

**:: THE HEADLINES ::**

- Union Minister of State, Bambhaniya asserts Centre's commitment to food security.
- Nagaland intensifies efforts to create awareness on benefits of smart metering and dispel misconceptions among consumers.
- Wokha District Administration signs MoU with NECTAR, Shillong on innovation, technology adoption and sustainable livelihood.
- ECI to commence Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls in 22 States and UTs, including Nagaland from April.



Union Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Nimuben Jayantibhai Bambhaniya today asserted the Centre's commitment to food security under Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Addressing a reception at Padumpukhuri Public Ground in Chumoukedima, she said free rations are being provided to over 80 crore beneficiaries nationwide, terming it the world's largest food security programme. Praising Nagaland's natural beauty and rich culture, Ms Ba,mbhaniya expressed hope to introduce "Grain ATMs" in the state, citing similar initiatives in Gujarat and in the constituency of Union Home Minister Amit Shah.

She noted that under the One Nation One Ration Card scheme, migrant workers can access rations anywhere in the country. During her visit, she also inspected key welfare project sites and interacted with Self-Help Groups at Aoyimti and Padumpukhuri.



As part of the nationwide 'Smart Meter Pakhwada', the Department of Power Nagaland has intensified its efforts to create awareness on the benefits of smart metering and dispel misconceptions among consumers. The campaign is being observed across the country from February 9 to 23 under the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme and aims to build public confidence in the new metering technology. Chief Engineer (Distribution & Revenue) Power Department Nagaland said the department has undertaken several public outreach initiatives across the state. We have a report:

*V/C CAMPAIGN 35 Secs: The public outreach initiatives of the power department on Smart Meter Pakhwada include display of posters and banners, distribution of informative leaflets, and setting up of information kiosks at Sub-Division offices and other high-footfall locations to assist consumers. In addition, door-to-door outreach are being conducted to assist consumers in downloading the mobile application and demonstrate its usage in towns where smart meter installation has commenced. The department has urged citizens to visit the designated information kiosks for clarification on any queries or concerns regarding smart meters.*

The Chief Engineer also requested consumers who already have smart meters installed to download and register on the 'Smart Meters Nagaland' mobile app, available on the Google Play Store.



In continuation of the review meeting held by Union Minister of State (Independent Charge), Dr. Jitendra Singh, on June 17, 2025, the District Administration of Wokha signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the North East Centre for Technology Application and Reach (NECTAR), Shillong, at the DC Conference Hall today. The MoU focuses on collaborative research, innovation, technology adoption and sustainable livelihood initiatives in Wokha district. Deputy Commissioner Vineet Kumar said that with nearly 90 percent of the district's population dependent on agriculture, technological intervention is crucial for economic growth. He expressed hope that the collaboration would strengthen scientific support for farmers. Director General of NECTAR, Dr. Arun Kumar Sarma, highlighted ongoing organic farming initiatives under PM-DevINE, benefiting around 2,000 farmers from Nagaland. He also spoke on the banana pseudo-stem value addition project and assured technical support to the district. A Community Managed Seed System Seed Bank at Baghty village was virtually inaugurated during the programme. PGS 1 Scope certificates were also distributed to master trainers.



The Election Commission of India (ECI) will commence the process for the Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls in 22 States and Union Territories from April 2026, as the ongoing revision exercise in 13 others nears completion. Nagaland and other Northeastern states are among the 22 States and Union Territories where the next round of SIR is scheduled to be undertaken include. The ECI yesterday wrote to the Chief Electoral Officers of these States and Union Territories, directing them to complete preparatory work related to the Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls in a time-bound manner.



A nine-day Capacity Building Training for nearly 720 Multi-Tasking Staff (MTS), supervisors, and sardars of the Nagaland Civil Secretariat is being held at Kohima. Organized by the Secretariat Administration Branch 'B' of the Home Department, in partnership with the NGO Living For Environment, the programme aims to improve professional standards and operational efficiency. We have a report:

*V/C TRAIN: 39 SECS: The training, based on a 2019 waste assessment and Swachh Office protocols, aligns with the new Solid Waste Management Rules, 2026, effective from April 1. Participants will learn modern sanitation and waste management practices, focusing on waste segregation and eco-friendly disposal. Additionally, technical aspects like equipment maintenance and personal hygiene will be covered. Practical training will follow in March, with LiFE assessing implementation and identifying areas for improvement. This initiative reflects the Home Department's commitment to making the Nagaland Civil Secretariat a model of cleanliness, efficiency, and sustainable administration.*



The Ministry of MSME, Government of India, MSME Development & Facilitation Office, Dimapur in association with DIC, Mon District organised a one-day awareness workshop under PM Vishwakarma at DIC's Conference Hall, Mon yesterday. During the Technical Session, Chief Manager SBI Mon, Robert Zosangliana briefed the criteria for PM Vishwakarma loan. Manager SCK (IDAN) Mon, Mopa Talem Konyak N spoke on Entrepreneurship Development and Marketing Strategies. He also dwelled on highlighted the Chief Minister's Micro Finance Scheme and the criteria of loan. Inspector of Industry DIC Mon, Mansa Walim shared the Schemes under MSME and State Government. A total of 101 artisans participated in the workshop.



Nagaland Education Project—The Lighthouse (NECTAR) today conducted a one-day training and orientation on Environment and Social Standards (ESS) for contractors of 16 Lighthouse School Complexes (LSCs) at the Directorate of School Education, Kohima. Advisor of School Education & SCERT, Dr. Kekhrielhoulie Yhome stressed that with rural schools in poor condition, timely completion of LSCs is crucial. He highlighted the need for strict environmental and social compliance, especially under global evaluation standards, noting that contractors’ performance will influence Nagaland’s future development prospects. Commissioner and Secretary and Vice Chairperson of the NECTAR Project Steering Committee, Kevileno Angami said the LSCs—supported by the World Bank, the Department of Economic Affairs, and the State Government—aim to serve as educational hubs in each district. The training covered labour welfare, workplace safety, health, prevention of sexual harassment, working conditions, and environmental protection.



A free medical camp was organised today by the Zunheboto Town Council in collaboration with the District Medical Department at the ZTC office. In his keynote address, ZTC Chairperson K. Herato Sukhalu stressed the importance of regular health check-ups, noting India’s high diabetes rates and urging people, especially those aged 50-60, to maintain a proper diet and monitor their health. Dr. Akaho Sema, Senior Medical Officer lauded ZTC’s waste management system and noted that the hospital received the Kayakalp Award in 2024 for cleanliness and hygiene, along with a cash prize of 20 lakh rupees. The medical team provided free diagnosis, treatment, and medicines for malaria, TB, HIV, and other non-communicable diseases.



Member of Parliament from the Shillong Parliamentary constituency, Dr Ricky A.J. Syngkon, passed away last evening after suffering a massive cardiac arrest. He was 54. According to sources, the incident occurred while he was playing futsal at Mawiong, where he suddenly collapsed. He was immediately rushed to the hospital.

