

## **REGIONAL NEWS UNIT, ITANAGAR**

TIME: 7:50 PM      DURATION: 5 MINTS

DATE: 08/06/2025

Prime Minister Narendra Modi today highlighted the transformative role played by women in the journey towards a developed India, underlining the government's focus on women-led development over the past 11 years. As the NDA government at the Centre completes 11 years in office, Modi reaffirmed that in all sectors, including science, education, sports, StartUps, and the armed forces, women are excelling and inspiring several people. In a social media post, the Prime Minister noted that the NDA Government has redefined women-led development through a series of impactful initiatives. These include ensuring dignity through the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, financial inclusion via Jan Dhan accounts, and empowerment at the grassroots level.

As the NDA Government at the Centre completes 11 years in office, India's environmental journey stands out as a model of growth with sustainability. Guided by the principles of Seva, Sushasan, and Garib Kalyan, the country has embraced a development model that integrates environmental conservation with inclusive growth. Key initiatives like Namami Gange Mission, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, and GOBARdhan Yojana have transformed river rejuvenation, sanitation, and waste-to-energy efforts. Over 142 crore trees have been planted under citizen-driven campaigns like Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam. In wildlife conservation, flagship projects for tigers, lions, and cheetahs have strengthened India's biodiversity. With 3,682 tigers, India now shelters more than 75% of the world's wild tiger population.

Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said that diversification of agriculture toward easily cultivable fruits and crops is essential for the sector's growth. Speaking during his visit to Bengaluru as part of the 'Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyaan', Chouhan highlighted the benefits of cultivating dragonfruit. He noted that dragonfruit farming does not require chemical fertilisers, as manure is sufficient, making it an organic crop. The Minister further explained that dragonfruit, a member of the cactus family, is less prone to diseases, which lowers the cost of production and farmers can earn a profit of 6-7 lakh rupees annually after the first year of cultivation.

The Election Commission of India (ECI) has responded to Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's allegations, stating that he has

criticized the Booth Level Agents and Polling Agents appointed by his own party in Maharashtra. The ECI said that as per instructions of the Commission, the CCTV footages of polling stations can always be scrutinised by the competent High Court in any election petition. The ECI has questioned Rahul Gandhi's intentions behind seeking CCTV footage of polling stations, which could invade voters' privacy.

Arunachal Pradesh registered a remarkable 61.9% year-on-year growth in GST collections in May 2025—the highest among all Indian states. "This surge reflects a strong economic momentum and the growing awareness and compliance among taxpayers in the region," officials said. The CGST Itanagar Commissionerate attributed this success to ongoing outreach initiatives jointly organized with the State GST Department and local administration.

Chief Minister Pema Khandu has urged the people of Arunachal Pradesh to take a stand against plastic pollution, emphasizing that the crisis is not just global, but deeply local. "From the mountains of Arunachal to the oceans beyond, single-use plastics are endangering biodiversity, polluting sacred rivers, and seeping into our food chain," the Chief Minister said in a statement. Highlighting Arunachal's rich ecological and cultural heritage, Khandu called for a return to sustainable practices rooted in tradition. "In a land where nature is revered, we must lead by example – by saying NO to plastic and YES to sustainable alternatives like bamboo, leaves, and local eco-crafts," he added.

Braving rugged terrain, crossing streams, and building makeshift log bridges, a 17-member team comprising staff of Dibang Valley district administration and local community members successfully returned to Athunli on June 6 after delivering relief supplies to a stranded family in Mawali village. The family had been cut off since June 1 after the hanging bridge connecting the village was washed away by heavy rains.

Indian astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla and three others are set to embark on Axiom Space's fourth human spaceflight from NASA's Kennedy Space Centre in Florida on Tuesday. They are likely to dock at the International Space Station (ISS) on Wednesday at about 10 pm IST, after a nearly 28-hour journey. Shukla, serving as the mission pilot of the Axiom-4 (Ax4) commercial mission to the ISS, will be accompanied by mission commander Peggy Whitson and specialists Tibor Kapu from Hungary and Slawosz Uznanski-Wisniewski from Poland. The Axiom-4 mission marks India's return

to space after 41 years since Rakesh Sharma's historic spaceflight onboard Russia's Soyuz mission in 1984.

Akashvani is celebrating its 90th anniversary today. On this day in 1936, the Indian State Broadcasting Service was renamed All India Radio (AIR). This landmark occasion marks a significant moment in the cultural, informational, and broadcasting history of the country - the birth of a voice that would resonate through generations. On June 7th 1936, the front page of The Indian Listener, the then official magazine of All India Radio announced AIR to the world and inscribed a day before the magic began. The humble Delhi Station of Akashvani became a centre where voices found wings and history found a mic. Post-independence, AIR expanded rapidly, adopting the name "Akashvani" in 1956. Today, Akashvani operates 591 stations, reaching 98 percent of India's population, broadcasting in 23 languages and 146 dialects.