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:: THE HEADLINES ::

- President Droupadi Murmu presents Padma Awards at second Civil Investiture Ceremony
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi says, principle of Nation First driving force behind India's transformation
- Tenyimi Union Nagaland holds first annual general session
- Nagaland joins global celebration of International Olympic Day

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President Droupadi Murmu presented the Padma Awards at the second Civil Investiture Ceremony at Rashtrapati Bhavan this evening. Among the recipients of the Padma Vibhushan were journalist P. Narayanan in the field of Literature and Education, and former judge K.T. Thomas for social work. The Padma Bhushan was awarded to former tennis player Vijay Amritraj, actor Mammooty, and playback singer Alka Yagnik. Among the awardees, Nagaland's Guru Sangyusang S Pongener was honoured with the Padma Shri in Art for his innovative contribution and preservation of Ao–Naga folk traditions for over six decades.

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said the principle of Nation First has been the driving force behind India's transformation into a fast-growing, credible and reliable global power. Addressing a summit organized by a private media house in New Delhi, he said the country's achievements over the past decade were rooted in trust, stability and a commitment to the larger global good.

Highlighting the government's 12 years in office, the Prime Minister said initiatives such as Swachh Bharat, Make in India, promotion of khadi and support for local products succeeded because citizens embraced the spirit of nation-building.

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The Tenyimi Union Nagaland (TUN) held its first annual general session at AGOK Badze, Meriema, today under the theme 'Progressive Society through Unity'. Addressing

the gathering, Minister for Power and Parliamentary Affairs, K.G. Kenye, stressed the importance of preserving Tenyimi unity within the broader Naga identity. He said the Tenyimi - comprising the Angami, Chakhesang, Rengma, Zeliang and Pochury tribes - are bound by shared ancestry, history and customs, which have helped keep the community closely knit through generations. He urged the community to continue playing a constructive role in strengthening Naga society. Mr Kenye expressed concern over growing social fragmentation and lack of collective direction, and called for responsible leadership, unity and collaborative efforts towards the welfare of the Naga people.

Also speaking at the event, Minister for Women Resource Development and Horticulture, Salhoutuonuo Kruse, urged the Tenyimi community to preserve its shared heritage, cultural values and spirit of brotherhood. She emphasized that unity, mutual respect and cooperation remain essential for the progress of society, and called on the younger generation to uphold these values through character, compassion and service to society. Both ministers highlighted the need for stronger community bonds, greater collaboration with other Naga groups and continued efforts to promote peace and collective development across the state. The session also elected K.T. Vilie as President of the Tenyimi Union Nagaland for the 2026–29 term.

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Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio along with Deputy Chief Ministers T.R. Zeliang and Yanthungo Patton, Advisor Dr. Kekhrielhoulie Yhome and other officials, reviewed the situation at Nagaland House, New Delhi following yesterday's fire incident. The team assessed the damage and received updates from Joint Resident Commissioner Sharon Longchari. Deputy CM Yanthungo Patton shared the information on social media. He appreciated the prompt response of fire and emergency services, which helped contain the blaze and ensure safety. Mr Patton said, further necessary measures are being taken to assess the impact.

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Union Minister of Co-operation Amit Shah has called for eliminating the role of intermediaries in procurement operations to strengthen direct farmer participation. He said this during the launch of 'NAFEX.in', the auction portal of National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED) in New Delhi. Mr Shah said procurement should increasingly be conducted directly from farmers to ensure the full benefits of Minimum Support Price reach farmers.

During the event, Mr Shah also launched several important digital and farmer-centric initiatives of NAFED, including the NAFED-KALYAN scholarship for children of farmers, and the DRISHTI portal for inventory management of pulses and oilseed.

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International Olympic Day is being celebrated globally today. The day is observed annually to commemorate the founding of the International Olympic Committee in 1894 and the revival of the modern Olympic Games. On the occasion, Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio said sports inspire, unite, and create opportunities. In a social media post, he said sports teach values such as dedication, perseverance, teamwork, and fair play, from local playgrounds to the global stage. Extending greetings, Mr Rio called for celebrating the spirit of sportsmanship and joy of sport.

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As part of the International Olympic Day celebrations, the Nagaland Olympic Association, in collaboration with the Nagaland Football Association and its affiliated associations, organized a statewide tree plantation drive today, reflecting a shared commitment to environmental sustainability. A total of 2,036 saplings were planted across Nagaland under the theme 'Move, Inspire, Together'. The initiative was conducted in line with the Indian Olympic Association's programme and the International Olympic Committee's Olympic Forest initiative. Sports associations, athletes, officials, volunteers and community members took part in the drive.

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And, Nagaland will host an Open Recruitment Rally for the Indian Air Force's Agniveervayu scheme in September, marking the first such recruitment drive in the state in ten years. The decision was taken at a meeting chaired by the Special Secretary, Home, in Kohima earlier this month. The rally will be open to both male and female candidates under the Agniveervayu Non-Technical category, and is tentatively scheduled to be held at the Nagaland Armed Police Training Centre in Chumoukedima. The Indian Air Force will issue the recruitment notification, along with eligibility and qualification details, at least 45 days before the rally to ensure wider awareness and participation among aspiring candidates across the state.

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