

Evening News Script

1920 hrs of 13th March, 2025.

:: THE HEADLINES ::

- Centre announces billion dollar fund for creators economy
- Lok Sabha MP S Supongmeren Jamir seeks centre's intervention on challenges faced by Nagaland Village Guards
- Governor La Ganesan calls for developing appreciation for country's diverse cultural practices
- And, Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh highlights plans to make Northeast India's next saffron hub

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The Central government has announced a billion dollar fund for creators economy. Union Information & Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said this during a press conference on WAVES 2025 today.

Earlier, the ministry held an event in New Delhi to highlight the transformative potential of WAVES as a unified global platform for the rapidly growing media and entertainment sector. More than a hundred ambassadors and high commissioners participated in this event. The first edition of the WAVES Summit is scheduled to be held from May 1st to May 4th in Mumbai.

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Lok Sabha MP S Supongmeren Jamir has sought the intervention of the Union Home Ministry on the challenges faced by the Nagaland Village Guards. Addressing the ongoing second leg of the Parliament Budget Session yesterday, Mr Jamir said that village guards have played a critical role in safeguarding 120 villages along the Indo-Myanmar border, covering Mon, Tuensang, Kiphire, Meluri, Noklak and Longleng districts, since 1957. However, he lamented that they have been neglected by both the State Government and the Home Affairs Ministry, and raised concerns over the meager salary and allowances currently provided to village guards.

The MP urged that the ministry revamp and strengthen the village guards and deploy them along the border, instead of promoting border fencing and restricting free movement policies.

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Nagaland Governor, La Ganesan, has stressed the importance of developing appreciation for the diverse cultural practices across the country. He said, despite difference in food, clothing, and traditions across regions, all Indians share a fundamental unity. The Governor was addressing schools students from Tengnoupal District of Manipur, who visited Raj Bhavan in Kohima today as part of the National Integration Tour by the Assam Rifles (South). Acknowledging the nation's linguistic and cultural diversity, he emphasized upon understanding and respecting these differences. The Governor also underscored hospitality as a key element of Indian culture.

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Union Minister of State for Science and Technology Dr. Jitendra Singh today highlighted the Central government's plans to turn the Northeast into India's next saffron hub. Speaking after laying the foundation stone for the new permanent campus of the North East Centre for Technology Application and Reach in Shillong, the minister highlighted that Mission Saffron initiative has expanded saffron cultivation across Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, and Meghalaya since 2021. This will be extended to Nagaland and Manipur, he added. Dr. Singh asserted that the Northeast's region will play a pivotal role in the country's journey to becoming a developed nation by 2047.

The Minister reiterated the government's commitment to empowering the region through science, technology, and infrastructure, ensuring it is on par with the rest of India in its development trajectory.

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The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully completed the undocking of two satellites, part of the Space Docking Experiment (SpaDEX) mission, marking a significant milestone in India's space exploration journey. Union Minister for Science and Technology Dr. Jitendra Singh congratulated ISRO for the successful demonstration, and said it will pave the

way for the smooth conduct of ambitious future missions, including the Bharatiya Antriksh Station, Chandrayaan-4, and Gaganyaan.

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Union Ayush Minister Prataprao Jadhav today inaugurated Yoga Mahotsav-2025 in New Delhi, to mark the 100 days countdown to the 11th International Yoga Day, which will be held on 21st June across the globe. On the occasion, the Minister announced that within 100 days, ten significant events will be organised in different parts of the country. He added, that under these events, Yoga Bandhan, a Yoga exchange program with 10 partner countries will be conducted. Mr. Jadhav informed that Yoga Sangam program will be organised at 10 thousand locations in the country.

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Nagaland Governor La Ganesan and Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio have extended warm greetings to the citizens on Holi. Governor La Ganesan wished that the festival of colours would fill people's lives with hues of happiness, success, and prosperity. Noting that Holi symbolizes unity, love, and new beginnings, he hoped it would bring peace and harmony to all. He encouraged everyone to celebrate the festival with enthusiasm, fostering positivity and strengthening their bonds. In his message, Chief Minister Rio highlighted that Holi marks the arrival of spring and the triumph of good over evil. Mr Rio urged that the festival's essence of unity, goodwill, and harmony would strengthen the bonds of friendship and brotherhood among all.

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Advisor Industries & Commerce, Hekani Jakhalu has stressed upon turning trainings into concrete results, calling artisans to focus on improving products and tap into global markets. Ms Jakhalu was speaking at the Awareness and Distribution Programme for Hathkargha Samvardhan Sahayata (HSS) items at Dimapur today. Stressing the importance of branding and expanding their vision, she encouraged participants to take full advantage of the support provided by the department. She also urged them to approach their work with sincerity and dedication. Under the initiative's Small Cluster Development Programme, items such as solar lighting, looms, and warping drums will be distributed to beneficiaries of four villages, namely Bamun Pukhuri A and B, Khushiabill, and Darogajan.

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Two prominent tribal leaders, former Eastern Nagaland Public Organisation President Tsapikiu Sangtam, and former Sumi Hoho and Nagaland Tribes Council President Toniho Yephthomi officially joined the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) today. The leaders were inducted in the presence of North East Coordinator, Dr. Sambit Patra; National Secretary and Incharge of Meghalaya and Nagaland, Anil K Antony; Nagaland Deputy Chief Minister Y Patton, and other party members. Announcing the development on X, state BJP President Benjamin Yephthomi, noted that the party's base in Eastern Nagaland and Zunheboto has further been strengthened with the addition of the new members. Mr Benjamin reaffirmed the party's commitment to the holistic development of Nagaland, ensuring economic growth, infrastructure development, and tribal empowerment.

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