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## :: THE HEADLINES ::

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi highlights India's rapid strides in clean energy and electricity access
- · Member Associations of JCC to continue pen-down strike until further notice
- · State government constitutes Cabinet Sub-committee to study IAS induction row
- · MP Supongmeren Jamir pushes for rail improvements in Nagaland

Prime Minister Narendra Modi today said India is making rapid strides in clean energy and electricity access. Addressing a gathering in Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh, he noted that power has now reached every village and that per capita electricity consumption has increased to 1,400 units.

Earlier, Mr Modi inaugurated, laid foundation stones and dedicated to the nation, multiple development projects worth around 13 thousand 430 crore rupees at Kurnool.

The Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) comprising CANSSEA, FONSESA, NIDA, NSSA, and NF&ASA has decided to extend the ongoing pen-down strike until further notice. The committee has been protesting since October 14, against alleged subversion of meritocracy in the non-SCS IAS induction process. However, in response to a request from the All Nagaland School Teachers' Association, the JCC has exempted teachers and educational institutions from the strike, keeping in mind students' welfare. It thanked all groups and individuals supporting the movement, and expressed regret for any inconvenience caused to the public. The JCC appealed for continued support for the cause aimed at securing a fair and merit-based system for future generations.

Amid the agitation of the Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) on IAS induction, the Nagaland State Cabinet today resolved to constitute a Cabinet Sub-committee headed by Deputy Chief Minister T.R. Zeliang, with other members including Deputy Chief Minister Y. Patton, Minister K.G. Kenye, Minister Metsubo Jamir, and Chief Secretary Sentiyanger Imchen. Informing this during a press conference, Minister KG Kenye said the Sub-committee will hold its first meeting on October 20. He clarified on the varying entry points for induction into IAS over the years.

He stated that the Cabinet felt the March 10 advertisement was a bureaucratic lapse, for which the modified matter was re-advertised. Mr Kenye expressed hope for a peaceful resolution to the matter.

The Nagaland Pradesh Congress Committee (NPCC) has announced that the public rally of Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge, proposed to be held Kohima, has been cancelled. In a press statement, NPCC said the event, originally scheduled for October 7th and later postponed due to Mr Kharge's health concerns, will no longer take place following continued medical advice. The NPCC noted that a new date will be announced upon communication

from the All India Congress Committee. Wishing Mr Kharge a speedy recovery, the party thanked the public for their understanding.

Lok Sabha MP S. Supongmeren Jamir has raised several key demands to improve railway infrastructure and services in Nagaland during the Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) meeting held in Guwahati on Tuesday. He called for reviving the discontinued 6 AM Nagaland Express from Dimapur to Guwahati, installation of Automatic Ticket Vending Machines at Dimapur station, and proper advertisement of railway employment openings across the state. Mr Jamir also requested the construction of the Dimapur–Tizit railway line and the foothill security railway route from Dimapur-via-Nuiland to Bhandari under Wokha District. During the meeting, the NFR deliberated on the ongoing railway projects in Nagaland. A report...

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has issued a directive to all States and Union Territories to ensure the removal of the term ORS from the food products by all food business operators. FSSAI has asked all concerned authorities to ensure strict compliance with the labelling and advertising requirements prescribed under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

Secretary of the Dimapur Chamber of Commerce and Industries, Chandu Kumar Agarwal, has lauded the Central Government for its recent reduction in the Goods and Services Tax (GST) rates, describing it as a major relief for consumers across various sectors. Mr Agarwal noted that the GST rate cut has brought tangible benefits to end-consumers, particularly in essential commodities and construction materials. He said, the rate cut in cement from 28 percent to 18 percent has translated into a reduction of about 50 rupees per bag, which is a great relief for consumers undertaking building works. He also highligted benefits from rate cuts in food items and nutrition products.

Noting that GST on packaged milk has been reduced from 5 percent to zero, he highlighted its impact in Nagaland where milk is a daily essential in every household.

Calling the rate reduction a 'Diwali gift' to consumers, Mr Agarwal urged retailers to ensure that the GST benefits are fully passed on to buyers. This will not only help consumers but also boost sales and promote fair market practices, he said. Mr Agarwal further remarked that most retailers in Dimapur are already passing on the benefits to consumers, reflecting positive market compliance with the government's decision.

Ten out of 19 elected councillors of the Kohima Municipal Council (KMC) have moved a no-confidence motion against the current Chairperson Neikhozo Suokhrie and Deputy Chairperson Khrielievi Chusi. Citing a loss of trust in their leadership and performance, the councillors have sought their removal and immediate election of new leaders. In a notification yesterday, Kohima Deputy Commissioner (DC) B. Henok Buchem stated that the motion was officially received on October 9, in line with Section 15 of the Nagaland Municipal Act of 2023. The DC has called a meeting of all KMC members, excluding exofficio and nominated members, on October 22 to consider the motion.