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:: THE HEADLINES ::

- Vice President CP Radhakrishnan says nation's strength lies in knowledge and skills
- Government doubles allocation of 5KG LPG cylinders for migrant labourers
- Governor Nand Kishore Yadav emphasizes healthy citizens as key to an empowered nation
- Congress calls for peaceful and fair voting in Koridang bye-election; condemns pre-poll violence

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Vice President CP Radhakrishnan today said that the true strength of a nation lies in the knowledge, values and capabilities of its people. He said institutions like IGNOU are playing a key role in strengthening the national skills ecosystem through their regional centres by providing vocational certification and skill training. The Vice President added that such efforts will help India achieve the goal of becoming a Viksit Bharat by 2047. Addressing the 39th Convocation Ceremony of IGNOU held in New Delhi, Mr Radhakrishnan said the Indira Gandhi National Open University- IGNOU has made the country proud by connecting the entire nation through accessible education and transforming the learning landscape.

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Director General of Police, Nagaland, Rupin Sharma, today stressed the importance of continuous learning. Addressing the 39th Convocation of IGNOU Regional Centre Kohima, he said a degree is only an opportunity and not the end of education.

The DGP said that learning can take many forms, including formal education, practical experience, and exposure to diverse environments. He encouraged graduates to maintain an unending quest for knowledge, noting that this pursuit distinguishes individuals and sets humankind apart. Commending IGNOU for its inclusive approach, he lauded the institution for providing opportunities to individuals seeking to enhance their learning, particularly those who may not have access to conventional education systems. Mr. Sharma also highlighted the role of IGNOU in bridging educational gaps, especially for the less privileged. A total of

801 eligible candidates were conferred degrees across various programmes, including postgraduate, undergraduate, diploma, and certificate courses, at the Convocation in Kohima.

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The government has decided to double the daily allocation of five kilogram free trade LPG cylinders available for distribution to migrant labourers across states. Secretary of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas Dr Neeraj Mittal has written a letter to Chief Secretaries of all States and Union Territories in this regard. He said, these five kilogram LPG cylinders will be made available to State Governments and their Food and Civil Supplies Departments for supplying only to migrant laborers in their State, with the support of Oil Marketing Companies.

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Nagaland Governor Nand Kishore Yadav has emphasised that healthy citizens form the foundation of an empowered nation. Extending his wishes on the occasion of 'World Health Day' in a social media post today, Mr Yadav prayed for good health and well being for all.

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Director General of Assam Rifles, Lieutenant General Vikas Lakhera, today called on Nagaland Governor Nand Kishore Yadav, at Lok Bhavan in Kohima. The leaders discussed matters relating to security and development in Nagaland. Governor Yadav appreciated the vital role of Assam Rifles in maintaining peace and stability in the region. Meanwhile, Lieutenant General Lakhera also met with Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio, where they highlighted the crucial role played by Assam Rifles in maintaining peace, security and stability in the region. The meeting also reinforced the spirit of cooperation and coordination between the state administration and the paramilitary force.

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The Congress Party has appealed for peaceful, free and fair voting in the upcoming bye-election to the Koridang Assembly Constituency in Mokokchung district. Addressing a press conference in Kohima today, senior party leaders including Lok Sabha MP and AICC incharge of Nagaland Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka and NPCC Vice President Captain GK Zhimomi, condemned the recent incidents of violence ahead of the polls, and urged voters to participate without fear.

On another issue, the Congress alleged that recent amendments to the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act were restrictive, and would adversely affect civil

society groups and minority institutions by limiting access to funding and curbing their functioning.

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Marking a significant boost to transport-related public infrastructure in Dimapur, the newly constructed District Transport Office Complex at Model Colony, Purana Bazaar, was formally inaugurated today by Advisor for Transport, Temjenmenba. Addressing the gathering, the Advisor said the Transport Department plays a crucial role in both the economy and public administration. Emphasizing that Transport is the second-highest revenue-generating department in Nagaland, Mr Temjenmenba expressed optimism that the new office would emerge as a 'centre of excellence', further enhancing revenue generation.

Speaking on the occasion, Commissioner & Secretary, Transport, Robert Longchari, described the inauguration as a moment of great pride and gratitude, marking the beginning of a renewed commitment to serve the people with greater efficiency, transparency, and responsibility. Executive Engineer, NST, Renben Kikon, highlighted that the project was completed at a sanctioned cost of nearly 500 lakh rupees on an area of 19,200 square feet. The project was sanctioned during the financial year 2022–23.

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MLA Y. Mhonbemo Humtsoe today underscored the need to focus on skill-based livelihoods, amid the saturation of government jobs. Addressing the valedictory programme of the seven-day basic steel fabrication training in Wokha Village, he called for teamwork, innovation and starting small to achieve sustainable growth. The training was organized by the Department of Employment, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship under the “PACES – Providing Access to Core Employability Skills” initiative with Zynorique Initiative Society as training partner. A total of 25 trainees from Humtso, Elumyo and Wokha Village participated in the training. The programme concluded with the distribution of tools and certificates.

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And in weather, India Meteorological Department has forecast widespread rainfall activity over the Northeastern states, including Nagaland, for the next three days. The department said the showers are likely to be accompanied by gusty winds.

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