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:: THE HEADLINES ::

President Droupadi Murmu holds delegation level talks with Portuguese counterpart Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa

Akashvani Kohima and Task Force for Music and Arts join forces to push Nagaland's creative talents

Today is World Health Day; Prime Minister Narendra Modi reaffirms commitment to building healthier world

And, Union DoNER Minister Jyotiraditya M. Scindia emphasizes need to sustain Northeast's growth rate

President Droupadi Murmu today held delegation level talks with her Portuguese counterpart Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa in Lisbon. In a joint media address after the meeting, President Murmu described the India-Portuguese ties as historic which are now being developed as modern and multi-dimensional partnership. She said, they held wide ranging and constructive talks covering various areas of bilateral relations.

Earlier in the day, President Murmu laid wreath at the Tomb of Portuguese national poet, Luis Vaz de Camoes. She is meeting Prime Minister Luis Montenegro and the Speaker of Parliament, Jose Pedro Aguiar Branco, as well as members of Indian community in Portugal. To celebrate the 50th anniversary of re-establishment of diplomatic relations between India and Portugal, President

Murmu and her Portuguese counterpart released commemorative stamp showcasing the artistic and cultural heritage that unites the two countries.

Akashvani Kohima and the Task Force for Music and Arts (TaFMA) today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to collaborate in fostering the growth of Nagaland's music and arts industry. As part of the MoU, Akashvani Kohima will produce and air dedicated radio shows highlighting local musicians, artists and cultural promoters, facilitated by TaFMA. The partnership will provide a platform to showcase the creative talent of local artists by increasing visibility and engagement through radio broadcasts. The MoU was signed by Assistant Director (Program), Akashvani Kohima, Abino Lasuh, and TafMA Project Director Dr Hovithal N Sothu in the presence of TaFMA Chairman Theja Meru.

World Health Day is being celebrated across the globe today to raise awareness about health and good health practices. The World Health Organisation has declared "Healthy Beginnings, Hopeful Futures" as the theme this year to end preventable maternal and newborn deaths and to prioritize women's longer-term health and well being. On the occasion, Prime Minister Narendra Modi reaffirmed his commitment to building a healthier world. In his message, he said the government will continue to focus on healthcare and invest in various aspects of people's well-being. Mr Modi emphasized that good health is the foundation of every thriving society.

On World Health Day, Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Anupriya Patel highlighted the nation's commendable achievements in the health sector, including the significant fall in maternal and infant mortality ratios. She also appealed to everyone to adopt a healthy lifestyle.

The recently constituted High-Level Task Force on Investment Promotion in North Eastern Region held its first meeting virtually today. In a social media post after attending the meeting, Union Minister for Development of North Eastern Region Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, said the region's growth rate is surpassing the national average, and emphasized the need to sustain this trajectory. He said the Task Force will serve as a guiding platform for all eight North Eastern states, driving efforts towards a Viksit North East. The meeting was chaired by Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha, who highlighted that it was resolved to prepare a strategic roadmap to position the region a preferred investment destination. Other task force members, Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio, and Chief Ministers Conrad Sangma of Meghalaya and Prem Singh Tamang of Sikkim also participated in the meeting.

The Central government has increased the excise duty on petrol and diesel by two rupees per litre, effective tomorrow. Briefing media in New Delhi, Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said that the hike will not be passed on to the consumers.

Oil marketing companies have also clarified that there will be no hike in retail prices of petrol and diesel. The minister also said that prices of LPG cylinders have been increased by 50 rupees. Mr Puri said, the price of LPG for Ujjwala beneficiaries will now be 550 rupees, and 853 rupees for others, from tomorrow.

Deputy Chief Minister Yanthungo Patton highlighted the importance of instilling the values of service, integrity, and unity. Addressing the BJP Foundation Day event in Kohima today, he emphasized upon discipline and renewed efforts to strengthen the party in the state. he also encouraged party workers to continue building bridges of trust and work for every citizen across the state and country. Reflecting on the party's journey, Mr Patton attributed the growth to the commitment of workers, support of people, and visionary leadership at all levels.

The Nagaland Public Service Commission (NPSC) has announced the Combined Technical Services Examination, CTSE-2025, for filling up various posts across government departments. In a notification, NPSC said, details of the exam are available on its website npsc.nagaland.gov.in and on the office notice board. One Time Registration will be active from noon tomorrow till noon of May 8. The NPSC has requested only those candidates who are eligible to appear CTSE-2025 to register. No physical forms will be issued, and online applications can be submitted on the NPSC portal from 9th April till Noon of May 9. The Commission added that the New Pattern of Examination, prescribing negative marking of one-third for wrong answers in MCQ, will be effective.

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has warned public against fake calls threatening mobile disconnection. The Communications Ministry noted several media reports in recent times of consumers being targeted through telephonic calls or messages by fraudsters posing as TRAI officials. These fraudsters threaten disconnection of mobile connections for being involved in illegal activities and for extraction of money. TRAI said it does not initiate such communications and has also not authorised any third-party agency to contact customers for such purposes. Citizens have been encouraged to report suspected fraudulent communications through the Chakshu facility on the Sanchar Saathi platform.



Nagaland's cricket fraternity gained significant recognition with individual and team accolades during the 4th North East Cricket Development Council Achievers' Nite held in Gangtok. Jonathan Rongsen bagged the North East Player of the Season (Male), and was also awarded the Best Batter in the Senior Men's category. In the under 16 Boys category, Aloto Sumi was named both the Best Batter and Best Bowler. In the U-23 category, Mughavi Sumi was recognised as the Best Batter, while Yugandhar Singh won the Best Wicketkeeper. Meanwhile, the Nagaland Senior Men's Cricket Team was also felicitated for retaining its Elite Division status in the Ranji Trophy.

