

Evening News Script

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:: THE HEADLINES ::

- Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio encourages citizens to contribute to a cleaner India.
- Minister, Jacob Zhimomi says, Swachh Bharat Mission has made substantial progress in improving sanitation across all states.
- Three-day academic & cultural exchange programme between Fazl Ali College, Mokokchung and Sherubtse College, Royal University of Bhutan begins.
- and, Nation pays homage to the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, on his 156th birth anniversary

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Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio, echoing Mahatma Gandhi's vision of cleanliness, has encouraged citizens to actively contribute to a cleaner India, in line with goals of Swachh Bharat Mission. Mr. Rio emphasized that the State has adopted targeted, flexible, and community-driven strategies to promote equitable healthcare and enhance hygiene awareness. He made this remark today while delivering a message at national news channel on importance of hygiene and community participation during the launch of Banega Swasth India Season 12. He noted that Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the launch of Swachh Bharat Mission, urged every citizen to work towards realizing Mahatma Gandhi's dream of a clean and hygienic India.

On the hygiene front, the Chief Minister said, the state is implementing village-specific IEC plans, cost-effective waste management solutions, and targeted campaigns through schools, Anganwadi centres, and youth groups to ensure hygiene awareness reaches every household. He also mentioned that Nagaland participated in Ek Din, Ek Ghanta, Ek Saath campaign, where communities came together to take collective action for cleanliness.

Additionally, the Chief Minister said, ASHAs and village volunteers are conducting targeted malaria screenings in international border villages. He further emphasized crucial role of village councils and local community organizations in sustaining health and sanitation efforts.

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Minister for PHED and Cooperation, Jacob Zhimomi said that Swachh Bharat Mission has made substantial progress in improving sanitation across all states. Speaking at the celebration of Swachh Bharat Diwas cum culmination of Swachhata Hi Seva campaign 2025 today, Jacob lauded everyone involved in taking the Swachh Bharat movement to the grassroots level, helping people understand the importance of keeping environment clean and healthy by adhering to sanitation guidelines. Swachh Bharat Mission-Grameen, Mission Director Gwatilo Tep said, success of this campaign is not just about achieving our goals but reaffirmation of our commitment to cleanliness, health, and dignity for every citizen.

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A three-day academic and cultural exchange programme commenced between Fazl Ali College, Mokokchung and Sherubtse College, Royal University of Bhutan commenced at Sherubtse College, Bhutan. Five faculty from Fazl Ali

College led by Associate Professor, Head of Department Sociology, Dr. Adangla Changkija along with 18 students are participating in the programme. The student-faculty exchange programme under the theme 'Strengthening Bond Beyond Borders' holds significant importance in fostering cross-cultural learning, academic collaboration and mutual understanding between the two institutions. Through such partnerships, the two colleges continue to inspire students and faculty to think beyond borders, and strengthen Bhutan-India ties.

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Nation is paying homage to the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, on his 156th birth anniversary today. A series of functions are being organised across the country and by Indian Missions abroad. A Sarva Dharma Prarthana Sabha was held at Bapu's Samadhi, Rajghat, in National Capital. President Droupadi Murmu, Vice President C P Radhakrishnan, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, and Minister of Housing & Urban Affairs Manohar Lal paid floral tributes to Mahatma Gandhi at Rajghat this morning. Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid tribute to Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi. In a social media post, Mr Modi said, Gandhi Jayanti is about paying homage to extraordinary life of beloved Bapu, whose ideals transformed the course of human history.

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Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio paid tribute to Mahatma Gandhi on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti, honouring the Father of the Nation and his enduring values of truth, non-violence, and simplicity. In his message, Chief Minister Rio said, Gandhi's principles continue to inspire people across generations to strive for peace, justice, and harmony in society. Expressing hope for a better and more compassionate society, the Chief Minister urged individuals to embody Gandhiji's teachings and contribute towards building a just and peaceful nation.

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Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio has expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Finance Minister for releasing 1,01,603 crore rupees as an advance installment of tax devolution to state governments. In a post on social media platform X, Mr. Rio stated that this timely support will significantly aid development, welfare, and capital expenditure in Nagaland and across the nation. Under this additional tax devolution, the government has allocated 578 crore rupees to Nagaland.

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Guided by the mantra of Seva and Sushasan, that is, Public Service and Good Governance, Government, under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has been working tirelessly to bring transformation and progress. Today, in this Special Series – ‘Seva Parv’, we bring to you how Modi government has showcased India’s unwavering commitment to national security, military strength and excellence in indigenous technology, through Operation Sindoor.

(V/ C: Today’s India is seen not just as a peace-loving nation, but also as a strong, decisive, and technologically self-reliant global power. These words from Prime Minister Narendra Modi, during the special discussion on Operation Sindoor in Lok Sabha, further underlines India’s changing image on the global stage..

Following the terrorist attack in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir, on 22nd of April, India launched Operation Sindoor on intervening nights of 6th and 7th May. Within a short time, nine terrorist hideouts across Pakistan and Pak occupied Kashmir were neutralized. The message was clear: India acts swiftly and precisely when required. Operation Sindoor showcased the strength and technological prowess of the Indian armed forces. The destruction of Pakistan’s air defence systems and key strategic installations stood as a testament to India’s growing military strength. Operation Sindoor not only demonstrated India’s military and technological strength, but it showcased a new form of justice. As Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, Operation Sindoor

is not over, it is being paused for now, and if there is any Pak sponsored terrorist attack again, India will respond by launching a larger attack.

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Under the Next Generation GST Reforms, government has reduced GST to ease financial burden on farmers, promote rural development, and make essential farm equipment more affordable. GST on farm equipment like sprinklers, drip irrigation systems, harvesting machinery, and small diesel engines have been reduced to 5 percent from earlier 12 percent tax slab. This will encourage water-saving irrigation, boost productivity, and support sustainable agriculture. Similarly, tax on bio-pesticides and several micronutrients is also slashed down to 5 percent. Meanwhile, GST on fertilizers such as ammonia, sulphuric acid, and nitric acid are also reduced from 18 percent to 5 percent. This will make fertilisers affordable encouraging farmers to use bio-pesticides, improving soil health and crop quality. Cheaper fertilisers and farm machines will boost productivity, making Indian agriculture stronger and self-reliant.

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