

Evening News script

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:::THE HEADLINES:::

1. Prime Minister Narendra Modi urges civil servants to work with extraordinary speed to fulfill aspirations of youth, farmers and women.
2. Nagaland Chief Minister Dr. Neiphiu Rio extends greetings to civil servants on Civil Services Day.
3. Naga Students' Federation serves seven-day ultimatum to for revocation of cabinet decision to regularize backdoor appointees.
4. Nagaland Minister Temjem Imna Along says cabinet decided to keep absorption of 147 Assistant Professors in abeyance.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi today asserted that India is setting new benchmarks in governance, transparency, and innovation. He noted that the country has undergone transformative changes over the past decade and is no longer solely focused on growth, but is also establishing new standards in these areas. Mr. Modi made these remarks while addressing civil servants on the occasion of the 17th Civil Services Day in New Delhi.

Talking about the aspirational districts programme, the Prime Minister said through this initiative unprecedented changes are being witnessed in key indicators of health, social development and basic infrastructure in different parts of the country.

On the occasion, Mr. Modi conferred the Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration in the categories of Holistic Development of Districts, Aspirational Blocks Programme, and Innovation to civil servants. He also released two eBooks during the event.



Nagaland Chief Minister, Dr. Neiphiu Rio has extended greetings to civil servants on Civil Services Day. In a post, the Chief Minister commended their dedication to public service and acknowledged their vital role in driving the nation's progress. Dr. Rio expressed hope that civil servants will continue to uphold the values of democracy and serve with honour and purpose.



The Naga Students' Federation (NSF) has served a seven-day ultimatum to the State Government, demanding the revocation of cabinet decision taken on September 11 last year regarding the regularization of 147 Assistant Professors and three Librarian contract appointees. This was informed to a section of media person by NSF President, Medovi Rhi after a meeting with the Minister in charge of Higher Education, Temjen Imna Along, at the latter's official residence in Kohima today. The meeting was also attended by members of the All Nagaland College Students' Union. Mr. Rhi also informed that the meeting with the Minister ended on a positive note and expressed hope that the State Cabinet, which is meeting today, will reconsider and revoke the decision.



It may be mentioned that the state government has issued order on the regularization of 147 Assistant Professors and three Librarian contractual appointees on 17th December 2024. Meanwhile, the ongoing protest by the Combined Technical Association of Nagaland and the Nagaland NET Qualified Forum entered its third day today, with intensified demands for the revocation of the regularization order. The agitating groups raised slogans and displayed placards, calling for the Minister in charge to step down.



Minister of Higher Education, Temjem Imna Along said, the cabinet has decided to keep the absorption of the 147 Assistant Professors in abeyance . He said Proper consultation will be carried out with the stakeholders. Mr. Along informed Akashvani news kohima that a five member committee has been set up consisting of senior bureaucrats to look at the issue.



Pope Francis passed away today at the age of 88, at his residence in the Vatican's Casa Santa Marta, following a prolonged illness. Throughout his 12-year papacy, he endured various health challenges, with severe complications arising in recent weeks. Widely regarded as a voice for the poor, Pope Francis is credited with reshaping the Catholic Church. He became the first Latin American pontiff in 2013 and was one of the oldest popes in the Church's history.



Chief Minister of Nagaland, Dr. Neiphiu Rio has expressed sadness at the demise of Pope Francis. In a social media post Dr. Rio state that with a heavy heart, he join the world in mourning the passing of His Holiness, Pope Francis. He said, a shepherd of peace, the Pope's humility, wisdom and compassion transcended faiths. Dr. Rio hoped that his enduring legacy continue to inspire humanity.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi has condoled the demise of Pope Francis. In a social media post, the Prime Minister said, Pope Francis will always be remembered as a beacon of compassion, humility and spiritual courage by millions across the world. Mr. Modi added that Pope Francis diligently served the poor and downtrodden and ignited a spirit of hope for those who suffered.



The Bishop of Kohima, Most Reverend Dr. James Thoppil has expressed deep sorrow at the passing away of Pope Francis. A condolence message from the Bishop stated that Pope Francis dedicated his life to spreading the Gospel, championing the cause of the poor and of the marginalized, and calling the world to embrace compassion, justice and care for creation.



US Vice President, J. D. Vance arrived in New Delhi today on a four-day visit to India. He was received by Information and Broadcasting Minister, Ashwini

Vaishnaw. This is Vice President Vance's first visit to India. The visit of US Vice President to India will provide an opportunity for both sides to review the progress in bilateral relations and the implementation of the outcomes of the India-U.S. Joint Statement issued on 13th February this year during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the US. The two sides will also exchange views on regional and global developments of mutual interest.



Second edition of the Nagaland Potato Festival will be held on May 9, at Jakhama Local Ground under Kohima district. Announced this during a press conference in Kohima, Event Director, Dr. Teputo Richa said the festival aims to boost farmers' income, promote organic farming, and encourage agri-based enterprises.

Event Coordinator Mhashenenu Zao Richa said the festival celebrates Nagaland's organic produce, especially potatoes, and will include workshops, stalls, and community engagement activities. Event Manager Vikekphoto Rolnu informed that over 100 stalls and around 5,000 visitors are expected during the festival. Traditional games, pork fat-eating contests, agricultural tech displays, and live music concerts in collaboration with TAFMA highlighting prominent and young artists from across the state will also be organized.

