

THE HEADLINES:

- **President Droupadi Murmu calls for greater economic empowerment of rural women**
- **Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio highlights Tele-MANAS Service; Urges greater mental health awareness**
- **Nagaland Police crack down on illegal liquor sale in Medziphema; Seize over 581 litres**
- **Nagaland conducts special drive for inclusion of eligible voters; Claims, objections open till October 20**



President Droupadi Murmu has called for greater economic empowerment of rural women, asserting that their active participation in nation-building will be crucial to achieving the vision of Viksit Bharat before 2047. The President made the remark today while inaugurating the National SARAS Mela 2026 in Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh. She said that women associated with self-help groups were becoming self-reliant and contributing significantly to their families, the rural economy and national development.

Describing the SARAS Mela as an important platform for rural development, the President said it has enabled women entrepreneurs to connect directly with consumers and access urban markets.



Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio has highlighted the importance of Tele-MANAS Nagaland in providing accessible and confidential mental health support. In a post on X today, he said raising mental health awareness and encouraging people to seek help were important steps towards building a more supportive society. Implemented in August 2023 by the National Health Mission under the state Department of Health and Family Welfare, Tele-MANAS is a 24-hour toll-free service offering counselling, guidance and follow-up support for mental health concerns. The service has received 2,913 calls as of September 2026. People seeking assistance can call the toll-free numbers 14416 or 1800-891-4416.



Nagaland Police seized more than 581 litres of Indian Made Foreign Liquor during a search and inspection operation in Medziphema, Chümoukedima district. The operation was conducted yesterday following public complaints about the unchecked sale and storage of liquor. Police said, searches were carried out at suspected establishments and storage premises around Medziphema Town Junction, Jharnapani Junction and adjoining areas along National Highway 29. Two individuals suspected of involvement in liquor sales were detained and later released on PR bond. Further proceedings are underway in accordance with the law. Police have further urged public to report information regarding illegal liquor sales and storage to appropriate law enforcement agencies.



The fifth edition of the Women Entrepreneurs Network Nagaland, WENN Bazaar 2026, began at Agri Expo, Chümoukedima, today. The bazaar was inaugurated by Advisor for Agriculture, Mathung Yanthan. Addressing the inaugural programme, he stressed the need to promote entrepreneurship and create employment opportunities to boost sustainable economic growth in Nagaland. He called for more value addition, branding, and market linkages to tap full potential of the state's vast resources. Encouraging young people to become entrepreneurs, innovators and producers, he said the government is working to create a supportive environment for businesses to emerge, grow and compete. He also emphasised that promoting women-led enterprises was an investment in the social and economic future of Nagaland.

A total of 167 vendors from all districts of Nagaland are participating in this year's WENN Bazaar.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi has completed 25 years in public service, a journey defined by the mantra of Jan Seva Se Desh Seva, and a relentless commitment that continues. Guided by this vision for Seva and Sushasan, the Government has been ceaselessly working towards achieving the goal of a Viksit Bharat by 2047. Through inclusive development and social empowerment, this dedication is transforming lives. Today, in our special series, we bring you an instance of how this vision has been translated into action through Vande Bharat Trains.



The Chief Electoral Officer, Nagaland, is carrying out a special drive to ensure that no eligible voter is left out of the electoral roll across all Assembly Constituencies in the state. According to an official press release today, election officials, including 2,399 Booth Level Officers, are working to facilitate the inclusion of eligible voters as part of the drive. The public has been advised to check their names in the draft electoral roll and file claims or objections by the 20th of October. Applications for new voter enrolment can be submitted using Form 6, while Form 7 is meant for objections to proposed inclusion or deletion of names. Form 8 can be used for shifting of residence or making correction of entries. For assistance, citizens can contact the helpline number 1950 or visit helpdesks set up at the offices of the District Election Officer or Electoral Registration Officer during office hours.



Jakhama Village in Kohima district has been adopted as the Myki Village for the financial year 2026-27 under the Myki Village Adoption Initiative of the Department of Women Resource Development. A formal programme was held at the village today. The initiative aims to promote a 'one village, one product' approach in line with the state government's 'one village, one product' policy, to scale up an existing women-led activity and improve market linkages. Ten women farmers each from the eight khels of Jakhama have been selected to expand the cultivation of hybrid onions, which are already being successfully grown in the village. The programme was followed by a technical session and attended by village council, VDB and women's organisation representatives, along with department officials.



And, Nagaland today conducted the State Red Run 4.0, a 10-kilometre run at IG Stadium, Kohima, to promote awareness about HIV and sexually transmitted infections, and combat stigma and discrimination. Organised by the Nagaland State AIDS Control Society (NSACS) under the aegis of the National AIDS Control Organisation, the event saw 32 participants from 16 districts. NSACS Chairperson and Commissioner and Secretary for Health and Family Welfare, Kevileno Angami, said Nagaland is working towards achieving the 95-95-95 targets across all 17 districts and attaining 'Surakshit' status by December 1 this year. She urged the participants to become ambassadors of awareness in their respective districts.

In the women's category, Songmo P of Noklak district secured first position, followed by Cekrotalu Khusoh of Phek. Meanwhile, Takasanen Longkumer of Mokokchung topped the men's category, followed by Temjensanen Pongen of Dimapur. They will represent Nagaland at the National Red Run 4.0, in Patna, Bihar, on November 3.

