

Evening News Script

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:: THE HEADLINES ::

- Supreme Court grants interim bail to Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal for 21 days.
- MLA Achumbemo Kikon takes stock of border situation arising at Longtsiri village under Wokha district.
- Dimapur police cautions public about inter-state money snatching gangs.
- And, first ever Nagaland Potato Festival held at Jakhama village in Kohima district.

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The Supreme Court today granted interim bail to Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal for 21 days in the money laundering case linked to the alleged liquor policy scam. The apex court asked the AAP chief to surrender on 2nd June, a day after the polling for the seven-phased Lok Sabha elections is scheduled to end. Kejriwal had sought a release from jail to campaign for the ongoing Lok Sabha polls. The Supreme Court also pointed out the Enforcement Directorate's delay in arresting him. A bench,

comprising Justices Sanjiv Khanna and Dipankar Datta, said that the central probe agency had registered an Enforcement Case Information Report against Kejriwal in August 2022, but arrested him on 21st March, this year. Meanwhile, AAPhas hailed the Supreme Court's decision of granting interim bail to Kejriwal as victory of democracy and the Constitution. Congress leader Pawan Khera welcomed the judgement of Supreme Court and expressed hope that the former Chief Minister of Jharkhand Hemant Soren will also get justice. Meanwhile the BJP leader Manjinder Singh Sirsa said that the apex court's judgement clearly says that Kejriwal has been granted bail only for elections.

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MLA and Chairman of Sub Division Planning and Development Board, Achumbemo Kikon today led a high level team in taking stock of the border situation arising at Longtsiri village under Wokha district. The team comprised of the Border Magistrate Bhandari, Commandant 7th NAP, SDPO and OC Changpang. It may be mentioned that Assam Police recently intruded and interfered in the ongoing building construction by the Longtsiri inhabitant at their ancestral village land at the foothill area. Kikon asserted that the foothill area which are within the periphery of Kakatanga forest falls within the Lotha Naga ancestral land. He pointed out that as per the 1972 Interim Agreement between the Assam and the Nagaland governments, any land in Kakatanga forest which was already in occupation of the Nagas wherever they may be shall not be disturbed during the period of the agreement. Kikon asserted that the recent intrusion

plundered by the Assam Police is illegal and gross violation of the 1972 Agreement reached between the two neighbours.

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Dimapur police has cautioned the public to be aware of the prevalence of inter-state money snatching gangs operating in and around Dimapur and neighbouring states. Dy. Commissioner of Police (Crime) and PRO in a press note said that numerous complaints are being reported across police stations in Dimapur where money is being snatched by miscreants. Police said the modus operandi of the gangs involves one or two gang members going inside the Banks posing as customers and scanning for potential victim who are alone, elderly and vulnerable. Gang members deployed outside the Bank distracts the targeted victim by spraying coloring or itchy chemicals or deliberately dropping of cash notes and wallets. Thereafter, gang members quietly snatch the cash or personal belongings and disappear. Police informed that investigation has indicated that these are inter-state gangs mostly based at neighbouring districts of Assam.

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The first ever Nagaland Potato Festival was organized today at Jakhama village in Kohima district. The festival aims to promote organic potato cultivation in the state, enhance farmers' income by promoting agriculture-based enterprises and to facilitate development of value-added products through capacity building and technical support. Speaking at the programme as special guest, Commissioner of Police Dimapur, Kevithuto Sophie emphasized on the need to inculcate Agro based farming. Stating that southern Angami region is blessed with bountiful nature with perennial

streams and forest, he emphasized on preservation of the environment and plantations of indigenous trees in the region. Sophie said, educated unemployed should take up agro based activities and take maximum benefits of it. He also expressed optimism that exposure to such festival will open many eyes in the area and take the maximum benefit of getting engaged in agro based activities. Around 70 plus stalls were set by vendors displaying and selling varieties of potatoes besides demonstrating potato plantation.

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Nagaland department of Health and Family Welfare Department has informed that the Chief Minister's Health Insurance Scheme Claim Reimbursement portal is now live. CEO, Nagaland Health Protection Society, Thavaseelan K in a release informed all government employees and pensioners that the portal can be accessed through the URL: <https://cmhis.nagaland.gov.in>. He said that online guidelines on submitting claims is also being made available to ensure a smooth and hassle-free process. Further the CEO said that for any assistance, one can contact the helpline numbers 8880515012, 8880515013 or 8880515014.

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The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in Nagaland staged a dharna at Marwari Pati in Dimapur, protesting against the recent controversial remarks made by Sam Pitroda, the Former Indian Overseas Congress Chairman. Pitroda's statement, referring to South Indians as resembling Africans, Westerners as Arabs, and Easterners as Chinese, sparked outrage within the BJP

ranks. State Spokesperson for BJP, Mughavi Chishi, criticized the Congress and termed Pitroda's statement as audacious racist remarks. He alleged that such comments not only fuel divisive sentiments but also embolden neighboring nations to stake claims on specific regions within India. Chishi reiterated BJP's commitment to national integration. Media Convenor of BJP Nagaland, Sapralu Nyekha, accused the Congress of harboring Divide and Rule mentality. The BJP further urged upon citizens to support a political party dedicated to unifying the nation rather than promoting division.

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Wokha district administration led by Deputy Commissioner Ajit Kumar Ranjan today felicitated four students from Wokha district who topped the High School Leaving Certificate examination conducted by Nagaland Board of School Education. During the programme held at the DC's Office Chamber, Ranjan shared valuable life lessons, stressing the importance of academic success and personal growth. The DC encouraged the students to face challenges with optimism. He said that learning is a lifelong process and it extends beyond textbooks. Ranjan urged the students to stay true to themselves and pursue their passions and not focus so much on societal pressures.

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Phek Deputy Commissioner, John Tsulise Sangtam has directed all individuals, groups undertaking illegal developmental activities within the Right of Way to immediately stop such activities. He warned that failure to comply with this order will invite stern action against defaulters as per the

provisions of the law. The order was issued with regards to the notices being served to many individuals and groups that are illegally undertaking construction activities along the proposed 2-laning of National Highway 702A from Chozuba to Phek and from Losami Junction to Meluri. The DC directed all Village Councils to adhere to the minutes of the meeting held on 20 March 20, 2024.

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