

THE HEADLINES:

1. Christmas celebrated across the world with joy and reflection; Prime Minister Modi hopes festival inspires hope and kindness
2. Nagaland observes Christmas with religious fervour and festive spirit
3. Prime Minister Narendra Modi says saturation of government schemes is motto of the government
4. Nation remembers former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee on 101st birth anniversary, marked as Good Governance Day



Christmas was celebrated today across the world, with millions marking the birth of Jesus Christ through prayers, church services, and family gatherings. Christian communities globally marked the festival in a spirit of peace, goodwill, and reflection. Nagaland also joined in the celebrations with religious fervour. Special Christmas services and community events were held across the state as hymns and carols resonated in neighbourhoods, adding to the festive atmosphere. We have a report...

In Nagaland, Christmas was observed by deep religious devotion as people flocked to churches to commemorate the birth of Jesus Christ. Congregations gathered across the state for community worship and prayer. Worshippers exchanged Christmas greetings, sang hymns of praise, and offered prayers seeking peace, harmony, and blessings. Several churches organized traditional community meals, while some expressed goodwill by visiting the needy and distributing gifts, reflecting the spirit of Christmas. Family gatherings and special Christmas feasts are also being held through the evening.

Christmas celebrations will continue into the night, reflecting the festival's enduring message of unity, compassion and hope.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi has greeted people on the occasion of Christmas. In a social media post, Mr Modi wished everyone a joyous Christmas filled with peace, compassion and hope. He hoped that the teachings of Jesus Christ will strengthen harmony in the society. The Prime Minister attended the Christmas morning service at the Cathedral Church of the

Redemption in Delhi today. Mr Modi wished that Christmas bring renewed hope, warmth and a shared commitment to kindness.



Nation pays homage to former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee on his 101st birth anniversary today. Marking the occasion, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated Rashtra Prerna Sthal in Lucknow, which is constructed to honour the legacy of luminaries of independent India. Addressing a public rally, he said, his government is working hard for the betterment of all citizens and giving them all benefits of schemes without any discrimination, which is true governance and true secularism. Mr Modi said that saturation of government schemes is motto of his government.

Remembering Bharat Ratna Vajpayee, Mr Modi said his initiatives changed the development scenario of the country.



Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pension Dr Jitendra Singh said that good governance is not an abstract ideal but a daily administrative responsibility rooted in transparency, accountability and citizen-centric delivery. Addressing the National Workshop on good governance practices held on the occasion of Good Governance Day in New Delhi, the Minister emphasized that collaborative efforts across ministries and departments have strengthened administrative efficiency and enhanced social welfare outcomes.

During the event, Dr Singh launched five digital initiatives to further reinforce transparent, citizen-centric administration. These include Compendium of Guidelines on Reservation for Ex-Servicemen in Central Government, AI Recruitment Tool, Karmayogi Digital Learning Lab 2.0, among others.



The Centre has issued directions to the States for a complete ban on the grant of any new mining leases in the Aravallis in a major step towards conservation and protection of the entire Aravalli Range stretching from Delhi to Gujarat from illegal mining. Environment, Forest and Climate Change Ministry said in a statement that this prohibition applies uniformly across the entire Aravalli landscape and is intended to preserve the integrity of the range. The directions are aimed at safeguarding the Aravallis as a continuous geological ridge extending from Gujarat to the National Capital Region, and at stopping all unregulated mining activities. In an exclusive interview with the Akashvani

News, Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Bhupender Yadav said, the Modi government is fully committed to the conservation of the Aravalli range.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said Sansad Khel Mahotsav has evolved into a people's movement, drawing participation from diverse sections of society. Addressing Sansad Khel Mahotsav through video conferencing today, he said, it is providing the country with thousands of talented athletes.

Mr Modi said, the sports festival is becoming a strong pillar with the mantra of nation-building through youth development. He said, beyond winning and losing, the sportsmanship and spirit of fair play that athletes learn contribute to the development of capable and disciplined youth. Highlighting that in 2030, India will host the Commonwealth Games in Ahmedabad, the Prime Minister added, India is also trying for the opportunity to host the 2036 Olympics.



In cricket, Nagaland went down to Manipur in the final of the Under-19 Cooch Behar Trophy Plate tournament, played at the Sovima Cricket Ground in Chumoukedima. Nagaland won the toss and elected to bat, but were bowled out for 129 runs in the first innings, and managed 115 in the second. Manipur responded with 170 in their first innings and later reached 77 for three wickets in the second to seal the victory. For Nagaland, Yashimeren Jamir put up a remarkable performance, collecting nine wickets in Manipur's first innings.



In weather... The Northeast region is expected to experience continued dense fog till the end of the year. India Meteorological Department said, dense fog conditions is very likely during night and morning hours in isolated parts of Nagaland and its neighbouring states until 30th of December. Today, Kohima recorded a minimum of 7 degrees Celsius and a maximum of 17 degrees Celsius, with mainly clear skies.

