

**THE HEADLINES :-**

- **Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio flags off ambulances boosting state's emergency healthcare services**
- **Aerial survey reveal severe fire damage in Dzükou valley; active flames threaten Northern face near Mt. Japfü**
- **Rajya Sabha MP S Phangnon Konyak hails historic FNTA agreement in Parliament**
- **In Cricket, Nagaland beat Meghalaya in Senior Women's One-Day Trophy Plate**



Nagaland's emergency healthcare services received a major boost today with the flagging off of critical healthcare facilities under a CSR initiative of the Investment and Development Authority of Nagaland and Toyota Kirloskar Motor. A formal asset handing-over ceremony was held today at Chümoukedima, where assets worth over 10 crore rupees were distributed. These included four Advanced Life Support ambulances and medical equipment for healthcare centres as well as educational support materials for two government schools. Speaking at the event, Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio described health and education as top priorities for the state.

The Chief Minister highlighted Nagaland's long-standing partnership with Japan, noting that it has consistently contributed to youth development, sports, and cultural exchange, among others. Conveying gratitude to Toyota, he expressed belief that the initiative would enhance emergency response services and benefit communities, particularly in underserved areas. Deputy Chief Minister Y. Patton noted that the project covers six districts, namely Dimapur, Kohima, Niuland, Chümoukedima, Tseminyu and Zunheboto. Mr Patton assured that efforts would continue to expand such support to remote areas.



Kohima administration carried out an aerial survey yesterday to assess the ongoing forest fire in Dzükou Valley and Mt. Japfü. The team was led by Deputy Commissioner Kohima, B. Henok Buchem, along with officials from the District Disaster Management Authority, SDRF and representatives of the Southern Angami Youth Organization. The survey found that the southern, eastern, and western ranges of Dzükou Valley have largely been burnt, with only residual smoke in some areas. However, active flames continue to burn on the northern face near Mt. Japfü, posing a serious risk of spreading towards Mt. Kahu and re-entering the unburnt areas of Dzükou Valley. Authorities expressed particular concern over the heavily forested Kigwema slope. They said, due to steep terrain and lack of motorable access, ground firefighting operations are not feasible in the critical zones. The team has recommended immediate deployment of Indian Air Force helicopters with Bambi Buckets for aerial water-dousing operations to prevent further escalation. The forest fire, which started in the last week of January, continues to burn. Kigwema Youth Organisation informed that trekking to Mt Japfü has been temporarily suspended until the situation is under control.



Nagaland's Member of Parliament in the Rajya Sabha S Phangnon Konyak has expressed gratitude to the Central government for the creation of the Frontier Nagaland Territorial Authority. Speaking in the Upper House on Tuesday, Ms

Konyak highlighted that Eastern Nagaland, comprising the six districts of Kiphire, Longleng, Mon, Noklak, Tuensang, and Shamator, has been seeking a separate state for more than two decades due to historical and socio-economic backwardness of the region. She thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his vision of peace and progress, and Union Home Minister Amit Shah for his leadership. Hailing the historic agreement, MP Konyak called for early redressal of the developmental grievances of the region.



The State Department of Art & Culture today released three books on traditional Naga heritage in Kohima. The publications include Book Studies on Naga Oral Traditions, Volume 2 by Anungla Aier; Documentation of Indigenous Pottery Tradition of the Nagas by Ditumulü Vasa; and Contemporary Naga Painting: A Study of Cultural Narratives by Lemtila Alinger and Talisenla Imsong. The books was released by Secretary, Art & Culture Department Bodeno S. Colo along with Governor's Award Recipients Rita Krocha and Vilalhou Noudi. Congratulating the authors, Ms Colo encouraged continued efforts to preserve Naga heritage for future generations. She also unveiled the Interactive Kiosk during the programme. The digital platform will be installed at the State Museum, and will allow visitors to experiences the rich culture and traditions of all Naga tribes.



The Confederation of All Nagaland State Services Employees' Association (CANSSEA), today joined the nationwide strike called by the All India State Government Employees Federation. As part of the agitation, CANSSEA submitted the Federation's eight-point charter of demands to the Chief Secretary of Nagaland. Key demands include regularisation of contractual employees, repeal of the National Pension System and restoration of the Old Pension Scheme, among others. Banks in Kohima also participated, demanding repeal of the four labour codes.



Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman today said that the government is working for a resilient and self-reliant India by giving a push to economic growth and ensuring inclusive development. Replying to a discussion on Union Budget in the Rajya Sabha, the Minister said, the National Statistics Office projects country's GDP to grow by 7.4 per cent in 2025-26.

Ms Sitharaman stressed that this year's budget focuses on developing human capital which will lead to creating employment opportunities.



Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal today said that India is at the cutting edge of technology and that this progress is possible only when both the government and the private sector encourage young innovators. Addressing the INDovation, Medtech Innovation and Startup Showcase Programme in New Delhi, he urged medtech startups to expand globally by leveraging India's expanding trade agreements. Speaking to the media, the Minister said it is inspiring to see India's innovation and startup ecosystem growing.



And, In Cricket, Nagaland defeated Meghalaya by 30 runs in the Senior Women's One-Day Trophy Plate group match played at Barabati Stadium in Cuttack today. After winning the toss, Meghalaya elected to field. Nagaland were bowled out for 148, but put up a strong bowling performance to restrict Meghalaya to 118, successfully defending the total.

