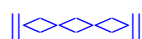


Evening News Script  
1920 hrs of 16<sup>th</sup> June, 2025

**:: THE HEADLINES ::**

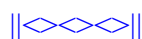
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi says India and Cyprus to develop roadmap to shape future partnership
- India to conduct 16th census in two phases beginning from 1st October 2026
- Union Minister of State Dr. Jitendra Singh arrives in Nagaland for two-day visit to Wokha district
- And, Covid-19 positive case detected in Dimapur



Prime Minister Narendra Modi has described the India-Cyprus partnership as one firmly rooted in shared democratic values and the rule of law. He said the friendship between the two countries is not shaped by circumstances or confined by borders, it has stood the test of time. Mr. Modi stated this while addressing media with Cyprus President Nikos Christodoulides at the Presidential Palace in Nicosia today, following a delegation-level talks.

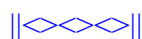
During the delegation-level talks, the two leaders discussed cooperation in the fields of defence, security, technology, healthcare, renewable energy, and climate justice. Earlier, Prime Minister Modi was conferred the Grand Cross of the Order of Makarios III – the highest civilian honour of the Republic of Cyprus by President Nikos. Expressing his gratitude, Mr. Modi said it is an honour for 1.4 billion people of India.

The honour marks a key moment in this historic visit – the first by an Indian Prime Minister to Cyprus in over two decades.



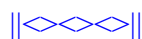
The Government today issued a notification to conduct the Census. The notification issued by the Home Ministry said, the reference date for the census shall be 1st March 2027, except for the Union territory of Ladakh and snow-bound non-synchronous areas of the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir, and the States of Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand. For these areas, the reference date will be 1st October, 2026.

This Census will mark the 16th national Census since its inception and the eighth since India's independence.

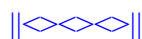


Union Minister of State for Science and Technology, Earth Sciences, Dr. Jitendra Singh, arrived in Nagaland today for a two-day visit to Wokha district. In a series of posts on X, Dr. Singh, upon his arrival at Dimapur airport, expressed excitement for the visit, adding that the Northeast today reflects Prime Minister Modi's transformative vision. He was warmly received by state and Central officials, as well as local representatives. In Wokha, the Union Minister met with Deputy Chief Minister Y. Patton and local MLAs to discuss various Centrally funded

infrastructure projects and upcoming roadworks in the region. Also, in a post on X, Deputy CM Patton noted that Dr. Singh's visit brought encouragement and renewed focus to their shared vision for the people. Mr. Patton expressed gratitude for Dr. Singh's time, leadership, and commitment to the development of Nagaland and the Northeast. The Union Minister interacted with Civil Society Organisations from the district and reviewed programs and schemes with various departments this evening. He also launched the vision document on Income generation from Banana Cultivation in Wokha district, along with Deputy CM Patton and other local MLAs. Tomorrow, Dr. Singh will hold a review meeting with Institutes of Science and Technology. He will also visit Wokha village to interact with the villagers, and inaugurate the Dharti Aaba Abhiyan Awareness and Saturation Campaign.

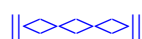


The Ministry of External Affairs has appointed Naga officer Aliawati Longkumer, YOA - 2008, as India's next Ambassador to North Korea. According to the official announcement today, the new Ambassador is expected to take up the assignment shortly. Mr Longkumer is currently the Charge d'Affaires ad interim at the Indian Embassy in Paraguay. His appointment comes in the backdrop of India's decision to open its embassy in Pyongyang last year following a temporary closure in 2021 amid the COVID-19 pandemic.



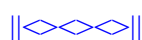
Commissioner of State Taxes, Nagaland Abhinav Shivam today highlighted the critical role of tax revenue in funding essential services and development projects. Addressing the inaugural event of the 5-day training on Goods and Services Tax (GST) for state tax officers in Dimapur, he noted that while Nagaland has seen modest progress in tax recovery and compliance, challenges remain. The state's remote geography, infrastructural limitations, and historical underdevelopment have hindered revenue-generating industries.

Mr Shivam said, despite challenges, the department has made strides, including recovering over 10 crore rupees in revenue arrears between February and May 2025. He described GST as a dynamic tax regime that requires officers to stay updated on reforms, which calls for continuous trainings. Mr Shivam urged officers to address public misconceptions about taxation, highlighting its importance in financing infrastructure and services.



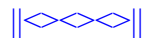
As a run-up to International Day of Yoga 2025, Akashvani News Kohima brings you a special series - "Practice Yoga for Good Health and Wellness." Each day, we discover different practices to stay healthy with Yoga. This evening, we explore on Nadiśodhana or Alternate Nostril Breathing.

The main feature of Nadiśodhana prāṇāyāma is alternate breathing through the left and right nostrils without or with retention of breath, while sitting in a meditative posture. The main purpose of this prāṇāyāma is to purify the principle channels of carrying energy to the body. It induces tranquility and helps to improve concentration, increases vitality and lowers the level of stress and anxiety. It also elevates cough disorders.



Union Home Minister Amit Shah has asked State Relief Commissioners to prepare a District Disaster Management Plan for each district in the next 90 days. Addressing the Conference of the Relief Commissioners of States and Union Territories and the Disaster Response Forces in

New Delhi today, Mr Shah emphasized upon the importance of having Disaster Management Plan at District level to respond to disasters. Noting that the Government is moving ahead with Zero Casualty Approach in its disaster response, he underscored that avoiding disaster is not possible to without environment protection.



A Covid-19 positive case has been detected in Dimapur today. The patient is mildly symptomatic and presently in home isolation and monitored. This was updated by Director, Health and Family Welfare, Dr. Mereninla Senle. The health department said, the currently circulating variants of Covid-19 are mild, causing illness with fever, cough, sore throat, which usually subsides on its own. The public are advised not to panic and follow Covid-19 appropriate behaviours.

