

Evening News Script

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:: THE HEADLINES ::

- President Droupadi Murmu confers Padma Awards to 66 eminent personalities for 2026
- Governor Nand Kishore Yadav underscores education as key to empowerment and progress
- Chief Minister and NPF President Neiphiu Rio reaffirms merged NPF'S role in protecting Naga identity
- And, Prices of Petrol and Diesel hiked by more than 2 rupees per litre

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President Droupadi Murmu today conferred Padma Awards to 66 eminent personalities for the year 2026 at the first Civil Investiture Ceremony held at Rashtrapati Bhavan. The Awards presented include two Padma Vibhushan, six Padma Bhushan and 58 Padma Shri. Noted film actor Dharmendra Singh Deol was conferred Padma Vibhushan posthumously, while legendary violin maestro Dr. N. Rajam also received Padma Vibhushan. From the Northeast, Techi Gubin of Arunachal Pradesh, Haricharan Saikia of Assam, Yumnam Jatra Singh of Manipur and Hally War of Meghalaya, were among those conferred the Padma Shri.



Nagaland Governor Nand Kishore Yadav, today underscored education as the key to empowerment and progress. He was interacting with beneficiaries of the Post Matric Scholarship Scheme for Scheduled Tribe students during the 'Janjatiya Garima Utsav' celebration at Lok Bhavan in Kohima. The Governor expressed satisfaction that many students from Nagaland are benefiting from the scheme, and urged them to work hard and remain disciplined. He also called on the youth of the state to contribute towards nation-building and the vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047, while staying connected with the rich values and traditions of their tribal heritage. Highlighting the importance of youth empowerment, Mr Yadav emphasized skill development, entrepreneurship, vocational training, tourism and agriculture-based industries to address unemployment in the state. He further stressed the importance of quality education, infrastructure development, unity and lasting peace for the progress of Nagaland. On the occasion, the Governor also paid tribute to tribal freedom fighter Birsa Munda for his courage and dedication to justice for tribal communities. Officials from the Higher & Technical Education and Tribal Affairs Departments, along with students from various colleges attended the programme.



Nagaland Chief Minister and President of Naga People's Front (NPF) Neiphiu Rio today said regional parties continue to play an important role in protecting Naga identity, culture and customary laws. He was speaking at the distribution of NPF tickets for the Town Council By-election 2026 at the party's Central Headquarters in Kohima.

Mr Rio highlighted that the Election Commission of India had formally recognised the NDPP-NPF merger on May 4 this year, calling it a historic development. He urged all party workers to embrace the moment as a 'golden period' and rededicate themselves to the service of the Naga people. Describing the NPF a 'Naga party' and custodian of Naga identity, Mr Rio said that even if physical integration of all Naga areas was not possible, emotional and socio-cultural integration among all Nagas remained the responsibility of the party. Mr Rio also stressed the need for discipline within the party and adherence to the party constitution and anti-defection provisions, referring to past crises in local bodies in

Kohima and Dimapur. Meanwhile, NPF Secretary General Achumbemo Kikon said the upcoming by-election would be the first electoral test for the merged party. The NPF tickets were issued to Neitsüu Kuotsu for Chumoukedima Ward 11 (Chaara), Along Lotha for Wokha Ward 8 (Tsumang B) and Shimavi Kiba for Atoizu Ward 9 (Samba Ghoki). Nominations for the by-election is till May 29, while polling is scheduled for June 16.

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Petrol price has been hiked by 2 rupees 61 paise per litre, while that of diesel increased by 2 rupees 71 paise per litre today, marking the fourth hike in two weeks. With this revision, petrol in Kohima now cost 104 rupees 80 paise per litre, while diesel is at 96 rupees 11 paise per litre. In Dimapur, petrol is now priced at 103 rupees 67 paise and diesel at 95 rupees and 21 paise.

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The Assam government today introduced the Uniform Civil Code Bill in the state assembly. The bill seeks to ban polygamy and make registration of live-in relationships compulsory. The Bill will not be applicable to any of the Scheduled Tribes residing in Assam. For marriage, the Bill sets 21 years and 18 years as minimum age for men and women respectively, and prohibits polygamy. To safeguard legal rights, the Bill proposes to make marriage and divorce registration compulsory, which will be vital for securing maintenance, inheritance and other legal protection for spouses. State Cabinet Minister Atul Bora introduced the Uniform Civil Code Assam Bill 2026 in the house on behalf of Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma.

With this, Assam has become the first in the North-east and the third state in the country following Uttarakhand and Gujarat to have introduced the legislation. The Bill has been scheduled for discussion on May 27.

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The Wokha Town Council (WTC) is implementing stricter waste management measures to improve sanitation in the district. Addressing a press conference today, WTC Chairperson Myingthungo Kikon informed that the Council will no longer collect unsegregated waste, in line with a Supreme Court directive. He urged residents to properly separate dry, wet, sanitary, and e-waste at source. The Council informed that sanitary waste will be collected every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, while dry waste and e-waste should be handed over to scrap pickers and wet waste composted for kitchen gardening. Deputy Chairperson Nzano P. Kikon cautioned of strict action against improper disposal of animal carcasses, and dumping waste into drains and rivers. Meanwhile, WTC member Mhao Ngullie said import of new pig consignments into Wokha district has been suspended until further notice, following concerns over suspected swine flu cases. Existing stocks will be inspected by the Animal Husbandry Department to ensure safe consumption.

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The Nagaland government has revised the date of public holiday for Id-ul-Zuha (Bakrid) for this year. According to a notification issued by Chief Secretary Sentiyaner Imchen, the holiday will now be observed on Thursday, May 28, instead of May 27 as notified earlier. The change applies to all government offices across the state. The revision follows an order issued by the Department of Personnel and Training under the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions which shifted the date of the holiday.

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And, In weather, India Meteorological Department has forecast heavy to very rainfall across the Northeast region during the next 6 to 7 days. For Nagaland, the department said heavy rainfall is likely in isolated areas tomorrow, as well as on the 30th and the 31st of this month.

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