



DATE : 28<sup>th</sup> August 2025

## Greetings Message on National Sports Day

On the occasion of **National Sports Day**, I extend my warm greetings to the sporting fraternity and to every citizen of our great nation.

This day, celebrated in honour of the legendary **Major Dhyani Chand**, is a reminder of the power of sport to inspire, unite and transform lives. Sport teaches us discipline, perseverance and teamwork – values that go far beyond the playing field and shape the character of individuals and communities.

On this day, we also remember the legendary feats and inspiring achievements of **Dr. Talimeren Ao**, India's first Olympic football captain. He remains a national hero and one of Nagaland's greatest sons. It is a matter of pride that Nagaland has made significant contributions to India's sporting journey. Our athletes, sports personalities and sports leaders have brought glory and honour to our people and to the nation across national and international arenas.

Sports has always been a proud avenue through which citizens from Nagaland have contributed to the nation-building process. Today, we honour those who have made all of us proud. The names of **Olympian Ms. Chekrovolü Swüro** and **Paralympic Medallist Mr. Hokato Hotozhe Sema** at the Paris Olympics will remain inspirational and will be upheld among Nagaland's greatest achievers for all times to come.

We remain committed in our common pursuit of achieving higher goals and winning more medals, with the clear understanding that there is always plenty of room for improvement. We thank and appreciate all members of the sporting ecosystem for their contributions and look forward to their continued support.

Together, let us continue to dream big, aim high and strive for excellence.

**Happy National Sports Day!**

**Abu Metha**

Vice President, Athletics Federation of India  
Secretary General, Nagaland Olympic Association

