

THE HEADLINES :-

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in his Mann Ki Baat programme highlights about success of Northeast in the Bamboo sector.**
- **Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh says, India's technological strength will define national power in coming decades.**
- **Government says wheat production 2025-26 remains resilient despite weather challenges.**
- **In a noble initiative, two churches in Kohima donates 47 units of blood.**



Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in his address to the nation in Mann Ki Baat programme on Akashvani today spoke about the success of the Northeast in the Bamboo sector. He elaborated that what was once viewed as a burden is now giving new impetus to employment, business, and innovation. Mr Modi said that it was very difficult to transport Bamboo anywhere, and people started moving away from Bamboo-related businesses as a result. He stated that his Government changed the law in 2017 and removed Bamboo from the tree category. Prime Minister Modi noted with satisfaction that, today, the Bamboo sector is flourishing throughout the Northeast. Mr. Modi highlighted Bijoy Sutradhar of Gomati district of Tripura and Pradeep Chakraborty of South Tripura, saying they embraced the new laws as an opportunity and integrated technology into their work.

Mr Modi highlighted that there are several Self-Help Groups that have lent value addition to bamboo-based food products in Dimapur and the surrounding areas of Nagaland. He said there are also teams like Khorolo Creative Crafts, which are working on Bamboo furniture and handicrafts. The Prime Minister urged people to purchase one bamboo product from the Northeast, saying their efforts will encourage those who toil hard to make Bamboo products.



Science and Technology Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh has said that India's technological capability will define national strength in the coming decades. The Minister said this while virtually addressing the PAN-IIT Alumni Conference in Los Angeles, USA. On the occasion, Dr Singh called for India to emerge as a global leader in critical and emerging technologies. He said that the country must move beyond being a consumer of technology to becoming a creator, designer, and global driver of innovation. He also emphasized the need for deeper collaboration between academia, industry, and government, along with new models of education and institution-building.



In response to certain media reports regarding wheat production scenario for 2025-26, Government has clarified that wheat production remains mixed and resilient in the country, despite weather-related challenges in some regions. Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, said, wheat season has been supported by strong adaptive measures taken by farmers. It added that the crop was sown across an

estimated over 33.4 million hectares, with no reported incidence of major insect pests or diseases during the season. Increased early and timely sowing also contributed to a rise in acreage compared to last year. However, the crop experienced heat stress due to unusually high temperatures in February, which reduced grain filling duration and yield.



A total of 47 units of blood were voluntarily donated during blood donation camps organised by two Churches in Kohima. The Faith Harvest Church, as part of its 25th Anniversary celebration, organised the camp yesterday at the Church hall, with participation of 40 voluntary donors. Department of Transfusion Medicine, Naga Hospital Kohima facilitated the collection of blood on site. Meanwhile, the Salvation Army Church (Mizo Fellowship) conducted the camp today at Naga Hospital Kohima, marking the 109th anniversary of its establishment in Northeast India. A total of seven units of blood were collected.



The Phase IV of the RMLCF tobacco - free campaign was successfully held on Friday at G.Rio School Kohima. The event witnessed participation from 20 schools comprising of two government and 18 private schools, along with 369 students and 35 teachers, reflecting strong collective stand towards tobacco-free future. The first session, led by keynote speaker Dr. Reyosalu Lase Vizo, Additional Director (Dental), Directorate of Health & Family Welfare, focused on raising awareness about harmful effects of tobacco and importance of informed choices. Meanwhile, the second session encouraged student engagement through group discussions and presentations, creating space for ideas, dialogue and collaboration.



The Tribal Research Centre (TRC), Nagaland University, organised the Nagaland premiere screening of the documentary film titled, ‘A Sacred Place’ on Friday, bringing together faculty members, research scholars, and students from different departments in both offline and online modes. Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, TRC, Nagaland University, Dr. Yamsani Srikanth, noted that this was the first time the university had hosted a film screening of this kind. The 40-minute screening was followed by discussion, during which the film’s director and producer, Prof. Dolly Kikon, reflected on collaborative and interdisciplinary nature of the project, noting that it brought together anthropologists, geologists, and local communities. Describing the project as collaborative knowledge production, she encouraged indigenous thinkers and scholars to return to their roots and contribute meaningfully to the communities they study.



The North East NSS Festival 2026, organised by the University of Science & Technology Meghalaya under the theme “Empowered Youth for Viksit Bharat” concluded successfully yesterday, marking the culmination of five days of intensive engagement, community service, cultural exchange, and youth empowerment. The festival brought together NSS volunteers and programme officers from across the Northeastern states creating a dynamic platform for leadership development, national integration and experiential learning. Manipur

was adjudged the Best contingent in recognition of its outstanding performance, discipline and active participation throughout the festival.



Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) in a joint operation with Assam Rifles and Manipur Police has seized 474 soap cases of heroin worth 11 crore rupees in illicit drug market of Churachandpur in Manipur. In a statement, NCB said that the contraband was concealed in fabricated cavity made in a four wheeler and 3 drug traffickers, all residents of Churachandpur district, who obtained it from Myanmar were arrested with the contraband weighing about 5.4 kilograms. The Bureau has said that further investigation is underway to ascertain backward and forward linkages to dismantle the larger drug trafficking network operating in this region. The agency has intensified operations in Manipur owing to its vulnerability to cross-border drug trafficking.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be on a two-day visit to Sikkim from tomorrow. On Tuesday, the Prime Minister will visit Orchidarium in Gangtok, which features world-class Orchid Experience Centre to showcase the ecological and floral heritage of the state. He will also participate in the closing ceremony of Sikkim's 50th Year of Statehood celebrations at Paljor Stadium. On the occasion, Mr Modi will inaugurate, launch and lay the foundation stone of multiple development projects worth over four thousand crore rupees across the state.

