

Morning News Script

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Union Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw has announced that the general Coaches of trains will now be cleaned at par with first class coach. Addressing a press conference on Railway reforms in New Delhi yesterday, he said that initially 80 long distance trains will be identified within six months for the initiative. He said, dedicated staff will be deployed on these trains to ensure cleaning at intervals of one to one-and-a-half hours. Mr Vaishnaw said the government has decided to bring major reforms in Railways, aiming for 52 reforms in 52 weeks this year.

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The Union Cabinet has approved India's first underwater twin-tube road and rail tunnel beneath the River Brahmaputra. The project involves a four-lane Access-Controlled Greenfield corridor from Gohpur to Numaligarh in Assam. Spanning a total of 34 kilometers, including 15.79 kilometres of Road cum Rail Tunnel under the river, the project will cost over 18,600 crore rupees and is expected to be completed within five years. The corridor will reduce the travel time between the two points from six hours to about 20 minutes. The project aims to strengthen the Northeast as a gateway to the Act East policy, improve border connectivity, trade and tourism. In a social media post, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has hailed the Cabinet decision, saying the project will enhance connectivity, lower logistics costs, and accelerate growth across Assam and the entire Northeast.

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Union Electronics and Information Technology Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said that Artificial Intelligence will power the Fifth Industrial Revolution, with a focus on societal impact, adoption, and governance. Speaking at an event yesterday, Mr Vaishnaw said that India will host one of the world's biggest AI summits this year, signalling the country's rising influence in next-gen technologies.

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Nagaland's Sashimongla Sangtam, founder of A&D Solar Enterprise, has been awarded the 'DRE Woman of the Year' at the India Distributed Renewable Energy Summit 2026 held in New Delhi. The award recognises her work in expanding decentralised renewable energy solutions to support women, persons with disabilities, and vulnerable communities across Nagaland. Through solar dryers, off-grid power systems, and clean energy support for micro-enterprises, A&D Solar has helped grassroots entrepreneurs to increase income, reduce energy costs, and improve productivity.

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Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said that India has increased its commitment to climate action and spending nearly 5.6 per cent of the country's GDP. Participating in a panel discussion on 'Degrees of Instability: Climate Security in a Warming World' in Munich, Germany yesterday, she said India has achieved two-thirds of its nationally determined commitments in the renewable sector.

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The Nagaland State Legal Services Authority will carry out a 90-day intensive mediation drive from next month. The initiative is under the nationwide 'Mediation for the Nation 2.0' campaign launched by the National Legal Services Authority aimed at settling pending cases across taluk, district and high courts. As part of the campaign, District Legal Services Authorities across Nagaland will facilitate mediation of cases including on matrimonial disputes, accident claims, commercial disputes, consumer matters, and other civil disputes.

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In cricket, Nagaland have bowed out of the Senior Women's One-Day Trophy Plate. In their last group match played yesterday in Bhubaneswar, Nagaland went down to Manipur by 76 runs. The Plate final will now be played between Sikkim and Bihar tomorrow.

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