

## Evening News script

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### :::THE HEADLINES:::

1. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh says, country fully prepared for its first-ever human spaceflight mission marking new chapter in journey of self-reliant India.
2. Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurates All India Speakers' Conference; underscores need to work towards enhancing dignity of the House.
3. NECTAR project under School Education Nagaland wins Centre for Innovations in Public Systems Innovation Award 2024 in education sector.
4. And, ISRO successfully conducts First Integrated Air Drop Test for Gaganyaan.



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh today said that India is fully prepared for its first-ever human spaceflight mission, named Gaganyaan, and this is not just a technological achievement, but a new chapter in the journey of a self-reliant India. The Defence Minister said this while addressing the felicitation ceremony in New Delhi of Gaganyatris Group Captains Shubhanshu Shukla, Prasanth Balakrishnan Nair, Ajit Krishnan, and Angad Pratap, who have been selected for this mission. The Minister said that India has already marked its presence from the Moon to Mars.

Speaking on the occasion, Indian Air Force Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla who recently made history by becoming the first Indian to travel

to the International Space Station, reflected on his journey. He credited his training in the Indian Air Force for preparing him to face challenges with confidence.



Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated a two-day All India Speakers' Conference at the Delhi Assembly in the National Capital today. The conference marks the centenary of election of Vithalbhai Patel as India's first Speaker of the Central Legislative Assembly. Speaking on the occasion, the Home Minister emphasized that, just as the country's freedom was important, it is equally essential to ensure that the nation was run democratically after independence. He said, Vitthalbhai Patel laid foundation for establishing democratic governance based on Indian ideas. Mr Shah also underscored need to work towards enhancing dignity of the House and respect of the post of the Speaker.

Addressing the gathering, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju said, the two-day Speakers' Conference is very useful for learning best practices.

On the occasion, the Home Minister released a commemorative stamp honouring Vitthalbhai Patel. Mr Shah also inaugurated special exhibition showcasing rare archival records, photographs, and documents on India's first elected speaker and evolution of India's parliamentary institutions.



The Performance Incentive Grants, a programme of the NECTAR project under Department of School Education, Nagaland has been awarded the Centre for Innovations in Public Systems (CIPS) Innovation Award - 2024 in the education sector. CIPS received 226 applications from all over India, out of which 83 were shortlisted, and 34 projects underwent spot studies and 21 projects across various sectors received the awards. The award was received by the NECTAR team led by Joint Secretary of School Education & Deputy Project

Director of NECTAR Avelu Ruho, during the ‘CIPS Awards Ceremony – 2024’ held at the Directorate of Information, Srinagar, on 22nd of this month. During the felicitation, Chief Guest, Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir Manoj Sinha stressed that people’s voice must be the soul of government policy and that policymaking should be grounded in their needs and participation.



ISRO has successfully accomplished first Integrated Air Drop Test (IADT-01) for end to end demonstration of parachute based deceleration system for Gaganyaan missions. It was a critical exercise to validate the parachute system that will bring back astronauts safely under the mission, from its spaceport in. This test is a joint effort of ISRO, Indian Air Force, DRDO, Indian Navy and Indian Coast Guard. The Test was designed to evaluate full suite of parachutes that will slow down and stabilise the crew module during re-entry and splashdown of the actual human spaceflight mission. This included two drogue parachutes which are conical or funnel-shaped devices with open ends, for initial slowing down, followed by pilot chutes and three main parachutes to ensure safe descent.



Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully conducted the maiden flight Tests of Integrated Air Defence Weapon System (IADWS) off the coast of Odisha yesterday. IADWS is a multi-layered air defence system comprising all indigenous Quick Reaction Surface to Air Missile, Advanced Very Short Range Air Defence System missiles and a high-power laser-based Directed Energy Weapon. In a social media post, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh congratulated the DRDO, the India Armed Forces and the Industry for successful development of Integrated Air Defence Weapon System. He stated that the unique flight-tests have established the multi-layered air-defence capability of the country and are going to strengthen area defence for important facilities against enemy aerial threats.



Prime Minister of Fiji, Sitiveni Ligamamada Rabuka arrived in New Delhi this morning on a three-day visit to India. Mr Rabuka was received by Union Minister Sukanta Majumdar at the airport. The visiting delegation includes Minister of Health and Medical Services, Ratu Atonio Lalabalavu and senior officials. The External Affairs Ministry said in a statement that this is Prime Minister Rabuka's first visit to India in his present capacity. The Fiji Prime Minister is scheduled to hold talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi tomorrow. He will also call on President Droupadi Murmu. The visit underscores the long standing and enduring ties between India and Fiji.



The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) today unveiled its flagship policy blueprint 'Policies for a Competitive India', which the country's apex business chamber sees as a comprehensive reform roadmap to accelerate India's transformation into a globally competitive economy. The report presents over 250 actionable recommendations across 14 critical reform areas. Developed through wide-ranging consultations with industry leaders, economists, and policy experts, the blueprint is aligned with the government's Viksit Bharat vision. Its release comes at a pivotal time, as the Prime Minister has called for bold, second-generation reforms to unlock India's full potential, according to the CII statement. CII president Rajiv Memani said that the publication is a contribution to the broader national reform agenda. Mr. Memani added that CII remains fully committed to working alongside the government to accelerate India's march towards Viksit Bharat and strengthen the country's position as a global growth leader.

