

Morning News Script

0730 hrs

12th November 2025

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The Government of Nagaland will accord a State Funeral Service to Advisor for Information & Public Relations and Soil & Water Conservation, Imkong L. Imchen, who passed away in Guwahati yesterday. The funeral service will be held at his official residence in Kohima at 9:30 AM, after which the mortal remains of the departed leader will be taken to Mangmetong Village, Mokokchung, where the final rites will be performed tomorrow. The State Funeral Service will be streamed live on the official YouTube channel of DIPR Nagaland. Condolence messages continue to pour in from State Ministers, MLAs, political parties, organisations, and individuals, including the Nagaland Pradesh Congress Committee, Ao Senden, and Kohima Press Club, among others, mourning the loss of the veteran leader.

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Presiding Officers from across the North East reaffirmed their commitment to parliamentary democracy, inclusive development, and regional cooperation at the 22nd Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) India Region Zone-III Conference held from November 9 to 13. A nine-point resolution was unanimously adopted, emphasizing the Legislatures' resolve to strengthen people's participation in governance and align regional growth with the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047. Acknowledging the Centre's initiatives under the Act East Policy, the members called for an enhanced budget allocation to make the North East a growth engine for Viksit Bharat 2047. Recognizing the region's geo-political importance as India's gateway to ASEAN, the House urged for an exclusive, targeted development programme to promote socio-cultural and economic partnerships with ASEAN nations. Expressing solidarity with Nagaland, the House supported the upgradation of Kohima Medical College to a Central Institute and the proposal for Chiethu Airport to boost regional connectivity. The members also resolved to adopt climate-resilient policies, develop State-level climate action plans, and collaborate on establishing a Research Centre on Climate Change. The House also strongly condemned the November 10 bomb blast at Red Fort, New Delhi, and expressed condolences to the victims.

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Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio has expressed strong concern over the reimposition of the Protected Area Permit (PAP) in the State, calling it "unfortunate" and detrimental to tourism, investment, and the overall image of Nagaland. Speaking at a programme in Kohima yesterday, the Chief Minister said that despite significantly progress and development in the State, Nagaland continues to be classified as a "disturbed area" under the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA) due to the unresolved Naga political issue.

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Reiterating that Nagaland has been witnessing peace and progress, the Chief Minister urged for an early resolution of the Naga political issue so that such labels and restrictions no longer hinder the State's growth. He emphasized that the solution must be "acceptable, honourable, and inclusive," reflecting the collective aspirations of the Naga people. Mr. Rio further expressed optimism that with the talent and potential of Naga youth, scholars, and professionals, the State will overcome these challenges and continue moving forward.

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Advisor to the Chief Minister, Abu Metha, has said that Nagaland has transformed the memories of war into a powerful message of peace. Engaging in a Conversation on Remembrance Day observance in Kohima yesterday, Mr. Metha reflected that the Naga people are now using the experience of war to tell the world that peace is the only option, and that Nagas have become ambassadors of peace. Politician and author Mmhonlumo Kikon said Remembrance day was not just about the Naga people but a tribute to all forces who fought in the Battle of Kohima. was not just about the Naga people, but a tribute to all the forces who fought in the Battle of Kohima. He also described the Kohima War Cemetery and the Cathedral as a powerful symbols of remembrance and peace. He also observed that British influence, dating back to 1832, has left a lasting impact on the Nagas polity, culture, and history and noted that transition is underway from an age of indifference to an age of collaboration.

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