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TRAVEL

27th Hornbill Festival to be held in Nagaland in December



The Nagaland Tourism Department has announced that the 27th Hornbill Festival will be held in December 2026. The annual cultural event attracts visitors from across India and abroad, featuring traditional dances, music, handicrafts, and local cuisine. Organizers said the festival will boost tourism in the state and provide a platform for tribal communities to showcase their heritage. Exact dates and the program schedule will be released in the near future. The announcement reflects Nagaland's commitment to promoting its rich cultural heritage.

Traditionally held in the capital, Kohima, the Hornbill Festival has become a major attraction in the region. This year's edition will also offer artists, performers, and tourists an opportunity to experience the vibrant traditions of the Naga tribes. Local authorities are preparing infrastructure and security measures to manage the crowds.

Stakeholders expect the festival to drive economic activity for local hotels, transport services, and artisans. The state government has pledged support to ensure a smooth and festive environment for all participants.

Northeast's First TUMO Tech Center Opens in Dimapur, Nagaland

The Nagaland government has announced that the Northeast's first TUMO Creative Technology Center will be established in Dimapur. The state's Department of Education has confirmed the decision, marking a significant step toward digital and creative education in the region. TUMO, an internationally r

Nagaland eases PAP rules for foreign travellers

Nagaland officials have announced that foreign travellers will no longer require a Protected Area Permit (PAP) to visit most parts of the state starting December. The change aims to boost tourism and simplify travel procedures for international visitors. Under the new guidelines, travellers from co

SPORTS

Medzipema FA wins 26th NSF Martyrs Memorial Trophy 2026



The Nagaland Football Association concluded the 26th Martyrs Memorial Trophy on Saturday, with Medzipema Football Academy claiming the title. Clubs from various regions participated in the competition, and Medzipema FA secured the top spot after an impressive performance in the final.

New Market Football Club also recorded a notable victory during the tournament, raising the overall level of competition. Both clubs appreciated the organization of the event and acknowledged the enthusiastic support of local spectators.

Organizers highlighted the smooth conduct of the tournament and expressed hope to host the event again next year, promising even more exciting matches for football enthusiasts.

The successful conclusion of the 26th Martyrs Memorial Trophy reflects the growing quality of football in Nagaland and underscores the importance of regional competitions in nurturing local talent.

Sponsors and stakeholders, including the Nagaland Sports Council, praised the sportsmanship of the participating teams and expressed hope for the continued development of the sport at the grassroots level.

SARKARI YOJANA

Activists demand full implementation of Senior Citizens Welfare Act across all Naga districts



A formal petition has been presented to the state administration demanding the prompt implementation of the Senior Citizens Welfare Act across all districts of Nagaland. Filed by an alliance of senior citizen groups and social workers, the petition states that several districts have yet to enforce the provisions of the 2015 law, leaving elderly citizens without guaranteed benefits.

The Act aims to provide financial assistance, health support, and social security measures, and mandates the establishment of dedicated welfare cells in every district. Petitioners argue that the lack of such cells has hindered access to pensions, medical subsidies, and senior-friendly infrastructure.

State officials have been requested to issue clear guidelines, allocate necessary funds, and monitor compliance across the 12 districts. Activists have also demanded a timeline for implementation and a grievance redressal mechanism, stating that timely action is essential to protect the rights and dignity of the elderly.

If the petition is accepted, the government is likely to constitute a task force to oversee the swift delivery of the Act's benefits to intended recipients.

VIRAL & TRENDING

Toddler Brings Toy Car to Petrol Pump for 'Refueling,' Attendant Joins in the Fun



A toddler, reportedly four years old, brought a toy car to a petrol pump in India and asked the attendant to refuel it. Amused by the child's request, the attendant played along, treating the process of filling the toy car's tank as a game.

The incident was captured on video and shared on social media, where it quickly went viral due to its lighthearted nature and the attendant's friendly response. Viewers praised the attendant's positive attitude and the Petrol pump staff confirmed that no actual petrol was put into the toy car and that the incident was a harmless, spontaneous interaction. The video has been viewed millions of times, sparking discussions about child safety and responsible social media use.

TRAVEL

Nagaland Relaxes PAP Rules for Foreign Tourists from Nov 26 to Dec 15



The Nagaland government has decided to temporarily waive the requirement for a Protected Area Permit (PAP) for foreign nationals. This relaxation will be in effect from November 26 to December 15, allowing tourists to travel freely across the state without a PAP.

Traditionally, the PAP has been mandatory for foreign visitors in certain districts of Nagaland to protect the region's cultural and environmental integrity. By relaxing this rule during this period, the state aims to attract more international tourists during the holiday season.

Officials stated that this decision is part of a broader strategy to promote Nagaland as a key tourism destination and stimulate local economies. The temporary exemption will simplify travel procedures and enable tourists to explore the state's natural landscapes and cultural heritage.

The government will monitor the impact of this policy during the period and may extend or modify it based on tourism trends and security considerations.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman Leads Second Pre-Budget Meeting with Agricultural Experts



Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman led a second pre-budget meeting with agricultural experts, clarifying the government's intention to incorporate a regional perspective into the upcoming budget. The meeting was part of a consultation series aimed at gathering extensive stakeholder feedback before finalising the budget. Representatives from various sectors of the agricultural field discussed challenges, opportunities and potential policy measures to increase production and improve farmers' welfare. The minister emphasised the need to address farmers' concerns and promote inclusive development in the sector. Key takeaways from the discussion will influence budget proposals and shape future agricultural policy initiatives.

POLITICS

NPP challenges Nagaland forest law amendments under Article 371A



The National People's Progressive Party (NPP) has formally challenged the implementation of recent amendments to Nagaland's forest conservation laws. The party stated that these changes violate the state's autonomy granted under Article 371A of the Constitution, which confers special legislative powers on Nagaland.

NPP representatives argued that the amendments, which tighten hunting and habitat protection regulations, were introduced without consulting the state government, thereby breaching the procedural safeguards inherent in Article 371A. The party has demanded that the Nagaland Legislative Assembly review these changes before they are implemented.

This controversy has emerged as the central government moves to standardize forest conservation across India, while regional parties in the Northeast advocate for respecting constitutional provisions and considering the state's unique cultural and administrative context.

Centre temporarily suspends PAP for tourists visiting Nagaland



New Delhi – The Ministry of Home Affairs has issued an order to temporarily suspend the Protected Area Permit (PAP) for all tourists traveling to Nagaland. This move comes after sustained demands from the state assembly and local citizen groups, who had highlighted the negative impact of the PAP on tourism and the local economy.

Under the temporary exemption, both domestic and foreign travelers will be allowed to enter Nagaland without obtaining a PAP, streamlining the previously lengthy process. The government described this measure as an effort to boost tourist footfall during the peak season and to test the feasibility of long-term policy changes.

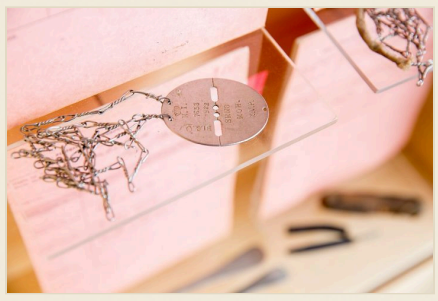
The central government stated that the exemption is experimental and will be reviewed after a specified period, taking into account visitor numbers and security assessments. Security protocols will remain in place, while the requirement for a PAP will be removed.

State officials welcomed the announcement, stating that it aligns with efforts to reach Nagaland's cultural heritage and natural attractions to a wider audience. The Tourism Department plans to launch a promotional campaign soon to leverage the new facility.

The exemption from the PAP does not imply any changes to other entry permit rules for border areas or protected wildlife zones; those will continue to apply as per existing regulations.

EDUCATION

Nagaland teacher Seno Tsuah wins equal pay case after eight-year struggle



Seno Tsuah, a dedicated teacher in Nagaland, has achieved a historic victory for equal pay following an eight-year legal battle. The case began in 2015, shedding light on the persistent wage disparities faced by female teachers in the state.

The Nagaland State Education Department had historically paid male teachers higher salaries despite equal qualifications and responsibilities. Tsuah's legal challenge, supported by teachers' unions, argued that this disparity violated constitutional rights to equality.

In December 2023, the High Court ruled in Tsuah's favor, ordering the state to pay her the same salary as male teachers of the same rank and experience. This decision could set a precedent for addressing similar pay inequities in other states.

plans to implement the new pay structure immediately, with the first adjustments expected to appear in the next salary cycle. Tsuah expressed gratitude to the court and her colleagues, noting that the decision would benefit thousands of teachers in Nagaland.

NATIONAL

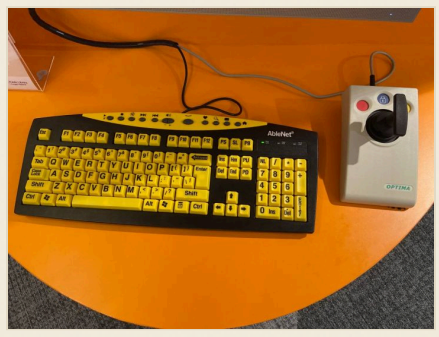
Press Club of India celebrates National Press Day, emphasizes ethical journalism



Press clubs across India celebrated National Press Day, highlighting the critical role of responsible and ethical journalism. The occasion served as a reminder of the importance of upholding journalistic values in a democratic society, such as accuracy, impartiality, and accountability. Press clubs stressed the need for journalists to adhere to ethical standards and strive for impartiality in their reporting.

HEALTH

Assistive devices distributed to senior citizens in Meluri

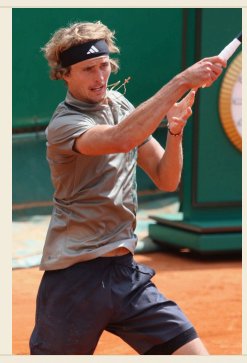


Meluri, Nagaland – A program to distribute assistive devices was organized in Meluri, targeting the senior citizen demographic. According to a report by Eastern Mirror, the initiative provided elderly individuals with tools such as walking aids and hearing assistance. Officials stated that the devices were distributed to facilitate daily life and reduce reliance on caregiving. The program reflects the local administration's ongoing efforts to address the health and mobility needs of the aging population. The community has welcomed the distribution, as it is expected to improve the quality of life for the beneficiaries.

The program was conducted by the district administration in collaboration with local NGOs, although specific details on the number of distributed items or the partners involved were not disclosed. Organizers noted that the initiative falls under broader welfare policies aimed at providing inclusive healthcare services to the elderly. Further training and support will also be provided to ensure the correct use of the devices.

Eastern Mirror highlighted this distribution as one of several ongoing welfare activities for senior citizens in Nagaland, underscoring the government's commitment to sensitive and inclusive health policies.

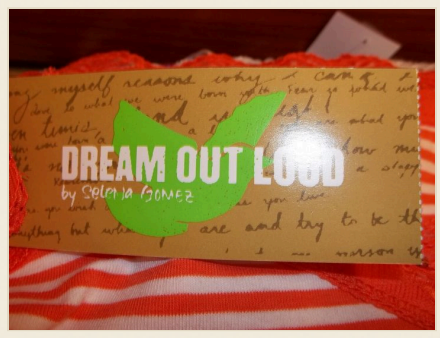
Zverev defeats Shelton in US Open final rematch



Alexander Zverev won against Shelton in the US Open final rematch. In this match, Zverev repeated his earlier victory, dominating his opponent. The match was played under normal tournament conditions and Zverev clearly secured the win. This result gives a positive sign for Zverev's preparation for upcoming major tournaments, while Shelton will have to re-prepare for future matches. The report does not provide any additional information on the score or tournament stage.

ASTROLOGY

Asianet News Hindi releases Dear Dream Wednesday lottery results for 18 November



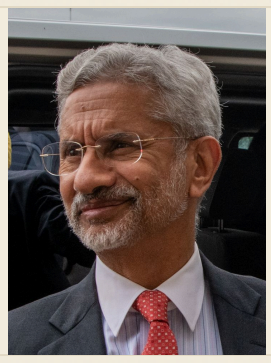
Asianet News Hindi stated that the results of the Dear Dream Wednesday lottery held on 18 November are now available. This draw is part of the weekly Dear Dream series and was held on Wednesday, 18 November, with the results published on the channel's Hindi platform.

The published results include the winning numbers and prize distribution, following the standard format set by the state lottery department. Interested players can match their tickets against the numbers shown on Asianet News Hindi's website or television broadcast.

This lottery is widely played in India and offers cash prizes ranging from small to large based on the number of matches. The channel advised players to check the official results and claim prizes within the stipulated claim period.

The brief announcement does not provide additional information about the total prize money or number of winners.

Jaishankar Calls for Strengthening India-Japan Ties to Secure a Free and Open Indo-Pacific



External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar stated that India must deepen its strategic partnership with Japan to keep the Indo-Pacific free and open. In a recent statement, he cited shared democratic values and mutual security interests as the foundation of the relationship. Maritime security, a rules-based order, and economic connectivity were highlighted as key areas of cooperation. Both countries have accelerated joint naval exercises, defense procurement, and infrastructure projects to bolster regional stability. Jaishankar said that a strong India-Japan alliance is essential to counter coercive actions and maintain peace in the Indo-Pacific.

POLITICS

NPP Asks Nagaland Governor to Intervene on Wildlife Protection Act Implementation



The National Democratic Progressive Party (NPP) has formally requested the Governor of Nagaland to intervene in the implementation of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, in the state.

The party claims that certain provisions of the Act conflict with local customs and ongoing development projects, and is therefore seeking clarification or potential exemptions to strike a balance between conservation and regional priorities.

The NPP has asked the Governor to examine the issue and provide appropriate guidance to the state government. No official response has been received from the Governor's office so far.

This demand highlights the ongoing tension between national wildlife conservation laws and the autonomy of northeastern states.

SPORTS

Services vs Nagaland: Match Preview for November 19, 2026



The Services cricket team is set to face Nagaland on November 19, 2026, in a crucial match of the domestic competition that is attracting attention from fans and betting enthusiasts.

predictions for the encounter, highlighting key players from both teams who could influence the outcome. Betting platforms are also offering tips and odds, reflecting growing interest in the game.

Although the exact venue was not mentioned in the initial announcement, the match is expected to be a major event on the 2026 domestic cricket calendar, drawing fans from both teams.

Officials from the Services Cricket Association have confirmed that the team is fully prepared, focusing on fitness and strategy to defeat the emerging Nagaland side.

Fans are encouraged to follow live updates, commentary, and detailed analysis through official channels as the match approaches.

HEALTH

Health Spending in Nagaland Drops 29% as CAG Highlights Infrastructure Deficiencies



The Health Department of Nagaland has recorded a sharp 29% drop in expenditure, as reported in the latest audit by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG). This reduction indicates a significant contraction in financial resources allocated for the state's health services.

shrinking budget, several key programs have not received adequate funding, impacting both preventive and curative aspects of healthcare. Limited resources have made it difficult to maintain existing facilities and launch new health projects.

The CAG also pointed to serious deficiencies in infrastructure, including a shortage of functional hospitals, a lack of essential medical equipment, and an inadequate number of health workers in several districts. These gaps weaken the state's capacity to provide basic healthcare to the population.

State officials have been urged to restructure budget priorities to bridge these gaps and ensure health infrastructure meets national standards. The report comes at a time when the state is striving to improve health outcomes under various central government schemes.

INTERNATIONAL

ICJ Rules Myanmar Committed Genocide Against Rohingya



The International Court of Justice (ICJ), the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, has ruled that actions carried out by the Myanmar military against the Rohingya fall under the definition of genocide as per the 1948 Genocide Convention.

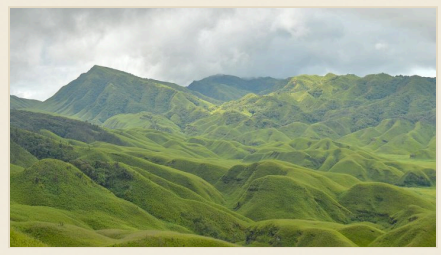
Gambia in 2019, which accused Myanmar of systematic killings, sexual violence, and forced displacement of the Rohingya population in Rakhine State. The court considered evidence including UN investigators' findings, satellite imagery, and victim testimonies.

Although the ICJ lacks enforcement power, it ordered Myanmar to immediately prevent further genocide, ensure the safety of the Rohingya, and provide regular compliance reports to the court. This order is likely to increase international pressure on the Yangon government.

International human rights organizations have welcomed the ruling and urged the United Nations and member states to translate the decision into concrete action, which may include sanctions and humanitarian aid for displaced Rohingya.

AGRICULTURE

Nagaland Launches Agarwood Policy 2026 to Boost Farmer Incomes



The Nagaland government has introduced the Agarwood Policy 2026, a new initiative designed to promote agarwood cultivation.

provided with a structured framework to participate in agarwood orchards, enabling them to improve their livelihoods.

Officials believe this step will increase rural incomes by opening new market opportunities and contribute to the state's agricultural diversification.

AGRICULTURE

Nagaland Joint Sales Day Showcases Agricultural Diversity



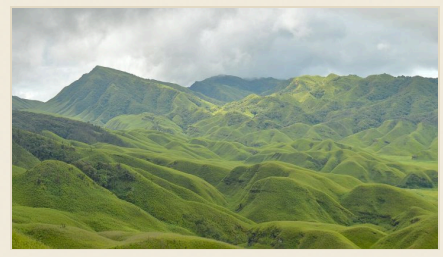
During the Joint Sales Day, farmers and traders gathered to display the diverse agricultural products grown in Nagaland.

The event provided a platform for local producers to showcase their products directly to consumers and potential buyers.

By bringing together various stakeholders, the fair highlighted the breadth of crops and farming methods that define Nagaland's agricultural landscape.

The Joint Sales Day emphasized the importance of showcasing regional agricultural strengths, thereby boosting local economies.

Nagaland Implements Agarwood Policy to Promote Forest-Based Livelihoods



The Nagaland state government has formally presented the Agarwood Policy, which aims to encourage the planting, harvesting, and marketing of agarwood, a valuable resin-producing tree in the region. The announcement was made at a press conference attended by officials from the Forest Department and the Ministry of Agriculture.

The policy includes subsidies for saplings, technical training for farmers, and simplification of the licensing process to facilitate legal trade. Its goal is to provide sustainable income to forest-dependent tribal families while preserving biodiversity.

Implementation will be the responsibility of the Nagaland Forest Department, which will work in coordination with local cooperative societies. A pilot program will be launched in selected districts during the upcoming planting season, with a target of significant growth in agarwood production over the next five years.

The government believes this initiative will attract private investment, increase export earnings, and establish Nagaland as a key player in the global agarwood market while adhering to environmental standards.