

Evening News Script

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:::THE HEADLINES:::

1. Centre approves 12,000 crore rupees targeted LPG subsidy for Ujjwala Yojana in 2025-26
2. Cabinet approves 4,200 crore rupees scheme to boost technical education
3. Minister Temjen Imna Along emphasizes preserving indigenous heritage while adapting to technology
4. And, Union DoNER Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia calls for unified approach to accelerate infrastructure growth in northeast



The government has approved the continuation of targeted subsidies for Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana consumers for the year 2025-26 with the estimated cost of over 12 thousand crore rupees. Briefing media in New Delhi today about the Cabinet decision taken under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said, the government will provide a targeted subsidy of 300 rupees per 14.2 kilogram cylinder for up to nine refills per year.

The Cabinet also approved 30 thousand crore rupees subsidy to state-run oil companies, namely Indian Oil, Bharat Petroleum and Hindustan Petroleum, to compensate for losses incurred from selling LPG at below cost over the past 15 months.

Mr. Vaishnaw also informed that the government has given its nod for the budgetary support for Multidisciplinary Education and Research improvement in Technical Education scheme with an outlay of four thousand 200 crore rupees.

The government further approved four new components under the existing special development packages for Assam and Tripura with a total outlay of four thousand 250 crore rupees.



Minister of Tourism and Higher Education, Temjen Imna Along emphasised the importance of preserving indigenous heritage while adapting to the demands of a rapidly advancing technological world. Speaking at the 'Development of Education in North Eastern India Exhibition' organised by the National Archives of India and Department of Higher Education, Nagaland today in Kohima, Mr Along expressed deep gratitude to the Ministry of Culture and the National Archives for their sustained commitment to promoting and documenting the diverse histories of the country. Highlighting the unique knowledge systems traditionally practiced by the Nagas, such as the Morung-based education, the Minister called on the need to document the discipline and strong values of the forefathers.

Mr Along also welcomed the proposal made by MLA Dr. Tseilhoutuo Rhütso for establishing a Northeast Archival Centre in Nagaland. He called it a crucial step toward preserving and celebrating the region's unique cultural identity. The Minister further urged the youth to embrace modern technology, especially artificial intelligence, without fear but with responsibility and purpose. He however, reminded that the strength of the Naga people lies equally in their past, culture, and faith.

The exhibition will remain open to the public until August 15 at the Capital Convention Centre.



Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio has extended prayers and best wishes for the speedy and full recovery of Governor La Ganesan. In a social media post, Mr Rio on behalf of the people of the state, wished the Governor renewed strength and a swift return to duty, to continue guiding Nagaland with wisdom.



Deputy Chief Minister Y Patton continued his series of surprise inspections, visiting several government offices in Wokha including School Education Department, Civil Supply and SP Office. During the checks, Mr Patton assessed staff attendance and workplace discipline. He noted that some offices showed near-full attendance and commended their commitment, while action has been directed against those found absent without valid reasons. Mr Patton emphasized that public office is a responsibility, not an option, and said these checks will continue to ensure accountability. The Deputy CM was accompanied by Deputy Commissioner Vineet Kumar, SP Relo Aye, and leaders of Lotha Hoho and Lotha Students Union.



Union DoNER Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia, has underscored a unified approach to accelerate infrastructure growth in the northeastern region, NER. Speaking at the High-Level Task Force on 'Logistics, Infrastructure Connectivity in NER,' earlier this week, he said all infrastructure projects in the region should be mapped on the PM GatiShakti Portal for better planning of future initiatives, and urged states to update their logistics policies as per the metric prepared by the Ministry. Mr Scindia outlined various suggestions to bridge infrastructure and connectivity gaps including building a unified NER infrastructure grid, setting up a Monitoring Mechanism for priority projects, boosting cross-border trade facilities, and enhancing digital connectivity and power transmission systems. The meeting focused on critical gaps in the North East in the sectors of Highways, Railways, Waterways, Airways, Logistics, and digital connectivity. To bridge these gaps, the task force decided to formulate a comprehensive Infrastructure Masterplan, which will be developed in consultation with all eight states and Central Ministries.



Prasar Bharati CEO Gaurav Dwivedi today said that Prasar Bharati is working towards minimising possible entry barrier to the audience and ensuring the widest possible access to information, education and entertainment. He said this on the launch of magazine store on Waves OTT Platform in New Delhi today.



And, the Excise Department Kohima has reported significant seizures and enforcement actions over the past year. Presenting an overview of department's activities during the Kohima District Planning & Development Board today, Deputy Commissioner of Excise (Zonal), Venezolu Dawhuo, informed that 1,040 cases were registered under the Nagaland Liquor Total Prohibition Act in the last financial year. The department seized over 1.7 kilograms of heroin and 9,000 bottles of codeine-based cough syrup, including a major haul of 1.6 kilograms of heroin at Khuzama Check Gate last September. Between January 2024 and June this year, fines exceeding 11 lakh rupees were collected. The department also issued 53 temporary liquor permits during last year's Hornbill Festival.

