

Evening News Script

1920 hrs of 23rd September, 2025

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:: THE HEADLINES ::

- Advisor Tovihoto Ayemi calls for sustainable jhum cultivation
- Deputy Chief Minister Y Patton says GST reforms strengthening trade and economy
- CANSSEA stages statewide sit-in dharna over pension reform and other demands
- Four Nagaland University faculty named among World's Top 2 percent scientists by Stanford

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Advisor for Tribal Affairs H. Tovihoto Ayemi, today called for urgent efforts to make jhum cultivation more sustainable. Addressing the launching programme of the Resource Organisation on Jhum and Biodiversity (ROJB) workshop in Dimapur, he urged upon robust data collection, practical demonstrations, and capacity building for farmers, youth, and women, underlining the cultural, social, and ecological significance of jhum cultivation.

Stressing the need to address declining soil fertility and biodiversity loss, Mr Ayemi urged ROJB to empower communities and ensure coexistence between Jhum and biodiversity. He outlined three key pillars for ROJB, supporting customary stewardship by community institutions, combining traditional knowledge with modern science, and shaping state policies through evidence-based research. The two-day workshop is supported by the Japan International Cooperation Agency and will conclude tomorrow.

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As part of the ongoing GST Bachat Utsav campaign, Deputy Chief Minister Y Patton visited markets in Kohima today to to raise awareness about the benefits of GST reforms. He stated that the measures are helping both trade and the wider economy move forward with greater strength. During the visit, Mr Patton interacted with shopkeepers and traders, highlighting

how GST reforms have simplified the tax system, reduced burdens on small businesses, and ensured fairer prices for consumers. He emphasized that the campaign seeks to ensure GST benefits reach citizens directly. Shopkeepers voiced their support echoing the message 'Garv Se Kaho, Yah Swadeshi Hai,' reflecting pride in local enterprise and commitment for a self-reliant India.

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The Confederation of All Nagaland State Services Association (CANSSEA), today staged a sit-in dharna across the state in support of the nationwide call of the All India State Government Employees Federation. Addressing the media in Kohima, CANSSEA President Zubemo Lotha Tsanglao said the protest would continue till the goals are achieved.

The employees are demanding constitution of a State Pay Commission for periodical pay revision, scrapping of NPS/UPS to restore Old Pension Scheme, comprehensive health insurance scheme, among others. Later, CANSSEA officials met Chief Secretary Sentianger Imchen and submitted their representation.

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Nagaland University, NU, has earned international recognition as four of its faculty members have been named in the prestigious 'World's Top 2 percent Scientists List'. Compiled by Stanford University and Elsevier, the list recognizes researchers with the highest global impact across 22 scientific fields and 174 sub-field. The honoured faculty include Prof. Ambrish Singh from Department of Chemistry, Prof. Joginder Singh from Botany, Prof. Prabhakar Sharma from Agricultural Engineering and Technology, and Prof. Pranav Kumar Prabhakar from Biotechnology. Further, Prof. Ambrish and Prof. Pranav Kumar have also been featured in the exclusive Career-Long Top 2 percent category, honouring their lifetime contributions to global scientific progress. Congratulating the faculty, NU Vice Chancellor Prof. Jagadish K Patnaik said their outstanding contributions will inspire students and researchers to pursue research excellence.

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The Ministry of AYUSH today celebrated the 10th National Ayurveda Day at the All India Institute of Ayurved, Dharwad in Goa. State Chief Minister, Dr. Promod Sawant highlighted Ayurveda's role in tackling lifestyle disorders such as obesity, diabetes and stress.

Union Minister of State for AYUSH, Pratap Rao Jadhav said fixing 23rd September as Ayurved Day aligns with autumn equinox, reflecting nature's balance. The celebration reaffirmed India's resolve to make Ayurved a pillar of sustainable health care worldwide.

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Under the Next Generation GST reforms, to bring direct savings to households, government has reduced taxes on everyday essentials and packaged foods. GST rates on products like hair oil, soap, shampoo, toothpaste, and toothbrush have been reduced from 18 percent to 5 percent. Items like Ultra-high temperature milk, paneer, and roti are now under the zero tax category. Popular food items such as bhujia, sauces, noodles, chocolates, coffee, and butter have also been slashed down to 5 percent tax slab. Other household essentials such as bicycles, kitchenware, and diapers will now attract only 5 percent GST.

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Guided by the mantra of Seva and Sushasan, that is, Public Service and Good Governance, the Government, under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has been working tirelessly to bring transformation and progress. Today, in this Special Series -‘Seva Parv’, we bring to you how the Modi government has strengthened the informal sector through welfare measures, social security, and financial inclusion.

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Tobacco Vendor Licence has been made mandatory for all retailers and retail shops engaged in tobacco vending activities within the jurisdiction of Kohima Municipal Council (KMC). All such activities will be under the total purview and supervision of the government. This was

stated by Chief Executive Officer, KMC, Zapuno Sophie. In this connection, all traders operating within the jurisdiction of KMC have been directed to obtain the Tobacco Vendor Licence from the KMC office within one month. This was done in compliance with the State Level Co-ordination Committee decision and to strengthen implementation and enforcement of COTPA Act 2003.

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And, The Department of School Education has announced that applications for the Pre-Matric Scholarship for ST students of Nagaland, for Classes 9 and 10, will be open from September 25. Both fresh and renewal applications can be submitted through the National Scholarship Portal at scholarships.gov.in. The last day to apply is October 25.

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