

Evening News Script

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:: THE HEADLINES ::

1. Prime Minister Narendra Modi says development of Railways crucial in achieving goal of developed India
2. President Droupadi Murmu says government is working for upliftment of all sections of society, including Scheduled Tribes
3. Three cases of Human Metapneumovirus detected in India
4. And, Nagaland to compete in 69th Senior National Volleyball Championship starting tomorrow



Prime Minister Narendra Modi today said the country is engaged in achieving the goal of a developed India and for this, the development of Indian Railways plays a crucial role. Mr Modi said this after inaugurating and laying the foundation stone of various railway projects via video conferencing. He said, the last decade has been the decade of visible transformation of the Indian railway and it has changed the image of the country.

In a key move to further boost connectivity in the region, the Prime Minister inaugurated the new Jammu Railway Division. He said the launch of rail infrastructure projects in Jammu-Kashmir, Telangana and Odisha will promote tourism and add to socio-economic development in these regions. Prime Minister Modi also inaugurated the Charlapalli New Terminal Station in Telangana and laid the foundation stone of Rayagada Railway Division Building of East Coast Railway.



President Droupadi Murmu today stated that government is working for the upliftment of all sections of society, including Scheduled Tribes. Addressing women representatives belonging to Scheduled Tribes from the Panchayati Raj Institutions of different states at Rashtrapati Bhavan, she said women empowerment is the backbone of Indian democracy. President Murmu said that Constitution has provided equal rights to women.



Amid rising concerns over an outbreak of Human Metapneumovirus (HMPV) in China, at least four cases of HMPV have been detected in India. While two cases have been detected in Karnataka, one was reported from Gujarat and one in Kolkata. In Karnataka, the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) detected the two cases, in a three month-old female infant, and an eight month-old male infant. Both the infants are now recovering and neither of the affected patients have any history of international travel. The Union Health Ministry is monitoring the situation with all the available surveillance channels. The Ministry said, both the cases were identified through routine surveillance for multiple respiratory viral pathogens. Amid rising cases of HMPV in China, the World Health Organization is providing timely updates regarding the situation in China. The Union Health Ministry said, the recent preparedness drill conducted across the country has shown that the country is well-equipped to handle any potential increase in respiratory illnesses and public health interventions can be deployed promptly. Meanwhile, Karnataka Health and Family Welfare Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao has called a meeting of his department officials to discuss developments after the two HMPV cases were detected in Bengaluru.

In Gujarat, a two-year-old child was reported to be infected from Chandkheda's area of Ahmedabad. The child, from Rajasthan, was

admitted to a private hospital after showing symptoms of cold and cough. The child is stable now.



Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari, has urged students to adhere to traffic rules in order to make roads safer, not only for themselves but also for others. Addressing the ‘Suraksha Reloaded’ event of the Sadak Suraksha Abhiyaan 2025 by NHAI in Mumbai, Mr. Gadkari highlighted that 10,000 people had lost their lives in school and institutional areas over the past year. He emphasised that children have the power to influence their parents and those around them. Mr. Gadkari reiterated that if children pledge to abide by the rules, they will not only keep themselves safe but also help protect others.



Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla inaugurated the Panchayat Se Parliament 2.0 programme in the Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan in New Delhi today. Around five hundred elected women representatives from Panchayati Raj institutions from 20 States and Union Territories are participating in the programme. The programme aims to empower elected women representatives from Scheduled Tribes from Panchayati Raj institutions and to enhance their knowledge of constitutional provisions, parliamentary procedures, and governance to foster effective leadership. Speaking on the occasion, Om Birla said, Panchayati Raj institutions are working towards the development of villages and realise the vision of self-reliant India.

Women and Child Development Minister Annapurna Devi lauded the initiative saying it will help in further empowering women. She said, women associated with Panchayats will play an important role in disseminating the benefits of the central government's schemes and programmes to the ground level.



The Mitelephe Village Welcome Gate was inaugurated today. Inaugurating the gate, Chief Conservator of Forest & Project Director Forest & Biodiversity Management in the Himalayas Supongnukshi lauded the efforts of the Village Council, Community Conservation Area Committee, and the village community for the success of erecting the Gate which has been constructed 61 years since establishment of the village. Noting that the project is funded and monitored by the German Development Bank (KfW), he encouraged the villagers to take up projects with honesty and diligence. Mr Supongnukshi also stressed upon the prospects for further funding.



Nagaland is all set to participate at the 69th Senior National Volleyball Championship 2025. The Nagaland State men's Volleyball team comprises 14 players, two coaches and two team managers. The Championship is commencing tomorrow at Jaipur in Rajasthan, and will conclude on January 13.



India Meteorological Department has forecast dense fog conditions are likely to continue over Nagaland and its neighbouring states on the 9th and 10th of January. It also predicted light to moderate rainfall at many places accompanied with thunderstorm activity at isolated places over the Northeastern states during the next two days. IMD said rise in minimum temperatures by three to four degree Celsius is likely over the region during next 1-2 days and gradual fall by two to three degree Celsius during subsequent 2 days.

