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THE HEADLINES :-

- Vice President CP Radhakrishnan highlights role of Civil Services in implementing government's plans at grassroots level
- Oil marketing companies assure stable LPG and fuel supply across Nagaland
- MP Supongmeren Jamir says Centre stalling women reservation by linking it to delimitation
- Nagaland appoints State Commissioner for PwDs

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Vice President C.P. Radhakrishnan has said that the Civil Services play a predominant role in implementing the government's plans and policies at the grassroots level. Addressing the Civil Services Day in New Delhi today, Mr Radhakrishnan said that plans can be made in capital Delhi, but fruitful results in remote villages come only when they are implemented in their true sense. Calling Sardar Vallabhai Patel the father of All India Services, the Vice President said Sardar Patel brought the nation together under a shared spirit of service and unity.

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The supply of domestic LPG cylinders and petroleum products in Nagaland remains stable and under control, with adequate availability across the state. This was stated by State Level Coordinator of IOCL Nagaland, Himakshi Saikia, during a press conference held today on the status of LPG and petroleum products in Nagaland. Depot Manager, Dimapur Zubenthung Ovung, LPG Plant Manager Munin Bokotial, and Deputy Director, State Food & Civil Supplies Department Keyevi I Swu attended the conference. Ms. Saikia said that Nagaland currently has 250 fuel retail outlets and two operational depots, with daily supplies of around 280 kilolitres of petrol and 640 kilolitres of diesel.

On LPG supply, Ms. Saikia said over 4.2 lakh consumers are being served through 84 distributors and one bottling plant, with no reports of stock-outs.

On digital adoption, she said over 80 percent of LPG bookings now made online, and urged consumers to use digital platforms for transparency and safety. To prevent hoarding and illegal diversion, Ms. Saikia said, a total of 79 joint inspections have been conducted by OMCs and state government officials since last month, with action initiated against erring distributors.

Under the PM Ujjwala Yojana, daily refill figures stood at 45,812 in March, compared with 46,504 in February. Additionally, smaller 5kg LPG cylinders are being made available for low-consumption households, migrant workers, and students. Reiterating that there is no shortage, Ms. Saikia appealed to the public not to be panic or misled by rumours, assuring that supply across Nagaland remains normal and uninterrupted.

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Nagaland government has appointed Tongpang L Jamir as the State Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities. According to an official notification, Mr Jamir's tenure will be for three years or until he attains 65 years of age, whichever is earlier.

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Governor Nand Kishore Yadav has extended greetings to the Pochury community on the occasion of Pochury Commemoration Day. In a message, Mr Yadav paid tribute to the courage, unity and enduring spirit of the Pochury people, noting that their rich cultural heritage continues to strengthen the fabric of Nagaland. He expressed hope that the occasion would inspire all to uphold traditions, foster harmony and work collectively towards progress and prosperity. The Governor urged everyone to recommit to peace, mutual respect and inclusive development for a brighter future.

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Member of Parliament and NPCC President, S Supongmeren Jamir accused the Modi government of deliberately linking women's reservation with delimitation to delay its implementation. Addressing media persons at Congress Bhavan in Kohima, Mr. Jamir alleged that the ruling dispensation has taken advantage of the Women's Reservation issue to push forward its delimitation agenda. He claimed that without tying it to reservation, delimitation would not have been feasible under the present circumstances. Mr. Jamir also said that the opposition INDIA bloc has taken a clear stand on the issue.

Mr Jamir added that opposition parties under the INDIA bloc is going to insist the Modi government during the monsoon sessions, that the bill should be immediately implemented by 2029. The MP also rejected allegations by the BJP Mahila Morcha Nagaland that the opposition was not honouring the women reservation bill.

Highlighting implications of Delimitation for smaller states like Nagaland, Mr Jamir said delimitation could marginally increase parliamentary representation, but questions remain on how 33 per cent reservation for women would be accommodated. He stressed the need for a rational and region-sensitive approach to ensure that women from smaller states are not deprived of representation. Mr Jamir urged political parties to avoid politicising the issue and instead work collectively so that the provision is implemented at the earliest, to benefit the present generation.

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NPCC Working president Khriedi Theunuo has accused the BJP of attempting to shift blame onto the Congress after facing defeat in a motion related to the Women's Reservation issue. He pointed out that the Women's Reservation Bill had already been passed into law in 2023. He claimed the BJP has a hidden agenda aimed at the 2029 general elections by deliberately linking its implementation with the delimitation process. He said that the implementation of reservation should follow a proper delimitation exercise, which requires an updated census. Responding to allegations by the NPF that Members of Parliament were absent during discussions on the issue, Mr Theunuo asserted that Congress MP actively participated in the recent parliamentary debate and highlighted the concerns of Nagaland, including the ongoing Naga political issue. He said that NPF as an alliance partner of the BJP, should have taken up the matter internally and raised it at the national level.

Mr Theunuo alleged that such actions only create confusion among the public, particularly on issues like reservation and delimitation.

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A district-level stakeholders' consultation workshop on Viksit Nagaland at 2047 was held today in Kohima. The workshop brought together government departments, civil society groups, and other stakeholders to prepare a development vision for the state aligned with national priorities. During the workshop, various district departments presented updates on major schemes and also highlighted implementation challenges. Participants discussed priorities, gaps, and inclusive strategies, and presented proposed interventions and policy recommendations, particularly aimed at addressing the needs of marginalised and remote populations.

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