

0730 hrs

25th December 2025

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Christmas is being celebrated across the globe today. Christians all over the world celebrate Christmas to mark the birth of Jesus Christ. On the occasion, people decorate their houses by putting a Christmas tree, illuminated paper star, Holly wreaths and exchange gifts. Churches of all denominations are organising special Christmas services and events. Nagaland too, is celebrating Christmas with deep religious reverence and festive spirit.

Governor of Nagaland Ajay Kumar Bhalla and Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio have extended Christmas Greetings to the people of the State. Akashvani News Kohima also wishes all our listeners a Joyous Merry Christmas.

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President Droupadi Murmu has extended greetings to the people on the occasion of Christmas. In a message, the President said Christmas is the festival of joy and enthusiasm which conveys the message of love and compassion. She said it reminds everyone of the sacrifice made by Lord Jesus Christ for the welfare of humanity. President Murmu added that the occasion inspires people to further strengthen the values of peace, harmony, equality, and service in the society.

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Lucknow, today on the occasion of 101st birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Bharat Ratna Atal Bihari Vajpayee. At around 2:30 PM, the Prime Minister will inaugurate Rashtra Prerna Sthal and also address a public gathering on the occasion.

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Two-time Olympic medallist and Indian men's hockey team vice-captain Hardik Singh has been nominated for the prestigious Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna. The nominations for the National Sports Awards 2025 were finalised, by the selection panel comprising of Indian Olympic Association vice-president Gagan Narang, former Hockey player MM Somaya and former badminton player Aparna Popat. The selection panel also recommended 24 athletes for the Arjuna Award, including yogasana athlete Aarti Pal. Rifle shooter Mehuli Ghosh, gymnast Pranati Nayak and India's top-ranked women's badminton pair of Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand are also among the recommendations. The Khel Ratna is India's highest sporting honour given annually by Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. Nominated sportspersons receive their awards from the President.

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The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship has invited industry leaders to participate in the PM-SETU scheme, marking a shift towards an industry-led model of vocational training. This initiative represents a significant change in how vocational training works, moving from government-led policy to

a model where the industry takes the lead in managing and executing training. The Ministry has released an Expression of Interest (EOI) to find Anchor Industry Partners for the upgradation of National Skill Training Institutes. States and UTs have also started releasing EOIs to identify partners who will help transform select Industrial Training Institutes. So far, Karnataka, Gujarat, Assam, and Chandigarh have released the EOI. The PM-SETU scheme was approved by the Union Cabinet in May this year with an outlay of 60 thousand crore rupees.

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