

Evening News Script

1920 hrs

2nd March 2025

:::THE HEADLINES:::

1. Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar says Viksit Bharat is no dream but our objective.
2. Election Commission clarifies that duplication in EPIC numbers does not imply duplicate or fake voters.
3. Union Minister Amit Shah vows to intensify crackdown on drug traffickers to build drug-free India.
4. And, Nagaland Pradesh Congress Committee expresses concern over differences between stakeholders of Foothills Road Project.



Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar has said, Viksit Bharat is not a dream now, but it is our objective, and the country's youth will play a critical role in it. He was delivering the fourth P. Parameswaran Memorial Lecture in Thiruvananthapuram organized by Bharatheeya Vicharakendram today. Mr. Dhankhar said Everything that is happening in the country is making us proud globally. He added, that Bharat is the only democracy in the world that is organized at the village level.

The Vice President said, India is the fifth-largest global economy at the moment and is on the way to becoming the fourth-largest global economy very soon. He said, along with enjoying freedom of expression, we should focus on dialogue and reception of ideas, adding that ideological debates and brainstorming should dominate our discourse and not violence.



The Election Commission has clarified that duplication in EPIC numbers does not imply duplicate or fake voters. The Commission said this in a statement

following certain media reports flagging the issue of electors of two different states having identical EPIC numbers. The Commission clarified that while the EPIC numbers of some of the electors may be identical, the other details including demographic details, Assembly Constituency and polling booth are different for the electors with the same EPIC number. It said any elector can cast a vote only at their designated polling station in their respective Constituency in their State or UT where they are enrolled in the electoral roll and nowhere else. EC said the allotment of identical EPIC numbers to some electors from different States and UTs was due to a decentralized and manual mechanism being followed before shifting the electoral roll database to the ERONET platform. This resulted in certain State and UT CEO offices using the same EPIC alphanumeric series and leaving scope for the possibility of duplicate EPIC numbers being allotted to electors in different Assembly Constituencies in different States and UTs.



Union Home Minister Amit Shah today vowed to intensify crackdown on drug traffickers to build a drug-free India. In a social media post, Mr Shah said, 29 drug traffickers have been convicted by the court in 12 different cases across India as a result of foolproof investigation with a bottom-to-top and top-to-bottom strategy. The Union Minister said the Narendra Modi government is unsparing in punishing drug traffickers who drag youth into addiction for money. He pledged to continue combating the drug menace with meticulous investigations to build a drug-free Bharat.



The Nagaland Pradesh Congress Committee (NPCC) has expressed concern over the differences arising between various stakeholders of the Foothills Road Project under Wokha district. The differences arose when two construction firms reportedly refused to sign implementation agreements with the Nagaland Foothills Road Coordination Committee (NFRCC). A Press Statement from the NPCC said that if the discord is not addressed immediately, it could jeopardize the implementation of the Foothills Road Project, thereby dashing the hopes and prayers of people in the state who are deeply invested in this historic initiative. In this regard, the NPCC has urged the concerned authorities to find a consensus way out of this impasse with the active involvement of the NFRCC as well as other similarly affected civil societies.



Union Minister for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Pralhad Joshi today highlighted the role of Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) in strengthening supply chains and ensuring food security in the country. Sharing a video message at the celebration of the 69th foundation day of Central Warehousing Corporation in New Delhi he said that CWC has made commendable efforts by creating additional food storage capacity of more than 21 lakh square feet during financial year 2023-24.

The CWC is a public sector warehouse operator that offers warehousing and logistics services.



Government e-Marketplace (GeM) has transformed public procurement in the country by promoting transparency, efficiency, and inclusiveness. GeM is an online platform for public procurement in India which was launched on 9th of August with the objective to create an open and transparent procurement platform for government buyers. By empowering startups, women entrepreneurs, and MSMEs, GeM fosters economic growth and social equity. According to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the platform's strategic initiatives, such as SWAYATT, Startup Runway 2.0, and Womaniya, have significantly contributed to the ease of doing business and enhanced participation in government procurement.



The National Human Rights Commission, in partnership with the Ministry of External Affairs, will organize the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Executive Capacity Building Programme on human rights in New Delhi. This six-day programme for senior-level functionaries of the National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) of the Global South will commence tomorrow. The programme aims to provide insights into various dimensions of human rights and international perspectives and share the NHRC experience to enhance awareness among participants of various NHRIs.



The fasting month of Ramazan began across the country from today. The worshippers thronged mosques last night, to offer special night prayers called "Traweeh", which will continue throughout the month. Ramazan is the ninth month of Islamic calender and Eid-ul-Fitr is celebrated at the culmination of this month. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has greeted the people on the occasion. In

a social media post, Mr. Modi wished that the sacred month bring peace and harmony in the society. In the Gulf countries, today is the second day of the holy month of Ramazan.

