

Morning News Script

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Advisor for School Education Dr Kekhrielhoulie Yhome has ruled out any special exemption for pre-Right to Education (RTE) teachers from Nagaland Teachers Eligibility Test (NTET), citing the Supreme Court's directive. He was responding to the continued demand for exemption by the Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) of Pre-RTE Teachers. The advisor said the state government cannot not take a position contrary to the Supreme Court's directive, adding that the NTET was a qualifying examination and questioning the apprehension among in-service teachers about appearing for it. He cautioned that failure to qualify can affect teachers' promotion prospects and other service benefits, including remuneration. Mr. Yhome also questioned why teachers who had acquired B.Ed. qualifications decades ago should not undergo further assessment, despite the availability of in-service training programmes. The advisor said the teachers have submitted a representation to the Chief Minister seeking exemption, but reiterated that the government would not grant any special relief.

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The Kohima Municipal Council (KMC) has said that it will make waste segregation mandatory by barring vehicles carrying unsegregated waste from unloading. The issue was discussed at a meeting chaired by Deputy Commissioner B Henok Buchem in Kohima yesterday. The meeting also reviewed implementation of the Solid Waste Management Rules. KMC CEO Alemyapang Longchar said the council was conducting awareness programmes across wards and planned to streamline collection through designated points and fixed timings. The meeting flagged inadequate waste-processing infrastructure, low public awareness, financial constraints, gaps in digital reporting and poor coordination among stakeholders as key challenges. During the meeting, the DC proposed a dedicated workshop involving relevant departments and resource persons to clarify implementation issues, strengthen coordination and identify practical solutions for effective waste management in the district.

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The Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) examining the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2026 yesterday heard submissions from representatives of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, Catholic Bishops Conference of India, All India Christian Council and Centre for Advancement of Philanthropy in New Delhi. Chaired by BJP MP Sanjay Jaiswal, the committee also interacted with senior advocate and Rajya Sabha MP Kapil Sibal. Jaiswal said the committee will deliberate on the views and suggestions received. The Bill seeks to amend the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010, to enhance transparency and accountability in the use of foreign contributions. The JPC is required to submit its report by the last day of the first week of the 2026 Winter Session of Parliament.

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The Centre has informed Supreme Court that it has decided to regulate trade margins on anti-cancer medicines by capping them at 30 per cent of the maximum retail price (MRP), while the apex court called for a broader review of medicine pricing across the pharmaceutical sector. Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Union government, told a bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta

that the Centre would notify a list of cancer drugs to which the trade margin cap would apply. The Centre's submitted that the list could be periodically updated to include additional anti-cancer medicines, depending on market developments and public health considerations, while excluding inexpensive drugs. The development came after the apex court repeatedly questioned the substantial disparity between the price at which medicines are supplied to retailers and the MRP printed on them, raising concerns over the financial burden on patients and the need for an effective regulatory framework.

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The Public Works Department (Roads and Bridges) launched two-month training programme on backhoe loader operation and maintenance in Chümoukedima yesterday. The programme, initiated under the department's Capacity Building and Training initiative of PWD (R&B) Minister G Kaito Aye, involves operators from all working divisions. Chief Engineer H Vihokhe Sema inaugurated the training and urged participants to develop the skills required for operating and maintaining the machinery.

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