

THE HEADLINES :

- **North Eastern Council holds 73rd Plenary Session in Shillong**
- **Governor Nand Kishore Yadav calls for greater connectivity, youth empowerment, and regional cooperation**
- **Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio highlights Nagaland's key development priorities at NEC Plenary Session**
- **Nagaland imposes one-year ban on products containing tobacco or nicotine**



The 73rd Plenary Session of North Eastern Council (NEC) was held in Shillong, Meghalaya today. The session focused on key issues related to regional development, connectivity, infrastructure, investment, tourism, power, education and inter-state cooperation. Union Home Minister Amit Shah chaired the session, attended by Governors, Chief Ministers, and senior officials from across the eight northeastern states.



Nagaland Governor Nand Kishore Yadav has called for stronger regional cooperation, improved connectivity, and greater investment in infrastructure, youth empowerment, and sustainable development while addressing the 73rd Plenary Session of NEC in Shillong. Highlighting agriculture as the backbone of the State's economy, the Governor stressed the need to strengthen value chains and market access for Nagaland's organic products. He highlighted the need to expedite connectivity projects in the state and advocated for the establishment of premier educational institutions in Nagaland, promotion of entrepreneurship and skill development, and support for sustainable energy initiatives. He also called for strengthening the NEC through enhanced powers and funding to accelerate regional development. Governor Yadav reaffirmed Nagaland's commitment to building a prosperous, sustainable, and inclusive Northeast in line with the vision of Viksit Bharat and Viksit Nagaland.



Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio today highlighted the State's key development priorities, fiscal concerns, and strategic initiatives at the ongoing NEC Plenary Session in Shillong, and appealed for continued support from the Centre, the DoNER Ministry, and the North Eastern Council. He expressed concern over the discontinuation of Revenue Deficit Grants under the 16th Finance Commission, saying it has created a major fiscal gap for the State. While appreciating the Centre's support of 3,880 crore through Pride of Hills under SASCI, during FY 2026-27, he said the assistance is loan-based and conditional, and falls short of the state's estimated revenue gap. The state has therefore, sought annual Special Grants to address the shortfall. The Chief Minister also sought support for several major infrastructure projects, including the Foothill Road or Trans-Nagaland Highway, the proposed airport at Ciethu, inland waterways, and construction of flyovers in Dimapur, Kohima, and Chümoukedima. He also sought extension of the Dimapur-Zubza railway line up to Kohima and, onward to Imphal. Mr Rio further requested the establishment of an IIT and an AIIMS in Nagaland, strengthening NIMSR, development of the proposed Nagaki City, and support for power infrastructure, sports development, and the promotion of coffee and agarwood cultivation. He also called for the early resumption of oil and natural gas exploration in the State. The Chief Minister reaffirmed Nagaland's commitment to

working with the Centre and neighbouring states to advance the vision of a prosperous, peaceful and integrated North East.



During the session, Chief Minister Rio presented the final report of High-Level Task Force on Handloom & Handicrafts in the northeast region, as the panel's Convenor. In a post on X, Mr Rio said the task force reviewed the sector, identified gaps, mapped high-potential clusters, and proposed an actionable roadmap for the future. He said, the report reflects inputs from all eight north-eastern states and outlines a phased roadmap for the sector to achieve raw material self-reliance, double artisan incomes, generate 2 lakh livelihoods, and position the region as a global leader in ethical and sustainable textiles. Speaking to media after the session, he said discussions focused on identifying growth drivers for each state.



The Commissioner of Food Safety, Nagaland, has imposed a one-year ban on the manufacture, processing, packaging, storage, transportation, distribution, and sale of all food products containing tobacco or nicotine as ingredients across the state. The order has been issued in the interest of public health and in compliance with the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, relevant Regulations, and directions of the Supreme Court. The ban covers all forms of gutkha, pan masala, flavoured or scented chewable food products, and any other food items containing tobacco or nicotine. It also applies to packaged or unpackaged products sold separately but intended to be mixed by consumers. The state Health and Family Welfare Department noted that the widespread use of such products poses serious health risks, particularly to children and young adults.



MLA Jwenga Seb today emphasised the need to steer young people away from substance abuse and other harmful activities. Speaking at the inauguration of a new football turf at Tesophenyu New in Tseminyu district, he said sports can play a vital role in helping youth stay focused, healthy, and motivated.



India has undergone a remarkable transformation, driven by the principles of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas and Sabka Prayas under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the last 12 years. During this period, the Modi government carried out many flagship initiatives for the welfare and empowerment of the poor, farmers, women and youth. Akashvani News brings you a special feature on the Government's efforts over the last 12 years across key sectors. Today, we focus on the measures taken by the government towards Ease of Doing Business. A report:



The Kohima Municipal Council, KMC, has reminded residents that disposal of septic tank waste into drain, nullahs, open land or water bodies is strictly prohibited. According to a notification issued on June 3, the council said such practices violate the Solid Waste Management Rules 2026, which prohibits direct dumping of untreated domestic and liquid waste to safeguard public health and water sources. KMC has warned that any individual or party found illegally disposing such wastes will face heavy penalties in accordance with the rules.

