

Evening News Script
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:: THE HEADLINES ::

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi wraps up five-nation tour
- Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar says intellectual and cultural rise significant for India as global power
- Centre approves over one thousand crore rupees to six disaster-hit states including four in Northeast
- And, Nagaland makes debut at World Expo 2025, showcases investment potential

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi has returned to New Delhi today after his five-nation visit to Ghana, Trinidad and Tobago, Argentina, Brazil, and Namibia. During the visits, Mr Modi interacted with the heads of state of these nations to discuss further strengthening of ties with India.

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Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar today said that India's rise as a global power must be accompanied by the rise of its intellectual and cultural gravitas. Addressing a Conference on Indian Knowledge Systems at Jawaharlal Nehru University in New Delhi, Mr. Dhankhar highlighted that a rise without intellectual and cultural rise is not lasting, and not aligned in harmony with the traditions of the country.

He added that ancient India was home to luminous centres of intellectual life. Calling for focused action to strengthen Indian Knowledge Systems, Mr. Dhankhar emphasized the creation of digitized repositories of classical Indian

texts, covering all classical languages such as Sanskrit, Tamil, Pali, and Prakrit.

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The Central Government has approved the release of over one thousand 66 crore rupees to six flood and landslides affected states including four in the Northeast. According to the Home Ministry, over 375 crore rupees has been sanctioned for Assam, more than 29 crore rupees to Manipur, over 30 crore rupees to Meghalaya, more than 22 crore rupees to Mizoram, over 153 crore rupees to Kerala, and over 455 crore rupees to Uttarakhand as Central share under State Disaster Response Fund. These states have been affected due to extremely heavy rainfall, floods and landslides during the south-west monsoon. The Ministry said, the government is fully committed to provide all possible assistance to flood, landslides, cloudburst-affected states.

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As relentless rains lashed the Northeast, causing widespread destruction, the Indian Army has launched extensive Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief operations under 'Operation Jal Rahat 2', with coordinated deployment across Nagaland, Assam, and Manipur. Today, the Deputy Commissioner of Dimapur formally requisitioned the Army's assistance after floods inundated Singrijan Colony, one of the worst-hit areas. In response, an Engineer Task Force team was swiftly deployed. While a verbal de-requisition was received later, the Army remains on standby with resources mobilised through the Flood Relief Control Centre at Headquarters Inspector General Assam Rifles (North). So far, the Army has deployed 40 relief columns across the region, rescuing over 3,800 people and distributing food, water and medical aid.

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Nagaland has made a historic debut at the World Expo 2025 in Osaka, Japan, marking its first-ever official participation at the global event. Delivering the keynote address at a special session, Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio emphasized the state government's commitment to creating a secure, transparent, and investor-friendly environment. He highlighted Nagaland's strategic location as a gateway to the ASEAN region, and assured global partners of the state's stability, safety, and robust support system for investments, including single-window clearances and high implementation standards. Advisor for Industries and Commerce,

Hekani Jakhalu, led B2B engagements, showcasing Nagaland’s potential in food processing, agri-tech, and start-up sectors. The Advisor underlined the state’s skilled young workforce and policies designed to attract global collaboration.

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Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has highlighted that the loan recovery practices of Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) must be conducted in a fair, empathetic and respectful manner, as well as strictly aligning with the RBI's Fair Practices Code. Addressing the NBFC Symposium 2025 in New Delhi today, the Minister said that financial inclusion cannot be used as a pretext for financial exploitation.

The Minister also underscored the need for NBFCs to integrate governance, risk management, and customer protection as part of their core beliefs and ethics.

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A delegation from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) visited Nagaland to review the progress of the Medical College Hospital project at the Nagaland Institute of Medical Sciences and Research in Kohima. The team, comprising Senior Representative Arima, Additional Chief Development Specialist Aditi Puri, and Additional Lead Project Officer Mahua Mukherjee, held detailed discussions with officials from the state Health and Family Welfare Department.

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Chief Secretary of Nagaland, Dr. J. Alam, has underscored human resource as the state's most valuable asset. Inaugurating the Vision Nagaland Hall at the Administrative Training Institute (ATI) in Kohima today, he called for continuous investment in human resources development. He also highlighted the need for providing top-notch facilities to support ATI's high-level government training

programs, which draw both national and international experts. Director of ATI and Secretary for Economics & Statistics, Akunu S. Meyase, reaffirmed ATI's commitment to excellence through upgraded infrastructure, faculty and capacity building programs. Completed within three months, the hall has a sitting capacity of about 100.

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Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said that universities will play a key role in achieving the goal of a Viksit Bharat. Inaugurating the two-day conference of Vice Chancellors of Central Universities in Kevadiya, Narmada, Mr. Pradhan said that there has been a fundamental change in the higher education structure of the country in the last decade.

The conference has been organized by the Education Ministry the aim of making the implementation of the National Education Policy-2020 more dynamic.

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Aimed at offering premium organic food products sourced from Nagaland farms to urban customers, the 'Naga Organic' outlet was inaugurated at Safdarjung in New Delhi. Set up under the Centre's Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region, the outlet will serve as a display and delivery point for certified organic products. Inaugurating the outlet yesterday, Joint Resident Commissioner, Nagaland House New Delhi, Sharon Longchari, called the initiative a vital link between Naga farmers and Delhi markets, and commended Green Caravan, the empanelled service provider under the state Agriculture Department. The store features variety of products from 17 Farmer Producer Companies across various districts of Nagaland.

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