

## Morning News Script

0730 hrs

28<sup>th</sup> February 2025

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said that the tradition of Mahakumbh has been reinvigorating India's national consciousness for thousands of years, showing new ways to the country and society. Mr Modi said, this time the Mahakumbh of this kind came after 144 years and has given the message of a new chapter in India's development journey. He said, the message is of Viksit Bharat. Mr Modi penned down these thoughts in a blog shared yesterday . The Prime Minister said, as a citizen, he prays that we draw new inspiration from the memories of our ancestors and saints. He called upon people to make unity our guiding principle and work with the understanding that service to the nation is service to the divine. The Prime Minister said, people from every region, including abroad, caste and ideology were one in the Maha Kumbh.

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Prasar Bharati Chairman Navneet Kumar Sehgal has emphasized the importance of engaging the youth and expanding the reach of radio, particularly in urban areas. Mr. Sehgal visited Akashvani Ahmedabad yesterday and reviewed the operations of the station's studios, news, and programme units.

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Nagaland is home to 46 of India's 144 bamboo species, the highest among all states. This was shared by Tolto Metha, a team member of the Nagaland Bamboo Development Agency (NBDA), during a four-day Residential Technology Clinic for the Bamboo Sector under the Raising and Accelerating MSME Performances (RAMP) Scheme. The event organised by Department of Industries and Commerce and Nagaland Industrial Development Corporation Ltd.

concluded yesterday at the Nagaland Bamboo Resource Centre, NIDC, in Sovima, Chümoukedima. Mr Metha emphasized the versatility of bamboo across various applications, including construction, furniture, bioethanol, and ornaments. He highlighted its transformation from being referred to as the "poor man's timber" to "Green Gold" due to its immense economic value.

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Chakhesang Students' Union has submitted a representation to Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari, yesterday, urging immediate intervention in the prolonged delay and poor workmanship of the Kohima to Jessami road project (Package 2). The student body, representing the indigenous tribal communities of Phek district, expressed deep concern over the project's stagnation under the National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited and its contractor. The Union called for strict monitoring, quality control measures, and an independent third-party audit to ensure accountability and adherence to national highway standards. CSU emphasized that while they remain committed to peaceful and democratic means, failure to address the issue could lead to stronger actions in the public interest.

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The Nagaland Contractors & Suppliers Union (NCSU) has resolved to adopt a "One Government, One Tax" . The decision was taken unanimous during an emergency meeting held in Kohima on Wednesday. The Union emphasized that any of its bona fide members facing difficulties or facing undue taxation or demands from any quarter should immediately report the matter to the NCSU Head office for appropriate action. The NCSU also called on the state government to transparently publish the work programs of every department for the financial year 2025-2026, urging the authorities to ensure clarity in the implementation of government projects and initiatives. In addition, the Union decided that any government official or engineer with Class-I contractor registration under the Nagaland Public Works Department should be immediately removed, as such actions are deemed illegal and punishable by law.

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The District Water & Sanitation Mission yesterday held a review meeting to assess the progress of the Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) and Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in Kohima district. During the meeting, the concerned department highlighted that out of the 62 villages under JJM in Kohima district, 32 have successfully completed their projects. In terms of SBM (Gramin), 40 out of the 63 habitations have been declared Model Villages. Currently, eight villages in Kohima district have been officially certified as Model Villages. Deputy Commissioner, Kohima Kumar Ramnikant urged all departments to extend their full cooperation in implementing Jal Jeevan Mission effectively.

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