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:: THE HEADLINES ::

- Ninth session of 14th Nagaland Legislative Assembly to commence tomorrow
- Governor Nand Kishore Yadav calls for stronger support system for veterans
- Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio urges need for effective resettlement and rehabilitation of ex-servicemen
- President Droupadi Murmu urges students to adopt global outlook with cultural roots

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The ninth session of the 14th Nagaland Legislative Assembly will commence tomorrow. With two sittings scheduled, the house is expected to take up the Frontier Nagaland Territorial Authority Bill, which seeks to set up a new administrative body for the eastern parts of the state. Besides, the question hour and discussions on Matters of Urgent Public Importance, government bills and resolutions, CAG reports, along with Annual Administrative Reports and Assembly Committee Reports are also scheduled to be presented in the House.

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Nagaland Governor and President of the Rajya Sainik Board, Nand Kishore Yadav, has called for a stronger and more responsive support system for ex-servicemen and their families, stressing that the nation's responsibility towards its soldiers does not end with their retirement. Addressing the 24th Annual Meeting of the Rajya Sainik Board Nagaland at Lok Bhavan today, Mr Yadav said veterans' welfare remains a continuing national commitment to those who have served the country. He highlighted the role of the Board in connecting the Armed Forces, government and veteran community, and called for timely access to healthcare, education, employment and financial assistance. He also urged special attention to Veer Naris, Veer Matas and families of fallen soldiers, saying the sacrifices of military personnel are also borne by their families. Describing ex-servicemen as a valuable resource, the Governor said their experience, discipline, leadership and resilience can continue to benefit society.

Mr Yadav stressed the need for stronger coordination among the Rajya Sainik Board, Zila Sainik Boards, district administrations, government departments, military authorities and ex-servicemen associations. He also called for strengthening district-level mechanisms and suggested greater use of technology to improve access to services, particularly for elderly veterans and families in remote areas.

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Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio has stressed the need for effective resettlement and rehabilitation of ex-servicemen. Speaking at the 24th Annual Meeting of the Rajya Sainik Board, Nagaland, today, he said that soldiers retire at a relatively young age to maintain an active and fighting-fit force, often at a stage when they still have family responsibilities and are yet to settle in life. He therefore called for greater focus on employment, healthcare, pensions, and education opportunities for veterans and their families.

Referring to the Armed Forces' performance during Operation Sindoor, Mr Rio praised the morale and commitment of the country's soldiers. He also recalled the sacrifice of late Captain Kenguruse during the Kargil War, and said the Army's efforts to preserve his memory would inspire more Naga youth to join the Armed Forces. The Chief Minister added the special care must be extended to Veer Naris, widows and dependents of fallen soldiers. Noting that the welfare of veterans was not merely an administrative responsibility, but a moral obligation, Mr Rio reaffirmed that the state government remained committed to strengthening the institutional framework for Sainik Welfare. The Chief Minister urged all departments and agencies to ensure that welfare measures reached intended beneficiaries in a timely, transparent and accessible manner.

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President Droupadi Murmu today said the textile and apparel sector is not only an important part of India's cultural heritage but also provides livelihood to millions of people. Addressing the convocation ceremony of the National Institute of Fashion Technology, she called upon the students to adopt a global outlook while remaining rooted in the country's rich cultural heritage and values. Emphasising the growing role of women in the fashion industry, the President said around 85 per cent of the nearly four thousand students present at the event are women.

Calling upon the youth to contribute to the vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047, the President said students should not remain merely job seekers, but should strive to become job providers and create employment opportunities for others.

