Morning News Script 0730 hrs of 26th May 2024.

A voter turnout of over 61 percent was recorded until 11:30 PM last night in the sixth phase of the ongoing Lok Sabha elections, for which polling was held yesterday. The polling in all 58 parliamentary constituencies spread over six states and two Union Territories remained peaceful. In this phase, polling was held on 14 seats in Uttar Pradesh, all ten seats in Haryana, eight seats each in Bihar and West Bengal, all seven seats in Delhi, six in Odisha, four in Jharkhand, and one parliamentary constituency in Jammu and Kashmir.

Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, IGNCA and Prasar Bharati are collaborating to bring the cultural programmes of IGNCA on DD Bharati every Sunday. This unique initiative marks a significant step where a government institution will present its work to the public professionally. Member Secretary of IGNCA, Dr. Sachchidanand Joshi, aims to showcase the various dimensions of India's rich culture through this weekly cultural programme. He stated that India's cultural richness and diversity are unparalleled and this weekly cultural programme is being initiated to keep it alive and reach the masses. IGNCA has recently been in the limelight for its significant contributions, including the complete artwork for the new Parliament building of the country. Over the past 35 years, IGNCA has pioneered the country's art scene.

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Altogether, 33 Maoists surrendered in the Bijapur district of Bastar division, Chhattisgarh yesterday. Of these, a reward of Rs 5 lakh each was declared on the three Maoists. These Maoists have surrendered before the DIG of CRPF and Superintendent of Police of the district. These Maoists are accused of being involved in many Naxalite incidents.

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Senior BJP leader and Prime Minister Narendra Modi claimed that the INDI-Alliance will fall flat in Lok Sabha elections because the bubble of the opposition has burst. Addressing a public meeting in Ahirauli in Buxar parliamentary constituency in Bihar yesterday, Modi said the constituent parties of INDI-Alliance will be bundled out. He said, he wants to lead India as a developed country by 2047 but the opposition has no vision. He said in the past 10 years his track record of work is time tested but the opposition alliance is fighting for the Prime Minister's post. He said they don't want to do service to the country.

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The Assam Rifles organized an awareness lecture on "Drug Abuse" in Dimapur and Mon as part of Meri Life Amplification 2024. In Dimapur, the event was held at Lampstand Higher Secondary School, Toluvi while in Mon it was conducted at Aboi village. Lectures on the harmful effects of drug abuse on individuals and communities, prevention and intervention strategies, and the treatment options and resources available for recovery were shared on the occasion. This initiative aimed to equip students with the knowledge and tools necessary to combat the widespread issue of substance abuse. Students were encouraged to adopt healthy lifestyles and avoid drug abuse, with the goal of creating a safer and more prosperous community.

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Khiamniungan Students' Union Tuensang Town emerged victorious in the final match of the Friendship Sports Meet yesterday. KSUTT defeated Chang Wedoshi Setshang 3-

1 in the men's football final. The event was organized by Chang Wedoshi Setshang (CWS) at the Loyem Memorial Astro Turf Ground in Tuensang town. The sports meet, held for the officials of the respective students' unions, began on May 24 and saw participation from eight tribal students' unions. In addition to the football matches, a tug of war competition for women was also held. Chang Students' Union Tuensang Town won against Tuensang Village Students' Union finishing in second place in the final.

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And, India's Simran Sharma clinched the gold in the Women's 200 metres T12 category at the Para-Athletics World Championship in Kobe, Japan yesterday. She also bagged the Paralympics quota with a Personal Best time of 24.95 seconds. In the Women's 100 metres T35 category, India's Preethi Pal won the bronze, her second medal of the Championship. Earlier, Preethi had won bronze in 200 metres in the same category. Another Indian, Navdeep also won the bronze medal in the Men's Javelin Throw F41 category today, with his season-best performance of 42.82 metres. With these medals, India's total medal count reached 17, the highest ever in the history of the competition. This includes six gold, five silver and six bronze medals.

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