

Evening News Script

1920 hrs

22nd February 2026

::THE HEADLINES::

- 1. Prime Minister Narendra Modi says India-AI Impact summit has become a turning point for the world in utilising power of Artificial Intelligence in the future***
- 2. Union Minister of state Jitendra Singh says right use of AI can add 70,000 Crore rupees to India's agriculture economy***
- 3. 89 countries and international organisations endorse New Delhi Declaration on AI Impact***
- 4. And Nagaland to host first-ever 'North East Festival of Rice: Grains of Heritage'***



Prime Minister Narendra Modi today exuded pride that the India AI Impact Summit has proved to be a turning point in the trajectory of how the world will utilize the power of AI in the future. Addressing the nation in his Mann Ki Baat programme on Akashvani, the Prime Minister highlighted that leaders from many countries, industry leaders, innovators, and people associated with the Start-up sector came together at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi for the AI Impact Summit.

The Prime Minister noted that the world got to see India's amazing capabilities in the field of AI at the Summit. During this period, India also launched three Made in India AI Models. Mr Modi hailed the Summit for being the biggest AI summit ever. He congratulated all the citizens for the success of this Summit.

In this episode, Prime Minister Modi said, a lot of awareness was generated in the society regarding Digital Arrest and Digital Fraud after he spoke about these in Mann Ki Baat. The Prime Minister also exuded pride that farmers in India are now focusing not just on production but also on quality, value addition, and new market. On the topic of Exam Warriors, the Prime Minister hoped that students are wholeheartedly preparing for their exams and not stressing. He reminded them that their worth is not determined by their mark sheet.

<><><><><>

Union Minister of State for Science and Technology, Jitendra Singh, has said that the right use of Artificial Intelligence can help India's agriculture sector contribute up to 70 thousand crore rupees to the economy. He was speaking at the inaugural session of the AI4 Agri 2026 summit in Mumbai today. Dr. Singh noted that nearly 60 crore people across the Global South depend on agriculture and are facing serious challenges such as climate change, environmental degradation and health concerns. He said Artificial Intelligence can play a transformative role by helping farmers achieve higher yields in less time and at lower cost. Dr. Singh urged stakeholders at the summit to work together to position India as a global leader in AI-driven agriculture.

<><><><><>

India and Brazil signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on cooperation in the postal sector, marking a significant step towards strengthening bilateral collaboration in postal services. The MoU was signed by Minister of Communications, Jyotiraditya Scindia, and Minister of Communications of Brazil, Frederico de Siqueira Filho, during his state visit to India. The Ministry of Communications informed that the MoU will remain in force for an initial period of five years, with provision for automatic renewal. The Ministry further said, the partnership will be executed through exchange visits of officials and experts, joint workshops and structured information sharing between the two sides.

<><><><><>

The first-ever 'North East Festival of Rice: Grains of Heritage' will be organized on February 26 and 27 at Agri Expo, Chümoukedima to promote heirloom rice varieties, traditional farming tools, and seed preservation practices from across the region. The festival will bring communities from across Assam, Nagaland, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura, and Sikkim to celebrate rice at the heart of indigenous culture and sustainable living. A craft section will highlight bamboo work, handloom textiles, and artisanal products inspired by agrarian life. The festival marketplace will host farmers and entrepreneurs offering organic produce, rice-based products and handmade goods. The event is being organized by Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage, INTACH, Nagaland Chapter and supported by Department of Agriculture, ICAR NEH Region and NEZCC, Ministry of Culture, Dimapur.

<><><><><>

The New Delhi Declaration on AI Impact, which was adopted in the India AI Impact Summit 2026, has been endorsed by 89 countries and international

organisations. It reflects a broad-based global consensus on leveraging AI for economic growth and social good. These countries include Australia, France, Germany, Switzerland, Brazil, the UAE, Canada, Israel, the UK, China, Japan, the USA, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore and Bangladesh. Guided by the principle of “Sarvajana Hitaya, Sarvajana Sukhaya” the Declaration underscores that the benefits of AI must be equitably shared across humanity.

<><><><><>

Election Commission of India (ECI) will organise National Round Table Conference of ECI and State Election Commissioners (SECs) on Tuesday in New Delhi. In a statement, ECI said, Chief Election Commissioner, Gyanesh Kumar will chair the conference. SECs along with their legal and technical experts and Chief Electoral Officers of all States and Union Territories will participate in the conference. The objective of the Conference is to foster synergies in the functioning of ECI and SECs with respect to electoral processes and logistics within their respective legal frameworks.

<><><><><>

A training programme on establishment of Crop-Based Model for Promotion of Integrated Pest Management Technologies was organized at Rusoma village, Kohima yesterday. Project In-charge, Prof. Bireswar Sinha highlighted the importance of Integrated Disease Management in citrus cultivation and emphasized the need for adopting eco-friendly and sustainable plant protection practices. Project Assistant Bendangsenla Longkumer conducted a practical demonstration on the application of biopesticides in citrus and vegetable crops. Laishram Hemanta elaborated on the importance of proper nutrient

management in citrus and other major crops grown in the village. Herojit Singh highlighted the economic importance of citrus cultivation.

<><><><><>

Art and Culture Department organized a programme on Living Morung and Traditional Knowledge and conducted a workshop on Traditional Methods of Farming and Training on Friday at Shamator Village. Village Council Chairman L Thongsangkiu highlighted the importance of preserving ancestral culture, food habits, and agricultural practices. GB K. Wongtsu narrated a folklore on mystical Tree of Shamator Village, Khupan spoke about Morung and festivals and their significance was presented by Kiutangmong.

<><><><><>

Assam Rifles conducted a Medical Camp for the residents of Zangkham village in Mon District on Friday. The initiative was undertaken to extend dependable healthcare services to people residing in remote and underserved areas. A medical team carried out thorough medical check-ups, provided advice and distributed essential medicines for free of cost. Basic diagnostic support and door-to-door outreach were also arranged for the beneficiaries.

<><><><><>