

:: THE HEADLINES ::

- Prime Minister Modi addresses Ghana's Parliament, Hails democratic ties
- Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla calls Urban Local Bodies one of democracy's strongest pillars
- Advisor Mhathung Yanthan underscores need for digital boost in grassroots farming
- Nagaland to host 1st Dr. T. Ao Junior National Girls Football Championship in November



Prime Minister Narendra Modi today addressed the Parliament of the Republic of Ghana, highlighting the strong relationship between the two countries. Speaking on democracy, Prime Minister Modi described India as the mother of democracy, stressing the importance of openness and dialogue in a democratic setup. He highlighted India's vast diversity as a strength of its democratic fabric.

Mr Modi highlighted India's vast diversity as a strength of its democratic fabric, asserting 20 different parties governing different states, 22 official languages, and thousands of dialects. He hailed Ghana for its enduring commitment to democracy, dignity, and resilience, calling it a "beacon of inspiration" for the African continent. Mr Modi called for credible reforms in global governance to amplify the Global South's voice.

Earlier in the day, Mr Modi paid tribute to Ghana's founding President Dr Kwame Nkrumah at Nkrumah Memorial Park. He also interacted with the Indian diaspora in Ghana's capital Accra. After concluding his successful visit to Ghana, Mr Modi has left for Trinidad & Tobago on the second leg of his five-nation tour.



Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla today called Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) one of the strongest pillars of democracy. Addressing the first National Level Conference of Chairpersons of ULBs in the States and Union Territories being held in

Haryana, he said strengthening these institutions will help fulfil the needs and aspirations of the people.

Terming it the responsibility of everyone to strengthen the country's democratic institutions, Mr. Birla emphasized upon the smooth functioning of Houses, from Parliament to ULBs, to reinforce democracy. The two-day conference will discuss critical issues, including making municipal governance more effective, improving public delivery, and contribution of ULBs in achieving the goal of Developed India 2047.

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Advisor Agriculture Mhathung Yanthan, has underscored the importance of boosting digital capacity at the grassroots level. Speaking at the launch of the Digital Agriculture Central Command Centre at the Directorate of Agriculture in Kohima yesterday, he urged field officers to leverage technology for real-time data collection and timely support to farmers. He said, the Command Centre, developed under the Department's Digital Agriculture Mission in the 1st phase, will serve as a nerve centre for real-time data-driven decision-making, and digital service delivery to farmers across the state. The Advisor commended the launch as a step towards transforming farming practices, productivity, and rural livelihoods. The initiative includes GIS, remote sensing, mobile applications, and a centralized server.

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The Directorate of Health & Family Welfare has announced that the General Nurse and Midwife course will be discontinued from the 2025-26 academic session. In its place, B.Sc Nursing courses will begin at the three upgraded Colleges of Nursing at Naga Hospital Authority Kohima, District Hospital Dimapur, and Dr. Imkongliba Memorial District Hospital Mokokchung. Admissions will be conducted through the Common University Entrance Test-UG, and seats will be allotted through the Directorate of Technical Education. Candidates have been advised to visit necessary websites in due course for updates.

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National Health Mission, Nagaland today conducted a one-day training on free diagnostic services for laboratory technicians across the state in collaboration with the Regional Resource Center–North East (RRC-NE), Guwahati. Speaking at the event in Kohima, Director RRC-NE, Dr. Raj Prabha Moktan, stressed the critical role of laboratory services in both clinical and preventive healthcare. Dr. Moktan emphasized the need for improving lab services, noting that the next phase of the National Health Mission, from 2025 to 2030, will place greater emphasis on Artificial Intelligence and e-Health.

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External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar questioned western nations for not supporting India's position on terrorism and stressed the need for a more unified global response. Replying to queries during a media briefing in Washington, Dr Jaishankar said that it is a fact that often countries do not take a position when some other countries are victims of terrorism, which they would do when they themselves are.

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Following confirmed cases of African Swine Fever in Pongching and Hamlikhong villages, Deputy Commissioner Longleng has declared both areas as Infected Zones. A 10 kilometer radius from the infected premises is marked as the Surveillance Zone. To contain the outbreak, the DC has placed certain restrictions, including bans on slaughter of pigs, import and export of pigs and piglets, as well as on transport of pigs and pork, until further notice.

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Additional Deputy Commissioner of Longleng, Alongdhimen Jamir, has issued a strict order prohibiting the unlawful dumping of animal carcasses at the Longleng Town Council Municipal Dumping Site or any open spaces within the municipal limits. The directive comes after reports of pigs and other animal carcasses being improperly discarded at the site, posing serious public health risk and causing environmental pollution. The ADC noted that as per Central

Pollution Control Board guidelines animal carcasses must be disposed of using approved methods like incineration or deep burial. Similarly, the Solid Waste Management Rules of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, mandate proper disposal of all wastes. The ADC cautioned that violators of the order will face legal penalties under relevant laws

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Nagaland will host the 1st edition of Dr. T. Ao Junior National Girls Football Championship 2025 in the second week of November. This was approved by the Executive Committee of the All India Football Federation (AIFF) during a meeting at New Delhi yesterday. It may be mentioned that AIFF had officially renamed the Junior National Girls Championship in honour of the first captain of India's Olympic football team in September last year.

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