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:: THE HEADLINES ::

- Special sitting of Parliament with focus on Women's Reservation and Delimitation begins
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi urges consensus on women's reservation, Says Nari Shakti must lead
- Governor Nand Kishore Yadav lauds unity, discipline and dedication of NCC cadets
- State expands wildlife management with new Doyang Division

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The extended Budget Session of the Parliament commenced today with the three-day special sitting. The Lok Sabha took up three key bills for consideration and passing. Union Law Minister Arjun Meghwal introduced the Constitution (One Hundred and Thirty-First Amendment) Bill, 2026, and the Delimitation Bill, 2026. Home Minister Amit Shah introduced the Union Territories Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2026. Mr Meghwal termed the day as historic saying the Constitution (131st) Bill, will ensure 33 percent reservation for women. He said, the bill calls for increasing the total number of seats in the Lok Sabha by 50 percent to 815, with 272 seats reserved for women, while maintaining the relative strength of each state. He added that the 2011 Census will be used for the exercise. Congress MP Gaurav Gogoi said his party is in favour of women's reservation, but opposed linking it to delimitation. He said reservation should be based on the existing 543 seats in the Lok Sabha, and urged the government to implement the reservation immediately. The discussion is underway.

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi has emphasised that fifty percent of the country's population should be made a part of the decision-making process. He said, Nari Shakti is playing an instrumental role in the development of the country, and giving them due representation in the policy-making is the need of the hour. Speaking in the Lok Sabha during the discussion on the three key bills related to the Constitutional Amendments to the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam, Mr Modi stressed that the government wants the spirit of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas' in policymaking.

The Prime Minister appealed to the opposition parties not to give this historic legislation a political colour, as it will be beneficial for all and play a crucial role in shaping the direction and future of the country.

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Women leaders in Dimapur today resolved to support the passage of the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam, which proposes 33 percent reservation for women in the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies by 2029. The resolution was adopted during a conference on the Bill organised by BJP Mahila Morcha Nagaland. Speakers, including leaders of NPF and NPP Women Wings, described the bill as a major step towards women's empowerment and inclusive governance. BJP Mahila Morcha state president Tsachola Rothrong said the bill belongs to all women and not any single party.

Representatives from the Dimapur Municipal Council, tribal bodies and civil society groups also termed the bill as a step towards a shared participation in shaping the future.

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The state Department of Environment, Forests & Climate Change today inaugurated the Doyang Wildlife Division at the Wokha Forest Division office. The division will cover Wokha, Mokokchung, and Zunheboto districts to strengthen wildlife conservation and forest management. Speaking at the event, Minister C.L. John stressed on ecological balance. He said the new division will help address rising human-elephant conflict, adding that more staff would be deployed. Meanwhile, the Forest Utilisation Office in Dimapur has been restructured as Mon Wildlife Division, covering Mon and Longleng districts.

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A 50-member team of National Cadet Corps (NCC) Nagaland, including officers, staff, Associate NCC Officers and cadets, were felicitated today by Governor Nand Kishore Yadav at Lok Bhavan in Kohima for successfully scaling Mount Saramati. This marks the first-ever expedition by NCC Nagaland to the state's highest peak. Speaking on the occasion, Governor Yadav expressed immense pride, stating that the achievement reflects the spirit of unity, discipline and dedication among the cadets. He also lauded the female participation, describing it as a strong example of women's empowerment.

The Governor further highlighted various initiatives of NCC Nagaland, including Vibrant Village visits, disaster response training, and MoUs with NIELIT and ICAR. He added that these will significantly contribute to promoting national integration, as well as all-round personality and skill development of the cadets, preparing them for future employment. Mr Yadav urged the cadets to uphold these values and contribute towards a harmonious and prosperous nation.

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Group Commander NCC Group Kohima, Brigadier Shantanu P Mainkar, has highlighted the significant progress of NCC Nagaland, saying the organisation has evolved from humble beginnings to undertaking major initiatives. These include the Vibrant Village Programme, training of 600 cadets under the Yuva Aapada Mitra scheme with SDRF, various national and regional camps, treks, and cultural activities. Addressing the NCC felicitation ceremony at Lok Bhavan today, he described the Mount Saramati expedition on March 19 as a landmark achievement in the history of NCC Nagaland. He also acknowledged the support of the state government and expressed confidence that the proposed NCC training academy in Nagaland will be transformative.

Brigadier Mainkar added that NCC cadets will play a key role in nation-building and contribute towards the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

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A high-level district stakeholder consultation on Viksit Nagaland 2047 was held in Zunheboto today aimed at formulating a comprehensive development roadmap for the state. The consultation sought to gather inclusive, multi-sectoral inputs to identify systemic gaps and set targets for the milestone years 2030, 2038, and 2047, with the goal of building a self-sufficient and sustainable Nagaland. Deputy Commissioner, Dharam Raj, emphasized the need for inclusive and participatory approach for effective planning, and called for enhanced powers for district-level administrations.

Discussions focused on inclusive budgeting for persons with disabilities, women, and youth, and collaboration with NITI Aayog. Officials, and representatives from civil society groups, educational institutes and church took part in the programme. A similar consultation was held in Kiphire, where participants shared recommendations and priorities, particularly for remote communities.

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