

## Morning News Script

0730 hrs

31<sup>st</sup> October 2025

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The Nation pays homage to Iron Man Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel on his 150th Birth anniversary today. The day is also celebrated as Rashtriya Ekta Diwas or National Unity Day, highlighting the monumental role Sardar Patel played in uniting India after independence. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will participate in the Rashtriya Ekta Diwas celebrations and offer floral tribute to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. He will administer the Ekta Diwas pledge and witness Ekta Diwas Parade. The parade will include contingents from BSF, CRPF, CISF, ITBP and SSB along with various state police forces. Nagaland also joined in the celebration, with various events such as the Ekta Diwas pledge, Padayatra, and Run for Unity being organised across the districts.

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State Government Spokesperson and Minister for Power & Parliamentary Affairs, K.G. Kenye, has acknowledged that the Nagaland Liquor Total Prohibition (NLTP) Act was introduced with good intentions for the overall benefit and welfare of the people. However, he admitted that the implementation of the Act did not go down well with the public. Addressing media persons yesterday in Kohima, Mr. Kenye noted that the issue continues to draw diverse opinions, and after observing the people's reactions, the government felt it might be appropriate to leave the matter to the will of the people. Describing it as a people-centric issue, he said the final decision on the future course should rest with the majority.

### **NLTP BYTE-**

The Minister further informed that the State Government has not yet taken cognisance of the recent move by the Naga Council Dimapur. He added that the time will come when the Cabinet will deliberate on the matter. Meanwhile, Mr. Kenye urged the media to play a proactive role in reflecting public opinion from all sections of society.

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The Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) on IAS Induction, comprising CANSSEA, FONSESA, NIDA, NSSA, and NF&ASA, has given the Nagaland Government a three-working-day window for dialogue to address its core demands, even as its pen-down strike continues. In a circular, the JCC informed that a meeting was held yesterday with the Chief Secretary, Administrative Heads of Departments, and representatives of the service associations, following an invitation from the Office of the Chief Secretary. The Committee said, the meeting, was convened on the advice of the Cabinet to explore a workable dialogue to resolve the issue. The JCC however, reiterated that its demands upholding meritocracy remain non-negotiable and non-bargainable, asserting that any dialogue would be unacceptable unless it facilitates fulfillment of those demands. The Committee further stated that the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) and the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), after receiving its representations, have communicated back that the matter rests with the State Government. Declaring that the ball is now in the court of the State Government, the JCC said any act of omission or commission rests solely upon the decisions of the State Government. It maintained that the DoPT and UPSC can no longer be held responsible and urged the State Government to take the legally and morally right decision. While the pen-down strike will continue, the JCC has decided to offer a three-working-day window, till November 3, for any dialogue that facilitates its demands.

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The GST Bachat Utsav kicked off on 22nd September as the Narendra Modi government slashed GST rates in many sectors, benefitting citizens across the country. Today, our correspondent brings a report on how the new GST rates in Food items are helping citizens.

**VC:** *In order to provide major relief to the common man the government has reduced the GST on essential food items. Under the new tax structure, tax rates on dairy products like butter, ghee and other dairy fats have been slashed to 5 percent from the previously taxed 12 percent. The significant reduction in GST has boosted affordability and supported the food processing sector. Also the taxes on fruits and vegetables juices like fruits pulp juice and vegetables juice*

*now attract 5 percent GST instead of 12 percent. GST on preserved and processed meat along with preserved vegetables and pickles are also now part of the 5 percent tax slab. This decision has lowered the prices on many essential and processed food items, leading to reduced household expenses.*

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Justice Surya Kant will be the next Chief Justice of India. In a social media post, Law and Justice Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal congratulated him and said that President Droupadi Murmu has appointed Justice Surya Kant as the next Chief Justice. His appointment will be effective from the 24th of next month. Justice Surya Kant will be the 53rd Chief Justice. He will succeed Chief Justice BR Gavai, whose tenure will end on the 23rd of next month.

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