

Evening News Script

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:::THE HEADLINES:::

1. Centre commemorates decade of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao; Prime Minister Narendra Modi calls scheme transformative and people-powered
2. Nagaland joins nation in celebrating 10 years of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao
3. Centre decides to increase Minimum Support Price for raw jute by 315 rupees
4. And, Nagaland to face Goa in Ranji Trophy 2024-25 Plate Group finals

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The Central government is commemorating the 10th anniversary of the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme. The celebrations commenced today with an inaugural event in New Delhi, attended by Union Health Minister JP Nadda, women officers of armed forces, paramilitary forces, and Delhi Police, among others. The anniversary celebrations will continue till March 8, International Women's Day, during which various events are being organized at state and district levels, engaging communities and promoting gender equality and women's empowerment.

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said that the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao movement has become a transformative, people-powered initiative and drawn participation from people across all walks of life. On completing 10 years of the movement, the Prime Minister said in a social media post, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao has been instrumental in overcoming gender biases and created the right environment to ensure that the girl child has access to education and opportunities to achieve her dreams. He thanked the dedicated efforts of the people and various community service organisations for achieving remarkable milestones. The Prime Minister urged everyone to continue to protect the rights of the daughters, ensure their education and create a society where they can thrive without discrimination.

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Nagaland today joined the nation in celebrating 10 years of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, with a variety of events organized across several districts to mark the occasion. In a program held in the state capital Kohima, Commissioner & Secretary, Social Welfare, Martha R. Ritse emphasized the importance of behavioural and social change in the way girl child is perceived. Noting that although Naga society is much ahead of the rest of the country in girl empowerment, she highlighted, there is still room for change to achieve zero gender parity. Terming the initiative as a 'multi sectoral scheme', Ms Ritse called for increased collaboration of various

departments to promote the objectives of the scheme. She also mentioned that Nagaland is among the top five states performing exceptionally under the scheme. On the occasion, Social Welfare Secretary and Mission Director, Mission Shakti, Bodeno S. Colo administered the pledge to eliminate gender based discrimination.

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To mark the 10th anniversary of 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' scheme today, a bike rally was held in Dimapur, which culminated at Chumoukedima. A total of 30 riders participated in the rally. At the program in Chumoukedima, Deputy Commissioner, Chumoukedima Polan John announced that a series of district-level programs will be organized till March 8 engaging stakeholders like schools, women's groups, and local authorities. The event also included a pledge-taking ceremony and a signature campaign. In the launching program at Wokha, Deputy Commissioner, Vineet Kumar stressed on the need to educate target groups on the overall development of women across sectors so as to build an inclusive and progressive society. Participants also took part in reading the pledge. In Bhandari, District Administration organised an Oath taking ceremony, wherein Signature Campaign and Praphat Pheri, a Walk was also held to commemorate the milestone. Similar events were also organised at Mokokchung and Phek, wherein participants read the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao pledge.

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The Union Cabinet has decided to increase the Minimum Support Price, MSP, for raw Jute for marketing season 2025-26. Briefing media in New Delhi today, Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said, MSP of five thousand 650 rupees per quintal will be provided which is 315 rupees more in comparison to marketing season 2024-25. He said, this will help lakhs of families in North Eastern region, who are directly or indirectly depending on Jute Industry.

The Minister also informed that the Union Cabinet reviewed the progress achieved under the National Health Mission.

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The State Department of Economic and Statistics has informed that, manually issued certificates of Births will continue to be recognized as legal documents, alongside computer-generated certificates for proof of date and place of birth. In an update, the department highlighted that some agencies and institutions were refusing to accept manually issued birth and death certificates when providing services. It reiterated, the Registration of Births & Deaths Act 1969 (Amended in 2023) recognizes birth certificates issued electronically or otherwise as valid documents for verifying a person's date and place of birth for school admissions, marriage registration, and issue of other government documents. The Department said online registration of Births & Deaths is currently available in 12 district headquarters for urban jurisdictions, and efforts are underway to expand the service to both urban and rural units across the state.

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Chief Engineer, Water Resources Department, K Hutoi Sema today stressed the importance of effective water and land management in a region like Nagaland, where rivers and fertile lands

are lifelines. He was speaking at the three-day training on "Remote Sensing and GIS Application in Water and Land Management" in Kohima, organized by the North Eastern Regional Institute of Water and Land Management, Tezpur. He said the technologies can be used to better understand the region's water and land resources, and provide real solutions to challenges in water management. Mr Sema highlighted that good management, whether of land, water, or people, often comes down to common sense and timely action.

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Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio has extended warm Tsahyok-Nyi greetings to the Tikhir community. Taking to X, Mr Rio expressed hope that as the community begins preparations for the upcoming sowing season, their efforts bring fruitfulness and prayers for an abundant harvest are fulfilled.

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And in Sports, Nagaland will take on Goa in the Ranji Trophy 2024-25 Plate Group finals at the Nagaland Cricket Stadium in Sovima starting tomorrow. Team Nagaland will be led by Head Coach Debashish Mohanty and captain Jonathan Rongsen. By reaching the finals, both two teams have also earned promotion to the Elite category in the 2025-26 season. Updates on the five-day final will be available on the official social media channels of the Nagaland Cricket Association.

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