

Morning News Script

0730 hrs of

11th March, 2025.

||<><><>||

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will reach Port Louis this morning on a two-day State visit to Mauritius. In his departure statement, the Prime Minister said that Mauritius is a close maritime neighbour, a key partner in the Indian Ocean, and a gateway to the African Continent. The Prime Minister said he is looking forward to the opportunity to engage with the Mauritius leadership to elevate the partnership in all its facets and strengthen the enduring friendship for the progress and prosperity of peoples, as well as for security and development in the Indian Ocean Region. He expressed confidence that this visit will build on the foundations of the past and open a new and bright chapter in the India and Mauritius relationship. Mr Modi will visit the Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Botanical Garden today to pay tribute to Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam and Sir Anerood Jugnauth. Later, Mr Modi will meet his Mauritius counterpart Navin Chandra Ramgoolam. Prime Minister Modi will attend the National Day celebrations of Mauritius tomorrow as the Chief Guest. A contingent of Indian Defence Forces will participate in the celebrations along with a ship from the Indian Navy. Several pacts in areas of maritime security, capacity building and trade are likely to be signed during the visit.

||<><><>||

The Parliament passed the Railways (Amendment) Bill 2024 with the Rajya Sabha approving it on the first day of the second part of the Budget Session yesterday. The bill seeks to amend the Railways Act 1989 and intends to strengthen the power of the Railway Board by enhancing the functioning and independence of the body. Lok Sabha has already given its nod to the Railways (Amendment) Bill 2024 last year. Replying to a discussion on the Bill, Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said, Indian railway is undergoing continuous reforms focussing on infrastructure modernisation, technology adoption and improved safety. We have a report:

CORRES BYTE : Under the legislation, now general managers of railway zones will have full authority to accept any contract. Projects costing less than 50 crore rupees can now be sanctioned directly by general managers. The

decentralization and empowerment in the field has been a significant achievement. This Bill also proposes to appoint an independent regulator that will oversee matters like fare determination and ensure the competitiveness of the Railways. Government also rejected the claims that powers of state governments will be curtailed. While replying on the debate, Minister for Railways reiterated that Government is carrying out reforms with full conviction. With Anand Kumar, Anupam Mishra, Akashvani News, Delhi."

||<><><>||

As many as 283 Indian nationals who were victims of fake job offers in Myanmar have been rescued and repatriated from the country. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said, Indian embassies in Myanmar and Thailand have coordinated with the local authorities to secure the repatriation of the Indian nationals on Monday by an Indian Air Force (IAF) aircraft from Mae Sot in Thailand. The ministry said India has been making sustained efforts to secure the release and repatriation of its nationals lured to various Southeast Asian countries, including Myanmar, with fake job offers. Indian nationals are once again advised to verify credentials of foreign employers through Missions abroad and check the antecedents of recruiting agents and companies before taking up a job offer, the MEA said in a statement.

||<><><>||

Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio has mourned the passing of Keneilhoulie Kreditsu, Retd Chief Engineer in Kohima yesterday. In a condolence message, the Chief Minister said that Mr Kreditsu was a man of noble spirit who possessed a pleasant disposition and a generous heart. Mr Rio said, as a government servant, Mr Kreditsu served with unwavering dedication, ever committed to the responsibilities entrusted to him. The Chief Minister also acknowledged his contributions to the promotion and preservation of our rich traditions, particularly Naga wrestling, which stand as a testament to his love for our heritage. In his passing, the Angami community in particular, and the Nagas as a whole, have lost a guardian and a guiding light. Mr. Rio expressed the hope that Mr. Kreditsu's legacy will continue to inspire and uplift those who walk the path he so honorably tread.

||<><><>||

In view of the ongoing road Construction along Tuensang-Longleng Road, the movement of Heavy Vehicles along the state route has

been restricted till 15th of this month. In a notification, Deputy Commissioner Tuensang, Lithrongla Tongpi Rutsa stated that the temporary restriction is necessitated for the safety of travellers as well as to facilitate the smooth execution of the constitution of work.

||<><><>||