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:: THE HEADLINES ::

- · Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankar says, tribal community is the pride of our country.
- · Prime Minister Narendra Modi says, his government aims at making India a developed country with a vision beyond vote-bank politics.
- · Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla Says, Comptroller and Auditor General of India's credibility and authenticity now recognised globally.
- · And, National Press Day being celebrated across the country today; Kohima Press Club joins the celebration.



Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar, said today that the tribal community is the pride of the country. He said, Tribal culture must be respected at national and international levels. Mr. Dhankar said, wherever he go, he is mesmerized by the tribal lifestyle, their culture, music, tribal characteristics, talent, whether it is in sports or anything else. Addressing the gathering as the Chief Guest at the Vanvasi Kalyan Ashram Vidhyalay Prangan, Kotra, in Udaipur on the occasion of the 150th birth anniversary of Bhagwan Birsa Munda, the Vice-President warned about the threats to cultural integrity. He said, conspiratorial attempts to lure and change the beliefs of tribal communities are happening. Mr. Dhankar said, tribal community is one that does not

take even a grain more than it needs. The Vice President further said, tribal people teach us what the environment is, what indigenous life means, what family signifies, and what the duty of a person is.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has emphasised that the government's goal is to transform India into a developed nation, with a vision that goes beyond vote-bank politics. Addressing the gathering at the Leadership Summit organized by a private media organisation, Mr Modi highlighted that the government is working with the mantra of progress for the people and by the people underlining that when the people trust their government, the impact on the development is profound.

Mr. Modi further underlined that in 2014, the country's Union budget was around 16 lakh crore, and today it stands at 48 lakh crore rupees. The Prime Minister mentioned that the capital expenditure has now exceeded 11 lakh crore rupees, with funds being allocated to new schools, research facilities, and the rail sector.

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla highlighted that the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) is working with great transparency, and its credibility and authenticity are now recognised globally. Addressing the 4th Audit Diwas in New Delhi today, Mr. Birla mentioned that he witnessed people from different countries coming to India to study the Indian auditing system. He said that these visitors learn from the Indian system and try to adopt it in their own countries. Audit Diwas is celebrated every year on the 16th of November to commemorate the inception of the institution of CAG and its contribution towards good governance, transparency and accountability.

National Press Day is being celebrated across the country today to honour the essential role of a free and responsible press in society. It was on this day in 1966 that the Press Council of India began its operations as a moral watchdog to ensure that the press maintains high standards and is not unduly influenced or threatened. The day not only celebrates the achievements of the press but also reinforces the responsibility it carries in building a more informed and transparent society. The day is commemorated through various activities, including the National Awards for Excellence in Journalism and the release of a Souvenir.



Media persons in Nagaland today joined the rest of the country in celebrating National Press Day under the theme, 'Changing Nature of Press'. In the state capital, the Kohima Press Club organized a program at Hotel Japfu to commemorate the day. Speaking on the occasion as Guest Speaker, Pro-Vice Chancellor of Nagaland University, Professor G T Thong said National Press Day is celebrated to highlight the importance of a free and independent press. He said, the day was established by the Press Council of India (PCI) in 1966 to recognize the crucial role of the press. Professor Thong informed that the PCI was formed under the Press Council Act of Parliament to safeguard the freedom of press, which has endured attempts at information suppression. Stating that the press is referred to as the fourth pillar of Democracy, he said it should have the power to hold the government accountable and disseminate news and information freely.

Speaking on the theme of the day, Professor Thong said, due to technological advancement, rise of social media and globalization, changes have come in various forms such as speed, accessibility, interactivity and multimedia platforms. He said journalism is now focused on the pace of information gathering and sharing. Professor Thong added that the days of ponderous news gathering and painfully verifying and editing the items are long gone. He said the press has expanded its reach through online editions and other multimedia

platforms. Professor Thong further caution against lack of professionalism by untrained players who can cause social unrest.

Rev. Dr. Sanyü Iralu today unveiled the Khonoma Semo-Chalieutsumia Kharu (Gate) at Khurükha, Khonoma. Speaking on the occasion, Rev. Dr. Iralu said, the gate holds great significance in the village because it protected the people from enemies, internally from disunity and disharmony, as people who broke the law were sent out. He said, for a village to be strong, a strong gate is needed. Rev. Dr. Iralu said, in the past, the gate protected against the British invasion, and today, the gate that protects us, is the living God, as believers of Christ. He therefore said we need God to rebuild our walls, which have been torn down by negativity around us. The Kharu of Chalieutsumia was constructed and in existence since the inception of Khonoma village, then its periodic reconstruction was continued and one of such reconstruction took place on 28th April, 1948.

A prominent Author, Independent Researcher, Documentary Film maker and Journalist, Charles Chasie donated a Campaign Medal to the Nagaland State Museum today. Speaking during the unveiling programme of the Campaign Medal, Mr. Chasie briefed about its significance and its journey. He expressed enthusiasm for the "NAGA 1879-

80" Medal to be housed in the museum so that Nagas, especially the y ounger generation can learn the history of their people and be proud of who they are. The Campaign Medal was awarded for campaign activity during the Battle of Khonoma in 1879-80. Sepoy Lall Singh Raie of the 44th Gurkha Regiment, later on, the 8th Gurkha Rifles, received this medal for his valiant actions at the Battle of Khonoma.

