

Evening News Script

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:: THE HEADLINES ::

- Government decides to revisit Nagaland Liquor Total Prohibition Act, 1989, with possibility of partially lifting in certain areas.
- Government set to review Nagaland Communitisation of Public Institutions and Services Act of 2002.
- Massive landslide near Dzüdza Bridge leaves around hundred trucks stranded in Chümoukedima district.
- and, Resident Doctors' calls off strike after Supreme Court's intervention on safety concerns.

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In a significant move, the Nagaland Government has decided to revisit The Nagaland Liquor Total Prohibition (NLTP) Act, 1989, with the possibility of partially lifting the prohibition in certain areas. This decision was made during a cabinet meeting held today at Nagaland Civil Secretariat Kohima. Minister for Power and Parliamentary Affairs, KG Kenye, and spokesperson of the state government briefing media highlighted the need to reconsider the NLTP Act, which has not been reviewed since its enactment over three decades ago. Kenye emphasized that the state must address critical issues such as the

unchecked and unregulated inflow of illegal liquor, which poses serious health risks, particularly to the younger generation. He pointed out that the absence of regulatory mechanisms has given free rein to bootleggers, allowing them to smuggle in substandard and potentially harmful liquor. Kenye acknowledged the efforts of church leaders and law enforcement in curbing the menace of alcohol but noted that total prohibition has not succeeded in Nagaland, much like in other parts of the world. He stressed that while Nagaland is a proud Christian state, it must also confront the realities of modern society and adopt a balanced approach. The minister suggested that the state government might consider partial lifting of the prohibition in specific areas, coupled with strict regulations to manage liquor distribution and consumption. Furthermore he also indicated that this issue could be brought up in the upcoming Assembly session for further discussion and possible amendments.

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The Nagaland Government is set to review the Nagaland Communitisation of Public Institutions and Services Act of 2002, particularly focusing on the power sector. The decision was taken today during a cabinet meeting held today Nagaland Civil Secretariat Kohima. Minister for Power and Parliamentary Affairs, KG Kenye, and spokesperson of the state government briefing the media stated that the current communitization system, which entrusts village authorities with managing power tariffs through single-point metering, has not yielded the desired results, especially in urban and suburban areas. As a result, the government is considering repealing this approach and replacing it with modern technologies such as smart metering. These new systems aim to enhance efficiency and reduce losses in the power sector. Additionally, the cabinet discussed amending service rules for Grade III and IV staff within the Public Health Engineering Department (PHED) and the Power Department. After a thorough review, the government intends to review and make certain amendments to

address the aspirations of field staff workers and grievances, which would contribute to a healthier functioning of the government. The cabinet meeting also covered various other pending issues across multiple departments, while it also informed that the assembly would also take discussions on Naga Political Issue besides the NLTP Act 1989.

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A massive landslide near Dzüdzza Bridge under Sechu Zubza in Kohima district has caused significant disruption along National Highway-29, leaving approximately 100 trucks stranded near the Chathe River Bridge in Chümoukedima district, Nagaland. The landslide, triggered by relentless rains, has completely blocked the highway, making it impassable for both commercial and private vehicles. The stranded truck drivers, who have been stuck at the site for the past five days, expressed growing frustration and concern as they await clearance to continue their journey to Kohima. Drivers and their vehicles are facing harsh conditions, with limited access to food and amenities while waiting for the highway to reopen. In light of the disruption, the All Nagaland Taxi Association (ANTA) has fixed the taxi fare between Kohima and Dimapur, setting a new rate of 500 rupees per passenger due to the longer and diverted route. Authorities are working around the clock to clear the debris and restore normalcy, but with the ongoing weather challenges, it remains unclear when the highway will be fully operational again.

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The Resident Doctors' Associations, RDA of All India Institute of Medical Sciences and Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital have called off their strike. The decision comes in response to the appeal and direction of the Supreme Court. The RDA of AIIMS said in a statement that it extends its sincere appreciation to the Supreme Court for taking cognisance of the RG Kar Medical College incident and addressing the

broader issue of safety and security for healthcare workers across the country. The Association also commended the formation of the National Task Force to ensure that these concerns are addressed promptly and effectively. The RDA of RML Hospital, in a statement, said that as their concerns are being addressed by the Supreme Court, they have decided to withhold the strike. The resident doctors were on strike in protest of the alleged sexual assault and murder of a trainee doctor at Kolkata's RG Kar Medical College and Hospital and demanding safety and security of healthcare professionals and justice for the victim.

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Dimapur district administration has decided to set up Aadhaar camps in schools by first week of September for carrying out Mandatory Biometric Update catering to the age group of 5 to 7 years and 15 to 17 years. The decision was taken during the a meeting held under the Chairmanship of ADC Dimapur, Zakabo V. Rotokha at DC's conference hall, Dimapur yesterday. Rotokha sought the cooperation of the school administrators during the Aadhaar Biometric update exercise, in order to avoid inconveniences to the Aadhaar holders, especially students as failure may lead to de-activation and result in authentication failures. The meeting was attended by DEO, DPRO, All Nagaland Private School Association Dimapur Unit, Nagaland School Alliance along with the district administration of Dimapur.

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Delhi Police's Special Cell busted an Al-Qaeda inspired module by detaining six individuals from Bhiwadi, Rajasthan, who were undergoing weapon training. Apart from this, around eight suspects have been detained from Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh. According to Delhi Police, the module was being led by Dr. Ishtiyaq of Ranchi and was aspiring to declare Khilafat and execute serious terrorist activities within the country. Interrogations are currently underway at various

locations and additional arrests are anticipated. 15 places in Ranchi, one in Rajasthan and one in Aligarh have been raided. Recoveries of arms, ammunition, and literature from several locations are also in progress. Special Cell of Delhi Police conducted intelligence-based operations with coordination of state police forces of Jharkhand, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh.

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A three-day book fair organised by BooksWaala commenced today at Likya Hall, Orchid Colony in Wokha. Over one lakh books from various genres including mystery, thriller, non-fiction, motivational books, romance, children's literature, and science fiction are on display. Despite the inclement weather condition, people thronged the fair, where books are being sold at 400 rupees per kilogram.

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