

## Evening News Script

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### :::THE HEADLINES:::

1. Prime Minister Modi hails Constitution of India as guiding light of the nation that has stood test of time.
2. Prime Minister expresses satisfaction over WHO reporting 80 percent reduction in Malaria cases and deaths in India between 2015 & 2023.
3. CII urges government to cut income tax, reduce excise duty on fuels.
4. and, India's Koneru Humpy clinches second women's title at World Rapid and Blitz Championship.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi today said that Constitution is the guiding light of the nation and stated that it is a matter of great honour that the Indian Constitution is completing 75 years on 26th January next year. Addressing the nation in his Mann Ki Baat programme on Akashvani, Mr Modi said the Constitution has stood the test of time in every sense of the term. The Prime Minister noted that on the occasion of Constitution Day this year, many activities have commenced that will continue throughout the year. He mentioned that a special website [constitution75.com](http://constitution75.com) has been created to connect citizens with the legacy of the Constitution. Prime Minister urged the listeners of Mann Ki Baat,

children and youth to visit the website. People can read the Preamble of the Constitution and upload their video in the website. The website also offers the opportunity to read the Constitution in many different languages and ask questions pertaining to the Constitution.

In this edition of Mann Ki Baat, Mr Modi highlighted two big achievements of India in the field of health. He said the first achievement has been in the fight against malaria.



Prime Minister expressed satisfaction that the World Health Organization report mentions that there has been an 80 percent reduction in India in the number of malaria cases and deaths due to it between 2015 & 2023. He said that this is no mean achievement. He termed it heartening that this success has been achieved through everyone's participation. Mr Modi mentioned that in the tea gardens of Jorhat in Assam, malaria used to be a major cause of concern for people until four years ago. But when the tea garden dwellers united to eradicate it, they started getting success to a great extent. The Prime Minister also shared a study of the world-renowned Medical Journal Lancet, which found that the chances of starting cancer treatment on time in India have increased a lot. He elaborated that timely treatment means starting the treatment of a cancer patient within 30 days and the 'Ayushman Bharat Yojana' has played a big role in this. Because of this scheme, 90 percent of cancer patients have been able to start their treatment on time.



Touching the topic of animation, Mr Modi was pleased to note that Krish, Trish and Baltiboy, KTB, is a superhit animation series among children. Prime Minister elaborated that these three animation characters tell people about the heroes and bravehearts associated with Indian freedom struggle who are not discussed much. Recently, its second season was launched at the International Film Festival of India in Goa. Mr Modi added that this series is broadcast not only in many Indian languages but also in foreign languages. It can be watched on Doordarshan as well as other OTT platforms. Prime Minister Modi said that the popularity of Indian animation films, regular films, and TV serials shows how much potential India's creative industry has.

He congratulated the film and entertainment industry because it has strengthened the sentiment of 'Ek Bharat – Shreshtha Bharat'. Prime Minister Modi said that 2025 is knocking at the door, and extended best wishes to everyone. He exuded pride that India will touch new heights in the coming year. He urged listeners to keep sharing the unique efforts around them with Mann ki baat.



The Confederation of Indian Industry, CII today urged the Central government to reduce the income tax for individuals and cut excise duty on fuels to increase disposable incomes in the hands of consumers, which would increase spending thereby spurring economic growth. As part of its wish-list in the run-up to Union Budget 2025-26, the apex business chamber has said that reducing the excise duty on fuels is crucial as fuel prices significantly drive up inflation, forming a substantial portion of the overall household consumption basket. The central excise duty alone accounts for approximately 21 per cent of the retail petrol price and 18 per cent for diesel. The CII statement said that

lowering excise duty on fuel would help reduce overall inflation and increase disposable incomes.



The 65th General Session of the Runguzumi Students' Union (RSU) was held yesterday at Runguzu village under Phek district. The session was organized under the theme, "Navigating Towards Future Challenges". Deputy Inspector General of Police, Nagaland, Vekhosa Kotso as the guest speaker highlighted the imperatives of preparing for the uncertainties of the future while emphasizing the need for individuals and communities to anticipate potential challenges, cultivate a spirit of adaptability, and develop actionable strategies to tackle them effectively. He encouraged the gathering to adopt a holistic approach to life, placing equal emphasis on sustainability, long-term impacts, and ethical considerations in decision-making processes. Mr Kotso also inspired the students, youth, and parents to embrace values of respect, integrity, and hard work.



In Chess, India's Koneru Humpy won her second women's title beating Indonesia's Irene Sukander in the final round of World Rapid and Blitz Championship held in New York, yesterday. Humpy finished the tournament with 8.5 points from 11 rounds to secure her victory. The top ranked Indian is only the second player after China's Ju Wenjun to clinch the title more than once. Indian Chess Grandmaster Humpy previously won the rapid championship in 2019 at Georgia.

