

Morning News script

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10th November 2024

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Union Finance and Corporate Affairs Minister Nirmala Sitharaman yesterday said that a target has been set for Public Sector Banks to lend 5.75 lakh crore rupees to MSMEs for this financial year. The Minister was speaking at the National MSME Cluster Outreach Programme organised by SIDBI in Bengaluru. The Finance Minister said the Public Sector Banks' lending to MSMEs grew by 9.2 per cent, as against 25 per cent by private banks and 39 per cent by NBFCs. The Minister further informed that the proposed new credit guarantee scheme, which ensures term loans of 100 crore rupees to MSMEs, will go before the Cabinet soon. This will ensure term loans to MSMEs without any collateral or third-party assurance. Mrs. Sitharaman said that the Government procurement policy, which makes 25 per cent of purchases from MSMEs mandatory through the GEM portal, has helped generate demand.

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Seven Indian institutions have secured a place in the Top 100 of the QS World University Rankings: Asia 2025. India is home to two universities in the top 50 and seven in the top 100, with the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi leading at 44th place. The Ministry of Education said in a statement that this edition highlights India's impressive upward trajectory in higher education across the continent. IIT Bombay is ranked 48th, while IIT Madras, IIT Kharagpur, the Indian Institute of Science, IIT Kanpur, and the University of Delhi are the other Indian institutes in the Top 100. Institutions such as IIT Guwahati, IIT Roorkee, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Chandigarh University, UPES, and Vellore Institute of Technology are in the Top 150. This ranking assesses 984 institutions across 25 countries in Eastern, Southern, South-Eastern, and Central Asia. India stands out with the highest number of institutes in the latest rankings.

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Nagaland Government has given its comments on the Draft Memorandum of Settlement-III for the proposed Frontier Nagaland Territory or Frontier Nagaland Territorial Authority (FNT/FNTA), to the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India. The Home Department in a circular said that the comments were given to the Home Affairs ministry on 6th November. It said that the point-wise comments that have been communicated on the proposed FNT/FNTA comprising of Mon, Tuensang, Longleng, Kiphire, Noklak and Shamator Districts in Eastern Nagaland were approved by the State Cabinet in its meeting on 30th October.

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Nagaland State Legal Services Authority Member Secretary, Neiko Akami has said that Legal services provides free and competent Legal Services to the weaker sections of the society. He was speaking at Losami Village under Phek district yesterday during a programme organized by NSLSA during National Legal Services Day observation. He underscored that the Legal Services is here to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen by reason of economic or other disabilities. Mr. Akami urged the gathering to approach the district Legal Services Authority and anyone can avail Legal advice in the days to come. Legal Services Day programmes were also organized in other districts including Longleng, Tuensang, Dimapur, Peren and Mon.

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Jeho Himnakulpuingheta and Trisha Gogoi won the men's and women's singles titles at the 4th Northeast India Academy of Performing Arts Open TT Tournament, which concluded yesterday in Chümoukedima. Mr Jeho defeated Assam paddler Agniv Bhaskar Gohain 4-2 in the final. The winner walked away with 25,000 rupees while Gohain received 16,000 rupees. In the Women's Singles, Trisha Gogoi, defeated Meghalaya's Tanushree Das Gupta 4-0 in the final. Ms Trisha received 20,000 rupees , while Ms Gupta earned 13,000 rupees . In Men's Doubles, Jeho Himnakulpuingheta and Alberto Ruata beat Agniv

Bhaskar Gohain and Udipta Kakoti. In Women's Doubles, Akuonuo K Yhome and Tanushree Das Gupta claimed first place, while Lalthansangi Sailo and Malsawmtluangi finished second. Meghalaya duo Surajit Dey and Tanushree Das Gupta won the mixed doubles. Dimapur Deputy Commissioner, Dr Tinojongshi Chang presented the awards to the winners.

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