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:::THE HEADLINES:::

- 1. Prime Minister Narendra Modi says India's development in 21st century will be driven by country's eastern region
- 2. 11th International Day of Yoga to be celebrated tomorrow; preparations in full swing
- 3. Nagaland Governor urges citizens to embrace Yoga for holistic well-being
- 4. And, Mizoram, Nagaland continue to top HIV prevalence rates in India

Prime Minister Narendra Modi today said India's development in the 21st century will be driven by the country's eastern region. He said this in Odisha while addressing the state-level function to mark completion of one year of the first BJP government in the state. He said, this is the anniversary of establishment of good governance, and dedicated to public service.

On the occasion, the Prime Minister inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of multiple development projects worth over 18,600 crore rupees. Earlier in the day, Mr Modi was in Bihar where he inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for development projects worth over five thousand 900 crore rupees.



As the world gets ready to celebrate the International Day of Yoga tomorrow, preparation across the country is in full swing. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will attend the main event at Visakapatnam in Andhra Pradesh. Special events are being organized in schools, public spaces, and cultural centers, with participation from health experts, yoga practitioners, and citizens of all ages. This year's theme is 'Yoga for One Earth, One Health', reminding all of the deep connection between personal well-being and the health of our planet. More from our correspondent...

Governor La Ganesan has emphasized the transformative power of yoga for holistic well-being. In his message on International Day of Yoga, the Governor highlighted the growing relevance of yoga in today's fast-paced world, describing it as a vital tool to combat stress, improve physical health, and cultivate mental clarity. He said the day serves as a reminder of yoga's timeless ability to harmonize the mind, body, and spirit. He urged all citizens, regardless of age or profession, to observe the day and incorporate yoga into their daily routine for a healthier, more balanced live. The Governor further stressed upon recognizing yoga's potential to promote unity, tolerance, and collective well-being, values deeply cherished in the Naga society. Extending warm greetings to the people on the occasion, the Governor encouraged everyone to make yoga a sustainable part of their lives and inspire others to join the global movement toward wellness and peace.



Mizoram and Nagaland continue to record the highest HIV prevalence rates in India. According to data of National AIDS Control Organisation, HIV/AIDS prevalence rate in adults aged 15 to 49 years in Mizoram is 2.73 per cent and in Nagaland is 1.37 per cent. These are much higher than the national prevalence rate of 0.20 per cent, and put the two states at the top among all Indian states and Union Territories. Prevalence rates in four other northeastern states of Manipur, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Arunachal Pradesh are higher than the national average, while Assam and Sikkim remain below the national average.



President Droupadi Murmu has stressed the importance of encouraging Divyangjans in all spheres of life. She stated that with the help of advanced technologies, Divyangjans can now contribute effectively to the mainstream. The President was addressing students at the National Institute for the Empowerment of Persons with Visual Disabilities in Dehradun today.

Earlier, the President inaugurated Rashtrapati Niketan and Rashtrapati Tapovan in Dehradun.

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah today announced that NAFED will soon begin direct procurement from farmers, eliminating intermediaries from the agricultural production process. He was speaking at a national seminar held in Mumbai on the occasion of the International Year of Cooperatives. Mr. Shah expressed confidence that this move will help farmers get fair prices for their

produce. He also stated that the government will soon launch an insurance company based on the cooperative model.



In the wake of the state government's directive to shut down pharmacies operating without registered pharmacists, the All Nagaland Pharmacy Association (ANPA) has appealed for a reasonable time extension for compliance. During a press conference today in Kohima, ANPA leaders expressed concern over the potential disruption of healthcare services, particularly in rural areas, and urged dialogue with the government. ANPA General Secretary Limayanger Jamir, highlighted the acute shortage of qualified pharmacists in Nagaland, which lacks its own pharmacy institute.

Mr Jamir noted that the association has submitted representations to the Principal Director, Commissioner and Secretary, and the Chief Minister, but did not receive any positive response. Reiterating commitment to meet legal requirements, ANPA sought more time to comply, and further appealed for framing of a health policy that is specific to Nagaland.



Chumoukedima Deputy Commissioner, Polan John has restricted activities like quarrying, earth cutting, and setting up temporary stalls near National Highway 29, which could compromise safety. He said, such activities could lead to soil erosion, landslides, and blockade, posing risks to the structural integrity of the Highway and endangering public safety. Village Councils and stakeholders have been asked to avoid such actions, and cooperate in maintaining the durability of the highway. The DC has warned of legal action against any harmful activity.



And, India Meteorological Department has forecast continued heavy to very heavy rainfall over the Northeastern states during next seven days. The showers are likely to be accompanied by thunderstorm and lightning.

