



DATE : 13th June, 2025

Condolence Message

It is with profound sorrow and deep anguish that I have learned of the passing of Late Mr. Atuo Mezhür.

Late Mr. Mezhür was a towering figure whose multifaceted contributions to education, social service and especially sports, have left an indelible mark on Nagaland and beyond. His legacy in the field of sports stands as a shining testament to his vision, integrity and unwavering dedication to the cause of youth and athletic excellence.

He held numerous prestigious positions during his lifetime, including Vice President of the All India Football Federation, General Secretary of the Nagaland Olympic Association, President of the Nagaland Football Association and President of the Nagaland Table Tennis Association. In every capacity, he led with foresight, compassion and an unyielding commitment to strengthening the sporting ecosystem of the State and the nation.

Among his many historic milestones was serving as Chef-de-Mission of the Indian Football Team during international competitions in Mauritius, England and Northern Ireland and representing India at the FIFA Conference in Australia. Under his leadership, the Indian football team lifted the Ian Rush Trophy in the UK in 2004—a moment of immense pride for the country. His service transcended state boundaries and included national service as he contributed significantly to enhancing India's reputation in the global sporting arena. As the State Commissioner for Bharat Scouts and Guides he positively impacted young lives and helped shape the youth to becoming contributing citizens and future leaders.

In his role as Regional Director of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, he also worked to uphold the memory and legacy of those who fought in the great wars in defence of democracy and freedom, reminding us all of the value of history, sacrifice and honour.

Late Mr. Mezhür's tireless efforts to uplift youth and support sportspersons in Nagaland laid the groundwork for many of the structures and opportunities we benefit from today. The strong sporting framework we have inherited owes much to the sacrifices and pioneering spirit of visionaries like him. His name will forever be remembered with gratitude, etched in golden letters in the annals of Nagaland's sporting history.

As a young sportsperson, I looked up to him with the deepest respect. He was a beacon of encouragement and a relentless advocate for athletes. His voice was one of strength and conviction—always speaking up for what was right and just. His passing is not just a personal loss but a collective bereavement for the entire sporting community. The void he leaves behind will be difficult to fill.

On behalf of the Nagaland Olympic Association and the entire sports fraternity of Nagaland, I extend our deepest condolences to the bereaved family. We stand in solidarity with them during this time of grief and pray that Almighty God grants them strength and comfort. May the departed soul rest in eternal peace.

(Abu Metha)
Secretary General,
Nagaland Olympic Association and
Vice-President
Athletics Federation of India

