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Tax Exemption for Railway Services: GST Council Recommendation

 In the 53rd GST Council meeting held in Delhi, the Council recommended exemption from Goods and Services Tax (GST) for certain services provided by railways to the public. The GST Council made various recommendations including exemptions.

Petrol, diesel within GST limits?

- Nirmala Sitaraman told reporters that when GST was implemented on July 1, 2017, various central and state taxes on crude oil, natural gas were merged. Petrol, diesel and aviation fuel were also included in the GST Act.
- But it was decided that they could be taxed under GST at a later date.

India-Bangladesh: 10 agreements

Online Medical Visa:

- Online medical visa facility will be launched for those coming from Bangladesh to India for medical treatment.
- Also, India has decided to open a new Indian Consulate in Rangpur, Bangladesh.

10 Agreements

• 10 agreements were signed in sectors including Maritime Cooperation, Land Economy, rail transport, green technology, space, health and medicine, ocean exploration.

Importance of Bangladesh

- India shares a land border of 4,096.7 km with Bangladesh.
- Bangladesh is India's largest trading partner in South Asia.
- Compared to the other Asian countries, India remains the largest export destination for Bangladesh.

Teesta River Water Project

- An Indian technical team will visit Bangladesh regarding Teesta River Water Storage- Management Scheme
- 54 rivers flow between the two countries. The most important of them is the river Teesta.
- India has also decided to start negotiations for a technical review of the Ganga River Water Treaty established in 1996.