Evening News Script 1920 hrs 15<sup>th</sup> October 2024

:::THE HEADLINES:::

1. Chief Secretary of Nagaland Dr. J Alam remarks on poor attendance of head of office at district offices.

2. Nagaland Government enhances upper age limit for entry into government services.

3. Union Minister Jual Oram says all 16 districts, 74 blocks and 608 villages in Nagaland to be covered by Dharti Abba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan scheme.

4. And, Nagaland State Programme Officer Dr. Chikrozho Kezo emphasizes on stigmatizing mental health.

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Chief Secretary of Nagaland, Dr. J Alam said that all head of offices should be in station and proper intimation should be made to the Head of Departments if they are on leave or out of station for official work. Chairing a meeting of the Administrative Head of Departments and Head of Departments (HODs) at Kohima today, Alam remarked that various complaints have been received on the poor attendance of head of office at the district offices. He also reminded the Officers to be in their respective assigned station as all government employees are paid by the government to provide services to the people.Dr Alam further urged all departments to register in the biometric attendance system and directed the HODs to strictly monitor the attendance at the directorate and district offices. The Chief Secretary encouraged the Departments to install the attendance APP which allows the department to monitor the staff's attendance effectively.

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Nagaland Government has enhanced the upper age limit for entry into government services. According to an Office Memorandum issued by the Department of Personnel & Administrative Reforms, for Group D employees, the minimum age limit would be 18 years and the maximum limit would be 32 years. The minimum and maximum age limit for Group A, B and C would be 21 and 32 years respectively. The Memorandum further stated that the age relaxations for Scheduled Tribe would be five years with upper age limit of 37 years. For government employees, the age relaxation would be equal to years of service served, subject to a maximum of five years. The age enhancement would come into effect from 9th of this month.

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Union Minister for Tribal Affairs Jual Oram today inaugurated the Community Hall at Indisen village in Dimapur district. The project was funded by Ministry of Tribal Affairs and implemented by Tribal Affairs department, Nagaland. Mr. Oram lauded the Indisen village community for their contribution towards the construction of the hall which is much bigger than the actual Detailed Project Report. The Union Minister said the Dharti Abba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan scheme was launched in October 2024 to improve the socio-economic condition of tribal communities. He said, it would include 549 districts and 2,911 blocks across 30 states and Union territories. The Union Minister added that all the 16 districts, 74 blocks and 608 villages in Nagaland will be covered by the scheme. Earlier, the Union Minister held a review meeting at the Deputy Commisioner's court office. After the meeting, he virtually inaugurated a community hall at Lake View Colony, Dimapur, which was also funded by Ministry of Tribal Affairs. Later, Mr. Oram addressed the media in brief, where he said that his purpose of visit to the state was part of Prime Minister Modi's Act East policy.

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Nagaland State Programme Officer, National Mental Health Programme, Dr. Chikrozho Kezo today emphasized that mental health should not be equated as madness or stigmatized. Asserting that physical health and mental health are inseparable entities, he said, seeking help should be a priority for people with mental health problem. Dr. Kezo was speaking at the World Mental Health Day programme at State Mental Health Institute (SMHIK) in Kohima, organized by SMHIK and Tele-Manas Cell. He also exuded hope that more people would avail the services of Tele-Manas which offers free mental health support through phone based services to individuals across India.

Meanwhile, Senior Medical Officer of SMHIK, Dr. Nuvotso Khesoh stressed on the importance of mental health in the workplace. He highlighted the need for investing in the mental well being of employees which would be counter-productive in the workplace. Dr. Khesoh also emphasized the need to encourage open conversations about mental health, stating that it should be treated as openly as physical health.

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi called for the ethical use of Artificial Intelligence, emphasizing that security, dignity and equity should be at the center of all discussions. Prime Minister reiterated the importance of establishing a global framework for digital technology. Inaugurating the International Telecommunication Union (ITU)- World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) 2024 at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi this morning, he said the WTSA aims to work towards global standards, while the India Mobile Congress plays a significant role in services.

Mr. Modi also inaugurated the 8th edition of the India Mobile Congress 2024 during the programme. The India Mobile Congress 2024 will showcase India's innovation ecosystem, where leading telecom companies and innovators will highlight advancements in Quantum technology and the Circular Economy, with a spotlight on 6G, 5G, cloud and edge computing, semiconductors, cyber security and electronics manufacturing.

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Today is the birth anniversary of former President, Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam. It was on this day in 1931 that the former President was born in Rameswaram, Tamil Nadu. Abdul Kalam specialized in Aeronautical Engineering and made significant contributions as Project Director to develop India's first indigenous Satellite Launch Vehicle. Known as the Missile Man of India, A P J Abdul Kalam emphasized on the importance of peace for the development of the country.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has paid tribute to the former President, Dr A P J Abdul Kalam, on his birth anniversary. In a social media post, Mr. Modi said that the former President's thought and vision will help the country achieve the goal of Viksit Bharat. Meanwhile, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Jayanti was observed at Raj Bhavan, Kohima today. The program was attended by the Governor of Nagaland, La Ganesan along with officers and staff of the Governor's Secretariat.

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The Mokokchung District Football Association Trophy 2024 kicked off today at Imkongmeren Sports Complex. Addressing the inaugural program, State Election Commissioner, T. John Longkumer called on the players to play with the spirit of fairness and discipline. He also emphasized on the importance of goodwill and harmony amongst the team as well support for the opponent teams in a true spirit of sport. In the first match played today, Gilgal defeated DEF Mokokchung by 6-1 goals.

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