of Red Ribbon Quiz Competition held at Tetso College, Sovima, Chümoukedima, yesterday, she said awareness, empathy and informed action are the most powerful tools in the fight against HIV AIDS and in building healthier society and a healthier nation.

Ms. Zhimomi also highlighted the impactful work done by NACO through Adolescent Education Program and Red Ribbon Clubs, reaching over 68,000 schools across the country and establishing over 15,000 clubs in colleges. In the Quiz competition, Telangana emerged as the champion, followed by Manipur and Kerala.

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The 32nd edition of the Mayangnokcha Awards for Academic Excellence instituted by Mayangnokcha Award Trust was held today at Holy Cross Higher Secondary School, Dimapur. Speaking at the award ceremony, Commissioner of Police, Dimapur Aotula T Imchen said that the greatest achievements and happiness in life often come without external recognition, arising from choosing dignity, showing kindness to the undeserving, or overcoming failures. While encouraging the students, Ms. Imchen said that failure is an inevitable part of life, and self-motivation is crucial for overcoming setbacks and continuing forward when external support may be absent. She also reflected on her past experience of receiving the Mayangnokcha Award in 2005 and the lasting impact it had, describing it not just as a trophy, but a trophy of faith and courage. The Mayangnokcha Award for Academic Excellence (Overall Topper) was presented to Lunghiyangle Nring of St. Paul Higher Secondary School, Dimapur, who also bagged the Award for being the subject topper in Mathematics. She was awarded a cash prize of 25,000 rupees along with a certificate and a trophy. Other awardees were also given cash prizes along with certificate and trophy.

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi today inaugurated the new building of the Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly in Nava Raipur during his visit to the state. On this occasion, the Prime Minister also unveiled the statue of former Prime Minister and Bharat Ratna Atal Bihari Vajpayee. Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister said that the entire nation today is moving forward by preserving its heritage while pursuing development. The Prime Minister said that this vision of India can clearly be seen in the new building of the Chhattisgarh Assembly, which mirrors the rich cultural heritage of the state.

During his one day visit to Raipur, the Prime Minister also inaugurated the Shanti Shikhar of the Brahma Kumaris in Nava Raipur. The centre is a modern hub for spiritual learning, peace and meditation.

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Defence Minister Rajnath Singh addressed the 12th ADMM-Plus in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia today. The Minister said, India's strategic engagement with ASEAN is not transactional but long-term & principle-driven, and it rests on a shared belief that the Indo-Pacific should remain open, inclusive, and free from coercion. The Minister said, India has always emphasized the need to incorporate climate resilience into defense cooperation. Mr. Singh said, India's experience in the areas of disaster risk reduction, early warning systems, and humanitarian assistance can assist ASEAN countries in strengthening their preparedness and capacity to address climate-related disasters.

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The next-generation GST reforms have offered relief to the electronics sector by reducing tax burdens and making key devices more affordable. GST on televisions monitors and projectors now attract 18 percent GST instead of 28 percent, reducing costs for households, schools and offices. Similarly tax rates on air-conditioners and dishwashers have been lowered from 28 percent to 18 percent, making home-electronics accessible to more citizens. Furthermore, renewable-energy devices such as solar panels and composting machines which earlier attracted 12 percent GST are now placed under 5 percent tax slab, promoting green growth and sustainability.

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