

## Morning News Script

23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2025

0730 hrs

Nagaland government once again urged the Centre to review its decision on the cross-border movement along the India-Myanmar border and re-imposition of the Protected Area Permit (PAP). Minister for Power, Parliamentary Affairs and government spokesperson K. G. Kenye, while talking to the media yesterday said that considering the state's ethnic position, tradition and customary system, the government of India must continue the Free Movement Regime (FMR) and re-impose the Protected Area Permit (PAP). The Ministry of Home Affairs recently adopted a new scheme to issue a pass to the border residents of both India and Myanmar living within 10 km on either side of the frontier to regulate cross-border movements. Mr Kenye expressed the state government's objection to the new cross-border movement system. "We respect the Centre's security concerns, but at the same time Nagaland's ethnic situation is unique and requires a different approach," he said and added that the state has not yet received any official response from the Centre regarding its earlier request for a review of both FMR and PAP. Noting the unique historical and political context of Nagaland, the Minister stressed that the state's demand must be considered by the government of India in light of its diverse history, traditions and people.

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Nagaland cabinet has expressed concern over the potential lapse of central funds, stressing the urgency of utilizing the allocated resources before the deadline. This was informed by Minister for Power and Parliamentary Affairs, KG Kenye, post-meeting yesterday. He informed

that the state cabinet had discussed the possibility of central funds lapsing if not utilized within the stipulated time. This concern was particularly highlighted in the departments of Health and Family Welfare, Urban Development and Municipal Affairs, and was also extended to the Rural Development Department. The minister revealed that, out of the 1,200 crore rupees allocated by the central government, about 600 crore rupees remains unutilized. In this regard, Mr Kenye maintained that the concerned departments are addressing the issue on a war footing and expressed hope that, within the remaining time, the funds will be successfully utilized and the opportunities will not be forfeited. Meanwhile, the state cabinet has also decided to give recognition to Anato village in Nuiland district.

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Preparation for the Republic Day parade is in full swing. Today, a full dress rehearsal will take place on Kartavya Path. The parade rehearsal will start at 10:30 AM from Vijay Chowk and will proceed to Red Fort.

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A total of 26 tableaux from various states, union territories, and Union Ministries are set to present the diversity of the country and cultural inclusiveness during the 76th Republic Day Parade. The tableaux are based on the theme of 'Swarnim Bharat: Virasat Aur Vikas'. The parade will feature tableaux from 16 states and Union Territories, along with 10 Ministries and Departments, each with its unique theme.

The Defence Ministry said that these tableaux will showcase India's diverse strengths. One of the unique features of this year's parade is

that a Tri-Services tableau will take part in the Republic Day Parade with the theme ‘Shashakt aur Surakshit Bharat’. Meanwhile, the India Meteorological Department will also feature its first-ever Republic Tableau. Among other tableaux, the Ministry of Culture’s tableau celebrates India’s cultural diversity and creativity. It is inspired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s mantra of ‘Virasat Bhi, Vikas Bhi’.

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XI Eleven Brothers Chukitong lifted the 14th Lotha Football Championship. Held at Wokha Local ground, the final witnessed Eleven Brothers defeating Nitsüyan FC with a score of 3-1 to secure the title. Gracing the closing ceremony of the championship as the chief Guest, MLA Achumbemo Kikon emphasized the growing importance of football in the country, citing platforms like the Indian Super League that provide opportunities for talented players. He encouraged local athletes to strive for excellence, while also commending the enthusiasm of the spectators. The MLA also voiced concerns over the littered state of the local ground and urged the public to make use of dustbins and avoid disposing of waste irresponsibly.

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