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:: THE HEADLINES ::

- Union Labour Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya asserts commitment to work with states on reforms for workers
- <u>India to develop its own AI foundational model</u>, says Union IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw
- Nagaland Fire and Emergency Act of 2021 to be fully implement soon
- And, Konyak Heritage Complex at Mon to be inaugurated on April 5

Union Labour and Employment Minister, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya has said his Ministry is committed to work with State Governments on reforms to benefit organized and unorganized workers. He said this while chairing the two-day national-level meeting of Labour Ministers and Secretaries of States and Union Territories in New Delhi today. Dr. Mandaviya highlighted that labour welfare for building and construction Workers, along with Gig and Platform Workers, is a top priority for the government. During the meeting, sustainable welfare programmes providing pension, healthcare, insurance, among others were discussed. Three Committees, each comprising five States, were formed to hold consultations and develop a sustainable model for comprehensive social security coverage for workers, to be presented in March.

Union Electronics and IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw has said that India will create its own foundational model of AI in the coming months. Briefing media in New Delhi today, Mr Vaishnaw said, a framework has been created, calling for proposals to develop India's very own AI model, which will be able to compete with the world's best model. He also announced that an AI safety institution will be established. He highlighted the progress of the India AI Mission which has already far surpassed its initial Graphics Processing Unit, GPU, targets. Mr Vaishnaw said, a common compute facility with 18 thousand 693 GPUs has been launched and will be available for startups, researchers, and developers in the coming days. On a query on privacy concerns around DeepSeek, Mr Vaishnaw informed that it will be hosted on Indian servers soon, highlighting Prime Minister Narendra Modi's thinking that modern technology should be available to everyone.



The Nagaland Fire and Emergency Services Department will fully implement the Nagaland Fire and Emergency Act of 2021 very soon. In an exclusive interview with Akashvani Kohima, Fire Prevention and Awareness Officer Kenny Khing said the department has held several meetings with different sections of the society to inform the provisions of the Act before total implementation. He noted that fire safety measures and installations are relatively new concepts, and a large number of people in the state are not aware of the Act. Emphasizing on fire safety, he highlighted that the most vulnerable institutions are hospitals and nursing homes as well as educational institutions.

Under the Act, all buildings, except private residences, will be mandatorily required to get a NOC from the Fire department. He noted that fire safety requirements vary across different buildings and types of occupancy, and NOCs will be issued only after thorough review. Mr Khing highlighted that over the past decade, fire caused losses of about 1.4 crore rupees of properties per month in the state, which resulted in the loss of 18 lives. The Interview with Mr Khing will be broadcast

tomorrow at 7:35 AM on Primary Channel 629 kilohertz and FM channel 103 megahertz.

Deputy Commissioner of Kohima, Kumar Ramnikant, has emphasizied the urgent need to increase awareness on tuberculosis, TB. Addressing an Awareness cum Screening Programme as part of the 100-day TB campaign, he said, TB is a silent killer, and highlighted that while the disease is curable, a lack of awareness continues to hinder its eradication. Calling for collective action, Mr Ramnikant urged the gathering to take active roles in spreading awareness about the disease.

The new Konyak Heritage Complex at Mon will be inaugurated on 5th of April, coinciding with Aoleang festival of the Konyak tribe. A statement by the Department of Under Developed Area (DUDA) said the decision was taken during a Review Meeting of the ongoing project on January 25. The meeting was held following the visit of Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio to the project site at Mon on 20th of this month.

During the meeting, Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio directed that all components of the project be completed on time for inauguration. The meeting was attended by Advisor DUDA, Chief Secretary, senior department officials, Executive Engineer and the contractor. The Konyak Heritage Complex is a multi-disciplinary facility designed to boost tourism, culture and livelihoods. The project features Nine Morungs, Amphitheatre, Administrative Building, Multi-Purpose Hall, Open Air Ground and Rostrum. Other components in the pipeline include constructions of Angh House, helipad, women's hostel, guest house, water reservoir, and more.)

To honor the brave Martyrs who sacrificed their lives for India's freedom, a two-minute silence was observed nationwide today to mark Martyrs' Day. In solidarity with the rest of the country, the staff at

Akashvani Kohima also observed a solemn two-minute silence at their premises, during which time the transmission was paused as well.

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will present the Union Budget on February 1. There are high expectations that the budget will bring improvements and incentives across various sectors, while offering relief to the public. To know public expectations ahead of the budget, Akashvani News Kohima spoke with a various individuals from different backgrounds. One journalist shared their thoughts:

Unemployment, power and healthcare remain main sectors calling for tailored solutions for the state.

Advisor for Prisons, Printing & Stationery, Kropol Vitsu, today urged sportspersons to have determination in order to succeed. Addressing the 63rd Annual Games and Sports cum 4th edition of the Dzükou Cup, organized by the Southern Angami Sports Association, SASA, at Jakhama Local Ground, Vitsu advised athletes to exhibit sporting discipline to excel in their respective fields, emphasizing that sports is one of the largest industries in the world today. Appreciating SASA for bringing together athletes from 13 units, he also called for unity and underscored the importance of giving due recognition to sports. The sporting meet will conclude on February 1, with teams competing in football, volleyball, and sepaktakraw.

