

Evening News Script

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THE HEADLINES :-

- Vice President CP Radhakrishnan emphasizes critical role of youth in building Viksit Bharat
- Nagaland achieves highest GST growth in India
- External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar says India has right to defend itself from terrorism
- And, Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh says India's reform journey is being driven by technology

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Vice President CP Radhakrishnan said that India will become a developed nation well before 2047. Delivering a convocation address at Dr MGR Educational and Research Institute University in Chennai today, he said India will soon become third largest economy in the world. Highlighting the vital role of youth in building Viksit Bharat at 2047, he stressed upon continuous learning, ethical values, and adaptability in the age of AI and emerging technologies. He urged graduates to pursue excellence with integrity, resilience, and a spirit of service to the nation. The Vice President awarded degrees to top rank holders in various disciplines.

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Nagaland has reported the highest GST growth among all states in the country, with a 37 percent increase in collections for the period from April to December 2025, compared to the previous year. According to official data, the state's total GST collection reached 627 crore rupees during the period. This includes 234 crore rupees in Central GST, 293 crore rupees in State GST, and 100 crore rupees in Integrated GST. Meanwhile, the Central GST Commissionerate Dimapur highlighted that, as a consumer state with a limited industrial base, the destination-based nature of GST has redirected more tax revenue to Nagaland, enhancing its fiscal strength. It said, efforts to educate the business community

about timely and ethical tax practices, along with enhanced enforcement measures have helped boost GST compliance in the state.

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External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar today said that India will exercise the right to defend itself from terrorism and that no one can dictate how India exercises its defence. Speaking at the inauguration of Shaastra 2026- IIT Madras Techno-Entertainment fest at Chennai, he said that India will do whatever is required to defend itself. The External Affairs Minister outlined India's neighbourhood policy, stressing that New Delhi has the right to defend itself against terrorism from hostile neighbours.

Mr Jaishankar said persistent cross-border terrorism undermines goodwill and nullifies benefits, as cooperation cannot coexist with violence. Explaining India's broader outlook, he said Indian foreign policy views the world as a family and focuses on problem-solving through national strengths and partnerships.

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Science and Technology Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh has said that India's reform journey is being driven by technology. Addressing the year end achievement of his Ministry in New Delhi today, he emphasized that the government has given a high priority on science and technology since 2014. Dr. Singh highlighted that the country's future growth will be driven by technology and innovation. He also noted that, for the first time, any government has come forward with an initiative to support the private sector.

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In a joint operation, the Sivasagar Forest Range team and the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau successfully apprehended an individual near Amguri Bagan in Assam, with two leopard skins and a large haul of suspected leopard bones. Sharing the news on X, Assam Forest Rangers' Association said the wildlife contraband was being transported from Tuli in Mokokchung, Nagaland.

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The Centre has approved 22 new proposals under the third tranche of the Electronics Components Manufacturing Scheme, involving a projected investment of 41 thousand 863 crore rupees. These approvals cover the manufacturing of 11 target-segment products, including mobile manufacturing, telecom, consumer electronics, strategic electronics, automotive, and IT hardware. These projects are expected to generate production worth two lakh 58 thousand crore rupees and create around 34 thousand direct jobs. Speaking on the occasion, Electronics and IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said, the implementation of major reforms and the acceleration of execution are key hallmarks of the Modi government.

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The Government has refuted a post claiming that the Income Tax Department tracks individuals' personal digital activity, online spending, or lifestyle. The Fact Check Unit of the Press Information Bureau stated that there is no mechanism created by the Income Tax Department to monitor an individual's online activity. It clarified that such claims are false and misleading. The Government urged citizens to be cautioned of such misinformation and to verify facts before trusting them. Separately, the government also debunked a social media account claiming that the Reserve Bank of India will discontinue the circulation of five hundred rupees notes by March this year. The fact check unit said no such announcement was made by RBI, and that five hundred rupee notes is still legal tender.

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For the first time, Indian Army's animal contingent will march on Kartavya Path in the national capital during Republic Day Parade 2026. It will showcase the vital role animals play in military operations across some of the country's most challenging terrains. The contingent will feature two Bactrian camels, four Zanskar ponies, four raptors, 10 Indian-breed Army dogs, along with six conventional military dogs currently in service. The Indian Army said the specially curated animal contingent of the Remount and Veterinary Corps will highlight the contribution of animals in safeguarding the nation's frontiers.

Leading the column will be Bactrian camels, recently inducted for operations in the cold deserts of Ladakh.

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And in weather... India Meteorological Department has forecast a spell of dense to very dense fog over several regions across India until the morning hours tomorrow.

For Nagaland, a fog warning has been issued for the next two days. The state will experience mostly dry weather over the next five days, with likelihood of rainfall in isolated areas in Kohima and Peren tomorrow. During the period, temperatures in Kohima are likely to range from 4 to 17 degree Celsius, while Dimapur may see temperatures between 10 and 28 degree Celsius. Tuensang is likely to experience the coldest temperatures, dropping as low as 2 degree Celsius.

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