

## Morning News Script

0730 hrs

2<sup>nd</sup> February 2026

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said that the Union Budget is human-centric and strengthens India's foundation with path-breaking reforms. Prime Minister also described it as historic and a catalyst for accelerating the country's reform trajectory and long-term growth. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman presented the 'Union Budget 2026-27' in Parliament yesterday. In remarks following the presentation of the Budget, Mr Modi said the proposals will energise the economy, empower citizens and give India's youth fresh opportunities to scale new heights. Calling the government's reform agenda a "Reform Express," Prime Minister said, the reform express that India is riding today will gain new energy and new momentum from this budget.

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Highlighting the country's ambitions on the global stage, Mr Modi said Indians were determined to climb further up the economic ladder. Prime Minister said, 140 crore citizens of India are not satisfied with being the fastest-growing economy and they want to become the world's third-largest economy as soon as possible.

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Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio hailed the Union Budget 2026 for prioritising the Northeast. Taking to social media X, Mr Rio said that Union Budget 2026, brings much-needed focus to the Northeast through investments in connectivity, religious and cultural tourism. Mr Rio said the budget would drive integration, create livelihoods opportunities while harnessing the strength of the region. The Chief Minister also congratulated Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman for a forward-looking budget.

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Both Houses of Parliament are scheduled to take up motion of thanks on the President's address today. Union Minister and BJP MP Sarbananda Sonowal will move the motion in the Lok Sabha and his fellow party MP Tejasvi Surya will second the motion. In the Rajya Sabha, BJP MP C Sadanandan Master will move the motion and his fellow party MP Medha Vishram Kulkarni will second the motion.

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Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio has expressed deep sorrow over the tragic bus accident that occurred between 10 Mile and Peducha in Kohima district on the night of January 31. Extending his heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families, the Chief Minister condoled the untimely demise of members of the Chümoukedima Ao Baptist Church who lost their lives in the incident. Mr. Rio announced an ex-gratia of two lakh rupees each to the families of the deceased. He further declared a financial assistance of 50 thousand rupees each for those seriously injured and conveyed his wishes for their speedy recovery.

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Inspector General Assam Rifles (North), Major General Harinder Singh Mavi, visited the Dimapur Sector recently. The visit focused on evaluating the Force's preparedness in maintaining internal security and stability in the strategically vital Northeast region. Reaffirming the Assam Rifles' commitment to local communities, the Inspector General emphasized fostering mutual trust and collaboration to ensure the success of future operations. Major General Mavi also visited Tening in Peren District. As part of a community outreach initiative, he presented table tennis equipment to students of Heraka School. Additionally, the Inspector General visited the Drone Training Node at Jalukie in Peren District, highlighting Assam Rifles' commitment to emerging technologies and innovation-driven training.

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The North East Leaders Meet for Restoration of the Old Pension Scheme yesterday held at , Guwahati, bringing together service associations and

representatives from various North Eastern states who are actively working towards the restoration of Old Pension System for government employees. The participating associations and leaders resolved to unite as one strong collective voice and to jointly appeal to their respective state governments, as well as the Central Government where applicable, for the immediate restoration of OPS across the entire North East region. To strengthen and coordinate the region-wide movement, a Coordination Committee was constituted under the banner of the North East Govt. Employees Welfare Federation.

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