

Evening News Script

1920 hrs

23rd March 2026

<><><><><><>

:: THE HEADLINES ::

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi says no energy crisis In India despite ongoing West Asia conflict
- State Veterinary Department pushes for livestock insurance for farmers
- Six candidates in fray for 28 Koridang Assembly Constituency bye-election
- And, Dimapur-based CSOs to submit representation to Chief Minister on lifting NLTP Act

<><><><><><>

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said there is no energy security crisis in India despite the ongoing West Asia conflict. Making a statement on the ongoing West Asia conflict and explaining India's position on the issue in the Lok Sabha today, he said the supply of petrol and diesel remains smooth across the country. He asserted that India has more than 5.3 million metric tonnes of strategic petroleum reserves. Mr Modi informed the House that the country is also working on arrangements for more than 6.5 million metric tonnes of additional storage.

The Prime Minister said the government is in constant contact with suppliers from different countries and the effort is to ensure that oil and gas supplies continue from the sources wherever possible.



A three-day refresher course on Livestock Insurance, Disease Diagnostic and Postmortem, organised by the Department of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services Nagaland began in Kohima today. In his address, Director Dr Imomanen Tzudir stressed the importance of livestock insurance for farmers in Nagaland. He said, majority of the rural population depends on integrated farming systems, including livestock and poultry, which play a crucial role in maintaining soil fertility and supporting agriculture. Citing the 21st Livestock Census, Dr. Tzudir informed that the state has around 80,000 bovines, 2.7 lakh pigs, and nearly 20 lakh poultry, describing them as "golden assets" for marginal farmers. He warned that climate change, natural disasters, and disease outbreaks pose serious risks, leading to potential economic losses. Dr. Tzudir stressed the need to educate and encourage farmers to protect their livestock through insurance schemes offered by the government, ensuring financial protection against unforeseen losses. Sharing his experience on how livestock insurance has sustained his farm business, entrepreneur Penyüsielie Suokhrie highlighted that after insuring his cattle through the National Livestock Development Board in 2015, he was able to recover losses from two accidental deaths, receiving 50,000 rupees for each claim and quickly replacing the animals.



Secretary to the Government of Nagaland, Department of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services, Angelina Tajen today underscored livestock insurance as a vital safeguard for farmers' livelihoods in the state. Speaking at the inaugural programme of a refresher course on Livestock Insurance, Disease Diagnostic and Postmortem in Kohima, she noted that livestock rearing is deeply embedded in the socio-economic fabric of Nagaland, with nearly 70 percent of households raising one or more livestock species. Ms. Tajen said that during 2024–25, Nagaland recorded meat production of 24.42 metric tons, milk production of 52.79 metric tons, and egg production of 443.38 lakh units. Despite this, the state continues to face a gap between demand and production. The Secretary emphasized that the National Livestock Mission aims not only to boost production but also promote entrepreneurship, strengthen value chains, and

reduce risks through livestock insurance. Ms. Tajen pointed out that disease outbreaks remain a major concern, with thousands of animals affected annually. The Secretary also highlighted key challenges in implementation, particularly in remote areas.

Ms. Tajen suggested adopting flexible claim verification methods such as geo-tagged photos and videos, cluster-based systems, and certification by field veterinary staff.

<><><><><><>

The filing of nomination papers for the 28 Koridang Assembly Constituency bye-election in Mokochung concluded today with six candidates in the fray. BJP candidate Daochier I. Imchen had filed his nomination on Friday, while four other candidates, namely T. Chalokumba Ao of Congress, I. Abenjang of NPP, and Independent candidates Imtiwapang, Major (Retd.) Toshi and Imchatoba, submitted their papers today. Scrutiny will be held tomorrow, and withdrawal of nominations are allowed until March 26. Polling for the bye-election is scheduled for April 9, with counting of votes on May 4.

<><><><><><>

Dimapur-based civil society organizations advocating for the lifting of the Nagaland Liquor Total Prohibition (NLTP) Act, has resolved to submit a representation to the Nagaland Chief Minister later this month. The decision was taken during a joint consultative meeting today. Speaking to media persons after the meeting, Committee for Repeal of NLTP Act, Secretary Dr. Kahuka Sema informed that the house resolved to meet the Chief Minister and submit the representation.

Mr Sema said while government action may be challenging, the committee remains confident that the Act's repeal is justified.

<><><><><><>

Commissioner, Nagaland, Gregory Thejawelie, has emphasized that effective governance depends on strong district-level performance. Addressing a reception programme in his honour at Deputy Commissioner Office Kohima on 20th March, he urged officials to work with dedication, coordination, and innovation. Highlighting the importance of the DC office in public service delivery, he called for greater efficiency, citizen-friendly systems, and enhanced focus on digitization and infrastructure, while acknowledging existing constraints such as limited space. Mr.Thejawelie expressed confidence that the administration would continue to improve through teamwork and commitment. Following the programme, Mr. Thejawelie, unveiled the commemorative plaque of the advanced furnishing of the DC Office, Kohima.

<><><><><><>

Kohima district administration has imposed temporary night traffic restrictions from Razhü Point Junction to Phoolbari Junction via IGAR (North), D-Block for road maintenance work. Deputy Commissioner, B. Henok Buchem, informed that all traffic movement and roadside parking will be restricted from 9:00 PM to 5:00 AM, starting tomorrow till 26th of March. North-bound traffic will follow the normal NST route, while South-bound traffic will be diverted via Khuochiezie Local Ground by-pass road. Authorities have requested public cooperation during the period.

<><><><><><>