

Morning News Script

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22nd December 2025

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President Droupadi Murmu has given assent to the Viksit Bharat-Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) (Viksit Bharat-G RAM G) Bill, 2025. The Parliament had passed the legislation during the recently concluded winter session. We have a report-

The Act seeks to establish a rural development framework aligned with the national vision of Viksit Bharat @ 2047. A statutory guarantee of 125 days of wage employment will be provided in every financial year to every rural household whose adult members volunteer to undertake unskilled manual work. This is a significant push, up from the 100 days period under the previous scheme. The fund-sharing pattern between the Central and State governments will be 60:40 for all states, except the North-Eastern and Himalayan states, where the sharing arrangement will be 90:10. Union Rural Development Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has termed the Act as the next step forward for MGNREGA, which is in favour of development and the poor. In a video message yesterday, the Minister informed that more than 1 lakh 51 thousand crore rupees have been proposed for it. The Act replaces the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), 2005.

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The Eastern Nagaland People's Organisation (ENPO) recently held a series of meetings with the Ministry of Home Affairs in New Delhi to discuss issues related to the Frontier Nagaland Territory (FNT). A bilateral meeting with the MHA team led by Advisor (North East) A.K. Mishra was held on December 18, followed by a high-level tripartite meeting on December 19 involving the Government of India, Government of Nagaland and ENPO, chaired by Union Home Secretary S. Govind Mohan. The state delegation was led by Chief Secretary Sentiyaner Imchen. The ENPO delegation, along with Rajya Sabha MP S. Phangnon Konyak, also called on Union Home Minister Amit Shah, extending Christmas greetings and thanked him for his seriousness and commitment on FNT.

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The ICAR-National Research Centre on Mithun at Medziphema has registered Nagami as the world's first recognised Mithun breed with the ICAR-National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources, Karnal. In a press release, the Centre said the registration is the result of years of scientific research and documentation carried out under the leadership of its Director, Dr Girish S. Patil. The breed characterisation studies were led by Scientist Dr Harshit Kumar. Mithun, the state animal of Nagaland, holds immense socio-cultural and economic importance for tribal communities. However, despite its importance, Mithun populations had largely remained uncharacterised at the breed level, limiting scientific conservation efforts, genetic improvement programmes, and targeted policy support. Recognising this critical gap, the ICAR-NRCM initiated comprehensive breed characterisation studies, leading to the establishment of a clear and scientifically validated identity for Mithun populations in Nagaland.

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Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri has asserted that recently notified Petroleum and Natural Gas Rules 2025 will introduce a paradigm shift in India's quest to strengthen and boost domestic production of hydrocarbons. Sharing a news article in a social media post, the Minister said, the new rules provide a momentum towards achieving India's energy security. He said, the new rules put a time limit on approvals. Any application for a petroleum lease now has to be decided within 180 days renewable energy projects.

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The Government e-Marketplace (GeM) has recorded over 11 lakh registered Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) sellers on its platform, securing orders of more than seven lakh crore rupees, as of last month. The Ministry of Commerce and Industry has said, these orders accounted for more than 44 per cent of the total order value transacted through GeM, exceeding the mandated annual procurement target of 25 per cent.

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National Mathematics Day is being observed today to commemorate the birth anniversary of Srinivasa Ramanujan, one of India's most influential and globally recognised mathematicians. The observance was formally instituted by the Government of India in December 2011, and December 22 was designated as National Mathematics Day in recognition of Ramanujan's extraordinary contributions to the discipline.

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And, Mizoram's Jeho Himnakulhpuingheta clinched his fourth men's singles title at the 5th Toyota NIAPA Northeast Open Table Tennis Tournament in Chümoukedima, defeating Assam's Agniv Bhaskar Gohain 4–2 in the final yesterday. In the women's singles, Assam's Bhavna Kashyap won her maiden NIAPA title by edging past defending champion Trisha Gogoi 4–3. Jeho also retained the men's doubles title with Alberto LR Ruata, while Shankab Gautam Baruah and Trisha Gogoi of Assam won the mixed doubles. In the Best Duo of Nagaland category, Kanishk Jain and Hekito Sema finished first. In the Under-21 events, Bhavna Kashyap won the girls' singles, and Khelendrajit Yengkhom of Manipur claimed the boys' title.

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