

Nagas must unite to safeguard Christian minority identity: CM Rio

KOHIMA, SEPTEMBER 4 (MExN): Nagaland Chief Minister Dr Neiphiu Rio on Friday urged all sections of Naga society, negotiating groups, and stakeholders to unite and discard internal factionalism to achieve permanent peace, cautioning that proliferation of groups creates confusion and mutual mistrust.

Addressing the General Conference (Mechü Kehou) organized by the Angami Public Organization (APO) at the newly constructed Kohima Village Multipurpose Building, Rio underscored that Christianity remains a minority faith in India, the world's largest democracy. He called on Nagas to stay unified so their minority identity is not undermined.

Highlighting emotional and socio-cultural bonds transcending administrative boundaries, Rio noted that Nagas residing across Manipur, Myanmar, Assam, and Arunachal Pradesh remained by shared roots. He said the state government's official motto, "Unity," serves as a call for solidarity across all Naga communities, urging people to coexist harmoniously with neighbors without forsaking their distinct identity.

Reflecting on regional history, the

Chief Minister said Naga distinctiveness was formally acknowledged under British colonial rule. Rather than disrupting local customary laws, village norms, and administration, colonial authorities enacted the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation of 1873. He noted that this framework established the "Inner Line" to regulate entry into tribal frontier tracts—a safeguard that continues today.

Rio also addressed the Inner Line Permit (ILP) system, the Register of Indigenous Inhabitants of Nagaland (RIIN), and the Frontier Nagaland Territorial Authority (FNTA) bill recently passed by the Nagaland Legislative Assembly.

Praising the host community, Rio said the state capital Kohima, situated within Angami jurisdiction, serves as an economic hub whose commercial advantages must be channeled to benefit future generations. Emphasizing visionary stewardship, he remarked that "it is easy to follow others, but hard to lead others with responsibilities."

Speaking as the chairperson, APO President Thejao Vihienuo voiced concern over the declining adherence among youth to Mechü die—resolutions formally adopted at community

conferences that traditionally function as binding customary law.

Vihienuo cautioned that younger demographics—Generation Z, Generation Alpha, and future cohorts—rely increasingly on artificial intelligence and mobile devices for guidance rather than learning directly through oral histories, community gatherings, and tribal elders. Citing recent youth-led socio-political shifts in countries such as Nepal, Bangladesh, Madagascar, and Kenya, Vihienuo warned that unguided technological dependence poses cultural risks.

He called on current leaders and millennials to proactively shape, mentor, and pass down ancestral values, morals, and cultural traditions to the youth before younger cohorts assume public governance.

Reports on regional activities were presented by APO General Secretary Keneileisa Neikha, alongside representatives from the Angami Women Organization (AWO), Angami Youth Organization (AYO), Angami Students' Union (ASU), Angami Sports Association (ASA), and Angami Gazetted Officers' Krotho (AGOK).

Assam to set up 'Anti-Narcotics Task Force' to deal with drug menace: Himanta

DERGAON, SEPTEMBER 4 (PTI): A new unit, 'Anti-Narcotics Task Force', will be raised within Assam Police to deal with the drug menace, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said on Thursday.

Addressing a press meet after the conclusion of the two-day SSP conference here, he also said that Assam aims to achieve a conviction rate of 35 per cent within this year in chargesheet cases, up from the current 29.3 per cent.

"We will have a new unit called Anti-Narcotics Task Force to deal with the drug menace. The Centre had also suggested it," Sarma said.

There will be several verticals within this force, like legal and financial, and it will look into matters such as ensuring that accused persons do not get bail easily and breaking down the financial network of drug

cartels, he added.

"This force will work on strongly implementing the NDPS Act. We hope to raise this unit within Assam Police in the next one month," Sarma said.

The CM also said that the conviction rate of FIRs in which chargesheets are filed has gone up to 29.3 per cent at present from around seven per cent in 2020.

"We are now targeting to achieve a 35 per cent conviction rate within this year. Currently, we are able to submit chargesheets in 80 per cent of registered cases within the stipulated time," he added.

The CM said that the two-day conference had a detailed discussion on the drugs issue and deliberated on the transit route of narcotics products.

"The SSPs said that we have to work in coordination with Mizoram, Manipur and

Arunachal Pradesh to block this transit route. Otherwise, it will be difficult to stop the transportation of drugs," he added.

Sarma said that the conference decided that two new battalions will be raised within Assam Police.

"The promotion in Assam Police was due for some time, and we have decided to go ahead with it now. This will create more posts for hiring. We will recruit 5,000 people in Assam Police next year," he added.

In the last five years, 21,000 youths were recruited in Assam Police, and the authorities are looking to hire 15,000-20,000 more in the current term of the government, Sarma said.

Talking about the conference, he said that maintenance of law and order was given top priority and that it should not be compromised at any cost.

The Chief Minister's Of-

fice later said that several important decisions have also been taken at the conference to enhance the capabilities of Assam Police and strengthen its infrastructure.

Decisions have been taken towards enhancing forensic science capabilities, strengthening the prosecution system, reinforcing the state's disaster mitigation mechanism and forming two new police battalions to further strengthen the security of Oil India Limited and ONGC installations and for Disaster Response, it added.

"Several important responsibilities have been assigned to the Senior Superintendents of Police, and necessary directions have also been issued to ensure that the decisions taken at the conference are implemented within the next four to six months," the CMO said.

NFR extends special festival trains

MALIGAON, SEPTEMBER 4 (MExN): The Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) has extended the services of two pairs of festival special trains to provide additional travel options and facilitate the movement of passengers during the upcoming festive season.

The extended services cover train numbers 09189/09190 Mumbai Central-Katihar-Mumbai Central and 04127/04128 Kanpur Central-Guwahati-Kanpur Central festival specials.

The trains will operate according to their existing schedules, timings, composition and stoppages.

Train number 09189 Mumbai Central-Katihar Festival Special will make seven additional trips on September 5 and 12, and October 17, 24 and 31, and November 7 and 14.

In the return direction, train number 09190 Katihar-Mumbai Central Festival Special will make seven additional trips on September 8 and 15, October 20 and 27, and November 3, 10 and 17.

Train number 04127 Kanpur Central-Guwahati Special will make 14 additional trips from September 10 to December 10, while train number 04128 Guwahati-Kanpur Central Special will make 14 additional trips from September 11 to December 11.

NFR said the extended services would provide additional travel options and help ease congestion on busy routes during the festive season.

Details of stoppages and timings are available on the IRCTC website and NFR's social media platforms. Passengers have been advised to verify the details before undertaking their journey.

NU opens 6 new facilities at Medziphema campus

MEDZIPHEMA, SEPTEMBER 4 (MExN): Nagaland University (NU), the only Central University in the state, inaugurated six new academic, research, agricultural and student-oriented facilities at its School of Agricultural Sciences (SAS), Medziphema campus, on September 4.

The facilities were inaugurated by Nagaland University Vice-Chancellor Prof Jagadish K Patnaik in the presence of faculty members, administrative officials, staff and students.

The newly inaugurated facilities include two Experiential Learning Programme (ELP) units under the Departments of Horticulture and Livestock Production and Management, a Modern Piggery Project, Feed Production Units at the Medziphema and Kohima campuses, a Horticulture Research Laboratory, Naga Morung and a

Sports Complex.

The Feed Production Unit at the Kohima campus was inaugurated virtually, while the facilities at Medziphema were inaugurated during the programme.

Addressing the gathering, Patnaik appreciated the development of the new facilities and outlined the university's aspirations to strengthen research and academic excellence.

"I am looking forward to more active research, innovation and publications from our faculty and researchers. We are also looking forward to achieving top rankings for the School of Agriculture as well as for Nagaland University as a whole," he said.

The new facilities are expected to provide students and researchers with greater opportunities for hands-on learning, experimentation, skill development and research

in agriculture and allied areas.

The Modern Piggery Project and Feed Production Units are expected to facilitate practical training and promote scientific approaches to livestock production and feed management.

The facilities are also aimed at bridging the gap between classroom learning and field-based application while creating opportunities for research, innovation and extension activities.

The Naga Morung and Sports Complex are expected to contribute to cultural preservation and the overall development and well-being of students.

The inauguration marked another step in the university's efforts to strengthen campus infrastructure and create a conducive environment for teaching, research, innovation, extension and student development.

Pantaloons open store in Dimapur

DIMAPUR, SEPTEMBER 4 (MExN): Pantaloons launched its first store in Dimapur, Nagaland on September 4. Spread across over 23,000 square feet, the outlet marks the brand's entry into the state and reinforces its retail presence across the North Eastern region, an update received here stated.

The store offers a wide range of fashion apparel and accessories for women, men, and children, from everyday essentials and casual wear to occasion wear, contemporary looks, and ethnic silhouettes. Designed as a "fashion playground," it reflects Pantaloons' brand philosophy of 'Spark Your Imagination', encouraging customers to experiment and curate their personal style.

As part of the launch, Pantaloons hosted a fashion runway showcase featuring 22 students from leading colleges in Dimapur, under its youth engagement initiative, Pantaloons Style University. The participants received mentorship from Mele Pucho, President of The Beauty and Aesthetic Society of Nagaland (BASN), with choreography by Nikali Shohe, Miss India Nagaland 2026.

The Dimapur opening is part of Pantaloons' broader strategy to tap into emerging fashion markets in the Northeast, bringing its latest collections closer to regional consumers and creating a destination for discovery and self-expression.

Three NST bus accidents claim 2 lives, injure 46 since 2023: Minister

Our Correspondent
Kohima | September 4

Three Nagaland State Transport (NST) bus accidents have occurred between 2023 and the present date, claiming the lives of two passengers and leaving 46 others injured, the state Assembly was informed.

Replying to a starred question tabled by MLA A Nyamyei Konyak during the ninth session of the Nagaland Legislative Assembly on September 3, Health and Family Welfare Minister P. Paiwang Konyak stated that ex gratia relief has been paid to the families of the deceased, while financial assistance was extended to all injured passengers.

The minister informed the House that two of the three accidents were triggered by mechanical failure. Referring to the latest mishap that took place on July 9, 2026, the minister said

an inquiry committee has been constituted to ascertain the exact cause of the accident, and its findings are currently awaited. The driver involved in the July 9 incident has been placed under suspension pending the probe.

Highlighting remedial measures initiated by the transport department to prevent recurrent mishaps, Konyak stated that authorities have stepped up regular surveillance of drivers using breathalyzers to screen for alcohol and substance abuse.

In addition, the department has mandated routine fitness and roadworthiness inspections of the fleet by mechanics, alongside intensified vigilance by enforcement teams to curb rash driving and passenger overloading. Controlling officers have also been directed to periodically monitor the on-duty performance and conduct of drivers and conductors under their respective establishments.

St Joseph University hosts maiden LIT Fest 2026

CHÜMOUKEDIMA, SEPTEMBER 4 (MExN): The Department of English at St Joseph University, Nagaland, in collaboration with the Literary Club and Drama Club, organised the inaugural edition of its two-day literary festival, "LIT Fest 2026", on September 1 and 2 at the university auditorium.

Held under the theme "Words that Echo through Eternity", the festival brought together students and faculty members across diverse academic departments for literary, cultural, and artistic showcases.

Inaugurating the festival, Head of the Department of English Dr.

Thokchom Sunanda Devi urged students to view competitions as learning platforms rather than merely avenues for winning, noting that failure provides crucial opportunities to identify weaknesses and grow.

Describing the participants as "history makers" for pioneering the university's first literary fest, she encouraged them to perform with confidence. The opening ceremony also featured a theatrical performance titled "Chaos Behind a Successful Programme" by the Drama Club, highlighting themes of collective effort, unity, and coordination.

The opening day featured a mix of academic, cultural, and e-sports competitions, including singing, monologue, poetry painting, dance, extempore speech, a bread-eating contest, as well as gaming events like BGMI, MLBB, and Ludo.

Day two commenced with a debate competition on the topic: "The right to protest and reservation: Are they instruments of justice and equality?", where participants deliberated on contemporary social realities and constitutional rights.

A central highlight of the concluding day was the "Mr. and Miss LIT" contest, which saw 16 contestants

competing across introduction rounds featuring traditional attire, informal rounds, and formal Q&A segments evaluating stage presence, clarity of thought, and articulation.

H Hanthu Yimchunger was crowned Mr LIT 2026, with Nurguh V Wilfred finishing as first runner-up. In the women's division, Jacinda Odyuo won the Miss LIT 2026 title, while Neingunuo Kire finished as the first runner-up.

The festival concluded with a valedictory prize distribution ceremony where trophies and certificates were handed out to winners across all contested categories.

Nagaland education officer conferred national award

DIMAPUR, SEPTEMBER 4 (MExN): Hanrenla K, Coordinator of the Educational Block Resource Centre (EBRC) in Pungro Block under Kiphire district, has been conferred the National Award for Innovation and Good Practices in Educational Administration by the National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA).

Hanrenla was among 84 district- and block-level education officers selected from over 300 nominations across 22 States and Union Territories for the years 2023-24 and 2024-25.

The awards were presented during a two-day national conference held in New Delhi on September 2-3 by Padma Shri Prof J S Rajput, former Director of NCERT, and Prof. Rama Shankar Dubey, Chancellor of NIEPA. Instituted by NIEPA, the awards aim to

recognise field-level education administrators who develop and implement inventive solutions, providing national visibility to impactful grassroots practices that often remain localized despite their potential to enhance schooling delivery.

Congratulating the officer, the Kiphire-based Lihpikihna Foundation highlighted her role in setting up "Hanging Libraries" across schools in Pungro Block, noting that her initiative has significantly advanced educational reach and brought distinction to the aspirational border district.

The EBRC Office in Pungro also felicitated Hanrenla, stating that the national recognition underscores her leadership in strengthening local institutions, supporting teaching staff, and driving sustainable educational practices across the block.

JSUN identifies 66 people with expired, no ILPs

JALUKIE, SEPTEMBER 4 (MExN): The Jalukie Students' Union Nagaland (JSUN) conducted a verification drive in Jalukie jurisdiction on September 4 to identify and address alleged violations of the Inner Line Permit (ILP) system.

During the drive, the union identified 28 individuals whose ILPs had expired and 38 others who were found without valid ILP passes, it said in a press release.

The matter was subsequently brought to the attention of the district administration, following which appropriate action was taken in accordance with applicable rules and regulations, the union said.

The JSUN said it remained committed to addressing concerns related to illegal immigration in the region and urged the authorities to remain vigilant and take proactive measures to ensure effective implementation of the ILP system. It also appealed to citizens and stakeholders to cooperate with the authorities in maintaining law and order and safeguarding the interests of indigenous people in the region.

NPF women's wing organises legal awareness drive on women, child safety

KOHIMA, SEPTEMBER 4 (MExN): A one-day legal awareness programme focusing on the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, the POSH Act, and the POCSO Act was organised by the Naga People's Front (NPF) Women's Wing, Kohima Division, at its division office on September 4.

Held under the theme "Know your rights, strengthen your voice," the event aimed to bolster understanding of statutory protections available to women and children, while highlighting the significance of early reporting, institutional support mechanisms, and access to justice.

Delivering the keynote address, Nagaland State Commission for Women (NSCW) member Kekhrienuo Meyase underscored the necessity for women to understand the legal avenues designed to safeguard them against violence, harassment, and abuse.

Meyase called on women political functionaries to act as catalysts for change, noting that their extensive grassroots-to-policy network places them in an ideal position to sensitise communities on safety, security, and women's rights.

NSCW legal consultant Advocate Apila Sangtam provided an overview of the key statutory provisions under the Domestic Violence Act, the Prevention of Sexual Harassment (POSH) Act, and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act. Sangtam stressed practical compliance alongside the institutional and civic obligations required to prevent and redress offences against women and minors. The session, aimed at encouraging timely intervention and informed legal action, was chaired by Anhie-ü Solo, while Kikhrienuo Bio delivered the vote of thanks.

भारतीय खाद्य निगम

Food Corporation of India

क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, दीमापुर, नागालैंड

Regional Office, Dimapur, Nagaland

Date: 04.09.2026

INFORMATION

FCI, Regional Office, Dimapur-797112

Food Corporation of India, Nagaland Region has offered 200 MT Rice on each date for sale under OMSS (D) scheme to Private Parties and Cooperatives/Cooperative Federations from 01 centre (CWC-DIMAPUR) through e-auction scheduled to be held on 09.09.2026 (Wednesday) and 10.09.2026 (Thursday).

The detailed information is available on the website of FCI i.e. (<http://fci.gov.in>) and (<https://www.valuejunction.in/fci>).

Sd/- General Manager
FCI, Regional Office, Dimapur

बैंक ऑफ बड़ोदा

Bank of Baroda

ROSARB GUWAHATI

Fancy Bazar, 1st Floor, Hotel Siddharth Building, Above Sarma Sweets, H B Road, Guwahati, Assam- 781001, E-Mail: sarbgu@bankofbaroda.bank.in

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES
APPENDIX- IV-A [See proviso to Rule 6 (2) & 8 (B)]

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 6 (2) & 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s), Mortgagor (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **Bank of Baroda**, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "**As is where is**", "**As is what is**" and "**Whatever there is**" basis for recovery of dues in below mentioned account/s. The details of Borrower/s / Mortgagor / Guarantor/s / Secured Asset/s / Dues / Reserve Price / e-Auction date & Time, EMD and Bid Increase Amount are mentioned below:-
Note: Bidder must read & satisfy upon about the clause of Nagaland Land and Revenue regulation and a ny other amendment / modification in provision regarding Tribal Belt before participating in the Auction.

Sr No.	Name & address of Borrower/s / Guarantor / Mortgagor/s	Description of the immovable property with known encumbrances, if any	Total Dues	Date of E-Auction, Time of E-Auction, Start Time to End Time	1. Reserve Price 2. Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) 3. Bid Increase Amount	Status of Possession	Property Inspection Date & Time
1.	Borrower: 1. M/S. ACHUMI TRADERS AND FEEDS Prop: Mr. Inato Sumi, Kushilavil Village, Near 4 Lane, Assam Dimapur Highway, Dimapur- 797112 2. MR. INATO SUMI (Proprietor of M/s. Achumi Traders and Feeds), House No. 1, Y Zhimo Colony, Dimapur, Nagaland- 797112	Land and building approx. 5616 Sq.Ft. located at H. No. GB/C-H/No.121, Opp. Dimapur Sumi Baptist Church, Xuvih Colony, Dimapur, Nagaland bearing Patta No. 893, Dag No. 8/996, Block No. 08, Mouza No. 03. The property is bounded by:- North- Khovete Chishi, South- Aron Sema, East- Approach Road, West- Samuel Kumar Dutta.	Rs. 64,39,655.73 (Rupees Sixty Four Lakh Thirty Nine Thousand Six Hundred Fifty Five and Paise Seventy Three only) + Unapplied Interest and other charges w.e.f. 25-11-2024	28-10-2026, 2.00 PM to 6.00 PM	1. Rs. 1,09,00,000.00 2. Rs. 10,90,000.00 3. Rs. 10,000.00	Constructive	26.10.2026 & 27.10.2026 from 10:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Baanknet Property Id: **BARB0SARBGU001**
For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer/visit to the website link <https://www.bankofbaroda.bank.in/e-auction> and online auction portal <https://baanknet.com>. Also, prospective bidders may contact the Authorised Officer on Mobile No.: **9181017680**.
Date: **05.09.2026**, Place: **Guwahati, Assam**

Authorised Officer, Bank of Baroda