

Educational Scenario of Longding

Nyatum Doke

While I was on an awareness tour at the picturesque village of Kamhua Noknu in Pongchau circle of Longding, I was requested by school faculties to pay a visit to the school (which has smart class and smart board). It was already dark and as soon as I entered the school the light went off and it was pitch dark all around. Too much for smart education!! We smirked and laughed together.

It is said that education is the bedrock of any society and without education no society can flourish. In the case of Arunachal, it has the dubious distinction of being ranked top from the bottom in the index related to education. The government of Arunachal has been trying a lot to improve the system of education. Despite that some institutional, infrastructural/logistic and policy issues can be seen if we look at the educational scenario closely. These problems grappling the system would be mostly same for most of the district.

When I was in Longding I interacted with the DDSE and some principals; they shared that most of the schools are facing acute shortage of subject teachers. Also, they shared about the various issues in transfer posting of the teachers. The DDSE shares about the shortage of skilled and trained man-

power which hampers the normal office administration and leading to slow pace of activities in the district. Then he informed about the lack of internet facilities in most of the schools in the district owing to which various online based activities cannot be carried off in time effectively.

Another issue that is common for most of the departments in Longding district is the issues of banking services. The lone SBI bank in the district headquarter is overburdened and unable to provide basic services like opening of account for the beneficiaries. Due to non-opening of Bank accounts at least on an average 42.2 percent of children are deprived of the benefits from Prime Minister's and Chief Minister's flagship programs like Vidhya, sanitary napkin schemes, uniform schemes and other schemes.

On the positive note it is to be noted that Longding has very healthy enrollment in the majority of schools in the district in 2023-24 the enrollment is 10774 (Boys 5093 and Girls 5681) which is comparable to any other district of the state with healthy enrollment.

However, in order to ensure that the quantity becomes quality-it is important that we need to look into the issues and try to address

the same. It is good that we adopt smart boards, smart/online classes; but it is equally important that basic infrastructure like-power backup and internet is ensured so that the actual results can be realized. Then, without adequate numbers of trained human resources any project is bound to taste the dust.

Also, all the programs of the government are connected with each other like a chain with the most important link being the banking system. The problems in the banking in the district like Longding should be studied properly and necessary corrective measures must be taken up at the earliest to ensure that benefits of various schemes reach the needy.

To add, an ASER-like survey with some modifications should be carried out throughout the districts of Arunachal Pradesh to understand the needs of the various schools/students. Reforms in the education sector is something that cannot be neglected, ignored, sidelined or made to wait as "School is a building which has four walls with tomorrow inside"- our future will be determined by the system of education that we build.

(Nyatum Doke served as DIPRO Longding and is currently posted as DIPRO Lohit)

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MP, MLA and DC extended relief to Sido fire victims

PASIGHAT, January 1:

East Arunachal Lok Sabha MP Tapir Gao, Pasighat West MLA Ninong Ering and DC Tayi Taggu distributed immediate relief materials to the families affected by the fire accident that had occurred in the furthestmost village of East Siang, Sido Village under Kora Circle on 1st January. The fire was reportedly caused by an electric short-circuit. Though there is no report of casualty, one Batin Jerang, aged 90 years reportedly badly injured and admitted to BPGH for medical treatment.

In the devastating fire, occurred at about 2.30 pm on Monday engulfed four houses of Takar Karlo (GB), Tapang Taloh, Tasi Riba and Tai Riba and granary of Talung Siram reduced into ashes. The owners of all four families have lost all their belongings, including immovable properties in the fire. Assessment of properties lost is yet to be carried out.

Lok Sabha MP Tapir Gao along with DC Tayi Taggu visited the fire ravaged village this morning and the duo distributed household essentials to all four families who have lost everything in the inferno. Gao on the occasion also extended financial assistance while DC Taggu on

behalf of the District Administration gave away five thousand cash to each house owners as immediate relief and urged residents to be more cautious.

The local MLA of 37th Ruksin, Ninong Ering expressed pain at the tragedy and had rushed to the spot last night and interacted with the unfortunate victims of the incident. Ering also distributed necessary relief materials in addition to ten thousand cash to each family. He urged the DC to distribute government's aid in a judicious manner so that none of the affected families are deprived.

DCM inaugurates the new EAC office building of Lekang administrative circle

MAHADEVPUR, January 2:

People of Lekang Administrative Circle of Namsai District gets a new year gift in the form of a New EAC Office building as Deputy Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh, Chowna Mein inaugurated the new EAC Office building at Mahadevpur on January 2.

The newly established EAC office is connected to the internet facilities and is posed to streamline all necessary Govt services for the benefit of the people.

DCM Mein in his inaugural speech stated that e-governance is one of the focus areas of the Govt for ensuring transparency, quicker delivery of public services and for corruption free government. He urged the Deputy Commissioner of Namsai District to make govt offices in the district paperless by implementing e file system effectively from this year onwards.

Citing that Mahadevpur is the gateway to Namsai District, Mein also emphasised on the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan and urged the people of Lekang Circle to help maintain cleanliness of the office premises. While saying that the office building is a public property which is meant for their services, he requested them to maintain decorum of the office whenever they visit the office and cooperate with the administrative officers and office staff enabling them to do their duties smoothly and effectively for their own benefits.

Mein also asked EAC Lekang to maintain a 'Plastic-Free Zone' and 'No Tobacco Zone' to ensure prohibition of littering in the premises.

Referring to the new EAC Office building as one-of-a-kind in the State, DCM Mein appreciated the efforts of MLA Lekang, Jummum Ete Deori and expressed thanks to former Chief Secretary, Naresh Kumar and former Planning Commissioner, Prashant Lokhande under whose supervision and active monitoring, the new EAC Office building have come in to shape. He also lauded the Executing Agency, PWD for the quality works and completion of the building on time.

The inauguration program was attended by MLA Lekang, Jummum Ete Deori, DC Namsai C.R. Khampa, ZPC Namsai Urmila Mancheykhun, District BJP President Sujana Namchoom, EAC Lekang T Ete, ZPMs of Upper & Lower Lekang, PRI Leaders, GBs and Govt Officials.

Deputy Chief Minister calls on the Governor

ITANAGAR, January 04:

The Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein called on the Governor

of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) at Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on 4th January 2024. They exchanged New Year greetings and discussed developmental issues in the State.

The Governor emphasized on special focus on hydropower and tourism sectors, particularly, eco, adventure and religious tourism in the New Year. He said that these two sectors have huge potential in the State, in addition to horticulture due to conducive terrain for prized items, like Kiwi, orange and apple.

The Governor, who visited remote administrative headquarters of Vijoynagar and its area, suggested for promotion of non-conventional energy resources, such as solar lighting to provide basic needs of the local denizens but at the same time, minimum interference to the natural habitat of treasured flora and fauna of the State. He also called for expansion of tourism infrastructure in anticipation of tourist inflow in the future in the traveler's preferred places.

The Governor advised the Deputy Chief Minister, who is also the Minister of Economics and Statistics for automation of the data of the State. He underscored that office automation will help the Government in comparative analysis of decadal growth of the State and in identifying areas, which requires more attention, funding and initiatives.

The Governor commended the Deputy Chief Minister for the enthusiastic participation of the State Government and State Machinery in the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra and Sewa Aapke Dwar campaigns in reaching out to the people and providing benefits under various schemes and programmes to the eligible beneficiaries. He also appreciated the

district administrations, which are putting in lots of effort in realizing the vision of Hon'ble Prime Minister before the ensuing Republic Day.

CM visits Nilling circle in Upper Subansiri, inaugurates the new CO office building

DAPORIJO, January 5:

Chief Minister Pema Khandu, accompanied by Union Minister for Earth Science Kiren Rijiju, on Friday, January 5 for the first time visited Nilling circle in Upper Subansiri district and dedicated to the people the new administrative circle with its headquarters at Nyinya Rega. He also inaugurated the new CO office building.

Congratulating the local residents for the new development, Khandu appreciated them including the local MLA Tanya Soki for their sincere efforts and cooperation for ushering development in the area. On behalf of the government, Khandu assured full support for all-round development of the newly created Nilling circle.

Responding to people's requests, he promised that all will be fulfilled in phased manner as each demand is genuine and required for progress of the area. These include upgradation of road from Daporijo-Taliha road at Sippi to Guha village to double lane of about 60 kms, construction of a micro hydel project of about 750 kw at Hayung, development of infrastructure at Nyonia Rega and construction of inter-district road from Guha village to Tali ADC headquarter in Kra-Dadi district.

Meanwhile, Rijiju inaugurated PMGSY roads of around 60-km length which include roads from Sippi to Chetam, from

Chetam to Guha, and from BRTF road to Marbom.

Later in the day, they attended a public meeting at Lingdam in Giba circle of the district wherein the Chief Minister assured to address few public demands that include construction of road from Lungte-Marging PMGSY Road at Taberijo to Dargung via Chaba, Rago, Rava, Markia, and Umpra villages in Gyadu area, approval for upgradation of Giba EAC HQ to ADC HQ, creation of Gyadu Circle Administrative Centre to enhance local governance and construction of a micro hydel project at Rhyoh Koro (Nallah) under Giba Circle.

The duos were accompanied by MLAs Tanya Soki, NyatoDukam, Rode Bui, JikkeTako, Advisor to CM TapenSiga and others.

On arrival at Daporijo, Khandu and his entourage inspected the Sigin Steel Truss Bridge at Sigin colony. The bridge will enhance connectivity and ease traffic in the Daporijo Township. They also inspected the Subansiri brigade at Sikarijo and took updates from the engineers on site.

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra conducted

ITANAGAR, January 5:

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra was conducted at various locations of Itanagar covering Baath village, Ganga village and Ganga Chimi area.

Along With VBSY, a Seva Aapke Dwar camp to facilitate various services to the public at doorstep was conducted today at Govt Upper Primary School Baath village.

Chief Guest MLA Techikaso inaugurated the camp in the

presence of ZPM Taro Tagia, Deputy Commissioner Capital Itanagar Talo Potom, ADC Shweta Nagarkoti and a host of other officers, officials and public.

Various Departments of the State Govt participated in the camp and brought their services to the citizens residing in and around Baath village.

During the camp interacting with the beneficiaries, the Chief Guest and the DC urged the public to avail the services provided by various departments. They visited every department and appreciated the services provided to the people by them. The Chief Guest also handed over certificates and other important benefits to the beneficiaries.

Later Advisor to Chief Minister Tai Tagak also visited the departments and interacted with the beneficiaries. He administered the pledge on Hamara Sankalp Viksit Bharat to the denizens who had enthusiastically participated in the program.

EAC Itanagar cum Nodal Officer Khoda Lasa informed that around 1500 beneficiaries were benefited by availing various services. He further informed that the next SAD camp would be held at GUPS Jollang on 12th Jan'24.

Around 33 departments participated in the VBSY and Seva Aapke Dwar camp.

Governor meets CDS, Army Chief

NEW DELHI, January 05:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) met the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), General Anil Chauhan, PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, SM, VSM at New Delhi on 5th January 2024.

They discussed security issues and developmental projects related to defence forces in Arunachal Pradesh.

The Governor, who has visited Vibrant Border Villages in the State in addition to militant affected districts of Tirap, Changlang and Longding, shared his observations with the CDS. He suggested strategic measures to further strengthen and secure the areas bordering Tibet and Myanmar international boundaries.

The Governor discussed defence road projects and defence stations in Arunachal Pradesh. He said that defence roads, once completed will immensely contribute towards the peace, progress and prosperity of the State and its people, in addition to the security of the nation.

The Governor, who is on an official tour to the National Capital, also met the Chief of the Army Staff, General Manoj Pande, PVSM, AVSM, VSM, ADC. He commended the Indian Army Units stationed in Arunachal Pradesh for their conspicuous professional proficiency, operational preparedness, élan and good work in extending valuable assistance to the Civil Administration and the local population.

GoAP to conduct Indigenous Folk Music Festival in February

ITANAGAR, January 5:

In a follow up to the announcement of hosting an Indigenous Folk Music Festival during the State Budget Speech, Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein convened a meeting with the senior officers of Planning & Investment, GA/DA, Tourism, Cultural Affairs and Indigenous Affairs to proceed with the ar-

rangements of the programme, in his Secretariat office at Itanagar on Friday, January 5.

Mein said that Arunachal Pradesh being a multi-tribes State is very rich in Folk songs, music and dances. However, the resonance of folk music and its performances are diminishing with every passing day, owing to the adoption of modern culture into our everyday life.

The decision to organise the Indigenous Folk Music Festival has been taken in order to revive the essence of the land's indigenous culture, and to promote the State's tribal folk songs, music and dances, Mein said.

Mein also stated that there is a need to showcase the land's folk heritage to a larger audience outside of Arunachal Pradesh, in a bid to foster stronger connections with the culture, language, music and dances of the other States of India under the broader vision of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat.

It was informed that the State Govt will also be hosting another important event subsequently called 'Bharat Lok Sangeet Arunachal Utsav 2024' wherein Cultural Troupes on Folk Songs & Dances from the Northeastern States and some selected States from the Himalayan region and South India will be invited during this event.

The event is scheduled to take place in the later part of February this year.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary Finance, Planning & Investment, Sharat Chauhan, Secretary GA/DA, Sadhana Deori, Secretary Tourism, Swapnil M Naik, Secretary Planning, R.K. Sharma and other Officers.

CM joins Si Donyi celebration

DAPORIJO, January 6:

“The air at Si Donyi celebration has brought alive the profound connect with our indigenous culture,” said Chief Minister Pema Khandu attending the Golden Jubilee celebration of the festival here today at Daporijo.

Expressing gratitude to the Festival Celebration Committee for extending him the invite join the celebration as the chief guest along with Union Minister for Earth Science Kiren Rijiju, Khandu said that he has taken note of suggestions provided by the Tagin Cultural Society for preservation of vibrant Tagin culture and identity.

“We will steadfastly work on it, as, with changing times, we should not erode our culture,” he asserted.

Khandu lauded the people for supporting developmental projects initiated by the state and central governments, which, he said, have changed the overall scenario of the district.

Talking about connectivity, he said that the portion of the Trans Arunachal Highway that passes through the district connecting it with rest of the state will be completed by April this year.

“Those executing the project have informed me that the road will be completed within next two months and one bridge on the highway will be ready by April,” he informed.

While revealing that the government has proposed to establish an airport near Dumporijo, Khandu expressed optimism that once the highway is through and the airport gets functional the district will witness a boom in eco-

nomic activities.

“I can assure that Upper Subansiri with its virgin nature and rich culture can attract large number of tourists from across the globe,” he remarked.

With the mighty Subansiri river flowing through the heart of the district, Khandu informed that the district is about to witness a sea change.

“We have already signed an MoU with NHPC to harness the hydropower potential of about 2000 MW in the district. Work will soon start on ground and then the face of Daporijo and the district will change,” he said.

Khandu appreciated the local representatives for quality work in developing Daporijo township roads and assured that the left-out township roads will also be sanctioned by the state government very soon.

Laying the foundation stone of the Si Donyi Festival Ground on the occasion, Khandu asked the elders and leaders of the district to design it in such a way that the entire complex showcases the rich, vibrant tradition and cultural heritage of the Tagin community.

All four legislators of the district – Tourism Minister Nakap Nalo, MLAs Tanya Soki, Rode Bui and Nyato Dukam – were also present in the celebration.

Earlier in the day, Khandu inaugurated the water supply projects under Jal Jeevan Hariyali Mission scheme for Lingko village, Chetam CO HQ, Segi-Gusar CO HQ and Maro CO HQ. He also inaugurated Daporijo township road and drainage system, road from Soki village to Raji village, material recovery facility and eco-fishery park. Besides, he laid the foundation stone of a multi-storey parking-lot at Daporijo.

DCM graces Golden Jubilee celebration of Si-donyi festival

NAHARLAGUN, January 6:

Deputy Chief Minister, Chowna Mein graced the Golden Jubilee celebration of Si-Donyi Festival of Capital Complex as the Chief Guest at Si-Donyi Jaaring in Naharlagun.

Addressing the gathering at the festival, the Deputy Chief Minister extended greetings to the members of the Tagin community upon the completion of 50 glorious years of the Si-Donyi Festival. He lauded the community for zealously preserving their culture and traditions.

In his speech, Mein said that we should take pride in our rich culture & traditions, which is our identity and exhorted to preserve it zealously.

Highlighting the importance of cultural preservation, he stated that tribal festivals like Si-Donyi play a pivotal role in preserving and promoting the rich culture of the State's tribal communities, wherein long-standing traditions, wisdom and values are passed down to successive generations. Active participation of the youth in the continuance of the traditional festivals is therefore crucial to keep the tradition alive, Mein added.

Mein also said that it is imperative for the tribal communities of the State to put efforts in documenting their traditional scripts, languages and literature. In this regard, Mein urged the Tagin community to take up the responsibility of documenting the spiritual values and rituals associated with the Si-Donyi festival.

Mein also informed that the Govt is planning to open ‘a Centre

for Ethnographic and Historical Study on the Indigenous Communities of Arunachal Pradesh' at Rajiv Gandhi University. He said that once it comes into function, it will aid in the study of tribal cultures and documentation of indigenous cultures and languages of different tribes in the State.

Mein also paid tribute to the pioneers who dedicated their lives in the social works and for their foresightedness in handing over the ancient traditions to the present generations.

On the occasion, Mein inaugurated the 50th Year Commemorative Plaque at Si-Donyi Jaaring and also released the first ever Tagin audio album 'Donyi' on the occasion. He also felicitated Kokia Rigia, Tami Bage and Priests, Jekar Gusar and Kochung Maying with the Si-Donyi Lifetime Achievement Awards.

The festival was also attended by the Minister of Education and DIA, Taba Tedir, Vice-Chancellor of RGU Prof. Saket Kushwaha and IFCSAP President, Katung Wahge, among others

DC, SP asks Union to call off the mass agitation

YUPIA, January 7:

Papum Pare DC, Jiken Bomjen and SP Taru Gusar held a meeting with the office bearers of North East Petroleum Mazdoor Union Arunachal Unit to ensure no adverse impact on essential services is caused due to the mass agitation by the tanker drivers from 5am of 5th Jan to 5am of 7th Jan, 2024.

DC, Jiken Bomjen and SP Taru Gusar requested the Mazdoor union to call off the ongoing agitation and direct the tanker drivers to start loading and unloading of

POL from Emchi depot immediately.

"In case of any further disruption, the Essential Services Maintenance Act, (ESMA) shall be invoked." The DC warned.

Attending the meeting IOCL Emchi CMD Mudang Tacho informed that all the 18 IOCL petrol pumps have enough Petroleum products, however requested the public to avoid panic buying.

Supply Inspector Tumngam Bomjen also informed that "POL items are not available at Bharat Petroleum Depots as the tanker drivers are not able to lift POL items from Numaligarh (Assam) because of the agitation".

The Petroleum Mazdoor Union Arunachal Unit General Secretary Taw Pukum while assuring to cooperate with the administration informed that " the tanker drivers had lifted POL items from IOCL Emchion 4th January till 10pm and that there will be no shortage of POL items for at least day two days."

EAC (Jud) Dani Rikang, CO Gumto Afa Phassang, CO Doimukh Nyalisa Raji, OC Phassang Simi and representatives from the Petroleum Mazdoor Union attended the meeting.

Training programme for DLMT starts

ITANAGAR, January 8:

In view of the upcoming elections, the chief electoral office (CEO) launched a five-day 'theme-wise' comprehensive training programme for the district-level master trainers (DLMT) at the Nirvachan Bhavan here on Monday, January 8.

The training is being imparted by state-level master trainers who have already been trained as national-level master trainers.

"The programme will cover topics such as district election management plan, vulnerable mapping, polling party and poll day arrangements, model code of conduct, expenditure monitoring, amendments of election Acts and rules, modifications in few forms of revision and SSR, 2024, SVEEP, ERONET and IT applications, EVM and VVPAT and postal ballots," the CEO informed in a release.

Welcoming the DLMTs, Deputy Chief Electoral Officer Shania Kayem Mize urged them to "make the most of the training by clearing all your doubts from the resource persons, in order to impart effective training to assembly-level master trainers and polling personnel in your respective districts."

Indian Army organises one day white water Rafting

AALO, January 8:

16 young local boy and girls were exposed their basic know-how and skills of white Water Rafting in order to promote Adventure Sports & Tourism in Arunachal Pradesh in a one day white Water Rafting at Yomgo River at Aalo in West Siang District which was organised by Spearcorps of Indian Army.

The White water rafting was conducted by 5 Formidable Infantry brigade.

AR provides Water Storage and Supply Facility for Residents of Hunkan Village

HUNKAN, January 8:

The Khonsa battalion of the Assam Rifles (AR) provided two water tanks with a storage capacity of

5,000 litres each, along with accessories, to the villagers of Hunkan in Tirap district on Monday, January 8 as part of the AR's civic action programme.

Speaking on the occasion, 44 AR Commanding Officer Col Rahul Singh pledged to conduct "similar civic action programmes to fulfil the basic requirements of the villagers in far-flung areas."

He also assured to look into the request made by the villagers through a memorandum for renovation of the village community hall, construction of separate public toilets for men and women, and installation of 10 solar streetlights in the village.

Wangnok Sumpa, GPC and Public leader Noklam Bisai also spoke on the occasion.

Hunkan village chief Kamwang Lowang, GBs, and panchayat and church leaders were present on the occasion.

Coordination meeting held to discuss concerning issues in the Capital

ITANAGAR, January 9:

A coordination meeting was convened in the chamber of DC Capital Itanagar on Tuesday, January 9 to discuss important issues concerning both Capital and Papumpare administration.

Both the DCs of Capital Itanagar and Papumpare Talo Potom and Jiken Bomjen highlighted important issues which need immediate attention like traffic congestion, road condition, cleanliness, aesthetics and maintenance of NH-415 etc. Both the DCs urged the department concerned to work together in coordination with each other for a better and beautiful city.

The SP traffic Dr Sachin Singhal suggested for the provision of traffic island at traffic junctions, regulation of weekly markets, proper marking along the Highway, parking etc. He highlighted locations that witness maximum traffic congestion and also issues that need immediate attention like potholes on the roads. He also requested District Administration to ensure mandatory parking provision in all new building constructions. The SP informed that mobile traffic unit has also been activated to look into traffic regulation and traffic enforcement.

SP Papumpare Taru Gusar said it is important to own a sense of belonging towards our city and as everyone is a stakeholder, we should work in coordination with each other for the betterment of it.

SP Naharlagun Mihin Gambo requested for a joint committee to look into complaints of earth cutting, while informing that necessary actions are being undertaken by both Capital Administration and Police and Papumpare Administration and police including arrest of those involved in illegal earth cutting.

Joint Commissioner IMC Datum Gadi informed that IMC is looking into regulation of weekly market and orders are being issued in this regard. He however appealed the denizens to generate awareness on proper garbage management and to handover garbage to IMC garbage pick up vehicles only. Further he informed that intensive cleanliness drive from Holongi Airport to Itanagar were being carried out by IMC.

Other issues like improvement of internal roads, encroachment, construction and maintenance of highway, cleanliness, plantation, traffic signage, afforestation, ban on use of plastic etc

were discussed in detail.

Later, all the officers present suggested for monthly coordination meeting between officers of Capital and Papumpare administration to ensure action on the issues of both the districts.

Among others, EAC Itanagar/ Naharlagun, officers from Airport Authority of India Donyi Polo Airport, Forest department, works department and others attended the meeting.

Jaya Tasung Moyong conferred with Doctor of Letter

PASIGHAT, January 9:

Eminent social worker Jaya Tasung Moyong from Pasighat has been awarded with Honorary Degree of "Doctor of Letters" by Manipur International University on 9th January at Guwahati, Assam.

The Honorary Doctorate certificate was handed over to her by the Assam Legislative Assembly Speaker Biswajit Daimary in the presence of Vice-chancellor NEHU PS Shukla, Vice-chancellor Manipur International University Prof. Dr. Hari Kumar Pallathadka and other eminent personalities.

Jaya Tasung Moyong was awarded with State Gold Medal in 2019 by the government of Arunachal Pradesh for her sustained fight against drug addiction. She is also the recipient of 25th Baya Karve Rashtriya Purashkar, 2020, Pune, Maharashtra for her relentless efforts towards eradication of social evils related to girl child, domestic violence, sexual harassment, rescuing children from forced captivity, providing legal aid, anti-drug addiction movement and also, women's empowerment.

In his congratulatory message, DC Tayi Taggu said "I am in-

credibly proud of Jaya. She has set an amazing example for everyone in the state as a whole. Her ability to relentlessly search for solutions to problems and hard work in containing drugs abuse is the key to this success. This is an incredible milestone and Jaya deserves the spotlight to celebrate the moment”.

The East Siang SP Sumit Kr. Jha stated that Jaya has been instrumental in curbing social evils, especially drug abuse not only in East Siang District but in the entire Arunachal Pradesh. This honorary degree is befitting to recognize the hard-work and efforts she has been putting towards nation building since a long time. It's a moment of pride for all of us. I congratulate her on behalf of Arunachal Pradesh Police and wish her the best for future endeavors.

Night sky gazing event organised

BOMDILA, January 9:

An event of Night sky gazing was organised today on 9th Jan 2024 at Dirang village. The event was part of first of its kind initiative by district administration, West kameng led by DC Akriti Sagar.

The students and residents of the village got opportunity to take a look into the sky through professional telescopes under supervision of expert team of Astro Scape, Delhi. This will be followed up with setting up of two astro labs which shall be inaugurated shortly.

The lab will have various astronomical equipments which shall inculcate & bolster interest in astrological sciences & get a give closer view of the planets & celestial objects.

Such events will go a long way to provide first hand informa-

tion to the school children & denizens about the universe high above and inculcate interest in students about outer space.

Interstate Coordination Meeting for Simultaneous Elections 2024 held

GOHPUR, January 9:

An Interstate Coordination meeting in view of Simultaneous Elections 2024 was held at SDO Office, Gohpur Assam on January 9.

Jiken Bomjen, DC cum DEO Papum Pare sought cooperation from his counterparts for smooth conduct of elections to be held in Arunachal Pradesh as and when announced by ECI in terms of smooth passage of various election teams and ensure security of election related materials. Special attention to avert infiltration of bogus voters, movement of illegal cash, alcohol, freebies etc across borders by the law enforcing agencies on both sides.

Further, the DEOs of Papum Pare and Pakke Kesang also sought plying pass along with vehicles to be requisitioned during elections in case of shortcomings. The DCs from Assam agreed to cooperate and render all possible help for smooth conduct of elections in the State. In the same line, DC, Biswanath further agreed to create a resting booth in the Behali Reserve Forest for the Polling teams if needed.

The meeting was attended by the Deputy Commissioners of Biswanath District and Lakhimpur District of Assam, Deputy Commissioners of Papum Pare District and Pakke Kesang District of Arunachal Pradesh along with Superintendent of Police of Papum Pare, Itanagar ICC, Naharlagun ICC,

Biswanath District and Dy. SP, Pakke Kesang

APPDSU spearheads land documentation of schools

YUPIA, January 10:

In a landmark and a persuasive effort by the All Papum Pare District Students union (APPDSU), 165 schools out of the 192 schools will possess land documents within the current year. The land documents of the remaining 27 schools which are disputed owing to encroachments and claims by the land donors will be processed after the issues raised are resolved.

The decision was taken during a coordination meeting of the Education, Land and the District Administration on the behest of the All Papum Pare District Students union, as a follow up of the meeting held on the 13th February, 2023 last to work out modalities to protect the school premises from encroachments. APPDSU is spearheading the movement.

Speaking on the occasion Papum Pare DC Jiken Bomjen commended the efforts of the student body and said that “This movement started by the current team of APPDSU led by its President Gollo Lento and General Secretary Tok Nanu will strengthen the efforts to protect government land, particularly the schools from being encroached.”

Exhorting all the admin officers, land officials, education functionaries and the members of APPDSU to expedite the land documentation process, DC Bomjen added that” Our collaborative efforts in a mission mode will secure the land for education purposes in the future.”

Papum Pare DDSE T.T.

Tara informed that” Local committees, comprising of members from the administration, education, land and APPDSU have been formed to expedite regularizing school land. Most of these committees have already completed the survey and the paper works and are awaiting approval from the DC/ADC concerned,”

He further urged the DLR-SO and the CO/EAC(LM) to “expedite the land documentation process for the school land on priority.”

DLRSO, Nanne Yowa while highlighting the issues faced by the department in terms of manpower shortage said that,” Although the department has time bound surveys and projects, we have completed the land mapping of 90 percent of the schools, including the defunct ones “.

He also requested the DDSE to ensure the school land is pegged with concrete posts, at least at the four corners.

General Secretary, APPDSU Tok Nanu urged the administration to make available the land documents of the schools in prominent places like the DDSE Office and in the office of the school’s headmasters and principals.

Also bringing to the notice of the house regarding encroachment cases of few defunct schools, he requested the administration to work out modalities to evacuate the encroachers and use the school infrastructures.

He also suggested for “recognizing the land donors, officially by the DA” stating that “such gestures by the government will boost the morale of the donors.”

The General Secretary also pressed hard for issue of land documents to the schools in a time bound manner.

DPC Samargha Shiksha Abhiyaan Tang Moromi presented

the land documentation status of all the schools of rural Papum pare.

“Out of the 192 schools, 165 are encumbrance free. 17 schools under Kimin block have been issued land documents,” she informed.

Among others Nyalisa Raji, I/C SDO Doimukh, Hibu Akha, I/C ADC Sagalee, Chukhu Taba, I/C EAC Mengio, BRCCs and executive members of APPDSU attended the meeting.

Governor advises the Commission to reach out to the children in the districts

ITANAGAR, January 10:

The chairperson of the Arunachal Pradesh State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (AP-SCPCR) Ratan Anya along with her team called on the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) at Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on 10th January 2024. The Governor congratulated the Commission and conveyed his good wishes for a successful tenure.

The Governor advised the Commission to reach out to the children in the districts, while assuring to interact with all stakeholders during his district tours. He said that the Commission for Protection of Child Rights must work with dedication for the development, rehabilitation and protection of children that are in need, and also to provide for the basic need and protection that is needed by the children.

The Governor said that today’s children are the future of the nation. He said that it is the responsibility of every guardian to take care of their safety, security, education, health, and overall

well-being for a prosperous society.

The Chairperson was accompanied by Ngurang Achung, Honlук Lukham, Taba Champa, Miti Libang and Michi Anju

Ziro fish farmers trained on scientific fish farming technology

Ziro, January 10:

A one-day training programme on Integrated Fish Farming Technologies was organized by ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture, Rahara, Kolkata in collaboration with Department of Fisheries at Hari community hall.

50 farmers participated at the programme attended by Dr.S. Adhikari, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CIFA, Rahara, Kolkata, Dr. H. Tama, DVO, Hibu Dante, DHO, Tasso Butung, DAO, Mihin Tapin, Farm Manager, RHAFSF, Tarin, and DFDO L. Lasa along with other officers from Ziro.

The objective of the training programme was to create awareness among the fish farmers of the District on recent advancements made in Integrated Fish Farming Technologies for increased production and productivity of fish and fish seeds. The resource persons highlighted the incidences of recurring low productivity and offered expert tips to overcome them.

The importance and integration of fisheries, livestock, horticulture and agriculture farming was also briefed and highlighted during the programme to alleviate poverty and enhance the socio-economic condition of fish farmers.

The participants expressed happiness for organizing the program at Ziro while the organizers extended gratefulness to Dr. P.K

Sahoo, Director, ICAR-CIFA for facilitating the training programme (DIPRO)

Governor interacts with SPICMACAY members, flags off cycle rally

ITANAGAR, January 10:

The founder of the Society for the Promotion of Indian Classical Music and Culture Amongst Youth (SPICMACAY) Dr. Kiran Seth, accompanied by SPICMACAY Arunachal members called on the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) and the First Lady of the State Smt Anagha Parnaik at Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on 10th January 2024.

The Governor commended the SPICMACAY for its endeavour in enriching the quality of formal education by increasing awareness about different aspects of Indian heritage and inspiring the young mind to imbibe the values embedded in it. He assured to promote SPICMACAY activities in the State for the wellbeing and interest of the student community.

The Governor said that Raj Bhavan has always promoted the cultural heritage of the State and encouraged a healthy approach to life. He said that to raise the quality of formal education, the educationist and teachers must be motivated. This motivation must be self realised, he underscored.

Dr. Seth informed the Governor that SPICMACAY conducts more than 5000 programs every year in more than 1000 institutions, across the nation, reaching large numbers of students.

Prof Saket Kushwaha, Vice Chancellor, Rajiv Gandhi University GU and SPICMACAY Arunachal members including

Techi Gobin, Chayanika Vashisth, Nang Pheyhom Chakhap, Rupjoti Mukherjee and Nau Richu were present in the meeting. Itanagar Cycle Club members also attended the meeting.

Later the Governor flagged off the Itanagar leg of the bicycle Yatra by Dr. Kiran Seth's Kashmir to Kanyakumari which has covered 13 States so far. Itanagar Cycle Club members, led by Pei Ijum Gadi and members Pallo sonam Heri, Munni Eri, Kishore Pegu, Gumku David, Ryui Tana Tubin, Tanyang Yao, Kago Simanta and Geyon Panyang joined the Dr. Seth's Arunachal leg of the Cycle Yatra.

Induction Training Conducted

AALO, January 11:

The District Child Protection Unit (DCPU), West Siang District, Aalo, Department of Women and Child Development, Govt of Arunachal Pradesh has organized Induction Training for the Newly Inducted Panels of Member under Juvenile Justice Board (JJB) and Child Welfare Committee (CWC) here at P&P Resort, Aalo on 11th January, 2024

Judge, Tadu Tamang, APJS, CJM cum Civil Judge (Senior Division) West Siang District, Aalo attending the prammme as resource person gave detail orientation on Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, procedure of handling cases relating to Child in Conflict with Law (CCL) & Role of JJB and Role of CWC while dealing with POCSO Victims.

Dege Kamki, Protection Officer spoke about Constitutional and Conceptual Framework of Child Rights and Child Protec-

tion in the programme while Mijum Doke, Legal cum Probation Officer gave detail orientation on Constitution, Functions, Powers, Role & Responsibilities of Child Welfare Committee (CWC). In addition, he also imparted the procedure of dealing with cases relating to Child in Need of Care and Protection (CNCP).

The training concluded with sharing of experiences by former JJB & CWC members.

Board formed to monitor rampant earth cutting

YUPIA, January 12:

In the light of the escalating concerns regarding uncontrolled earth cutting in various locations of Yupia town and adjacent areas, Papum Pare Deputy Commissioner Jiken Bomjen has constituted a board comprising of Additional Deputy Commissioners, District Disaster management, Divisional Forest Officer, District Land and Revenue Officer, SDTO BSNL and Executive Engineers of PWD, PHED and Power as members to mitigate its impact on environment and natural resources.

Any individual or organisations will have to seek prior permissions from DC Papum pare before engaging in any earth cutting activities under the jurisdiction of the Deputy Commissioner Papum Pare.

This board shall verify the documents and inspect the sites of the applicant applying for earth cutting permissions and ensure that no earth cutting is done around government structures, electrical installations like transformers/sub stations and LT lines.

After earth cutting permissions are granted, this board shall

also ensure that the land owners clear the debris without damaging streams, rivers and highways, buildings and plots of the upper and lower terrace neighbouring landowners.

In this line, DC Bomjen issued an order on Wednesday, January 10 last which states that "On the approval of the earth cutting permissions, the applicant shall deposit a security for 1(one) year which shall be refunded after the expiry of the valid date of the permission. However, in the event of any damage caused by the earth cutting and dumping activities to any private or govt. property, it shall be compensated as per the existing and prevailing market rate of the damaged properties and shall be liable to be punished under DDMA Act section 51-A and B or both".

He has also directed the Superintendent of Police and the Town Magistrate, Yupia to enforce the order with immediate effect.

Governor advises students to be disciplined, study hard and excel in life

ITANAGAR, January 12:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) interacted with the students from Tirap and Longding Districts at Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on 12th January 2024. The students are on a National Integration Tour organized by the Khonsa Battalion of the Assam Rifles.

The Governor emphasized that the students avail maximum benefit from the tour, enhance their knowledge about different people, places and cultures and imbibe awareness gained in all spheres

of life. He informed that the State Government sponsored student exchange programmes are also in pipeline for the wellbeing of the students.

The Governor advised students, who are future leaders, to be disciplined, study hard and excel in life. He said that they must prepare themselves to be active participants of Viksit Bharat in the Amrit Kaal and asked them to be responsible and sincere to ensure a better future of Arunachal Pradesh.

The Governor complimented the 44 Assam Rifles for conducting the tour and opined that such Civic Action will promote cooperation and goodwill amongst the force and the local people. He said that Assam Rifles has always been cementing good relations with the local people throughout the North Eastern Region.

Lt. Col. Devrat Beniwal, 44 Assam Rifles briefed the Governor about the National Integration Tour, which is part of the Civic Action programme of the Assam Rifles. He informed that the six-day Tour was flagged from Khonsa on 9th January by Commandant of 44 Assam Rifles Colonel Rahul Singh. The tour covered prominent destinations including Jorhat, Kaziranga and Itanagar. Some of the students are coming out of the districts for the first time.

National Youth Day celebrated under BBBP Scheme

PASIGHAT, January 12:

National youth day celebration commemorating the Swami Vivekananda birth anniversary was celebrated under Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme at DC's conference hall, Pasighat on Friday, January 12 in presence of Deputy

Commissioner Tayi Taggu, DD ICDS M. Gao, Dr. Jonny Darang and all the associated members of BBBP of East Siang district.

DC Tayi Taggu on the occasion appreciated the concerned department and members for sensitizing on street child life and sex determination offensive Act before the gathering. He said that a girl child is boon to the society since today's girl can make impact more as well as they are capable to build more vibrant society. A mother only can teach her child the values of love & care and can instil into their child a good moral and ability to live good life which only lead to vibrant and quality society; he added.

Earlier, Dr. J. Darang presented PPT on "The Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex selection) Act, 1994 (57 of 1994) and further added that Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Act 1994 under which sex determination is considered as criminal offence and shall be liable to fine as well as jailed a person whoever involved in sex determination.

DD ICDS Machi Gao provided a comprehensive overview on Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme and also usher the importance of the celebration "Nation Youth Day" and highlighted the life history of Swami Vivekananda and his motive in life to make world peace & progressive. She emphasised and sensitized about street children who are deprived of everything and lived in worst condition. It should be our prime role & responsibility especially ICDS and other associated departments as a protector of the street children in pushing them up for availing of every constitutional rights, added Gao.

National Youth day celebrated

DEOMALI, January 12:

The NSS Unit, W R Govt. College, Deomali celebrated National Youth Day in collaboration with Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS), Tirap, with the theme, "My Bharat-Viksit Bharat@2047: By the Youth, For the Youth" on Friday, January 12.

Speaking on the occasion, Ngamwang Lowang, Programme Officer, NSS Unit, W.R.Govt. College, Deomali, highlighted the importance of celebrating National Youth Day and urged the youths to draw inspiration from Swami Vivekananda's great works for the nation.

"Youth is the future of every country, and they are full of energy, innovation, and are the catalysts of progress and change. Their role in making the dreams of Viksit Bharat@2047 can only be realized if they abstain from drug abuse and violence in society", he added.

The program concluded in a befitting manner with the conduct of a Declamation competition on the topic Viksit Bharat@2047 and the display of live telecast of Prime Minister's speech on National Youth Day. The winners of the Declamation competition were Esha Kumari Sah (1st Position), Somu Barman (2nd Position), Janglin Lamra, and Teney Henkhey (3rd Position).

MLA attends VBSY along with SAD

ITANAGAR, January 12:

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra along with Seva Aapke Dwar camp covering Jollang and Chimpu area was conducted on January 12 at Govt upper Primary School Jollang.

Chief Guest MLA Techikaso inaugurated the camp in the presence of ZPM Taro Tagia, Deputy Commissioner Capital Itanagar Talo Potom, ADC Shweta Nagarkoti and a host of other officers, officials and public.

Various Departments of the State Govt participated in the camp and brought their services to the citizens residing in and around Jollang area.

During the camp interacting with the beneficiaries, the Chief Guest and the DC urged the public to avail the services provided by various departments. They visited every department and appreciated the services provided to the people by them.

The Chief Guest also handed over certificates and other important benefits to the beneficiaries. He also administered the pledge on Hamara Sankalp Viksit Bharat to the denizens who had enthusiastically participated in the program.

The highlight of the day was painting competition conducted amongst the students of class VI to VIII of GUPS Jollang witnessing enthusiastic participation of the students.

EAC Itanagar cum Nodal Officer Shri Khoda Lasa informed that around 1700 beneficiaries were benefited by the camp, availing various services. Many departments participated in the VBSY and Seva Aapke Dwar camp today making it a grand success.

Vivekananda Kendra Arunjyoti NYD

PASIGHAT, January 12:

Vivekananda Kendra Arunjyoti celebrated National Youth Day at Siying Gangging, Pasighat on 12 January marking the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda.

Many officials, dignitaries, teachers, students of various schools, VKV Alumni, Karyakartas attended the function.

Principal Sainik School East Siang Commander Praveen Kumar Pola attended the function as Chief Guest and Director Rashtriya Raksha University Pasighat Avinash Kharel as the Guest of Honour.

The Chief Guest and Guest of Honour addressed the gathering advising the youth to work hard with discipline and sincerity to excel in their selected areas. About 200 Youth participated in the program.

MLA urges to avail maximum services provided at SAD camp

NAMSAI, January 13:

Seva Aapke Dwar 2.0 cum Vikshit Bharat Sankalp Yatra was held at GUPS, Dharampur covering Dharampur-I & II Gram Panchayats of Lekang Circle under Namsai District on January 13.

Lekang MLA Jummum Ete Deori urged the public to avail services provided by various departments. She also handed over the certificates to the beneficiaries and administered pledge for Vikshit Bharat in the camp.

Pankaj Upadhyay emphasized on the use of media in educating people about various govt. schemes and attaining saturation of govt. schemes.

Numerous departments participated in the camp demonstrating a collective commitment to its success.

Deputy Secretary, DBT, Ministry of Science & Technology, Deputy Commissioner, HoDs, officers, officials and public were present in the camp.

Mein inaugurates Parshuram Kund festival 2024 amidst spiritual splendor

WAKRO, January 13:

The annual Parshuram Kund Festival 2024 officially began at Wakro on Saturday, January 13 with pilgrims taking a holy dip at the Kund.

In a momentous ceremony that resonated with spiritual fervor, Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein inaugurated the Parshuram Kund Festival 2024 in Lohit district. The festival, a sacred convergence of communities, unfolded with profound unity and celebration.

Amidst the sacred ambience enveloping Parshuram Kund, Mein offered prayers to Bhagwan Parshuram, seeking blessings for the overall well-being and prosperity of all participants.

Mein noted that it is a continued effort to make Parshuram Kund into a major pilgrimage site in the North East region with the active support of Govt of India and Govt of Arunachal Pradesh.

Mein also distributed shawls to the Sadhus provided by the Parshuram Kund Sewa Dhama and also distributed warm T-Shirts to volunteers and non-plastic bags provided by the VIPRA Foundation.

He extended his heartfelt thanks to all the organisations and individuals especially to Parshuram Kund Sewa Dhama and the Parshuram Sewa Samiti for their active participation for organising the Parshuram Kund Festival, previously known as Mela, and helping the pilgrims from all over the country visiting the Kund during the Holy week of Makar Sankranti.

He also thanked the VIPRA Foundation for their active participation and efforts to turn Parshuram Kund into a major pilgrimage site in the North East and for donating a magnificent 51 ft statue of Bhagwan Parshuram, which is being installed at the holy site. He said that the statue is anticipated to add grandeur to the site and attract more visitors in years to come.

Mein also inspected the Control Room, security measures and other arrangements meticulously handled by the District Administration, Lohit.

Trade fair is also being organized at the festival ground & Tezu wherein vendors from all corners of the country have set up stalls. Further the local people of the District have also set up food stalls and local produce such as oranges. Bio toilets have been installed by PHE&W for the pilgrims. Further Indian Army has set up a Medical camp at the Festival ground along with the health unit from Zonal General Hospital Tezu at all the strategic locations of the Kund.

Also, During the festival Free food and accommodation have also been arranged for the pilgrims. Sufficient forces have been deployed to avert any untoward incidents or to avert any emergency situations.

As per the estimate around Five thousand people visited Parshuram Kund, the number is expected to grow in the coming days. Any information relating to transformation, accommodation, and registration can be availed from www.parshuram-kund.in.

The inauguration was also attended by Lok Sabha MP (Arunachal East) Tapir Gao, MLAs Zingnu Namchoom, Talem Taboh and Dasanglu Pul, along with Sec-

retary of SJETA Abu Tayeng (IAS), DC and SP Tezu, among many others.

DCM inaugurates the Eklavya Model Residential School at Manyuliang village

WAKRO, January 13:

In a significant stride towards advancing the educational landscape of the region, Deputy Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh Chowna Mein inaugurated the Eklavya Model Residential School at Manyuliang village, situated in Medo under Wakro Subdivision, Lohit district.

Mein in his inaugural speech congratulated the people of Lohit District and people of Wakro Subdivision in particular for getting a new educational infrastructure. He lauded the efforts of the District Administration, the Executing Agency, Education and Social Justice Empowerment & Tribal Affairs Departments for timely of the building.

Expressing appreciation for their quality work, Mein also applauded the collective efforts that have culminated in the establishment of this much-needed school. He further expressed his intent to make the school fully functional at the earliest. He asked the Deputy Commissioner of Lohit, Shashvat Saurabh to submit the requirements of school furniture and others as early as possible. He also said that along with the quality building we must also strive to impart quality education which is the ultimate goal of the Govt and aspirations of the people. He said that collective efforts must be put in to make this institution a model school.

The inaugural ceremony was also attended by Lok Sabha

MP (Arunachal East), Tapir Gao, MLAs Chau Zingnu Namchoom, Talem Taboh and Dasanglu Pul, along with Secretary of SJETA, Abu Tayeng (IAS), among others.

One Day Legal Awareness conducted at Liromoba

AALO, January 13:

The Aalo and the Liromoba units of the Arunachal Pradesh Women's Welfare Society (APWWS), in collaboration with the Arunachal Pradesh State Commission for Women (APSCW), organised a legal awareness programme themed 'Know your rights and fight for your rights' here in West Siang district on Saturday, January 13.

While Aalo APWWS unit general secretary Roge Ado spoke about the difference between the APSCW and the APWWS, former APSCW member Hoksum Ori spoke on economic empowerment of women.

APSCW Vice Chairperson Nabam Yani Tad dwelt on "good relationship between husband and wife," the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005; the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition & Redressal) Act, 2013; and prevention of polygamy and child marriage.

APSCW Chairperson Kenjum Pakam spoke on "compulsory education and marriage registration," and urged the women to "become self-reliant and fight for your rights."

Advocate Dege Kamki and Liromoba ZPM Babom Romin also spoke.

Among others, Liromoba APWWS unit president Nyasur

Gamlin Romin, the Liromoba EAC, HoDs, members of NGOs and SHGs, and students attended the programme.

PMC discusses on three major issues

PASIGHAT, January 14:

A consultative meeting to discuss the implementation of three byelaws – user charge on garbage as per notified rates; imposition of penalty on defaulters thereof; and management of construction and demolition waste – was held at the Pasighat Municipal Council (PMC) office here in East Siang district on Saturday, January 13.

During the meeting, which was attended by various stakeholders, including members of NGOs and CBOs and the business community, Municipal Executive Officer Onam Lego presented a brief on the three state-specific byelaws, viz, the Arunachal Pradesh Solid Waste (Management & Handling) Byelaws, 2023; the Arunachal Pradesh Plastic Waste Management Byelaws, 2023; and the Arunachal Pradesh Construction & Demolition Waste Management Byelaws, 2023 for compliance by the urban local bodies and the district urban development agency (DUDA).

The byelaws have been framed as per the provision contained in the Arunachal Pradesh Municipal Act, 2007, and as per the provisions the SWM Rules, 2016.

The revised rates of solid waste management user fees, penalty for violation of plastic waste rules, safe management practices, including duties and responsibilities of generator(s) of construction & demolition (C&D) waste,

and the agency responsible for C&D waste management were also discussed during the meeting.

Bogong Banggo Ke-bang (BBK) president Basalung Jamoh assured to support the PMC's 'Clean City Mission', and requested the PMC to conduct awareness programmes "at the level of wards and sectors on user charge rates and C&D waste management rules for maximum outreach."

He also suggested that "shortage of sanitary staffers in the PMC can be met by volunteers of the BBK."

BBK general secretary Onong Perme expressed appreciation for the state government for framing the byelaws for efficient management of garbage.

In the context of C&D waste, he opined that "further discussion is to be done with stakeholders prior to its implementation," and expressed hope that "segregation of garbage can be effectively done at door-to-door level with the implementation of the new byelaws."

He requested the authority concerned to "adopt equal measures for treatment of liquid waste management by putting a blanket ban on untreated household effluent entering Pane Korong stream in the heart of the town."

The participants called for initiating a project for rejuvenating Pane and Ramro streams "to restore the quality of water to its pristine best."

Pasighat Market Association president Oti Dai offered suggestions for streamlining garbage management.

BBK social service secretary Obuk Tamuk, PMA executive member Santosh Singh, and officials of the PMC also spoke.

Aboh attends foundation day of the United Kothin Zone Welfare Association

NEW KOTHIN, January 15:

Amid growing cases of drug addiction among students and youths, MLA Chakat Aboh urged parents to keep a watch on their school-going children.

Attending the foundation day celebration of the United Kothin Zone Welfare Association here in Tirap district on Monday, January 15 Aboh urged the members of the association to stay united for all-round development of their area.

Elite Society of Dadam Area president Tirang Sumnyan also urged the people of Old Kothin, New Kothin, Boakfom-I and Boakfom-II to “live in unity with one another,” stating that “development is achievable only through collective efforts.”

BJP mandal president Nyewang Lowang also spoke.

Later, Aboh, along with Sumnyan presented cash awards to Classes 10 and 12 toppers belonging to the four villages.

Coordination meeting regarding implementation of on NLE programme

ITANAGAR, January 16:

A coordination meeting of the District Coordination Committee for Sparsh Leprosy Awareness Campaign SLAC Capital Itanagar was convened on Tuesday, January 16 in the chamber of the Deputy Commissioner Capital Itanagar Talo Potom to discuss regarding implementation of Na-

tional Leprosy Eradication (NLE) Programme.

Dr Dominic Lokham, DLO ICC informed that in order to issue the Stigma and discrimination associated with Leprosy and to raise awareness, a nationwide campaign called SLAC was introduced under National Leprosy Eradication program on 30th Jan 2017 (Anti Leprosy Day) and this year the theme for the same would be Ending Stigma, embracing Dignity with an aim to make Leprosy Free Arunachal and Leprosy Free India by 2027.

He informed that on 30th January 2024, a Gram Sabha will also be conducted in coordination with the concerned departments and highlighted the proposed activities to be conducted during the Gram Sabha.

Dr. Lokham through a PPT informed that Leprosy which is caused by bacteria called *Mycobacterium Leprae* is one of the oldest diseases known to mankind, which effects mainly skin, peripheral nerves, mucus membranes and many other organs. The disease was believed to be incurable earlier until 1940, when anti leprosy drugs were made available.

He also highlighted the sign and symptoms which generally include presence of patch in any part of body, loss of sensation in any part of body distal to patch, thickening of peripheral / cutaneous nerves or nerve trunks while in the later stage of disease symptoms include thickening of earlobes, deformities of finger/ toes, loss of eyebrows, flatterings of nasal bridges, non-healing ulcers in limbs.

Also highlighting about the prevalent cases of Leprosy, Dr. Lokham informed that ICR is currently reporting 14 cases of Leprosy as on 15th January 2024

which includes 12 cases from other districts whereas the data of the state currently stands at 35 cases. He further highlighted that as per global study, India has more than 60% of Leprosy case prevalence of the whole world.

The DC stressed on awareness generation regarding Leprosy, lack of which leads to stigma, discrimination and misconceptions about the disease transmission and treatment which ultimately affects many aspects of life such as social status, employment opportunities, marriage and family life. He urged all to work in coordination with each other to make the campaign a grand success.

Cooperator Tadar Hanghi asked DMO and his team to include testimonials of cured Leprosy patient during the Gram Sabha which would be a success story in inspiring other patients and help in breaking the misconception regarding the disease and its treatment.

The Sparsh Leprosy Awareness Campaign is celebrated all over India since the last seven years on 30th January commemorating the Martyrdom day of the Father of Nation Mahatma Gandhi in order to re-memorize his selfless effort and care for the people affected by Leprosy. Sparsh aims to touch everybody at grass root level of society with awareness about Leprosy. It aims to provide mental solace and encouragement to the affected people to come forward and get treated and aims to increase community participation and awareness amongst people by reaching out to them.

Among others, Corporator Lokam Anand, DMO Dr Kipa Tuglik, DANO, District Epidemiologist, and CDPOs attended the meeting.

AR distributes necessary items to the villager

JASWANT GARH, January 16:

The Indian Army gifted blankets to villagers, traditional jackets to the gaon burahs, and cushion chairs and kerosene heaters to the Jang monastery in Tawang district on Tuesday, January 16.

The programme was orchestrated by the general officer commanding of the Army's Blazing Sword division and the commander of the Sela Warrior brigade.

Among the attendees were the additional deputy commissioner, the block education officer, and the block development officer, besides the heads of the Govt Higher Secondary School in Jang and the Govt Upper Primary School in Yuthembu.

Approximately 50 villagers and 11 ex-servicemen benefited from the programme.

Apatani students on educational tour to NCR and Jaipur

ZIRO, January 17:

Delhi Police Special Commissioner and President of Helping Hands Society, Robin Hibu flagged-off the week-long educational tour of Apatani students to National Capital Region and Jaipur at Delhi recently.

Speaking on the occasion, the first IPS officer of the state Robin Hibu advised the students to be disciplined, laborious and be worthwhile citizens of the state and the country.

During the week-long tour starting from 9th to 17th January, 41 Apatani students visited various historical places and monuments

including India Gate, Qutub Minar, Red Fort, Lotus Temple and Swami Narayan Akhsardam Temple at Delhi.

At Jaipur, the students visited the Amber Palace, Jaal Mahal, Seesh Mahal, Hawa Mahal, Jantar-Mantar and City Palace.

The educational tour was organized by Apatani Students Union and Apatani Students Union Capital Complex, Itanagar led by organizing Chairman Koj Rissang and Secretary Nani Nomo.

Meanwhile, the students expressed gratitude to generous well wishers who supported and contributed for the tour particularly Minister and local MLA Er.TageTaki, Delhi Police personnel Om Prakash and Sanjay Goswami for the local arrangements.

Secretary Sports Inspected outdoor stadium at Aalo

AALO, January 17:

Abu Tayeng, Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs, Govt of Arunachal Pradesh along with Adv. Kento Jini, MLA 31st Aalo East Assembly Constituency, Mabi Taipodia Jini, ADC i/c DC West Siang and Kento Ete Team ATP-DWS and T. Loyi DSO (Sports) inspected the under construction outdoor stadium at Aalo on January 17.

The sports lover of Aalo is facing lots of problem due to long back non completion of the stadium.

During the short interaction publics of Aalo demanded early completion of the stadium to the govt. the public's placed their grievances to the secretary.

Secretary Sports assured them to place their griev-

ances with HCM of Arunachal Pradesh, Minister of Sports and implementing agencies for further completion of the stadium.

Governor visits Eastern Air Command

SHILLONG, January 18:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) visited Eastern Air Command Headquarters, Shillong on 18th January 2024. Air Officer Commanding in Chief (AOC-in-C) of the Eastern Air Command, Air Marshal SP Dharkar received the Governor and briefed him on roles and responsibilities of HQ Eastern Air Command including the challenges they face.

The Governor commended the Eastern Air Command for its commitment of being the first responders of any emergency and for facilitating airlift and air supplies to remote areas in the North East Region. He said that our Air Force is the Sword Service of our country and has distinguished itself in all battles and skirmishes.

The Governor emphasised on dual use of air fields, advance landing grounds and helipads in Arunachal Pradesh by security forces and the local population. He said that such a step will support tourism as well as movement of goods, services and citizens with the State and have a huge impact on the economical growth of the State.

The Governor, who is on an official tour to Shillong to participate in the 71st Plenary of North Eastern Council (NEC), discussed with the AOC-in-C, issues related to our activities including activation of Advance Land Grounds and assured him of fullest support and

cooperation from the State Government.

APSAC imparts Training on GIS base

AALO, January 18:

The Arunachal Pradesh Space Application Centre (APSAC) Itanagar imparted hands on training on GIS based and implemented the project GIS based Real Time Utility information system for Aalo West Siang on January 18.

The training was conducted under the chairmanship of Mabi Taipodia Jini ADC i/c DC West Siang, initiated by MLA Kento Jini 31st Aalo East Assembly Constituency.

The APSAC team headed by Dr. Liagi Tajo, Jt. Director cum Nodal Officer (AP), Chan Kon Manlong, Deputy Director, submitted the web based portal with GIS Data base on utilities of Aalo-Kamba, Citizen Centric Mobile application and staff management mobile application for the training.

The citizen utility app can be downloaded from the mobile and it will be more easier for citizen and line department for any complaints of Public utility services like PHED, Power, PWD, UD & Housing departments etc.

The training certificate to the APSAC department was later handed by Mabi Taipodia.

Minister Inaugurats Arunachal Pineapple Festival 1.0 at Bagra

AALO, January 18:

The first-ever 'Arunachal Pineapple Festival 1.0', being organised by the All Bagra Welfare Society, in collaboration with the Arunachal Pradesh Agriculture

Marketing Board (APAMB), began here in West Siang district on Friday.

Horticulture Minister Tage Taki, who declared the festival open in the presence of APAMB CEO Okit Palling, Industry Minister Tumke Bagra, and others, said, "This festival will motivate and encourage the local horticulture farmers."

"Due to the decline in the number of pineapple growers, the Nigmoi fruit processing

factory is defunct," he lamented, and appealed to the farmers of Pushi Bango area to "grow more pineapples for national and international markets." He also urged the farmers to "start a pineapple grower cooperative society for better business and sustainable development."

Palling in his address said that "the product of pineapple will be applied for GI certification in the near future," and added that "the festival is important for the pineapple farmers to gain more knowledge regarding pineapple and orange cultivation."

Late Tojo Bagra, the first pineapple farmer of the district, who had started a pineapple garden here in the 1950s, was posthumously felicitated by Taki.

The first day of the festival featured colourful dances and selling of various local products and cuisines, besides visitors taking a walk along the Sipu river.

Among others, Deputy Commissioner (i/c) Mabi Taipodia Jini, ZPC Tumpe Ete, GWS president Marnya Ete, ZPMs, HoDs, organising president Nyali Bagra, and organising secretary Bomkar Bagra were present at the inaugural function.

HoDs donate to renovate rehab centre

YUPIA, January 18:

CGI sheets and other materials required for renovating the roof of the common kitchen of ASHA bhawan, a rehabilitation centre located at Banderdewa was donated by the Head of Offices of Yupia.

The assistance was an initiation of DC Shri JikenBomjen upon receiving an appeal from the rehabilitation centre. The Ho Oslowd pooled to generate funds for procuring the cgi sheets and gaming equipments.

CO Yupia, Mary Bui handed over the materials to the incharge, Rajiv Bhattacharya on behalf of the officers on Thursday, January 18.

Bhattacharya expressed gratitude to all the officers for their generous donations.

The Asha bhawan with a capacity of 25, has 16 inmates housed.

Sensitization on POCSO held

YINGKIONG, January 18:

A Sensitization and awareness programme on Protection Of Children from Sexual Offence Act (POCSO) was conducted by the District Child Protection Unit (DCPU), Upper Siang at CDPO office, Yingkiong on January 18. Officials from various departments of the District attended the programme.

The resource person who spoke on the occasion was Advocate Geni Pangkam from Dist. Legal Service Authority and Akoying Tekseng Legal cum Probation Officer of District Child Protection Unit (DCPU).

Governor addresses the NEC plenary

SHILLONG, January 19:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) participated and addressed the 71st Plenary of North Eastern Council at Shillong on 19th January 2024. He highlighted the achievements and challenges of the State in the infrastructure development and law and order and commitment of the State towards the Viksit Bharat initiative at the NEC forum.

Speaking on the occasion, the Governor said that in the past seven years, Arunachal Pradesh has witnessed a substantial surge in road infrastructure with 65% increase in road density, 64% expansion in road length, and the construction of an extensive 19,863 km road network. He said that while good progress has been made in the hinterland, issues related to forest clearance need to be speeded up.

The Governor said that the region has made substantial investments in enhancing air connectivity. In addition to the Greenfield Donyi Polo Airport at Holongi, Itanagar, inaugurated by Prime Minister, the State boasts operational airports in Pasighat, Tezu, and Ziro, along with seven advanced landing grounds and 25 operational helipads. Notably, the state was honoured with the 'Best Emerging State in Aviation Sector' award at the Wings India-2022 Conference, he said.

The Governor, who has toured the militancy affected districts of Tirap, Changlang and Longding said that to counter unlawful activities the security structures are being beefed up and coordinated, but it requires additional

assistance from the Military and Para Military forces. He informed that Army and Para Military Forces have forged excellent relations with the local population and have been assisting them to overcome local challenges through Sadbhavna activities.

The Governor said that the State Government is cultivating a vibrant Start-Up ecosystem, while taking advantage of our skilled and talented youth. He said that the State Government aims to empower the youth, transforming them into entrepreneurs and become job creators rather than job seekers.

The Governor expressed gratitude to the Union Government for providing the State with the invaluable opportunity of hosting the G20 and C20 Meetings and showcasing various tribal cultures, arts, and innovations by budding innovators were greatly appreciated by all delegates.

The Governor said that the State is aiming to attain saturation of flagship priority schemes, while working diligently to ensure that all eligible beneficiaries are covered by the target dates, in keeping with the ambitious vision of the Hon'ble Prime Minister.

The Governor said that during the next twenty-five years of 'Amrit Kaal', Arunachal Pradesh is committed to doing its utmost to contribute to the nation's journey of becoming 'Viksit Bharat' by 2047.

Bureau of Indian Standards conducts awareness for PRI members

YUPIA, January 19:

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), Guwahati branch conducted a sensitization program for the PRI members of Papum Pare district on

Friday, January 19 at the ZPC conference hall.

The program focused on educating the elected leaders about the importance of adhering to quality standards in various aspects of daily life and emphasized on the significance of using standardized construction materials, safe drinking water practices, and quality agricultural inputs.

The PRI members were also briefed on the effective use of the Gram Panchayat booklets containing important standards. They were also encouraged to adhere to these standards in government purchases to ensure that public funds are utilized efficiently and effectively.

A hand on training on "BISCARE" app which is the official app of the BIS was provided to the attendees. The App facilitates verification of licence details, hallmarks on gold ornaments, register consumer related complaints etc.

Barashajyoti Baishya and, Kaushik Bezbaruah from Guwahati was the resource persons.

Bengia Yakar PD Cum DPDO, Coordinator, BIS Taba Meena, admin officers and PRI members attended the sensitization program.

3rd Arunachal Yuva Samanvay kicks off

ROING, January 19:

The 3rd Arunachal Yuva Samanvay, with the theme of 'Yuva Against Drugs' was declared open by Minister (Sports & Youth Affairs) Mama Natung during the Inaugural Ceremony held at the Banne Giddi Notko, Dambuk, Lower Dibang Valley, Arunachal Pradesh on Friday, January 19. He was accompanied by MLA Gum Tayeng, MLA Mutchu Mithi, Sec-

retary Abu Tayeng, ZPC Tony Borang, DC Soumya Saurabh and SP Akansha Yadav.

Mama Natung, addressing the gathering, informed about the aim of the 'Yuva Samanvay' being to foster unity, oneness and harmony amongst the youth of the state. 'We Are One' was the message he gave and stressed that this should be the echoing call that the youth reiterate, inculcate and practise.

We are a vast and diverse state with varied tribes having varying languages, cultures and traditions and the 'Yuva Samanvay' is a platform for all to learn about and celebrate each other's uniqueness while also coming together as one people, he added. Do not distinguish and discriminate against each other but take pride and ownership in being from Arunachal Pradesh, he advised.

MLA Mutchu Mithi advised the young people to listen to advice given by the elders, assimilate the right knowledge, ideas and experience and take a resolution to work towards progress and development. The youth of our state are capable, talented and are the face of change and this event should be a platform for them to develop and present their talent and ideas, he added. He also advised one and all to resist coming under the influence of drugs and other substances.

Secretary Abu Tayeng, ZPC Tony Borang and DC Soumya Saurabh also spoke on the occasion.

East Siang Police conducts self-defense workshop for NCC girl cadets

PASIGHAT, January 20:

One day self-defense training workshop was conducted at BHQ (Bat-

talion Headquarters), 5th IRBn campus by East Siang district Police in collaboration with WCD (Women and Child Development) Department, Govt of Arunachal Pradesh. The program was conducted as a part of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao initiative of Govt of India.

The training was imparted to NCC (Senior Wing) Girl cadets of Jawaharlal Nehru College (JNC) Pasighat. Trained Instructor Ajay Chhetri and his team provided inputs on how simple yet effective techniques could be used for self-defense when the situation arises.

The workshop was coordinated by Pasighat Women Police Station Officer Incharge Ojum Riba Lollen and her associates under the supervision of SDPO Pasighat Pankaj Lamba, IPS.

Raj Bhavan celebrates State foundation Day of Manipur, Meghalaya and Tripura

ITANAGAR, January 21:

In the spirit of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat', the State Foundation Day of Manipur, Meghalaya and Tripura was celebrated at Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on 21st January 2024 with traditional gaiety and fervour. The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) and the First Lady of the State Anagha Parnaik along with the people from Manipur, Meghalaya and Tripura participated in the programme.

The Governor greeted the people of Manipur, Meghalaya and Tripura and conveyed good wishes on behalf of the people of the State to them. He said that these States have lots of similarities with our State and are closely associated owing to cultural diversity and pristine green assets.

The Governor reiterated the 'Vocal for Local' mission of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and advised the people to visit sister States of North East Region, which he said has huge appeal and tourism assets and interest.

The Governor said that celebrating the foundation day of other States strengthens the spirit of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' and creates strong bonds amongst the people. He thanked the people of the States celebrating the foundation day for their contribution in the developmental progress of Arunachal Pradesh.

The Governor commended the participating youth for being very good and proud ambassadors of their State to Arunachal Pradesh. He urged them to contribute towards nation building in the Amrit Kaal.

Highlight of the function was the presentation of traditional dances and cultural items by the people of Manipur, Meghalaya and Tripura, including 'Ema gisu ema' (Manipur), Diengjat (Meghalaya), Hojagiri (Tripura), Lautai Landi Laam (Manipur) and Rabindra Nritya by Miss Debashmita Das (Tripura). Large number of students and faculty members from North Eastern Institute of Science and Technology and Rajiv Gandhi University, Ramakrishna Mission Hospital, business houses and Government departments participated in the programme. Special invitees of the Governor, the school students from different government and private schools also witnessed the programme.

The Governor and the First Lady of the State interacted with them over a high tea.

Governor administers oath to APPSC Chairman

ITANAGAR, January 21:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) administered the 'Oath of Office' and 'Oath of Secrecy' to the recently appointed Chairman of Arunachal Pradesh Public Service Commission (APPSC) Prof. Pradip Lingfa at the Durbar Hall of Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on 21st January 2024.

Chief Secretary Shri Dharmendra, IAS, conducted the function.

Chief Minister Shri Pema Khandu, Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein, Cabinet Ministers, senior officers and distinguished guests attended the function along with other officials and public functionaries.

CM attends closing ceremony of 3rd Yuva Samanvay

ROING, January 21:

'Think Big, Dream Big' and try to achieve this dream making it your mission with a disciplined life, advised Chief Minister Pema Khandu while addressing the youth during the closing ceremony of the 3rd Yuva Samanvay at Dambuk on Sunday, January 21. Take away good experiences, good friendships and good lessons from the 3 days of the Yuva Samanvay and aim for 'bigger' dreams, he added.

Pema Khandu called for the need to channelise the power of the youth for the development of the state and said that the state government was working towards it through the establishment of TRI-HMS, Sainik schools at Pasighat and Tawang (PPP mode), Eklavya

Model Residential Schools, Kas-turba Gandhi Balika Vidyalyas, Polytechnic Colleges etc in the state.

He called the Yuva Samanvay an opportunity for the youth of different tribes and regions to interact, foster unity and brotherhood and share knowledge amongst each other. He also stressed on the need to develop the 'Team Arunachal' spirit amongst the youth and guide them in a proper direction so that they can be a good influence to the society in the future.

Taking forward the theme of 'Yuva Against Drugs', the Chief Minister advised the youth to stay away from drugs, take the issue of drug addiction seriously and work towards rooting it out and eradicating it from the society.

DCM Chowna Mein advised the youth to learn about, remember and honour the pioneers of our state who had shaped the destiny of Arunachal Pradesh. He said that although our state had a late start in various fields, we are rapidly catching up as our youth have the capability to surpass any talent in the country.

MP Tapir Gao informed that Team Arunachal is striving to brighten the future of the youth of the state with its various initiatives and said that it is now the duty of the youth to take it forward. He also said that we have to save the state by making it drugs free and this is the message for the youth to spread.

Also present during the occasion were MLA cum Advisor (Tourism, IPR & Printing) Laisam Simai, MLA cum Advisor to Minister (Law & Justice, Parliamentary Affairs) Kento Jini, MLA (Pasighat) Kaling Moyong,

MLA (Nari Koyu) Kento Rina, MLA Gum Tayeng, MLA Mutchu Mithi, Secretary (Sports

& Youth Affairs, SJETA) Abu Tayeng, ZPC Toni Borang, Deputy Commissioner Soumya Saurabh and SP Akanksha Yadav.

19 Sarpanchs flags off

TAWANG, January 22:

As part of the 75th Republic Day 2024 celebrations, the 55th Battalion of ITBP hosted a special visit for 19 Sarpanchs and their spouses from the Vibrant Villages of Tawang district. The delegation will be attending the Republic Day celebrations in Delhi as special invitees.

The group of Sarpanchs was ceremoniously flagged off on Monday morning, January 22 from the Tawang DC office premises. PD DRDA, Tawang, Tenzin Jambey, and the second-in-command of the 55th Battalion of ITBP, Suresh Yadav, jointly presided over the event, alongside other officers from civil administration and ITBP.

Offering words of encouragement, PD DRDA Tenzin Jambey congratulated the Sarpanchs on the opportunity to witness one of the nation's most beautiful celebrations in the capital. He emphasized the significance of such exposure tours, stating that they enrich experiences and knowledge about the country, encouraging learning beyond one's immediate society.

Lowang inaugurates WTP

KHONSA, January 22:

Minister for PHE & WS Wangki Lowang on Monday, January 22 inaugurated a water treatment plant (WTP) with 5,400 litres per day capacity at Old Subang village in Deomali block in Tirap district.

The WTP-one of the toughest and most challenging water supply projects in the entire Tirap

district-will provide clean drinking water to Old Subang village and plug the water shortage.

The village lacked alternative water supply sources, making the implementation of this project imperative. The villagers have been relocated to a nearby area so that water can be supplied to the villagers from the newly inaugurated WTP without any interruption.

Lowang lauded the team of PHE&WS for timely completion of the project.

The GBs and PRI leaders expressed their gratitude to Lowang and the executing agency PHE&WS for undertaking the WTP project.

PHE&WS EE Bharat Sonam, JJM mission director Tomo Basar, Deomali ADC Vishakha Yadav and Deomali ZPM Wangphoon Lowang attended the programme

CM tours Upper Siang

TUTING, January 22:

Chief Minister Pema Khandu, who is on a 2-day tour of Upper Siang district, at Tuting on January 22 appealed members of the five resident communities - Memba, Khamba, Adi, Mishmi and Tangam – to co-exist peacefully and become equal stakeholders in development of the border areas.

In a public meeting this morning, he said that the communities residing in the northern most part of the district that shares international border with Tibet-China have been living peacefully since ages and that there shouldn't be any issue that disturbs this relationship of brotherhood.

"Upper Siang's Tuting administrative division is one of the most vivid and colourful in terms of the people living here. Each one

of them are unique, distinct and independent. Your peaceful coexistence and cultural amalgamation is the hallmark of the district," he pointed.

Khandu informed that under the central government's ambitious flagship programme 'Vibrant Village' Tuting area will witness a rapid transformation.

Vibrant Villages Programme (VVP), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme launched in 2023, aims comprehensive development of select villages in 46 blocks in 19 districts of abutting northern border in Arunachal Pradesh along with Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Uttarakhand and Ladakh.

The programme envisages focused areas of interventions in the select villages for creation of opportunities for livelihood generation through promotion of tourism and cultural heritage, skill development and entrepreneurship and development of cooperative societies including agriculture/horticulture, cultivation of medicinal plants/herbs etc. the interventions also include providing road connectivity to unconnected villages, housing and village infrastructures, energy including renewable energy, television and telecom connectivity.

"And recently Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has sanctioned about 1022 kms of roads under the programme for Arunachal Pradesh. We are thankful to the Modi government that Arunachal Pradesh has the most number of border villages listed under the programme," Khandu said.

Hailing Prime Minister Narendra Modi for remodelling the concept of border villages, Khandu said that Gelling, which was known as the last village on the Indian side in Tuting sub-division, today has become the 'first village' on the Indian side.

He said under the present central and state government connectivity sector in the state has witnessed a sea change. Be it roads, air, rail or digital, he said all modes of connectivity has significantly improved in the last 7-8 years.

Khandu revealed that for accelerated growth of the state, his government has chalked out a blueprint to overhaul the existing planning process, which he assured will be put to implementation after the elections.

"The new planning process will extensively involve stakeholders at the ground level as it is the people in villages and officers on ground who actually knows what is required. So our state plan will stand on the inputs from the ground. The entire process will be from bottom to top, not like the erstwhile top to bottom process," he said.

Khandu assured that the new model of planning will accelerate holistic development of all villages in the state and that government resources will be optimally utilized without wastage.

Appreciating local legislator and Minister Health Alo Libang for all round development of the district, he noted that once the new Yingkiong-Tuting road is complete, the district will witness a surge in tourism activities.

Khandu in presence of MP Tapir Gao, Libang and MLAs Kaling Moyong and Kento Jini inaugurated a bridge over Nyigong River at Tuting.

Later in the day Khandu reached Yingkiong, the district headquarters and on arrival inaugurated several developmental projects that include upgradation of road from Aalo-Yingkiong BRTF road to Dite-Dime to Migging BRTF road, a new CHC building and EAC office at Jengging, cement concrete pavement Nubo road,

amicro hydel station (2x25kw) at Man anda micro hydel station (1x30kw) at Palling.

At Yingkiong Khandu and his entourage was joined by MLAs Talem Taboh and Kanggong Taku.

Tour Guide Training programme begins

ITANAGAR, January 22:

The department of Tourism in collaboration with District Administration, ICR is organising 3 days Tour Guide Training programme with a special focus on ICR Tourism from 22nd Jan'2024 for ICR youth at SFCI, Itanagar to commemorate National Tourism Day-2024. The 3 days training programme will have several session along with one day Field visit for practical experience.

The Training programme was inaugurated by K.N Damo, Director Tourism, GoAp. In his inaugural address he encouraged all trainees to inculcate the spirit of Atithi Debo Bhava and take pride in Arunachal's cultural and natural diversity.

He further emphasized the indispensable role of a tourist guide in shaping state's tourism industry and positive impact their expertise has on visitor's aspects.

On the occasion, Bengia Manna Sonam, Deputy Director(Tourism) made a power point presentation on Arunachal Tourism, Tourist Circuit,PAP and ILp.

Earlier, Rechi Lugnya, DTO incharge welcomed all participants and resource person of the day and highlighted the objective of the guide training programme.

John Panye, former president, APTOA exhaustively spoke on major tourist destination within ICR and Papumpare district.

Yomjum Yomgam, Tour

Operator briefly spoke about the career opportunities in Tourism industry and shared his personal experience as tour operator for past 20+ years.

Raj Basu, Advisor to Deptt. Of Tourism, GoAp on Rural Tourism headed the technical session and through role playing he made it interactive as well as Participatory for all trainees.

CM visits Mariyang Inaugurates several new projects

MARIYANG, January 23:

Chief Minister Pema Khandu on Tuesday, January 23 suggested people to have a relook at the period before 2014 and analyse the difference between then and now.

Speaking at a public meeting here at Mariyang in Upper Siang district this morning, Khandu said that since 2014 when Narendra Modi became the prime minister the North East including Arunachal Pradesh witnessed unprecedented development in all sectors.

"Modi changed the erstwhile 'Look East Policy' to 'Act East Policy' that has changed life in the region," he said.

Khandu insisted that as an aware citizen, each one should compare the times before Modi became the Prime Minister and the times after that.

He said Arunachal Pradesh has benefitted immensely under the present regime and the huge strides made in the sectors of connectivity, health, education, women empowerment, ease of living, etc are proof of the centre's concern for the border state.

Talking about women empowerment, Khandu said that earlier governments did not have the political will to implement the

Women Reservation Bill, which the Modi Government did recently.

"In the coming years we will witness at least 30% women legislators in our state legislative assembly. Personally I believe the number will be more than that as women of our state are today no less than their male counterparts. This is women empowerment in the truest sense," he remarked.

Referring to the proposed Siang hydropower project, the Chief Minister assured that it will go ahead only with prior consultation and consent of the people of the district.

"I know apprehensions are there, which are valid. I promise that all due processes of consultation will take place for the proposed project and only with people's consent it will go ahead," he announced.

Khandu assured that with the support of the central government, his government has been leaving no stone unturned to make life easier for the people.

Taking development a step further in the district, Khandu today inaugurated several new projects and also laid foundation stone of several others.

The inaugurated projects include Molecularly Imprinted Polymers (MIP) for Sodium Moulding Area atGeku, irrigation canal from Sipi River to YumgeSarol and Halaromiang WRC Field atMilangLanpong, sub-division office of WRD at Mariyang, a road from Geku to Katan, Pobe Administrative Circle, extension of MariyangCircuit House and extension of Gidi-Notko, Mariyang.

"These projects are the stepping stones towards building a progressive, inclusive and developed Arunachal Pradesh," Khandu added.

New projects for which foundations were laid are cement concrete pavement road for Mariyangtownship, a multipurpose community hall at Damro, a road from Mindi-Yorbe to Govt Model College, Geku, a road from NH-513, Padu to Circle HQ Katan and a PWD Road to Peki-Modi.

Also present were Arunachal East MP Tapir Gao, Health Minister Alo Libang and MLAs Kanggong Taku, Ojing Tasing, Kaling Moyong and Kento Jini.

National Girl Child Day observed

ITANAGAR, January 24:

The National Girl Child Day was observed in the state on Wednesday, January 24 to raise awareness about the inequalities a girl child faces in society.

The National Girl Child Day is celebrated every year on 24 January to mark the anniversary of the Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao Scheme, which was launched in 2015 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

At Yingkiong, the Upper Siang district administration in collaboration with the women and child development department observed the day at govt. town primary school.

Attending the programme, deputy commissioner Hage Lalang spoke on the importance of empowerment of every girl child, accessibility to proper education and gender equality.

The DC narrated how the status of a girl child has changed over the time.

"Today girls are far better than boys in all spheres and even doing exceptionally excellent in competitive exams too," the DC said. He encouraged the students to

study hard and pursue their dream with hard work, patience and perseverance.

He also administered the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao pledge to all participants.

At Pasighat, the WCD department observed the Day at Mirbuk Community Hall.

Attending the programme, Boggong-II Zila Parishad Member Sumut Tasung appreciated the WCD department for actively taking part in various programmes related to women and child welfare in the district.

ICDS deputy director Machi Gao highlighted the objectives of the programme under the BBBP scheme. She informed that the NGCD was first initiated in the country by the ministry of women and child development in 2008. It serves as a reminder to address the major challenges being faced by women in the society like inequality (gender bias), discrimination, sexual abuse, exploitation, and many more and further added that every year on this day, awareness campaigns were organized across the country spreading the message of girls' empowerment and equality.

The main participants were adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating mothers, pre-school children, supervisors, gram sevikas, anganwadi workers and helpers.

The day was also observed at the community health centre, Jang by Thingbu ICDS project, Jang.

DCM attends the Poi-Leng festival at Namsai

NAMSAI, January 24:

Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein graced the Poi-Leng festival (Rath Mahotsava) for the second

day at Namsai, a three-day celebration steeped in Buddhist rituals and traditions on Wednesday, January 24.

Honoring the Late Rev. Pingyasha Mahathero, the Chief Abbot of the Chongkham Raj Vihara, who dedicated 60 years of service towards the promotion of Buddha Dhamma and towards mankind, the festival is a pious ceremony performed by the Theravada Buddhist community as a mark of respect and to bid farewell to the departed monk.

Late Rev. Pingyasha Mahathero, revered by the Tai Khamti community, served as the Chief Abbot, imparting the essence of Buddha Dhamma, including the Five Precepts, Eight Precepts, and Ten Precepts, to monks and the broader Buddhist community. His influence extended to religious events, fostering the preservation of Buddha Sasana, Vipassana Meditation, and the dissemination of Buddha's teachings.

The Poi-Leng's centerpiece is a specially designed chariot, a catafalque carrying the monk's mortal remains, symbolizing the final journey of the departed soul. A poignant gesture by monks and devotees, the festival will conclude with the ceremonial burning of the chariot, marking the end of the late monk's monastic journey.

Mein, addressing the gathering, proposed the establishment of a Vipassana Meditation center in Namsai, underscoring the enduring impact of Rev. Pingyasha Mahathero's dedication to spiritual practices. Additionally, Mein asked for the integration of New Khamti Script teachings, emphasizing daily sessions in monasteries to preserve the community's traditional script and language which is an integral part of the cultural heritage.

He further said that the Rev.

Pingyasha Mahathero also immensely contributed in the formation of the Tai Khamti Heritage and Literary Society and members of TKHLS were trained under his supervision in different aspects of art & culture.

The profound celebration reflects not only the legacy of Theravada Buddhist but also represents the commitment of the Tai Khamti Heritage & Literature Society, founded under Mein's patronage in 2002, contributing to the promotion of Dhamma activities and cultural exchange under the late monk's guidance.

The Rath Mahotsav was also attended by Arunachal East Lok Sabha MP, Tapir Gao, PHED Minister, Wangki Lowang, MLAs Gum Tayeng, Jummum Ete Dori, Zingnu Namchoom and Kaling Moyong, District BJP President Sujana Namchoom, President TKDS Siharaja Choutang, ZPC Namsai Urmila Mancheykhun, monks and others.

CM declares Arunachal Pineapple Festival an annual event

BAGRA, January 24:

Chief Minister Pema Khandu on Wednesday, January 24 declared that the Arunachal Pineapple Festival, held at Bagra for the first time as a community initiative in collaboration with Arunachal Pradesh Marketing Board, will be an annual event to be organized by the state department of Horticulture.

Speaking at the closing ceremony of the 3-day event, Khandu appreciated the local residents under the banner of All Bagra Welfare Society for conceptualizing the festival in collaboration with the state marketing board to highlight and revive pineapple cultivation in the area.

"I must congratulate the All Bagra Welfare Society for organizing this unique and novel event without relying on government funding," he said.

Underscoring West Siang's potential in horticulture, Khandu assured to establish a mini food park in the district with food processing units for all produces of the entire Siang belt.

It may be noted that Bagra village in particular and Pushi Bango in general cultivated pineapple in large scale since 1950 under the patronage of the first pineapple grower of the area late Tojo Bagra.

A pineapple grower association was formed in 1980 to explore better marketing avenues, regulate price and push for establishment of a large scale processing unit. Eventually a canning factory was established but couldn't sustain thus demoralizing pineapple farmers.

The Pineapple Festival aims to push for at least 2000 to 5000 hectares of pineapple, orange, lemon, banana, etc cultivation in the area.

Also present on the occasion were Speaker Pasang D Sona, Cabinet Minister and local legislator Tumke Bagra and MLAs Biyuram Wahge, Kento Jini, Kardo Nyigyor, Gokar Basar, Goruk Pordung and Hayeng Mangfi.

Khandu, meanwhile, gave away certificates to winners of the MTB Challenge organized on the occasion.

Artisans taking part in Republic Day celebration at Delhi

NAMSAI, January 24:

Namsai deputy commissioner C.R Khampa on Wednesday, January 24 flagged off a team of six artisans selected under PM Vishwa-

karma Scheme from Namsai district to participate in the Republic Day celebration at New Delhi.

PM Vishwakarma is a newly launched central sector scheme of the ministry of MSME. It is being implemented in the state by the industries department.

It aims to strengthen and nurture the Guru-Shishya Parampara or family-based practice of the traditional skills of artisans and craftspeople working with hands and tools.

It also aims to improve the quality as well as the reach of products and services of artisans and craftspeople by formally integrating them with domestic and global value chains through recognition and registration, skill upgradation, toolkit and digital transaction incentives, credit, marketing and other institutional support.

Eighteen traditional trades, including carpentry, blacksmithing, locksmithing, goldsmithing, stone sculpting, cobbling, masonry, basket making, tailoring, etc., are covered under the scheme in the first phase.

Br. MSME, Itanagar assistant director Arun Difoe and Namsai ADI Nondo Doka were also present in the flag off ceremony.

National Voters' Day celebrated

ITANAGAR, January 25:

The 14th National Voters' Day (NVD), themed 'Nothing Like Voting, I Vote for Sure', was celebrated across the state on 25 January.

At Itanagar, Chief Secretary Dharmendra said that "The credence and the credibility of a vibrant democracy depend on responsible and enlightened voters."

The Chief Secretary was

addressing a state level programme, held on the occasion of the 14th National Voter's Day celebrations at Banquet Hall, NitiVihar by the District Election Office, Papum Pare.

He urged the youths, which comprised of the majority of the audience, to cast their votes fearlessly without succumbing to intimidation or fear and express their political choices freely, contributing to a robust and a democratic electoral process.

"Voting is not just a right but a responsibility of all the eligible voters to exercise their adult franchise for building a strong base for a vibrant democracy." The Chief Secretary added

Stating that "a robust voter turnout is crucial for a healthy and democratic process" the CS also called upon all the eligible voters to turn out for voting in huge numbers.

Impressed with the idea of spreading the message on voting rights, free and fair elections through music, dance and dramas, he congratulated the participants from various schools and colleges for their presentations.

State Icons appointed by the Election Commission, Tengan Celine Koyu, He/She Mari Game (Transgender Icon) and Thupten Tsering (PWD icon) also spoke on ethical and inclusive voting and urged all the youths to exercise their adult franchise without falling prey to allurements.

During the programme outstanding BLOS from the three assembly constituencies viz 13-Itanagar, 14-Doimukh and 15-Sagalee were felicitated with certificates and mementos. The prizes to winners of the senior and junior category essay writing and online quiz competitions for the school children, which was conducted under

SVEEP were also distributed on the occasion. The CEO office also felicitated the three state icons.

The other highlights of the programme included performance by the students of Donyi Polo Mission Hearing and Visually Impaired School, Nehru Yuva Kendra, Itanagar and Zion Institute of Nursing.

Later the CS administered the Voter's pledge to all the participants.

Principal Secretary Dr. Sharat Chauhan, DGP, Anand Mohan, CEO Pawan Kumar Sain, DEO Jiken Bomjen, and host of senior officers of the government of Arunachal Pradesh, HoOs of Papum Pare district, students of Zion Nursing College, Nirjuli, and Donyi Polo Mission School for hearing and visually impaired, BLOs attended the programme.

At Rajbhawan, the officers and staff of the governor's secretariat participated in a function to mark the day.

Governor's Secretary Darade Sharad Bhaskar administered the NVD pledge to the officials to uphold the democratic traditions of India and the dignity of free, fair and peaceful elections.

He highlighted "the importance of each vote in a democratic society," and said that "voting serves as a tribute to the essence of democracy, outlining the vital role played by voters in shaping the nation's destiny."

At Pasighat, Along with rest parts of the country, the 14th National Voters' Day was celebrated in East Siang district too at the DC's conference hall. The programme was presided over by the DC-cum-DEO Tayi Taggu which was attended by the government officers, officials and students from various schools.

DEO Taggu administered

the voters' pledge and briefed about the significance of National Voters' Day (NVD) and electoral process. He distributed certificates and EPICs to the new electors who recently attained the qualifying age. Congratulating the new voters the DEO spoke about how free and fair election voting right was important for people to participate in order to build a strong nation.

At JNC, the Electoral Literacy Club, Jawaharlal Nehru College, Pasighat had organised awareness programme 'Nothing like the Voting' for the young voters at the college upper campus conference hall.

Dr SK Sinha delivered a very comprehensive message to the audience regarding the importance of this Election Process. Vice-Principal Dr Leki Sitang encouraged the young voters to come forward to cast their priceless vote to save the democracy. A pledge given by the ECI was also read out and duly signed by the audience and faculty members Dr DP Panda, Dr Subhashis Banerjee and Dr Manish Shukla also actively participated.

At Ziro, the Lower Subansiri Election office celebrated the National Voter's Day at the District Secretariat.

Lower Subansiri District Election Officer Vivek H.P administered the voter's pledge to HoD's and first time voters present on the occasion.

Speaking the occasion, the DC said election is the bedrock of Democracy and the function was organized to create awareness amongst the first time voters on the significance of using their adult franchise and being 'responsible voters'. The DC also distributed token epic cards to first time voters from various

senior secondary schools of the district.

On the occasion, prizes were also distributed to BLEO's and winners of the essay writing competition on voting related topics conducted for school children.

At Longding, National Voters Day was observed across Longding District.

The event was marked by Prize distribution of Essay & Drawing Competition by Bekir Nyorak (APCS) DC-cum-DEO Longding in the compound of DC office Longding.

An EVM Demonstration kiosk was installed at Kanubari ADC post by ERO and AEROs concern to spread awareness among the voters. AEROs at respective Administrative Circle Headquarters accompanied by local PRI leaders and Goanburas also actively participated in National Voters Day Celebration 2024.

All the events across the district were concluded by pledging ceremony to judiciously cast their vote without any discrimination of race, caste, language or religion.

In West Siang district, the day was celebrated at Gumin Kinn in headquarters Aalo, where Kamba ADC and Deputy DEO Tamo Riba appealed to the young voters to "cast your valuable votes during the election," and informed that the day is observed across the country to commemorate the foundation of the Election Commission of India on 25 January, 1950.

He gave away EPIC cards to newly enrolled voters.

The NVD was celebrated also in East Kameng, Papum Pare, Namsai, West Kameng, Upper Siang, Lohit, Tawang, Upper

Subansiri, and other districts.

The NSS unit of VKV Itanagar also celebrated the day

Felix inaugurates augmentation of potable water supply

SANGRAM, January 25:

Home Minister Bamang Felix on Thursday, January 25 inaugurated augmentation of potable water supply to the Sangram Township, along with 24 other essential schemes executed by the PHE & WS Division Sangram for several villages under Sangram and Nyobia circles.

Altogether 202 households will be directly benefited with today's inauguration which aligns with the overarching vision of the Government of India's flagship scheme, 'Jal Jeevan Mission, Har Ghar Jal'.

Minister Felix, in his address, commended the relentless efforts of the PHE & WS Division Sangram, acknowledging their commitment to completing the projects within the stipulated time.

"I on behalf of the entire Sangram township express our sincere gratitude to the team of PHE&WS, Sangram Division, especially to the labour force-whose unwavering contribution played a pivotal role in the successful execution of this challenging endeavour," said Minister Felix.

Meanwhile, PHE&WS, Sangram Division executive engineer Bamang Tadh informed that the intake source for the project is from Niomi River, located at about 12 kilometres from Sangram, and will supply two lakh litres of water daily to the Sangram town for the next

15 years. He also informed that the Kurung Kumey district has already achieved 100 percent Har Ghar Jal target set under the JJM during December last.

Among others, the inauguration event was attended by DC Kurung Kumey Ibom Tao and SP Kurung Kumey Bomken Basar.

DC Tao on his part congratulated PHE&WS Division for their commendable execution of the projects. He also emphasized the importance of regular maintenance to ensure the sustainability of the water supply systems.

CM inaugurates state-of-the-art building of the Mallo Tarin Govt Higher Secondary School

ITANAGAR, January 25

Chief Minister Pema Khandu inaugurated the newly constructed state-of-the-art building of the Mallo Tarin Govt Higher Secondary School and announced that the state government will develop the school on the Green School Model concept on Thursday, January 25

He said the entire campus of the school, including the playground, will receive a complete facelift in the next couple of years.

Responding to a request for proper power supply, water supply and a boundary wall, Khandu asked the Education Commissioner to get in touch with the concerned line departments and do the needful.

He informed that a fund of Rs 300 crore has been kept entirely for development of school infrastructure across the state.

“This fund will be sanctioned within this financial year and we expect to see well planned and executed infrastructure coming up wherever required before the year end,” he said.

Addressing the students, Khandu advised them to imbibe discipline in every aspect of their lives.

“Without discipline you will achieve nothing in life. If you are disciplined from the early days of your childhood sky is the limit for you,” he said.

He informed that the central and state governments have created various platform for the youths to shine and urged them to utilize the opportunities to excel and achieve greatness.

Meanwhile, Khandu paid tributes to Late Mallo Tarin, a first generation social and political activist and a pioneer in establishment of the Itanagar capital city.

“Late Mallo Tarin played a significant role in naming of our capital city as Itanagar. The land where this school stands was donated by him, therefore as a mark of respect the school was renamed after him by our government,” he informed.

The school today has 1032 students and about 60 teaching and non-teaching staff.

The Chief Minister, on the occasion, visited the Atal Tinkering Lab of the school that facilitates promoting creativity and problem-solving skills of the students. He appreciated the school management for the cutting-edge initiatives in the school.

Education Minister Taba Tedir, Sports and Youth Affairs Minister Mama Natung, local legislator Techhi Kaso and Itanagar Mayor Tame Phassang were also present on the occasion.

State tableau on Bugun community reserve to be showcased at 75th republic day celebration parade 2024 at New Delhi

NEW Delhi, January 25:

The Tableau of Arunachal Pradesh on ‘Bugun Community Reserve’ will display the theme of ‘Viksit Bharat’ in the 75th Republic Day celebration at Kartavya Path, New Delhi on 26th January 2024. The Tableau will feature the Singchung Bugun Village Community Reserve (SBVCR), which was set up in 2017 to protect the rich bio-diversity and the traditional and cultural heritage of the area. The SBVCR is home to many rare and endangered species, such as the Bugun Liocichla (*Liocichla bugunorum*), a songbird named after the tribe, and the red panda (*Ailurus fulgens*), as well as various flora and fauna. The tableau has been designed and made by the Art and Exhibition Cell of the Directorate of Information and Public Relations, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Naharlagun.

The Tableau has been chosen through a rigorous competition among all States/UTs and Ministries/Departments by the Expert Committee of the Ministry of Defence, GoI, New Delhi based on different themes proposed by them. Arunachal Pradesh has accomplished the feat of participating in the event for the fourth time in a row, breaking the rule of the Ministry that no State can participate consecutively. This is due to the hard work of the team led by Hage Habung, the Art Expert in Art and exhibition Cell of the Directorate of information and Public Relations, Naharlagun.

Mithali Namchoom, the Special Resident Commissioner at Arunachal Bhawan, New Delhi is the Nodal Officer, Hage Habung is the group Leader (Overall in charge) and Sangey Tsewang is the fabrication Supervisor for this year’s Tableau.

Thirteen talented female Performing Artistes from Singchung will be performing with the tableau. They are Tenzin Wangmu Glow, Anjali Tamang, Anjina Phiang, Manjina Phiang, Tenzing Wangmu Phinya, Payal Sarum, Oshin Dema Glow, Tsering Dema Lali, Esha Bachung, Nina Hagam, Priyanka Sarung, Sonam Sarung and Nima Yangzom Phinya.

In the tableau, the rare bird species Bugun Liocichla and other avian life from the sanctuary in their natural habitat will be depicted on the tractor part. The Bugun traditional dance will lead the trailer part, where visitors and outdoor activities are also depicted along with Red Panda with a cub, which is another endangered species. Skilled dancers will accompany the tableau on both sides, adding a touch of grace and cultural richness to the tableau.

National Tourism Day celebrated

NAMSAI, January 25:

National Tourism day was celebrated in befitting manner on Thursday, January 25 at various districts.

At SFCI, Itanagar, the Department of Tourism in collaboration with District administration, ICR had conducted Photography contest of ICR region along with Tour Guide training programme with a special focus on Itanagar Tourism to promote ICR region as tourist destination to commemorate National Tourism day’2024.

Talo Potom, Deputy Commissioner, ICR was the chief guest of the day and he gave away the prize money and certificate to the winner of above Photography contest to 1st prize- Mangmo Kam-sar; 2nd prize- Sh. Ajay Singh and 3rd prize –sh. Akom Don respectively. He also distributed certificates to all the trainees who have successfully completed the Tour Guide training.

As part of the event, a local cuisine competition and extempore speech were also organized and winners were felicitated with certificate to commemorate the National Tourism day'2024.

Deputy Commissioner, ICR encouraged all the participants to convert their theory learning to practical use for self employment generation and livelihood. He further emphasized that Govt. department hand holds youth to gain knowledge and skill by providing such trainings, however implementation of such skills lies onus on the youths of the day. He further stated that in days to come Tourism sector in Arunachal will be one of the primary economy contributor in Arunachal's growth trajectory. He added that Homestay may be run on community based for more fruitful result and asked all stakeholders to maintain local touch in terms of architectural design and food served to tourist. In addition, he also suggested all the stakeholders of Tourism sector to bring improvement in hospitality aspect of our locals/ host so that Tourism could flourish in its full force.

Bengia Mrinal, special guest at the event also shared his personal experience of working in tourism sector for past 2 decades and he encouraged youths to choose quality over quantity

while working in Tourism sector.

The National Tourism Day, themed 'Sustainable Journeys, Timeless Memories', was celebrated by the tourism department of Namsai district on Thursday.

To mark the occasion, the department organised an edutainment trip for the Class 12 students of the Govt Higher Secondary School here who have taken travel tourism as their optional subject.

The students, along with teachers, were taken on a guided tour to the International Bana Meditation Centre in Lathao Lal Pahad.

Tour operator Enseng Mantaw briefed the students on the significance of the destination and the impact and workings of the tourism industry.

Tourist Information Officer Eliza Ruttum spoke on sustainable journeys, and reminded the students to "shoulder the responsibility of responsible citizens and pledge to promote responsible and mindful travel."

The winners of an extempore speech competition on sustainable tourism were awarded cash prizes on the spot.

The programme also included a nature walk.

Fam tour organised

Meanwhile, the Kamle district tourism office, in collaboration with Ngunu Ziro, a community-based homestay organisation, organised a familiarisation (fam) tour for stakeholders to Ziro in Lower Subansiri district to mark the National Tourism Day.

The Raga SDO flagged off a group of 22 participants, comprising youths, SHG members, women, and officials, for the tour, which was aimed at providing an opportunity to the participants to experience the overall operations

of homestay facilities, and to interact with homestay owners.

The group visited the traditional Apatani homestay of one Tam Yamyang in Hong village in Ziro, and interacted with the owner.

The group also visited an integrated organic farm and participated in an interactive session with various tourism stakeholders at Suchisi Homestay. The participants also visited the Naara Aaba winery and interacted with its proprietor Tage Rita.

The Raga DTO also conducted a nature walk in collaboration with the Yuva Tourism Club of the Govt Higher Secondary School, Raga.

PMC conducts "Cleanest Pasighat City Wards" competitions

PASIGHAT, January 25:

To promote a healthy competitive spirit among the denizens of Pasighat for city cleanliness, the Pasighat Municipal Council (PMC) has organized cleanest Wards competitions among the eight wards of Pasighat Municipality. Ward no. 4 (Jarku Muri line Airfield area) was adjudged the cleanest ward, while ward no. 06 (Gumin Nagar) got the second cleanest Ward followed closely by ward No. 1 (GTC) and ward No. 02 (Forest Colony area) both placed in the third place.

In this regard, a panel of Judges conducted site visits of all the wards today and made on spot evaluation based criteria of viz. overall hygiene & cleanliness of wards, community & volunteers participation in cleanliness drive,, compliance on Swachh Teerth campaign for cleanliness of spiritual Feedback

from public, cleanliness of community toilets.

In the run up to the 75th Republic Day celebrations, a massive cleanliness drives led by respective Ward Councilors was also carried out with support of volunteers and denizens. The three cleanest wards will be awarded on occasion of 75th R-Day Celebrations tomorrow at Outdoor Stadium, Pasighat.

Governor graces the 75th Republic Day Celebration at Itanagar

ITANAGAR, January 26:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik (Retd.) graced the 75th Republic Day celebration as Chief Guest and unfurled the National Flag at Indira Gandhi Park, Itanagar. He took the salute of the Guard of Honour commanded Deputy Superintendent of Police Pujom Duchi and reviewed the parade.

The First Lady of the State Anagha Parnaik, Chief Minister Pema Khandu and his cabinet colleagues, Speaker of State Legislative Assembly PD Sona, distinguished guests, invitees and special guests attended the celebration.

In his Republic Day address, the Governor greeted the people and said that countrymen from the land of the dawn-lit mountains join to celebrate the vast expanse of a 'Shashvat' 'Samprabhu', 'Samriddh', and 'Sashakt' Bharat growing from strength to strength under the national tricolour. He said that Republic Day is an occasion not only to celebrate the historic day when the Constitution came into being but also to reflect upon the ideals of justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity that define our great nation.

The Governor said that the country is entering an epochal age of transformative economic growth as well as social and cultural awakening, shunning age-old shackles. He said that the 'Panch Prans', i.e. resolve of developed India, removing any trace of the colonial mindset, taking pride in our legacy, our strength of unity and fulfilling the duties of citizens with honesty, enunciated by the Hon' Prime Minister, are a roadmap for all of us contribute to achieve our collective aim of peace, prosperity, and progress for all.

The Governor exhorted the people to join the clarion call of the Prime Minister of 'Nation First' in all they do. He reposed his belief that with the collective effort of the people, we will not only become Aatma-Nirbhar, but also play our part in the country becoming the 'Vishwaguru' in all respects.

The Governor highlighted the achievements at national and State levels on the occasion. He mentioned about India being the world's fastest growing major economy and success of space mission, while stating that the next twenty-five years, named as the 'Amrit Kaal' of self-dependence, not only chart the course for our nation's journey to 2047 but also signify the most crucial years in our lives. These dual journeys are evolving side by side, emphasizing the collective contributions required to build a 'Viksit Bharat', he said.

The Governor said that collective efforts, dedication and determination of the people are helping in building a 'Viksit' or developed Arunachal Pradesh, which is contributing to shaping India's journey towards becoming a developed nation by 2047. He underscored the various achievements made by the State and said that

Arunachal Pradesh has made substantial investments in enhancing air connectivity, fostering cultural exchange, boosting tourism and facilitating trade.

The Governor said that over the last seven years, Arunachal witnessed a substantial surge in road infrastructure with 65 per cent increase in road density, 64 per cent expansion in road length and the construction of 19,863 km of roads. There has been a remarkable 138 per cent rise in the length of national highways in the last seven years, with the development of 2,482 km of national highways, he said.

The Governor said that the Border Roads Organization (BRO) is set to complete the Sela tunnel, the world's longest twin-lane tunnel above 13,000 feet in the state which will allow faster deployment of weapons and soldiers to forward areas in Tawang. Another key project for improved connectivity in forward areas, the Nechiphu tunnel in West Kameng district of the state, was inaugurated by the Defence Minister last year, he said.

The Governor said that under the vibrant village programme, 1,452 villages have been systematically mapped, and 455 villages have been identified for development. The state has connected 252 border habitations through the construction of 2,506 km of roads, he said.

The Governor said that as governance reforms and prudent financial management, the State has shown a significant increase of 136% in Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) - from Rs. 20,373 Crores in 2015-16 to Rs. 48,028 Crores in 2023-24, despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Governor said that with an objective of Atma Nirbhar

har Arunachal Pradesh through agriculture and allied sectors, hydropower, food and civil supplies, the unique initiatives, the 'Aatma Nirbhar Yojanas' have proved to be effective and popular among the beneficiaries.

The Governor said that to safeguard and celebrate Arunachal Pradesh's cultural diversity, Tribal Culture Centres (TCC) have been established in all district headquarters with funding of Rs. one Crore each. These centres play a pivotal role in preserving and promoting indigenous faith systems. He said that in addition to it the State Government has decided to host an annual competitive folk songs and music festival with participation of all States and UTs in a bid to boost tourism and branding of the State as a promoter and supporter of folk songs and music. The broader vision of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' will take our indigenous folk songs and music to a larger audience outside the State. At the same time, our artistes and people will be able to interact with the traditional culture, language, folk songs, and music of the other States and UTs of India.

The Governor said that Arunachal Pradesh has made significant strides in sports infrastructure, boasting 20 multipurpose indoor sports halls, a 15,000-capacity Golden Jubilee Outdoor Stadium, seven new national-level stadiums, a 20,700 square meter DK Badminton Academy with 14 two-hall badminton courts, and a National Centre for Sports Science Research – one of only six in India. He said that in the last seven years, we have won a staggering collection of 375 gold, 259 silver, and 266 bronze medals in esteemed national and international competitions, which stands as a testament to our prowess in the field of games and sports.

State celebrates Republic Day

The 75th Republic Day was celebrated across Arunachal Pradesh with pride and fervor on 26 January.

In Tawang, Deputy Commissioner Kanki Darang unfurled the national flag at the general parade ground and paid homage to the freedom fighters. The day was celebrated also in Jang and Lungla subdivisions, and other administrative outposts of the district.

Longding DC Bekir Nyorak unfurled the national flag in headquarters Longding, and highlighted the achievements of various departments. The Longding KVK also celebrated the day in Kanubari, where MLA Gabriel Denwang Wangsu inaugurated an exhibition stall of the KVK.

Flagging off of an EVM demonstration van and inauguration of exhibition stalls were other highlights of the celebration.

In West Kameng district, the national flag was unfurled by DC Akriti Sagar in Bomdila, and ADC Lobsang Tsetan unfurled the national flag in Rupa.

In West Siang district, DC Mamu Hage hoisted the national flag, and in her address appealed to the youths to be “involved in development activities and refrain from drug abuse.”

At the Arunachal Pradesh University (APU) in East Siang HQ Pasighat, APU Vice Chancellor Prof Tomo Riba highlighted the importance of the Constitution and emphasised the duties and responsibilities of the citizens.

In Upper Subansiri district, DC Penga Tato unfurled the national flag in headquarters Daporijo, and awarded commendation certificates to the outstanding performers in different fields.

In Kurung Kumey district, DC Ibom Tao unfurled the national flag in headquarters Koloriang, and in Lower Siang district, DC Rujjum Raksap did the honours in Likabali.

Republic Day was celebrated also at Pali Vidyapeeth in Chongkham circle of Namsai district. Besides Chongkham ADC Kretkam Thikak, DCM Chowna Mein attended the event.

The day was celebrated also in Siang district headquarters Boleng, where DC PN Thungon unfurled the tricolour.

In Upper Siang district DC Hage Lailang hoisted the national flag in Yingkiong, in the presence of, among others, Health Minister Alo Libang.

In Mariyang, ADC Akan Reagon unfurled the national flag, while in Tuting, ADC Pandov Perme did the honours.

Lohit DC Shashvat Saurabh unfurled the national flag in headquarters Tezu, and in his speech urged the youths to stay away from drugs and other vices.

In Lower Dibang Valley district, DC Soumya Saurabh unfurled the national flag in Roing, and in East Siang district, DC Tayi Taggu unfurled the national tricolour in headquarters Pasighat, in the presence of, among others, MP Tapir Gao, MLA Kaling Moyong, and SP Sumit Kumar Jha.

Itanagar-based Rajiv Gandhi Govt Polytechnic College Principal Taba Tath unfurled the tricolour on the college campus, and exhorted everyone to “have faith in the Indian Constitution and serve mankind with true spirit, without any racial feeling.”

Rajiv Gandhi University in Rono Hills (P/Pare) also celebrated Republic Day, with Vice Chancellor Prof Saket Kushwaha hoisting the national flag in the presence

of the registrar, the finance officer, deans, department heads, faculty members, students, administrative officers, and staff.

In Yupia, Papum Pare DC Jiken Bomjen unfurled the national flag, and urged students to stay away from all kinds of vices.

Republic Day was celebrated also in Tirap HQ Khonsa, where DC Hento Karga hoisted the national flag. MLA Chakat Abob also attended the celebration.

SAD camp organised

PALIN, January 26:

Sarkar Aapke Dwar Camp (SAD) 2.0 was held as part of the 75th Republic Day Celebrations here at Palin which was inaugurated by the local MLA, Balo Raja. An exhibition stall was set to showcase the success of various Govt flagship programs in the district.

The MLA praised the hard work of the Govt. Departments in delivering the development goals of the govt and the aspirations of the common public. He stressed upon the importance of initiatives like SAD to door-deliver awareness and service delivery of various govt schemes to the common public.

The camp was attended among others by Nighee Bengia, Deputy Commissioner, Rido Tarak EAC and all the Head of Departments of the District.

DCM opens the Grand Premiere of Arunachal Idol Season 6

ITANAGAR, January 27:

The grand premiere of the Arunachal Idol Season 6 was held at the D K Convention Hall on Saturday, January 27 officially marking the commencement of the sixth

edition of the musical contest in the State. The Deputy Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh Chowna Mein opened the event, in presence of MLA-cum Advisor (Power) Balo Raja and MLA-cum-Advisor (Home, Tax & Excise) Nyamar Karbak, among others.

The event is sponsored by the Department of Youth Affairs, Govt of Arunachal Pradesh and is one of the calendar events of the Govt alongside other talent shows such as the Mr, Miss & Mrs Arunachal, Arunachal Got Talent, Arunachal Super Dancer, and so on.

This year, a staggering number of 7000 candidates auditioned for the Season 6, highest so far, out of which 13 best contenders of the Arunachal Idol - Season 6 have been selected. The selected 13 contestants of AI - Season 6 are Thupten Wangdi (West Kameng), Sukanya Mounkang (Namsai), Rajive Kyamdo Nalo (Upper Subansiri), Nawkam Wangpan (Longding), Pema Gyapo (Tawang), Amina Patuk (Upper Subansiri), Deep Manpoong (Namsai), Riya Aje (Kurung Kumey), Lobsang Chotta (Tawang), Roshni Rangmang (Lohit), Tech Martin (Papum Pare), Chehakti Michichi (Lower Dibang), and Nokpang Johang (Longding).

Following a format similar to Indian Idol, the show's shooting will be telecast through the dedicated Arunachal Idol channel. The organizers have opted for a limited audience throughout the competition, reserving the grand finale for an open-ground spectacle.

Addressing the gathering, DCM Mein highlighted the abundance of talent and potentials among the State's youth. He reiterated GoAP's commitment towards providing a diverse range of platforms for honing talents, by supporting various youth-

centric opportunities in the state. Applauding the dedication of the Organizing Chairman of AI Mallo Attu, Mein mentioned that having been associated with the platform since its conception in the State, he has witnessed the amount of hard work put into by Attu and his team, overcoming numerous challenges towards making the show a success.

He also recalled the success stories of past Arunachal Idol contestants like Jely Kayi Tamin, Thupten Tsering, Rito Riba, Obom Tangu and others, who have excelled in national platforms like Indian Idol and are currently thriving in the music industry. Tangu, who is currently a contestant in the Indian Idol, has made his way to the Top Ten finalists leading to much excitement among the people of Arunachal Pradesh. Hailing him as an inspiration to numerous youths of the state, Mein appealed everyone to support and come forward to vote for the former AI - Season 5 winner, Obom Tangu.

During his address at the AI grand premiere, Deputy CM Mein also stated that the Govt of Arunachal Pradesh, in a bid to support the music talent of the state, is supporting various initiatives, including the establishment of a professional recording studio, that is currently under construction and is expected to be completed by next year. He also welcome the organizers of the show to consider holding the preliminary rounds at Namsai in the Eastern Region in its next season.

In his concluding remarks, Deputy Chief Minister Mein extended his best wishes to all the Arunachal Idol Season 6 contestants, expressing hope for their bright futures.

For official updates of the show, audience can follow the so-

cial media handles of Arunachal Idol on Facebook and Instagram.

AIDA - SBI - Sanjeevani conducts dental specialized health camp

SOHA, January 27:

A specialized health camp was conducted in Soha village by AIDA-SBI-Sanjeevani in collaboration with Dr. Chanum Haenkhe (BDS).

AIDA-SBI Sanjeevani, a clinic on wheels, partnered with Dr. Chanum Haenkhe (BDS) to organize a Dental Specialized Health Camp at Soha village, situated under Namsang Block.

Dr. Chanum and Dr. Priyank Sadhanidar from SBI Sanjeevani provided treatment to patients from Soha village and New Doidam village. Additionally, they offered free pathology lab tests and medicines. The participants were also educated about their health conditions to promote overall well-being.

The community leaders of the village, along with AWW, ASHAs, and locals, expressed heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Chanum for her cooperation and for dedicating her valuable time and services to the villagers of Soha.

GTGH awarded top performing hospital under AB-PMJAY

ZIRO, January 28:

The Gyati Takka General Hospital (GTGH) under Lower Subansiri District was awarded a letter of appreciation as the best performing hospital in the state under Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Aarogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) during the 75th Republic Day celebration here recently.

A letter issued by Sharat Chandra, Principal Secretary, Govt. of AP read 'in recognition of the role of empaneled hospitals in delivering the benefits of the scheme to the beneficiaries, it is requested of the DC of Lower Subansiri District to distribute the certificate of appreciation to Gyati Takka General Hospital during the Republic Day celebration'.

On behalf of GTGH, the District Medical Officer Dr. Nani Rika and Medical Superintendent Dr. Koj Jarbo collected the letter of appreciation from Lower Subansiri Deputy Commissioner Vivek H.P during the celebration. 'It is a proud moment for GTGH to be recognized as the top performing hospital in the state under AB-PMJAY and we would like to dedicate this success to the staffs of GTGH who toiled laboriously day and night in delivering effective services to the people of the district' said the DMO and MS.

During the Republic Day celebration, the chief guest and Lower Subansiri Deputy Commissioner Vivek H.P had also mentioned that the upgradation and construction of new building of the GTGH to a Zonal Hospital was in full swing which would be commissioned as per its time schedule. Besides highlighting the flagship programmes and achievements of various Departments, the DC had also mentioned that the smooth and timely construction work of the upcoming country's first Aqua-Park at Tarin would bring about a much needed revolution in the fishery sector in the country. 70 percent of the civil construction work is complete and the project is going on as per its time schedule, the DC informed.

Union Minister checks implementation of 'Nasha Mukht Abhiyan' campaign

NAMSAI, January 28:

Union Minister, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Dr. Virendra Kumar visited GHSS Chongkham in Namsai and took stock of the implementation of the Nasha Mukht Abhiyan. He interacted with the students, youths, and representatives of the Mahila Welfare Society of Chongkham and Brahma Kumaris.

The union minister also visited the deaddiction centre run by the Chongkham Youth Association, and interacted with the youths under treatment at the centre.

The Namsai deputy commissioner apprised the minister of the positive impact of the Nasha Mukht Abhiyan in the district. He informed the minister that, at present there are 12 deaddiction camps operating in Namsai district.

Earlier, the union minister visited the Golden Pagoda.

Kumar interacts with beneficiaries of various Central Govt. Schemes and SHG members

ROING, January 28:

Dr. Virendra Kumar, Union Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment (GoI), on the 2nd Day of his visit to Arunachal Pradesh, interacted with beneficiaries of various Central Govt. Schemes and SHG members at Roing, visited the District Hospital, Roing, visited the Government Higher Secondary School Roing and interacted with students and interacted and visited home of beneficiaries at Balek vil-

lage in Lower Dibang Valley district.

During his interaction with beneficiaries at Roing, Dr Virendra Kumar encouraged them to share their stories and experiences and motivate others to avail the benefits of the welfare schemes of the govt. Stating that schemes like PMAY are a benefit for the poor, PMJAY a boon for the sick and helpless, PM Samman Nidhi Yojna an Aid for farmers who feed the country and the free distribution of food grain an answered prayer for the hungry, he informed that the storied shared by the farmers, patients, womenfolk, SHG members, students and the youth were heartening and highlighted the success of the government's initiatives.

The time and effort saved by the beneficiaries with the provision of basic necessities through the government schemes can now be harnessed for the development of the district, state and the country, said the Minister while stressing on the need to include the left out beneficiaries under the ambit of the CS and SS Schemes.

Minister (Health & Family Welfare) Alo Libang and MLA Gum Tayeng also addressed the beneficiaries and encouraged them to avail the benefits provided by the government. Also present were ZPC Tony Borang, DC Soumya Saurabh and beneficiaries of PMAY (G), PM SVANIDHI, PM-JAY, PM UJWALA YOJANA

SHGs, Widow pensions, Disabilities pensions, old age pension and CM Atma Nirbhar scheme beneficiaries.

The Union Minister also visited Parshuram Kund under Wakro Subdivision of Lohit District and offered Prayers and interacted with the Priests of the mandir. He also took stalk of the developmental activities being carried out

at Parshuram Kund. He was accompanied by DC Lohit Shashvat Saurabh, ADC Wakro AJ Longphi, HODs and the members of PDSA, CALSOM etc.

Raj Bhavan organises live screening of PPC

ITANAGAR, January 29:

Arunachal Pradesh Raj Bhavan organised the live screening of the 7th edition of 'Pariksha Pe Charcha' in the General Bipin Rawat Hall of Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on 29th January 2024. Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi interacted with the students and teachers from different parts of the country, including a teacher from Arunachal Pradesh.

State Minister of Education, Er. Taba Tedir, Director in-charge, Secondary Education Shri Tanyang Tatak along with a large number of school students, teachers and guardians from various schools of Itanagar Capital Region, including Private Schools participated in the programme.

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.), who is on an official tour to Madhya Pradesh in his message on the occasion exhorted the students to stay focused, stay motivated, and stay true to themselves. He advised them to believe in their abilities, trust in their hard work, have faith in their dreams and embrace curiosity, learning, and the journey ahead with an open heart and a determined mind.

The Governor in his message said that 'Pariksha Pe Charcha' is an incredible platform where all Indians come together to celebrate the spirit of learning and growth and it is having a huge impact in enhancing the educational excel-

lence in the country. He expressed sincere gratitude to Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi on behalf of the people of Arunachal Pradesh for his initiative and personal participation.

The State Education Minister informed that Pariksha Pe Charcha 2024 has a participation of 205.62 lakh students through video conference, 14.93 lakh teachers and 5.69 lakh parents, including 4000 at Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. He also informed that 43508 students in Arunachal Pradesh are going to appear in 2024 Class X and Class XII examinations and wished them his good wishes.

The Education Minister advised the students for adequate rest/sleep, physical activities and Yoga to address any challenge, daily self-revision of classroom teaching and cautioned against excessive use of mobile sets. He urged the teachers to assist their students through extra classes and tuitions.

The Education Minister emphasised on 'Atal Thinking' and appropriate use of 'Artificial Intelligence'. He called upon the students, teachers and guardians for their collective effort to improve the passing percentage.

Secretary to Governor Darade Bhaskar also spoke on the occasion.

Relations Governor delivers a Talk on Civil-Military

ITANAGAR, January 29:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh, Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) delivered a Talk on 'Civil Military Relations: Current Status and Way Ahead' at the Army War College,

MHOW on 29th January 2024. The Army War College is a defence service training and research institution of the Indian Army located in Mhow, Madhya Pradesh.

The Governor said that Defence Services serve the purpose of providing security to the Nation States, which is essential for unhindered development and a vital component of governance. He said that tackling National Security issues depend on the pattern of institutional interaction between the Civil and Military integrity.

The Governor, who held important posts in the Army Headquarters and had commanded the largest Infantry Command of the world, the Northern Command said that sound Civil-Military Relation remains a key to a States survival. He shared the current status of Civil-Military Relation in India and suggested innovative and way forward steps to reinforce the relations.

The Governor said that the defence services are key players in National Security and need to be part of the decision making in matters of national security and civil-military relation discourse should move towards more secure relationships.

The Governor emphasised on resolving institutional equity, erasing the imbalance between decision making and accountability to bring framework in line with modern sensibilities.

Lowang Inaugurates Vivek Dwar and STEM Lab

DEOMALI, January 29:

A Vivek Dwar and a science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) lab were inaugurated at Ramakrishna Mission, Narottam

Nagar here on Monday, January 29 by minister for PHE & WS Wangki Lowang.

The Vivek Dwar is an archway crafted by skilled artisans from North India which stands as an emblem of aesthetic excellence and cultural heritage while; the STEM lab has been set up by INFOSYS Foundation.

On the same day, assistant general secretary of the worldwide Ramakrishna Math and Ramakrishna Mission Swami Balabhadranandaji laid the foundation stone for a proposed new hostel building at the higher secondary section of the institution.

Later, the minister also felicitated students who had excelled in both academic and sports domains.

Live demonstration of App developed by APSAC conducted

NAMSAI, January 29:

Live demonstration and hands on training on 'GIS based Real time Utility Information Management System for Namsai and Chowkham towns' developed by Arunachal Pradesh Space Application Centre (APSAC), Itanagar was held on 29th January, 2024 at the D.C Conference Hall, Namsai under the chairmanship of Kenbom Nyodu, Additional Deputy Commissioner.

Dr. Liagi Tajo, Joint Director cum Nodal Officer (State Plan) of the Space Application Centre who headed the technical team had presented the details of the Citizen Centric Utility APP which is a first of its kinds developed for the Namsai and Chowkham towns asserted that the APP will be highly beneficial to the citizens as well as the staff of the various Government Departments of the towns.

Under the information system, a web based portal and Mobile applications have been developed to connect people with government for all utility related issues. APSAC has submitted the deliverables such as Web based portal with GIS Database on Utilities, Citizen centric mobile application and Staff management mobile application including Training material & user manuals to the office of Deputy Commissioner, Namsai District for user Departments.

Heads of the office of the Work Departments such as Power Electrical, PWD, PHED, UD&H, RWD and WRD have attended the programme including DMO, Sub Divisional DAO, ADO and HDOs, ACF, DITO, BDO, ADI.

Training on APP has been received well by HoDs and officials of the District Administration and soon be disseminated to the citizens through the officials.

At the end of the programme a completion Certificate was issued to the APSAC by the Additional Deputy Commissioner, Namsai District.

Chau Ken Manlong, Deputy Director, APSAC and Simadri Akash also spoke at the training programme.

CM attends Foundation Day celebration IMC

*Expresses concern over rampant
earth cutting*

ITANAGAR, January 29:

Chief Minister Pema Khandu on Monday, January 29 expressed concern over rampant earth cutting in the twin capital cities of Itanagar and Naharlagun advocating a change in mindset of the citizens.

"Whenever I fly over the capital city, it pains me to see the

hills being bulldozed, trees being cut all over. Why can't we let the hills and greenery remain even while building houses?" Khandu wondered in his address during the first Foundation Day celebration of the Itanagar Municipal Corporation (IMC) here at the DK Convention Centre.

He drew attention to the practices followed by people in other hill states like Sikkim, where they design and build houses according to the terrain without resorting to massive earth cutting.

He said people of the state capital are in fact wasting huge amounts of money in earth cutting only, which escalates the cost of building a residence to maximum, sometimes beyond thought of.

The other problem of rampant earth cutting, Khandu pointed is that people do it in the winters and when summer comes with its rains, sand, gravel and mud from these sites are washed down blocking drains and damaging roads.

"And then they start blaming the government," he said and advised IMC to create awareness amongst the citizens.

Khandu informed that several developmental projects for the state capital are in the pipeline to be executed under the IMC like smart street lights and proper drainage system in colonies. The hanging and haphazard electricity transmission lines that blots the beauty of the city will be removed and taken underground.

One major issue in the capital complex that needs urgent attention and solution, he said, is solid waste management.

"I am happy that IMC after visiting several waste man-

agement projects in other states have zeroed down on the best practices and have come up with a vision plan. Two solid waste management plants are to be developed- one for Naharlagun and one for Itanagar. We need to get these plants going urgently. Depending on their success, we plan to develop similar plants in the districts where waste management issue is no lesser," Khandu said.

He further raised the problem of single-use plastic that poses serious threat to environmental pollution globally.

"Single use plastic needs a serious look. We plan to put in place a stringent policy in this regard and working on it. For short term practicality we cannot endanger our future, our planet," he said.

Reminding IMC its role in development of the capital complex, Khandu said, "Itanagar is our face and we must further develop the vibrant city. On behalf of the state government I assure support and handholding to IMC in its journey towards transforming the city.

To a request by IMC for the chief minister's intervention in resolving the issue of lack of proper coordination between IMC and government departments, he assured that he will take it up with concerned authorities.

Few other issues flagged by Khandu that IMC needs to look into include traffic congestion, parking spaces, regularization and demarcation of weekly haats, etc.

The event was also attended by MLAs Tana Hali Tara and Hayeng Mangfi, IMC Mayor Tamme Phassang, Corporators, IMC officials and other guests.

Martyr's Day observed

ITANAGAR, January 30:

Commemorating the death anniversary of the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU) on Tuesday, January 30 observed Martyr's Day by paying floral tributes at the 'Wall of Heroes' and the portrait of Mahatma Gandhi here.

This was followed by presentation of Gandhi bhajans by the students of the university's fines arts & music department.

In his message, RGU Vice Chancellor Prof Saket Kushwaha highlighted the relevance of Gandhi's ideology of truth and non-violence in today's world, and encouraged the students, faculty members and staff of RGU to "embody Gandhian ideals for the nation's welfare."

Senior Professor SK Nayak spoke about Gandhism and Gandhian principles, stressing on "the importance of self-dependence and Aatmanirbhar Bharat," and highlighted India's achievements in food production and exports since 2014.

Registrar Dr NT Rikam spoke about "Gandhism as a philosophy, a way of life, and a religion," emphasising its transcendence beyond divisions of caste, creed, and language. He also highlighted Gandhi's advocacy of simplicity and non-violence.

Dr Rikam underscored Gandhi's pivotal role in shaping the world history through his non-violent leadership.

History Department Head Prof PK Nayak spoke on Gandhi's leadership, simplicity, and courage, while International Centre for Gandhian & Peace

Studies deputy coordinator Dr Tajen Dabi spoke about the enduring relevance of Gandhi's teachings.

In East Siang district, the Arunachal Pradesh University in headquarters Pasighat observed Martyrs' Day to mark the death anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, and to pay respects to the martyrs who laid down their lives for India's independence.

Vice Chancellor Prof Tomo Riba, Registrar Narmi Darang, Tribal Studies Department Assistant Professor Dr Tarh Ramya, other faculty members, the staff, and students offered floral tributes to the portrait of Mahatma Gandhi, and observed a two-minute silence as a mark of respect to the martyrs.

The day was observed also in Namsai, concurrently with the Anti-Leprosy Day.

Attending the programme, Deputy Commissioner CR Khampa said, "Mahatma Gandhi had fought not just for the nation but also for the underprivileged and the destitute, and dedicated his life to eradicating leprosy."

Saying that early diagnosis helps in curing leprosy, he urged the public to encourage those who have early signs of leprosy to seek medical attention.

AR organises Wancho Indigenous sports

LONGDING, January 30:

The Longding battalion of the Assam Rifles, in collaboration with the Wancho Cultural Society, organised a Wancho indigenous sports event here on Tuesday, January 30 as a precursor to the upcoming Oria festival.

Promotion and preservation of indigenous games like bamboo stilts fight, bamboo climbing, javelin throw, bamboo push, bamboo trap dance, and tug of war were the major focus of the event, which saw the participation of more than 150 sportspersons from over 12 villages.

The event witnessed enthusiastic footfall of Wancho youth and villagers in large numbers and more than 150 participants from over twelve villages actively participated in these games.

DNGC celebrates FIT India week

ITANAGAR, January 30:

Mayor Itanagar Municipal Corporation (IMC), Tamme Pasang on Tuesday, January 30 kicked off the Football Matches that is being organized at Dera Natung College in collaboration with Sports Authority of India to mark the 5th Edition of FIT India week celebration.

The Mayor emphasized the importance of teachers and parents' involvement in helping their children develop healthy habits and urged them to become more involved in order to foster their positive wellbeing.

Emphasizing the idea that healthy living should be a part of our lifestyle, the Mayor said, "one should be fit himself first and then can create awareness amongst others"

Earlier, Principal DNGC, M Q Khan while sharing a brief background of FIT India Mission, stressed on the importance of adapting healthy lifestyles and eating habits and encouraged to participate in more ac-

tivities as they could lengthen our life span.

He asserted that the school faculty should inculcate more physical activities in the curriculum so as to improve their academic potential and build a healthy body.

Inkamlak Newmai, Central Incharge SAI, Training Centre Naharlagun, faculty members, students and Participants from NSS and NCC were present in the programme.

Mein attends the 11th POI ME DAM ME PHI celebration

LEKANG, January 31:

The Tai Ahom Development Society on Wednesday, January 31 observed the 11th edition of Poi Me Dam Me Phi, in Krishnapur, Lekang. It is among the significant community festivals of the Tai Ahoms, where reverence is paid to the departed ancestors, typically by performing traditional rituals and customs.

Gracing as Chief Guest during the celebrations, Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein paid homage to the forefathers of the Tai Ahom community and extended greetings of Me-Dam-Me-Phi to the community members residing in Arunachal Pradesh and Assam.

Emphasizing the festival's significance in uniting the community, Mein called for preserving the unique heritage of the Tai Ahoms, which is reflected through the celebration of such festivals. On the occasion, he recalled pivotal Ahom figures Sukaphaa and Lachit Borphukan, noting their historical contributions in the formation of Assam, underscoring

their enduring impact in the region.

Adding on, he also highlighted the festival's crucial role in fostering cultural exchange and ensuring the enduring legacy of the Tai Ahom community for future generations. Drawing parallels with the diverse cultures of Arunachal, he emphasized the shared commitment to preserving cultural identity.

Touching upon the broader context of cultural preservation, Mein said, "Many of the wars and unsung heroes of the Arunachal region are still to be given due recognition. The Government of India's initiative has provided us with an opportunity to research, reflect, and rewrite our own history." He outlined ongoing efforts to document the state's unsung heroes, preserve traditional knowledge, art, craft, and food habits in Arunachal Pradesh.

The event served as a testament to the vibrant culture of the Tai Ahom community and its enduring contribution to the cultural mosaic of Assam.

The festival also witnessed the presence of notable figures, including MLAs Jum-mum Ete Deori, Laisam Simai, Mutchu Mithi, Somlung Mos-sang, District BJP President Chau Sujana Namchoom, and Chairman of the Society for Tai-Ahom Researcher, Dr. Hemanta Gogoi.

DNGC hosts North East Educators' conclave

ITANAGAR, January 31:

Dera Natung Government College (DNGC) and Guwahati-based Assam Downtown University (ADU) jointly organised

a 'Northeast educators' conclave' on the National Education Policy (NEP) and its implementation at DNGC here on Wednesday, January 31.

"The conclave was aimed at bringing together notable educators of Arunachal Pradesh for a thought-provoking conversation about NEP-2020, the contemporary educational system, its implementation, and its obstacles," an official release stated.

Among others, DNGC Principal Dr MQ Khan, Jollang-based Don Bosco College principal Fr Jose George, and ADU professor Dr Rajiv Sharma addressed the conclave.

CM attends valedictory function of the 8th Triennial International Conference

DIBRUGARH, January 31:

Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu on Wednesday, January 31 said that the foremost priority of his government is protection, preservation and promotion of the state's indigenous culture by ensuring that activities in this sphere cover all tribes and regions.

Speaking at the valedictory function of the 8th Triennial International Conference and Gathering of Elders by International Centre for Cultural Studies (ICCS) at Dibrugarh this evening, Khandu said cultural traditions and value systems passed down by ancestors every important because these shape lives of every generation giving the community its identity.

"Their rich legacy of our traditions and cultures are passed down to us by our fami-

lies, our communities and our societies. Our elders are indeed the living encyclopaedias of our knowledge systems. I commend the elder's of Arunachal, our forefathers for keeping our cultures and traditions alive, and inculcating those values in our youngsters," he said.

Khandu expressed confidence that the International Conference and Gathering of Elders on the theme of reviving traditions, ecological knowledge and collaborative governance would be a great success.

He said that the knowledge sharing, research and study works, and the papers submitted on the theme would give a new dimension to preserving the rich culture and traditions of diverse communities of the world and chalk out a way of reviving lost traditions.

"I am sure, the manifesto declared today will develop mutual respect and mutual understanding amongst each other and create a harmonious society," he remarked.

Informing that Arunachal Pradesh is home to one of the most diverse cultures in the world, Khandu said the state government has allocated funds for construction of Tribal Cultural Centres in all the districts besides constructing three Gurukuls for Galo and Nyishi tribes, two Gurukuls for Adi and Tangsa tribes.

"The functional Gurukul-Nyubu Nyvgam Yerko - in East Kameng district has captured popular imagination. We are providing financial assistance to all districts for celebration of local festivals, Indigenous Faith Day and Indigenous Youth festivals. To ensure large-scale public involvement in the

celebrations of local festivals as per the needs and aspirations of all districts, we have placed these funds at the disposal of the respective Deputy Commissioners.

We have also conducted the 7th State Level Indigenous Youth Festival at Namsai. The 1st ever International Tribal Film Festival 2022 was held at Dirang," he informed.

He assured that the state government firmly believes in involvement of local communities and people in the protection and preservation of cultural heritage and is providing corpus funds to Community Based Organizations (CBOs) for strengthening culture and traditions. Every year, the government sponsors the education of 20 students for undergoing

studies at the Indian National Fellowship Centre at Pune, he revealed.

"We have also undertaken documentation of the tangible and intangible of indigenous people including Tangsa, Nocte, Wancho, story of Tai Bida Legend, arts and crafts of Tai Khamti, and Sango Tani, as well as research and documentation of Shamanic Institution of the Idu-Mishmis.

We have completed documentation of the cultural heritage of Adi, Nyishi, Wancho, Nocte and Tangsa tribes, and are now covering 14 tribes.

Books on local folk tales for use in class rooms have been developed for 8 tribes - Nyishi, Galo, Tagin, Wanchoo, Tangsa, Idu Mishmi, Taron Mishmi and Kaman Mishmi,"

Khandu said.

He further informed that the Department of Indigenous Affairs was established solely to promote, preserve and nurture our cultural heritage.

"I am happy to mention that resource allocation for this department has been significantly enhanced by our Government. We will continue with high levels of allocation on various projects under this department," Khandu added.

He appreciated the efforts of ICCS in finding commonalities and bringing all the cultures together and invited it to organize its next conference in Arunachal Pradesh.

Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein also attended the event.

NEWS IN PICTURE



Chief Minister, Pema Khandu calls on the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) at Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on 1st January 2024.



Chief Minister Pema Khandu, accompanied by Union Minister for Earth Science Kiren Rijiju visits Nilling circle and dedicates new administrative circle with its headquarters at Nyinya Rega in Upper Subansiri district on January 5, 2024.



The chairperson of the Arunachal Pradesh State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (APSCPCR) Ratan Anya along with her team calls on the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) at Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on January 10' 2024.



Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) participating the 71st Plenary of North Eastern Council at Shillong on January 19' 2024.



DCM Chowna Mein inaugurating the Eklavya Model Residential School at Manyuliang village, situated in Medo under Wakro Subdivision, Lohit district on January 13' 2024.



Governor Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) administer the 'Oath of Office' and 'Oath of Secrecy' to the appointed Chairman of Arunachal Pradesh Public Service Commission (APPSC) Prof. Pradip Lingfa at the Durbar Hall of Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on January 21' 2024.