0730 hrs

8th August 2024.

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Lok Sabha yesterday passed the Finance Bill, 2024. The Bill gives effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 2024- 2025. With the passage of the Bill, the budgetary exercise is now complete. Replying to the discussion on the Bill in Lok Sabha, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman emphasized that the approach to taxation has been to bring in greater simplification of tax laws and procedures and enable growth and employment in this country. She said the Narendra Modi government has brought in transformational changes in tax governance in the last decade. She pointed out that without drastically increasing taxes and minimizing litigation, the government has helped in bringing a simplified taxation regime, greater and of transparency, ease compliance.

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The government has rejected media reports of question paper leaks for NEET-PG 2024. Union Health Ministry has termed such reports as false and misleading. The Ministry added that all candidates are assured that the question papers for NEET-PG 2024 are yet to be prepared by National Board of Examinations in Medical Sciences and claims of paper leak made in social media platforms are bogus.

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The Centre has approved installation of Kavach 4.0 on 10 thousand locomotives. Kavach will automatically control the train's speed and can apply the brakes if necessary to prevent accidents. Talking to media in New Delhi, Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said, the Ministry has set a target to complete this installation process of Kavach in the next two years. The Minister said, as on date, Kavach is deployed on one thousand 465 Kilometer rail routes and 144 locomotives on South Central Railway.

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Commissioner and Secretary, Health and Family Welfare, and Chairman Nagaland State Aids Control Society (NSACS), V Kezo has emphasized on the need to protect the mental, physical and moral well being of the young generation. He said, this while launching CITY Barn-the health centre, an innovation project of NSACS in Kohima yesterday. Kezo underscored the importance of providing emotional support and encouragement to children, adding that much of risky behaviors are breeding at home. He hoped that the facility at CITY Barn would be a platform for social interaction which would be a shining example of community intervention to preserve and protect the mental, physical and moral well being of the young generation. Project Director, NSACS, Dr Ahu Sekhose, in his keynote address said, CITY barn would provide a platform of positivity to young people in the age group of 15-24 years which are considered high risk groups. Joint Director (Prevention) Dr Bernice D Thapru also informed that CITY Barn which means 'Catch Them Young and Being Aware' will sensitise young people on unsafe behaviors, HIV, addiction among others.

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Deputy Chief Minister Y Patton has greeted the Yimkhiung on the occasion of Metemneo. Patton said that festivals are time to showcase their rich cultural heritage. On behalf of the state BJP legislators, the Dy.CM conveyed heartiest festive greetings and hope that it is celebrated with great joy and enthusiasm.

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Wrestler Vinesh Phogat announced her retirement today, a day after she was disqualified from the wrestling final at the 2024 Olympics in Paris. In a social media post, she announced her retirement. Vinesh was disqualified from the Gold medal match of the 50 kg Women's Wrestling for being overweight by 100 grams.

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Along with the rest of the states, Nagaland Athletics Association vesterday commemorated the 3rd National Javelin Day in collaboration with eight district athletics of Nagaland. Competitions were organized in Chumoukedima, Dimapur, Kohima, Mokokchung, Noklak, Peren, Shamator and Wokha. Nation Javelin Day is an initiative of athletic federation of India to serve as a meaningful tribute to the remarkable achievement of Neeraj Chopra during the "Tokyo Olympics where he secured the Gold Medal for India. National Javelin Day is also celebrated to honour and promote the sports of javelin throw and to acknowledge its significance in athletics as well as inspirie young athletes and sports enthusiasts to engage in javelin throwing and other track and field events. The celebration was marked with athletes participating in the javelin competition organized for boys and girls of Under-12, 14 and 16. A total of 650 plus athletes participated in the competition.

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