

Morning News

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The Nagaland government has constituted a Standing High Powered Committee (HPC) Governing Body for the Hornbill Festival to provide overall policy direction, strategic oversight and inter-departmental coordination. The HPC will be chaired by Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio and comprise 15 members, including both Deputy Chief Ministers and the Tourism Minister. The committee will be responsible for providing strategic vision and policy guidance, ensuring inter-departmental convergence, approving major strategic initiatives, partnerships and frameworks, monitoring progress against defined outcomes, allotment of sites, monitoring rates for materials sold and events, and taking all key policy decisions related to the festival. A Convenor and Festival Director for the Hornbill Festival will be appointed from among the members of the HPC. In addition, the HPC will oversee Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) contributions and sponsorships received for the Hornbill Festival. Any proposal to hold events promoting music, culture or related activities at the Naga Heritage Village, Kisama, outside the Hornbill Festival period will also require approval of the HPC.



Union Minister for Railways Ashwini Vaishnaw yesterday conferred the 70th Ati Vishisht Rail Seva Puraskar 2025 on 100 railway officials and presented 26 shields to best-performing railway zones in New Delhi. The prestigious awards were given in recognition of exemplary service and outstanding contributions to Indian Railways. Speaking on the occasion, Mr Vaishnaw said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given special focus to the Railways and carried out several reforms in a focused manner.

Ati Vishisht Rail Seva Puraskar is among the highest honours in Indian Railways, celebrating dedication, innovation, and excellence in service across the organisation.



Prime Minister's flagship platform for Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation, PRAGATI, has marked a significant milestone with the successful conduct of its 50th meeting. Since its launch by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2015, PRAGATI has transformed governance by enabling real-time monitoring and resolution of key infrastructure projects and public grievances through direct Prime Ministerial review. The platform exemplifies cooperative federalism, bringing together the Centre, States, and Union Ministries on a single digital interface. Today, in this special series, we take a look at the Kameng Hydro Electric Project in Arunachal Pradesh. A report-

(VIC :The 600 Mega Watt Kameng Hydro Electric Project is a large run-of-the-river hydropower project located in the West Kameng district of Arunachal Pradesh. It was implemented by North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Limited under the oversight of the Ministry of Power. It was conceived as a four-unit scheme of 150 Mega Watt each, and envisaged as a key component of the hydropower development strategy for the northeastern region. The Kameng Hydro Electric Project emerged as a critical case requiring close inter-ministerial coordination and high-level monitoring due to long gestation period and multiplicity of statutory and environmental clearances. The project was reviewed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi under PRAGATI on 24th June 2015. The Prime Minister emphasised the need for expeditious completion of the project and directed the Power Ministry to ensure completion at the earliest. The project was implemented at a cost of over eight thousand 458 crore rupees and achieved 100 percent physical progress, with commissioning completed on 10th February 2021. The Kameng project made Arunachal Pradesh a power-surplus State, enabling it to supply surplus electricity to the regional and national grid.)



The Budget Session of Parliament will commence from 28th of January and will continue till 2nd of April, 2026. In a social media post, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju said that the first phase of the Budget Session will conclude on 13th of February. He said, the Parliament will reassemble for the second phase on 9th of March. Mr Rijiju said that it is a vital step towards meaningful debate and

people-centric governance. The Minister informed that on the recommendation of the Central government, President Droupadi Murmu has approved the summoning of both the Houses of Parliament for the Budget Session 2026.

