

Morning News Script

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Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio has outlined a comprehensive regional roadmap to position the Handlooms and Handicraft sector as a globally competitive and sustainable industry. Delivering a presentation on the progress report of the High-Level Task Force on Handlooms and Handicrafts at the 73rd Plenary Session of the North Eastern Council held in Shillong yesterday, Mr Rio emphasized that the Northeast, with its rich cultural heritage and strong artisan base, holds immense potential to emerge as a global hub for handlooms and handicrafts. However, he pointed out that the sector continues to face structural challenges, such as outdated technology, weak quality-testing systems and limited market access. Mr Rio also said over the next three years, the initiative aims to train more than 50,000 artisans, establish over 30 Common Facility Centres and support over 16 lakh artisans across the region by generating two lakh additional jobs, and achieving an export target of 5,000 crore rupees by 2030. This, he said a proposed investment of 501.70 crore rupees will support infrastructure, skill development and market expansion. Mr Rio further underscored that the “Brand North East” initiative will promote the region’s unique craftsmanship in national and international markets. The presentation also proposed the formation of a High-Level Steering Committee to monitor implementation, review progress periodically, and ensure coordinated execution of recommendations across the region.

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World Environment Day is being celebrated across the globe today. The day is observed to raise global awareness to take positive environmental action to protect nature and the planet Earth. The 2026 theme is "Inspired by Nature. For Climate. For Our Future." On the occasion, Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio reaffirmed the collective responsibility of protecting ecosystems that sustain life and livelihoods. Mr Rio emphasized that by conserving the natural resources and biodiversity, society can build a more sustainable and resilient future for generations to come.

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Minister for Higher Education and Tourism, Temjen Imna Along, yesterday inaugurated the academic building of Phek Government College under the

Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA). Addressing the event, Mr Along said that taking honest responsibility and stewardship is the new mantra for a transformed educational system in Nagaland. Mr Along further urged both the students and the faculty to work towards being resourceful and contribute in every field to the state and the country at large. Meanwhile, Additional Secretary to the Government of Nagaland and SPD, PM-USHA, Sentiyanger Pongen, emphasised the transformative role of PM-USHA (Pradhan Mantri Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan) in strengthening higher education infrastructure in the state.

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The District Administration, Zunheboto, yesterday conducted a consultative meeting on the implementation of the Rules for Administration of Justice and Police in Nagaland (Fifth Amendment), 2025. During the deliberations, Deputy Commissioner Zunheboto, Dharam Raj emphasized the need for clear delineation of powers and responsibilities among the different levels of customary courts. He noted that serious criminal offences continue to be dealt with under the regular judicial system and stressed the importance of ensuring that customary courts function within the scope provided by law.

Superintendent of Police, Zunheboto, Dr. Kupe Kapfo, stressed the need for clear guidelines on the nature of cases that may be taken up by the Village, Subordinate, and District Customary Courts while ensuring fairness and adherence to legal principles.

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In a move aimed at maintaining public order and ensuring the safety of citizens, Dimapur Police have reiterated that prior written permission is mandatory for organizing any public gathering, rally, or democratic protest within the city. According to a notice issued by the Deputy Commissioner of Police (Crime) cum PRO, the police fully recognize and respect the democratic rights of citizens to assemble peacefully and express their views. However, the notice emphasized that safeguarding public safety, maintaining law and order, and preventing disruption to traffic and commercial activities remain equally important responsibilities. The police stated that any form of public gathering, rally, or protest must receive prior written approval from the competent authority before being conducted. The notice further reminded the public that all forms of public gatherings are strictly prohibited at the Clock Tower area in Dimapur, in accordance with the Government orders.

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