

MORNING NEWS

0730 HRS

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With around 45,000 different cases of cancer being reported every year in the North Eastern region, a team of 34 persons on 17 bikes are on a campaign to create awareness on the ill effects of tobacco consumption. The cancer awareness "Beat Cancer: Run and Ride 2018" rally organised by Tata Trusts, Cachar Cancer Hospital and Silchar Thumpers Enfield Club in collaboration with the Voice of Tobacco Victims (VoTV), Tata Motors and National Cancer Grid were in Kohima yesterday. The campaign flagged off on 12th of this month from Silchar in Assam has already covered Shillong, Guwahati, Tezpur, Itanagar, Dibrugarh. In Kohima, the team conducted a run for cancer awareness which was participated by students, teachers and bikers while an awareness program was conducted at Naga Hospital. Commissioner and Secretary of Health and Family welfare, Government of Nagaland, R. Ramakrishnan said prevalence of cancer is higher in female as compared to males in north east. He said that around 600-700 cancer cases are reported every year in Nagaland. Expressing that the major problem in Nagaland is passive smoking and also consumption of smokeless tobacco, he appealed to youth and other organizations to come forward to deal with issues concerning the prevalence of cancer. He also encouraged people to change life style in order to avoid the risk of cancer.

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said government is working to ensure that farmers get modern seeds, adequate power supply and easy market access.

Addressing the farmers at annual Krishi Unnati Mela in New Delhi yesterday, the Prime Minister said, the Centre has decided that for all notified crops, Minimum Support Price (MSP) will be at least one and a half times the cost of produce. He said, for this, the cost will include various elements including labour, rent for machinery, cost of seeds and fertilizers and land rent. He reiterated his government's commitment to double farmers' income by 2022. Modi said comprehensive steps have been taken for Agriculture Marketing Reforms and it is important to connect Rural Retail Markets with wholesale and global markets. He said in this year's Union Budget, Grameen Retail Agriculture Markets have been envisaged and 22 thousand rural haats will be upgraded with necessary infrastructure and integrated with APMC and e-NAM platform.

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Newly elected Nagaland Legislative Assembly Speaker, Vikho-o Yhoshü has affirmed to give his best service towards the uplift of his constituency in particular and also uphold the interest of the Naga people in general. In his address during the thanksgiving-cum-felicitation programme organized by NDPP 14-Southern Angami-I Assembly Constituency at Kisama Heritage Village yesterday, Yhoshü while calling upon the people to overcome all bitterness of the electioneering process, said that it is now time to be united and concentrate on the general welfare. He asserted that the top priority would be providing good roads, besides other community oriented development and welfare activities. On human resource development, Yhoshü assured to take up skill development programmes for educated unemployed youth and also the farming community.

The Speaker hoped that the people would continue to support him and the NDPP-led PDA government to carry forward the task of development and welfare related activities. Calling upon the people to stand united and put collective effort to bring change in the society, he also urged upon them to share their views and suggestions for inclusive development.

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Additional Chief Secretary, ACS Temjen Toy has taken charge as the Chief Secretary of Nagaland from yesterday. During his farewell programme, outgoing Chief Secretary Pankaj Kumar said that ACS R Benchilo Thong is to be the new Chief Secretary of Nagaland, but due to his ill health, currently ACS Toy has taken over the responsibility as the chief secretary. In his last address at Secretariat yesterday, Kumar said in normal course, his batch-mate R.B. Thong would have taken over charge from him, but as he is not well, Temjen Toy is going to take over the responsibility. Describing Toy as one of the most action oriented, efficient and effective officers of the cadre, Kumar sought whole-hearted and unstinted cooperation with Toy.

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