Evening News Script

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:: THE HEADLINES ::

- Nagaland eliminates zero-enrolment and single-teacher schools for first time
- Nagaland RMSA-2016 teachers begin second phase of agitation with statewide boycott of classes
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi calls for global unity to fight against terrorism
- Advisor H. Tovihoto Ayemi hails transformative power of Aadi Karmayogi Abhiyan for tribal leadership

Nagaland has, for the first time in an academic year, eliminated all zero-enrolment and single-teacher schools. According to the Union Education Ministry's latest UDISE+ report, 2024-25, the number of schools in the state rose marginally to 2,750 from 2,725 in 2023-24. Meanwhile, schools reporting zero enrolment dropped from 12 to nil, and all 31 single-teacher institutions were phased out. A report...

Nationally, school enrolment reached 24.69 crore across 14.71 lakh schools, with the number of teachers crossing the 1 crore mark for the first time in 2024-25. The national average stood at 168 students and 7 teachers per school

The Nagaland RMSA-2016 Teachers Association began the second phase of its agitation today against the government's alleged failure to implement court orders on their demand for 'Equal Pay for Equal Work'. As part of the protest, all RMSA 2016 teachers boycotted classes across the state, disrupting teaching and academic activities in 133 schools. The association has warned that the agitation will intensify if the government does not address their concerns sincerely.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi today stated that double standards on terrorism are unacceptable. Delivering his statement at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit in Tianjin, China, Mr Modi termed terrorism as a huge challenge for humanity, saying

terrorism in all its forms should be condemned. He expressed gratitude to the countries that showed solidarity with India after the Pahalgam terror attack.

Meanwhile, the SCO declaration strongly condemned the terrorist attack in Pahalgam and sent a clear and unified message against terrorism. The declaration released after the Heads of States Council summit also recognized India's growing contributions to regional cooperation and innovation.

Advisor for Tribal Affairs, H. Tovihoto Ayemi, today said the Aadi Karmayogi Abhiyan is a transformative mission aimed at empowering grassroots tribal leadership through selfless service and inclusive governance. Speaking at the launch of a four-day training programme at SCERT Kohima, Mr Ayemi said the mission envisions building a network of over 20 lakh tribal leaders across one lakh villages nationwide. He highlighted that the initiative is part of India's larger vision for Viksit Bharat 2047, where tribal communities actively shape the country's development journey. The training is being conducted by a team of national and state-level trainers, with a total of 79 officials from 12 districts participating in the programme.

The Political Affairs Committee held a meeting with all Members of the Legislative Assembly this afternoon at the State Banquet Hall in Kohima. The meeting reviewed and discussed major issues related to the Naga political issue. Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio, Deputy Chief Ministers Y. Patton and T.R. Zeliang, Speaker Sharingain Longkumer, both Members of Parliament, Advisors, and MLAs attended the meeting.

A coordination meeting of the Agri and Allied Departments in Wokha district was held today to review preparations for the upcoming Banana Festival. Chairing the meeting, Deputy Commissioner Vineet Kumar informed that the festival is tentatively scheduled for the 17th and 18th of October.

During the meeting, departments were directed to work closely with farmers and participants, and work out innovative ideas for the event. Officials were also urged to prepare a list of banana by-products to be displayed during the festival. With about six weeks to go, the district administration will hold weekly review meetings to ensure all arrangements are in place. Meanwhile, Skill Development Officer Anuranjan Singh briefed the meeting about key activities during the recent farmers' exposure trip to Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

The 10th Regional Saras Fair was inaugurated today at Supermarket in Dimapur. Organised by the Nagaland State Rural Livelihoods Mission (NSRLM), the Fair was opened by Director of Rural Development, M. Mongna Konyak. Speaking to the media, State Programme Manager

of NRLM A. Tiasenba Longchar, said the Saras Fair is aimed at enhancing the livelihoods of Self Help Groups and rural artisans by providing a marketing platform. He informed that the fair is organised twice a year. This edition features participants from Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, and Sikkim, alongside seven departments from Nagaland.

A total of 43 stalls have been set up, showcasing local products and handicrafts. The fair will run for 10 days.

In cricket, North East Zone put up a spirited effort to hold Central Zone to a draw in the Duleep Trophy quarterfinals in Bengaluru yesterday. However, North East Zone failed to progress to the semifinals, with Central Zone advancing on the basis of a dominant first-innings lead. Central Zone posted commanding totals of 532 for 4 declared, and 331 for 7. North East Zone, in reply, were bowled out for 185 in their first innings, but fought back to finish at 200 for 6 in the second. Mizoram's Jehu Anderson and Nagaland's Rongsen Jonathan were the top scorers for the North East. The Nagaland Cricket Association has hailed the team's performance as a milestone in the region's cricketing journey. Honorary Secretary Hyunilo Anilo Khing called a draw against the experienced Central Zone team, a proud moment, saying it reflects the spirit from growing talent and fighting of players the North East.

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And, India Meteorological Department has forecast heavy rainfall at isolated locations in Nagaland till Friday. Thunderstorm with lightning are very likely tomorrow in Kohima, Zunheboto, Mokokchung, Longleng, Mon, and Tuensang. Today, the state capital Kohima recorded a maximum temperature of 26 degree Celsius and a minimum of 17 degree Celsius. While, Dimapur recorded a high of 34 degree Celsius and a low of 29 degree Celsius.

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