

Morning News Script

0730 hrs

8th October 2026

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A one-day Off-Taker Meet 2026, organised by the ELEMENT Nagaland Project under SoCRAN, was held at Kohima yesterday, under the theme, Connecting Producers, Markets and Technology for a Stronger Market Ecosystem. Secretary, Industries and Commerce, and Project Director, ELEMENT, Kumar Ramnikant, said Nagaland's biodiversity, forests, farms and community landscapes provide significant opportunities for sustainable livelihoods through products including coffee, honey, large cardamom, Naga chilli, black rice, millets, medicinal plants and wild fruits. He stressed the need to strengthen value chains by supporting producer groups in processing, quality certification, branding and enterprise development. Mr Ramnikant said the meet aimed to bridge gaps between producers and markets, with greater clarity on quality, certification, packaging, pricing, volumes and delivery. He also called for stronger convergence among government agencies, buyers, certification bodies and financial institutions to create sustainable economic opportunities for communities.

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The Central Post Disaster Needs Assessment team from the Ministry of Home Affairs, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM) and Central Building Research Institute (CBRI) is assessing monsoon-related damages in Nagaland. The team visited Tuensang on October 6, and Mokokchung and Longleng on October 7, holding meetings with district administrations and line departments to review damage and loss assessment. At Mokokchung, Lead Consultant and Coordinator, NRCC, NDMA, Shashank Mishra stressed the need for proper documentation of the severity of damages to facilitate recovery, reconstruction and effective post-disaster planning. The team also visited Penli Ward, where two persons lost their lives in a landslide on July 29.

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The Chakhesang Students' Union (CSU) yesterday held a peaceful democratic agitation at Pfutsero, demanding termination of M/s Ratna Infrastructure Projects Pvt. Ltd. from the National Highway-29 two-lane Kohima-Jessami road project and accountability from the National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd over the delay in execution of the project. During the agitation, the CSU submitted a representation to the Union Minister of Road Transport & Highways, seeking termination of the EPC contractor and immediate re-tendering of the project. A three-point charter of demands were placed before the Union Ministry, which sought immediate termination of the firm within 14 days, immediate re-tendering of the project within 14 days and maintenance of the road until completion of the project. The union urged the Ministry to take the representation seriously and address the difficulties faced by the public. It warned that failure to address its demands would compel it to initiate further agitation, for which it said the Ministry would be held responsible.

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The All Sümi Students' Union, SKK, has served a seven-day ultimatum to heads of offices and staff of various government departments under Satoi EAC Headquarters in Zunheboto, demanding regular attendance and proper functioning of their respective offices. In a letter issued yesterday, the union expressed concern over the non-availability and irregular functioning of government offices, stating that the issue came to its notice during an education tour across Sümi-inhabited areas, particularly Satoi. The SKK said the situation has caused inconvenience to the public, who depend on these offices for essential government services and assistance. The ultimatum remains in force till October 13, during which the concerned offices have been directed to remain functional and accessible during official working hours. The departments listed include Rural Development, Social Welfare, PWD Housing, Veterinary and Animal Husbandry, and Agriculture. The union warned that failure to comply by October 13 would invite strong action and further necessary steps.

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And, Special Camps will be conducted at all polling stations across Kohima district tomorrow in connection with the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) 2026. The camps are being organised as directed by the Election Commission of India through the Chief Electoral Officer, Nagaland, to facilitate electors who have received notices to submit the required documents for the revision process. During the camps, Form 6, Form 7 and Form 8, wherever applicable, along with the required documents, will be collected from electors and properly recorded and maintained. Deputy Commissioner and District Election Officer, Kohima, B. Henok Buchem has directed all EROs and AEROs to ensure the conduct of the Special Camps and compile photographic, video and testimonial records submitted by BLOs. The compiled records are to be submitted to the District Election Officer by 4 PM tomorrow.

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