

:: THE HEADLINES ::

Centre extends Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act in 8 districts and 21 Police Stations in 5 other districts of Nagaland with effect from April 1

Nomination papers of three candidates filed for Nagaland's Lok Sabha election found valid.

President Droupadi Murmu says infrastructure and construction projects should be made climate-friendly and energy-efficient.

All universities directed to use NET score for admission to PhD programmes from academic session 2024-2025

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The Centre has extended the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA) in eight districts and 21 Police Stations in five other districts of Nagaland with effect from April 1, this year. The AFSPA has been in force in certain districts and police station areas in Nagaland for many years now and it is extended periodically. In a notification, the Union Home Ministry said that a further review of the law and order situation in the state of Nagaland has been undertaken. It said, Dimapur, Niuland, Chumoukedima, Mon, Kiphire, Noklak, Phek and Peren districts in Nagaland and the areas falling within the jurisdiction of 21 police stations across five other districts have been declared as 'disturbed area for a period of six months with effect from April 1, 2024 unless withdrawn earlier. With this, six police stations each in Mokokchung and Zunheboto districts, four in Kohima, three in Wokha and one in Longleng are declared as disturbed areas.

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The scrutiny of nomination papers filed by candidates for the Lok Sabha Election 2024 from Nagaland State was held today. The scrutiny was conducted by Commissioner Nagaland and Returning Officer, Sushil Kumar Patel, in the presence of General Observers P. Ramesh and Avinash Champawat. The candidature of National Democratic Progressive Party candidate, Dr. Chumben Murry, Congress candidate, Supongmeren Jamir, and Independent candidate, Hayithung Tungoe Lotha were found to be in order and accepted as per the electoral guidelines and eligibility criteria issued by the Election Commission of India. Meanwhile Congress Substitute candidate nomination paper was rejected since the main candidate nomination papers were found in order. The Scrutiny was witnessed by the candidates and their representative of Congress candidate, further bolstering transparency and accountability for a free, fair and transparent electoral process.

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President Droupadi Murmu has emphasized that the infrastructure and construction projects should be made climate-friendly and energy-efficient. Addressing a group of Assistant Executive Engineers of Central Public Works Department, at Rashtrapati Bhavan today, the President said, the buildings, roads and other infrastructure should be sustainable, energy-efficient and environment-friendly. The President added that the engineers should be innovative in their approach so that they can effectively deal with emerging challenges. The President asked young engineers to not work in silos but adopt a collaborative, forward-looking and technology-driven approach. President Murmu said that new and emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, machine learning and robots are changing traditional thinking. President Murmu said that green construction is the need of the hour and innovative methods of construction have the potential to transform this sector.

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All universities have been directed to use NET score for admission to PhD programmes instead of conducting entrance tests, starting from the academic session 2024-2025. University Grants Commission Chairman Mamidala Jagadesh Kumar in a social media post said that from the academic session 2024-2025, all universities can use NET score for admission to PhD programmes in place of entrance tests conducted by the different universities and Higher education institutions. He further informed that the NET application process for June 2024 session is expected to be available sometime next week as National Testing Agency is working on it.

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National Testing Agency (NTA) has issued advance intimation slip for allotment of examination city to the applicants who are appearing for the second session of the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) Mains exam this year. The session two of the JEE Mains is scheduled to be conducted from 4th of April to 12th of April at various centres across three hundred nineteen cities throughout the country including twenty two cities outside India. The candidates can check and download their examination city through NTA's website. The agency in a statement also noted that this examination city intimation slip cannot be used as the admit card by the candidates. It said, this is the advance information for the allotment of the city where the examination centre will be located.

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Christian around the world will be observing Good Friday tomorrow. It marks the crucifixion and death of Jesus Christ at Calvary. Good Friday is a solemn day for the Christian to reflect, pray and remember Jesus' sacrifice for humanity sin. On the occasion, Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio has extended Good Friday greetings to all citizens. In a social media post, Rio said on Good Friday, we remember the ultimate sacrifice of Jesus Christ and His unconditional love for us. Light conquered darkness and goodness conquered sin. Rio prayed that the day will bring new meaning and positive change in our lives.

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The Nagaland Public Service Commission, NPSC has announced the Combined Technical Services Examination (CTSE) - 2024 for various categories . In a notification, the Commission said that details of the exam will be available on the Commission's website npsc.nagaland.gov.in and the office notice board. It informed that One Time Registration (OTR) will be active from 12:00 noon of 1st April till 12:00 noon of 25th April. The NPSC also requested only those candidates who are eligible to appear CTSE- 2024 to register for OTR. The Commission added that online application for the exam can be submitted through the NPSC portal npsc.nagaland.gov.in from 1st April till 12:00 Noon of 29th April.

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The notification for the second phase of Lok Sabha elections has been issued. The elections will be held in 88 Lok Sabha seats in 12 States including one Union Territory in this phase. Twenty seats of Kerala, 14 seats of Karnataka, 13 seats of Rajasthan, eight seats each of Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra, seven seats of Madhya Pradesh, five seats each in Assam and Bihar, three seats each of West Bengal and Chhattisgarh and one seat each in Manipur, Tripura and Jammu and Kashmir will go to polls in this first phase. Nominations can be filed till the 4th of April. Voting for this phase will be held on the 26th of April.

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Deputy Commissioner and District Election Officer, Peren Vineet Kumar, has asked stakeholders to ensure free and fair elections. The Deputy Commissioner has directed to all the Village Council, Goan Buras, Town Council and Ward Authorities to ensure free and fair conduct of Election and for all eligible voters to cast their votes without fear or intimidation in all polling stations under their respective Jurisdiction.

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Principal Director, School Education, Thavaseelan K encouraged students to become the best version of themselves. Speaking at the Valedictory function of Inter-District Government Higher Secondary Schools and Government High School Tournament at Kohima, yesterday, Thavaseelan advised the students to give their best and not depend on the results. He highlighted about the Nagaland Olympic strategic partnership with Sports for All, a tech-driven sports competition organiser at school and college level to strengthen the sports ecosystem at the grassroots in the North-eastern state. Thevaseelan also emphasized the importance of sports, music and arts which plays a major role in life. The overall winner of the Inter-District GHSS & GHS Tournament 2024 was lifted by Kohima district with a total of 9 medals.

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