

Evening News Script

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:::THE HEADLINES:::

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi reiterates India's firm stand on terrorism, with no double standards and compromise.
- Nagaland statesman Dr. S.C. Jamir engages delegation from Ladakh and Kerala on leadership and value of service to nation.
- Unique Identification Authority of India completes mandatory biometric updates for over one crore school students
- and, Central Board of Direct Taxes invites suggestions from stakeholders on proposed Income-tax Rules and Forms related to Income Tax Act, 2025.

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi has reiterated India's firm stand on terrorism, asserting that there can be no double standards and compromise on the issue. Mr Modi made the remarks in a joint press meeting after wide-ranging talks with his Malaysian counterpart Anwar Ibrahim in Kuala Lumpur today.

Mr Modi highlighted that India and Malaysia will expand cooperation in counter-terrorism, intelligence sharing, maritime security, and defence.

The Prime Minister said India and Malaysia share a special bond as maritime neighbours and highlighted the strong people-to-people links and the presence of the Indian diaspora in Malaysia. He stressed, Indo-Pacific region is emerging as an engine of growth. The Prime Minister said, two countries are committed to development and peace and stability in the entire region along with ASEAN.

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A forty four member delegation from Ladakh and Kerala, comprising students, teachers-in-charge and faculty members of Nagaland University, Medziphema Campus, interacted with veteran Nagaland statesman and Padma Bhushan awardee Dr. S.C. Jamir yesterday. During the interaction, Dr. Jamir shared insights on leadership, emphasizing honesty, vision, commitment and the importance of thinking beyond regional boundaries. He urged students to become global citizens, reminded them of their role as ambassadors of their states, and stressed dignity, farsightedness and service for the greater good of the nation. He further called on the students to always maintain dignity and expressed his concern over the unruly behavior in parliament.

The interaction was held as part of the Ashtalakshmi Darshan Youth Exchange Programme, an initiative of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region and the North Eastern Council, aimed at promoting Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat.

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Over one crore mandatory biometric updates (MBUs) for school-children have been completed by Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI). Ministry of Electronics and IT said, UIDAI Regional Offices and education departments of states, worked in mission mode to hold MBU camps in 83 thousand schools in just five months. In order to incentivise children to complete MBU and to make the service accessible to all, UIDAI had waived off the charges in the age group of 7 to 15 years, from 1st October 2025 to 30 September this year.

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Central Board of Direct Taxes has invited suggestions from stakeholders on proposed Income-tax Rules and Forms related to the Income Tax Act, 2025. The Income-tax Act, which received the assent of the President in August last year, will come into force from the 1st of April this year. The Ministry of Finance informed that ahead of the final notification, the proposed Income Tax Rules and Forms have been uploaded on the official website at incometaxindia.gov.in. Inputs have been sought on simplification of language, reduction of litigation, lowering of compliance burden, and identification of redundant or obsolete rules and forms.

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Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan today rejected the Congress criticism of the India-U.S. trade deal, saying the agreement fully protects agriculture and farmers' interests, with key farm products kept out. Addressing a press conference in Bhopal, Mr. Chouhan said no product harmful to Indian farmers has been included and asserted that national and farmers' interests remain paramount. He accused the Congress, which ruled for years, of failing to link farmers to global markets or ensure economic stability. The Union Minister said India would not allow genetically modified products and that no tariff concessions were given on a wide range of farm goods, including meat, dairy, grains, oilseeds, fruits, vegetables, spices and processed foods. The Congress has claimed that the agreement benefits the U.S., and it could turn India into a dumping ground for American goods.

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Union Minister of State for AYUSH, Prataprao Jadhav, today inaugurated an AYUSH and CGHS Wellness Centre in Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar. Speaking after the inauguration, the Minister said, Central Government is taking strong steps to improve healthcare services. He said, the Centre will provide Ayurveda and other traditional systems of medicine under the Central Government Health Scheme, offering preventive and holistic healthcare alongside allopathic treatment.

He said AYUSH services were added under CGHS to address rising lifestyle-related illnesses such as diabetes, high blood pressure and stress, and to promote long-term health and immunity. Mr Jadhav added that the government is focusing on preventive healthcare and plans to expand AYUSH and CGHS facilities in both urban and rural areas, benefiting central government employees, pensioners and their families.

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Government has debunked a video circulating on social media claiming that the India-US trade agreement will harm Indian farmers. The Fact Check Unit of the Press Information Bureau (PIB) informed that the claim is misleading. The Unit added that the AI-generated video is being circulated with the intent to spread confusion. The Government further said that no compromise has been made on the country's agriculture and dairy sectors, in the India-US trade agreement. It also highlighted that all major crops, major grains, fruits, and dairy products are protected, and no market has been opened in any sector that could harm the farmers. PIB has urged the citizens to always rely on official sources for accurate information.

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Deputy Commissioner, Kohima, B. Henok Buchem, has notified that all coaching centres in Kohima District must apply for registration by 10 February 2026, following the constitution of the District Level Committee for Registration and Regulation of Coaching Centres. Application forms are available at the Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Kohima. According to the guidelines, any centre providing tuition or guidance to more than 20 students for academic programmes or competitive exams must register. In case of coaching centres having multiple branches, each branch shall be treated as a separate coaching centre, and a separate application must be submitted for the registration of each branch.

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Speaker of the Nagaland Legislative Assembly and Chairperson of the Business Advisory Committee (BAC), Sharingain Longkumer, will convene a BAC meeting on 20 February at 12:00 PM in the C. Chongshen Committee Room, Assembly Secretariat. The meeting will finalize the provisional programme for the Eighth Session of the 14th Nagaland Legislative Assembly, scheduled to begin on 2 March.

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