

THE HEADLINES :-

- **Akashvani Kohima, Cooperation Department join hands to promote cooperatives, boost financial literacy**
- **Government directs urban local bodies to halt unauthorized toll collection**
- **Nagaland Police reiterate mandatory Protected Area Permit for foreign nationals**
- **30th NWA Naga Wrestling Meet to be held next week; to feature 1st Under-15 and Provisional Championships**



Akashvani Kohima and the Department of Cooperation, Government of Nagaland, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to collaborate on promoting cooperative development, financial literacy, and awareness about cooperative societies through radio broadcasting. The MoU was signed today at the office of Akashvani Kohima by Head of Programme, Ella Kayina, and Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Bendangla Longkumar, in the presence of officials from both sides. The partnership aims to enhance public awareness of cooperative principles and values, government schemes for cooperative societies, financial inclusion, self-help groups, and community-based enterprises. It also seeks to strengthen and revive cooperative institutions. Under the MoU, both parties will jointly produce and broadcast educational radio programmes and support rural communities in accessing reliable information through radio. The agreement will remain in force for a period of three years from the date of signing.



Nagaland Government has directed all Municipal and Town Councils to immediately stop collecting tolls and vehicle entry fees, stating that no prior government sanction was given. In an order issued yesterday, the Municipal Affairs Department said complaints had been received against certain Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) including Dimapur Municipal Council, East Dimapur Town Council and Zunheboto Town Council for continuing to levy such fees despite earlier prohibition. Invoking Section 81 of the Nagaland Municipal Act 2023, the department directed all ULBs to cease collection of urban utility fees, tolls on goods or empty vehicles, and vehicle entry fees. The order clarified that no sanction has been granted under Section 124 of the Act for imposing these taxes. Further, the department directed all structures set up for such collections to be dismantled on or before 6th of next month.



The Commissioner of Police, Dimapur, has reminded that all foreign nationals visiting Nagaland must compulsorily obtain a Protected Area Permit, or PAP. In a press note today, Police said despite repeated advisories on the withdrawal of the relaxation, many continue to enter the state without the permit. To avoid delays in granting PAP, applications should be submitted online through the e-FRRO portal. All foreign visitors must also register with the Foreigners Registration Officer of the district concerned within 24 hours of arrival. Police have directed the public, government departments, travel agents, hotels and others facilitating the stay of foreign nationals to verify valid PAP before providing any service and ensure strict compliance with the rules.



Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar has emphasized on pure electoral rolls in the country saying that it is bedrock of any democracy. Addressing the National Round Table Conference of Election Commission of India and State Election Commissioners in New Delhi today, Mr Kumar said that the Special Intensive Revision exercise was started to include all the eligible electors in the electoral rolls while ineligible electors should be excluded from it. He further asserted that the Election Commission also stresses on transparency and ease of voting.

The Round Table Conference is being held after a gap of 27 years, with the last such meet held in 1999



The Union Cabinet today reiterated its commitment to make Seva Teerth a global example of sensitive, accountable, and citizen-centric governance. Briefing the media after the Cabinet meeting, Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said, in the Seva Sankalp Resolution taken in the first meeting of the Cabinet in Seva Teerth today, the Cabinet resolved that in the journey to make India a prosperous, capable, and self-reliant nation by 2047, the premise will serve as a powerful centre of national aspirations. He informed that the Cabinet approved the proposal to alter the name of the state of Kerala to Keralam.

Mr Vaishnaw said, the Legislative Assembly of Kerala had passed a resolution on 24th June 2024 to alter the name of the state to Keralam.



Nagaland Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla has extended greetings to the Angami community on the occasion of Sekrenyi festival. In a message, he said, the festival of purification and renewal reflects the enduring values of unity, discipline and cultural pride. Expressing hope the festival will inspire harmony, mutual respect and collective progress, the Governor called on everyone to reaffirm their commitment to preserving the rich heritage and work together for peace and prosperity in society. Also extending his greetings, Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio said Sekrenyi also marks the rite of passage of youth into adulthood, reflecting cherished traditions and identity. Mr Rio wished that the festival would bring good health, unity, and renewed spirit of brotherhood.



The Nagaland Wrestling Association (NWA) is all set to host the 30th NWA Naga Traditional Wrestling Championship 2026, along with the 1st NWA Under-15 and the 1st NWA Provisional Championships, on March 6 and 7 at Khuochiezie, Kohima Local Ground. The two-day sporting spectacle will also mark the 1st Wrestling Festival 2026, sponsored by the Ministry of Tourism and the State Tourism Department. Announcing this at a press conference in Kohima today, NWA President Vivolie Kezo said, the opening day will feature the 1st NWA Provisional Championship with eight wrestlers each from the Lotha, Rengma, Sumi, Pochury, Chang and Sangtam Wrestling Associations. In addition, eight wrestlers each from the three affiliated units of Angami, Chakhesang and Zeliang will compete in the 1st NWA Under-15 Championship. The second day will see 18 wrestlers each from Angami, Chakhesang and Zeliang Associations vying for the coveted 30th NWA title. Mr. Kezo expressed gratitude to the state government in promoting Naga wrestling.

Mr Kezo said Naga wrestling has received national exposure through the All India Traditional Wrestling Federation, helping promote the indigenous sport beyond Nagaland with hopes of reaching the international stage. With the nine tribes and presence of national and state leaders, he expressed confidence that the championship will be a grand success.

Tourism Minister Temjen Imna Along will grace the inaugural programme on March 6. Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio will attend on March 7, along with President of the Wrestling Federation of India Sanjay Kumar Singh. Tickets are priced between 200 and 1 lakh rupees under general, donor, well-wishers and VIP categories, and also available online at ahibi.com.

