

Morning News Script

0730 hrs

15th September 2026



Chief Justice of India Surya Kant has described the mechanism developed by the Supreme Court and high courts to address complaints against judges as robust, very responsive and timely, while stressing the need for continuous reform and greater transparency in the judiciary. Delivering the keynote address at the 6th Ram Jethmalani Memorial Lecture on Justice Seen to Be Done: Transparency and Public Trust as Pillars of the Legal System, in New Delhi yesterday, the CJI said reform must remain the norm and no institution could afford to take pride in remaining static. He said the judiciary itself had acknowledged the importance of criticism, reiterating the Supreme Court's position that the institution is not, and cannot be, averse to criticism. He added fair, informed and constructive critique of judicial functioning is a legitimate and necessary feature of a vibrant constitutional democracy.



The government has announced that banks cannot impose any charges on Unified Payments Interface (UPI) transactions of up to 2,000 rupees. According to a government gazette notification no charges can be imposed on such 2,000 rupees payments made through RuPay-powered debit cards either. The notification said no bank or system provider can impose any direct or indirect charge on a person making or receiving payments through these modes. The Finance Ministry notified the changes under the Payment and Settlement Systems Act to clarify the rules around charges on UPI transactions. The notification specifically categorised RuPay-powered debit cards and UPI transactions of up to 2,000 rupees as "electronic modes of payment".



The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment yesterday informed that as on date, the Naya Bharat, Nasha Mukti Bharat campaign has reached more than 34.54 crore citizens. These include over 13.70 crore youth and 10.64 crore women. Secretary of the Ministry Sudhansh Pant said that more than 1 lakh 67 thousand Nasha Mukti Mitras have also joined the campaign to strengthen community participation. He added that over 31.40 lakh awareness and outreach

activities were conducted across the country. Mr Pant said that the Ministry aims to mobilise more than 10 Crore citizens through both physical and online participation to undertake the National Mass Pledge Against Drug Abuse. He said that the National Level Mass Pledge is scheduled to be held by the end of this month to mark the 6th anniversary of the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan.



National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) will upgrade its existing 1033 National Highway Helpline with advanced technology to provide faster and better assistance to people travelling on National Highways. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways said that the upgraded 1033 helpline will use technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, real-time location tracking and smart emergency-response systems. These improvements will help the 1033 helpline identify the location of callers, understand calls in different Indian languages and send the right assistance to the location more quickly. The helpline currently covers more than 1.46 lakh kilometre of National Highways and provides assistance in multiple languages.



The Nagaland State Disaster Management Authority has issued a four-day weather outlook for all districts from today, to September 18. For today, light to moderate rain is expected in Longleng, Mokokchung and Mon, while thunderstorms and lightning with rain are likely over Noklak and Tuensang. Thunderstorms are also forecast in Dimapur, Peren and Phek. Tomorrow, thunderstorms with light to moderate rain are expected in Longleng and Mon, with thunderstorms and light rain likely across several other districts. No active weather warning is forecast for all districts on September 17. Meanwhile, on September 18, thunderstorms with light rain are likely in Noklak, Phek, Shamator and Zunheboto, while light rain is expected in Mon and Tuensang. The highest cumulative rainfall during the four-day period is forecast over Longleng at 42.96 millimetres, followed by Mon, Mokokchung and Tuensang. The public has been advised to monitor updates through the Safer Nagaland app and NSDMA Weather Portal, follow official advisories and exercise caution during thunderstorms and rainfall.

