

REPORT OF TWO-DAY REGIONAL FESTIVAL OF NAGA DANCE

- **Organized by:** Tribal Area Environment & Culture Development Organisation (TAECDO)
- **Sponsored by:** North Eastern Council (NEC), Ministry of DoNER, Government of India, Shillong
- **Date:** 24th & 25th February, 2026
- **Venue:** Multipurpose Hall, Tengnoupal, Manipur

6.00 lakhs NEC funding

1. Introduction

The Two-Day Regional Festival of Naga Dance was successfully organized on February 24th and 25th, 2026, at the Multipurpose Hall, Tengnoupal. Organized by the **Tribal Area Environment & Culture Development Organisation (TAECDO)**, the event was sponsored by the **North Eastern Council (NEC)** under the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), Government of India, Shillong.

The primary objective of the festival was to promote and preserve the traditional cultural heritage of the Naga tribes through folk dance, music, and cultural exchange. The festival provided a vital platform for various tribal communities to showcase their unique identities while strengthening mutual understanding and unity.

The event was well-attended by dignitaries, cultural performers, youth groups, and the general public. Through vibrant performances and inspiring speeches, the festival highlighted the necessity of preserving indigenous culture for future generations.

2. Preparation and Organization

The TAECDO organizing committee undertook extensive preparations to ensure the smooth conduct of the festival. Planning meetings were held to finalize the program schedule, coordinate with performers, invite dignitaries, and arrange the venue.

The Multipurpose Hall was decorated with traditional motifs representing Naga culture. Stage arrangements, sound systems, and seating were meticulously organized. Volunteers played a crucial role in coordinating performers and managing the event flow.

The financial support provided by the North Eastern Council and the Ministry of DoNER was instrumental to the festival's success. Their sponsorship enabled the participation of diverse tribal cultural groups and effectively promoted the region's traditional heritage.



3. Day 1 Programme (24th February, 2026)

The first day of the festival ran from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM and was moderated by compere **Kh. Christie Charanga**.

The program commenced with the arrival of dignitaries, followed by a **Welcome Song** by Maringlane Youth, Imphal. The **Opening Prayer** was offered by Rev. Weapon Mungleng, Pastor of Kanemram Baptist Church.

Following the honoring of dignitaries, **Shri T. Thunder**, Chairman of TAECD, delivered the **Welcome Address**. He expressed deep gratitude to the North Eastern Council and the Ministry of DoNER for their sponsorship and support of cultural preservation.

Key addresses were also delivered by:

- **Guest of Honour:** Smt. Tomuishang Wairok Maring (Lecturer, Eklavya Model Residential School)
- **Chief Guest:** Shri Mohammed Nazmul Huda Khan, MCS (Sub-Divisional Officer, Tengnoupal)
- **Village Representative:** Shri M. Piyao Sanyao (Chairman, Kanemram Village)



In his speech, **Chief Guest Mohammed Nazmul Huda Khan** emphasized the importance of upholding the rich cultural heritage of the Naga community. He commended the organizers and participants and encouraged the younger generation to take pride in their traditions. **Cultural Dance Performances – Day 1**

- **Aimol Tribe Dance:** Representing the traditional lifestyle of the Aimol community through rhythmic movement and indigenous instruments.



- **Chothe Tribe Dance:** Graceful movements portraying stories of agriculture and community life.



- **Anal Tribe dance** (Khamdam dance) performed by young people during festivals and social events.

Special musical numbers, including *Modonshel Tontang*, and *Shelcoldawn Tontang*, were also presented. The day concluded with a **Word of Thanks** by M. Meshon Marim (TAEEDO Member) and a **Closing Prayer** by T. Pungdila Maram.

4. Day 2 Programme (25th February, 2026)

The second day was conducted from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM, with **Jenifer Maku** serving as the compere.

The program began with a **Welcome Address** by **Narhang Shangnonkim**, Secretary of TAEEDO, who thanked the performers and guests for their presence and acknowledged the Ministry of DoNER's support.

Cultural Dance Performances – Day 2

- **Monsang Tribe Dance:** A display of joy and unity performed during community festivals.
- **Moyon Tribe Dance:** Expressive movements symbolizing the preservation of Moyon identity.
- **Maram Tribe Dance:** Known for graceful steps and strong cultural symbolism regarding social life.
- **Lamkang Tribe Dance:** A vibrant performance depicting social traditions and tribal pride.





- **Tarao Tribe Dance:** Reflecting the festive spirit and collective harmony of the Tarao people.



- **Maring Tribe Dance:** Synchronized movements representing bravery and the historical customs of the Maring community.





Closing Ceremony

The festival concluded with a **Vote of Thanks** delivered by **Romi Tontang**, Treasurer of TAECD. She extended appreciation to the dignitaries, volunteers, and the North Eastern Council for their generous support. The event ended with a dinner for all participants and guests.

5. Significance and Conclusion

The festival which was attended by around 250 viewers served as a significant platform for strengthening unity among tribal communities. By showcasing the diversity of Naga traditions, the event fulfilled its goal of cultural promotion. The support from the North Eastern Council and the Ministry of DoNER underscores the Government of India's commitment to the heritage of the North Eastern Region.

In conclusion, the Two-Day Regional Festival of Naga Dance was a resounding success, fostering community relationships and taking a vital step toward preserving indigenous culture for the future.

Prepared By:

Narhang Shangnonkim *Secretary, TAECD*

