

Evening News Script

1920 hrs of 12th October, 2025

:: THE HEADLINES ::

- Lok Sabha MP S Supongmeren Jamir reviews delayed highway projects in Nagaland; calls for better coordination
- Nagaland Police sign MoU with NIT to boost digital policing
- Centre asks States, UTs to adopt UPI for collecting admission, exam fees in schools
- And, Prime Minister Narendra Modi highlights Northeast's role in India's growth

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Lok Sabha MP, Supongmeren Jamir, held a meeting with officials of the National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL), as well as contractors and consultants to assess the progress of ongoing NHIDCL road development projects in Nagaland. During the meeting in Kohima yesterday, Mr Jamir raised serious concerns over the frequent blockages on the Dimapur-Kohima National Highway 29 section, particularly under New Chumoukedima Village, despite the route having a target for completion by 25th of September this year. The MP also reviewed the Kohima bypass project, and the Kohima–Jessami road project. NHIDCL Executive Director (Projects) R. P. Singh attributed the delays to natural disruptions, prolonged monsoons, technical issues, and local challenges. While the Dimapur bypass and Package 2 of the four-lane highway are complete, Package 3 is expected to be finished by December. On the Kohima bypass, he cited technical and local issues, including tunnel distress for slow progress of Packages 1, 2, and 4, but expressed confidence in meeting revised timelines. The Kohima-Jessami road is also on track for completion by September 2026, he added. MP Jamir urged better coordination among stakeholders and regular updates to the State Government. He said that a follow-up meeting would be held in November, and assured full support for timely completion of projects.

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Nagaland Police and the National Institute of Technology (NIT) Nagaland have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to boost collaboration in technology, research, and innovation for modern policing. A report...

Director General of Police Rupin Sharma said the initiative reflects the Police's commitment to technology-driven policing and will help tackle cybercrime and support evidence-based law enforcement. The MoU takes immediate effect and will remain valid for three years.

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Union Education Ministry has urged schools across States and Union Territories (UTs) to adopt the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) for collecting admission and examination fees. The move is aimed at modernizing administrative processes and enhancing convenience for parents and students. In a letter addressed to States, UTs, and autonomous bodies such as NCERT, CBSE, KVS, and NVS, Department of School Education and Literacy emphasized leveraging digital payment platforms like UPI, mobile wallets, and net banking to streamline financial transactions in schools. The move is part of broader efforts to promote 'Ease of Living and Schooling' through legislative, policy, and institutional reforms. The adoption of digital payment systems is expected to bring multiple benefits, including greater convenience, transparency, and the ability for parents to make payments remotely without visiting schools.

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said that, for the first time, the Northeast is not the periphery but the pulsating heart of India's growth story. Sharing an article by Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia on platform X, he praised the transformation of the region. Mr Scindia had described the Northeast as India's Ashtalakshmi, a region of diversity and opportunity that has emerged as a vibrant hub of India's progress. Mr Modi highlighted developments in Arunachal Pradesh, noting improvements in connectivity, rise of self-help groups, and new airports, all reflecting the spirit of a Viksit Bharat.

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President Draupadi Murmu said that education is the most effective means of social reconstruction. Addressing the 71st convocation of Gujarat Vidyapeeth in Ahmedabad yesterday, the President said that making India self-reliant is our national priority and urged students to play an active role in the national Swadeshi campaign. Highlighting the pivotal role of youth in nation-building, she lauded students as torchbearers of the swadeshi and self-reliance movement nationwide.

She urged the graduates not to be discouraged by external challenges but to advance with courage, high ideals, and a global perspective. On the occasion, President Murmu conferred gold medals upon nine outstanding students, while a total of 1,713 degrees were awarded across various disciplines.

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On to sports... The 25th Dr. T. Ao Trophy Inter-District Football Championship 2026 was officially launched with the unveiling of its poster during a ceremony held in Kohima on Friday. The silver jubilee edition will be hosted by the Mokokchung District Football Association at the newly built Rempukong Astroturf in Ungma village. Speaking at the launch, president of Kohima Aor Telongjem, T. Chubayanger, called the edition a 'homecoming of history,' as Mokokchung, the birthplace of Dr. Talimeren Ao, prepares to host the prestigious tournament. Mr Chubayanger praised the legacy of the tournament, and urged players to uphold Dr. Ao's values of character, humility, and sportsmanship.

Several dignitaries, including state officials and Nagaland Football Association leaders, attended the event. With the poster unveiling, preparations for the landmark 25th edition are now officially underway.

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At the 25th NSF Martyrs' Memorial Trophy, Defending champions Sechü Zubza FC are on track to retain their title after a hard fought 2-0 win over former champions Red Scars FC in the quarter-finals at Indira Gandhi Stadium, Kohima yesterday. In a tightly contested match that remained

goalless through regular time, Lalminglu Vankal broke the deadlock, scoring in the 90+16th minute. Just three minutes late, a second goal from Thejasetuo Gwirie sealed the victory for Sechü Zubza FC. Meanwhile, the third quarter-final match will be played between Mao Students's Union and Nagaland United SC tomorrow.

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And, in weather, the India Meteorological Department has forecast thunderstorms accompanied by lightning and gusty winds likely at isolated places over Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, and Tripura during the next three to four days. Meanwhile, the department said, conditions are favourable for further withdrawal of the southwest monsoon from the northeast region during the next two to three days.

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