

## Morning News Script

0730 hrs

29<sup>th</sup> April 2025

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The Nagaland government has decided to reduce the timeline for the High Power Committee to submit its findings and recommendations regarding the absorption of 147 contractual Assistant Professors and Librarians from eight weeks to four. Earlier, during a Cabinet meeting held on April 21st, a High-Level Committee was constituted and given eight weeks to submit its report. However, following an emergency Cabinet meeting held in Kohima yesterday, a new decision was made to shorten this timeline. Addressing media persons after the meeting—alongside Minister for Parliamentary Affairs K. G. Kenye and Chief Secretary Dr. J. Alam, Deputy Chief Minister T. R. Zeliang said, that the Cabinet, acknowledging the concerns raised by the agitators, has reconsidered its earlier decision and decided to reduce the waiting period to four weeks.

He added that, as one week has already passed since April 21st, the Committee now has only three weeks left to submit its report. Mr. Zeliang clarified that for the government to reverse its previous decision, would require documentary evidence to support any action taken.

Mr Zeliang said, an appeal was made to the representatives of the Naga Students' Federation (NSF) and the Combined Technical Association of Nagaland (CTAN) and Nagaland NET Qualified Forum (NNQF) to deliberate internally and understand the Cabinet's perspective—that the Committee will submit its report within the remaining three weeks, after which the government will take appropriate and positive action. Mr. Zeliang urged the NSF, CTAN, and NNQF to suspend their proposed agitation until the report is submitted and a decision is taken based on its findings.

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Following no positive outcomes from the Nagaland government regarding the revocation of the Cabinet Order issued on 11th September 2024 concerning the regularization of 147 contractual Assistant Professors under the Department of Higher Education, the Combined Technical Association of Nagaland (CTAN) and Nagaland NET Qualified Forum (NNQF) will resume their indefinite protest from today

Meanwhile, the Naga Students Federation ( NSF) will also launch the first phase of its proposed democratic agitation today. The agitation follows the expiry of the seven-day ultimatum issued to the State Government on the 22nd of this month, which ended yesterday. Both CTAN & NNQF, along with NSF, will begin their protest simultaneously at 9:00 AM at the Directorate of Higher Education in Kohima.

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The Nagaland Pradesh Congress Committee (NPCC) has called for the protection of the Constitution of India under its nationwide campaign, Samvidhan Bachao – Save the Constitution”. This was stated during a press conference held in Kohima yesterday, addressed by AICC Secretary in charge of Nagaland, Christopher Tilak, along NPCC President and Lok Sabha MP S. Supongmeren Jamir, and other

state Congress leaders. Asserting that the Constitution is under threat, under the BJP-led government, AICC Secretary incharge Nagaland, Mr Tilak stressed the importance of the Congress party's role in re-educating, agitating, and mobilizing the public around the concept of saving the Constitution.

Mr Tilak further informed that in the coming months, the Congress party plans to intensify its campaign by extending to the district and assembly levels including door-to-door outreach efforts. Lok Sabha MP Jamir added that the NPCC will soon convene a meeting with its executives and office-bearers to decide the next course of action.

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The Consultative Meeting convened by the Nagaland state government with tribal and civil society groups on April 30 has been canceled. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, K G Kenye yesterday informed that the cabinet in its meeting held yesterday decided to cancel the consultative meeting indefinitely.

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