

NBCC calls for clean electoral rolls, protection against wrongful exclusion

KOHIMA, AUGUST 26 (MExN): The Nagaland Baptist Church Council (NBCC) has welcomed the Election Commission of India's Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Nagaland, while calling for a transparent and inclusive exercise that protects eligible voters from wrongful exclusion.

In a statement issued by Dr Villo Naleo, Secretary, Social Concern, NBCC on August 26, it said the integrity of an electoral roll should be measured not only by the removal of ineligible names but also by whether every eligible citizen is protected from wrongful deletion.

It said Nagaland's distinctive history of village-based communities, customary institutions, clan relationships and traditional landholding meant that many families may possess records that do not fit neatly into modern bureaucratic categories. A rigid documentation-based approach could therefore disadvantage genuine indigenous voters, it said.

The NBCC also pointed out that many residents study, work, serve in government or live temporarily outside their native villages, while others move to Dimapur, Kohima and other urban areas. Determining whether a person has shifted residence, is temporarily absent or remains ordinarily resident can be complicated, it said, adding that incorrect classification could result in the deletion of genuine voters.

"A democracy is not strengthened when

questionable names remain on the roll; neither is it strengthened when genuine citizens lose their names from it," the council said.

It said the true test of the SIR should not simply be how efficiently names are removed, but how faithfully every legitimate citizen is protected. While a technically accurate electoral roll is necessary, democracy also involves participation, conscience, equality, accountability and justice, it added.

The NBCC noted that SIR is a large-scale exercise involving mapping, house-to-house verification, data entry, claims and objections. While speed is important, accuracy should take precedence over deadlines, as excessive pressure on field-level officials could increase errors in enumeration and verification, it said.

The council also cautioned against rumours and urged that bureaucratic indifference should not become a barrier for citizens seeking assistance.

The NBCC made four specific appeals

First, it called upon the administrative machinery to take a proactive role in the process, cautioning that electoral irregularities could range from technical administrative mistakes to deliberate voter suppression and fraud. It said actively supporting or institutionalising such practices would violate citizens' constitutional rights.

Second, it appealed to Booth Level Officers (BLOs) and village authorities to play

their role in maintaining clean and honest electoral rolls in every constituency. It said they had been entrusted with an important responsibility to ensure clean politics.

Third, the council called upon Christian families not to include the names of deceased or otherwise ineligible persons on electoral rolls. It urged families to choose "truth over manipulation, righteousness over expediency, and conscience over political gain", describing the cleansing of electoral rolls as an act of moral responsibility before God and the people. It cited Proverbs 16:8: "Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues with injustice."

Fourth, it urged every voter to remain vigilant in safeguarding against wrongful deletion, exclusion, intimidation or manipulation. The right to vote, it said, is not a favour granted by those in power but a fundamental expression of citizenship and democratic participation. Every eligible voter has the right and responsibility to ensure that their name remains on the electoral roll and that their eligibility is established through a fair and lawful process.

The NBCC appealed that the intensive revision should not become an "intensive exclusion", stressing that Nagaland's unique context, including questions of identity, indigenous rights, migration and historical records, requires the process to be careful, inclusive, transparent, non-discriminatory and rights-protective.

Gauhati HC admits PIL alleging govt negligence behind Upper Assam floods

GUWAHATI, AUGUST 26 (PTI): The Gauhati High Court on Wednesday admitted a PIL filed by senior Congress leader Debabrata Saikia against the state government, alleging negligence led to the devastating floods in several Upper Assam districts in July.

Chief Justice Ashutosh Kumar heard the petitioner's counsel KN Chowdhury and directed all listed parties to file their replies by November 3.

The floods in Sivasagar, Charaideo, Jorhat and Golaghat districts claimed 105 lives, displaced lakhs of people and destroyed the livelihoods of thousands of families, according to the petition.

Saikia alleged that the floods were not a natural calamity but a "man-made disaster".

"I had been warning the government and the authorities since 2018. I had earlier approached the Gauhati High Court twice, and it had issued clear directions in 2019 and again in 2022 to stop illegal mining in the Dikhow riverbed and to constitute a Task Force Battalion," Saikia said.

"The government simply ignored those orders. Even the official report of the Water Resources Department dated January 12, 2022, clearly predicted that continued illegal excavation would change the river's course and cause devastation, which has now come true in the most tragic manner," he said.

The petitioner said he had filed two PILs in 2018 and 2019 before the high court, highlighting alleged rampant and unscientific mining of sand and stone from the Dikhow riverbed, particularly in the Assam-Nagaland border areas.

The HC had directed the state to stop illegal mining and form a dedicated Mines and Minerals Task Force Battalion, he said.

In 2022, the court again reiterated its directions, but the BJP-led state government did nothing, he alleged.

"The government protected the mining mafia

instead of protecting the people of Upper Assam. Night-time mining continued with impunity. I submitted repeated representations to the Deputy Commissioner, the Superintendent of Police, the Chief Secretary and even to the Chief Justice but no action was taken," Saikia said.

Saikia also alleged that illegal open-cast coal mining in Nagaland's Mon, Mokokchung and Wokha districts and the sudden release of water from the Doyang Hydro Electric Project without proper coordination further aggravated the situation.

The natural protective features of the river, including sand and gravel bars that once helped moderate floodwaters, were systematically destroyed by years of illegal mining, he alleged.

The petition sought an immediate and permanent halt to illegal riverbed mining in the Dikhow and its tributaries and full implementation of the HC's 2019 and 2022 orders, including the creation of the Task Force Battalion.

It also sought the constitution of a high-powered monitoring committee headed by a retired judge, scientific assessment of the role of illegal mining and dam releases in the floods; full restorative compensation to the victims beyond the token ex gratia; registration of FIRs against those responsible for illegal mining and official negligence; and a real-time coordinated protocol for upstream dam releases to protect downstream communities in Assam.

Demanding accountability, Saikia said the state government must answer why it ignored judicial orders for eight years.

After hearing the matter, the Chief Justice verbally acknowledged that the petitioner had raised the concerns earlier and observed that the government must explain why floods could not be prevented, as they should not become an annual cause of misery for the people of Assam.

Assam-Nagaland border dispute deepens after Negheribil clashes

Morung Express News
Wokha | August 26

The Lotha Lower Range Public Organisation (LLRPO) has condemned the alleged assault of Longayim and Longchum village council members during the reported confrontations at Negheribil, a disputed area along the Assam-Nagaland border.

According to LLRPO Joint Secretary Zathungo Yanthan, tensions first arose on August 25 when members of the Longayim Village Council were returning from the Rubber Board of India after collecting rubber saplings meant for distribution among villagers for plantation on their respective farms.

Yanthan stated that their route to Longayim passes through the disputed Negheribil belt, where a barricade had reportedly been put up by the Forest Department, Government of Assam. The vehicle carrying the village council members was stopped by police, who restricted their movement, it was reported.

Yanthan said a discussion with the authorities was underway when a crowd gathered at the location, eventually leading to a scuffle. The situation was brought under control following the intervention of police personnel, civil administration officials and border magistrates from Assam and Nagaland. The council members were later permitted to continue towards Longayim.

The situation reportedly escalated again on August 26. Yanthan said the Deputy Commissioner and Superintendent of Police, Wokha, had visited Negheribil for an on-the-spot assessment and invited LLRPO representatives to accompany them.

While proceeding towards the site, Yanthan said he encountered another confrontation, with an estimated 200-300 people from Assam gathered at the location and allegedly restricting movement.

He further stated that the chairmen of the Longayim and Longchum village councils arrived

on two-wheelers. With the road blocked, they reportedly sounded their horns, after which the crowd allegedly became agitated and attacked the two village council leaders.

Police personnel present at the site intervened and acted to control the situation, Yanthan said.

He also alleged that the crowd later accused him of having been present at the site on August 25 and physically assaulted him. According to Yanthan, his mobile phone was taken away, while some women in the crowd allegedly slapped and manhandled him.

Condemning the alleged incidents, Yanthan described the assault as unwarranted and called for those responsible to be identified and arrested.

The LLRPO also urged the authorities to take appropriate measures to prevent further escalation of tensions and ensure the safety and free movement of people in the disputed area.

As per *The Assam Tribune* report residents of No. 2 Negheribil lodged a police complaint on Wednesday alleging assault and unlawful entry by a group from Nagaland following a fresh confrontation. The complaint at Merapani Police Station came hours after a meeting was held to defuse tensions over an incident reported on Tuesday evening, it stated.

According to the complaint, trouble erupted when vehicles carrying rubber saplings attempted to enter a recently evicted area and were stopped by Assam Forest Department personnel. The situation escalated when about 30-40 people, led by one "Hussain Lotha," chairman of Longayim and Mikirang villages, entered the area armed with sharp weapons, intimidated residents and assaulted them, causing injuries.

The villagers have sought legal action and expressed apprehension over further disturbances, according to *The Assam Tribune*.

DHR special joyrides from October 1 for Durga Puja season

MALIGAON, AUGUST 26 (MExN): The Darjeeling Himalayan Railway (DHR), a UNESCO World Heritage Site under the Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR), will introduce special additional joyride services from October 1 to coincide with the upcoming Durga Puja festival season.

The initiative is aimed at providing tourists and visitors greater opportunities to experience the historic railway, scenic landscapes and cultural heritage of the Darjeeling hills, the NFR said in a statement on Wednesday.

As part of the festival-season initiative, DHR will operate four single-trip joyrides between Darjeeling and Ghum.

The Darjeeling-Ghum services will depart at 9:20 am and 11:25 am, while the Ghum-Darjeeling services will depart at 10:25 am and 12:30 pm.

The services will be operated by diesel-hauled trains and the proposed fare is Rs 800 per single journey.

In addition, DHR will introduce two special round-trip joyrides between Kurseong and Mahanadi, covering one of the scenic and heritage-rich sections of the railway.

The first service, "Red Panda," will be steam-hauled and depart from Kurseong at 9 am, with the return journey from Mahanadi at 10 am. The proposed fare for the round trip is Rs 1,530.

The second service, "Mukta Dhara," will

Integrated crop management training held for farmers in Chümukedima

DIMAPUR, AUGUST 24 (MExN): The All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Sesame, School of Agricultural Sciences (SAS), Nagaland University, Medziphema Campus, in collaboration with the Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA), Chumukedima, organised a one-day training programme on "Integrated Crop Management for Sustainable Sesame Production in Nagaland" at Dhansiripar on August 24.

The programme, chaired by Livika K. Zhimomi, Block Technology Manager, Dhansiripar Block, was attended by farmers from the area.

Dr Rokozeno, Scientist (Entomology), AICRP on Kharif Pulses, SAS, Nagaland University, spoke on major insect pests affecting sesame and their management, with emphasis on organic and eco-friendly pest management practices. The use of yellow sticky traps and pheromone traps was also demonstrated to the farmers.

Dr Debika Nongmaithem, Assistant Professor, Department of Agronomy, SAS, Nagaland University and Project In-charge, AICRP on Sesame, highlighted the importance of adopting suitable high-yielding sesame varieties to improve productivity in the state.

She noted that farmers often rely on locally

produced seed, which may have comparatively lower yield potential and longer crop duration. She also stressed the importance of soil fertility management for achieving higher sesame yields and encouraged farmers to use organic inputs that can be prepared at the farm level.

Nongmaithem said further training programmes on compost preparation and organic soil fertility management would be organised for farmers interested in sustainable and organic sesame production.

The training also covered key agronomic practices for enhancing sesame productivity, including line sowing to maintain optimum plant population, proper water management and the role of sulphur in improving oil production.

Following the training, participants visited a farmer's field where sesame was cultivated over approximately three bighas. During the field visit, a Farm School on "Sequential Farming System" was inaugurated, with sesame included as one of the important components of the farming system.

The programme was assisted by Florence, Assistant Technology Manager, and Viketuzo Punyu. It concluded with the distribution of agricultural inputs to 24 participating farmers.

NSCN-K informs on recovered motorcycle

DIMAPUR, AUGUST 26 (MExN): The Crime Monitoring Cell (CMC) of the NSCN-K has recovered a blue Pulsar motorcycle bearing registration number AS05J-1629 and chassis number MD2A11CY1HRM32073.

The CMC has asked the rightful owner to present the original vehicle documents and claim the motorcycle from its office within seven days from the date of publication of the notice.

CORRIGENDUM

Apropos of the news report titled "*Nagaland Govt proposes Integrated Zonal Waste Processing Centre at Xukiye*" published on August 26 issue of *The Morung Express*, it is clarified that the matter was not listed before the National Green Tribunal on August 25, 2026. The matter was last heard on August 7, 2026, and is scheduled for further hearing on October 14, 2026. The inadvertent error is regretted.

Amit Shah to visit Manipur in October for laying foundation stone for medical college

IMPHAL, AUGUST 26 (PTI): Union Home Minister Amit Shah is scheduled to visit Manipur in the first week of October, during which he will lay the foundation stone for a medical college and oversee other developmental projects, according to the Chief Minister's Secretariat.

During a meeting with Chief Minister Y. Khemchand Singh in New Delhi on Wednesday, Shah also said that the central government will fulfil the wishes of the people of the state.

"Amit Shah will also visit the state in the first week of October this year. During his visit, the Union home minister will lay the foundation stone of Senapati Medical College and oversee other developmental

projects of the state," the Chief Minister's Secretariat said in a statement.

The state cabinet recently decided to set up a medical college in Senapati district, predominantly inhabited by the Naga community.

Shah also gave a patient hearing to all the issues related to the state raised by Singh, the statement said.

"The Union home minister then informed the Manipur chief minister that the central government will fulfil the aspirations of the people of Manipur," it said.

Shah also lauded the state government for its success in resuming the Imphal-Dimapur-Guwahati bus service and ensuring free movement on the National Highway 2.

The bus service and free movement of traffic along the national highways had been affected intermittently due to blockades imposed by various ethnic groups to press for their demands.

At least 260 people have been killed and thousands rendered homeless since May 2023 due to ethnic violence between the valley-based Meiteis and the Kukis who live in the hill districts of Manipur.

Following continued ethnic clashes and the resignation of Chief Minister N Biren Singh, the state was placed under President's Rule on February 13, 2025. It was lifted nearly a year later, on February 4, and Y Khemchand Singh became the CM.

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SALE NOTICE

[SEE PROVISO TO RULE 8 (6)]

SALE NOTICE FOR SUBSEQUENT SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for subsequent sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6), 6 (2) & 9 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of **Indian Bank**, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is basis" on **14.09.2026**. The Specific details of the property intended to be brought to subsequent sale through e-auction mode are enumerated below:

Branch	A) Name of the Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor B) Due Amount	a) Details of the Immovable Property b) Property ID No.	a) Reserve Price b) EMD c) Bid Increment Amount d) Any Encumbrances on property
Dimapur	A) Borrower- Mrs. N. Sashila Jamir, W/o Mr. Pallav Kumar Sharma, Address- Ward No. 20, House No. 854 (A), C-Khel Half Nagarjan, Dimapur, Nagaland, PIN- 797112 and Mr. Pallav Kumar Sharma, Address- Ward No. 20, House No. 854 (A), C-Khel Half Nagarjan, Dimapur (Nagaland), PIN- 797112. Guarantor- Mr. Kilemsungba Ao, Address- House No. 48, Near Ao Church, Imkonglenden Colony, P.O. + P.S.- Dimapur (Nagaland), PIN- 797112. Guarantor- T. Asem dangba, Address- House No. 06, Airport Road, Aoyimti, P.O. + P.S.- Dimapur (Nagaland), PIN- 797112. Guarantor- Mrs. K. Tainla, Address- House No. 873, C-Khel Kuda Village, Nagarjan, P.O. + P.S.- Dimapur (Nagaland), PIN- 797112. Guarantor- Mr. Takosashi, Address- Near Welcome Gate, Imkonglenden Colony, P.O. + P.S.- Dimapur, Nagaland, PIN- 797112. B) Rs. 49,13,955/- (Rupees Forty Nine Lakhs Thirteen Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty Five only) as on 01.08.2026 with further interest, costs, other charges and expenses thereon.	a) All that part and parcel of the property / land situated at Half Nagarjan, Dimapur, Nagaland covered by Dag No. 187, Patta No. 65 Measuring 00B-01K-04Ls of Nagarjan Block, Mouza No. 03 Dimapur, Nagaland in the name of Mrs. N. Sashila Jamir, Daughter of Late R. Nganshimongba having Deed No. SD-721/05 dated 30-09-2019. Bounded by:- On the North by: Land of Mr. Lingshi, On the South by: Land of Mr. Toshiba Longkumer, On the East by: Land of Mrs. K. Shangreingam, On the West by: Approach Road. b) IDIB50502043373	a) Rs. 1,37,76,000/- (Rupees One Crore Thirty Seven Lakhs Seventy Six Thousand only) b) Rs. 13,77,600/- (Rupees Thirteen Lakhs Seventy Seven Thousand Six Hundred only) c) Rs. 50,000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand only) d) Not Known any

Date & Time of e-Auction: On 14.09.2026 from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM with unlimited extension of 10 minutes

Last Date & Time for Submission of EMO Amount: 14.09.2026 up to 05:00 P.M.

For further Details and Terms & Conditions, contact concern Branch Manager : (A) Dimapur : 9612305626; (B) Zonal Office Dibrugarh: 9628610699

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