

:::THE HEADLINES:::

1. Prime Minister Narendra Modi says the government is moving forward to implement the guarantees given to the people

2. Economic Survey 2023-24 projects a real Gross Domestic Product growth of 6.5 to 7 per cent in Financial Year 2024-25

3. Government asserts that there is no evidence of paper leaks in the last seven years

4. and Minister for Women Resources Development and Horticulture, Salhoutuonuo Kruse flags-off Skill Development for Rural Women



Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said that the Union Budget to be presented tomorrow will set the direction for the country's next five years and will lay the foundation for fulfilling the dream of Viksit Bharat in 2047. Addressing the media outside Parliament ahead of the commencement of the Budget Session today, Modi said that people have given their verdict in the recent Lok Sabha polls and now all political parties must come together for the country for the next five years. The Prime Minister urged parties to serve the country and not the agendas of political parties saying that the House is not meant for political parties but is meant for the country. He appealed the parties to give opportunities to all members, especially the first-time members, to present their views. Modi also highlighted that India is the fastest-growing country among the major economies with about 8 percent growth in the last three consecutive years. He added that today, opportunities are at the peak due to positive outlook, investment and performance. The Prime Minister asserted that his government is moving forward to implement on the ground the

guarantees he has given to the people. Modi added that all parties should participate for the empowerment of the farmers, youth and the country as they can engage in political battles in the election year of 2029.



Economic Survey 2023-24 has projected a real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth of 6.5 to 7 per cent in Financial Year 2024-25. On the first day of the Budget Session, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharman tabled the Economic Survey in the Lok Sabha. According to the survey, domestic growth drivers have supported economic growth in the financial year 2023-24 despite uncertain global economic performance. The survey states that merchandise and services exports are likely to increase. It further mentions that a normal rainfall forecast by the India Meteorological Department and the satisfactory spread of the southwest monsoon is likely to improve agriculture sector performance and support the revival of rural demand. It also said, structural reforms such as the GST and the IBC have also matured and are delivering envisaged results.



The Government today asserted that there is no evidence of paper leaks in the last seven years and it is hiding nothing in the alleged NEET UG paper leak case. Replying to supplementaries during the Question Hour in the Lok Sabha, Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said, the National Testing Agency has conducted 240 examinations since its formation and over four crore 50 lakh students have appeared in the examinations conducted by the NTA. Rejecting the allegations levelled by the opposition parties that paper leak incidents have become rampant in the country, Pradhan said, in only one place near Patna, anomalies and malpractices during the NEET-UG examination have been reported. Earlier, Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi while raising the alleged paper leak issue said, there is a very serious problem in the country's examination system. He criticized Pradhan over the issue questioning what exactly the government is doing to fix the issue. Gandhi said, millions of students in the country are extremely concerned about the examinations and their future. Samajwadi Party leader Akhilesh Yadav demanded

Pradhan's resignation over the issue and alleged that this government will make what he called a record of paper leaks.



Minister for Women Resources Development and Horticulture, Salhoutuonuo Kruse, today flagged-off the Skill Development for Rural Women Through Mobile Skill Morung programme at Sechü-Zubza, Kohima. highlighting the transformative potential of the programme, Kruse emphasized that the training will equip the participants not only with skills to create garments but also as a source of livelihood. She expressed confidence in the participants' potential impact, stating that the skills acquired would empower them through their work. Secretary and Ex-Officio Director Employment, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Kovi Meyase, underscored the urgent need to address workforce participation disparities between rural and urban women. He emphasized the significance of the Skill Development Program in Nagaland, where despite a relatively higher female workforce participation rate, rural women are predominantly engaged in agriculture. Meyase described the Mobile Skill Morung as an innovative solution, traveling to different locations to provide convenient access to training in various skills. A total of 25 trainees from 11 villages under Western Angami are undergoing the training at Sechii-Zubza.



The government today said that decriminalising 63 major offences under the Company Law has resulted in a boost to the market, pendency reduction and ease of doing business in the country. Replying to supplementaries during the Question Hour in the Lok Sabha, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said that two special drives were launched by the Ministry of Corporate Laws to reduce pending cases. The first drive was launched in 2017 and the second drive was launched in 2023. She informed the house that till July this year, 6294 withdrawals were made in various courts and this has boosted the economy in many ways.



The government today said that the unemployment rate in the country has been showing a declining trend over recent years. In a written reply in Lok Sabha, Minister of State for Labour and Employment Shobha Karandlaje said that as per the latest available Annual Periodic Labour Force Survey Reports, the estimated Unemployment Rate for persons aged 15 years and above was 4.2 per cent in 2020-21, 4.1 percent in 2021-22 and 3.2 percent during 2022-23.



The process to file nomination for the 2025 Padma Awards, one of the highest civilian honour, is open till 15th September this year. Union Home Ministry said the nominations and recommendations for Padma Awards will be received online on the Rashtriya Puraskar Portal. The Padma Awards, namely, Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri are amongst the highest civilian awards of the country. Instituted in 1954, these Awards are announced on the occasion of the Republic Day every year. The award seeks to recognize work of distinction and is given for distinguished and exceptional achievements in Art, Literature and Education, Sports, Medicine, Social Work, Science and Engineering, Trade and Industry.



Associate Vice President, Athletics Federation of India (AFI), Abu Metha has been nominated by the Athletics Federation of India, as a delegate for the forthcoming Paris Olympics Games 2024 to be held from 26th July to 11th August. In a letter, Secretary of AFI, Ravinder Chaudhry stated that Metha's expertise and experience will significantly contribute to the success of the Indian delegation. Chief Minister, Neiphiu Rio also congratulated Metha on his nomination and stated that his experience will greatly benefit games and sports in India, especially Nagaland.

