

## Evening News Script

1920 hrs

18<sup>th</sup> December 2017.

### THE HEADLINES:

- **Bharatiya Janata Party all set to retain sixth straight term in power in Gujarat and also leading in Himachal Pradesh Assembly elections.**
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi appeals people to bring in New Year 2018 by spreading message of positivity, gratitude and happiness**
- **Vice President Venkaiah Naidu says all parties should reach consensus to clear long-pending Women's Reservation Bill**
- **Rengma Hoho tells Legislators to resign first if solution is a priorit**

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**Bharatiya Janata Party, BJP is all set to retain sixth straight term in power in Gujarat and also leading in Himachal Pradesh Assembly elections. As per the results declared so far for 175 Constituencies in Gujarat, BJP had won 95 seats, while Indian National Congress,**

INC had won 75 seats, Nationalist Congress Party-1, Bhartiya Tribal Party-2 and Independent-2. In Himachal Pradesh out of 51 results declared so far, BJP has won 32, INC-17, CPI (M)-1 and Independent-1.

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi has appealed to the people to bring in the New Year 2018 by spreading the message of positivity, gratitude and happiness. He urged people to share five positive experiences from the year 2017 in the form of short stories, videos or photographs to inspire other fellow citizens. He said let us welcome the New Year with hashtag PositiveIndia. People can share their experiences on [www.mygov.in](http://www.mygov.in) portal till 25th of this month. In his Mann Ki Baat address on 26th of last month, Modi said, at the end of every year people recall events of the year gone by and every one should begin 2018 with a message of positivity.

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Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu today said, all parties should reach a consensus to clear the long-pending Women's Reservation Bill. The bill seeks to provide 33 per cent reservation to women in Parliament and state legislatures. Speaking at a state-level convention of women's self-help groups in Bhopal, the Vice President said, Women are given reservation in local government bodies and efforts are on for women's reservation in Parliament. Stressing that women's empowerment could create a new India,

Naidu said the focus should be on Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao programme of the Modi led government at the Centre.

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The Rengma Hoho opined that if a solution is a priority, the Naga Legislators should think of mass resignation first and not talk of post-election, which according to them sounded hypocritical on the part of the legislators. In a statement, Rengma Hoho expressed its desire to see for an early solution to the Indo-Naga political problem since the issue is that of self-determination and to live under one administrative unit. Reaffirming its support to the ongoing dialogue between the Centre and the Nagas, the Hoho called upon the negotiating parties to find a solution based on the principle of mutual respect which recognizes the right of every section of people.

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Finance Minister Arun Jaitley today called for radical reforms in the judicial and education systems of the country, saying they were long overdue. Speaking at a Private University function in Pune, Jaitley said, radical reforms is needed in our judicial and educational systems adding reforms have been very belated in these two areas. He also said the youth need to be adequately trained so that they become the future leaders in all walks of life. Jaitley warned that if the inequalities were not looked at and arrested, our country will not be far from the violent public protests seen elsewhere in the world.

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Both the Houses of Parliament were adjourned for the day today following uproarious scenes by opposition Congress members, who demanded an apology from Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his remarks against former Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh. Earlier, the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha witnessed brief adjournments on the same issue. The issue was raised for the second day in the Rajya Sabha. The agitating members in both the Houses trooped into the well of the houses forcing their adjournment.

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NPF President, Dr. Shürhozelie Liezietsu has expressed concern over the present situation in the state and called upon all to work together to change the face of Nagaland. He was speaking at the closing ceremony of Nagaland State Bharat Scouts and Guides (NSBSG) golden jubilee celebration on Saturday last. Dr. Shürhozelie said, attitude of people needs to be changed and should develop work culture. Congratulating NSBSG for attaining fifty years, he also paid rich tribute to pioneers and recalled his fond memories with this worldwide movement in Nagaland. Dr. Shürhozelie said that the movement truly inculcates the values of discipline, social services and sense of patriotism which should be highly appreciated.

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The Nagaland Voluntary Consumers' Organisation (NVCO) has appealed all service providers to honour the rights of the consumers. As part of the weeklong observance of National Consumer Day starting from today, the NVCO visited LPG counter in Kohima town to ascertain as to how the consumers are being treated. The visiting team expressed their displeasure to see the consumers mostly mothers on the queue since 3AM. The organization questioned the District Administration as to what was the reason that led to this scene when there is a clear instruction to the LPG service provider for home delivery. Pointing out that all payments on parcels and letters have been pre-paid, the NVCO also urged the courier service counters to deliver at the consumer's doorstep. It said failure of this amounts to exploitation of consumer rights.

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State Resource Centre for Women (SRCW) in Nagaland has been carrying out the objective of its Mission positively by facilitating the process towards ensuring economic and social empowerment of women with emphasis on health and education, eliminate violence against women, and create awareness about various schemes and programmes meant for women. Officially launched in the year 2013, the SRCW is the implementing agency of the National Mission for Empowerment of Women, Ministry of Women & Child Development. Since then, the Centre has been successfully implementing various schemes such as Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao, One stop centre and women helpline 181 in the state. Speaking to AIR Kohima, Assistant State Coordinator SRCW Juliana Medom

said the introduction of centrally sponsored schemes like Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao, women helpline in the state have given a positive impact on women beneficiaries. She said because of the various awareness programme, people are coming forward with positive mindset.

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The Lotha Hoho has expressed shock and surprise at the sacking of Y Patton and Mmhonlumo Kikon and queried as to whether Chief Minister T R Zeliang had targeted the Ministers in particular. In a press statement, the Lotha Hoho Chairman, Mhao Humtsoe and General Secretary, Mhondamo Ovung further questioned the Chief Minister and DAN leaders as to whether Nagaland politics was based on tribalism, favoritism and nepotism. Clarifying its stand on the ministerial reshuffle, the Hoho said that it will have nothing to do with internal party affairs, but asserted that if the axing of the duo had been on discriminatory line, the Hoho said it will be compelled to withdraw its support to the government.

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At the stock markets, the Sensex at the Bombay Stock Exchange opened with a huge loss of 867 points, this morning, as reports of vote counting pointed to a close fight between the BJP and the Congress in the Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh state elections. But later, as available trends showed the BJP surging ahead in both the states, the Sensex recovered smartly, and had jumped 212 points, or 0.6 percent, to 33,675, a short while ago. The Nifty at the National Stock Exchange had climbed 74 points, to 10,407. And at the forex

market, the rupee also recovered smartly from sharp initial losses, and was down just 7 paise, to 64.11 against the dollar a short while ago. In early trade, the rupee had tumbled as much as 68 paise.

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Election Commission of India has said that there is no time limit prescribed in the Model Code of Conduct for release of the election manifesto by the political parties. The Commission observed that it has also not issued any instructions in this regard.

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