

THE HEADLINES:

- 1. Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio, Dr A.R. Rahman announce Naga International Studio**
- 2. Grammy winning composer Dr A.R. Rahman shares global vision for Naga musicians**
- 3. President Droupadi Murmu confers ‘Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar’ to 20 children**
- 4. Prime Minister Narendra Modi says, Gen Z and Gen Alpha will drive India towards Viksit Bharat goal**



Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio and Oscar and Grammy Award winner Dr. A. R. Rahman today jointly announced the establishment of the 'Naga International Studio by A. R. Rahman'. The announcement was made at Toupheema Village in Kohima. Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister Rio said the studio would serve as a hub for nurturing local talent, promoting storytelling and producing world-class music, and creative content inspired by Naga culture. He expressed gratitude to Dr Rahman for recognizing the potential of the Naga people and for investing in the State's creative ecosystem. Dr. Rahman expressed his appreciation to the Government of Nagaland and the Chief Minister for its priority and focus on the music industry and the creative economy. Highlighting the immense potential of the region's talented youth in contributing to the nation-building process, Dr Rahman expressed hope that the Naga International Studio would provide a platform for musicians and artists to create world-class music, while preserving and promoting the region's rich musical heritage and legacy.



Academy Award winning composer Dr A. R. Rahman spent Christmas with children of the Kohima Orphanage and Destitute Home, sharing a vision of global opportunities for young musicians from Nagaland. He expressed hope that artists from the state would one day collaborate on international film projects through the upcoming Naga International Studio.

Dr Rahman described the occasion as one of his most memorable Christmas celebrations in decades. Praising the Sunshine Orchestra of Nagaland, he said he regularly showcases their performances around the world. Dr Rahman further suggested reimagining the home as a place of celebration, love, friendship, and progress.



President Droupadi Murmu conferred the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar on the occasion of Veer Bal Diwas in New Delhi today. This year, 20 children from 18 States and Union Territories have been awarded for demonstrating outstanding achievements. Speaking on the occasion, the President noted that the award-winning children have made extraordinary contributions in various fields, including bravery, art and culture, environment, and science and technology.

The President further said that when the children of a country are imbued with patriotism and high ideals, the humanity of that nation is assured. Veer Baal Diwas is observed every year to commemorate the martyrdom of Sahibzada Baba Zorawar Singh ji and Baba Fateh Singh ji, the sons of Sri Guru Gobind Singh ji.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said that new policies are being framed with a focus on youth empowerment, placing young people at the center of nation-building. Addressing the Veer Baal Diwas programme at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi today, Mr Modi said, Gen Z and Gen Alpha will lead the country towards the goal of becoming a developed nation. He emphasized that youth remain at the core of every initiative taken by the government in various fields including space, sports, fintech and manufacturing. He highlighted that efforts are being made to connect youth and provide them opportunities. Mr Modi reaffirmed the government's commitment to providing better chances to harness their talent, confidence, and leadership.

The Prime Minister said, over the past four years, the Veer Bal Diwas has carried the inspirations and sacrifices of the Sahibzadas to the younger generation. On the occasion, Mr Modi interacted with the 20 awardees of Rashtriya Bal Puraskar and heard the life stories of the children.



Union Rural Development Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has said that under the Viksit Bharat-Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) Scheme, development works will be carried out in villages to realise the vision of a Viksit Bharat by 2047. In an interview with DD News, Mr Chouhan highlighted that the newly enacted Act provides a mandatory unemployment allowance if work is not provided within 15 days of application.

The Minister said the total estimated annual funds requirement on wage, material, and administrative components is over one lakh 51 thousand crore rupees, including the State share. Mr Chouhan said, of this, the Central share is over 95 thousand crore rupees.



In men's Cricket, Nagaland today registered a seven-wicket victory over Meghalaya in their Vijay Hazare Trophy Plate Group match played in Ranchi. Meghalaya won the toss and elected to bat first but were restricted to 190 runs. In reply, Nagaland chased down the target with 79 balls to spare. Chetan Bist remained unbeaten on 72, while Rongsen Jonathan scored 61 to guide the successful run chase. With this win, Nagaland moved up to second place in the points table and will next face Mizoram on Monday, the 29th of December.



The India Meteorological Department has issued a warning of dense fog over the Northeastern states till morning hours tomorrow.

In Nagaland, dry weather is expected over the next five days. During the period, temperatures in Kohima are likely to range between 6 and 17 degree Celsius, while Dimapur may record temperatures between 10 and 28 degree Celsius. Temperature in Tuensang is likely to drop to as low as 4 degree Celsius.

