

Evening News Script

1920 hrs of

7th January, 2025.

THE HEADLINES :-

- Home Minister Amit Shah launches BHARATPOL portal
- Centre, state health department say there is no cause for alarm over HMPV
- Centre urges states, Union Territories to implement Section 479 of BNSS for undertrial prisoners' relief
- And, Five officers from Nagaland Police Service inducted into Indian Police Service

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Home Minister Amit Shah launched the BHARATPOL portal developed by Central Bureau of Investigation in New Delhi today. The BHARATPOL portal is aimed at streamlining the processing of all requests for international assistance through INTERPOL, including the issuance of Red Notices and other colour-coded INTERPOL notices. Speaking on this occasion, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said, BHARATPOL will take the international investigation into a new era. He said, now the investigating agencies will be able to connect with the Interpol to get the required information. He said, it will help in dealing with the cases related to drug trafficking, arms smuggling, terrorism related crimes, and human trafficking.

The Home Minister said, now with the use of modern systems, it will be easier to bring back criminals sitting abroad and those who have fled abroad after committing crimes in India. On this occasion, Mr Shah presented Police Medals to 35 CBI officers and officials, who have been awarded the President's Police Medals for Distinguished Service and Union Home Minister's Medal for Excellence in Investigation.

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Union Health Secretary Punya Salila Srivastava has emphasised that there is no cause of concern for the public from the Human metapneumovirus, HMPV. During a virtual meeting with the States and Union Territories, the Health Secretary reviewed the present situation of respiratory illnesses in India and the status regarding the HMPV cases along with the public health measures for their management. The secretary advised the states to strengthen and review the surveillance of Influenza-like illness and severe acute respiratory infections. The states have also been advised to enhance Information, Education, and Communication - as well as awareness among the population regarding prevention of transmission of the virus. She reiterated that an increase in respiratory illnesses is usually seen during the winter months and assured that the country is well prepared for any potential surge in respiratory illness cases.

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Nagaland Department of Health & Family Welfare has said there is no cause for alarm following the detection of Human Metapneumovirus, HMPV, in parts of India. In an advisory, the department said, it is closely monitoring the situation regarding respiratory illness across the State. It said, HMPV takes 3 to 6 days to show symptoms, which may include Cough, Fever, Nasal congestion, and Shortness of breath.

The health department said prevention OF HMPV is similar to that of COVID-19. It advised washing hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, Avoid touching the eyes. nose, or mouth with unwashed hands, avoid close contact with people who are sick, covering the mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing, cleaning frequently touched surfaces, and staying at home when sick. The state health department advised the public to contact health care workers for any queries.)

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Centre has asked states and Union Territories to implement the provisions of Section 479 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 to provide relief to undertrial prisoners. This section provides relief to undertrial prisoners by reducing the number of people held in jail awaiting trial. Union Home Ministry has written a letter to Chief Secretaries of all the States and Union Territories in this regard. Under the new rule, first-time offenders can be released on bond after serving one-third of the maximum period of imprisonment.

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The central Government has inducted five officers from the Nagaland Police Service into the Indian Police Service (IPS). In a notification today, the Home Affairs Ministry confirmed their appointment and allocation to the Nagaland Cadre under the IPS (Recruitment) Rules, 1954. The officers included in the Select List of 2023 are -- James Kinghen, Teisovise Metha, H. Kuhovi Sema, M. Rhovisie Nyuwi and Rankathung Vikram Ezung. They will serve a probationary period of one year and undergo induction training as per the IPS (Probation) Rules, 1954.

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Nagaland's Abu Metha has been elected as the Vice President of the Athletics Federation of India (AFI). This was announced by the Nagaland Athletics Association in a press release today. The association said this is the second tenure of Mr Metha in the AFI, where he was previously holding the post of Associate Vice President. Congratulating Mr Metha and the newly elected AFI team, the Nagaland Athletics Association assured its full support and cooperation. Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio has congratulated Mr Metha on the election. Taking to X, the Chief Minister wished Mr Metha a successful tenure in advancing athletics in India.

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Member of Parliament in Lok Sabha, S. Supongmeren Jamir today emphasized upon doing away with tribalism and building cordial relationships with everyone. He said this while addressing the 51st Chozuba Area Sports Association Meet at Chozuba Town in Phek district. The MP further said sportspersons are the model of the society and hoped that they are financially supported. Seven teams are taking part in the five-day sports meet, which will conclude on the 11th of this month

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said that the Draft Digital Personal Data Protection Rules, 2025, prioritize India's commitment to citizen-centric governance. Responding to the post by Electronics and IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, Mr Modi said the rules aim to safeguard personal data while driving growth and inclusivity. The draft Digital Personal Data Protection Rules have been issued by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.

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Union Road Transport and Highways Minister, Nitin Gadkari today chaired a meeting of Transport Ministers from all States and Union Territories at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi. In a social media post, Mr Gadkari said that this annual gathering serves as a vital platform to foster synergy between the Union and State Governments, facilitating collaborative deliberations on critical policy matters and advancing cohesive strategies for national progress. He added that such dialogues are essential for addressing regional challenges, sharing best practices, and ensuring the uniform implementation of transformative transport policies across the nation.

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And, India Meteorological Department has forecast light to moderate rainfall at many places accompanied with thunderstorm activity at isolated places is likely over the Northeastern states during the next two days. According to the weather department, temperature conditions during the past 24 hours were appreciably above normal by about 3 degree Celsius to 5 degree Celsius at isolated places over Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura.

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