

Morning News script

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Chief Minister of Nagaland, Neiphiu Rio, affirmed that the state's pride in its rich heritage of faith, is deeply rooted in homes, communities, and institutions. Speaking at the India Mission Summit 2025 yesterday at Dimapur Ao Baptist Arogo, he emphasized the vital role of churches in shaping societal values and identity. Mr Rio acknowledged the Naga people's journey of struggle and sacrifice, sustained by prayer, fellowship, and unity. He noted that the people are mindful of living in a time of extraordinary transformation in the global Christian movement. Despite social challenges and incidents targeting places of worship, Mr. Rio praised the Church's ongoing role in education, healthcare, and promoting peace. Calling the India Mission Summit a meaningful opportunity for prayer, reflection, and shared purpose, the Chief Minister emphasized that it is a time for all to listen, learn from one another, and renewed commitment to spreading the Gospel's message of hope and reconciliation. Mr. Rio said Nagaland is honoured to contribute to the global Church's mission. Reaffirming Nagaland's dedication to being a beacon of faith within India and the global Church, the Chief Minister expressed hope that young people inspired by such events will courageously carry forward this legacy as ambassadors of Christ.

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Union Minister for Electronics and Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnaw yesterday inaugurated National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT) Digital University (NDU) Platform in New Delhi. The platform is designed to democratize access to high-quality digital education. The Minister also virtually inaugurated other five NIELIT Centres at Muzaffarpur in Bihar , Balasore in Odisha, Tirupati in Andhra Pradesh, Lunglei in Mizoram and Daman. Talking to media after the launch, the Minister informed that NIELET will work towards providing education that is needed for the students digitally as per industry needs. He added that the university will offer industry-oriented courses. Mr Vaishnaw also highlighted how NIELIT Digital University fulfils Prime Minister Narendra Modi's resolution of providing technical education to remote areas including Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities.

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Under the Next Generation GST reforms, the Government has announced major relief for stationery items. Students and retailers are benefiting under the latest GST reforms. The GST on pencils has been reduced from 12 percent to nil. Notebooks and copies, including exercise books, graph books, and laboratory notebooks, are now completely tax-free, down from 12 percent. Erasers have also become GST-free, with the rate reduced from 5 percent to nil. Pencil sharpeners now attract no GST, reduced from 12 percent. Additionally, Geometry boxes and

mathematical instrument sets, which earlier had a 12 percent GST, will now attract only 5 percent.



The Ministry of Ayush has conferred the National Dhanwantari Ayurveda Awards 2025 to Prof. Banwari Lal Gaur, Vaidya Neelakandhan Mooss E.T. and Vaidya Bhavana Prasher, recognising their outstanding contributions to the field of Ayurveda across academic, traditional, and scientific domains. In a statement, the Ministry of Ayush said that these awards celebrate individuals who have made impactful contributions to the promotion, preservation, and advancement of Ayurveda.

The first Public Health Engineering Department Sports Meet 2025 kicked off yesterday at Arena 365 Kacharigaon in Dimapur. Organised by Association of Public Health Engineers, the meet was inaugurated by Minister for PHED and Cooperation, Jacob Zhimomi. Speaking at the occasion, Mr Zhimomi lauded all the athletes for displaying true sportsmanship by participating at the department's call. He expressed hope that this initiative would be emulated by other departments across the state. Mr Zhimomi emphasized that such initiatives can help promote sports as a promising profession.

PHED BYTE-

A total of 70 teams from various districts are participating in four events: futsal, badminton, carrom, and tug of war.