

## Morning News Script

0730 hrs

22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024.

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With two days left for campaigning to end for the second phase of General Elections, leaders of political parties are making all out efforts to woo the voters by holding back to back rallies and road shows in favour of their candidates. 88 Parliamentary Constituencies in 12 states and Union territory will go to polls in this second phase on coming Friday. Senior BJP leader and Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressing election rallies at Jalore and Banswara in Rajasthan, said the country needs a stable government which can develop basic infrastructure facilities as per the future requirements, can understand the dreams of the youth and make policies according to them and take care of women, farmers, poor, deprived, tribal and backward class people. On the other hand, speaking at a public meeting in Balurghat, Trinamool Congress Chief Mamata Banerjee said, the Central government led by BJP has neglected the common man, including minority and SC/ST people.

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In Manipur, re-polling is being held at eleven polling stations of Inner Manipur Parliamentary Constituency today. These polling stations are located seven in Imphal East district and four in Imphal West district. The voting began at 7 AM and will conclude at 5 PM. These eleven polling stations saw mob violence, riot, destruction of EVM and election machines and proxy voting in the first phase polls of Lok Sabha Election 2024 in Manipur on Friday.

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University Grants Commission, UGC has announced that four-year bachelors degree holders can now directly appear for NET and pursue PhD in any subject. The candidates should have a minimum of 75 percentage marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade on a point scale wherever the grading system is followed. Such candidates are allowed to appear in a subject in which they want to pursue a PhD irrespective of the discipline in which they have obtained the four-year bachelor's degree. At present, a NET candidate requires a master's degree with a minimum of 55 per cent marks.

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President Droupadi Murmu will present the Padma Awards at the Civil Investiture Ceremony at Rashtrapati Bhavan in Delhi today . President Murmu will confer Padma Vibhushan on former Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu, and Bharatnatyam dancer Dr Padma Subrahmanyam.

Padma Vibhushan award will be given to Bindeshwar Pathak posthumously. Actor Mithun Chakraborty, and singer Usha Uthup will receive the Padma Bhushan award. The other Padma Bhushan awardees include philanthropist Dr Sitaram Jindal, cardiologist Dr Tejas Madhusudan Patel and former Uttar Pradesh Governor Ram Naik.

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The Power Department has informed that there will be a total shutdown of power supply from 8 AM to 3PM from today to 20th May, under Kohima Transmission Division. The department said the shutdown is being carried out to facilitate the vegetation clearance and maintenance programme for 33kV, 66kV and 132kV 66kV Transmission Lines under Kohima Division, as well as to avoid unwanted disruption and facilitate stable power supply. The affected areas include Southern Angami under Kohima on 22nd and 23rd April, in Zubza and Lalmati area from 24th to 26th April and 29th April to 1st May, while in Phek and Kiphire District from 25th to 30th April, 1st to 4th May at Phek, from 2nd to 4th May in Chakhabama and Chozuba followed by Northern Angami area under Kohima from 6th to 20th May. In addition, the Department has also scheduled vegetation clearance and maintenance programme for 132kV and 66kV Transmission Lines under Transmission division Mokokchung. As such, there will be a total shutdown of power supply from 8 AM to 4 PM starting from April 25 to May 31 in areas covering Longleng, Mokokchung, Mon, and Zunheboto districts. All consumers and public in the affected areas have been requested to extend cooperation and bear the inconvenience during the shutdown period.

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Nagaland Cricket Association will be conducting the Inter-District Senior Men's tournament 2024 and the Boys Under-16 Inter-District Tournament 2024 from 23rd April. The Senior Men's Inter-District Tournament will be played from 23rd April till 7th May at Nagaland Cricket Stadium and Sovima Cricket Ground, While the Boys Under-16 (Multi Days) Inter-District Tournament will begin from 25th April. For the first time for the Boys Under-16, the Inter-District Tournament will be held in three different venues - Kohima, Mokokchung and Peren. The tournament will be played in the multi-days format in accordance with the playing conditions of the BCCI. The top qualified teams of each group will then play the next round at the Nagaland Cricket Stadium, Sovima. Meanwhile, the Men's Senior Inter-District Tournament 2024 will be played in One Day Matches format (50 overs).

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