

Morning News Script

0730 hrs

25th February 2026

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Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio has strongly condemned the racial and physical attacks on women from the Northeast, including the recent incident of a woman from Nagaland. In a social media post, Mr Rio called such acts as reprehensible and have no place in society. The Chief Minister urged everyone to uphold India's unity in diversity through tolerance, compassion, and respect for dignity. Strongly condemning the incident, state Health Minister P Paiwang Konyak said, racism and violence against women are utterly unacceptable and have no place in the society. Minister Paiwang said the state stand in solidarity with the victim, urging that Justice must be swift and decisive. It may be mentioned that a third-year resident doctor from Nagaland posted at the AIIMS Gorakhpur was allegedly subjected to racial slurs, stalking and physical assault by three men near the institute on Sunday evening. Similarly, three Arunachal women were also alleged to racial abuse and humiliation by their neighbours, following a dispute over some repair work at their rented flat in south Delhi's Malviya Nagar.

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Union Minister for Development of North Eastern Region, Jyotiraditya M. Scindia said, the safety and dignity of the Northeast people are paramount and any injustice against them will not be tolerated. Taking to social media platform X, Mr Scindia expressed concern over the racial harassment faced by three young women from Arunachal Pradesh in Malviya Nagar, South Delhi. Mr Scindia said that he had spoken with the Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh, Pema Khandu and taken up the matter with the Commissioner of Delhi Police to seek immediate and stringent action. The Minister noted that FIR has been registered and assured that the accused will soon be apprehended.

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The Supreme Court has ruled in favor of the Nagaland State Government in the case of Vatsala Panghal claiming one seat of MBBS from the central pool seats allocated to the State of Nagaland. The ruling, delivered on 10th February 2026 cements a major legal precedent that non-indigenous candidates cannot claim the seats allocated to the State of Nagaland. The case began in July 2025 when the petitioner who scored 455 in NEET-UG 2025 and secured All India Rank of 1,13,803 but claimed to be Rank No. 2 in Nagaland. The case worked its way through Gauhati High Court Kohima bench and then Gauhati High Court, Division Bench where the State Government's Petition was argued by Additional Advocate General Vihelieu Suokhrie.

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Minister for Nagaland Public Works Department (Road and Bridges), G. Kaito Aye, has underscored the importance of unity, mutual support and collective responsibility among the people, stating that while Nagas may not be physically divided, mental divisions continue to persist and must be overcome through understanding and cooperation.

Speaking at the laying of foundation stone for the “Development of Traditional Homestay & Inauguration of Angami Kitho and Mini Museum” at D. Khel, Kohima Village yesterday, coinciding with the Sekrenyi Feast celebration, Mr Aye urged the community to reflect on the changes needed in mindset and standards to foster unity and progress. He emphasised that meaningful development begins at the village level and called upon citizens to actively contribute towards collective growth. Highlighting the significance of cultural preservation, the minister stressed the need to safeguard language, identity and traditional heritage.

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A five-day Management training program on “Public Policy & Process Re-engineering” for officers of the Government of Nagaland, and Leadership Development Program for the Village Councils of Rural Development & Administration Department, Government of Mizoram began at Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Shillong on Monday. A joint inaugural ceremony was organized by Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Centre for Policy Research and Analysis IIM, Shillong. The Primary objective of the training is to strengthen the role of the Government Officers to achieve Citizen Centric Governance and improve service delivery and efficiency in the Government system. Planning Adviser, North Eastern Council Som Kamei encouraged the Officers to act as change leaders capable of translating policy into measurable developmental outcomes.

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And, in cricket, the 3rd Boys Under -16 Inter District Tournament witnessed dominant performances, dramatic turnarounds, and one-sided encounters across venues. Chumoukedima defeated Kohima by 86 runs. Dimapur crushed Peren by an innings and a massive 490 runs . Meanwhile, Niuland secured an innings and 218-run victory over Wokha.

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