

Evening News Script

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THE HEADLINES:-

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi asserts commitment to focus on ensuring robust ecosystem for entrepreneurs
- President Droupadi Murmu holds key talks in Portugal to strengthen bilateral ties
- Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio meets state departments on investment promotion
- And, Ministry of Women and Child Development launches 7th edition of Poshan Pakhwada

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi today asserted that his government will continue focusing on ensuring a robust ecosystem where every aspiring entrepreneur has access to credit, giving them the confidence and a chance to grow. On the 10th anniversary of Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, PM Modi said half of the Mudra beneficiaries belong to SC, ST and OBC Communities, and over 70 percent of the beneficiaries are women. He noted that every Mudra loan carries with it dignity, self-respect and opportunity. He added that this scheme has also ensured social inclusion and economic freedom besides financial inclusion. Mr Modi also interacted with beneficiaries of the scheme at his residence and underlined that Mudra Yojana has given opportunities to countless people to showcase their entrepreneurial skills.

Mr. Modi also highlighted that the scheme aims to empower the youth, making them self-reliant and confident; with the ability to become job creators rather than just job seekers. In the last ten years, more than 52 crore loans worth around 33 lakh crore rupees have been sanctioned under the scheme.

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As the Mudra Yojana completes ten years since its launch in April 2015, beneficiaries from Nagaland shared their entrepreneurial experiences.

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Delegation-level talks were held between India and Portugal. On the second and concluding day of President Droupadi Murmu's visit to Portugal, the President held a one-on-one meeting with the Speaker of the Assembly of Portugal, Jose Pedro Aguiar-Branco. President Murmu also received a Guard of Honour at the Assembly of Portugal. The MEA said the President held productive talks with Speaker of the Assembly of Portugal. Both sides discussed ways to fortify relations. President Murmu also interacted with members of Parliament, besides meeting with members of the India-Portugal Parliamentary Friendship Group.

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Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio today held a meeting with various line departments in Nagaland to advance the initiatives of the High-Level Task Force in the North Eastern Region, focusing on priorities like craft clusters, investment promotion, and others. During the meeting, the departments were directed to submit vision statements and proposed plans for further action. The Task Force on Investment Promotion in the region held its first meeting yesterday and resolved to develop a strategic roadmap to position the Northeast as a preferred investment destination.

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The Ministry of Women and Child Development is celebrating the 7th edition of Poshan Pakhwada from today, reaffirming the government's commitment to tackling malnutrition. Inaugurating the campaign via webcast, Minister of State Savitri Thakur, said over-nutrition and obesity have become grave problems due to growing consumption of unhealthy snacks and oily food by children. She said, nutrition is no longer limited to the issue of undernourishment. She urged

officials and Anganwadi workers across states and union territories to step up grassroots engagement through home visits and referral services.

In Nagaland too, Poshan Pakhwada 2025 was launched across various parts of the state, including in Longleng and Tseminyu where the Poshan Pakhwada pledge was administered.

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School Education Department today organized a training programmes for Volunteer Teachers on Understanding of Lifelong Learning for All In Society (ULLAS) in Kiphire Town and Tuensang. Addressing the event in Kiphire, ADC Longdiba L. Sangtam raised concern over the practice of 'Proxy Teachers' in government schools which is reducing the quality of education in rural areas. Delivering keynote address, Deputy Director and Nodal Officer ULLAS, Rokozeho Sothu, said the centrally sponsored scheme ULLAS aims to achieve 100 percent literacy by 2030. He said, in Nagaland, there is about 2.76 lakhs non-literate individuals, with 1.14 males and 1.60 lakhs females.

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The Angami Public Organisation, along with all tribal units at Kohima, will hold a public rally tomorrow in the state capital to protest the Indo-Myanmar Fencing and related issue. In view of the rally, Kohima Police have announced certain traffic regulations. Vehicles going down towards High School and Secretariat will be diverted via TCP Gate – Hospital junction – Census Point. Vehicles heading towards PHQ will be redirected via Razhü Point – Naga Bazaar. Staff Buses to Secretariat will take the route via TCP Gate – T-Khel Model Road. Police also declared a No-Parking Zone along the stretch from TCP Gate to Y-Junction Phoolbari. The regulation will be enforced from 8:00 AM until the rally concludes. Kohima Police advised citizens to plan their routes accordingly and has requested their cooperation and support.

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The Ministry of Labour & Employment, in collaboration with Nagaland state government, is conducting a 10-day special registration campaign to register gig and platform workers on the e-Shram Portal. The campaign is running until April

17 and aims to provide these workers with formal recognition by issuing official identity cards, and providing health coverage under the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana. During the 10-day drive, on-ground registration camps will be set up across all districts through the Assistant Labour Commissioner Office. Gig workers, including those engaged in hourly or part-time jobs like event catering or software development, as well as platform workers using online or digital platforms, have been encouraged to register. Those unable to attend a camp can also self-register on the e-shram portal.

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Nagaland is expected to see light rainfall and cloudy moderate rain across most of its districts till 15th of this month. In a weather update, Nagaland State Disaster Management Authority said the rain may be accompanied by thunderstorm and lightning. The lowland and foothill districts, including Dimapur, Nuland, Chumoukedima, Bhandari, Baghty, Tizit, and Tuli, are vulnerable to waterlogging and flash floods. The Authority advised the public to remain cautious to prevent any eventualities, and urged all District Disaster Management Authorities and relevant departments to remain on high alert.

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