

## **Morung Express**

### **High literacy rate with lack of jobs can be a liability: Zeliang**

Nagaland Chief Minister, TR Zeliang, today expressed concern that Nagaland state has more than one lakh educated unemployed youths and an equally high number of uneducated or poorly educated youths.

“The very fact that we have such a large number of educated unemployed youth would indicate that there could be something wrong or inadequate in our education system,” the Chief Minister said.

Addressing the 10th freshers’ social cum-annual day of Unity College and 4th freshers’ social-cum-annual day of Unity College of Teacher Education, Zeliang said true education should equip the students with the right skill, relevant for the present situation, and with the right attitude or mindset towards work.

He said though the youths are the assets of society but if they are not employed or engaged in some constructive activities, they become liability to the society.

“Could it be that we are too engrossed with imparting academic education and neglecting the more crucial aspect of equipping them with practical knowledge and skill required to face actual life situations?” Zeliang asked.

He said statistically, the high literacy rate may sound beautiful, but this can “become a burden if our educated youth are unemployed, or cannot support themselves through works.”

The Chief Minister reminded that in today’s fast changing world where competition has reached a level never seen before, the key word for success is excellence and that there is no room for mediocrity.

“One has to study very hard and secure very good marks. Those who cannot do that should at least be prepared to opt for vocational and skill-oriented courses, and accept non-white collared jobs, rather than waste the years and precious resources of parents and guardians,” Zeliang said.

Zeliang also said he was happy to learn that Unity College has been assessed by NAAC with ‘B’ grade and that in the coming session the

college would be offering post graduate course in commerce, thereby becoming the first private college in Nagaland to offer a PG degree course.

Earlier, the Chief Minister also inaugurated the Academic Block building while Home minister, Y Patton, inaugurated the girl's hostel. Chairman, Unity College, N Mhonlumo Ovung, gave the chairman's report and principal, Unity College, Dr. Sanjay Chabra, presented the academic report. The Chief Minister was accompanied by a host of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries.