

Morning News Script

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi will chair the tenth Governing Council Meeting of NITI Aayog today in New Delhi. This year's theme is Viksit Rajya for Viksit Bharat @ 2047. The Governing Council meeting will discuss the approach on Viksit Rajya for Viksit Bharat @ 2047. The 10th Governing Council Meeting will be attended by Chief Ministers and Lieutenant Governors of States and Union Territories, Union Ministers, and the Vice Chairman, Members and the CEO of NITI Aayog. The 10th Governing Council meeting will provide a unique platform to deliberate on development challenges faced by the country and build consensus on states' role in making India a developed nation.

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The Committee on Environment & Climate Change of the Nagaland Legislative Assembly led by committee chairperson MLA, Achumbemo Kikon yesterday visited Dimapur and Chumoukedima district to evaluate and tackle the environmental problems. The Chairperson accompanied by committee member Advisor Zhaleo Rio, Advisor Z. Nyusietho Nyuthe, officials from Urban Development and Nagaland Legislative Assembly visited Chathe River, Dhansiri River and Municipal dumping site at Dimapur and Chumoukedima. Mr Kikon said, that the committee will address environmental concerns including sawmills and stone crushers in residential areas, river pollution and deforestation. He said, the committee will recommend to the state government what measures can be taken to address these challenges. The three town councils of Dimapur, East Dimapur, and Chumoukedima were urged to prohibit residents from disposing of household waste in rivers or drains.

Further, the Dimapur and Chumoukedima district administrations were instructed to cease issuing permits for stone, gravel, boulder, and sand excavation within their jurisdictions. Mr Kikon said while the government strives to improve infrastructure, public support is needed stating that civic responsibility and collaborative efforts are essential for achieving environmental goals.

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Chief Minister Dr Neiphiu Rio has extended congratulations to Eshenthung Kikon, Assistant Commandant of 4 Assam Rifles, on receiving the prestigious Shaurya Chakra from the President of India. Dr Rio said It is a proud moment for Nagaland, adding that Kikon's bravery, dedication, and exemplary leadership are commendable.

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A workshop on "Sustainable Oil Palm Cultivation in Nagaland: Challenges and Opportunities" was held yesterday at the Agri Expo site in Chumukedima. The event brought together experts, policymakers, and stakeholders to discuss sustainable approaches to oil palm cultivation, with a special focus on the Northeastern region of India. Deputy Director of Market Transformation and Head of the India & China Region for the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO), Mr. Ashwin Selvaraj, outlined the government led jurisdictional approach, which promotes sustainability across entire regions through systemic land use reform and collaborative governance.

Principal Scientist (Agronomy) at the ICAR-Indian Institute of Oil Palm Research Pedavegi, Andhra Pradesh, Dr. K. Manorama, addressed key misconceptions surrounding oil palm cultivation during the workshop. With the right agricultural practices, Dr Manorama said, oil palm could serve as a sustainable resource rather than an ecological threat.

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In a significant drug bust, security forces recovered over 14 kilograms of suspected opium in Nagaland. The operation was carried out yesterday by troops of the 78 Battalion CRPF and Civil Police from Sechu Zubza Police Station during a routine check on National Highway 29 at the old Peducha police picket. The narcotics were found inside a Tata Winger vehicle traveling from Senapati, Manipur to Dimapur. A passenger, identified as Dharam Singh from Ludhiana, Punjab, was found in possession of the contraband. Mr Singh attempted to flee under the pretext of needing to relieve himself but was apprehended after a 500-meter chase by the jawans. Upon inspection, authorities discovered multiple packets of suspected opium concealed in his bags, along with 56,500 rupees in cash. The accused and the seized items have been handed over to Sechu Zubza Police Station for further legal action.

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