

Evening News Script

1920 hrs of

12th April, 2025.

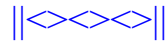
:: THE HEADLINES ::

- Nagaland Police registers FIR, sets up Special Investigation Team to probe sexual harassment allegations against bureaucrat
- Nagaland hosts State-Level Mega Legal Services Camp to promote access to justice
- State Chief Secretary Dr J Alam stresses need for accessible legal aid
- And, Yimkhiung Tribal Council calls for restoring Free Movement Regime, opposes Indo-Myanmar border fencing

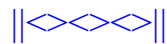


Nagaland Police is investigating all aspects of the allegations of sexual harassment towards female employees of IDAN Office by Joint Secretary IDAN Kohima, Reny Wilfred. In a press note today, Police said it has registered an FIR and set up a Special Investigation Team, led by a senior IPS officer, to carry out the probe. Police said that, a Written Complaint addressed to the DGP Nagaland was submitted by Nagaland State Commission for Women, Chairperson Nginyeih Konyak on 17th March, stating the commission had received a verbal intimation from IDAN Chairman Abu Metha on February 27 followed by a forwarding letter on March 3, regarding the allegations. Consequently, Police initiated a Preliminary Enquiry which prima facie revealed a cognizable offence of sexual harassment Under Section 75 and 79 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita warranting a detailed criminal investigation to uncover the full extent and truthfulness of the allegations. Police further mentioned that Mr Wilfred is facing separate charges

under the POCSO Act and the IPC for alleged molestation of two underage girls at his official residence during his tenure as Deputy Commissioner Noklak. As per information available with police, the case is under trial at Tuensang, with 34 out of 50 prosecution witnesses having testified so far.

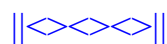


In a landmark initiative to promote legal awareness and access to justice, Nagaland today hosted a state-level mega legal services camp. The event was organized by the Nagaland State Legal Services Authority in collaboration with the Government of Nagaland, under the aegis of the National Legal Services Authority. The event drew participation from senior Supreme Court judges, state leaders, and students. The camp facilitated various free services, including aadhaar enrollment and correction, drafting affidavit, Unique disability ID card, registration for e-shram and EPF, opening bank account, among others.



Nagaland Chief Secretary Dr J Alam today emphasized the need for ensuring better access to legal assistance, empowering communities through awareness and outreach. Addressing the inaugural session of the state-level mega legal services camp, Dr Alam highlighted that a large section of Nagaland's population is eligible for free legal services, as per Article 39A of the Constitution. He called for greater awareness across all sections of society, and strengthening legal services for a more inclusive and equitable justice system.

Dr Alam said there are currently 132 legal aid clinics and over 100 legal literacy clubs across schools, colleges, and villages, serving as key outreach platforms. He also that 11 district legal services authorities are actively functioning under the Nagaland State Legal Services Authority, in addition to statutory bodies such as State Commission for Women and the Social Welfare Department.



Minister for PHED and Cooperation Jacob Zhimomi met with Project Team Leader from New Development Bank Keerthi Kumar to deliberate on pressing water scarcity issues in Nagaland. During the meeting, they discussed the Kohima Water Supply Project and explored possibilities for addressing water-stressed districts beyond Kohima.



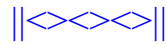
The Yimkhiung Tribal Council (YTC) today organized a public rally at Pungro district, voicing strong opposition to the centre's decision on the Indo-Myanmar border fencing and scrapping of Free Movement Regime. In a memorandum submitted to the Union Home Minister through the Additional Deputy Commissioner of Pungro, the YTC expressed deep resentment and appealed for immediate restoration of the FMR in its original form. The Council claimed that the Centre's decision undermined their indigenous rights and the deep-rooted ties of Naga communities residing across both sides of the border. It added that the move would result in untold hardships for Yimkhiung Nagas living across the border who depend on those in India for essential needs including medical, education, and economic.

The Council also sought cancellation of the proposed border pass system, saying it would infringe upon the freedom of indigenous people to move within their own ancestral territories spread across both countries.

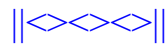


MLA Dr. Neisatuo Mero today called upon the Naga society to rise above divisions and factions in order to forge unity, urging students to take the lead. Speaking at the Golden Jubilee Celebration of the Kohima Science College Jotsoma, Chakhesang Students' Union, Dr. Mero exhorted the students to have a far-sighted vision to unify the Nagas.

He urged them to learn the various dialects within the tribe to stay rooted in their identity and culture. The MLA encouraged students to embrace the modern world and use it to ease their lives and contribute positively to humanity.



Muslim Council Dimapur (MCD) has voiced its opposition to the recently passed Waqf Amendment Bill 2025. During a press conference today, Working President, Ahidur Rahman and other members of MCD expressed concern over changes to the traditional management structure of Waqf properties. The Council is preparing a memorandum to submit to the Chief Minister and the Governor of Nagaland, urging them to recommend the repeal of the amendment. While Nagaland's unique land ownership laws currently shield the Muslim community in the state from direct effects of the law, leaders say they are committed to stand in support of those affected across in the country.



Minister Environment, Forest & Climate Change, C.L John has highlighted the importance of community unity in conserving the environment and addressing ecological challenges. He made this remark after laying the foundation stone for establishment of Divisional Management Unit office at Tseminyu today. The Minister emphasized that development can only happen through collective understanding among community members and the government. Encouraging awareness of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, the Minister urged villagers to avoid hunting wildlife and focus on preserving both flora and fauna to maintain ecological balance. He also urged the community to actively participate in tree planting initiatives alongwith the Forest Department under the Nagaland Forest Management Project. The Minister further appealed to the public to protect the lush trees and avoid encroachments around the new office.

