

Evening News Script

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:: THE HEADLINES ::

- Both houses of Parliament adjourned sine die, with passage of 12 Bills during Monsoon Session
- Governor Nand Kishore Yadav calls for people-centred development
- Nagaland government to lease Kisama Heritage Village under Public-Private Partnership
- And, NSF asks schools not to send students to Independence Day event requiring full Vande Mataram

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Both the Houses of Parliament have been adjourned sine die. The Monsoon session of Parliament, which began on the 20th of last month, concluded today after having 19 sittings spread over 25 days. Several Bills were passed during the session, including The Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill, 2026, and the Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Bill, while the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2026, was referred to a Joint Parliamentary Committee for further scrutiny. The session also saw repeated disruptions over the issue of students' protests over the NEET paper leak, alleged police action against protesting students and others. In his concluding remarks, Rajya Sabha Chairman C P Radhakrishnan expressed concern over the repeated disruptions. He informed that the House functioned for only 37 hours and 49 minutes.

Addressing a press conference, Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju said 12 Bills were passed during the Monsoon Session, but only one of them was

discussed in both Houses. He stated that during this session, productivity stood at 19 per cent in the Lok Sabha and 39 per cent in the Rajya Sabha.

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Governor Nand Kishore Yadav visited Wokha district headquarters today and interacted with district officials, community leaders and civil society representatives. Addressing the gathering at the DC Office, Mr Yadav called for people-centred development with greater focus on education, healthcare, connectivity, agriculture and livelihood opportunities. He stressed the need to support farmers through processing, value addition and better market linkages, while encouraging youth to pursue entrepreneurship, skill development and self-employment. The Governor also called for preservation of Lotha heritage and the environment, and encouraged sustainable eco-tourism.

During the visit, the Lotha Hoho and Lotha Elo Hoho submitted representations seeking intervention on the Wokha-Bokajan Road and establishment of a hand-weaving centre in Wokha. Various departments also highlighted ongoing development works and key achievements.

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Nagaland Government has decided to lease Naga Heritage Village, Kisama, under a Public-Private Partnership. Minister for Tourism Temjen Imna Along said the decision was taken during a cabinet meeting held recently in Wokha. He said the site will be leased for activities throughout the year, except during the Hornbill Festival. The Minister said an open tender will be invited with first preference given to citizens of Nagaland and their societies or firms. He added that the Hornbill festival will be under the nodal department of Tourism.

Mr Along further said the Department of Tourism is currently working out the modalities for the lease, and an open bidding process is expected to begin in September.

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Naga Students' Federation (NSF) has asked schools in the state not to send pupils to Independence Day programmes where the full version of Vande Mataram is to be sung. In a statement, NSF said it has no objection to the Independence Day celebration or to showing due respect to the National Flag, National Anthem and

other national symbols. However, it expressed concern over the compulsory participation in the full National Song, particularly because of its devotional and religious imagery, and argued that students should not be compelled to participate in religiously sensitive expressions contrary to their beliefs. Meanwhile, the Nagaland Baptist Church Council (NBCC) has said coercion is not a sustainable basis for genuine national integration, and objected to any compulsory imposition of practices that conflict with citizens' religious or conscientious convictions. Acknowledging NSF's concern, NBCC appealed all stakeholders to exercise wisdom, restraint and constitutional sensitivity and to respect differences of conscience and conviction with dignity.

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Chairman of Task Force for Music and Arts (TaFMA) Theja Meru today launched “Queen for a Cause”, an initiative of Beauty & Aesthetics Society of Nagaland (BASN) in Kohima. The community-building initiative brings together past, present and future Miss Nagaland winners and runners-up into a lifelong sisterhood. It aims to harness their collective influence, experience and leadership to advocate for meaningful causes, serve communities and inspire future generations across Nagaland. Addressing the launch programme, Mr Meru called on beauty queens to use their visibility and influence responsibly to inspire positive change. Congratulating BASN for the initiative, he said the coming together of the queens represents the power of collective action. Mr Meru said fame should be treated as a currency that opens doors and provides an opportunity to reach and inspire a wider audience.

Mr Meru said fame also comes with responsibility, assuring that TAFMA would continue to work with the initiative to connect queens with more organisations and corporates beyond Nagaland. He urged the queens to become ambassadors of Nagaland, promoting its youth, culture and vibrancy while showcasing the state’s resilience and strength to the world. BASN President Mele Pucho said, the initiative is more than an alumni network, describing it as a movement that keeps the queens actively engaged in championing causes, mentoring and collectively advocating for issues affecting the people of Nagaland. So far, 20 Miss Nagaland beauty queens have joined the initiative, with more expected to come on board.

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In celebration of India's 80th Independence Day, Nagaland Governor has granted remission to 29 eligible convicted prisoners across the state. The remission has been granted to 9 prisoners from Central Jail Dimapur; 6 from District Jail Mon; 5 from District Jail Mokokchung; 3 from District Jail Kohima; 2 each from District Jails in Longleng and Phek; and 1 each from District Jails in Tuensang and Wokha. Under the order, prisoners sentenced to 10 years or more will receive 30 days' remission, while those sentenced to five to 10 years will receive 20 days. Prisoners serving sentences of 1 to 5 years will receive 10 days' remission, while those sentenced up to 1 year will receive 5 days. The order will take effect from the 15th of August.

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And, in weather... The India Meteorological Department has forecast heavy rainfall over parts of North East region till tomorrow. Nagaland is likely to see fairly widespread rain with thunderstorm and lightning across most districts till Sunday.

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