

## Morning News Script

0730 hrs

8th July 2024.

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi will embark on a three day official visit to Russia and Austria today. In the first leg of his visit, Modi will be in Moscow for the 22nd Annual Summit between India and Russia. The annual summit would provide an opportunity for Prime Minister Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin to review the whole range of bilateral issues, including defence, trade linkages, investment ties, energy cooperation, education, culture, and people-to-people exchanges. In the second leg of his two-nation tour, Prime Minister will be visiting Austria from the 9th to the 10th of this month at the invitation of the Chancellor of Austria. This will be Prime Minister's first visit to Austria. He will hold restricted delegation-level talks with the Chancellor of Austria as well as a high-level business engagement.

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The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Legislature Party has congratulated Chief Minister, Neiphiu Rio, for the successful conduct of the Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) election. The BJP legislature party stated that under Rio's leadership, the PDA alliance has been further strengthened following the elections of municipal and town council in the state. In light of this success, the BJP Legislature Party requested that the appointment of deputy chairpersons for the ULBs, where both parties contested together, be made from the BJP. This step will contribute to maintaining and enhancing the strength of the PDA alliance, it added. Further, the BJP Legislature party appealed for the accommodation of government nominees from the BJP party to the respective municipal and town councils. The party said this should be done in consultation with the members from the respective areas to prevent any misunderstandings between the alliance partners. The BJP Legislature party also firmly believed that the authority and leadership of the Chief Minister will respond positively to their requests, upholding the true spirit of the PDA alliance. This statement was made by state BJP Legislature Party during a meeting on 6th July at Kohima.

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The Rising People's Party (RPP) has blamed the ruling People Democratic Alliance (PDA) for not doing anything despite the huge hue

and cry raised on the rock fall incident occurring along the Chathe-Kukidolong on the National Highway-29. In a press release, the RPP said another rockfall on July 5, exactly a year after a similar incident, accused that PDA of eye-washing a serious negligence. It said, the report of the High Level Technical Committee instituted by the PDA government to 'study' the matter is still awaited in the public domain. To this, the RPP questioned, when the PDA will realize that governance demands accountability and responsibility. It also queried of what the statement of Deputy Chief Minister TR Zeliang meant on short-term maintenance contract introduced by the PDA after last year's tragic incident, adding that the Naga people will not be misled by such statements. The RPP further demanded that the NHIDCL should be held accountable and be booked for criminal negligence. In addition, the RPP sought explanation as to why the state police did not act on its FIR complaint filed at the Chümoukedima Police Station against NHIDCL officials following the July 4, 2023 incident. It accused the PDA government for resorted to issuing travel advisory after each tragedy. The RPP further asked whether victims of the 2023 incident were compensated and also if the recently injured individuals would be compensated.

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Congress leader Rahul Gandhi will arrive in Manipur today for a one-day visit to the state, during which he plans to meet the families affected by the recent violence residing in various camps. The Opposition Leader also plans to meet with Manipur Governor Anusuiya Uikey. Security measures have been tightened ahead of Rahul Gandhi's visit, as the Deputy Commissioner of Jiribam district has implemented a no-fly zone and banned the use of drones during his visit.

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The Budget Session of Parliament will begin from the 22nd of this month. Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju in a social media post informed that the session will continue till 12th August. He said that the Union Budget 2024-25 would be presented in the Lok Sabha on 23rd July. Rijiju said that President Droupadi Murmu on the recommendation of the Government of India had approved the proposal for summoning of both the Houses of Parliament for Budget Session. It would be the first budget presented by the Narendra Modi Government in its third term.

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