

Morning News Script

0730 hrs

10th December 2024.

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Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has said 25 thousand Bima Sakhis or insurance agents will be appointed this year. Addressing a function to launch 'Bima Sakhi Yojana' yesterday, she said the government plans to appoint 2 lakh Bima Sakhis over the next three years. She said, each woman insurance agent volunteer will receive a stipend of 7,000 rupees per month in the first year, 6,000 rupees per month in the second year, and 5,000 rupees per month in the third year. She said, age will not be a barrier for the scheme. The Finance Minister said in this year's Budget, 3.3 lakh crore rupees has been earmarked for women-related schemes in the country.

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President Droupadi Murmu will confer the National Panchayat Awards 2024 tomorrow at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi. This year, a total of 45 awardees have been selected under various categories, reflecting a wide spectrum of achievements in grassroots governance and community development. In the award ceremony, the Panchayati Raj Minister will unveil a booklet titled Best Practices on Works of Awardee Panchayats, which documents the innovative and impactful practices of award-winning panchayats.

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Today is Human Rights Day. The Day is observed every year on 10th December to commemorate the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the United Nations General Assembly in 1948. The theme for this year is "Our Rights, Our Future, Right Now". The theme emphasises that human rights are not just aspirational but also a practical tool for empowering individuals and communities to create a better future. On the occasion, President Droupadi Murmu will address a program organised by the National Human Rights Commission in New Delhi.

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North East Students' Organisation (NESO) has declared December 11 as "Black Day" to protest the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA) 2019. NESO,

representing eight student bodies across seven North East states, condemned the passage of the Act in the Rajya Sabha on December 11, 2019. Terming the CAA a "draconian law," NESO urged the people to observe the day with black flags and banners at key locations to oppose the purported injustice against the indigenous people of the region. The organisation called on all to stand united in protecting their rights and resisting the Act's impact on the region's identity and culture.

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The Directorate of Youth Resources and Sports has informed on the selection trials for induction into Indira Gandhi Academy, Kohima and State Sports Hostel, Dimapur for the academic session 2025. Trials will be conducted across various disciplines under 14 years age category at Indira Gandhi Stadium, Kohima. Trials for Boys and Girls in Archery, Boxing, and Wrestling, as well as for Boys in Taekwondo and Girls in Football will be carried out on 21st of January 2025. Meanwhile, selection for Girls in Sepaktakraw and Athletics, and for Boys in Football will be held on January 22 next year. The Directorate said, forms will be issued on the spot on arrival and registration will also be done the same day. Interested candidates have been asked to produce relevant documents, including AADHAR card, Birth Certificate, Marksheets of last two academic years, passport size photo and entry fee of 50 rupees on the selection day.

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The results of the 2024 HIPFEST Photography Competition were announced yesterday. Ato Mor was declared the winner, while Viketso Meyase was placed second and Parvej Akhtar claimed third position, In the category awards, Keyi Putlang took home the prize for Best Portrait, Sashikala Jami for Best Landscape Photograph, and Neilar Mepfhuo for Best Wildlife Photograph. The competition saw spectacular display of talent, creativity, and storytelling through photography.

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And, The 25th edition of Hornbill Festival has drawn over one lakh 73 thousand visitors till yesterday. According to the Department of Tourism's daily update, Day 9 of the festival saw a footfall of 25,582 registered visitors, including 148

foreign and 7946 domestic tourists. A total of 17,488 local visitors from within the state also registered yesterday. The 10-day long celebrations will officially conclude this evening with a closing ceremony at Kisama. The gala will witness Unity Dance, Bonfire and the grand finale of Toyota Hornbill Music Festival, headlined by Californian band Big Mountain, DJ Olly Esse and several top artists from the state.

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