

Morning News Script

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Russian President Vladimir Putin is in New Delhi on a state visit to India for the 23rd India-Russia Annual Summit. Prime Minister Narendra Modi received President Putin at the airport last evening. In a social media post, Prime Minister Modi said he was delighted to welcome his friend, President Putin to India. Mr Modi said, he is looking forward to their interactions, adding that India-Russia friendship is a time tested one that has greatly benefited people. President Putin will be accorded a ceremonial reception at Rashtrapati Bhawan today. The visiting dignitary and Prime Minister Modi will review progress in bilateral relations and exchange views on regional and global issues of mutual interest. A number of agreements are expected to be signed following the talks, including in areas related to trade, economy, healthcare, academics, culture and media.

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Lonika K Achumi has been crowned Miss Nagaland 2025 in a glittering ceremony held yesterday at the RCEMPA, Jotsoma, organised by the Beauty Aesthetic Society of Nagaland. Ms Achumi, who also won the Miss Multimedia subtitle, emerged victorious among 16 contestants who vied for the prestigious state title. Bendangienla Longshir was adjudged 1st Runner-Up, while Christina H. Yeptho secured 2nd Runner-Up. In her winning response, Ms. Achumi highlighted the need to uplift the underprivileged and differently-abled individuals, saying they are often overlooked in Naga society, and deserve equal opportunity and dignity.

S/B ACHUMI ; -17 SEC

Addressing the gathering earlier, Additional Director, Department of Higher Education, Dr. K. Nishena Neikha, said Miss Nagaland is not merely a beauty pageant but a platform of transformation. He stressed that the event shapes young

women to become leaders, entrepreneurs, educators, social change-makers, and global ambassadors of the state.



The Unity Mini Hornbill Festival 2025 was inaugurated yesterday at the Deputy Commissioner’s Office Complex in Peren. Speaking at the event, Planning Adviser to the North Eastern Council, Som Kamei, stressed the need for unity, saying it is vital for protecting cultural, social, and land rights, as well as for overall progress. He added that harmony among communities must be built on mutual understanding, respect, and accommodation without infringing upon one another’s rights. Meanwhile, NZPO President Zandi Domta, who is the Chief Host, highlighted the vital role of Tribal Hohos in decision-making in Nagaland, and urged continued public support to these bodies. He called on village authorities to safeguard their lands and emphasised that development is possible only when unity is maintained. The festival featured vibrant cultural performances, indigenous games, exhibition stalls, and competitions in air-gun shooting and floriculture.



The ongoing 26th Hornbill Festival 2025 at the Naga Heritage Village in Kisama continues to captivate visitors with showcases of the rich traditions of Nagaland. Yesterday, a special Indigenous Games Competition, featuring the Blowing of the Horn, was held at the Sümi Morung drawing participants across generations. The event was organized by the Tribal Vision and sponsored by the Department of Youth Resources and Sports. Stealing the spotlight was 76-year-old, Lhuvepra Venyo from the Chakhesang tribe, the oldest participant, who emerged as the winner with 91 points. He was closely followed by Angami participant Visosieto Vüprü with 90 and a half points, while the youngest participant, 13-year-old Ketwapeusing Haikam of the Zeliang tribe, claimed the third position with 71 points. The winners were awarded cash prizes of 5,000, 3,000, and 2,000 rupees respectively, along with certificates.



The Nagaland Basketball Association will hold trials for the Senior Men's team this Sunday, December 8th, at 2 PM. The trials will take place at the Don Bosco Basketball Court in Kohima. Male athletes from across Nagaland have been invited to attend, with proper sports gear and valid ID proof. Selected players will go on to represent the state at the 75th Senior National Basketball Championship, to be held in Chennai from January 4th to 11th, 2026.

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