

THE HEADLINES:-

- **Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia praises Nagaland's heritage; urges not to define the state by Hornbill Festival alone.**
- **Minister C L John calls for efforts to eradicate tribalism and clanism in Naga society.**
- **Central Training Institute of the Home Guards, Civil Defence and State Disaster Response Force celebrates 63rd Raising Day.**
- **Nagaland exports first consignment michinga seeds from Kohima to Tezpur.**



Union Minister Jyotiraditya M. Scindia said the Hornbill Festival reflects only a small part of Nagaland's rich cultural and economic potential. Talking to reporters at the airport while concluding his three-day visit to the state, he praised the state's heritage — from stone-pulling traditions to handloom, handicrafts, and blacksmithing — and urged that Nagaland not be defined solely by the festival.

Mr Scindia highlighted the high quality of Nagaland Coffee and noted that the Commerce and DoNER ministries are exploring ways to promote it, including a common processing centre and value-addition efforts to boost growers' income.

The Union Minister also emphasized ongoing collaboration with Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio on major development initiatives. Appreciating the warmth of the people, Mr Scindia said Nagaland has immense untapped opportunities waiting to be harnessed.



Nagaland Minister C. L. John today urged the need to eradicate tribalism and clanism in Naga society. Speaking at the Tribal Cultural Mosaic organised by the Department of Tribal Affairs, Government of Nagaland, at Naga Solidarity Park, Kohima, Mr John emphasised language as a unifying force and called for promoting Nagamese as a common language for greater unity.

The Minister expressed concern that tribalism often originates in government offices and churches, and appealed to people to rise above such divisions.

Mr John highlighted the value of the Hornbill Festival as a unifying platform for all Naga tribes, despite misconceptions about it, noting that it has placed Nagaland on the global tourism map. On the occasion, 14 tribes of Nagas presented folk dances and songs. Earlier during the day various competitions were held. Rengma tribe won rice husking event while Phom tribe emerged winner of catapult target hitting and also spear throw competitions.



The Central Training Institute of the Home Guards, Civil Defence and State Disaster Response Force celebrated its 63rd Raising Day today at the CTI ground, Toluvi village, Dimapur. Commandant General, Home Guards, Civil Defence and SDRF, Nagaland, Aotemsu emphasised on the institute's key role in strengthening disaster preparedness, emergency response and civil defence in the state. He described the Day as a moment of reflection on the noble legacy of the Home Guards, a tribute to the spirit of volunteerism and sacrifice, and a reminder of the organisation's enduring responsibility to remain ever ready in the service of the people. The day was marked with special presentations of Pipe Band display, weapons handling demonstration and a cultural performance by the Havildars.



Nagaland Chief Secretary Sentiyanger Imchen today flagged off the first consignment of Zanthoxylum, (Michinga/Tomar) seeds from Kohima to Dabur India's North East Unit in Tezpur, marking a key step in commercialising the state's bio-resources. The initiative, led by the Nagaland Bio Resource Mission (NBRM) in partnership with Dabur, aims to turn long-discussed potential into practical outcomes. In his address, Mr Imchen stressed the need for scientific, volume-driven agriculture, noting that while Michinga is widely grown and partly commercialised, Nagaland could supply only 1.5 tonnes against Dabur's requirement of 10 tonnes.

He urged farmers and entrepreneurs to adopt scientific methods to scale up output and meet market demands. Imchen praised the NBRM-Dabur buy-back arrangement and expressed hope for future collaborations involving more medicinal and aromatic plants, provided quality and commitments are maintained.



Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has said that the Centre is working to simplify the tax system, noting that income tax should no longer be seen as a tiresome exercise. Addressing the leadership summit of a private media organisation in New Delhi today, the Minister highlighted that the income tax slabs need to be made more transparent, simplified and compliant, for the upliftment of the citizens. The Minister also said that a complete overhaul of the customs framework will be the next big assignment.



Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah today announced that the government is aiming to boost the income of cattle rearers by twenty percent over the next five years by implementing a circular economy model in the dairy sector. The Minister made the announcement while addressing a public meet in Sanadar, Gujarat, after inaugurating a Bio-CNG and Fertilizer Plant of Banas Dairy and performing the groundbreaking ceremony for a state-of-the-art 150 TPD Milk Powder and Baby Food Plant of Banas Dairy. Highlighting the successful implementation of the circular economy by Banas Dairy, Mr. Shah reiterated that the government is working to replicate this model across all dairies in India.



The nation today paid homage to Bharat Ratna Dr. B.R. Ambedkar on his 70th Mahaparinirvan Diwas or death anniversary. Across the country, several programmes were organised to highlight Dr. Ambedkar's unparalleled contribution to nation-building.



The Supreme Court has assured that judges are exercising the utmost caution when it comes to the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in the judicial process, emphasizing that such technology will never take over judicial decision-making. A two-judge bench, led by Chief Justice of India Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi, was hearing a petition calling for the regulation of AI and machine learning within the judicial system. The Bench agreed that judges should cross-check such aspects, but expressed that it is not inclined to issue any directives on the judicial side on the issue.



A nationwide competition is underway on the MyGov portal in the run-up to the ninth edition of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's unique interactive program Pariksha Pe Charcha. The online multiple-choice-question-based competition will remain open till 11 January next year. Students from Classes 6 to 12, along with teachers and parents, can take part in the competition. All registered participants who complete the activity will receive a certificate of participation from MyGov.

