

## Morning News Script

0730 hrs

19<sup>th</sup> April 2026

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi has expressed deep anguish that despite the Government's best and most sincere efforts, Women's Reservation bill could not be passed in the Lok Sabha. He said, for this, he sincerely apologises to all mothers and sisters. Addressing the nation last evening, the Prime Minister emphasised that the Nari Shakti Vandan Amendment was an effort to ensure balanced empowerment across all regions. He said, the legislation aimed to strengthen the voice of every state in Parliament by increasing representation proportionately but was crushed by Congress and its allies.

Mr Modi said, the legislation failed to secure the 66 percent of votes required to pass it, but the blessings of 100 percent of the nation's women are with his government. The Prime Minister assured every woman that his government will eliminate every obstacle standing in the way of their reservation.

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The Union Cabinet yesterday approved a two percent increase in Dearness Allowance to Central Government employees and Dearness Relief to pensioners with effect from 1st January this year. Briefing media in New Delhi, Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said, the increase over the existing rate of 58 percent is to compensate for price rise.

The Cabinet also gave its approval for the continuation of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY-III) beyond March 2025 up to March 2028.

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District-level preparations for Census 2027 are underway across Nagaland, with training programmes being conducted in various districts. In Chumoukedima, a two-day training for District and Charge Officers concluded yesterday. Deputy

Commissioner Polan John highlighted the need for strong coordination among officials to manage crucial tasks of the census. Sessions covered field procedures, self-enumeration, household listing, and the use of digital tools for efficient data management. In Longleng, a three-day training for the first phase of the Census was held from April 16 to 18. Deputy Commissioner W. Manpai Phom stressed the importance of accurate data collection and coordinated efforts. Participants, including Principal Census Officer, District Census Officer and Charge Officers, were trained on legal provisions, digital systems, and data verification, with emphasis on privacy and data security.

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As part of efforts to promote indigenous knowledge systems of Nagaland, the Department of Art and Culture organised a programme on 'Living Morung and Traditional Knowledge' at Bethel Baptist Higher Secondary School in Old Showuba, Niuland yesterday. The programme highlighted sustainable, organic, and community-led agricultural practices of Naga communities. Deputy Director Teisovikuolie Therie, in his keynote address, described the Living Morung as a traditional institution where youth learn values, discipline, and agricultural knowledge from community elders. The event featured folk tale narration, cultural performances, and sessions on traditional farming methods, crop selection, and ecological indicators. The department said documentation from the programme will be archived under its initiative to build a digital repository of indigenous knowledge.

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And, The 2nd Nagaland Women Futsal League 2026 will be held from the 11th to 16th of May at IG Stadium in Kohima. The tournament is being organised by the Youth Resources and Sports Department in collaboration with the Nagaland Football Association. A total prize pool of 2 lakh rupees has been earmarked, including individual awards. Participation will be limited to a maximum of 10 teams on a first-come, first-served basis. Clubs must be registered under their respective District Football Associations, and have 7 to 10 players, with at least 60

percent indigenous inhabitants of Nagaland. Further details will be released shortly.

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