

Morning News Script

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The Nagaland Baptist Church Council (NBCC) has urged Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio to press the Centre to withdraw the proposed Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2026, claiming that it would adversely affect churches, Christian institutions, charitable organisations and civil society groups engaged in humanitarian and developmental work. In a representation submitted to the chief minister, the NBCC, representing 21 Baptist Associations, four associate members, 1,626 congregations and 7,48,532 baptised members across Nagaland, said the Church has been a key partner in the state's development for over a century through its work in education, healthcare, peacebuilding, disaster relief, youth and women's empowerment, de-addiction programmes, and care for the poor and marginalised. While acknowledging the Government of India's authority to regulate foreign contributions in the interests of national security, transparency and accountability, the council maintained that the proposed amendments go beyond reasonable regulation and impose excessive restrictions on genuine charitable and faith-based organisations that complement government welfare efforts.

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A Deputy Commissioner-level Border Coordination Meeting between Jorhat district of Assam and Mokokchung district of Nagaland was held yesterday at the ADC Office in Mangkolemba under Mokokchung district. During the meeting, both sides reaffirmed strict adherence to the status quo at Aosenden Village, in line with the decision taken at the Chief Secretary-level meeting on 31st July 2021, and agreed to refrain from any activity or new construction that would violate the existing arrangement. Regarding Aokum Village, the two districts decided that the concerned Border Magistrates would conduct a joint verification of the area within seven days. Both administrations also agreed to strengthen coordination, maintain regular communication, promptly share details of newly transferred Border Magistrates and police officers, and provide prior intimation of official border visits while taking local sensitivities, including Sunday observance in Nagaland, into consideration.

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The Central Government has amended Drugs Rules, 1945 to Strengthen Regulation of High Alcohol-Containing Drug Formulations. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has removed the existing exemption from licensing requirements for formulations containing ethyl alcohol. According to the notification issued by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare all formulations containing more than 12 percent per volume of ethyl alcohol, in quantities exceeding 30 mili litre, will no longer be covered under

the exemption provided to them under Schedule K. Such products will be required to obtain the requisite licenses under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940.

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The monthly meetings of the District Planning and Development Boards of Chümoukedima and Wokha were held yesterday, with discussions focusing on governance, infrastructure and public welfare. At Chümoukedima, DPDB Chairman and Advisor Zhaleo Rio urged government officers to discharge their duties with dedication and commitment. Advisor Hekani Jakhalu stressed the need to strengthen the local economy by supporting MSMEs and local enterprises in line with the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047. The Board approved society registration proposals, cleared Local Area Development Programme proposals for 2026-27, reviewed the ongoing Census exercise, and emphasised scientific solid waste management. It also recommended taking up the reconstruction of the damaged suspension bridge at Chümoukedima Saturday Bazaar with the State PWD. Meanwhile, at Wokha, DPDB Chairman Mhathung Yanthan chaired the Board meeting, where members reviewed progress on National Highway-2 repairs, discussed solid waste management at the Doyang Hydro Reservoir, and heard presentations from the Police, Prison and Labour Departments. The Board also visited the District De-Addiction Centre at Chukitong, where members assured continued support for rehabilitation initiatives.

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And, In the FIFA World Cup, Spain has booked its place in the semi-finals, defeating Belgium 2-1 in the second quarter-final at Los Angeles Stadium in Inglewood, United States last night. Earlier, France advanced to the semi-finals with a comfortable 2-0 victory over Morocco in the first quarter-final in Boston. In the remaining quarter-finals, Norway will face England at Miami Gardens tonight. The match will begin at 2:30 a.m. Indian Standard Time. Defending champions Argentina will take on Switzerland in the fourth quarter-final at Kansas City tomorrow.

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