## **Evening News Script**

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## **THE HEADLINES**

• Wokha SAATHI gets Gold Award and National Awards for e-Governance Scheme 2023-2024.

• Labour and Employment Ministry extends benefits of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana to marginalized workers.

• Four teachers honoured with Kohima District Teacher Award 2024.

• Sangtam community celebrates Mungmung festival cum mini hornbill.

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The Wokha District Administration's innovative initiative, the Wokha SAATHI (Smart AI-based Assistant for Timely Help & Interface) WhatsApp Chatbot, has been awarded the prestigious Gold Award and the National Awards for e-Governance Scheme 2023-2024. The award was presented at the 27th National Conference on e-Governance held in Mumbai, Maharashtra, today by Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Devendra Fadnavis. This recognition is a significant milestone, as for the first time an initiative from Nagaland has received a Gold Award for its contribution to e-Governance. The award and certificate were received by Mahatma Gandhi National Fellows, Ajit Kumar Ranjan, Rohit Singh and Anuranjan Singh, on behalf of Wokha District Administration. Under the initiative more than 40 services have been brought under one stop chat bot of the Wokha District

Administration. The Wokha SAATHI WhatsApp Chatbot AI-based chatbot provides timely assistance and serves as a user-friendly interface for residents, ensuring they have easy access to vital information and services besides enabling proactive Information Education Campaign through a two way communication between the government and citizens on 24x7 basis.

The Labour and Employment Ministry has initiated a move to extend the benefits of the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) to disadvantaged workers. A letter has been issued by the Ministry of Labour and Employment to all State Governments, urging the inclusion of migrant workers, building workers, beedi workers, cine workers, non-coal mine workers, contract labourers and other unorganized workers. The decision has been taken in view of the Union Cabinet's approval to extend the implementation of PMAY for an additional five years, from the financial year 2024-25 to 2028-29, with the aim of providing two crore additional houses to eligible beneficiaries. The initiative recognizes the housing needs of economically vulnerable workers. The Ministry has emphasized that these workers represent a disadvantaged section of society and ensuring their coverage under PMAY is not only a matter of social justice but also a necessary step towards improving their living conditions.

Four teachers from both Government and Private schools has been honoured with Kohima District Teacher Award 2024 for their dedication and contribution to the field of education. On the occasion, Best Performing School Heads was also presented to seven educators. In an Award Ceremony held in Kohima today, Deputy Commissioner of Kohima, Kumar Ramnikant said, teaching methodologies are evolving in a rapidly changing world, and urged teachers to embrace the concept to adapt and grow. Emphasizing on the importance and investing in personal development, Kumar said teachers should provide equal treatment to every student within their capacity. Director of School Education, Wonthungo Tsopoe called on the teachers to introspect on their efforts and continue to inspire others with love, empathy, and sincerity.

Nagaland State Department of Social Welfare today launched the month long celebration of Poshan Maah 2024 at Longleng, under the theme "Ek Ped Maa Ke Nam". Deputy Commissioner of Longleng, W. Manpai Phom said nutritional value of both the mother and child is very important and objectives of Poshan Maah is to ensure community mobilization and bolster people's participation for addressing malnutrition. He further urged the gathering to disseminate information on protecting our mother earth. Phom added protecting our earth is not only about planting trees at a large scale but also reduced activities like hunting and fishing. Later the DC led the Poshan Pledge. Simultaneously, the campaign was also launched in Mon district under the theme, "Suposhit Kishori Sashakt Nari". Deputy Commissioner of Mon, Ajit Kumar Verma, shared on the objectives of POSHAN Maah.

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The Sangtam community today celebrated Mungmung festival cum mini hornbill at Public Ground in Kiphire district. Speaking at the festival as Chief guest, President of Eastern Naga People's Organization (ENPO), Chingmak Chang said, loss of culture is loss of identity, and urged the young people to never forget their roots and culture. He said, Mungmung which means 'Togetherness Forever' is the most important festival of the Sangtam, which is observed in the first week of September every year stretching over six days. On the demand of ENPO, Chang said, the present Government has adopted an open-door policy to resolve the issue, and expressed hope that the Chief Minister will look into the ENPO issue with positive mindset. Also speaking at the festival, Superintendent of Police Kiphire, Chinese Chakhesang said, our culture and history is orally passed down through generation in the way we sing, wear, eat, dance and our way of life. He said, festivals should not just be about merry making but a time for learning and identifying the meaning of our practices, roots and culture.

Nagaland Unit of Bharathiya Janata Party (BJP) today officially launched its Sadasyata Abhiyan Membership Drive 2024 in Dimapur. Minister of Public Health Engineering Department, Jacob Zhimomi and Advisor for Tribal Affairs, Tovihoto Ayemi spearheaded the event. Zhimomi announced that the drive will cover all 60 assembly constituencies in Nagaland. He emphasized the challenge ahead, expressing confidence that many will join the party, inspired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's third consecutive mandate. Ayemi informed that the drive includes both new memberships and renewals. He highlighted the simplicity of registration through an app, a dedicated phone number, or paper forms for those without smartphones. The Sadasyata Abhiyan, launched by the Prime Minister on September 1, will run until September 25 across the country, aiming to engage directly with the public and encourage new memberships.

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Deputy Commissioner of Wokha, Vineet Kumar today inaugurated a livelihood support centre and aggregated cum retail shop at Wokha. The centre is sponsored by North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Limited (NEEPCO), Doyang under Corporate Social Responsibility. Addressing the 1 program, Kumar expressed gratitude to NEEPCO, Doyang for sponsoring livelihood initiatives to the rural communities in their venture for economic stability and sustainability. Stating business need continuity and reliability, the DC urged NEEPCO to put more effort to connect with the farmers and other supply chains to promote their market and to expand their community.

Mokokchung District Youth Resources Officer has informed that the upcoming District Level Youth Festival will be held on 16th September at District Youth Resources Office. The festival will feature a variety of competitions, including folk dance, folk song, painting and declamation. There will be cash award for the winners in all categories. Winners at the district level will have the opportunity to represent Mokokchung District at the state- level youth festival in Kohima to be held on 26th and 27th September. Interested Clubs or Youth groups in the age group of 15 to 29 years have been askd to complete their registration at the Office of the District Youth Resources Officer, on or September before 14th during office hours.

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