

Dimapur Naga Students' union (DNSU) and Rengma Students Union (RSU) have unanimously resolved to endorse the stance of the Naga Students' Federation's (NSF) clarion call for only indigenous candidate to contest in the upcoming Urban Local Bodies (ULB) elections, encompassing 3 Municipal Councils and 36 Town Councils, scheduled for June 26.

In a press release, DNSU president, Hinoto P Aomi and general secretary, Michael Kath further pledged allegiance to the principle of "Naga by blood, not by adoption", while acknowledging the forthcoming ULB elections with 33% reservation for women. DNSU further said that Dimapur, being a densely populated Municipality, puts Nagas at risk of cultural dilution due to the influx of non-locals, especially through intermarriage and adoption. It also appealed to the State Election Commission (SEC) and the Government to ensure transparent conduct, and avoiding any untoward incidents. DNSU has also directed its officials to refrain from any sort of political campaign under the banner of DNSU.

RSU: Recognizing the critical need to protect and safeguard the interests and essence of the Naga people, Rengam Students' Union (RSU) has fully endorsed NSF assertion for absolute indigenous representation in the upcoming ULB elections. In a press release RSU, president, Ajo Tsela and general secretary, Wakhanlo Semy, said that they also supported the NSF's stance on excluding women married to non-local, their offspring from contesting the elections.

RSU said preserving Naga identity and agency in decision-making processes at the local level was paramount in upholding the principles of inclusivity, equality, and indigenous rights. It therefore urged stakeholders and concerned citizens to advocate for the sanctity of indigenous participation in the election and also appealed the voters to exercise their vote wisely and not under any influence but for visionary candidates.