

## Morning News Script

0730 hrs

2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024

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Electronic and IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw has said that the government will launch a new scheme to help set up a sustainable electronics component ecosystem in the country. Addressing the ET World Leader Forum in New Delhi, Vaishnaw said that more than 99 percent of all mobile phones used in India are being manufactured domestically. He said that this year, Apple will manufacture its latest model in India. The Minister informed that the value of electronics manufacturing in India has increased to 105 billion dollars as of 2022-23, up from 29 billion dollars in 2013-14. He also said that the government has approved rail, road, airport, and port projects worth two trillion dollars since June 2024, when the government started its third term. Vaishnaw further said that the government's approach is to democratize technology by ensuring that big tech does not have a monopoly over it.

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BJP is set to start its membership drive from today. The drive will be launched with Prime Minister Narendra Modi getting the certificate for the renewal of his membership from BJP president Jagat Prakash Nadda. All existing members will need to renew their membership. According to BJP's constitution, membership drives are conducted afresh every five to six years. The drive will be held in phases from today till 10th November. The first phase of this membership drive will conclude on the 25th of September. Individuals can sign up through a missed call, or on the party's website or other digital platforms.

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National Nutrition week is being celebrated across the country beginning from yesterday. The week is observed annually from 1st to 7th September. This annual event was initiated by the Food and Nutrition Board of the Ministry of Women and Child Development in 1982. The week-long observance aims to intensify nutrition and health related awareness among the masses which can profoundly impact productivity, economic growth and ultimately development of the nation. It also aims to educate communities about the nutritional needs of different age groups from infants to elderly. During this week, major emphasis

is laid on nutrition education and training programmes carried out by the governmental and non-governmental organizations.

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Reports that show customer service representatives will be appointed under the Kaushal Bharat Kushal Bharat Yojana and an honorarium of 28 thousand rupees will be given to people are false. Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has informed that the claim is false. The ministry further denied the claim that a registration fee of one thousand 350 rupees will have to be paid before appointment.

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The Goods and Services Tax (GST) collections stood at 1.75 lakh crore rupees in the month of August, reflecting a 10 percent increase compared to 1.59 lakh crore rupees in the same month last year. Central government collected 30,862 crore rupees, while states collected states 38,411 crore rupees, before adjusting for refunds. The collection of Integrated GST (IGST) on imports and inter-state sales was at 93,621 crore rupees.

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The Department of Social Justice and Empowerment has invited inputs from stakeholders and the public at large to ensure that policies and initiatives regarding the LGBTQI+ community are inclusive and effective. A host of measures have been taken by the government regarding the community. On 16th April this year, the Center constituted a committee with the Cabinet Secretary as the chairperson to examine and submit recommendations on the measures to be taken by central and state governments to safeguard the interests of the queer community. The government has already taken interim action in this regard. The Department of Food and Public Distribution issued an advisory to all the states and UTs, enabling partners in a queer relationship to be treated as a part of the same household for the purposes of ration cards. The Department of Financial Services also issued an advisory that there are no restrictions for persons of the queer community to open a joint bank account. The Health Ministry has issued letters to all stakeholders, including all states and UTs, to take measures to ensure the rights of the LGBTQI+ community regarding healthcare, planning awareness activities, prohibition of conversion therapy, and availability of sex reassignment surgery.

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