



**CHIEF MINISTER
NAGALAND
KOHIMA**

5th September, 2026

MESSAGE

On the occasion of Teachers' Day, I convey my warmest greetings and felicitations to all the teachers, educators and members of the teaching fraternity in Nagaland and across the country. I wish you all a very Happy Teachers' Day.

Teachers' Day is an occasion to recognise and honour the invaluable contribution of teachers who illuminate the path of knowledge and learning through their expertise, dedication and unwavering commitment to the noble profession of teaching. It is also an occasion for us to reflect upon the profound responsibility entrusted to teachers in shaping the minds, character and aspirations of the younger generation.

Teachers are much more than imparting knowledge from textbooks and classrooms. They nurture curiosity, encourage creativity, instil confidence and help young minds distinguish between what is right and wrong. Through their words, actions and example, teachers influence the values and character of generations. In this sense, they are not merely educators, but builders of individuals, communities and the nation.

I take this opportunity to appreciate and acknowledge the dedicated service of our teachers and educators who continue to keep the flame of intellectual curiosity burning brightly in the hearts and minds of our young students. Their relentless efforts, often undertaken with limited resources and considerable challenges, have inspired and empowered countless young people to realise their potential and make meaningful contributions to their families, communities, the State and the nation.

The role of a teacher assumes even greater significance in today's rapidly changing world. We are living in an age of unprecedented technological advancement, where artificial intelligence, digital learning and new forms of communication are transforming the way knowledge is acquired and shared. In such an environment, the role of teachers cannot remain confined to conventional teaching within the four walls of the classroom. Teachers must increasingly become mentors, facilitators, innovators and guides, helping students navigate an increasingly complex world with confidence, wisdom and responsibility.

At the same time, technology can never replace the human touch of a teacher. Machines may provide information, but it is the teacher who inspires, encourages, understands and motivates a child. The values of empathy, compassion, integrity, discipline and respect for others can only be meaningfully nurtured through human relationships. Therefore, even as we embrace technology and innovation in education, we must never lose sight of the importance of human values and character formation.

In a State like Nagaland, where our communities are rich in traditions, cultures, languages and indigenous knowledge, teachers also have a special responsibility to preserve and transmit our cultural heritage while preparing our young people to engage confidently with the wider world. Our children must be rooted in their identity and values, while at the same time being equipped with the knowledge, skills and confidence to compete and contribute at the national and global level.



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I also urge our teachers to pay particular attention to children who may be disadvantaged or require additional support. Every child deserves an opportunity to learn, grow and dream, irrespective of their social or economic circumstances. By identifying the strengths and potential of each child and providing encouragement and guidance, teachers can transform lives in ways that extend far beyond the classroom.

As we look towards the future, Nagaland needs a generation of young people who are knowledgeable, skilled, innovative, responsible and compassionate. We need young people who can become entrepreneurs, scientists, educators, artists, administrators, professionals, sportspersons and leaders, while remaining committed to the welfare of society. The foundation for this transformation is laid in our schools and colleges, and our teachers are its principal architects.

I, therefore, fervently appeal to all teachers to rededicate themselves to the cause of education and become catalysts of positive change. Let us work together to ensure that our classrooms become spaces of creativity, inclusiveness, discipline, discovery and hope. Let us inspire our students not merely to seek employment, but to develop the confidence and skills to create opportunities and contribute meaningfully to society.

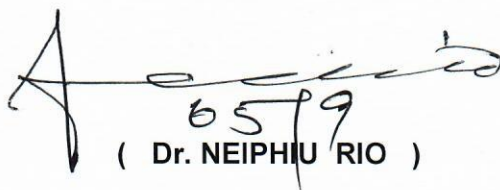
On this occasion, I congratulate Mr. Ronald Meru, recipient of the National Teachers' Award 2026, for his outstanding contribution to the field of education. His achievement is a matter of pride for Nagaland and serves as an inspiration to the entire teaching fraternity. I wish him continued success in all his future endeavours.

I also extend my heartfelt appreciation and congratulations to all the recipients of the State and District Teachers' Awards 2026. Your recognition is a testament to your dedication, commitment and contribution to the noble cause of education.

On this Teachers' Day, let us remember with gratitude all those teachers who have shaped our lives, inspired our dreams and guided us towards becoming better human beings. Their contribution may not always be measured in numbers or statistics, but their impact is enduring and immeasurable.

Once again, I extend my warmest greetings and best wishes to all teachers, educators and members of the teaching fraternity across the State of Nagaland and the country.

May you continue to inspire, educate and empower generations to come.


(Dr. NEIPHU RIO)