

Morning News Script

0730 hrs

20th March 2026

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Governor of Nagaland, Nand Kishore Yadav met Chief Minister, Neiphiu Rio, at the CM's residence in Kohima yesterday. The two leaders discussed matters related to the development and welfare of the State. Deputy Chief Minister, Yanthungo Patton and Minister Road & Bridges, G. Kaito Aye were also present during the meeting.

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Nagaland Forest Department held its first-ever Forest Officers' Conference yesterday at Rhododendron Hall, Police Complex, Chumoukedima, bringing together forest officials from across the state to deliberate on key issues concerning forest management and environmental conservation. Addressing the event, Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change and Village Guards, C. L. John, reaffirmed the government's commitment to environmental protection and called for innovative strategies to tackle emerging challenges in forest conservation and climate change. The Minister highlighted key concerns including human-elephant conflict, forest fires, and illegal hunting, urging practical solutions, stronger law enforcement, and public awareness. He also stressed the need for a clear policy on agarwood cultivation and transparency in forest revenue management. The Minister also proposed a zonal posting system to ensure equitable distribution of forest officers, suggesting that service in remote and difficult areas be made a prerequisite for promotion.

In his keynote address, Principal Secretary for Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Y. Kikheto Sema, highlighted concerns over declining forest cover in recent years and called for urgent interventions such as afforestation, improved soil and water conservation, and the use of modern technologies like GIS for monitoring. He also raised serious concern over the underutilization of Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) funds. The Principal Secretary noted that while over 58,000 crore rupees has been released nationwide and several northeastern states have accessed significant amounts, Nagaland has reportedly failed to avail any funds, potentially resulting in the loss of opportunities worth thousands of crores.

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Minister for Tourism and Higher Education, Temjen Imna Along, yesterday emphasised that progress can only be achieved through unity, urging the youth to work together and rise above divisions. He Addressing the 'Crimson Festiva 2026' at Sazolie College, Phezhu Jotsoma he noted that despite Nagaland's high literacy rate, there is still a lack of responsible and socially conscious citizens. He urged students to move beyond academic success and instead cultivate humility, responsibility, and a strong sense of service to society.

Highlighting the importance of inclusivity, the minister encouraged young people to carry everyone along in the journey of development. He also called on the youth to play an active role in building a united, progressive, and prosperous Nagaland.

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The Central Election Committee of the National People's Party (NPP) has selected I Abenjang as its official candidate for the upcoming April 9 bye-election to Koridang Assembly Constituency. The party's notification was issued by National Working President, James K. Sangma. Mr. Abenjang, a social worker has a background in socio-economic and political engagement. He has been actively involved in community development and various public welfare initiatives.

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The State Election Department has constituted a Screening Committee to examine proposals related to the Model Code of Conduct (MCC), in pursuance of the Election Commission's directive. The Committee will be chaired by the Chief Secretary of Nagaland, with the Principal Secretary of the Home Department serving as Member-Secretary, and the Administrative Head of the concerned Department as a member. According to the notification, the Committee will scrutinize all proposals related to the MCC in line with the Election Commission of India's existing instructions, manuals, and clarifications.

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And, General Officer Commanding, Spear Corps, Lieutenant General Abhijit S Pendharkar, visited Wokha, yesterday and laid the foundation stone for a War Memorial dedicated to the brave soldiers of the region. The solemn ceremony, organised by the Assam Rifles, was attended by officials of the force, members of the Ex-Servicemen League, civil dignitaries, and local residents. The General Officer also unveiled the plaque marking the foundation of the memorial, followed by a prayer ceremony.

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