

## Evening News Script

1920 hrs

16<sup>th</sup> January, 2025.

### :: THE HEADLINES ::

- India becomes 4th nation to achieve successful space docking of two satellites
- Centre approves setting up of 8th Pay Commission for Central government employees and pensioners
- Advisor for Food & Civil Supply, KT Sukhalu appeals Nagas to be spiritually and intellectually resilient
- Spear Corps marks Armed Forces Veterans' Day with special event at Dimapur



The Indian Space Research Organisation, ISRO today scripted history by successfully completing docking of two satellites named Chaser and Target under the SpaDeX mission. With the stupendous success of the indigenously developed Bharatiya Docking System by ISRO, India has become the fourth country to use this technology after the USA, Russia and China. Docking technology is critical in assembling the space station and in crewed missions. It provides crucial facilities including in-orbit refueling and assembling heavy infrastructure in microgravity. ISRO Chairman Dr. V. Narayanan congratulated the team on the feat.



President Droupadi Murmu extended her wishes to ISRO and the entire scientists and engineers communities of the country for boosting

India's space capabilities". In a social media post, the President said, this achievement paves the way for country's future endeavours in space exploration such as Chandrayaan-4, India's planned space station and Gaganyaan. Lauding the achievement, Prime Minister Narendra Modi in a social media post, said it is a significant stepping stone for the country's ambitious space missions in the years to come. Union Minister of State for Science and Technology, Dr. Jitendra Singh highlighted that it is an entirely indigenous Bharatiya Docking System.



The Union Cabinet today approved setting up of the 8th Pay Commission for the Central government employees and pensioners. An announcement in this regard was made by Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw in New Delhi.

The Minister said the term of the 7th Pay Commission is going to end in 2026 and the setting up of the 8th Pay Commission now will give enough time to receive recommendations of the Pay Panel. Mr Vaishnaw said the appointment of the Chairman and two members of the Commission will be made soon.



Advisor for Food & Civil Supply, KT Sukhalu today appealed for Nagas to be spiritually and intellectually resilient, emphasizing that these are crucial for shaping our own future. Noting that true leadership cannot be achieved by blindly following trends or rumors, he said success will elude us if we are easily misled. Mr Sukhalu was addressing the 2nd day of Tsungkamnyo cum Mini Hornbill Festival at

Pungro. Emphasizing the dangers of misinformation and fake news, particularly with the rise of social media and artificial intelligence, he stressed on the need to be cautious about what we choose to believe and share. To this, he emphasized the importance of a strong educational foundation to navigate the challenges. Mr Sukhalu also urged the community to reject any false divisions and called for greater unity to work together towards prosperity and progress.



As India marks the 9th year of Startup India today, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said that the government has left no stone unturned to encourage a culture of startups in the country. In a social media post, Mr. Modi said, over the past nine years, the transformative programme has empowered countless youngsters. He added that government policies have focused on ‘Ease of Doing Business’, ensuring greater access to resources and supporting startups at every juncture. The Prime Minister asserted that the success of the StartUp India programme reflects that today the country is dynamic, confident, and future-ready.



The Spear Corps hosted a special event in Dimapur today to mark Armed Forces Veterans' Day. Gracing the occasion as chief guest, General Officer Commanding of Spear Corps, Lieutenant General Abhijit S. Pendharkar, expressed deep gratitude to the veterans for their sacrifices and steadfast commitment, recognizing their pivotal role in nation-building. PRO Defence for Nagaland, Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh, Colonel Shukla briefed on the significance of the day.

Veterans at the gathering also expressed heartfelt gratitude for the initiative.

*The event saw overwhelming participation of over 300 veterans, serving officers, Veer Naris, and their families from Dimapur and surrounding areas, creating a platform for interaction and celebration. A vibrant cultural program further added to the celebratory atmosphere. During the event, the GOC felicitated Veer Naris and senior veterans, acknowledging their relentless service and sacrifice for the nation.*



Minister for Roads and Bridges, G. Kaito Aye, has called for unity among Nagas in the spirit of celebrating festivals. Addressing the concluding day of Sûkrûnye festival yesterday, he asserted that even in ancient times, there was unity, love and oneness through forgiveness. The Minister also reminded that achieving unity and speaking with one voice was the most urgent need for the Naga people. MLA and Sûkrûnye Host, Kuzholuzo (Azo) Nienu, urged the youth to lead lives in honesty and hard work to earn a respectable livelihood. Highlights of the celebration included Folk dances, competitions on traditional fire making, weaving, Matchbox Bean Game and Greased Bamboo Pole Climbing.



Governor La Ganesan has extended warm greetings to the Kuki community on Mimkut festival. He expressed hope that the celebration of gratitude, unity and renewal would bring abundant blessings, prosperity and happiness to the community. As the festival honors the

harvest and pays homage to ancestors, the Governor called upon everyone to embrace the spirit of togetherness, cultural pride and harmony. He wished that the traditions of Mimkut inspire all to cherish one's roots, strengthen bonds and work towards a prosperous future. On the auspicious occasion, the Governor wished everyone good health, happiness and prosperity.



Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio has also conveyed Mimkut greetings to the Kuki community. Taking to X, he hoped that celebration of the post-harvest festival of thanksgiving and paying homage to the ancestors would strengthen bonds of love and brotherhood. Mr Rio wished everyone a prosperous year ahead.



President of Indonesia, Prabowo Subianto, will be the Chief Guest at the 76th Republic Day celebrations this year. At the invitation of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, President Subianto will pay a state visit to India on the 25th and 26th of January. According to the Ministry of External Affairs, this will be the Indonesian President's first visit to India since assuming office in October 2024.

