

THE HEADLINES :-

- **Stage set for counting of votes for four states Assemblies and one union territory tomorrow; All arrangement in place.**
- **All arrangements done for vote count of Koridang bypoll tomorrow.**
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi says Mission Drishti by GalaxEye marks major achievement in India's space journey.**
- **World Press Freedom Day observed today to encourage and develop initiatives in favour of press freedom.**



Counting of votes for the Assembly elections held in West Bengal, Keralam, Tamil Nadu, Assam, and the Union Territory of Puducherry, will be taken up tomorrow morning. In Assam all arrangements have been put in place for counting of votes for assembly elections. Counting for all 126 seats will be held at 40 counting centres across all 35 districts amid tight security. The fate of 722 candidates, including 59 women, will be decided tomorrow. Polling in Assam was held on April 9 with 85.96 percent voter turnout. In West Bengal, Election officials said that all arrangements are in place at 77 counting centres across the state, with multi-layered security in place to ensure transparency. In Tamil Nadu, a total of 10 thousand 545 counting personnel will be deployed for counting duty supported by 4624 micro observers. In Puducherry, all arrangements have been made for counting of Assembly elections with elaborate security and monitoring mechanisms in place. Talking to Akashvani, Puducherry Chief Electoral Officer P Jawahar the entire process will be conducted in a transparent manner under the supervision of observers appointed by the Election Commission of India. In Keralam, all arrangements have been completed for the counting of votes for Assembly elections.



All arrangements have been made for the counting of votes for the Koridang Assembly Constituency byelection in Nagaland's Mokokchung district, scheduled for tomorrow. The bypoll, necessitated by the demise of sitting BJP MLA Imkong L Imchen, witnessed a voter turnout of 82.21 per cent on April 9. Six candidates are in the fray for the seat, including BJP nominee Daochier I Imchen, who is also the consensus candidate of Peoples' Democratic Alliance government led by Naga Peoples' Front, Congress candidate T Chalukumba Ao, NPP's I Abenjang, and Independents Imchatoba Imchen, Imtiwapang, and Toshikaba. Returning Officer of Koridang Assembly constituency, Nockpai Konyak, told PTI that counting will start at 8 am in the Mokokchung Deputy Commissioner's office in 10 tables for 3 rounds. Results are expected to be declared by afternoon.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi today said Mission Drishti by GalaxEye marks a major achievement in India's space journey. In a social media post, Mr Modi said the successful launch of the world's first OptoSAR satellite and the largest privately-built satellite in India is a testament to youth's passion for innovation and nation-building. He congratulated the founders and the entire team of GalaxEye.



Today is World Press Freedom Day. It serves as an occasion to encourage and develop initiatives in favour of press freedom, and to assess the state of press freedom worldwide. The theme for this year is 'Shaping a Future of Peace'. We have a report:-



On World Press Freedom Day, Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio and Minister for Tourism and Higher Education, Temjen Imna Along acknowledges media fraternity. In a social media post, Chief Minister Rio said acknowledged the vital role of the Fourth Estate in keeping communities informed, empowered, and connected. He also said the government values their commitment to truth and transparency, which remains essential for the continued progress of societies everywhere. Minister Along saluted every journalist who travels to the Northeast to tell our stories, and to put a face to a region many still cannot locate on a map.



A one-day state level workshop on 'Institutionalizing Capacity Building: From Training to Performance Linked Governance' for AHODs and HODs of 16 departments was held at Administrative Training Institute Kohima in collaboration with P&AR and Capacity Building Commission yesterday. The workshop aimed to bring together departments that are part of the State Training Council and Apex Training Committee and also those which have training institutes and gather structured feedbacks. The feedbacks are to be consolidated as a State Recommendation Report which will be deliberated upon during National Departmental Summit at Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, Mussorie on May 15 and 16. Additional Chief Secretary, V. Shashank Shekhar stressed on the need for governance to be practical and citizen centric stating that good governance should be action and solution oriented.



The Ao community in Chümoukedima yesterday celebrated its premier festival Moatsü-marking the end of seed sowing and thanksgiving organized by Ao Senso Telongjem at Sammagooting ground. Addressing the gathering, Minister of Public Health Engineering & Cooperation, Jacob Zhimomi called on the Naga community to move past tribal and clan division to form one single identity. While praising the rich traditions and simple lifestyle, he noted that internal divisions still exist. He stressed that the community must work together as one to achieve real progress and development. Other highlights of the festival include Indigenous games, bamboo climbing, fire making, traditional cart race and cultural presentations. Minister of Rural Development & SIRD Metsubo Jamir was the Guest of Honour and MLA Nuklutoshi Longkumer as the festival Host.



Iran has submitted a 14-point plan to the United States, outlining a framework aimed at ending the war on all fronts, including Lebanon. According to the Iranian proposal, the issues should be resolved within 30 days and insists that diplomatic efforts must prioritise the termination of the war as opposed to simply extending a ceasefire. The Iranian document follows a nine-point US proposal and covers various topics, including guarantees against military aggression and the withdrawal of US military forces from the region surrounding Iran. On the other hand, US President Donald Trump yesterday stated that he would soon review the plan. However, he expressed his dissatisfaction with the offer. The President warned that military options continue to remain on the table.



Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, in collaboration with all States and Union Territories and relevant Central Ministries and Departments, will observe a pan-India ‘Fire Safety Week’ from tomorrow to raise awareness on the importance of prevention and mitigation of fire hazards across healthcare facilities in the country. Union Health Secretary Punya Salila Srivastava will inaugurate the Fire Safety Week tomorrow and will lead the Pledge on Fire Safety in Health Facilities at Kartavya Bhawan, New Delhi. It will mark the commencement of a series of awareness and preparedness activities to be conducted nationwide during the week.



The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare released the Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) 2.0 Guidelines recently. The updated framework broadens the established 4Ds approach – Defects at Birth, Diseases, Deficiencies and Developmental Delays. It also incorporated new-age health challenges, including non-communicable diseases, mental health conditions, and behavioural concerns. RBSK 2.0 now takes a more comprehensive, lifecycle-based approach, focusing on the health of children from birth up to 18 years. It emphasizes continuous care at every stage of a child’s growth, rather than isolated interventions.

