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THE HEADLINES

• Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar asserts India will become third largest economy in world within two years.

• North East Students' Organisation appeals to Prime Minister Narendra Modi to address escalating crisis in Bangladesh

• Reserve Bank of India asks banks to provide short term crop loans to farmers

• And, India's ace grappler Vinesh Phogat disqualified from Paris Olympics for being overweight by a few grams

Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar today asserted that India will become the third largest economy in the world within two years. He said, the country has reached the fifth spot in the global economy. Speaking at the 10th National Handloom Day event organized in New Delhi today, the Vice President said, the nation is on rise, and this rise is unstoppable. Advocating economic nationalism, Dhankhar said, it is fundamental to a country's economic growth. He said, economic nationalism will help in saving foreign exchange and generating employment, and entrepreneurship opportunities in the country. The Vice President said, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given the mantra Vocal for Local and Handloom products are important part of this drive. He urged the people to use the handloom products. He said, the cooperative sector can play an instrumental role in promotion of handloom products. On the occasion, Dhankhar presented Sant Kabir Awards and National Handloom Awards to handloom weavers for their outstanding contribution in the handloom sector.

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On the occasion of 10th National Handloom Day Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio said today we celebrate India's rich and diverse handloom heritage. He said, from intricate sarees to beautiful shawls, every thread tells a story of craftsmanship and culture. Rio therefore called upon all to continue to support our artisans and weavers.

North East Students' Organisation (NESO), a coalition of eight student bodies from the seven North Eastern states of India, has urgently appealed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi to address the escalating crisis in Bangladesh. In a letter addressed to the Prime Minister and Union Home Minister, NESO expressed grave concerns over the potential repercussions of the ongoing turmoil in Bangladesh, which they fear could lead to a significant influx of illegal immigrants into the North Eastern states. NESO while highlighting the historical context of illegal immigration from Bangladesh, emphasized that past conflicts and civil unrest in Bangladesh have resulted in substantial migration into the North Eastern region, leading to demographic changes and social tensions. Stating that geographical proximity and extensive shared borders between the North Eastern states and Bangladesh, NESO pointed out the vulnerability of the region to potential illegal immigration. It therefore called for immediate intervention from the Government of India to prevent any further illegal immigration from Bangladesh and has urged the government to enhance border security measures to detect and deter illegal crossings. Further, NESO underscored the need to protect the indigenous communities of the

North East and preserve their unique cultural and social fabric.

In view of the continuation of the Modified Interest Subvention Scheme by the Centre, the Reserve Bank has asked banks to provide short term crop loans and short term loans for allied activities including animal husbandry, dairy, fisheries, beekeeping etc. upto an overall limit of 3 lakh rupees to farmers at an interest rate of 7 percent. In a notification, RBI said that the rate of interest subvention to lending institutions will be 1.5 percent for 2024-25. RBI has said that an additional interest subvention of 3 percent should be provided to farmers who repay loans in time. RBI has added that Aadhaar linkage would be mandatory for availing the short-term loans.Meanwhile, in order to discourage distress sale by farmers and to encourage them to store their produce in warehouses, the benefit of interest subvention under Kisan Credit Card scheme will be available to small and marginal farmers for a further of up six months post the harvest period to of the crop.

In an unfortunate event for India at Paris Olympics, wrestler Vinesh Phogat was disqualified from the 50kg freestyle wrestling for being overweight by a few grams, after she stormed into final bout. The Indian Olympics Association in a statement said, despite the best efforts by the team through the night, she weighed in a few grams over 50kg this morning. Earlier, Vinesh Phogat had beat World No.1 and Tokyo 2020 champion Yui Susaki of Japan to qualify for the quarterfinals. Later in the quarter-finals, Vinesh defeated Ukraine's Oksana Livach, 7-5 to secure a semi-final berth. In the penultimate bout, she went on to beat Cuba's Yusneylis Guzman Lopez to secure a medal and become the first Indian woman wrestler to reach the final at the Olympics. Prime Minister Narendra Modi in a social media post consoled the wrestler saying that she is a champion among champions and India's pride and an inspiration for each and every Indian.

The Election Commission of India has released a notification for 12 vacant seats of 9 states in Rajya Sabha. Notification for the election will be issued on the 14th of August. Candidates can file nominations till the 21st of this month. Scrutiny of nominations will be done on the 22nd of August. The last date for withdrawal of nominations is the 26th and 27th of this month. The election will be held on the 3rd of September.

Governor of Nagaland La Ganesan, has extended warm metemneo greetings to the Yimkhiung brothers and sisters as they celebrate their festival. In a message, Governor Ganesan exuded hope that this joyous occasion would bring abundant blessings, prosperity and good health. As the community comes together to celebrate their rich cultural heritage, the Governor hoped them to cherish the bonds of community and the spirit of unity. Ganesan also wished that the rituals, dances, and feasts will fill their hearts with happiness and gratitude for the bountiful harvest.

Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio extended greetings to the Yimkhiung community on the occasion of Metemneo. Rio prayed that the Almighty will continue enriching our fields. The Chief Minister also wished that the festivities foster deeper familial bonds and friendship and further nurture peace and unity among all.

District Administration, Department of Social Welfare and Sanklap-Hub for Empowerment of Women today organised a gender awareness programme in observance of 100 Days special awareness campaign activities for the staff of Deputy Commissioner Office Wokha at DC conference hall, Wokha. EAC, Wokha Rozy Sangtam opined that through this programme they will be educated and also help them maintain healthy atmosphere at work places. Gender Specialist, Merithung Lotha, highlighted about the functioning of District Hub for Empowerment of Women apprised some of the schemes available for women. Advocate, Thungbeni Kikon (Case Worker Sakhi-One Stop Centre) also dwelled on sexual harassment at work place.

Nagaland's Under-17 Girls team won 2-0 against Airforce School New Delhi at the ongoing 63rd edition of Subroto Cup 2024 Junior Girls Under-17 being played at BR Ambedkar Stadium in New Delhi today. Xangyoa Konyak scored the first goal which was later followed by an own goal, giving the Nagaland team 2-0 lead against AF School New Delhi. The first match which the Nagaland team played on 5th of August against NCC Mizoram ended in a goalless draw. The Nagaland team comprise of 16 players, two coaches including Team Manager and other officials. Nagaland is paired along with NCC Mizoram, Sainik School Sambalpur and Airforce School New Delhi in Pool-G. playing The team will be with Sainik School Sambalpur tomorrow.

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