

Morning News Script

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The Home Department, Government of Nagaland has directed all recognised villages in the state to initiate the selection of new Village Council members as the tenure of the existing councils is set to expire in the coming months. The process is being undertaken in pursuance of the Nagaland Village and Tribal Councils Act, 1978. According to the notification, Deputy Commissioners of the respective districts will issue necessary directives to villages under their jurisdiction for constituting new Village Councils for the tenure 2026 to 2031. The selection will be carried out as per customary practices within 15 days from the date of notification. The process must be completed by 30 April, and the list of newly selected council members is to be submitted to the state government through the the Office of the Commissioner, Nagaland by 5 May for approval.

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Deputy Chief Minister Y Patton has strongly condemned the alleged racial discrimination and assault against two Northeast residents near the Saket District Court Complex in New Delhi on March 8. In a statement, Mr. Patton said he was appalled and disturbed by repeated instances of racial discrimination against people from the Northeast and questioned when people would learn to see each other as Indians first. He said such acts of prejudice go against the values of unity and inclusivity that the country stands for. Mr. Patton called for greater understanding, empathy and respect for all communities, adding that every Indian deserves to be treated with dignity regardless of their background.

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that India's health infrastructure has become stronger in the past few years. Addressing a post-budget webinar on Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas-Fulfilling Aspirations of People yesterday , Mr Modi said that fulfilling the aspirations of the people is not merely a matter of discussion but the very foundation of the Budget and the commitment of the government.

Asserting that India is moving towards an innovation-driven economy, the Prime Minister called upon academic institutions to transform their campuses into hubs of industry collaboration and research-driven learning to provide students with essential real-world exposure.

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External Affairs Minister Dr. S Jaishankar has said that the government is closely monitoring the emerging developments in West Asia and relevant Ministries are coordinating to ensure effective response. Making a statement in Rajya Sabha regarding the situation in West Asia yesterday, Dr Jaishankar said that given the severity of the situation, the government is working to ensure that both the security and safety of the citizens are protected. He said the government believes that dialogue and diplomacy continue to pursue to de-escalate in the region.

The External Affairs Minister said that this ongoing conflict is of particular concern to India as it is a neighbouring region. He made the statement amidst opposition uproar as they were demanding discussion on this issue. Dr Jaishankar made a similar statement in the Rajya Sabha also.

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And, The inaugural Mithun Rhino Pickleball Championship 2026 will be held from March 14 to 15 in Dimapur, featuring teams from Nagaland and Assam. According to the Nagaland Pickleball Association (NPA), Team Nagaland players were selected through recent trials, with a mix of direct entries for previous champions and performance-based selections. The selected players will compete in mixed doubles, singles, doubles and veterans' categories. The NPA said, the championship aims to promote pickleball in the Northeast region, while also strengthening interstate sporting ties and encouraging greater youth participation in the sport.

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