

## Evening News Script

1920 hrs of

19<sup>th</sup> May, 2025.

### :: THE HEADLINES ::

- Centre to set up four Integrated Aquaparks in the northeast, including one in Nagaland
- Nagaland records highest-ever monthly GST collection of 122 crore rupees in April 2025
- CNCCI calls off shutter-down after positive government response
- And, Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan says India aims to become food basket of the world



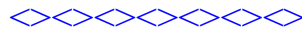
The Central Government is setting up four Integrated Aquaparks in the northeast, including one in Nagaland. The other states are Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, and Tripura. This is part of a larger plan to set up 11 Aquaparks across the country incorporated with fish farming infrastructure, cold chain logistics, and other facilities, Union Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh announced after laying the foundation stone for the Aquapark in Agartala, Tripura yesterday.

The Minister noted large demands for fish in the Northeast, and emphasized the region's untapped potential in fish production. The initiative aims to make the region self-sufficient in fish production.



Nagaland collected Goods and Services Tax (GST) amounting to 122 crore rupees in April 2025, the highest ever for the state in any month since the implementation of the tax regime in July 2017. The April 2025 collection represents a significant

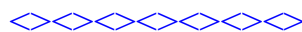
increase of 41.8 percent from the 86 crore rupees collected in April 2024. As of April 2025, the taxpayer base in Nagaland stood at 11,019, with 4,432 under the Central GST authorities and 6,587 under the State GST authorities. Meanwhile, the All India GST collection reached an all-time high of 2.37 lakh crore rupees in April 2025, reflecting a 12.6 percent year-over-year increase. The Central GST Dimapur Commissionerate has invited stakeholders to visit its GST Help Desk or Seva Kendra for any GST-related queries.



In a major crackdown on tax evasion, the Anti-Evasion Unit of Central GST Commissionerate, Dimapur, has recovered 35 crore rupees in GST dues from M/s Naagaamii Infratech Private Limited. The amount includes 31.5 crore rupees in cash and 3.5 crore rupees through Input Tax Credit. According to an official press release, the recovery followed an investigation into the Dimapur-based firm for non-payment of GST for financial years 2023–24 and 2024–25. With this, the total GST payment of the firm has reached 40 crore rupees till date.



The Confederation of Nagaland Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CNCCI) has called off its indefinite voluntary shutdown of businesses across nine districts. In a press conference today, CNCCI President Dr Khekugha Muru said the agitation has been withdrawn following an assurance from the state government to include one representative each from the nine districts chamber of commerce. Earlier normal life was affected in the commercial hub of the state where all business establishments downed their shutters. The shutdown had commenced today over the state government's failure to provide a clear timeline for including business community nominees in Urban Local Bodies.



Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has said that a nationwide campaign Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan will be launched from the 29th of this month and will continue until 12th of June. The campaign aims to create awareness among farmers about modern technology and new seed varieties. Addressing a press conference in New Delhi today, Mr Chouhan said, the campaign will run in 723 districts across the country and reach nearly 1.5 crore farmers. He said, a team of scientists will visit nearly 65 thousand villages to train farmers in practical and scientific farming techniques.

The Minister said, agriculture remains the backbone of the Indian economy, providing livelihood to nearly half the population and forming the foundation of the country's food security. Mr Chouhan highlighted that India aims to become the food basket of the world.



Operation Sindoor marks a bold and strategic response by India against terror elements operating from across the border. It highlighted the precision, planning, and resolve of the Indian armed forces. As the nation stands united in pride, citizens from all corners are saluting the courage of the men and women in uniform. A citizen from Wokha expresses her gratitude.

Operation Sindoor is a powerful reminder to the bravery and dedication of the armed forces. Their unwavering courage and commitment too safeguarding the nation continue to inspire and reassure us all.



In a significant verdict, the Supreme Court today held that all High Court judges, including additional judges, will be entitled to full pension and retirement benefits. The top court said former chief justices of high courts will get 15 lakh rupees per annum as pension. Observing that denial would amount to violation of right to equality under Article 14 of the Constitution, a Supreme Court bench said full pension will be paid to all irrespective of when they were appointed and whether they retired as additional judges or were later made permanent. The bench said discriminating among judges based on the timing of their appointment or their designation violates this fundamental right. The top court said, families of deceased additional high court judges are also entitled to the same pension and retirement benefits as families of permanent judges.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi will share his thoughts with the people of the country and abroad in the Mann Ki Baat programme on Akashvani on 25th May. It will be the 122nd episode of the monthly radio programme.

***(VOICE CAST - People can submit their ideas and suggestions for the programme through the toll-free number 1800-11-7800. They can also share their input online via the Narendra Modi App or the MyGov Open Forum. Suggestions for the upcoming episode will be accepted until the 23rd of this month.)***



The Dimapur District Congress Committee (DDCC) has voiced serious concerns over alleged irregularities in the Dimapur town hall project and implementation of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) , citing inadequate responses received through the RTI Act. Addressing a press conference today, DDCC President Kutoho Chishi said the information lacked clarity and failed to address key issues. He reiterated earlier allegations of fund misuse in the construction of town halls and criticized the state government's inaction despite a follow-up letter to the Chief Secretary sent on April 4.

Mr Chishi also pointed to large-scale discrepancies in the PMAY scheme, claiming that unauthorized deductions ranging from 18,000 to 27,000 rupees are being made from funds in several villages. He condemned these practices and called for full disclosure from the departments concerned. Mr Chishi also urged for setting up an independent committee to investigate the alleged irregularities, and appealed to the public to support the call for accountability.

