

## THE HEADLINES

- First meeting of Joint Parliamentary Committee on One Nation One Election bills held
- Centre unveils Cashless Treatment scheme for road accident victims
- Union Minister Nitin Gadkari announces pan-India scheme for Driver Training Institutes
- And, Advisor, IT and Communication, H. Sethrongkyu Sangtam emphasizes importance of collective efforts in nation building

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The first meeting of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on two bills related to One Nation One Election was held today in New Delhi. The Bills are officially named as the Constitution (One Hundred and Twenty-Ninth Amendment) Bill, 2024 and Union Territories Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2024. Talking to media, Committee Chairperson, BJP MP, PP Chaudhary said, as far as the procedure is concerned, the committee will make an effort to listen to all stakeholders be it legal experts, members of civil society or from judiciary, or political parties.

During the meeting, representatives of the Ministry of Law and Justice (Legislative Department) briefed the members on the provisions of the proposed laws. The 39 member committee has 27 Members from the Lok Sabha and 12 Members from the Rajya Sabha.

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Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari has said that around 1.80 lakh deaths occurred due to road accidents in 2024. Addressing a press conference on road safety meeting with Transport Ministers of all States and Union Territories in New Delhi yesterday, Mr Gadkari mentioned that nearly 30 thousand people died because of not wearing a helmet.

He highlighted that a Cashless Treatment scheme for road accident victims was launched during the meeting. Mr Gadkari said that the Government under this scheme will provide maximum of upto 1.5 Lakhs rupees for treatment to

accident victims. Around 2 lakh rupees will be provided for the deceased in hit-and-run cases.

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Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari also announced a scheme for the pan-India setup of Driver Training Institutes (DTIs). The scheme will provide incentives for setting up DTIs and additional incentives for the integrated infrastructure of Automated Testing Stations and DTIs. He said that there is a lack of skilled drivers in the country and the government is committed to setting up more driving training centres in the country. Noting that road safety was the utmost priority in the meeting, Mr Gadkari said all kinds of issues, solutions, and steps were discussed to drive transformation in road and transport sector of the country.

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Advisor, IT and Communication, H. Sethrongkyu Sangtam has emphasized the importance of unity and collective efforts in nation building. Speaking at the 50th Anniversary of the Lirise Yangdong Suro Pümji in Lirise village, Tuensang district yesterday, the Advisor stressed the need for a shared vision focused on improving livelihoods and building a better future for the community. Highlighting the significance of individual contributions, Mr Sangtam encouraged everyone to work towards creating a legacy of excellence and progress within the community, emphasizing that unity is key to achieving collective greatness.

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Chief of the Air Staff Amar Preet Singh today attended the National Cadet Corps (NCC) Republic Day Camp 2025 in New Delhi. Speaking on the occasion, Mr Singh said that NCC is doing a commendable job in bringing the nation together. He expressed happiness calling NCC a hub of young minds who are trained towards nation-building. Mr Singh also encouraged the youth to join NCC and take the country's growth forward. He said that the NCC helps in imparting the skills of selfless service, leadership, patriotism, and discipline among others. The Air Staff chief also asserted that the Indian Air Force will offer every possible help through training and other programmes to the NCC.

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Deputy Commissioner of Mokokchung, Thsuvisie Phoji has allowed JKM Infra Works Guwahati, Assam to carry out blasting of stone at the construction site of two lane road in National Highway 61, now NH-2 at Angetyongpang Tzu River area due to the road widening. The stone blasting will take place between DEF Police Church to Yisemyong tomorrow from 3:00 P.M to 10:00 PM. The permission is granted on the conditions that the contractor ensures that the road remains safe for commuters, including their lives and possessions. The company should also abide by the applicable regulation of the 2008 Explosives Act, and will be responsible for any harm to life or property.

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The Tsungkamnyo cum Mini Hornbill Festival is set to be celebrated from 15th to 17th January at Pungro town in Kiphire district. A report:

***(VOICE CAST: The festival will be graced by Advisor Food and Civil Supplies, KT Sukhalu as Special Guest, and Advisor Youth Resources and Sports, S Keoshu as Guest of Honour. Advisor Home Guard & Civil Defence S Kiusumew is the festival host. Highlights of the event include Log Drum Pulling, competitions on Folk Songs, indigenous games and indigenous cooking. It will also feature Tsungkamnyo Marathon, 4th Edition of T Torechu Memorial Badminton Tournament, and 16th Edition of Saramati Soccer Championship, among others.)***

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Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw today launched the special song of Akashvani and Doordarshan, dedicated to Mahakumbh 2025, in New Delhi. Prasar Bharati Chairman, Navneet Kumar Sehgal, Prasar Bharati CEO, Gaurav Dwivedi, Director General of Doordarshan, Kanchan Prasad and Director General of Akashvani, Pragya Paliwal Gaur were also present on the occasion. Mahakumbh 2025 is being held from 13th January to 26th February at Prayagraj.

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In Assam, 21 Para divers, today, retrieved the body of one of the trapped coal miners from the flooded mine after more than 48 hours. The deceased has been identified as a native of Nepal. Intensive search and rescue operations are

underway to rescue the remaining labourers trapped inside the illegal rat-hole coal mine at Umrangso in Dima Hasao district. Army, Navy, National and State Disaster Response Forces, and other agencies are working continuously to rescue the trapped coal miners.

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In weather, India Meteorological Department has forecast dense fog conditions are very likely to continue during night and early morning hours in isolated pockets Nagaland, Assam, Manipur, Mizoram, and Tripura till the 13th of this month. In Nagaland, the state capital Kohima is expected to witness a minimum temperature of 4 degree Celsius and maximum temperature of 20 degree Celsius tomorrow. Temperature in Dimapur is likely to range between 11 degree Celsius and 23 degree Celsius.

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