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:: THE HEADLINES ::

- India stresses sovereignty and national jurisdiction at UN discussion on crimes against humanity
- Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio meets former NPF President Dr. Shurhozelie ahead of expected party merger
- Key civil society organizations in Dimapur renew call to lift the NLTP Act in district
- State-Level Catch Them Young Under-14 Sepaktakraw tournament kicks off

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Rajya Sabha MP S. Phangnon Konyak, has reiterated India's position that the states hold primary responsibility to ensure justice and accountability for egregious violations of human rights and mass atrocities committed either in their territory or by their nationals. She said this while delivering a statement at the United Nation's (UN) Sixth Committee on Crimes Against Humanity in New York. Acknowledging the consensus resolution adopted to convene a preparatory committee for the UN Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the issue in 2026-2027, leading to the full UN Conference in 2028-2029, Ms Konyak emphasized that any legally binding treaty must respect national sovereignty and the diversity of legal systems. The MP stressed the need for definitions that include terrorist acts and their sponsors.

Ms Konyak said, India categorically oppose the transposition of existing legal regimes into a new convention without critical examination or adaptation.

The MP called for open, transparent, and consensus-based discussions in the preparatory committee to ensure that any instrument on crimes against humanity fully addresses the legitimate concerns of all member states while upholding the principles of international law.

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Ahead of the anticipated NDPP-NPF merger, Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio today paid a visit to former NPF President Dr. Shurhozelie Liezietsu. In a social media post, Mr Rio said he paid his respects to the senior leader and sought his support and blessing for the political journey ahead. The Chief Minister expressed gratitude to Dr Liezietsu for his guidance and wished him good health and long life.

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A joint consultative meeting of key civil society organizations in Dimapur today agreed on reviving the movement to lift the Nagaland Liquor Total Prohibition

(NLTP) Act, 1989, in Dimapur district. The meeting was attended by Naga Council Dimapur (NCD), Gaon Bura Union Dimapur Sadar, Dimapur Urban Colony Chairmen's Federation (DUCCF), Naga Women Hoho Dimapur, Dimapur Naga Students' Union, Dimapur District Gaon Bura Association, Dimapur Chamber of Commerce & Industries, Business Association of Nagas, Dimapur District Citizens Forum, Eastern Naga Women Organization Dimapur, and Eastern Dimapur Naga Students' Union. The meeting noted that the prohibition has failed to curb sales and consumption of liquor, and resolved that DUCCF President and NCD Councillor Zasivikho Zakiesato will continue as Convener of the Committee for Lifting the NLTP Act to pursue the movement, earlier launched on November 2023. Speaking to media persons, NCD President G.K. Rengma, emphasized that the move is aimed at protecting the youth from the rising consumption of adulterated liquor.

Meanwhile, Mr Zakiesato said, a detailed study on the NLTP Act was submitted to the government in 2023, and the committee will chart its roadmap based on that report.

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Chümoukedima Village Youth Society has reaffirmed its total ban on hunting, fishing and all other activities that endanger the flora and fauna within Chümoukedima jurisdiction. In a statement, the Society cautioned that violators will face strict penalties, including fines of 1 lakh rupees for illegal hunting and 5 lakhs for causing wildfires. To ensure peace and safety, the Old Chümoukedima Heritage Village (Highway bypass) will be closed to picnic groups and trekkers after 6 PM, and loitering within the village will be prohibited after 8 PM. The Society appealed public to cooperate in preserving the environment, upholding community discipline and safeguarding the dignity of Chümoukedima.

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Advisor Information Technology & Communication, Economics & Statistics, Evaluation, H. Sethrongkyu Sangtam, today urged youths to channel their talents with discipline, sincerity and dedication to achieve success. Addressing the inaugural programme of the 27th Mokokchung District Football Association 2025, he emphasized that Naga youth have the potential to excel at all levels if they make proper use of their abilities. In the first match, Sports Society Soyim defeated defending champion Konyak Students' Union Mokokchung by a solidary goal.

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The State-Level Catch Them Young Under-14 Sepaktakraw tournament got underway at Indira Gandhi Stadium in Kohima. At the opening ceremony today, President of the All Nagaland Private School Association (ANPSA), Nini Sekhose, expressed happiness over ANPSA's collaboration with the Department of Youth Resources and Sports, noting it was the first time so many players from private

schools across the state had come together for a sporting event. Highlighting the role of sports in building character, discipline, teamwork, and confidence, she urged players to compete with heart and respect.

Ms Sekhose also commended the coaches, especially Holshe Khrieo, for promoting Sepaktakraw in schools. A total of 15 boys' teams and 13 girls' teams are participating in the tournament. The closing ceremony is scheduled for tomorrow.

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The new GST reform is a major boost for Jammu and Kashmir's traditional industries and local economy, particularly the craft and tourism sectors. Under GST 2.0, GI-tagged products like Pashmina and Kani shawls, Basohli paintings, and walnut wood carvings now attract a 5 percent tax instead of 12 percent, helping artisans to expand sales in domestic and global markets. Similarly, hotel stays upto 7 thousand five hundred rupees are now under the 5 percent bracket, encouraging more visitors, and boosting hospitality and allied services. The new tax structure is intended to increase sales, support traditional livelihoods, and promote inclusive growth across Jammu and Kashmir's rural and urban regions.

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And, in weather, India Meteorological Department has said that Southwest monsoon has further withdrawn from the northeastern states. In Nagaland, the department has forecast predominantly dry weather conditions across all districts throughout the week.

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