## Morning News Script

0730 hrs

25<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

Bharat Biotech International Ltd said it started clinical trials of the Tuberculosis vaccine MTBVAC on adults in India. This is the first vaccine against Tuberculosis derived from a human source by the Spanish bio-pharmaceutical company, Biofabri. The trials are carried out by Bharat Biotech in close collaboration with Biofabri, the company said. After completing a dose escalation trial in HIV uninfected adults, a Phase2 study in HIV-infected adults has started in 2024 to determine whether MTBVAC is safe in this population. The companies hope that the new vaccine will be a milestone in global vaccinology and called it an example of public-private, national and international collaboration.

Nine villages in Wokha namely Longsachung, Okhyeyan, Theneyan, Koio, Rusanphen, Seluku, Sankiton, Bhandari, and Mekirang have been honoured with the TB Free Award, along with Lab Technician Supervisor Myingthunglo. The awarded was given on the occasion of the World TB Day held at Longsa Village yesterday. ADC Wokha, K. Furhesie Nyuwi stressed the importance of collective action in combating TB, emphasizing inclusive coordination and cooperation. Nyuwi urged Wokha citizens to combat TB stigma by encouraging symptomatic individuals to seek treatment, emphasizing personal responsibility in testing and medication adherence. DTO, District TB Centre Wokha Dr. Akum Jamir maintained that Wokha is one of the best performing district in state. Dr Jamir urged the citizens to get tested if in doubt and make India TB free by 2025.

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The festival of colours, Holi is being celebrated throughout the country today. The festival signifies the victory of good over evil and celebrates the arrival of the Spring season. On this day, people apply colours on one another, exchange greetings, savour sweets, and seek the blessings of elders. President Droupadi Murmu, Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar and Prime Minister Narendra Modi have greeted the people on the occasion. Governor of Nagaland La Ganesan and Chief Minister

Neiphiu Rio also extended greetings and best wishes on the occasion of Holi.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh lauded the valour, determination and sacrifices of the Armed Forces for protecting the nation in harsh terrain and inclement weather. Addressing the soldiers in Leh after celebrating Holi with them yesterday, Singh said, the positive commitment of the soldiers posted in high altitudes is much stronger than minus temperatures. He said every citizen is proud of the Armed Forces as they live far away from their families so that we celebrate Holi and other festivals with our families peacefully. The Defence Minister said the nation will forever be indebted to our soldiers, and their courage and sacrifices will keep inspiring future generations. The Minister was scheduled to visit Siachen for the Holi celebration with the soldiers but he couldn't reach there due to prevailing inclement weather. He spoke with soldiers posted at Siachen and extended them Holi Greetings. The Minister assured them with another visit to Ladakh soon to interact with soldiers at Siachen.

BJP has released the fifth list of candidates for 111 Lok Sabha seats. Party's new joinees Naveen Jindal will contest from Kurukshetra and Ranjit Chautala will contest from Hisar in Haryana. BJP has fielded actor Kangana Ranaut from Mandi in Himachal Pradesh, Sambit Patra from Puri in Odisha, Ravi Shankar Prasad from Patna Sahib and Giriraj Singh from Begusarai in Bihar. Nityanand Rai will contest from Ujiarpur, Sita Soren from Dumka, Jagadish Shettar from Belgaum and Dharmendra Pradhan from Sambalpur Lok Sabha seats.

Congress has released another list of three candidates for the Lok Sabha polls. Pratibha Dhanorkar will contest from the Chandrapur Lok Sabha seat in Maharashtra, while Pratap Singh Kachariyawas will contest from the Jaipur Lok Sabha seat in Rajasthan. The party has fielded Murari Lal Meena in the Dausa constituency in Rajasthan.

Soccer's world governing body, FIFA, has cancelled a World Cup qualifier between Japan and North Korea which was scheduled to be played on Tuesday in

Pyongyang. FIFA announced the decision on its website on Saturday, saying it made the decision in the absence of an alternative venue confirmed by North Korea and the lack of space in the calendar to postpone this game. The announcement followed a notification by the North that it could no longer host the match.

