

Evening News Script

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:::THE HEADLINES:::

1. Prime Minister Narendra Modi says next gen GST to change nation's growth story

2.Nagaland University ranked No. 1 government university in India with highest patents

3.Nagaland government awaiting central funds for second phase of scholarships

4.And, Minister Temjem Imna Along appeals for sensitivity after Naga student's remark on Zubeen Garg sparks backlash

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi today said next gen GST reforms will come into force from tomorrow on the first day of Navratri. Addressing the nation this evening, Mr Modi said GST Bachat Utsav will begin from tomorrow and people can buy their choice of goods at a lesser price. He added that nation's growth story will be changed with these reforms, and highlighted that every state will be an equal partner in the journey of the nation's development.

The Prime Minister expressed happiness that in the last 12 years, 25 crore people have come out of poverty. Mr Modi also made a strong push for manufacturing quality products in India.

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Nagaland University has been ranked the top government university in India for the highest number of patents granted in the last three years, securing 97 patents, according to a news report. In a social media post, Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio, said this achievement reflects the hard work and dedication of the university's faculty, researchers, and students. Mr Rio commended them for this remarkable mark of institutional excellence.

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Minister of Higher Education, Temjen Imna Along has assured the student community that the second phase of the post-matric scholarship will be released without delay once the central share is received from the Tribal Affairs Ministry. Acknowledging concerns of students, he said, the Higher Education Department is actively pursuing the release of the remaining funds. He informed that the last correspondence from the Ministry was on 15th of this month, requesting the statement of expenditure and projected requirements for the year 2024–2025. Mr Along said, the department has already submitted the necessary documents. The Minister expressed optimism that the central share will be released very soon.

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In a move to streamline scholarship management, the Nagaland government has initiated the process of establishing a nodal cell for scholarships under the Higher Education Department. Minister Temjen Imna Along, revealed that the necessary formalities and procedures are currently underway, and the nodal cell will be established soon.

The Minister also assured that he will personally oversee the progress and ensure that the work is completed promptly.

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Today is International Day of Peace. On the occasion, Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio reaffirmed the state's shared responsibility to create a more peaceful world. Mr Rio expressed hope that the day would inspire all to strengthen harmony, justice, and reconciliation within our own land and beyond. Meanwhile, Deputy Chief Minister Y. Patton also urged all citizens to renew their shared commitment to dialogue, compassion, and cooperation. He emphasized that each individual has a role to play whether through small acts of kindness in communities or through collective efforts that unite nations. Mr. Patton noted that our children deserve a future shaped by understanding rather than conflict, and by hope rather than fear.

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Tensions erupted at Assam Kaziranga University following controversial remarks made by a Naga student about the late Assamese singer Zubeen Garg. The incident occurred last evening when Lisseri S. Sangtam, a B.Tech Civil Engineering student, made comments that were perceived as offensive by several Assamese students. His remarks quickly circulated on social media, leading to widespread outrage. According to the incident report, a group of students and outsiders forcibly entered the campus and attempted to create unrest at the hostel where the student resides. The situation was promptly brought under control by police and district officials. The student has since issued a public apology. As a precautionary measure, additional police personnel have been deployed on the university and hostel premises to prevent any further incidents.

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In response to the incident, Nagaland's Minister of Higher Education, Temjen

Imna Along, has appealed to Naga students to exercise restraint on digital platforms, and remain respectful of sentiments of people around them. Addressing media persons in Kohima today, Minister Along said, the Government of Nagaland is in close contact with its counterpart in Assam and has assured the safety and security of Naga students. The situation is under control, he said, adding that the student is safe and will be handed over to his family members. Reiterating his call for calm, Mr. Along urged Naga students to refrain from emotional outbursts online, especially during this period of mourning.

The Minister expressed hope that no further untoward incidents will occur.

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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 led the UPI revolution, making digital payments seamless, secure, and accessible for all.

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The GST Council on the 3rd of this month announced a series of Next Generation GST reforms, providing big relief to the citizens through significant tax reduction on automobiles. Two-wheeler bikes and small cars now will be taxed at 18 percent from the earlier 28 percent. Meanwhile, 40 percent tax will be levied on large cars, and cess on these vehicles has been eliminated. This move will reduce the effective tax on large cars, making them more affordable for the buyers. Further, GST cuts will also encourage the replacement of old vehicles with newer ones, supporting a cleaner environment.

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