

**THE HEADLINES:**

- **Union DoNER Minister, Jyotiraditya Scindia inaugurates and lays foundation for development projects worth 645 crore in Nagaland.**
- **Thousands of menfolk from Tuophema along with Union Minister Scindia and Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio participates in traditional Stone Pulling Ceremony.**
- **Nagaland Chief Minister Rio, lauds progress achieved under the DoNER Ministry.**
- **Nagaland Advisor Moatoshi Longkumer appeals for expansion of apprenticeship opportunities in Nagaland.**



**Union Minister of Communications and DoNER, Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, unveiled a significant development package for Nagaland today, totaling over 645 crore rupees, covering completed projects and new initiatives across healthcare, education, innovation, energy, and road infrastructure. The inauguration and foundation stone laying function for the projects spread across the state was held virtually at Tuophema village, Kohima. The Minister virtually inaugurated five completed projects worth over 202 crore rupees, including: 132 kV Sub-Station Upgrade, Dimapur, Teachers Training & Exam Centre with Residential Facilities, ICT Infrastructure in 190 Schools, Chendang Saddle–Kohima Road (Phase-II, 12.57 km) and AT Road Upgrade, Tssurang to Impur (26.335 km, 3 bridges). He also laid foundation stones for 11 new projects worth around 443 crore rupees, including Multispeciality Hospital, Chümoukedima, 50-Bed Hospital, Peren Headquarter, Kohima Sports Centre, IG Stadium, Nagaland Innovation Hub, 1.5 MW Dzuna Small Hydro Project, Key road projects across Peren, Phomching, Thizama, Khonoma, and Emloi.**

**Mr. Scindia highlighted that these projects align with the government’s focus on strategic infrastructure development under the Act East Policy, with additional initiatives planned in coordination with Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio.**



Thousands of menfolk from Tuophema and neighbouring villages today took part in the traditional Stone Pulling Ceremony held as part of the ongoing 26th Hornbill Festival 2025. Union Minister of Communications & DoNER, Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, dressed in traditional Angami attire joined the community in the culturally revered act of stone pulling. Addressing the gathering, Mr. Scindia described the Ceremony as “a very important day for all. He said the occasion is a day full of culture, a day full of soul, a day full of emotion for all across the length and breadth of India.

Highlighting the significance of the practice, the Union Minister said stone pulling is not a mere physical task but “embodies the combination of a union of both body, mind, soul, heart and spirit. As part of his visit, Mr. Scindia also inaugurated the Regional Craft and Resource Centre at Tuophe Phezou, Tuophema, in the presence of Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio and Deputy Chief Minister Y. Patton. Later, the Minister witnessed a series of cultural performances presented by troupes from neighbouring villages, showcasing the rich Angami heritage and community spirit.



Nagaland Chief Minister, Neiphiu Rio, lauded the progress achieved under the DoNER Ministry highlighting the impact of flagship schemes such as NESIDS-OTRI, NESIDS-Roads, and PM-DevINE, noting improvements in roads, bridges, water supply, healthcare, education, and digital infrastructure. He emphasized that these initiatives have expanded economic opportunities, empowered youth, and strengthened connectivity even in remote areas including Nagaland. Mr Rio also praised the Union Minister Scindia's formation of High-Level Task Forces for sectoral development and highlighted Nagaland's growing prominence in the coffee sector, with exports reaching global markets. The Chief Minister reiterated the State Government's commitment to timely project execution, enhanced monitoring, and collaborative efforts with DoNER to ensure balanced and transformative development across Nagaland and the Northeast.



Advisor for Labour, Employment, Skill Development & Entrepreneurship Moatoshi Longkumer, today urged for expansion of apprenticeship opportunities in Nagaland. He was speaking at the state-level campaign on Promotion of Apprenticeship under the PM-National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (PM-NAPS). The Advisor highlighted the importance of apprenticeships as industries increasingly adopt new

technologies and modern work processes. Emphasizing that Nagaland has no shortage of talent but lacks structured opportunity, he said, apprenticeships bridges this gap and provide real industry exposure and improve employability.

Mr Longkumer reaffirmed the government’s focus on increasing industry participation across districts, upgrade ITIs, support MSMEs with easier onboarding, and promote emerging fields such as EV maintenance and digital services. He encouraged firms to take full advantage of PM-NAPS and called for continued collaboration among all stakeholders to build a skilled, confident, and future-ready Nagaland.



The first edition of the two-day Taro Festival began today at Pongo village, Longleng district, under the theme “Rooted in Culture, a Journey of Heritage.” Taro a starchy root vegetable. Organised by the Department of Horticulture, the event had MLA A. Pongshi Phom as the special guest. In his address, the MLA highlighted the cultural and economic value of Taro, noting Pongo’s reputation for producing some of the finest Taro in Nagaland. He expressed hope that the festival would boost local socio-economic growth and urged youth to embrace entrepreneurship, avoid shortcuts, and utilise government schemes effectively. He also announced plans for marketing and storage facilities, tools and equipment support, healthcare for farmers, and training for scientific cultivation. A horticulture marketing shed was also inaugurated during the event.



The Nagaland 10K Great Hornbill Run, organised by the Nagaland Athletics Association, NAA as part of the Hornbill Festival, was today at the Regional Centre for Sporting Excellence in Sovima, Chumoukedima. The fifth edition of the event drew 126 runners in the open category, including 101 men and 25 women from seven states. In the men’s category, Kamal Kumar of Uttar Pradesh secured first place with a timing of 32:51.7, while Anamika Devi, also from Uttar Pradesh, won the women’s title, clocking 39:10.00. Speaking to the media, Neingulie Nakhro, Honorary Treasurer of the NAA, expressed satisfaction with the increasing interest in the annual run.

Prizes will be awarded to the top ten finishers in both categories. Nakhro further announced that NAA will host a state-level cross-country championship on December 18 at the newly identified Rovies Park near Sovima

