

0730 hrs

14th April 2026

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The nation pays homage to the Chief Architect of Indian Constitution Dr B R Ambedkar on his 136th birth anniversary today. Several functions have been organised throughout the country to mark the occasion. In New Delhi, President Droupadi Murmu, Vice President C P Radhakrishnan, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, Union Ministers , Parliamentarians and other dignitaries will pay floral tributes to Dr Ambedkar at his statue in the Parliament House Complex this morning.

Born on 14th April 1891 in Madhya Pradesh, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar dedicated his life to the fight against social discrimination and worked tirelessly to secure equal rights for women, laborers, and marginalized communities. His vision laid the foundation for a just and inclusive society, as reflected in the Constitution of India, which he was instrumental in drafting. Dr Ambedkar's multifaceted contributions from economic policy and infrastructure to constitutional law cemented his legacy as a nation-builder, committed to fostering a just and equitable India. Dr. B R Ambedkar was posthumously honoured with Bharat Ratna in the year 1990. This day holds great significance in honouring his remarkable contributions, particularly in the fields of social justice, equality, and the drafting of the Indian Constitution.

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President Droupadi Murmu has extended her greetings to the citizens on the occasion of the birth anniversary of Dr BR Ambedkar. The President paying her tribute to Dr Ambedkar, said, he dedicated his life to the upliftment of the deprived and vulnerable sections of society and made historic contributions in their favour. On this occasion, the President urged everyone to take pledge to imbibe the ideals of Babasaheb Ambedkar in their lives and contribute towards building a just, inclusive and progressive nation.

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The Athletics Federation of India (AFI) is set to introduce mandatory SRY Gene testing for women athletes this year. This was informed by South Asian Athletics Federation President, Dr. Lalit K. Bhanot, during a press briefing in Kohima yesterday evening. For the first time, the AFI will held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Nagaland, hosted by Nagaland Athletics Association, with the two-day event set to commence in Kohima today. Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio will officially inaugurate the meeting. Dr. Bhanot said the decision to host the AGM in different parts of the country is aimed at encouraging and involving local athletic associations in strengthening the sport at the grassroots level. He added that the federation is prioritising key policy decisions to promote transparency and competitiveness in athletics.

Dr. Bhanot also said the AGM will review performance reports from affiliated state associations, assess grassroots activities, and identify areas requiring improvement. Concerns over declining performance in

some traditionally strong states will also be examined. President of Nagaland Athletics and Vice President of AFI, Abu Metha, said the initiative aims to promote inclusivity, national integration, and unity, while bringing the youth of the region into the national mainstream through sports. He added that the decision to hold the AGM in Kohima reflects this aspiration. Top coaches, national senior coaches, sports scientists, specialists, and former athletes, including Arjuna Awardees, Asian Games medallists, Commonwealth medallists, and World Championship medallists, will participate in the AGM.



BJP Mahila Morcha Nagaland lauded the enactment of the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam Constitution's 106th Amendment Act, 2023 as a transformative step for Indian democracy that paves the way for inclusive and participatory governance. Speaking to media persons yesterday , BJP Mahila Morcha president, Tsachola Rothrong said the landmark reform mandates a 33 percent reservation for women in both the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies, including provisions within seats reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. This act ensures women finally occupy their rightful positions within the nation's highest decision-making bodies. She said with the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam, Naga women will now have constitutionally guaranteed representation in legislative governance. This will open a new chapter of leadership, participation and policy influence for women in our state. The party urged upon all stakeholders across political spheres to support this historic reform in its true spirit stating that the empowerment of women is not a partisan issue but it is a national priority and collective responsibility.

