

## Morning News Script

0730 hrs

26<sup>th</sup> October 2025

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Electronics and Information Technology Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw has said that India is on its way to becoming self-reliant in mobile manufacturing. He said, within two years, the country will achieve complete domestic production of mobile phone components. Mr. Vaishnaw said the government will invest more than 200 crore rupees to develop energy efficient micro-processors for high-performance computing, including servers. The Minister added that a Chatbot for fact-checking is also being developed to verify the authenticity of videos and online content.

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The 4th edition of the Autumn Festival, celebrated as a prelude to the 26th Hornbill Festival 2025, concluded yesterday at the Nagaland House, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Road, Delhi. Gracing the event at the closing ceremony, Ambassador of Ireland to India, Kevin Kelly, said the festival showcased the distinct Naga identity with confidence, emphasising that heritage is living, evolving, and shared. Noting that culture is not merely for display but a core aspect of people, he said the strength of a nation lies in its people and diversity. He added that Ireland-India relations are forward-looking, with a focus on trade, education, research, and cultural collaboration, and expressed excitement about visiting Nagaland to experience the Hornbill Festival firsthand.

The two-day festival featured a vibrant display of Naga traditions including war dances, textiles, cuisines, and musical performances by renowned Naga artists.

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Managing Director of TRIFED, M. Rajamurugan undertook a series of official visits and meetings in Nagaland to review and strengthen tribal livelihood and

marketing initiatives. He inspected the Nagaland Honey Bee Mission Warehouse and Lab in Dimapur, reviewing toolkits, machinery, and locally produced honey. At Loyi VDVK in Niuland, he interacted with beneficiaries, reviewed value-added products, and reaffirmed TRIFED's commitment to empowering tribal communities. Meanwhile, Mr Rajamurugan also held separate meetings with Chief Secretary Shri Sentiyanger Imchen, Commissioner & Secretary (Rural Development), K. Thavaseelan, and Secretary, Agriculture Production V. Shashank Shekhar to discuss expanding the reach of Van Dhan Vikas Yojana and strengthening tribal entrepreneurship in Nagaland.

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi will share his thoughts with the people of the country and abroad in the Mann Ki Baat programme on Akashvani, at 11 AM today. It will be the 127th episode of the monthly radio programme. More from our correspondent...

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The GST Bachat Utsav kicked off on 22nd September as the Narendra Modi government slashed GST rates in many sectors, benefitting citizens across the country. Today, our correspondent brings a report on how the new GST rates in the housing sector are helping citizens.

*(VC - The next-generation GST reforms have provided a major boost to the housing and construction sector by making essential materials more affordable. The GST rate on marble and granite blocks has been reduced from 12 per cent to 5 per cent, lowering the finishing and flooring costs. Similarly, the tax rate on cement has been cut from 28 per cent to 18 per cent. Furthermore, GST on sand lime bricks have also been slashed to 5 percent from the previous 12 percent tax. These reforms are not only making housing and infrastructure development more affordable but also promoting sustainable practices in the construction sector.)*

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YouthNet has invited technology-based startups from Nagaland to apply for funding under the MeitY GENESIS Programme, a flagship initiative of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY). The MeitY GENESIS-Matching Investment Funding Scheme, offers equity-based support up to 50 lakhs rupees on a 1 is to 1 matching basis. The scheme targets scalable ventures in sectors such as artificial intelligence, deep tech, cybersecurity, Internet of Things, blockchain, fintech, ed-tech, and health-tech. Further, under the MeitY GENESIS-Pilot Funding Scheme, startups can access up to 40 lakhs rupees for testing, validating, and deploying market-ready solutions. YouthNet Incubation Centre is the only implementing partner in Nagaland for the programme. Applications for both schemes are open until October 31.

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