

Essay of the top-3 Winners of the essay writing competition during THE ARUNACHAL LITERATURE FESTIVAL, ITANAGAR 2023

**1st
Winner**

My Favourite Book IKIGAI – A JAPANESE TALE

**Name : Aroona Nyompu
Class-X, VKV Nirjuli**

My favourite book is one Japanese novel that is “Ikigai”. It teaches us many good & positivity that one needs for their daily life. It’s not basically a story but it’s just a guide for us that is must for every person to read once in their life. I have heard about that novel a lot & it’s rating were also very excellent so I gave it a try & read every 2 pages at least once a day. For me it lightens up my day & tells me what to do & which path to follow in a day to day’s life. This novel was in a trend for a long period of time as many liked this book so much. “Ikigai” The title itself means ‘a purpose to live’, there is a great line that says “follow your Ikigai” - It means follow your purpose & find reasons to live instead of giving up on life. It teaches us to be humble, kind & also to express our emotions & to control our anger. We should be humble in every situation of life, we should have the courage & ability to face every challenges in life despite of being afraid, not every day will be like a rainbow, some days it will be cold & cloudy but we still should have enough confidence to be brave. All this things I got to learn from that book. It’s a great book for a teenager as an adult, it helps you to be in peace & harmony because the power of the positivity is always greater than all the things in life. Love comes more natural to humans

than hate. We force ourselves or create situations to hate someone but love is a feeling that can’t be forced & hold but it’s just a pure natural form that we humans have & should also teach others to be a humble person & remove all the barriers in the life with a positive attitude. Life is a tornado and every humans have their ups & downs but in the times of trouble I always remember to follow my Ikigai. I got inspired on reading this from social media as this book was liked by a lot. This book tells us to speak the words of wisdom & learn to let go of things. Holding back something and suffering is the worst. Letting our emotion controls us is not good. We should do the things which is necessary to do sometimes & not let our emotion to win every time. I have read a lot of novels that have stories but despite not having any story in this book it still become one of my favourite. It teaches us how to be responsible in life, it also teaches teenagers to be in control with his/her self, controlling ourselves is greater than freedom. Once we know how to manage ourselves then there won’t be anything in life that can stop us from having freedom. There is a great line from book that says “swim until you reach the shore” - It says to not give up & keep going & only stop when you reach your goal.

There is one short story of a man that gives us an example to control ourselves: The name of the man was Ryle and he was a great surgeon & he got married to a good lady but only because of his severe anger issues it led him to a mental illness & everyone left him. He had all the freedom & a good career in his life but he needs a good purpose that is our “Ikigai” to live every single day.

We shouldn’t be our slave or someone’s, we should flatter our wings & follow our Ikigai which gives us a reason & a hope to be grateful & live every single day. A man who doesn’t have a purpose suffers one day. Life is unpredictable the things will not always go as we want & it’s okay to be a failure which gives us lesson as a second change to try again in another day, failure doesn’t means we are worthless but helps us to build ourselves more stronger. We shouldn’t only read success stories because it only motivates us but should also read failure stories that gives us ideas on how to be a great achiever.

This book teaches us not to be procrastinate which makes a lazier person every day. Once we get the habit on bad things, it’s the hardest to give up on that. Being an active person having a clear state of mind is the small steps that we can take every day & surely the good habits will

lead us into a good path one day. This book also tells us about all the important phases of our life, from childhood our elders tell us to be a great person & slowly every phase of life becomes difficult, it tells us that how we devote our life on one particular thing & to be successful but there's always more to life and we only get to live once, so we should also have fun which is not harmful & enjoy everything to the fullest. We should stick with the good companies. Always the bad thing attracts us the most but

we shouldn't be like a magnet that gets attracted quicker. Life isn't long & not everything's so far so we should cherish our existence & find ourselves our own Ikigai. Not every day we will win and it's okay to not be brave every single day, but just a small positive step a day can make ourselves happy or someone can get happy wait our good deeds. We don't always know what can happen next or what's coming for us but we should know how to overcome the roots which is the hardest but we still

got to cross.

Conclusion of this book was that the greatest power that we have is that we can't control anything or anyone's action but at least we can control our own actions & can change the situation with humbleness & always the action speaks louder than the words. Our success won't be a remarkable presence of ourselves after we die but it's the image we create on other's mind with our behaviours.

2nd Winner

My Favourite Book

Name : Mamta Dirchi
Class-XI, VKV Nirjuli

In the summers of June, the mangoes twirling in the branches, the wind blowing steadily, the nature full of serenity and calmness. And me, sitting or laying on the floor, reading my favorite book. It is not just a book but an emotion of many. A feeling can't be described, can't be expressed. It is a book which is a stress booster, a mood keeper, a book which if read after a hectic day will give you a boost & cheer you up. A book is like a foundation brick, the morals values, learning, lessons we get from a book is unmatched. There's a saying "a good book can guide an unaware and a person with no morals, values too". Books are the epitome of knowledge, basic values, we can learn through books in many distinct ways.

Our lives, from the day we are born to the day we are no more is unpredictable. It is a journey not a destination. The journey of life we are in today, is what is important. The book, that is my all time Favorite.

The book, that I could read all day long without any doubt. The book, which I can't get rid of, even if my mother is scolding me to do my chores! The book is none other than the book which is everyone's Favorite – TINKLE. Well, it is quite evident and sure that there are many books in this world which have many messages and stories to spread, but TINKLE is something. Can't be described. It is an emotion. The nostalgia that hit me up when I go through the pages of TINKLE is very surreal and can't be described. In this world, comprising of billions of people. Every person is special and have different ways to take things up. Everyone has their nostalgia hitting points and a part of life, an essence, which is distinct. Where emotions can't be taken over, and that surreal – distinct part for me is TINKLE.

I still remember those days, those childhood days of mine. During my kindergarten days my kindergarten teacher gave all the kids small tinkle booklets. I

used to wonder, wonder about the pictures it had. The colors mesmerized me. It was distinct from the rhyme books I had those days. As years passed by. I was in school. I still remember, I was in standard two, when my cousin read out a TINKLE STORY for me, it was the story of the rabbit and the tortoise, it had different drawings, caricature to it, which mesmerized me. And the story really reflected me, my persona. The time my cousin ended up the story, I asked him about the book and he told me, it was TINKLE. He told me basic rules of reading tinkle, about how the babble shows up if someone is thinking something and how the wording shows up if someone is saying.

Many will argue, argue may not be the essence, but many will say that Tinkle is not a book, but a comic! Comic or book it doesn't differ. Tinkle from any other book, in terms of the essence it gives. Tinkle is a book, which has different volumes to it. The book or

comic (yes, it is a comic but and a book too!) have different stories form distinct areas, which makes it a book of distinction being united. It have stories from different parts of India, which is comprised together in a volume. Reading Tinkle have given me clarity and a thought process of distinct topics. Tinkle have different characters.

The braveness of Shikari Shambu, the way he takes issues up so easily without giving a second thought is mind-blowing. His value of taking every problem. So easily and dealing with the problem is something that we must learn and embrace in our lives. My mother, when I was a kid used to embrace Shikari Shambu and used to tell up about him and how brave we should be in dealing things up. Although, he dealt with animals, but it is a personification in our lives showing the problems of our lives. And one other character is better finger, a school going guy, who have daily issues in his school whose

life is so messed up, that he has to make things up to work . It gives us the essence & morals to always be confident and de a dealer of problems. The way he deals with matters in a easy going manner without panicking is and should be a part of our lives. Those are the prominent characters of TINKLE. Their characters should be embraced in our lives. The laughter boast-suppanadi, is the show stopper... hahaha...the way he makes every serious matter hilarious is so funny. It is not a negative lesson. But it depicts on how we should be in a sync of fortunate emotions of things. How every problem should be taken up. Tinkle have different sections and one of such section is 'it happened to me' It have different life happening of people, where people share their moments of life. We can learn and take up these things in our life. Tinkle also have different sections on scientific, social, knowledge.

Tinkle is a part of my life, not just a part but a daily

basis. Tinkle have so much to say. It have many messages, ideas, morals, values, laughter, learning to spread. But we, we the people without really knowing its true motive, just take it up as a comic, just for an entertainment purpose. There is a quote, " No book is good or bad, it is just upon the reader, who take it up in different way " Tinkle is the book which is my precious memory, my favourite book, even though I'm growing and is not a kid now but a part of me would always be attached with it, and I would always nurture and embrace the characters of Tinkle, as there is a purpose of it somewhere which is not reached to many. It is just upon us, we are the readers, we must learn, take the essence of it. That is all about my Favorite book, which is great, lovely, funny, meaningful, cherishing and which will be my Favorite book. I'll nurture it forever! Love you Tinkle.

3rd Winner

My Favourite Book

What is a ' Favourite Book ' ? Everyone talks about their favourite book. What makes that book their favourite or most liked ? A book that makes you feel connected to something. Something is that, which never makes you feel alone. A book that transformed you into a character of that story and you travel the world of literature by being its character. That book is called a ' Favourite Book '.

My favourite book is also a book that send me away from this busy world into a world that

is indescribable. All its words make me feel connected. This book had taught a lot of things to me. It connects my soul and my heart and I don't know how it becomes one.

The favourite book I am talking about is ' the Alchemist ' by Paulo Coelho. Initially, I thought of it as an ordinary book. But after reading it, the book completely proved me wrong. I came across this book through our friend and our enemy, our dearest and the worst, social media.

Name : Chow Kham Weingken
Class-X, VKV Nirjuli

During the pandemic, I started reading books. And gradually, it became my hobby. But after some months, none of the book excited me nor made me feel connected. But then I started hearing about a book named 'The Alchemist' through our dearest social media. When I searched it on an online store something attracted me towards it. The book cover, its colour and the title. Its aura was seducing me to order it. And I lost against its aura and fell into its love trap. The love trap is so good that, I

am still stuck in it. And I prefer to be stuck in it forever now. Every time I read this book, every time I fell in love with it. I remember a quote which says that “ sometimes it is better to leave things the way it is ” and because of this I am letting it to seduce me.

In my opinion, this book is a masterpiece. It had taught me a lot about life and dreams. “ when you want something, the whole world conspires you to achieve it ”, the book says. There are many principles, and one of them is to follow our dream.

In our life we will come across many external pleasures that will lure us to forget our dream. We will face a lot of difficulties and challenges in our journey. The shepherd in this story also face a lot of challenges. All of his money was stolen. He neither had his sheep nor any money to go back home. He was stuck in a land which was very new to him. Initially, he was also feeling a breakdown. But he freed himself from it and accepted the challenge that the life had given to him.

Instead of becoming sad, he felt happy to come so far. He

always dreamed to travel the lands which he had never seen. He sacrificed all his sheep and the life of shepherd to travel distant lands. And he didn't want to let it go in vain. He worked hard. He spent his time to collect money by working in a glass store. He then went in a quest to follow his dream and to listen to his heart. He travelled all the way to desert, met an alchemist and found his love. He got new experience throughout his journey. He learnt many things from the alchemist he met on his way to follow his heart. He crossed the sea and the desert and found his dream to be by his side, where he used to sleep with his sheep.

From this story, we can learn a lot of things. The shepherd taught us to never give up on your dreams even when trouble is sitting by your side. Even though, we do not get what we want, we must not get sad. We should accept it and move on. There is no place in this world for the one who is stuck in sorrow. Rather than thinking about the result, we should enjoy the process like the shepherd did throughout his journey. People

will come and go. In this world of belongings something will be lost. We must not get stuck. We should move on. Everything is temporary and this is the law of life. It is inevitable. If you dream something truly from your heart. Then you must do it! There will be challenges but you should not escape it. You should fight against those challenges.

Life is something, that won't be coming to us again. We have the choice to live it fully like the shepherd or live with all the regrets. It is completely your choice. Life is beautiful, so live it beautifully. We learn things through experiences. If you are stuck in your room, you will not be able to see the amazing things that will be waiting for you outside. We should create memories now to look upon tomorrow. If you have achieved your dream, the life won't end. As the time goes, life will also go on.

My favourite book has taught me all these and I am very grateful for it. I will keep moving forward as the quest of mine nor the quest of shepherd is finished.



World AIDS Day observed

ITANAGAR, December 1:

Along with the rest of the world, the World AIDS day was observed all over the state on December 1 on this year's theme 'Let communities lead' to create awareness among the people on effects of the deadly disease.

At **Itanagar**, the Dera Nating Government College (DNGC) observed the World AIDS Day in a befitting manner, organised by the NSS Unit & Red Ribbon Club of the College.

As a part of the programme, Essay Competition, Drama Play and Awareness Session were conducted based on the theme of HIV/AIDS and its awareness.

College Principal, Dr. M.Q Khan, addressing the occasion, appreciated, motivated and encouraged the students to take more active part in spreading awareness about HIV/AIDS by optimum use of the social media platforms. He also delivered a session on causes of HIV/AIDS and in his speech quoted 'Know AIDS for No AIDS' because there is no cure to it.

Ms. Lod Yebi, Peer Educator of the Red Ribbon Club delivered a presentation on the Causes, Symptoms, Preventions and Treatment of HIV/AIDS.

A drama was performed by the NSS Volunteers which showed

how HIV/AIDS Virus is transmitted and the level of trauma that an infected person and their family member undergoes.

Students actively participated in the essay writing and quiz competition. More than 150 students from various departments of the college took part in the competition and attended the Awareness Session. The winners of the competitions were distributed prizes with certificates at the end of the programme.

Earlier, Dr. Chello Lima, NSS Programme Officer-cum-Coodinator of Red Ribbon Club, in her welcome address highlighted the importance and reasons for celebration of World AIDS Day. She also motivated the students to break down the barriers, challenge discrimination and support communities leading the way to end AIDS.

Nguri Takum, Peer Educator of Red Ribbon Club also spoke. The programme was successfully coordinated by Limang Dakpe and Ms. Meya Hiffo, NSS Executive members of the DNGC.

At **YINGKIONG**: The World AIDS Day 2023, with the theme 'Let Communities Lead' was observed at Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Avasiya Vidyalaya, Yingkiong on December 1.

Dr Ahik Miyu, District TB Officer cum District AIDS Control Officer, Upper Siang spoke on the various routes of HIV transmission, preventive measures, services available under the programme and need for getting tested for HIV in the ICTC.

While sharing the comparative HIV-AIDS data of the state till 30th September 2020 and 31st March 2023, he expressed concern about the alarming quantum jump in the HIV seropositive prevalence. He exhorted the youths to desist

from substance abuse, particularly intravenous drug abuse to prevent HIV transmission. He encouraged voluntary testing of all to know one's own HIV status at the earliest possible.

Since Tuberculosis is an important co infection, commonly associated with HIV infection, he dealt in length about Tuberculosis- its cause, mode of transmission, sign & symptoms, free diagnosis and treatment and other financial incentives. He encouraged early health seeking behavior to cut down further transmission to the community.

Earlier, on November 30 last, similar outreach activity was conducted at Govt Higher Secondary School, Yingkiong.

At **BOMDILA**: Alongside the rest of the nation, the District AIDS Control Society (DACO) of West Kameng District observed the World AIDS Day with a theme of "Let Communities Lead" at General Hospital, Bomdila, involving PRI Members, SHGs, and Women Wings of West Kameng.

An orientation session was also organised on the occasion, urging all the participating stakeholders to engage in the race to educate people about HIV. The program concluded with the screening of 21 beneficiaries.

At **DEOMALI**: The NSS Unit, W. R. Govt. College, Deomali celebrated World AIDS Day amidst a huge gathering, including Ms. Vishakha Yadav, ADC Deomali, Wangphoon Lowang, ZPM Deomali, Dr. Jayanti Thingnok, District AIDS Control Officer, Chayon Bangyang, Principal Incharge, W.R.Govt College, Ngamwang Lowang, Programme Officer, NSS Unit, W.R. Govt College, NGOs, Teachers and young students in the College Auditorium on December 1, 2023.

Speaking on the occasion, ADC, Vishakha Yadav urged upon the gathering to spread awareness on the deadly disease of HIV/AIDS with an idea to contain the spread of the virus.

Dr. Jayanti Thingnok, District AIDS Control Officer elaborately dealt on the importance of celebrating World AIDS Day with a theme, Let the Communities Lead and urged upon everyone to be empathetic towards persons infected with HIV/AIDS.

Mr. Chayon Bangyang, Principal Incharge, W.R.Govt. College emphasized on the role of NSS volunteers in spreading awareness on vital issues like HIV/AIDS for a congenial atmosphere in the society. The rise in drugs abuses cases in Tirap is a hindrance for the healthy growth of the society, he added.

ZPM, Wangphoon Lowang also shared his idea on containing the spread of HIV/AIDS by remaining alert and urged upon the youths to abstain themselves from using drug substances for a healthy and peaceful life.

Earlier in his welcome notes, Ngamwang Lowang, Programme Officer, NSS Unit, W.R.Govt. College highlighted the social stigma affecting the HIV/AIDS infected persons from living a comfortable life. He also mentioned that the government of India has passed the HIV and AIDS (Prevention & Control) Act, 2017 with an objective to prevent and control the spread of HIV/AIDS and for reinforcing legal and human rights of persons infected with HIV/AIDS.

At CHARJU: The World AIDS Day was also observed at 'me home welfare society rehabilitation centre', Charju with the theme "Let the Communities Lead". The program was orga-

nized by District AIDS Control Society, in collaboration with TI Project (care me home). The significance of the day related to HIV was explained by Dr. P. Rakshit, and interaction over TI-NGO was given by the project manager of TI Project, Janwang Wangsa. HIV, Hepatitis B, and C screening were also conducted during the programme.

Indigenous Faith Day celebrated across state

NIRJULI, December 1:

Chief Minister Pema Khandu admitted that it's a huge challenge to take a state like Arunachal Pradesh, with as many as 26 major tribes and more than 100 sub-tribes, on a developmental path fulfilling the aspirations of each and every tribe. He, however, asserted that this diversity of the state is its beauty, potential and strength that has enabled him to steer the state on the path of development with the 'Team Arunachal' mantra.

Attending the Indigenous Faith Day as the chief guest here at Nirjuli on December 1 last, Khandu said that the intrinsic cultural diversity of the tribes here is the soul of Arunachal Pradesh and has to be maintained and preserved for posterity.

"Development and modernization is a continuous process. It cannot be avoided. What can be avoided is its negative effects, most importantly that of cultural erosion," he said.

He lauded the enormous amount of dedication and perseverance put in by the Indigenous Faith and Cultural Society of Arunachal Pradesh (IFCSAP) in institutionalizing all indigenous faiths of the state.

"It is the fruit of IFCSAP's efforts that today we celebrate the Indigenous Faith Day on December 1 every year, reminding us to take pride in our age-old cultural heritage and pass it on to the younger generation," Khandu said.

Stating that 'our culture is our identity', he emphasized that in order to preserve culture, continuing the use of local dialects is a must.

"Our children today are studying in various parts of the country and even abroad. They are out of touch with their roots, their language and there is always the danger of them getting entirely disconnected. As parents, as elders we must not allow it to happen. Always remember that cultural erosion starts with loss of a language," he said.

Khandu said that he is not against youths learning new languages but asserted that they must always be fluent in their mother tongue.

"I have seen many families today interact with their children in Hindi or English. I am not against Hindi or English but the generation next should also know their own language. Ensuring it is our responsibility," he added.

Reminding that the state government recognizes the importance to preserve and promote indigenous culture, Khandu said the department of Indigenous Affairs was established in 2018 just for that.

"The naming of the first airport of the state as Donyi Polo Airport is just one way of recognizing the importance of our indigenous culture," he said.

Enumerating several initiatives of the department to support indigenous faith and cultural movement, he informed that the

state government will soon construct 50 indigenous prayer centers across the state worth Rs 24 crores in consultation with IFC-SAP.

While informing that there are more than three thousand indigenous priests in the state, Khandu assured that their honorarium will be enhanced from the present Rs 1000 per month in the next budget.

Making the best of the opportune moment, Khandu reiterated his call for rooting out corruption, cash for vote practice and drug addiction.

“Organizations like IFC-SAP have a strong hold over indigenous faith followers as do all religious organizations over their respective believers. I repeat my appeal to all such organizations to campaign against corruption, money culture in election and drug addiction,” he appealed.

Indigenous Faith Day celebration at Ziro

Shortfall of shamans should not be reason for decline of Donyi-Polo believers - Taki

ZIRO, December 1:

Lamenting the declining believers of Donyi-Poloism, Minister Agriculture and Allied Er.Tage Taki said the flag bearers of Donyi-Polo, the oldest religion of the world need to introspect and devise suitable means and mechanisms to rope in more believers into their fold during the Indigenous Faith Day celebration at Donyi-Polo General Ground here on December 1.

Acknowledging the shortage of shamans as a vital factor for believers in shying away from performing the aged-old rituals, the Minister, who attended the func-

tion as the chief guest said documentations of most of the rituals are now available and believers of Donyi-Polo should not shy away from professing and carrying forward the faith and legacy of the world's oldest religion for sake of posterity.

Announcing that an 'Indigenous Gurukul School' would also be soon set up Ziro, Taki also said the believers of Donyi-Polo would also have a better celebration ground next year with proper seating avenues, parking space and toilets. The bachelor barracks behind the celebration ground has been demolished while the PHED water tank has also been realigned. So, we will have a more spacious and better celebration ground next year, he explained.

Appealing the people of Apatani Plateau to broaden their horizons and keep pace with the changing times, the Minister also appealed the people to mandate their leader by yardstick of their work output for the people and the place rather than by influence of money power.

Guest of Honour and Lower Subansiri Deputy Commissioner Bamin Nime also lamented the low participation of Donyi-Polo believers in mega functions. Recently the District Administration had organized the 'Gaurav Janjatiya Diwas' where participants from Donyi-Polo faith were quite low. The elders and in-charges of respective Meder-Nellos need to work for larger participation by Donyi-Polo believers at Govt. functions also, the DC said.

Special Invitee and Arunachal Vikas Parishad (AVK) General Secretary Gomar Angu said the Donyi-Polo believers of Ziro Plateau need to work more vigorously to facilitate more inclusive and larger participation by young

generation followers. AVK works towards protection, preservation and promotion of our own culture and beliefs and I firmly believe the Apatani Donyi-Polo Meder Nello Council, Ziro will work earnestly in those lines, he said.

Highlighting the significance of the Indigenous Faith Day celebration and the essence of Donyi-Polo religion, the Apatani Donyi-Polo Meder Nello Council (ADPMNC), Ziro chief advisor Dr.Hage Tabyo in his keynote address said Donyi-Polo is the most powerful living god which is universally accepted. Donyi-Polo is the savior of Abotani, whose descendants we all are, and we need to reciprocate and acknowledge our creator, he said.

Counselor to Department of Indigenous Affairs Lod Kojee said diminishing celebrations of Myoko and Murung festivals by Apatani people was due to shrinking nyibus or shamans. He advocated exchange of ritual performance by shamans of nearby villages not partaking in the current Myoko and Murung festivals to make up for deficiency of the shamans.

Former Election Commissioner Hage Kojee narrated the landmark sequence of events of the rise of Donyi-Polo faith in the state. Kojee informed Donyi-Polo faith had come into formal existence in 1968 in Adi belt led by Lt.Talom Rukbo and Adi intellectuals. In 1984 the Donyi-Polo faith had been relayed to western world for the first time by Late Talom Rukbo, at Germany in 1990, 1993 at Bangalore, while in an inter-faith workshop at Seoul, South Korea, I had also deliberated about our region to outside world, informed Kojee.

Tanii Supun Dukung (TSD), President H.K Shalla,

generous contributor Er.Dani Gambo and ADPMNC General Secretary Kalung Tani and Vice-president Habung Apo also spoke on the occasion.

Two Donyi-Polo believers Mudo Tagia and Hage Yabi were felicitated for their distinguished contributions in their respective fields of expertise.

The day-long function also witnessed rich and colorful traditional culture items from different village Meder Nello, Tagin and Missing communities and traditional fashion show.

CM declares Greater Kameng Badminton Championship open

SEIJOSA, December 2:

Chief Minister Pema Khandu declared open the 11th Badminton Championship being held here at Seijosa in Pakke Kessang district on Saturday, December 2 in presence of Sports minister Mama Natung, local legislator Biyuram Wahge and MLAs Goruk Pordung and Hayeng Mangfi from East Kameng district.

The championship is organized by the Greater Kameng Badminton Association annually to foster sportsmanship and brotherhood amongst the people of the undivided Kameng region comprising of Pakke Kessang, East Kameng, West Kameng and Tawang districts.

Hailing the camaraderie and sportsmanship showcased by the people of the four districts, Khandu said, sports is one of the best means to foster unity and brotherhood.

"This championship has kept alive the unity amongst the people who were once part of a single district, Kameng. I hope to

see the same unity in the next edition of the championship, when one more district will be added by further bifurcation of the greater Kameng region," he said signalling creation of a new district – Bichom – in the near future.

Recalling his late father former chief minister Dorjee Khandu's love and attachment with badminton, he said that to continue the legacy he had donated a vast land near the Sangey Lhadan Sports Academy at Chimpu, Itanagar to promote badminton.

He informed that a huge badminton academy with eight courts of international standard is coming up on his donated land and expressed optimism that Arunachal Pradesh would soon be able to host national and international badminton championships.

Khandu said that sports in India as well as in Arunachal Pradesh have raised several notches due to the proactive sports policy of the central and state government.

"Arunachal Pradesh, as a sporting state in the country, was nowhere in the scene. Before 2014, even India as a country ranked very low in the world of sports. But things have changed. The medal tallies in the recent Olympics Games, Asian Games, Paralympics, etc are proof of India emerging as a sporting nation. Likewise, Arunachal Pradesh too has made its mark and today is ranked third in the North East after Manipur and Assam," he said.

Reiterating the state government's commitment towards sports, Khandu informed that despite three Wushu players from the state and part of the Indian national team were denied visa by China to participate in the Asian Games, the state government officially recognized them as part of India's con-

tingent to the Asian Games and as per the state sports policy awarded them with cash prize of Rs 20 lakh each.

"Not only that, now we are aiming for the next Asian Games to be held in Japan and our Wushu players will be trained in best of facilities and the government will ensure their selection in the national team so that they can bring laurels for our state and the country," he added.

Khandu also informed that with the next Olympics in mind and to encourage athletes and sportspersons of the state, the state government has declared Rs 5 crore for a Gold, Rs 3 crore for Silver and Rs 2 crore for Bronze in any Olympics event.

He assured the Greater Kameng Badminton Association that the state government will continue to support conduct of the annual Greater Kameng Badminton Championship with grants.

"In fact I will ensure that the grant is enhanced to Rs 30 lakh from the present Rs 20 lakh for smooth and successful conduct of the championship," Khandu added.

Khandu, on the occasion, also inaugurated an Indoor Sports Hall and witnessed the inaugural Badminton matches.

DEMGHSS celebrates Golden Jubilee

MLA Rina says 'Institution shaped by its teachers & students'

PASIGHAT, December 2:

The Daying Ering Memorial Government Higher Secondary School (DEMGHSS), Pasighat celebrated the Golden Jubilee (50 years journey of the Institution) at the Mini Stadium, DEMGHS Pasighat here

on December 2 with participation of dignitaries, alumni, students, teachers, parents among others. Former Principals and First Batch Class-X alumni were felicitated on the occasion.

Educationist turned MLA Kento Rina, while gracing the inaugural function as Chief Guest, stated that an institution is made by the dedication of its teachers to impart the best quality education and nurture their students to be worthy citizens for the state and the nation as a whole with a commitment of its students to strive to excel by dint of hard-work, discipline and punctuality to build a better future and excel in their chosen fields in life. The former educationist urged the parents to give guidance and time to their wards.

Rina noted with immense pride that the alumni of the institution have made their alma mater proud and were serving the nation as doctors, engineers, administrators, officers, social workers, entrepreneurs and valuable members of the society in various capacities. Earlier, the MLA paid tribute to former Union Minister and the illustrious son of the state, Dr. Daying Ering and inaugurated the Golden Jubilee Gate.

Guest of Honour, retired teacher, Janartan Thakur, recalled his association as a teacher of DEMGHSS and remembered the spark and zeal of his former students and teachers who made immense contributions in shaping their students of the institution. He urged the students to follow the footsteps of the alumni.

Local MLA Kaling Moyong in his address said that the DEMGHSS Mini stadium was another infrastructural initiative for the institution. Moyong asserted that teachers unlock the door of knowledge and learning,

and the onus was on students to take optimum opportunities to excel. Quoting that 'Present days were very competitive', he advised the student community to devote their time and energy to studies.

Pasighat West MLA Ninong Ering speaking on the challenges and struggles to achieve this milestone of 50 years stated that the institution was established five decades ago with an OBT type structure with community support as mark of tribute to his late father and Architect of Modern Arunachal Pradesh Late Daying Ering. He asked the present generation students to draw inspiration from the alumni of the institute.

MLA Lombo Tayeng said that DEMGHSS has carved a reputation for academic excellence and asked the students to carry forward this spirit in the future too.

Earlier, DEMGHSS Principal, Lat Ratan in his welcome address highlighted the growth of the Institution, while GJCC Organizing Secretary Kalen Komut extended the Vote of Thanks.

Among prominent personalities, DC Tayi Taggu, SP Sumit Kumar Jha, PMC Chief Councillor Okiam Moyong Borang, Joint Director (Elementary Education) Obuk Panor, DDSE Odhuk Tabing, Vice Principal DEMGHSS Akak Boko, retired Principals DEMGHSS Osup Lego, Papang Rukbo and Apel Tayeng were also present amidst municipal councillors and HoDs on the occasion.

Students of DEMGHSS, feeder schools of SFS, Pasighat and Siang Royal enthralled the audience with cultural presentations. On the 2nd day, there will be interactive sessions with

alumni members & students in addition to sports events etc.

CM facilitates Group C & D new recruits in various Govt Departs at 'Rozgar Mela'

'Set the benchmark for honesty, sincerity & dedication' – Khandu

ITANAGAR, December 2:

Setting an unprecedented trend, Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu personally interacted and facilitated all 144 new recruits of Group C and D posts in various departments of the state government selected through Combined Graduate Level Examination (CGLE) and Combined Higher Secondary Level Examination (CHSLE) conducted by the Arunachal Pradesh Staff Selection Board (APSSB).

In an event titled 'Rozgar Mela' organized by the state government here at state banquet hall recently on December 2 last, Khandu handed over each new recruit a personally signed congratulatory letter welcoming them in the government fold and encouraging them work for the welfare and development of the state.

"On behalf of Team Arunachal, I welcome you to the fraternity of public servants of the state. Your actions, ethics and vision in your service life will help shape the future of our state. As you go about your duties, your actions and thoughts should remain focused towards fulfillment of the aspirations of your fellow citizens. Every step that you take must be towards the betterment of our state and nation.

You will play an important role in shaping the future of Arunachal Pradesh. The responsibility of building a 'Viksit Arunach-

al' lies on your shoulders. Let us move ahead together, taking along every person, every family, every village, every culture, every dream and every hope. Together we can and must build a strong Arunachal Pradesh. As you go about your duties, remember to act without fear or favour, with honesty and dedication," the letter read.

Addressing the newly selected employees, Khandu hailed them for getting employed purely on merit, with hard work and dedication without any fear and favour. "Now that you are government employees, coming through a transparent and fair recruitment process, you have the responsibility to continue the trend of honesty, transparency and honesty in discharging your duties," he said.

Talking of the APSSB, an initiative close to his heart, Khandu said that, while serving as Tourism Minister he felt the need to recruit all Group C and D posts in a fair and transparent manner based on merit. Earlier, all such posts used to be filled up in-house by departments concerned posing a question on the merit of those selected.

"Formation of APSSB could have been done through a simple Cabinet decision and a subsequent Notification. But I made it a legislation and passed it through the Assembly so that no one in the future could tinker with it easily," he revealed.

The APSSB was established through an act in the year 2017. The ISO 9001-2015 certified body has till date selected 1577 employees through 21 examinations of various categories.

With government employees getting selected only on merit (through APSSB and APPSC), Khandu said that in next five to six years, the state government will have such an efficient work-force

that can achieve wonders for the state in terms of development, revenue generation and governance.

He, however, expressed concern on presence of 'few individual employees' who from time to time get lured away by easy money and indulge in corrupt practices.

"First the APSSB fiasco, then the APPSC papers leakage scam and the recent illegal appointments in education department. From day one, we have been taking strict against those found indulging in corrupt practices. So, may have been jailed, lost their jobs and disgraced for life, I don't know how anybody can still have the guts to do corruption? Just for a few individuals, the entire fraternity of government employees and the government have to face the flake," he observed.

Khandu appealed to the newly recruited youths to not get lured away but set the benchmark for honesty, sincerity and dedication.

DCM flags off VBSY and launches SAD 2.0

CHONGKHAM, December 3:

DCM Chowna Mein inaugurated the Seva Aap Ke Dwar 2.0 and flagged off the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra from Pali Vidyapeeth, Chongkham in Namsai District here on Sunday.

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra is a noble initiative aimed at achieving 100% saturation of flagship government programs. The campaign seeks to combine awareness, recognition, and the direct provision of essential services to contribute to the holistic development of the region.

The event took place

amidst an enthusiastic atmosphere, signifying a commitment to positively impact the lives of the people in Namsai District.

Expressing his satisfaction with the ongoing Seva Aap Ke Dwar campaign, the DCM stated that it has seamlessly aligned with the Viksit Bharat Yatra, creating a robust framework for the dissemination of government schemes and benefits. He underscored the significance of empowering rural women in the agricultural sector through Self Help Groups (SHGs), training in modern farming methods, and the use of technology such as tractors for ploughing. He urged that by December 2024, traditional ploughing system should be replaced with farm machineries in the district.

Highlighting PM Modi's vision of 'Vikas', he commended government officials for their commitment to trust and corruption-free practices. He also shared the optimism about the nation's trajectory to becoming the third-largest economy and urged officials to ensure the benefits of government schemes reach even the remotest villages.

As the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra embarks on its journey, the commitment of the government to inclusive development and welfare for all remains unwavering.

During the program, Mein explored exhibition stalls put up by various government departments, engaging with the diverse range of initiatives in place. The event showcased the government's dedication to recognizing and rewarding individuals under schemes such as Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Atmanirbhar Bawani Yojna, PMA-

WAS Yojana, and more. DCM Mein also felicitated progressive farmers, Anganwadi Workers, SHGs under ArSLM acknowledging their contributions to the community.

The highlight of the day was the distribution of Ujjawal connections and tractors (ANKY/ANBY), complemented by drone demonstrations and disbursement of fund for SHGs under ArSLM. On-the-spot services, including health camps and registration kiosks for schemes such as PMJAY, PM Viswakarma, PMJJBY, PMSBY, PM Bharat volunteers, and PM Ujjwala, were also provided.

On the occasion, the DCM also released informative leaflets prepared by KVK, Momong for the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra for public awareness. The Certificate of saturation for JJM (Jal Jeevan Mission) and the declaration of ODF+ (Open Defecation Free Plus) Village/Gram Panchayats issued by Ministry of Water Supply, GoI were also distributed.

Mein along with other dignitaries and the people present at the programme also took the 'Hamara Sankalp Viksit Bharat' pledge, which constitutes making India developed and self-reliant by 2047; removing any trace of colonial mindset; celebrating our heritage; strengthening unity and respecting those who protect the nation; and performing the duties of a citizen.

In the event was also present, MLA Namsai, Chau Zingnu Namchoom, Secretary (Planning & Investment) and State Nodal Officer for Viksit Bharat, R K Sharma, DC Namsai, C R Khampa, ADC & ZPM Chongkham, among others.

International Day for Persons with Disabilities observed

PASIGHAT, December 3:

Divisional Level ICDS Cell, Women and Child Development department East Siang District, Pasighat celebrated International Day for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) at Mirbuk Mosup on December 3.

The program was graced by Bogong-I ZPM Sumut Tasung, appointed Guest Speaker Dr Nidak Angu, DRCHO, Machi Gao, DD (ICDS), Omang Tangu Mebo, CDPO, person with disabilities, anganwadi worker, anganwadi helpers, field functionaries of two ICDS Projects CBRWs etc.

Addressing the PWDs, the DD ICDS, Machi Gao stated that the day was dedicated to them to recognize their rights in every institution so that they could get equal opportunities and lead their lives filled with respect and dignity.

The observance of this day was designed to enhance awareness and promote understanding of disability issues. It also seeks to mobilize support for the dignity, rights, and well-being of PWDs. Gao opined that the integration of persons with disabilities was crucial across various spheres of life, including political, social, economic, and cultural domains. Every year, the International Day for Persons with Disabilities celebration provides a platform to spotlight the challenges being faced by PWDs and collaborative solutions to secure their equal rights. This year's theme was "United in action to rescue and achieve the SDGs for, with, and by persons with disabilities", she added.

She also informed the gathering that the theme for this year's

International Day of Persons with Disabilities is "United in action to rescue and achieve the SDGs for, with, and by persons with disabilities."

Chief Guest of the program, Sumut Tasung, ZPM Bogong praised the gathering to present on the occasion of celebration of International Disable Day 2023.

Guest Speaker Dr. N. Angu, DRCHO, delivered the lecture on early identification and interventions of Disabilities to the gatherer and also highlighted the achievement of persons with Disabilities and motivates them.

Later, gifts and cash incentives were distributed to Persons with Disabilities.

PMGSY review meeting for five districts held

ZIRO, December 4:

The Rural Works Circle, Yachuli organized a review meeting for the five Districts of Lower Subansiri, Kamle, Upper Subansiri, Kra Daa-di and Kurung Kumey at Golden Jubilee conference hall of District Secretariat here on Monday.

The meeting was held to take stock of the progress of various Prime Minister's Gram Sadak Yojna (PMGSY) works under these districts.

The meeting was chaired by RWD Minister Honchun Ngandam, Agriculture and Allied Minister Er.Tage Taki and attended by RWD Secretary Nitu Tsering Glow, DC Ziro Bamin Nime, Chief Engineer (PMGSY) Nyai Rigia, RWD engineers of all five districts and contractors.

Both the ministers appreciated the hard work of engineers and contractors who had been hard pressed to complete all the ongoing PMGSY works by March 2024.

They further advised all the stake holders to work out a feasible working plan to ensure completion of the balance stretch of road work within the stipulated timeline set by MoRD, Govt. of India.

During the meeting, an interaction session was also held between the executing agency and the contractors to motivate and boost the morale of the contractors for early completion of the remaining works.

Capital DA seeks information on illegal activities through office helpline nos

ITANAGAR, December 4:

The team of District Administration Capital Itanagar led by ADC Smti Shweta Nagarkoti and accompanied by EAC Itanagar Khoda Lasa stopped an illegal earth cutting that was being carried out near PHQ Itanagar outside the boundary premises of GSI Itanagar on December 4 midnight.

The ADC informed that the concerned person carrying out illegal earth cutting has been served notice not to carry out further activities. She has further appealed the denizens to avoid indulging in such activities.

She further informed that any information regarding such illegal activities can be informed through the helpline no of DC office @ 8730-977604 or can be placed at the Itanagar Deputy Commissioner's Grievance Redressal page at itanagar.nic.in . The identity of the informer will be kept confidential.

Moyong inaugurates free ENT surgery camp

PASIGHAT, December 5:

A three day free ENT Surgery Camp was inaugurated at Bakin

Pertin General Hospital Pasighat on December 5 by the Pasighat East MLA Kaling Moyong. The camp was conducted by Specialist doctors from MENTS Hospital Bengaluru in association with Vivekananda Kendra Arunjyoti and doctors/staff of BPGH Pasighat.

About twenty 'Free ENT Surgeries' was planned to be conducted during the camp including OPD services. This is the second such camp being organized at BPGH Pasighat. Last year similar 'Free ENT Surgery Camp' was held at BPGH Pasighat wherein 19 free Surgeries were conducted.

The inaugural function was also attended by Medical Superintendent Dr. YR Darang, doctors and staff members of BPGH Pasighat, Dr Pradeep Kumar from MENTS and his team comprising six ENT Surgeons, Anesthetists, local dignitaries and karyakartas of Vivekananda Kendra Arunjyoti.

MLA Kaling Moyong, Dr Pradeep Kumar and Nagar Sanchalak VKV Group Captain Mohonto Panging Pao VM (Rtd) spoke during the function.

Meeting discusses issues on illegal activities

ITANAGAR, December 5:

ICC ADC, Smti Shweta Nagarkoti convened a meeting with the OCs of Capital Itanagar on December 5 to discuss on important issues that needed immediate attention and measures to control them.

She directed DMO Dr Mandip Perme to ensure regular checking drives of shops under COTPA and especially those situated near the educational institution. She asked him to direct the DTCC ICC Flying Squad team to schedule a time table for strict implementation

of the same and asked the DMO and OCs to work in coordination with each other while assuring all kind of cooperation from District Administration.

Also highlighting the important need to control various illegal activities like earth cutting, illegal selling of IMFL, drug menace, wine shops and bars running beyond permitted time, shops running without license, gambling, ILP etc, the ADC asked the Police to remain alert and to carry out regular checking drives. She also asked them to ensure that the wine shops and bars are adhering to the timing set by the DA. The ADC stressed that as it is not possible to stop such activities at once, we should cooperate with each other in working out modalities which would help in controlling such activities eventually leading to a safe, secure and clean Itanagar.

Itanagar OC, K Yangfo informed that the Police are carrying out regular checking including night patrolling and assured to intensify the checking drives.

Bokar (Adi) community celebrates Podi Barbi

Hydropower is the most potential resources for aatma-nirbhar Arunachal - CM

MONIGONG, December 5:

Chief Minister Pema Khandu reiterated that hydropower is one of the most potential resources for a aatma-nirbhar Arunachal Pradesh and the way forward to development.

Joining the joyous celebration of Podi Barbi of the Bokar (Adi) community at Monigong in Shi-Yomi district on Dec 5, Khandu said that the hydropower potential of the state if utilized sensibly and scientifically can become the game-

changer for a revenue-starved state like Arunachal Pradesh.

“Yes, we have challenges in terms of difficult terrains and topography. We need to convert these challenges into resources and hydropower is one way of doing it,” he said.

Khandu revealed that as many as five hydropower projects are in pipeline in the district, specifically in the region adjoining Tato, the district headquarters. These are Tato-I Hydro Electric Project (186 MW), Tato-II (700 MW), Heo (240 MW), Naying (1000 MW) and Hironong Hydro Electric Project (500 MW).

He informed that all the five projects will be executed by the North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Limited (NEEPCO), a Government of India enterprise, replacing private agencies engaged earlier.

“These projects, in fact, were to be executed by private companies that had entered into MoUs with previous state governments but they failed. We made it a point that only trustworthy agencies with expertise and central government back-up will only be engaged. Hence, with the support of the central government under Narendra Modi, we are roping in only central government enterprises like NEEPCO, NHPC, SJVN and others to develop hydropower potential in the state,” he said.

Urging the people of the area to support and cooperate with the executing agencies, Khandu said that while the state as a whole will benefit, especially with its 12% share of free power, Shi-Yomi district will exclusively benefit from the 2% - 1% from the state government and 1% from the project developer - as incorporated in the

state power policy for local area development.

He pointed that a 2% share from about 2500 MW of power generation would be huge and can entirely change the scenario in the district.

“Our objective is development of our villages. The more we (state government) earn, the more we invest in developmental projects,” Khandu added.

He informed that in order to bring in development in rural areas of the state, the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) are being strengthened with more power and finance. Expressing hope that proposed hydropower projects will start functioning soon, Khandu assured that once it happens, funds allocated to PRIs will exponentially grow each year.

“The state’s revenue in 2016 was Rs 900 crore. Then we formed our government and went for drastic reforms. You will not believe, in 2023 our state-owned revenue clocked Rs 3500 crore!” he informed.

Responding to a four-point memorandum demanding upgradation of the Monigong General Ground, construction of a new festival ground, a multipurpose hall and gallery in Pidi circle and creation of a new administrative circle called Pangja submitted by the locals, Khandu assured that all will be fulfilled.

“I assure that the new administrative circle will be approved next year but let us develop this General Ground for multipurpose uses. Instead of going for a new festival ground, this General Ground can be developed in such a way that it can also be used for all festivals and functions. Rest assured, a multi-

purpose hall and gallery in Pidi circle will also be sanctioned soon,” he said.

Acknowledging the sporting talents inhibit in youths of the area, many of whom have excelled in all levels. Khandu also assured requisite sports infrastructure and facilities in the district. To begin with, he announced to build one ‘footsal’ complex at Monigong to hone soccer skills of the local youths.

Also present on the occasion were local legislator and Speaker of the State Legislative Assembly Passang Dorjee Sona and MLA Ojing Tayeng.

RGU observes World Soil Day 2023

RONO HILLS, December 5:

Joining the rest of the world, Department of Soil Science & Agricultural Chemistry, Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, Rajiv Gandhi University celebrated ‘World Soil Day’ on December 5, 2023 on the theme ‘Soil and Water a source of life’.

The program was organized at Chiputa Village, Papum Pare district attended by over 100 participants including the Dean, Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, Head of various Departments, faculty members, Gaon Bura of Chiputa village, host of farmers and the 4th Year B.Sc. (Ag. Hons.) students.

RGU VC, Prof. Saket Kushwaha, in his message conveyed the significance of soil and water which are the life and blood of agriculture and the bedrock of our sustenance. He further added that integration of sustainable agricultural methods, promoting soil conservation, and engaging in research that advances understanding

of soil ecosystems will contribute to the global effort to preserve and protect this invaluable resource.

Prof. Sumpam Tangjang, Dean, Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, stressed on the importance of soil. He quoted 'soil as a living body' and appeal the attendees to conserve soil for overall benefit of humankind. He also distributed Bio-enhancers among the progressive farmers of the village. The farmers expressed their happiness and thanked the organizers.

Earlier, the relevance of soil and water in today's scenario was discussed at length by Dr. Samikhya Bhuyan, Head (i/c), Department of Soil Science & Agricultural Chemistry, while different sustainable nutrient management technologies were demonstrated by Dr. Sagolshem Kalidas Singh, Assistant Professor in front of farmers and the attendees.

All the faulty members and students participated actively and shared their inputs regarding the significance of the World Soil Day during the programme.

Jiken Bomjen joins as new Papum Pare DC

YUPIA, December 5:

Jiken Bomjen has joined as the new Deputy Commissioner of Papum Pare district on Tuesday. A 1995 batch APCS Officer, Bomjen was serving as ADC, ICR. He has also served as a Circle Officer in Sagalee, Damin, Palin, Toru, Hayuliang, Roing, Doimukh and as EAC at Rupa and ICR and Project Director in West Siang.

Interacting with the HoDs and admin officers of Papum Pare during a farewell meeting arranged for the outgoing DC Cheechung Chukhu, Bomjen

called for cooperation and coordinated efforts from all the officers to ensure an optimal socio-economic development of the district.

Stressing on team work with a special reference to the ensuing assembly elections, Bomjen also appealed to all the officers to be proactive and sought their co-operation.

He also said that meeting e- pragati targets; that are symbolic to the all-round development of the district and protecting government land from encroachments; especially in the township area would be few of his priorities.

Free health camps at remote villages of Siang belt

PASIGHAT, December 6:

Free health consultation camps were conducted at remote villages of Siang belt like Katan, Dalbing villages of Upper Siang district and Mer village of East Siang district on Wednesday.

The health camps were conducted by Siang Trust in association with Dhanwantri Sewa Yatra, National Medicos Organisation and Sewa Bharti Purbanchal. Specialists doctors and technicians from different cities of India attended the needy patients in the camps.

About 78 patients at Katan village, 55 at Dalbing village and 60 at Mer village were examined and treated. Health camp at Pongging village is also planned.

Similar health camps were conducted earlier also, treating needy patients at different villages located in interior regions. Free consultations, sugar tests, Blood Pressure tests were carried out and

free medicines were distributed during the camps.

The health camps have been appreciated by the villagers led by Gaon Buras and elders. Similar camps are also planned in the coming days.

Arunachal Chapter of INTACH inaugurated

ITANAGAR, December 7:

State Education & Cultural Affairs Minister, Er. Taba Tedir stated that the state government is working zealously towards preservation, promotion and documentation of the rich cultural heritage of various tribes of the state through a proper cultural preservation policy.

Speaking at the inauguration programme of INTACH Arunachal Chapter at JN State Museum Auditorium, organized by INTACH (Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage), New Delhi in collaboration with the Directorate of Research, Department of Cultural Affairs, GoAP. Tedir said that Arunachal Pradesh is a treasure trove with as many as 26 major tribes and more than 100 sub-tribes with diverse culture and traditions of their own and opined that such research works for preservation and promotion of the cultural heritage will greatly benefit the state.

While expressing his happiness on inaugurating the INTACH Arunachal Chapter, the Minister said that launching the state's chapter would immensely help Arunachal in documenting and preserving its diverse tangible and intangible heritage, protect the historical and archaeological sites, and upgrade its two tentatively listed UNESCO World Heritage sites - Thembang fortified village and the Apatani cultural landscape,

Ziro, besides Bhalukpong Fort, Tameshwari Temple at Paya and Bhismak Nagar in Dibang Valley district.

He said that government is taking various steps for proper preservation and protection of all tangible and intangible heritages of the state and its tribes, besides digitization of all state's museums. Informing that in order to preserve the local dialects, he said, government has introduced dialects of twelve tribes as third language in schools up to class 8. Tedir laid stress on protecting the endangered languages of the state and urged upon the INTACH to involve in this regard.

Earlier, Director INTACH, Capt (Retd) Arvind Shukla, in his opening remark informed that INTACH, set up in 1984 is India's premier heritage conservation organization dedicated to preserve and conserve the environment to revitalize India's intangible heritage, besides fostering awareness and appreciation of its vast multi-faceted cultural heritage.

He said that involvement of citizen towards cultural conservation is pertinent, as government alone cannot protect the heritage due to gradual erosion of traditional arts and architecture, rituals and other forms of heritage due to the onslaught of modern forces. He expressed the need to work in the state through collaboration with various stakeholders in documentation of oral traditions, cultural designs, significant sites, raising awareness among people on cultural conservation through outreach programmes etc for detailed preservation and promotion of state's diverse heritages.

Giving an overview of INTACH activities, INTACH's Intan-

gible Cultural Heritage Principal, Nerupama Y. Modwel highlighted on their activities taken up in the North East in preserving and promoting the tangible and intangible heritages. While introducing the event's objective, she divulges the organization's plans to work in the state through comprehensive road map to preserve the diverse state's cultural heritages that included people's museum, cultural mapping and nurturing community knowledge on oral traditions, arts & crafts, rituals, customs, food-ways and traditional agriculture knowledge to create an ongoing archive of community knowledge, besides for educational purposes.

INTACH State Convenor, Oken Tayeng said that as culture is the foundation of every society, the Arunachal Chapter will work as a bridge between state and INTACH towards preserving and promoting state's heritages.

Among others, the inaugural programme was attended by Padmashree Y.D Thongchi, Padmashree Mamang Dai, Director Research Kanggo Tayeng, Director IPR Onyok Pertin and other officers and officials from Research Department.

Lowangdong inaugurates Girl's Hostel at EMRS, Khela

KHELA, December 7:

Borduria-Bogapani MLA, Wanglin Lowangdong recently inaugurated a Girls' Hostel at Eklavya Model Residential School in Khela in Tirap district.

The inauguration of the Eklavya Model Residential School marks a significant milestone in the journey towards accessible and quality education for the tribal children of Khela, embodying a steadfast commitment to the edu-

cational empowerment of communities.

The event witnessed the presence of Khonsa East MLA, Wanglam Sawin, Deputy Commissioner Hento Karga and ZPC Miss Chathong Lowang.

In a speech resonating with pride and accomplishment, Lowangdong expressed gratitude to the people of Khela, especially the land donors pivotal in establishing the Eklavya Model Residential School. Reflecting on the project's initiation during his tenure as the Minister of WCD & SJETA, Lowangdong revealed that funding was provided by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs Govt of India, sanctioned in the fiscal year 2015-16 under SJETA & TA (Social Justice Empowerment and Tribal Affairs). The project was executed by PWD, Khonsa, with M/s. Elija Enterprise as the contractor.

Lowangdong underscored the nationwide impact of the initiative, highlighting the establishment of over 700 Eklavya Model Residential Schools across the country. These schools aim to provide quality education to more than 3.5 lakh tribal students, contributing significantly to the development of society and the nation. He appealed to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs through the Department of SJETA, GoAP to sanction funds for the extension of the school, including an auditorium, boundary wall, playground, boys' hostel, etc., crucial for the completion of the EMRS project.

Speaking on the occasion, MLA Sawin also underscored the pivotal role of education in fostering economic and social well-being, stating that EMRS is one of the centers for human resource development. He urged parents to prioritize their children's education for a brighter future and appealed

to the residents of Khela village to cooperate with the district administration for land requisition for the extension of infrastructure, accommodating more than 400 students in EMRS. Sawin appreciated Lowangdong's effort to bring this important project when he was the then minister for SJETA in 2015.

In his speech, the DC highlighted the positive transformation and expressed confidence that the Eklavya Model Residential School would now provide abundant educational opportunities for local children, eliminating the challenges he faced in his youth. DC advised the Arunachal Shiksha Vikas Samiti who will run the EMRS at Khela to maintain close coordination with the local people of Khela and District Administration for smooth functioning of the institution in the days to come. He lauded the local MLA for bringing EMRS to Khela, which will benefit the children of Tirap, Changlang, and Longding to a great extent.

Congratulating the proprietor and family of EMRS, ZPC, Chathong Lowang said that it is a matter of great privilege and pride for people of Tirap district that a new gift in the service of society has been given in this Khela Block, which will immensely benefit not only the people of Khela village, but also the entire population of the district and its peripheral districts, adding EMRS has brought a new temple for education.

On behalf of Khela village, Wangdo Bangsia, a senior public leader praised Lowangdong for creating many important infrastructures in Khela village including MIC (Minor Irrigation Channel), the extension of Village Playground, Community Hall, a model village, and EMRS.

Earlier, Sukumaran K, State Coordinator, ASVS welcomed all

and informed that the school will start functioning from December 2023 with 30 girls' students of Class VI (six).

Colorful cultural items performed by the students marked the program.

Awareness programme on elimination of gender-based violence conducted

AALO, December 7:

The Department of Women and Child Development, West Siang District conducted a programme with regard to elimination of gender-based violence and raising awareness about the right and entitlement of women and girls as part of "Nayi Chetna 2.0 here at Aalo on December 7.

Smt. Liyum Padu, Centre Administrator (OCS), West Siang, the Resource person of the programme gave an orientation on Domestic Violence Act, 2005, Prevention of Sexual Harassment at workplace Act, 2013, Domestic Incident Report (One Stop Centre), Emergency Response System (112) and Women Helpline, Establishing linkage between Gender Resource Centre.

Protection Officer (DCPU), Dege Kamki imparted awareness on Prevention of Children from Sexual Offence Act 2012 and special rights under CrPC with victim Compensation etc, Prohibition Child Marriage Act, 2006 and Child line (1098).

District Coordinator (MSK), Dagbom Riba spoke on Hub for Empowerment, Shakti Shadan, Sakhi Niwas and Smti Marbom Riba Bagra, President, APWWS, West Siang District, Aalo speaks about the women rights in work place.

Earlier, the programme started with welcome address from Smt. Yabi Riba Ete i/c Deputy Director (ICDS), Aalo.

Around 60 members participated in the programme from NGO, APWWS, Supervisor, Gram Sevika, AWWs from ICDS Project, West Siang District, Aalo

MLA, DC inaugurate "IPR Publicity Unit" at Ruksin

PASIGHAT, December 7:

Pasighat West MLA, Ninong Ering and East Siang Deputy Commissioner Tayi Taggu jointly inaugurated the "IPR Branch Office cum Publicity Unit" at the Ruksin ADC office complex, here recently in presence of the Ruksin ADC i/c Jacob Tabing, DIPRO Deepali Dodum, ZPMs Aruni Jamoh and Bimol Lego and officers & officials of Ruksin administration and IPR department.

Ering, while addressing the occasion, said that the main objective of the newly established branch office at Ruksin was basically informing the public about the policies and programmes of the government on one hand and on the other, keeping the government informed of the people's reaction to its policies and programmes.

Stating that communication was a most vital process of socio-economic development, Ering opined that asking and listening to the local community, residents and interested groups about their views and inputs would yield new insights. According to him, well informed public would always be able to understand the benefits of modern development and would meaningfully contribute in the state building process.

Earlier, Deputy Commis-

sioner Tayi Taggu in his brief speech expressed hope that the IPR personnel would ensure appropriate publicity activities in the local area through mass media and maintain liaison with press fraternity including AIR and Doordarshan etc in the interest of the local populace.

Providing information about benefits and advantages of the government schemes and projects in particular at an early stage allows people time to think about issues, direct and indirect impacts and short and long-term resource use implications and formulate their views.

Earlier, ADC I/c Jacob Tabing delivered welcome address, while DIPRO Deepali and AMDO Tani Nobeng extended keynote address and vote of thanks on the occasion. The inaugural program was attended by the host officers, leaders and GBs.

Governor participates in Viksit Bharat Sankapl Yatra in Tirap; Emphasizes on timely implementation, ensure quality & optimum use of allocated fund

KHONSA, December 7:

In his continuous effort to reach out to the people, the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) interacted with Government Officials, Goan burahs, Panchayat members and public of Tirap District at Khonsa on December 7, 2023.

The Governor informed the villagers that in the spirit of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas aur Sabka Prayas', Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the Viksit Bharat Sankapl Yatra with special focus on tribal com-

munities. He called upon the people, especially the villagers to avail benefits from the Central Government programmes and schemes. He advised those who are yet to avail benefits to get themselves registered.

The Governor said that it for the good of the society, its progress and development. The Goan burahs, Panchayat members and government officials have the responsibility to ensure that the eligible beneficiaries avail benefits. He said that it is the collective responsibility of all stakeholders to make Viksit Bharat Sankapl Yatra successful for socio-economic development of every citizen in Arunachal Pradesh and all must work in a Mission mode.

Reviewing the progress of the Central and State Governments' development projects, programmes and schemes in the district, the Governor emphasized on timely implementation, ensure quality and optimum use of allocated fund. He stressed on strengthening education and health sectors and enhance infrastructure.

The Governor advised the officials to be accountable, responsible and work on priority and efficiently manner. He urged them to go for automation, which will help in proper planning, implementation and prioritizing projects and schemes. He said that instead of passing order, the officials must be go to the ground and monitor.

MLAs Wanglam Sawin and Smt Chakat Aboh, District Prabhari of Viksit Bharat Sankapl Yatra Ateesh Kumar Singh, Joint Secretary, MSME, Govt. of India, Director General of Police Anand Mohan and Zilla Parishad Chairperson Smt Chatnong Lowang were also present on the occasion.

Deputy Commissioner Hento Karga briefed that Governor

about the developmental progress of the district, while Superintendent of Police Rahul Gupta gave an overview PowerPoint presentation on the security scenario of the district.

Responding to the memorandum submitted by ZPC Tirap and President ATGBWA, Governor Parnaik assured to prioritize the posting of adequate administrative officers and the construction of a guest house for GBs in Khonsa town. He highlighted the importance of concerted efforts for the success of VBSY, urging GoAP officials to work in mission mode for 100% program saturation.

On December 8, at an event at Thinsa village, Governor Parnaik, accompanied by the First Lady Anagha Parnaik, awarded certificates to meritorious students under the Beti Bachao - Beti Padoo schemes and Dulari Kanya certificates. The Governor, along with District Parbari and DC also visited the Seva Aapke Dwar 2.0 camp at Thinsa village and Governor flagged off 1 AGEY Vehicle for 1 Self Help Group of Khonsa Block funded by Arunachal State Rural Livelihood Mission (ArSRLM) under Arunachal Grameen Express Yojana (AGEY) Scheme.

At the camp, they distributed Job Cards, ST/PRC, Birth Certificates, LPG Cylinders, and farm machinery to beneficiaries. The Governor and the First Lady actively participated in the signature campaign for the 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' program.

Despite challenging weather conditions, Governor Parnaik's visit to Tirap was marked by constructive discussions, commitments to development initiatives, and active participation in community-centric programs, showcasing the state's dedication to inclusive growth.

Governor calls for concerted efforts to make VBSY successful;

Flags off VBSY Van from Longding for remote villages in district; visits SAD 2.0 Camp

LONGDING, December 7:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, UYS (Retd.) interacted with the Government officials, Gaon Burahs, Panchayat members, Village Chiefs and public of Longding District here at Longding on December 7, 2023.

In his maiden visit, the Governor informed the people that in the spirit of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas aur Sabka Prayas', Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra with special focus on tribal communities. He called upon the villagers to avail benefits from the Central Government programmes and schemes and advised those who are yet to avail benefits to get themselves registered.

The Governor emphasised that there must be concerted efforts to make Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra successful. He impressed upon the government officials to work in a mission mode and ensure that all the eligible persons are registered as beneficiaries and 100% saturation is achieved.

He laid the onus on the district administration and elected representatives to reach out to the distant villages to accomplish the target before coming Republic Day and realize the vision of the Prime Minister.

Giving a boost to the programme, the Governor flagged off the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra Van from Longding for remote villages of the district.

The Governor and the First Lady of the State Smt Anagha Parnaik visited 'Seva Aapke Dwar 2.0 Camp at Longding and distributed certificates and farm machineries to the beneficiaries. They also participated in the signature campaign for 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' programme.

State Minister of Rural Works, Science & Technology, Honchun Ngandam, Kanubari MLA Gabriel Denwang Wangsu, Longding MLA Tanpho Wangnaw, Director General of Police Anand Mohan, Deputy Commissioner Bani Lego and Superintendent of Police Tumme Amo were present in the meeting amongst others.

Consultative Workshop on Gender Based Violence conducted

ITANAGAR, December 7:

A Consultative Workshop on Gender Based Violence (GBV) – 'Sahenge nahi Kahenge' was conducted by the Arunachal State Rural livelihoods Mission recently under the directive from Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India. The programme is in line with the ongoing Gender Campaign across all the states in India.

The workshop was attended by key stakeholders, officials from Women and Child Department Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, The Chairperson of Oju Welfare Society Smt. Ratan Ania and Presidents and Secretaries from Cluster Level Federations from different districts and ArSRLM officials.

The session on GBV was taken up by the National Resource Person (NRP) empaneled by the Ministry of Rural development and was coordinated under

the leadership of State Mission Manager, Adap Golo.

The aims and objective of the workshop was covered by the Chief Operating officer-DDU GKY (Skills), Ruzing Billai, while Smti Aasha Ramesh, National Resource Person for Gender intervention highlighted on legal rights and on gender-based violence prevailing in the country as a whole and in the context of Arunachal Pradesh.

Smti Ratan Ania, Chairperson of Oju Welfare Society also shared gender issues prevailing in the state. She shared very insightful experiences from the grass root level in the context of different districts of the state and also emphasized that women should be economically sound to be empowered.

NRP along with State Mission Manager emphasized how DAY NRLM has recognized issue of GBV as an important issue that needs to be highlighted and reflected, where members are not aware about where and how to seek redress when faced such violence.

Recognize the SHG space to share on GBV. Awareness among the SHG on Gender issues. The need for Gender Forum and Internal Complaint Committee to be set up in every organization and in Department and ArSRLM at block level and at district level. Understand the institutional mechanism – SHG/VO/SAC/GF its role in checking and addressing GBV. Be informed of the legal measures to address GBV. Convergence with stake holders to work against GBV. A strong agency of women, both collectively and individually, who will say "NO to violence and lead life with dignity sans violence" were deliberated upon.

MLA inaugurates multi-village water supply project

NAMSAI, December 8:

Namsai MLA, Chau Zingnu Namchoom inaugurated the multi village water supply project for Wagunpathar- I, II, IV and Mokrun on December 8.

Addressing the gathering, the MLA stated that unlike olden days, having supply of treated water in villages would go a long way in making the village healthy and disease free. Therefore, he urged the villagers to inculcate a sense of ownership and take responsibility in maintaining the treatment plant.

On the occasion, he also inaugurated a community hall at Mokrun village and 10 meters span bridge at Wagun IV village.

Among others, Nang Urmila Mancheykhyn, ZPC Namsai, C.R Khampa, DC Namsai were also present.

The water supply project has been sanctioned under Jal Jeevan Mission which will cater potable water facility to 170 households @ 55 litres per capita. The plant is IoT operated which enables automatic pumping as well as supply to distribution network of Wagunpathar-II and zonal tanks at Wagunpathar-I, IV & Mokrun. It can be operated through mobile and transmit the gathered datas to the users.

The project was handed over to the Village Water and Sanitation Committee.

Seva Aapke Dwar 2.0 & Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra held

BASARNELLO, December 8:

Doimukh MLA Tana Hali Tara inaugurated the Seva aapke dwar 2.0 and flagged off the Viksit Bharat

Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) for Balijan sub-division at Basarnello on December 8 last.

The VBSY, IEC Van will be traveling to Habia, Lenka, Patila and Chessa under Balijan Sub Division to create awareness on centrally sponsored welfare schemes. During the VBSY, efforts will be made to enroll all the left out beneficiaries for various programs.

Addressing on the occasion, Tara said that the commitment of the government for an inclusive development is evident from the programs like VBSY and SKAD camps. He urged all to avail the benefits of the program and help the government achieve 100 percent saturation in all the targeted schemes.

Underscoring the role of PRI members in creating awareness on govt policies and programs, Hali urged all the PRI members to be proactive and educate the masses about the government initiatives.

He later inspected the stalls put up by the departments and interacted with the officers and the beneficiaries.

He also distributed gas connections to beneficiaries under PMUY.

Altogether 700 people benefitted from the SKAD, coordinated by CO Sangdupota Dr. Hera Panggeng.

Governor visits Changlang, participates in Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra programme

HoDs to reach out to people, and personally monitor progress of projects on ground - Governor

CHANGLANG, December 8:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM,

UYSM, YSM (Retd.) participated in the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra programme at Changlang on December 8, 2023.

He appealed to the people to avail maximum benefits from the State and Central Governments schemes and programmes. He also administered the Viksit Bharat Sankalp pledge to the people on the occasion, who including elected representatives, Panchayat members, Gaon Burahs and government officials to make India developed and self-reliant Nation by 2047, remove any trace of colonial mindset, celebrate our heritage, strengthen unity, respect those who protect the country and perform the duties of a citizen.

The Governor reiterated that in the spirit of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas aur Sabka Prayas', Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra with special focus on tribal communities. He advised the people of Changlang District to ensure that the villagers of the district staying in remote areas, avail benefits from the Central Government programmes and schemes. He stressed that they must reach out to those eligible beneficiaries, who are yet to avail benefits to get them registered.

In his maiden visit to Changlang District, the Governor reviewed developmental progress of Central and State Government programmes being implemented in the district. He emphasized upon the district heads of the department to go out of their offices, reach out to the people, particularly the beneficiaries and personally monitor the progress of projects on the ground.

The Governor advised the officials to automate their offices and data. He said that it is just a three month long exercise but will

enormously help them in analyzing ground reality over the week, month and year; enable better focus, planning and outreach of the programmes and in achieving the target.

The Governor expressed his concerns about school drop-out rate, drug addiction and execution of women and girl child related welfare schemes. He said that, when the Prime Minister is so concerned about welfare issues, our officials and government machinery must put in concerted effort to implement the socio-economic programmes on ground.

The Governor was delighted to see the efforts being made by the Self Help Groups, NGOs to rehabilitate persons addicted by drug abuse. One such person narrated his efforts to be reformed. Such reformed youth need to be made 'Anti Drug Ambassador' at the State level and should help others to reform, the Governor opined.

Deputy Speaker, Tesam Pongte, MLA Phosum Khimhun, Director General of Police Anand Mohan, Deputy Commissioner in-charge, S. Mining and Superintendent of Police Kirli Padu were present amongst others.

Certification Programme for RO & ARO concludes

ITANAGAR, December 8:

The second phase of five days Certification Programme for Returning Officers and Assistant Returning Officers of Assembly Constituencies and Assistant returning Officers of Parliamentary Constituencies in three simultaneous batches in view of the forthcoming Elections 2024 concluded on

December 8, 2023 at Dorjee Khandu State Convention Centre, Itanagar.

11 (eleven) National Level Master Trainers, deputed by the Election Commission of India arrived at Itanagar to impart the certification programme in two phases viz - first phase from November 28 to December 2, 2023 and the second phase from December 4 to December 8, 2023.

The exhaustive training programme covered sessions on Nomination including Instructions on Criminal Antecedent, Scrutiny of Nominations, Withdrawal of Candidature and Allotment of Symbol, E-Roll, District Election Management Plan, Model Code of Conduct, Paid News and MCMC, Expenditure Monitoring, IT applications, Postal ballot, EVM and VVPAT Hands-on, Polling Party and Poll Day Arrangement, Counting and Declaration of Results etc.

The State Civil Servants from across the state attended the Certification Programme and participated in the evaluation at the end of the programme. The evaluation was done online and it was directly monitored by the ECI.

Chief Electoral Officer, Pawan Kumar Sain urged all the participating officers to make the most of training programme and sought for their honest feedbacks on the training module from the participants.

Shania Kayem Mize, Deputy Chief Electoral Officer is the State Nodal Officer Training. The elections in the state of Arunachal Pradesh is scheduled next year in 2024.

DCM chairs 25th NER-PC Meeting;

Discusses critical issues in power sector, focusing on challenges & opportunities for progress

KOLKATA, December 9:

NERPC Chairman and Deputy Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh, Chowna Mein chaired the 25th North Eastern Regional Power Committee (NERPC) Meeting at Kolkata on December 9.

The meeting was organized and hosted by NTPC Ltd and NERPC Secretariat at The Oberoi Grand, Kolkata. The meeting addressed critical issues in the power sector, focusing on the challenges and opportunities for progress in the region.

During the session, Mein highlighted the significance of collective efforts toward a more promising and sustainable future in the power industry. The discussions resulted in crucial decisions aimed at advancing the growth of the power sector in the North Eastern Region, ensuring a consistent electricity supply, and enhancing the standard of living for residents.

The DCM emphasized key initiatives, including Mock Black Start Exercises aligned with IEGC 2023, showcasing a commitment to power sector preparedness. Proactive measures, such as the installation of surge arresters and the re-conductoring of transmission lines to High-Temperature Low Sag (HTLS), were underscored in his speech.

Expressing his delight, Mein announced the finalization of the Guwahati Islanding Scheme, planned by NERPC under the Ministry of Power's directive. He urged stakeholders to expedite the implementation of this scheme and explore the feasibility of similar

Islanding Schemes for other NER State capitals. He thanked for the approval of full funding, covering 100% of the costs, for the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition/ Energy Management Systems (SCADA/EMS) upgradation across all State Load Dispatch Centers (SLDCs) in NER States, adding that significant project, with an estimated budget of approximately Rs. 80 Crores per state, marks a substantial advancement in bolstering the power infrastructure of the region.

Addressing the challenges in commissioning hydro projects, Mein encouraged project developers to adopt innovative and environmentally friendly designs, aligning with India's non-fossil energy capacity targets. He commended the State Government of Arunachal Pradesh for signing MoUs for the development of 12 Hydro Projects with NHPC, SIVN, and NEEPCO, marking a commendable stride toward realizing the country's energy goals.

Recognizing the unique challenges of the North Eastern Region, including geographical constraints and adverse weather conditions, Mein affirmed the NERPC forum's pivotal role in collective problem-solving. He highlighted the Revamped Distribution Sector Schemes (RDSS) aimed at reducing Aggregate Technical & Commercial (AT&C) losses and urged Distribution Companies (DISCOMS) and State Governments to prioritize settling outstanding bills for sustainable business operations.

He also initiated formation of Power Ministers' Forum for North Eastern Region for effective persuasion of issues in the power sectors in the Region.

The meeting was also attended by Ministers of Power from

North Eastern States; Nandita Grola of Assam, Abu Taher Mondal of Meghalaya, Ratan Lal Nath of Tripura, K.G. Kenye of Nagaland, Advisor to Power (Arunachal), Balo Raja, Member Secretary (NERPC), Kishore B Jagtap, Director (Finance) NTPC Ltd, Jaikumar Srinivasan, Officers of the Central & State Governments and Representatives from Central & State Power Utilities, among others.

Legal awareness program at Mengio

MENGIO, December 9:

A one-day legal awareness program was held at Mengio Village by Friends of Life, NGO in collaboration with Arunachal Pradesh State Commission for Women (APSCW) and District Administration on December 9.

APSCW, Vice Chairperson, Smti Nabam Yah, while speaking on the occasion exhorted the women to participate in greater numbers in such programs as "they educate the rural women in particular about their legal rights and provides a platform for them to interact with the experts".

Former Chairperson APSCW and Resource person Adv. Smti Radhila Chai Tech spoke on the 'Legal rights of Women'. She stated that "these rights are in place to ensure equality and empowerment of women." While elaborating about the forms of violence/abuse against women viz physical, mental, economical and sexual, she encouraged the women to report any cases of abuse. "Tolerating and hiding the abuse will only encourage the perpetrators, leading to increase in crime against women in the society", she added. She also advised the women to be economically independent.

Expressing her concern on the increasing cases of 'adolescence marriages', she said that "mothers can be a strong ally in this fight and advocate for girls continued education".

Smti Take Riniyo, Superintendent, Tax Excise, spoke on 'Psychological Empowerment of Women.' Stating that women's sense of self worth can be improved through right psychological interventions, she advised the women "to be confident, self-aware and be positive thinking." She also spoke about the need for a balanced diet and exercise for overall physical wellbeing.

Emphasizing on the imperative need to protect the future generation from drug menace, she urged the PRI members, GBs and the locals to aid in curbing the ganja cultivation in area. "Few people may benefit from the ganja cultivation, but a whole generation is destroyed because of the drugs," she added.

Smti. Nabam Yagar, ZPM Mengio, members of Friends of Life, NGO, Goan Buris and public of Mengio attended the program.

State representing in 1st Khelo India Para Games 2023

ITANAGAR, December 10:

An interaction programme with the state contingent bound for 1st Khelo India Para Games 2023 slated to be held at New Delhi from December 10 to 17, 2023 was organized by the Directorate of Sports recently in Hotel Obsidian Blue, Itanagar.

Sanjeev Tana Tara, Vice-Chairman, Sports Authority of Arunachal, Bamang Tago, Secretary General, Arunachal Olympic Association attended the function as

Chief Guest & Guest of Honour respectively along with Director (Sports) Tadar Appa & his officers, representatives from Paralympic Association of Arunachal, Arunachal Olympic Association & state level Associations.

1st Khelo India Para Games is brainchild of Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Govt. of India under the guidance of Prime Minister of India to provide a platform to promote sporting culture amongst Persons with Disability to showcase their talent at higher level sporting platforms. The game will be conducted at international level. So, the players nomination has been directly done by concern Paralympic Committee of India (PCI)/ National Sports Federation.

Over 1400 participants from 32 states & union territories including Services Sports Board will compete in 7 sports disciplines viz para-Athletics, Para Archery, Para Badminton, CP Football, Para Table Tennis, Para Shooting & Para Power lifting. Among North eastern states Assam, Meghalaya & Arunachal Pradesh will witness the Para athletes competing in the game.

The Para Athletes of Arunachal who have qualified included - Biri Takar (SL-4), Dangu Talik (HS-6) & Bamang Rade (HS-5) in Para Badminton and Tech Sonu (74 kg) & Tarh Radhe (65 kg) in Para Power lifting.

As per the Games schedule, the Para Badminton team have to leave for Delhi on December 8 & Para Power Lifting on December 10. The state contingent is led by Karbia Dodum, AD (Sports) as Chef De Mission, Nada Appa, SO (Hq) as Nodal Officer & Ms Geeta Karki, Badminton Coach as Support staff, a release from Department of Sports stated.

Rijiju inaugurates Permanent Seismological Observatory

MoU signed for enhancing the services in region

BOMDILA, December 10:

In a significant stride towards enhancing safety and understanding seismic activities, Union Minister for Earth Sciences, Kiren Rijiju inaugurated the Permanent Seismological Observatory here at Bomdila on December 10.

This observatory, established at Government College, Bomdila, holds great significance for Arunachal Pradesh, a region situated in seismic zone V, known for its vulnerability to earthquakes.

The inauguration ceremony was graced by the presence of Honchun Ngandam, Minister of Science & Technology, GoAP, Kumsi Sidasow, MLA Thrizino, Dr. M Ravichandram, Secretary, Minister of Earth Sciences, GoI, Repo Ronia, Secretary, Science & Technology, GoAP, Tana Tage, Director, Centre for Earth Sciences & Himalayan Studies, GOAP, Smti Akriti Sagar, DC Bomdila, HODs, officials of National Centre for Seismology-Ministry of Earth Sciences, and Department of Science & Technology, along with students and the public of Bomdila township.

The observatory, established in collaboration with the National Centre for Seismology, Ministry of Earth Science, aimed to comprehensively understand the region's seismicity, unraveling both surface and subsurface seismic aspects.

Addressing the gathering, Rijiju emphasized the crucial role of the Department of Earth Sciences and highlighted the potential benefits of the observatory

in earthquake detection, enabling advanced precautions to minimize casualties. Rijiju also shared the government's plans for further technological advancements in the region, including the establishment of a Doppler Radar System in West Kameng district. This system is envisioned to provide precise forecasts of rain, temperature, humidity, etc., aiding farmers in planning their cultivation based on accurate weather data.

"The future of the nation is in our hands," Rijiju stated, while emphasizing the importance of contributing to science and encouraging students to pursue careers in the field. He also called upon elected public representatives and government officials to actively participate in the PM's vision for the nation's development over the next 25 years, emphasizing that development is a collective effort.

In a move towards collaborative efforts, a memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between the Centre for Earth Sciences & Himalayan Studies (CES&HS), Government of Arunachal Pradesh, and the Centre for Seismology (NCS), Ministry of Earth Science, Government of India to enhance services in the region.

As part of the technological advancements, the official website was launched by the Union Minister on the occasion, offering real-time meteorological data from stations installed across Arunachal Pradesh. A collaborative effort with the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), the website provides data from 54 Automated Weather Stations (AWS), with a total of 80 operational in the state. These AWS will play a crucial role in monitoring weather conditions and providing valuable information to various sectors.

The Union Minister also inaugurated an Open Gym at Shanti Deva Vidyalaya, Bomdila, and interacted with the students.

In his closing remarks, Rijiju urged all concerned stakeholders to participate in the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, stressing the importance of spreading awareness about government schemes through an IEC van that should cover all parts of the district by 26th January, 2024.

Governor participates in 75th anniversary of Universal Declaration of Human Rights celebration

ITANAGAR, December 10:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) participated in the 'One-day State Level Human Rights Awareness Programme' at Itanagar on Sunday, December 10, 2023. Arunachal Pradesh State Human Rights Commission (APSHRC) organized the programme, while commemorating the 75th anniversary of Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The Governor also launched the official website of the Arunachal Pradesh State Human Rights Commission on the occasion.

Greeting the people on the occasion, the Governor said that the special occasion coincided with the Amrit Kaal celebration as we prepare ourselves to be a progressive, developed and caring nation, aimed at becoming the Vishwa Guru by 2047.

The Governor said that in its endeavour to reinvigorate the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in true sense, the Central Government has launched the

Viksit Bharat Sankalp programme to ensure that every citizen receives the basic amenities. It is encouraging to note that the spirit of Human Rights is fully ingrained in various Yojanas being implemented by the Govt. of India towards elimination of poverty, availability of essential services, ensuring dignity and support for women & girl child and integrating the backward & tribal population as part of Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra. It is an inherent part of governance and will increase the gross national happiness graph of the nation, which in turn will indicate that Human Rights is maintained and delivered, he said.

The Governor said that to implement and maintain a healthy human rights record, there must be good governance, proper monitoring and enthusiastic participation of all. He said that every citizen must endeavour to create a conducive environment for upholding the fundamental rights and human rights, while abiding his fundamental duties.

Sharing his observation and experiences in his service life, the Governor said that Indian Armed forces have perception management concepts in its dealing and follow a principle of 'Iron Fist and velvet glove' to ensure that there is no human rights violation and collateral damage to innocent citizens. He said that NGOs and civil societies have a crucial role in raising awareness for the promotion and protection of human rights. NGOs and CSOs act as planners and implementers of developmental plans, reaching marginalized sections, mobilizing local resources, and creating an environment of rights-based democracy. They play a vital role in building a self-reliant and sustainable society, acting as mediators between people and the govern-

ment, he said.

Delivering the keynote address, Dr. Justice Indira Shah, Chairperson, APSHRC said that every person is entitled to basic amenities and security and every nation has to ensure it under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the United Nations. She said that entitlements include basic education, healthcare, housing and services.

The Chairperson said that in spite of many challenges, the State Human Rights Commission is committed to a holistic plan and collaborative approach. She appealed for active cooperation of all stakeholders.

Member, APSHRC, Bamang Tago and Joint Secretary, APSHRC Jalash Pertin also spoke on the occasion, highlighting the activities of the commission, since its inception on 24th January 2020.

Large numbers of legal experts, senior officials and representatives from the National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Guwahati, Human Rights Alert, Itanagar Municipal Corporation, Arunachal Pradesh State Commission for women, Arunachal Pradesh State Legal Service Authority, Arunachal Pradesh Women Welfare Society, Police officers and personnel and students from various educational institutes participated in the programme.

State Govt committed to preserve indigenous culture & languages - CM

BALEMU, December 11:

Chief Minister Pema Khandu attended the annual Shar Amartala Torgya Festival at the Thegtse Sangye Choi Long Monastery here at Balem, a small hamlet at the

trijunction of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam and Bhutan in West Kameng district.

The religious festival is being held under the patronage and blessings of Padmashree His Eminence The 14th Thegtse Rinpoche.

Addressing a huge gathering of devotees from West Kameng, Tawang and Bhutan, Khandu expressed gratitude to the Almighty for being able to attend the third celebration of the festival at Balemdu for the second time.

He appreciated all the MLAs of West Kameng and Tawang districts for responding positively to his appeal for generous contributions in construction and development of the monastery that he inaugurated earlier in the day.

“Being Monpas, it is our duty to contribute in whatever possible way to develop a monastery especially in a place that has a religious significance for us. I appreciate all Monpa MLAs for their contributions. However, my special thanks go to Union Minister for Earth Science Kiren Rijiju, Buragaon-Thrizino MLA Kumsi Sidisow and Bomdila MLA Dongru Siongju for their generous contribution who though hail from West Kameng district are non-Monpas,” he said.

Khandu, who inaugurated the Mindrol Wang Thri Khang Zang Gatsal or the Dharma Teaching Stage of the monastery, on behalf of all Mon people, expressed gratitude to Thegtse Rinpoche for reviving the lost religious glory of Amartala (Balemdu) by initiating to open the study centre for preservation of Buddhist culture.

Amartala (Balemdu) is a place of great religious significance.

“We the Mon people have been following Buddhism since

centuries. It is our culture. And it is our duty to preserve this culture for posterity and maintain our indigenous identity,” he advocated.

Informing that Monpas are the second only indigenous community, after the Khamptis, to have their own script, he appealed the younger generation to learn the script so that it does not fade away with time.

The state government, on its part, he said is committed to preserve the indigenous culture and languages of all the indigenous communities of the state.

“Khamptis and Monpas are lucky to have their own script, which are now being taught in the schools. We are working along with community-based organizations of rest of the communities to evolve their own script if possible or use the Roman script to teach indigenous languages to our young kids so that we always remain connected to our roots,” he informed.

Khandu also informed that for the Mon region, teachers are being recruited to teach the Bhoti script (script of the Monpas) in schools.

Delving on developmental projects in Balemdu area in particular and Kalaktang subdivision in general, Khandu said the area, being the gateway to Arunachal Pradesh from the western-most part of the state, it has a huge tourism potential for growth.

“Balemdu, like almost all foothill areas of the state, remained under-developed due to one main reason – insurgency. We all know Bodo insurgency, when at its peak, affected the growth of Balemdu. All thanks to Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s leadership, insurgency has ceased to exist in Assam and as a result there is peace all along our boundary with

Assam,” he said.

Khandu also mentioned that the inter-state boundary issue with Assam has been almost resolved due to the support of the central government.

“We have proposed to develop all entry-points to our state, including Balemdu and Bhalukpong in West Kameng district, with state of art infrastructure and facilities to welcome tourists and give them a feeling of awe for the treasure trove that is waiting for them further into Arunachal Pradesh,” he revealed.

Referring to the serpentine road with several twists and turns from Balemdu towards Kalaktang and beyond (OKSRT road), Khandu informed that the road by BRO was built on the old alignment of the yesteryear’s NEC road.

“We have taken up with the BRO and have proposed a new alignment that will start from the Balemdu bridge-point and go along the river to Kalaktang. This will be about 25-26 kms shorter than the existing road and would be a huge relief for travelers going to Kalaktang, Shergaon, Rupa, Bomdila, Dirang or Tawang,” he said.

Responding to a request by the Rimpoche, Khandu assured sanction for installation of a 100KVA distribution transformer in Balemdu, a 63KVA generator set and high-mast lights for the monastery, fencing for the Cultural Center and a Guest House. He also assured extension and upgradation of the Festival Ground.

Present on the occasion were MLAs Phurpa Tsering, Kumsi Sidesow, Dorjee Wangdi Kharmu, Dongru Siongju, Tsering Tashi and Tsering Lhamu along with district administration officials, Panchayati Raj leaders and others.

Mein inaugurates 3 projects in Tirap;

Reiterates state government's commitment to holistic development

BORDURIA, December 11:

Deputy Chief Minister, Chowna Mein inaugurated a Composite bridge over Charju River, an Auditorium Hall at Borduria CO (Hqs) and an Indigenous Prayer Hall, 'Rangsoam Hum' at Borduria in Tirap district.

The newly constructed 50-meter Composite bridge over Charju River, linking Deomali to Hukanjuri, has been funded by RIDF XXIII (NABARD) with an approximate cost of Rs 5.14 crores and executed by APPWD. The bridge will not only streamline travel between Deomali and Hukanjuri Check Gate bypassing Assam, but will also benefit areas such as Namsang, Sippini and Sumsipathar by providing a direct route to Khonsa without traversing Assam and reducing travel time & distance.

The Community Hall at Borduria CO (Hqs) was constructed by UD and Housing. It will serve as a centre for conducting important meetings and social gatherings. Additionally, the inauguration of the Rangsoam Hum (Indigenous Prayer Hall), built at an estimated cost of Rs 50 Lakhs by the PWD, holds cultural and spiritual significance, serving as a focal point for preserving and promoting indigenous faiths and practices.

He lauded the initiatives of local Legislator, Wanglin Lowangdong in his endeavors, which is in sync with the interest of the state govt. Mein emphasized that the enhanced accessibility provided by the composite bridge will serve

as a catalyst for further progress. He said that with the enhanced road communication, other developments will follow in the area uplifting the sociology-economic conditions of the people.

Underscoring the significance of the Auditorium Hall at Borduria CO (Hqs), he cited that such infrastructure is essential in every district hqs and even in circles which can be used for holding important meetings and official functions. He further said that we cannot stop modernization arising out of globalization, but at the same time we must not forget our roots. He reiterated that we must accept modernization with adherence to traditions. He added that the Rangsoam Hum (Indigenous Prayer Hall) will facilitate preservation and promotion of indigenous faiths and practices.

The DCM reiterated state government's commitment to holistic development, spanning crucial sectors such as road communication, education, healthcare and access to clean drinking water. He also appreciated the intricate handloom and handicrafts crafted by local artisans of the state, while emphasizing upon the importance of awareness generation about the Geographical Indication (GI) Registration of local products and recognizing its role in enhancing marketing opportunities for these unique creations. Advocating for the "vocal for local" ethos, he championed the promotion of indigenous handicrafts and cultural practices, aiming to create sustainable income sources and boost tourism.

Mein was joined by Wangki Lowang, Minister of PHE&WS, DoTCL and IT, Wanglin Lowangdong, MLA Borduria-Bogapani, MLA Khonsa East, Wanglam Sawin, and MLA

Khonsa West, Chakat Aboh and ZPC, Chathong Lowang, among others.

Youths must be educated, disciplined, motivated and must imbibe 'Nation First' spirit: Governor

ITANAGAR, December 11:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) participated in the 'Ideas for the vision of Viksit Bharat@2047' programme at Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on December 11, 2023.

The Raj Bhavan organised the screening of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's address to the people inviting youth of the nation to contribute ideas for Viksit Bharat, panel discussion on Viksit Bharat@2047 and provided a platform to the students to share their views on the subject.

The Governor said that Viksit Bharat@2047 is the driving force for every Indian, particularly the youth to find solutions to every challenge, innovative ideas to march forward and vision to plan out strategies to be a developed, progressives, caring nation and Viswa Guru by 2047. He said that Prime Minister has charted the way and now the onus is on the people of the State to rise to the expectation of the apex leadership.

The Governor said that along with the five pillars to make India self-reliant, i.e. economy, infrastructure, technology-driven system, vibrant demography and demand, national security is also very vital for a nation to progress. He said that strong-armed force and efficient police are big deterrents for anti-nation elements and unfriendly nations.

The Governor said that youth of the State must be educated, disciplined and motivated. He called upon the youth to imbibe the 'Nation First' spirit and said that a good leader, good environment and good intention will contribute to Nation building.

The Governor expressed his desire that youth of Arunachal Pradesh actively participate in the programme and provide innovative and progressive ideas, which can bring socio-economic development to every part of the country. Sit down, discuss and come up with suggestions. Think big and take care of the minute details, he advised.

The Governor requested the Vice Chancellors, Principals and members of the faculty to motivate students to contribute in providing suggestions for Viksit Bharat@2047. He said that today's leaders have set the motion but it is the youth of the day who will realize the accomplishment.

A panel discussion on Viksit Bharat@2047 was conducted on the occasion, moderated by Dr. Ravi Ranjan Kumar of RGU. Panel members, former State Chief Information Commission and educationist Dr. Joram Begi, Director, NERIST Dr. Narendranath S, HoD Chemistry, RGU Dr. Rajesh Chakraborty and Associate Professor, Education, RGU, Dr. Chintal Siva Shankar shared their views and interacted with the participants. Students from the colleges, Chandir Tabia Tegi, Sonam Yanki, Rinchin Lhamu, Jarjum Gadi and Netan Dema Thungon also share their views on Viksit Bharat@2047.

Vice Chancellors, members of the faculty and students from all the universities and affiliated colleges, including Central University - Rajiv Gandhi University and State

University - Arunachal Pradesh University and National Institute of Technology, along with officials of Higher Education Department participated in the programme.

Awareness on gender-based violence marks 'Nayi Chetna' 2.0

BOMDILA, December 12:

Under 'Nayi Chetna' 2.0, a community-led campaign against gender-based violence is taking place from November 25 to December 22 next.

The Deputy Director of the District ICDS Cell, Bomdila organized series of awareness sessions on the Domestic Violence Act, 2005, the Sexual Harassment at the Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition, and Redressal) Act, 2013, and the POCSO Act, 2012.

These sessions were being held at the conference hall, Circuit House, Bomdila, and were attended by frontline workers from AWCs/CCIs/OSCs, police, PRIs, women employees, and various departments.

Chief Minister calls on the Governor

ITANAGAR, December 12:

State Chief Minister Pema Khan-du called on the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) at Raj Bhavan, on December 12, 2023.

The dignitaries discussed Viksit Bharat programmes, Seva Aapke Dwar, Vibrant Border Village projects and other security issues.

During the meeting, the Governor stressed the importance of adopting a mission-oriented approach by all stakehold-

ers to realize the vision of Viksit Bharat@2047. He emphasized active participation from government officials and the youth of the State in advancing this vision.

Drawing from his recent tour of Longding, Tirap, and Changlang Districts in eastern Arunachal Pradesh, the Governor shared his observations. He highlighted the need for increased awareness campaigns and government officials to make special efforts to connect with the people.

Furthermore, the Governor underscored the significance of real-time monitoring for the success of Viksit Bharat, advocating for the use of automation to achieve this. He directed district officials to automate their offices and datas for efficient implementation.

Chief Secretary Shri Dharmendra was also in attendance at the meeting.

ICR DA to introduce smart classes for students of Classes VIII - XII

ITANAGAR, December 12:

The Itanagar Capital Region District Administration with an aim to improve the overall education scenario and also keeping in view the importance of digital tools and technologies for learning, is starting smart classes for the students of Classes VIII to XII here at Itanagar in collaboration with BYJUs.

ADC Shweta Nagarkoti informed that initially the project will be implemented in the two Government schools of Itanagar viz GHSS Arunodaya and Mallo Tarin GHSS as a pilot project.

The ADC further informed

that the project has been initiated with a vision to make quality content and teachers accessible to students anywhere. She said that the app would be significant for education as it provides interactive and engaging learning content across various subjects. By incorporating innovative teaching methods, she hoped that the students would get motivated in learning thereby increasing their interest in studies.

The teachers after undergoing online training will provide classroom education through the smart monitor installed in classrooms with the help of BYJUs app. The students have also been provided access to the app through which they can go through their courses from any devices at home or anywhere.

The project is being sponsored by BYJUs under CSR. All the teachers of Class VIII to XII of GHSS Arunodaya attended the training.

Governor administers oath to APPSC members

ITANAGAR, December 13:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd) administered the 'Oath of Office' and 'Oath of Secrecy' to the newly appointed members of Arunachal Pradesh Public Service Commission (APPSC) in the Darbar Hall of Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on December 13, 2023.

Col. Koj Tari (Retd.) and Ms. Rosy Taba took oath as the members of APPSC.

Chief Secretary Shri Dharmendra conducted the function.

The First Lady of the State Smt Anagha Parnaik, Chief Min-

ister Pema Khandu, Cabinet Ministers and distinguished guests attended the function along with other officials and public functionaries.

Earlier, the Cabinet of Arunachal Pradesh in its meeting on Tuesday considered the recommendations of the Screening Committee for selection of Chairman & Member of APPSC and also the judgment dated 08.12.2023 of the Gauhati High Court, Itanagar Permanent Bench, Yupia in WP(C) No. 213(AP)12023 & WP(C) No. 223(AP)12023.

On the recommendation of the Cabinet of Arunachal Pradesh, the Governor in exercise of the powers conferred by the provision to clause (1) of Article 316 of the Constitution of India read with clause 4 of the Arunachal Pradesh Public Service Commission Regulation, 1988 has appointed Prof. Pradip Lingfa to the post of Chairman, APPSC, Prof. Ashan Riddi for the post of Member, APPSC, Col. Koj Tari (Retd) for the post of Member, APPSC and Ms. Rosy Taba for the post of Member, APPSC.

They shall hold the office for a period for term of 6(six) years from the date on which they enters upon the office or till they attain the age of 62 years, whichever is earlier, in terms of provisions of clause(2) of Article 316 of the Constitution of India.

"Nayi Chetna 2.0" observed

KHONSA, December 13:

The Department of Women and Child Development observed "Nayi Chetna 2.0", a community led campaign on Elimination of Gender Based Violence and Raising Awareness about the Right and Entitlement of Women and

Children" at the new NBF Hall, Khonsa.

The program saw participants from various Women groups such Women Welfare Association, Nocte Mother's Federation, Nocte Women Association and All Tutsa Women Welfare Association, Mother Teresa Charity Home (CCI's) sister's from Khonsa and Borduria, Child Welfare Committee (CWC) Members and Anganwadi Workers from various centre's within Khonsa town and villages such as Lapnan, Kheti, Thinsa, Khonsa Village.

The program started with welcome address by H. Bangsia, Deputy Director, WCD, wherein she briefed on the implementation of Beti Bachao, Beti Padho Scheme.

Ms Phojam Aboh, Centre Administrator (OSC) gave a presentation on Protection of Women against Domestic Violence Act and the existence of One Stop Centre in the district that caters to women inflicted by any form of violence.

On the occasion, Adv Nilwang Khete, Legal cum Probation Officer (DCPU) addressed on POCSO Act and its punishments and Taphek Lowang, Protection Officer (DCPU) spoke on Child Marriage and its consequences and Adoption.

Later, the program concluded by taking gender pledge.

DCM, ministers participate at special SAD 2.0 & VBSY

LEKANG, December 13:

Special Seva Aapke Dwar 2.0 and Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra were held at Govt Primary School, Nongkhon Satghoria in Lekang on Wednesday. The program was graced by Deputy Chief Minister

Chowna Mein, Ministers Taba Tedir, Wangki Lowang, Kamlung Mossang, MLAs Chakat Aboh, Chau Zingnu Namchoom, Jummum Ete Deori, SP, SDO, Nam-sai, HoOs, GBs, PRI members and the general public.

Interacting with the beneficiaries of various schemes, Mein mentioned that Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra is being conducted across the country to ensure that the benefits of all the flagship schemes reach the targeted beneficiaries. He emphasized the importance of Soil Health Card and urged all to get their soils tested.

Envisioning the dream of becoming a developed country by 2047, he advised all to have know how of all the services and assistance being provided by the government. He further directed the officials to disseminate information on government schemes & policies in every nook and corner of the district and state as a whole. He also talked about the concept of doing away with money culture and promote transparency.

The DCM highlighted PM Modi's vision of 'Vikas', which is being reflected through the wide distribution of Govt schemes and initiatives across the State. He noted that despite the diversity in culture, food and languages among the people, extending from Tawang to Kanubari, their unity and harmonious coexistence is one of the important factors towards attaining 'Vikas' as a Nation.

He expressed Govt's commitment towards preserving the cultural roots of Arunachal Pradesh, under which every department of the State is diligently working to bring all round development for the benefit of the people. He also shared his optimism about the nation's trajectory to becoming the

third-largest economy and urged officials to ensure the benefits of government schemes reach even the remotest of villages.

The Deputy Chief Minister also commended the positive impact generated through the State-centric Seva Aap Ke Dwar 2.0 campaign, and emphasized on its seamless integration with the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra campaign launched recently by PM Modi for nationwide distribution of central flagship schemes. The combined camps have created a robust framework for the dissemination of all Govt schemes and benefits pertaining to both State and Central Governments.

On the occasion, Mein also explored the exhibition stalls put up by SHGs, small businesses and entrepreneurs under various government departments, engaging with the diverse range of products and services on display.

Education Minister Taba Tedir, on the occasion said that government has taken the responsibility of addressing all issues right from housing to hygiene through beneficent schemes and urged all to avail maximum services. "The education sector has progressed manifold since 2014, there has been significant increment in the number of IITs, IIMs, Medical Colleges in the country", he said.

Minister UD Kamlung Mossang said that it should be a conjoined effort of all to shoulder the responsibility of achieving the target of becoming a developed nation by 2047. He mentioned that all the schemes should be judiciously implemented and the same should be monitored strictly.

Wangki Lowang, Minister PHE & WS, stated that inclusive development cannot be achieved without the participation of general public, "equal participation in this

front is the need of the hour", he stated. He further urged the public to inculcate a sense of belongingness and take ownership of public properties to maintain sustainability.

Earlier, Lekang MLA Smti Jummum Ete Deori, in her welcome address said that all efforts have been made by the government to provide service right from the grassroot level, a glimpse of which can be seen in this VBSY cum SAD program, she said.

Beneficiaries were distributed Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana Gramin Card, along with several other services catered to them under the ambit of both camps that included felicitation, certificates and rewards to farmers, beneficiaries and women achievers of various schemes. Under the Satat Krishi Activities, Agri - Drone demonstration was given. The idea of Natural Farming and importance of Soil Health Card was explained in detail by officials of KVK, besides, Health camp, PM Ujjwala new enrolment and biometric authentication, Registration on PMJJBY/PMSBY, MY BHARAT volunteer enrolment, opening of bank accounts, distribution of farm equipments, Poshan basket etc were some of the services provided on the spot. The program also included 'Meri Kahani Meri Zubani,' wherein beneficiaries shared their success stories and a welcome dance by school students.

On the occasion, the DCM along with other dignitaries and people present also took the 'Hamara Sankalp Viksit Bharat' pledge, which constitutes making India developed and self-reliant by 2047; removing any trace of colonial mindset; celebrating our heritage; strengthening unity and respecting those who protect the nation; and performing the duties of a citizen.

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra is aimed at achieving 100% saturation of central Govt flagship programs by reaching out to every remote corners of the Nation. The campaign seeks to combine awareness, recognition and the direct provision of essential services to contribute to the holistic development of the region.

IEC campaign van was used to show the achievements of various flagship schemes and programmes.

District Level Mukhya Mantri Sports & Literary Championship 2023 kicked off

MANI, December 13:

DDSE Papum Pare T.T Tara today kicked off the 2nd Edition of the District Level Mukhya Mantri Sports & Literary Championship 2023 at Govt Secondary School Mani.

Altogether 150 students from various schools of Papum Pare (Rural) will be competing in various tracks and field events such as shot put, javelin, discus throw, 100 mtr, 200 mtr, 400 mtr, 4x4x400 relay race, 1500, 3000, high jump, long jump and literary events like elocution, quiz, extempore speech, essay and drawing competitions.

The winners of these sports and literary events will then participate in the State Level championships to be held at Namsai from 19th -23rd Dec' 2023.

Speaking on the occasion, DDSE Tara said that the "impetus by the government to ensure all round development of the children is clearly evident through this event and the onus is upon the children to utilize the opportunity to hone their skills."

He emphasized on the importance of sports for our health and well being and also highlighted the value of such literary and athletic competitions in a student's life and encouraged them to perform well.

He further advised the students to maintain discipline and sportsman spirit throughout the championship.

APLS organizes "Open Mic" program

PASIGHAT, December 13:

Sponsored by 'The House of Commons', Pasighat, the APLS East Siang Unit successfully organised an 'Open MIC' program here at Pasighat on Saturday, which was well participated by a number of participants along with their parents who also recited and sang their own compositions.

APLS (ESB) President Ponung Ering Angu, welcomed the gathering and spoke on the importance of literary events and its advantages. She asserted that such events serve as the building bridges and links between different communities adding that language being no barrier to the new generation. It is also a beautiful celebration of an art form, which helps in inculcating knowledge besides encouraging creative habits in children and the younger generation while in the process of discovering and appreciating the hidden talents in the society.

During the open mic program, each participant passionately presented their self-composed poems, spoken words in their creative way, among which the young performers 10 years old Rubu Daniel, 6 years old Miss Ayang Doley and 8 years old Miss Luni Burang were the youngest participants. The

child participants were presented with mementos by APLS (ESB) to encourage them to continue this passion forward.

The fun-theme set by the organisers for the event was an ethnic ensemble (Traditional attire) line-up in which the best dressed male and female in traditional dresses category were chosen and accordingly prizes were distributed. The idea behind the costume series was to encourage the participants especially the younger generations to wear their beautiful traditional dresses and take pride in their own cultural identity.

The Open Mic was followed by another quick round titled - why this is my favourite book where Kennong Darang and Julia shared their favourite books and spoke on why it was their favourite books. Books like "Doying- Folktales of the Adis", "The last Lecture", "The boy, the mole, the fox and the horse", written by different authors were discussed during the interactive session.

Cultural Secretary Dr. Ponung Pertin and Convenor Gaby Miyum Diyum also spoke on the occasion and culminated with a vote of thanks by the President Ponung Ering Angu who extended thanks to the participants and the sponsor of the event.

Drug Awareness Camp at Angu Village

AALO, December 13:

In a collaborative effort to address the dual challenges of drug abuse and to guide youths towards meaningful careers, the Alumni Association of SFS college, Aalo organized a one-day Drug Awareness cum Career Counselling here at Angu Village on Sunday under the leadership of Organizing Sec-

retary, Kappil Kamsi in collaboration with Mother's Vision, SFS College, Alumni Forum, All Angu Kamsi Students Union and all PRI members of Angu Village.

On the occasion, Kennedy Bagra of Mother Vision NGO, threw light on the detrimental effects of drug abuse and the importance of community involvement in combating this social challenge. He said that Mother Vision activities provided a firsthand look at the efforts being made to create awareness and support affected by substance abuse.

The Alumni President, Kappil Kamsi shared valuable insights and experiences, inspiring the students to pursue paths that align with their passions and skills.

Asst. Professor Inkey Tayeng from SFS college, Kemmar Bagra, Inspector Aalo Police and Fr. Jose Karipadathu, Principal SFS College also spoke during the awareness programme.

Rijiju graces Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra program;

Underscores govt's commitment to development & upliftment of rural communities

DIRANG, December 13:

Union Minister of Earth Sciences, Kiren Rijiju, graced the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra program at Rama Camp under the Dirang Circle of West Kameng District on Saturday.

In his interaction with the public, Rijiju underscored the government's sincere commitment to the development and upliftment of rural communities. Outlining the goals of various schemes, he informed the public about the government's comprehensive efforts

across sectors to enhance services. Initiatives such as JJM, Garib Kalyan Yojana, Ayushman Bharat, PM Awas Yojana, Kisan Credit Card, Khelo India, etc., are among the focal points of these endeavours.

He also praised the Chug Village for its cleanliness and urged the elders to inspire youths to maintain a clean society. Rijiju emphasized the need to reduce plastic usage and advocated for a complete ban on single-use plastic.

The Union Minister further directed the District Administration to ensure that the Mobile IEC van carrying government messages on schemes covers all villages in the district, promoting public awareness.

Under the theme "Meri Kahani Meri Zubani," beneficiaries shared their testimonies on how government schemes positively impacted their livelihoods.

Union Earth Sciences Minister Rijiju also honored the beneficiaries on the occasion.

DC Bomdila, SP, ADC Dirang, ZPMs, HODs, PRI members, SHGs, and the public of Lish, Chug, and Rama Camp attended the event.

Poi Pee Mau Tai 2118 celebrated

"Every festival has an underlying message for youths of the society" - Mein

NALUNG, December 14:

The New Year Festival of the Tai communities 'Poi Pee Mau Tai 2118' was celebrated at Nalung in Namsai District here on Wednesday, under the aegis of Tai Khamti Development Society (TKDS) and the Chief Patronage of Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein.

The festival has been graced by Education Minister, Taba Tedir as the Chief Guest and PHE & WS Minister, Wangki Lowang as Guest of Honour.

Addressing the occasion, Mein stated that every festival has an underlying message for the youths of a society. Likewise, the Poi Pee Mau Tai Festival shares the message of love, unity and communal harmony, besides promoting the rich culture and traditions of the community.

In line with the Govt's proactive role in preserving the cultural roots of the land, Mein reaffirmed the priceless contribution of the unsung heroes of Arunachal Pradesh who valiantly fought the British troops for the freedom of their motherland.

He lauded the Rang Mahotsav Theatre Team led by the Project Director, Riken Ngomle for bringing forward the significant tales of the unsung heroes in front of the people. Praising the young amateur artists of the state, who participated in the play and played a vital role in narrating the History of Arunachal Pradesh to the rest of the country, Mein added that the Arunachal Rang Mahotsav has brought in cultural revolution in the State and mooted an idea of making a documentary film on the life of Chaupha Planglu and the Khamti War against the British colonial rule. He cited that similar documentary films on Ninu Massacre and Abor Wars can also be made subsequently.

Speaking about the future possibilities in the realm of reimagining the State's history, Mein noted that the youths of Arunachal Pradesh are extremely talented and the Govt is supporting them in honing their inner potentials by facilitating them with adequate exposure platforms.

Extending greetings of the Poi Pee Mau Tai Festival, Chief Guest, Minister Tedir too commended the youths for their talents. He lauded the promising sports personnel of the State who have collectively brought laurels by representing Arunachal Pradesh in national as well as international platforms, especially in the field of boxing, taekwondo, judo, karate, etc. He also urged active participation from all stakeholders towards eradication of the drug menace in the society, as it limits the youths from exploring their fullest potential.

Tedir in his speech also stated that the Govt, in its effort to preserve the indigenous cultures of the State, is providing fund in every district for the celebration of local festivals. He further exhorted the elite groups of the society, community leaders, parents, the teachers and the youths to focus and work towards improving the educational scenario.

Guest of Honour, Wangki Lowang also lauded the Tai Khamti community for zealously preserving their age old culture, traditions & the language along with the script. He said the Poi Pee Mau Tai Festival has the potential to promote tourism in the region and attract tourists from all over the world.

The festival was also attended by Deputy Speaker APLA Tesam Pongte, MLAs Karikho Kri, Jummum Ete Deori, Chau Zingnu Namchoom and Chakat Aboh, among others.

Sawin flags off VBSY for Bari-Basip & Khela Bunting

NEW BUNTING, December 14: The "Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra" for Bari Basip and Khela Bunting

Blocks was flagged off by Khonsa East MLA, Wanglam Sawin in presence of ZPM Khela-Bunting Tumwang Lowang, ZPM Bari-Basip Tediap Hallang, Dr. Ripi, Circle Officer cum BDO Bari Basip/Bunting-Khela, and L. R. Roy, DPO, BJP President of Tirap Unit Kamrang Tesia.

The VBSY program was carried out yesterday at New Bunting, Khela and Lamsa village.

While interacting with the PRIs and participants, CO cum BDO Dr. Doni informed that the VBSY program is very important as various aspects related to the Central Sponsored schemes, including "Ghar Ghar KCC Abhiyaan," a campaign aimed at reaching every eligible beneficiary of PM-Kishan scheme for Circle level. She asked all concerned members to participate and contribute their views to ensure the successful implementation of the government initiative.

Local MLA Wanglam Sawin, while gracing the VBSY, urged everyone to avail central/ state government-sponsored schemes under various departments. Sawin also distributed KCC and other documents during the VBSY program.

The program was attended by 213 of participants from various villages under Bari Basip and Khela Bunting Blocks.

Natung attends 3rd Edition of Eagle Nest Bird Festival

RUPA, December 15:

Mama Natung, Minister of Environment and Forest graced the 3rd Edition of Eagle Nest Bird Festival in Rupa town, West Kameng District, as the Chief Guest.

Natung encouraged students and villagers to plant trees

extensively. He expressed gratitude to the Sherdukpen and Bugun communities for embracing the theme of preserving nature on a large scale in his speech.

Jitendra Kumar, PCCF, extended heartfelt thanks to the organizing team and Minister Mama Natung for their dedicated efforts in nature protection, including initiatives like the Airgun Surrender Abhiyan.

A skit, performed by students from Govt. Middle School, Birpur, showcased effective ways to preserve the forest (DIPRO)

Milo Tassar (IFS), Special Guest, Jadav Payeng (Padma Shri Awardee, also known as Forest Man), Tseten Chombay (National Executive Member, S.T, Morcha, BJP), DC Bomdila, ADC Rupa, SP Bomdila, former RWD minister D.K Thongdok, and other dignitaries were present in the programme.

Taki lays foundation stone of HBC office building

ZIRO, December 15:

Local MLA and Minister Agriculture and Allied Er. Tage Taki laid the foundation stone of office building of Hapoli Bazaar Committee (HBC) on December 15, 2023.

The HBC office building would be carved out from the vacated office premise of District Election Office which had been shifted and amalgamated to the District Secretariat the previous year.

Speaking to reporters, the Minister said he had fulfilled the long pending demand for a plot of land to be used as HBC office building. 'I have managed land, now it is duty of HBWC members

to set up the office building', he remarked.

While thanking the local legislator, HBC chairman Hage Tara said HBC had been established way back in 1964 but had been functioning on make-shift office building at UD office complex in absence of permanent land for HBC office building. Now HBC has been formally allocated a plot of land at Hapoli township which would immensely benefit the traders and business community of twin Ziro-Hapoli township who can easily reach the HBC office with their grievances for redressals, said the HBC chairman.

Along with the Minister, members of HBC, trade and commerce, business community and former national BJYM general secretary Nani Opo attended the ceremonial foundation laying ceremony.

Quality electoral roll is key to free, free & inclusive election - Electoral Observer

YUPIA, December 18:

The Election Commission of India (ECI) Electoral Roll Observer for 13th- Itanagar, 14th - Doimukh and 15th - Sagalee constituencies had a detailed interactive meeting with DEO, EROs, AEROs of Papum Pare district at the DC's Conference Hall, Yupia here on December 18 to revise the roll activities in the district and to assess the quality of the electoral roll prepared during the exercise.

Vivek Pandey, who is the Commissioner Transport, GoAP said that "A national duty like the election should be taken seriously "and that all officials should coordinate for better planning and execution to ensure a quality and

error free electoral roll, which is the key to free, fair and inclusive elections."

Stating that the "digital divide" could pose difficulties for voter enrolments and EPIC modifications he suggested for" receiving forms offline, which can later be fed online through special campaigns." He also emphasized on the need to have a proper SOP in place for grievance redressal /complaint registration pertaining to electoral roll registrations and to "adequately publicize" the procedure on public domain. Further citing the importance of IEC activities to increase and pool in informed voters, Pandey advised the EROs to intensify SVEEP activities at campaign mode on all the multi-media platforms and at catchment areas like colleges, secondary and higher secondary schools.

DC-cum-DEO Jirken Bomjen and ERO Smt Dani Rikang highlighted the electoral roll revision activities in the district.

ERO, Smti Dani Rikang also informed that for any electoral registration related queries, public can call at the Control room number on 98634-05220.

Governor lays foundation stone of the IGTMS University Campus

Governor expresses hope that IGTMS University will provide impetus in providing quality education in state

ZIRO, December 18:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) laid the foundation stone for the University Campus of Indira Gandhi Technological and Medical Science University, Sangapo, Hong Village, Ziro in Lower Subansiri

District on December 18, 2023.

Speaking on the occasion, the Governor expressed his hope that the University will provide necessary impetus in providing quality education in Arunachal Pradesh and will attract students from the better part of north east region along with those from the State.

The Governor said that youth of the day are the future leaders and they must prepare themselves for the challenges ahead. He emphasized that to be good leaders in future, they must be educated, disciplined and motivated, while sharing his National Defence Academy prayer, which says, 'Physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight'.

The Governor said that the present leadership is taking initiative to plan and envision the future of the nation but, it is the youth of the day, who will have to realize this vision as future leaders as India celebrates its Amrit Kaal.

The Governor appealed to the students of the university to participate in the Viksit Bharat@2047 initiative, launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi by sharing innovative ideas for a developed and progressive India by 2047.

The Governor released a book on Arunachal Pradesh and virtually inaugurated the

e-library of the university in its present campus, on the occasion.

Dr. Priyaranjan Trivedi, Founder Chancellor, Indira Gandhi Technological and Medical Science University (IGTMSU), Dr. Markandey Rai, IGTMSU Chancellor briefed the Governor about the architectural details of university campus and also highlighted the new academic programmes of the institute.

Ziro Deputy Commissioner Shri HP Vivek, SP Keni Bagra, former minister Padi Richo, former Chief Engineer Er. Hage Apa, Community leaders of the Apatani Society, government officials, special invitees and members of faculty and students of the university participated in the programme.

Khandu dedicates new Arunachal Bhavan at Guwahati to the service of people

GUWAHATI, December 18:

State Chief Minister Pema Khandu had inaugurated the new Arunachal Bhavan at Roopnagar, Guwahati and dedicated it to the service of the people in presence of State Legislative Assembly Speaker P D Sona and Advisor to PWD Minister Phurpa Tsering on December 18, 2023.

Congratulating the executing agency PWD, the contractor and officials of the Additional Resident Commissioner's office, Guwahati, Khandu said that he had taken the decision to construct a Bhavan at Guwahati way back in 2016, when he became the Chief Minister.

"I was informed that the present Arunachal Bhavan had outlived its longevity and was in a poor condition. Guwahati being the gateway to the North East and an important hub, we felt the need to have our own Bhavan here that would not only house the office of the Additional Resident Commissioner but also offer accommodation to the needy. It was brought up in the state cabinet meeting and a decision taken for its construction," he informed.

Khandu also observed that being located very near to the Guwahati Medical College and Hos-

pital (GMCH), patients from the state coming for treatment would immensely benefit.

He lauded the efforts of the present Additional Resident Commissioner Dilip Kumar who effectively liaised with all the agencies in successfully completing the project on time despite the COVID hiccup.

"Construction of the Bhavan started in 2019. Cut two years of COVID pandemic when work came to a standstill. This multi-storied building has been completed, say in mere two years without compromising with quality. I specially congratulate the state PWD and the contractor M/S Ganpati Constructions," Khandu said.

He urged the Addl RC, his team of officials and officials of other departments posted at Guwahati to take their work culture a notch higher now that have been provided with quality and spacious offices.

"Offices of several important central govt agencies and undertakings are located at Guwahati and Shillong. You have the important role of liaising with them on behalf of the state government," he said.

Assuring the state government's commitment to provide accommodation to travelling govt officials, patients and students outside the state while offering good working atmosphere to officials posted there, Khandu informed that a new Arunachal Bhavan is also coming up at new Delhi, which will be ready for inauguration in a couple of months.

The new Arunachal Bhavan, which is a G plus 6 storied building, on a total plinth area of 41441 Sqft, was constructed at a total cost of Rs 3673.71 lakhs.

The new building will

house the office of the Addl RC on the first floor with a multilevel car parking for 34 cars. Second, third and fourth floors accommodate 33 rooms (11 rooms in each floor) consisting of 38 single and 17 king-size beds. While the fifth floor consists of a waiting lounge, two presidential suites, two VIP suites and one twin-sharing executive room, the sixth floor has a spacious and well-equipped conference hall.

The inaugural function was also attended by Secretary General Administration Sadhana Deori, Joint Secretary GA IkarDirchi, Under Secretary Bapir Megu, PWD Superintendent Engineer Chou Siharaja Choutang, Executive Engineer Tarh Gongkap, Executive Engineer Electrical Rajesh Dawbe, representatives of constructing firm M/S Ganpati Constructions and officials of the Resident Commissioner's office.

DCM attends 3rd day of 7th Nyishi Youth Convention at Sagalee

Mein calls upon youths to take the lead role for development of a futuristic Arunachal Pradesh

SAGALEE, December 18:

Arunachal Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister, Chowna Mein graced the third day of 7th Nyishi Youth Convention at Sagalee in Papum Pare district on Monday, December 18 as Chief Guest.

The programme was being organized by the All Nyishi Students' Union (ANSU) with the theme, 'Infinite Horizon, One Voice to unleash the Power of Nyishi Youth'.

Addressing on the occasion, Mein called upon the youths of Arunachal to take the lead role for the development of a futuristic

Arunachal Pradesh. He urged the members of All Nyishi Students Union to be a role model in this regard being a community-based organization of the largest community of Arunachal Pradesh.

Emphasizing on the ever-evolving facilities available to the youths of today, Mein stated that Arunachal Pradesh has come a long way from the past. He recalled his own childhood, where there weren't enough schools in the State, leading him to pursue his education in Assam. The people of the State were often referred to as 'late starters', owing to the lack of basic infrastructure and facilities in the past.

However, Mein stated that development in Arunachal Pradesh has caught up with other States in the region. Today, due to the active participation of the Govt, several infrastructural advancements have taken shape in the State, such as all-weather roads and highways connecting to remote border areas, air and rail connectivity and so on. Contrary to the opportunities in the past, Arunachal Pradesh today has innumerable schools and colleges in every district, catering to the educational needs of the students, along with improved healthcare facilities.

Continuing with the rapid pace of development in the State, Mein urged that the youths must prioritize their role in taking the progress forward. The DCM noted that the current generation is driven by technology and therefore, the youths must tap into tech-driven solutions to create a sustainable future for the people.

Mein also commended the role of women in today's fast-moving society, stating that women-led SHG units are receiving higher financial aid due to their stronger credit standing. At the

same time, women today also occupy important seats at decision-making level, signifying inclusive empowerment.

Emphasizing on the importance of preserving one's cultural roots, Mein urged the youths to put efforts toward conserving their native languages, customs and values. He stated that without the youth's participation, it will be difficult to save the cultural essence of the communities in the future.

Since the Nyishi community is among the largest communities in Arunachal Pradesh, Mein urged that the Nyishi youths need to shoulder the responsibility in the State's holistic development, while being rooted to their cultural heritage.

He expressed optimism about the youths of today, as their collective contribution can make a huge impact in the development of the society.

The programme was attended by MLA cum former CM Nabam Tuki, MLA cum Advisor to Power, Balo Raja, MLA Tapak Taku, GS of Nyishi Elite Society Heri Maring, Chairman of KVIB, GoAP, Dominic Tadar, former Chief Engineer, Tech Rotu, Executive Members of the NES, land ANSU among others.

Governor participates in NIT Convocation

JOTE, December 19:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) graced the 10th Convocation of National Institute of Technology, Arunachal Pradesh as Chief Guest in the NIT campus here at Jote, 27 kms from Itanagar on December 19, 2023.

Altogether 186 (One Hundred Eighty-Six) students were awarded various degrees, out of which 146 Undergraduate degrees, 21 Masters Degrees and 19 PhD degrees. Among them 11 students will be receiving Gold Medals in various branches.

The Governor said that Convocation is an essential day in the lives of graduating students and a significant landmark in their life's journey. He congratulated the students and said that they have earned their degrees and awards through your hard work and dedication to maintain high standards.

The Governor said that learning is a continuous process and the students must apply their learning to contribute to the progress of our country and, in the process, make an excellent career for themselves and their families. He reminded the graduating students that they are the leaders of tomorrow and they will be setting the standards that will enable us to become a fully developed and responsible country.

The Governor advised the students to create opportunities, be highly creative, socially aware, and develop a strong sense of empathy. He emphasised on them to create a new work culture that would adhere to values, ethics and morals, in a world that is besieged with several conflicts and concerns. He also asked the graduating students to come back to the institute as alumni as and when possible and give back whatever they can, knowledge sharing lectures, donations, mentoring, and opportunities for placement of students.

Reminding the students of Viksit Bharat@2047, launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Governor appealed to them to contribute innovative ideas for the progress of the Nation in the Amrit Kaal.

Referring to National Education Policy 2020, the Governor said that policy is to instill among the learners a deep-rooted pride in being Indian, not only in thought, but also in spirit, intellect and deeds, as well as to develop knowledge, skills, values and disposition that support responsible commitment to human rights, sustainable development and global well-being, thereby reflecting a truly global citizen.

He urged upon the institute and its faculty, HoDs, Deans, and Director to reflect upon its achievements, original vision, goals, the challenges faced, what mistakes were committed, what needs to be done to do course correction, etc.

The Governor presented the Chairman's Gold Medals to Ms Khushboo Kumar and Md. Gazanfar, the toppers in the Institute. Bengia Fara, Dhanasree S Poduval, Bhavanam Achyuth Reddy, Khushboo Kumari, Shweta Rai, Bipul Kumar Das, Yase Dema Megeji, Md Gazanfar and Ashish Ranjan Kumar received the Institute's Gold Medal as toppers of various departments from Guests of Honour.

Guest of Honour, Prof. Bidyadhar Subudhi, Director NIT Warangal delivered the Convocation Speech. He advised the graduating students to embrace every opportunity to learn, adapt to different situations and strive for excellence with integrity and responsibility.

Chairman, Board of Governors, Subhash Kumar, Guests of Honour Indresh Kumar, National Executive member, Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh and Swami Atma priyananda, Pro-Chancellor, Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Educational and Research Institute, Belur Math also spoke on the occasion. They advised the stu-

dents and graduates to give their best in the service of the nation.

Director NIT Arunachal Pradesh, Prof. Ram Prakash Sharma briefed on the academic accomplishments, challenges, training, placements and activities of the institute.

Local MLA Tana Hali Tara, Deputy Commissioner Jiken Bomjen, SP, Taru Gusar, Deans, Heads of the Departments, members of the Senate and faculty members, graduating students and their parents were present on the occasion.

NIT Arunachal Pradesh has 980 students and 51 faculty members.

CM dedicates Arunachal State Guest House at Bodh Gaya

BODH GAYA, December 19:

A day after inaugurating the Arunachal Bhavan at Guwahati, Chief Minister Pema Khandu dedicated to the people one Arunachal State Guest House at the holy city of Gaya in Bihar on December 19, 2023.

The guest house besides offering accommodation to Buddhist pilgrims from Arunachal Pradesh, will also double up as a convention and cultural center.

Under the administration of state Department of Karmik and Adhyatmik Affairs (DoKAA), the project was executed by the state Water Resources Department (WRD).

Speaking on the occasion, Khandu profusely expressed gratitude to Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar for allotting the land to the state government for construction of the guest house.

He informed that it was a dream project of his late father

and former Chief Minister Dorjee Khandu to have a facility for Buddhist followers of the state who throng Gaya at least once a year.

Bodh Gaya is one of the most religiously important places in India. Gaya, as a pilgrimage site, is revered by both Buddhists and Hindus. It specifically holds a very important place in Buddhism as Gautama Buddha is said to have attained Enlightenment here. As per religious text, it was under the sacred fig tree hereknown as the Bodhi Tree where Gautama Buddha attained Enlightenment and became an integral part of the pilgrimage circuit.

"Hundreds of pilgrims from our state, especially from the districts of West Kameng and Tawang come here, particularly during the winters. The dormitories in the guest house are specifically designed to accommodate devotees. With this one of my late father's incomplete dreams and aspirations of the Buddhist people of my state have been fulfilled," Khandu said.

He further recalled that late Dorjee Khandu, as the then Chief Minister in 2011, had written a letter to his Bihar counterpart Nitish Kumar seeking a plot of land for construction of a guest house.

Unfortunately, barely a couple of months later, Dorjee Khandu died in tragic helicopter crash near Tawang.

"In fact, when I met Nitish Kumar for the first time, he mentioned that he had received the letter (from late Khandu) on the day when the tragic incident was flashing all over news channels. On my request to take the project forward, he promptly responded and allotted us this plot of land and also ensured that all out support was rendered to us by the Bihar government and local administration," Khandu revealed.

The new G-plus-4 guest house boasts of 47 rooms including dormitories with a capacity to accommodate 201 guests at a go. Completed at a cost of about Rs 15 crore, constructions began in the year 2018-19.

Present on the occasion were Lhaygyala Rinpoche, Abott of Namgyal Monastery, Dharmasala, Jetsun Pema, sister of the 14th Dalai Lama, Tawang MLA Tsering Tashi, DoKAA Chairman Jambey Wangdi, representatives of the office of the Dalai Lama, officials of Gaya district administration, police and Municipal Corporation.

District level coordination meeting cum Orientation on VPRP held

YUPIA, December 19:

A one-day district level coordination meeting cum orientation on Village Poverty Reduction Plan (VPRP) for various line departments and PRI members was held at DC conference hall, Yupia on December 19, 2023.

The programme organised by ArSRLM in collaboration with the District Administration seeks to encourage formulation and integration of community demands plan prepared by the SHG network into the Gram Panchayat Development plan (GPDP).

Miss Mobia Yassing, BMM, ArSRLM, Doimukh spoke about VPRP and its Integration in GPDP. She dwelt in length about the components of VPRP like entitlements, livelihood, public goods, services, resource development plan and social development plan.

Miss Mobing also spoke about the formation of SHGs and the role of women in start-

ing SHGs from Village organisation to Cluster level federation.

Dr Mihin Lali, Asst. Director, SIRD&PR, who was the resource person highlighted role of panchayats in creating a vibrant Gram Panchayat development program (GPDP) by organising regular gram sabhas. He emphasized on the need for collaboration between departments and PRI members in formulating effective GPDPs to bridge the developmental gaps at the grassroot levels.

Dr.Lali also pointed out the absence of stakeholders during gram sabhas which is a negative trend and derails the concept of people's plan campaign. "The People's plan Campaign seeks a holistic and inclusive plan in a structured manner for development plans by seeking demand-based inputs from all the sectors like health, Sanitation, drinking water etc," Dr. Lali added while exhorting for active participation.

Raju Gishing, Thematic Head, DMMU, Seppa spoke on Gender Campaign 2.0 and advocated the need to form Internal complaint committee and Grievance redressal committee at all work place.

During the interactive sessions that followed, the PRI members unanimously expressed the need for such trainings and meetings to "bridge the knowledge gap between the government functionaries and the PRI members."

Later, the house took a pledge towards ending the Gender Based Violence (GBV). Project Director, Admin Officers, ZPMs, HoDs and officials from ArSRLM attended the meeting.

Agriculture Officers visit India's largest Oil Palm cultivation in Roing

ROING, December 20:

A two-days training cum field visit programme on Oil Palm cultivation and its economic benefits to the farmers was conducted for Agricultural Officers of 5 eastern districts of the Arunachal Pradesh at Roing, LDV by the Directorate of the Agriculture, Nahalagun.

During a training held on the policy, programmes, directives, targets and price fixation etc of the Govt of India on the Oil Palm, Bidol Tayeng (Commissioner, Agriculture) gave clarifications to the criticisms and rumours on adverse impacts of the Oil Palm cultivation, during his keynote address.

Progressive farmer Gagan Perying shared his experience on Oil Palm Cultivation and called it the 'ATM' for the farmers as the fruits of Oil Palm bring regular income every fortnight for the farmers. The officers also visited the Oil Palm cultivation of Progressive farmer Dature Muili and interacted with him.

The Officers visited the Oil Palm fruits processing factory at 9 km Roing, which is likely to be commissioned in few months time. The Oil Palm cultivation in Lower Dibang valley is promoted by 3F Oil Palm Agrotech Private Ltd, a Hyderabad based Company.

Oil Palm cultivation is proposed to be taken-up in Lohit, Namsai, Changlang, Tirap and Longding districts, in addition to Lower Dibang Valley, East Siang, Lower Siang and Papum Pare districts where Oil Palm cultivation was first started in the year 2015-2018.

The eastern zone districts constitute about 71% of the potential and the targeted areas for Oil Palm Cultivation in the state. While Lower Dibang Valley, East Siang and Papum Pare have taken the lead, the other proposed districts in eastern Arunachal Pradesh are yet to start. The challenge mainly lies with the import of the sprouts from Mayalsia / Indonesia and growing them in local Primary and Secondary Nurseries for 12 months.

The two days programme was attended by Commissioner (Agriculture) Bidol Tayeng, Director (Agriculture) K. Riram, Jt Director (Agriculture) T. D. Neckom, and ADO (Oil Palm) Idar Nyori, in addition to the District Agriculture Officers, Agronomist, KVK Heads and ADOs.

Teachers trained for smart classes

ITANAGAR, December 21:

Itanagar Capital District Administration with an aim to improve the overall education scenario and also keeping in view the importance of digital tools and technologies for learning, is starting smart classes for the students of Classes VIII to XII here at Itanagar in collaboration with BYJUs.

The project is being sponsored by BYJUs under CSR. The teachers of GHSS Arunodaya have already been trained earlier and the teachers of GHSS Malo Tarin Itanagar attended the training here on Tuesday.

The teachers after undergoing online training will provide classroom education through the smart monitor installed in classrooms with the help of BYJUs app. The students have also been provided access to the app through

which they can go through their courses from any devices at home or anywhere.

Initially, the project will be implemented in the two Government schools of Itanagar viz GHSS Arunodaya and Mallo Tarin GHSS as a pilot project.

The project has been initiated with a vision to make quality content and teachers accessible to students anywhere.

ArSRLM inks MoU with SBI

ITANAGAR, December 21:

The Arunachal State Rural Livelihoods Mission (ArSRLM) has inked a MoU with State Bank of India (SBI) under the aegis of Secretary RD & PR, Amarnath Talwade, Govt. of A.P, and SBI represented by Aftab Ahmad Mallick, Deputy General Manager (B&O), SBI, Dibrugarh.

The MoU is entered to expedite the SHG Bank Linkage on Savings, Credit, Insurance & Remittances for 12000 nos of SHGs promoted under the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY-NRLM) in Arunachal Pradesh.

Terming the MoU as historic, Secretary RD mentioned that approximately 12000 nos. of SHGs, 821 Primary Level Federations (PLFs) and 28 nos. of Cluster Level Federations (CLFs) will be benefitted through this MoU by availing the credit linkage and accessing all the major financial products & services of the bank through the largest banking network of the country.

Mallick, DGM (B&O) gave his commitment that SBI will extend all support for facilitating the SHGs and its higher federation's credit requirement along

with the basic banking products. He further discussed on the innovative approach on State driven interest subvention and credit guarantee scheme for Arunachal Pradesh.

Vikal Sharma, Regional Manager, RBO, Itanagar, Manish Kumar Jha, CM (DVAS), Duyu Ribya, CEO cum SMD, ArSRLM, Hillang Tasap, SMM FI, ArSRLM, were present on the occasion.

DEOs urged to update status of Special Summary Revision of Electoral Roll

NAMSAI, December 21:

A team of Election Commission of India delegates headed by Manoj Kumar Sahoo, Deputy Election Commissioner, ECI accompanied by Pankaj Srivastava, IRS(IT), Director at ECI, Arvind Anand, Principal Secretary, N.T. Bhutia, Secretary and Niraj Dwivedi, Section officer landed at Namsai on December 21 to assess the Poll Preparedness of the State in respect of upcoming Simultaneous Elections 2024.

A review meeting was conducted by the office of Chief Electoral Officer in collaboration with the office of District Election Officer Namsai, which was attended by Pawan Kumar Sain, Chief Electoral Officer, Ms Ira Singhal, OSD to CEO, Liken Koyu, Joint Chief Electoral Officer, Ms Shania Kayem Mize, Deputy Chief Electoral Officer and all the twenty-five District Election Officers of Arunachal Pradesh.

While welcoming the ECI delegates, the Chief Electoral Officer urged all the DEOs to update the status of ongoing Special Summary Revision of Electoral Roll pertaining to form disposals, re-

removal of Demographically Similar Entries, Photo Similar Entries, dead voters and Multiple Entries. Datas on webcasting of polling stations, issued arm licenses and steps planned to get the firearms deposited as per laid down guidelines were sought from each DEO.

The CEO emphasized on appointment of 16 Nodal Officers in the line of ECI's instructions, Sector Officers and Designated Sector Police Officers in every district with the announcement that he shall conduct review meeting on the progress of poll preparedness with all DEOs, once every week.

Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Election Commissioner, Manoj Kumar Sahoo advised all the District Election Officers to be involved in the Electioneering Processes by not delegating everything to the next in command officer. He informed that the current preparatory review meeting would be followed up by full-fledged meeting by ECI in the State in January 2024. He focused on importance of imparting periodical thorough trainings to the Officers and Officials for error free conduct of elections and advised the DEOs to analyze the law-and-order preparedness with the enforcement agencies in the district. Presence of Strong room in the district, stand-alone or combined with Counting Centre was also discussed.

Pankaj Srivastava, Director, ECI, urged the DEOs to tighten the Election Expenditure Monitoring Mechanism of their respective districts and suggested to go through latest compendium on the same. Formation of District Grievance Committee in the district and data entry in Election Seizure Management System for real time updates, circulars relating to frisking of passengers at airports were highlighted.

All the District Election Officers presented their district poll preparedness status through power point presentations. Thorough discussion on each content of PPT was done and the daylong review meeting ended on a suggestive note from the Deputy Election Commissioner, ECI. Earlier, the Chief Electoral Officer was on district tour to get first-hand information on poll preparedness in the adjoining districts of Longding and Tirap with DEOs and EROs concerned. The state is gearing up to conduct a smooth and peaceful Elections 2024.

67th NSGFol 2023 Medal Winners Felicitated

ITANAGAR, December 21:

A felicitation programme to Medal Winner of 67th National School Games Federation of India 2023 was held in the office chamber of Director of Secondary Education, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar on December 21, 2023.

The programme was attended by Tanyang Tatak, i/c DSE, Nakyam Tasing, DDSE (A), Tania Hakom, NO (Law), Sartam Tachu Rughu, Sports Officer (o/o DEE, Itanagar) and Tai Hipik, General Secretary of Arunachal Karate Do Association along with Coach & Manager of the Karate Team to congratulate the Medal winners of 67th National School Games Federation of India 2023- 24 held recently at New Delhi.

Tanyang Tatak, i/c DSE advised the medal winners to practice hard for further competitions in the National & Inter-National events and also to live a drugs free life to the students.

Total 15 players participated in the said event, out of which Arunachal Pradesh had begged 7 (seven) medals.

Competing in the - 66 Kg & -55 Kg weight category, Anthony Raje & Warner Kino beg Gold Medal, both are from GHSS, Seppa, East Kameng District, Anju Pangia of GHSS Seppa beg Silver Medal in -56 Kg category, while Jide Dagrung (Adarsh Public School, Daporijo), Likha Hwkw (KV, Nirjuli), Suni Londa (GSS, G Sector, Naharlagun) and Niania Dubi Batak (VKV, Kuporijo) begged Bronze Medal in the -50 Kg, -60 Kg, -50 Kg and -42 Kg category respectively.

Compendium & Booklet on Hydam released

ITANAGAR, December 21:

A compendium and booklet on Hydam was released by the Director S&WC, Joram Pappa here at the conference hall of RWD Chief Engineer's office during the first day of the 3 (three) days Capacity building training and workshop on spring shed management that was kicked off on December 21.

Joram Pappa urged the participants to take the best out of the training. Arunjyoti Sonowal (Agriculture Engineer) Dr Bikram Borkotoki, Scientist (soil science), from the All India Coordinated Research Project for Dryland Agriculture, BN college of Agriculture, Assam Agriculture University and Ms Ipsita Roy, Geohydrologist, North East Initiative Development Agency will be brainstorming the engineers of the state during the 3 days training.

Various technical sessions with emphasis on watershed management, soil and water conservation and spring shed development & management and a field visit would be the main highlight of the capacity building training and workshop.

Governor interacts with VKV students & teachers on Gita Jayanti

ITANAGAR, December 22:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) interacted with students and teachers from the Vivekananda Kendra Vidhyalaya schools of the State at Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on December 22, 2023.

The Raj Bhavan hosted the VKV students' programme, on the occasion of 'Gita Jayanti' who presented a cultural programme. The highlight of the evening was a group recital of Bhagawad Gita's slokas in Sanskrit from Third Chapter on Karma Yog. The recital reverberated resulting in vibrant and pious notes creating an atmosphere of peace, tranquillity and motivation all around.

The participating students also presented the universal prayer 'Mangalacharan' on the occasion.

Impressed by the recital, the Governor suggested that such an event may be organised in a big way to promote the cultural heritage and ethos of India. He advised the teachers and students to share the knowledge of Gita, and adopt the same in their lives, conduct and thoughts.

The Governor suggested that cultural programmes, which endorse and promote the Indian intellectual values and traditions, must be popularized in all educational institutes. He assured that he will arrange for an opportunity for the students to perform the recital during special visits by dignitaries.

On the occasion, the Governor exhorted the students to connect with the Viksit Bharat

initiative launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He said that the present leadership is taking initiative to plan and envision the future of the nation but, it is the youth of the day, who will have to realize this vision as future leaders as India celebrates its Amrit Kaal.

Swami Samanand Giri also spoke on the teachings of Lord Krishna on 'Geeta Jayanti' and SC Dixit, Education Officer, VKV Arunachal Pradesh Trust briefed regarding the Vivekananda Kendra and Inter-VKVs Gita Chanting Competition.

The Governor gave away prizes to the winners of State level Inter-VKVs Gita Chanting Competition, which was conducted at Vivekananda Kendra Centre for Human Excellence, Yupia on the occasion. VKV Nivedita Vihar, VKV, Tafrogam, VKV, Roing and VKV, Balijan received first prize in various categories and VKV, Sunpura and VKV, Tawang received second prizes.

Er. Pai Dawe Sah Prant Pramukh, Smti K K Reena, Education Officer along with teachers and students from 44 VKV schools participated in the programme.

Governor calls for strengthening security apparatus in TCL

ITANAGAR, December 23:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh, Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) has called for strengthening the security apparatus in the eastern district of Tirap, Changlang and Longding (TCL) Districts.

The Governor discussed ways and means to strengthen the security in TCL districts with the

Sector Commander of Assam Rifles, who called on him at Raj Bhavan on December 23, 2023.

He called upon the Commander to spruce up the system in militant affected areas in coordination with para-military forces and Arunachal Pradesh Police.

The Governor suggested implementation of measures to share real time intelligence with the forces including Arunachal Pradesh Police operating in TCL districts to stamp out anti-national elements and restore peace in the region.

The Commander briefed the Governor on the security scenario of the TCL region and various issues including goodwill projects of the Force. He assured the Governor of the proactive role of the Assam Rifles in maintaining law and order in the Eastern Arunachal.

Rijiju advises students to focus on academic activities;

Dedicates Post Office, Canara Bank & unveils Mahatma Gandhi bust at NIT, Jote

JOTE, December 23:

The Union Minister for Earth Sciences, Kiren Rijiju had advised the student fraternity across the state to focus on academic activities and denounce bandh and dharna culture.

"By focusing on studies and developing a growth mindset and the skills to navigate life's challenges, students can become successful and contributing members of the society", he added.

Rijiju said this, after inaugurating a post office, a Canara bank and unveiling Mahatma Gandhi's bust at the NIT, Jote campus on December 23 in pres-

ence of Doimukh MLA Tana Hali Tara, Deputy Commissioner Jiken Bomjen and Director NIT Dr. R.P Sharma and other dignitaries.

Congratulating the students and the faculty members of NIT, the Union Minister said that, "Improving the facilities and services in the NIT campus has always been a priority of the government. Such initiatives will supplement in creating a conducive academic atmosphere."

Imploring the inhabitants of the nearby villages to adopt the NIT and coordinate with the NIT administration in running the institute smoothly, Rijiju added that, "the locals and the elected PRI members must ensure no anti social elements disturb the management. A premier institute like NIT can increase the economic activities in the area. In return the NIT shall also take up subsidiary works in and around the village as a part of their social responsibility activities," he added.

Rijiju further asked the Director i/c, NIT to submit in written all the issues faced by the institute like boundary, campus issues etc. He also spoke about his Ministry's plan for technological advancements in long term weather forecasting. "This long term system is envisioned to provide a precise forecast of rainfall, temperature, humidity etc which will help the farmers plan their agricultural activities accurately," he added.

Speaking on the occasion, Tana Hali Tara, MLA expressed gratitude to the Union Minister for supporting NIT, Jote right from its inception to shifting to its permanent location at Jote in 2021 from Yupia. He further brought to the notice that 53 non teaching staffs of the institute are yet to be regularized despite of working in the institute for 10-15 yrs and sought the intervention of the union minister.

I/c Director Dr. R.P Sharma

and Prof. P. V.S N Murthy, Dept of Mathematics, IIT Kharagpur spoke about the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi and its relevance today.

Among others ZPMs, HoDs, Faculties, students from IIT Chennai, GBs and public attended the event.

National Consumer Day celebrated

AALO, December 24:

National Consumer Day was celebrated by the Department of Legal Metrology & Consumer Affairs, Aalo in collaboration with Paktu Ao Welfare Association at Gumin Kiin, Aalo in West Siang district on December 24, 2023.

Smti Mabi Taipodia Jini, i/c Deputy Commissioner and Moji Bagra, Advocate, President AAPAWS graced the celebration as Chief Guest and Guest of Honour respectively.

In her speech, Smti Taipodia Jini emphasized on the need for organizing such consumer awareness program in and around Aalo town. She also advised the traders not to sale any package items above MRP and follow good trade practice by putting their best effort for making Aalo town as a plastic free zone.

Advocate Moji Bagra President, All Ato Paktu Ao Welfare Society advised the upcoming generation to actively participate in such a meaningful consumer awareness program. He requested the house present to avail the maximum benefit from Consumer Awareness program.

Earlier, in his welcome address, Jomba Kamgo Lobom, Assistant Controller, Legal Metrology & Consumer Affairs gave a brief on historical back ground of the National Consumer Day. He directed to traders who themselves are also

a consumers of various goods & services to abide by rule & regulation by not indulge in any unfair trade practice. He also conducted practical demonstration on the various goods and services items like, Know your LPG, Dispensing pumps, Package commodities items and Weight & Measuring items.

Kento Tashi, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Law and Smti Karabi Dhingia, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Law attended as resource persons and explained about the details of Consumer Right & Duties, Complain Constitution, how & where to file a complaint, procedure to file an appeal, relief available and penalty under Consumer Protection Act/Rules.

Governor inaugurates National Integration and Youth leadership Camp

ITANAGAR, December 24:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) inaugurated the 26th National Integration and Youth Leadership Camp at Itanagar on December 24, 2023.

The 8-day camp was being organised with the theme, 'Viksit Yuva, Viksit Bharat' by the Central Calcutta Science & Culture Organization for Youth (CCSCYO) in co-operation with the Government of Arunachal Pradesh, North Eastern Council, Shillong, Rajiv Gandhi University, Rono Hills, Dera Natung Government College, Itanagar and Delhi Public School, Itanagar.

In his inaugural address, the Governor called upon the youth to contribute towards nation building and imbibe the spirit of 'Nation First'. He said that Viksit Bharat has been envisaged by the present apex leadership but it is the youth

of the day, who have to carry forward the initiative in Amrit Kaal period, to realise the developed and prosperous Viksit Bharat@2047.

The Governor said that as leaders of the future, they have a great responsibility to lead with compassion, pride and rootedness in Bharat and its rich diverse and ancient and modern culture, knowledge system and traditions. He said that the youth of the day will have to create a new work culture that would adhere to values, ethics and morals to deal with elements which display fissiparous tendencies, radical attitude and negative vibes. Their efforts need to be focussed on deep rooted pride in being Indian, in thoughts, spirit, intellectual and deeds and develop knowledge skills, values and disposition that supports responsible commitment to human rights, national wellbeing and collective collaboration.

The Governor underscored the spirit of acceptance of cultural diversities and generate respect for others amongst the youth. He emphasised that the youth of the day must be educated, disciplined and motivated to be good and responsible citizens. He suggested that students must be encouraged to participate in the National Cadet Corps and Bharat Scouts and Guides Organization.

The Governor commended the CCSCYOY for organizing the Camp. He said that it will bring racial, religious, cultural and linguistic groups together on one single platform with national consciousness. It will strengthen unity and solidarity amongst the youth.

Prof. (Dr.) Dhrubajyoti Chattopadhyay, Vice-Chancellor, Sister Nivedita University, Kolkata and President of the National Integration Camp briefed on the National Integration & Youth

Leadership Camp. Nema Chan-dra Pramanik, Chief General Secretary, National Integration Camp also spoke on the occasion.

RGU Registrar, Dr. NT Rikam, Dr. M.Q. Khan, Principal, Dera Natung Govt. College, Itanagar and Brig. Swarn Singh, VSM, Assam Rifles were present on the occasion along with Vice Chancellors of University, Deans, Heads of Educational institute and students from schools and colleges in the inaugural function. Soumen Ghosh & Members, National Integration presented the inaugural dance programme.

More than 1000 students, including 250 youth from different States of North East Region, are attending the Camp organised by CCSCYOY. Founded in 1996, the social, voluntary and philanthropic society 'Central Calcutta Science and Culture Organisation for Youth' has been organizing National Exhibitions, National Integration and Youth Leadership Camps, National Seminars, and workshops to promote cultural-ties amongst students and youth of different parts of India.

Union MoS for Textiles & Railways calls on the Governor

Governor emphasizes on strengthening Industry ecosystem in the State

ITANAGAR, December 26:

Union Minister of State for Textiles and Railways, Smti Darshana Vikram Jardosh called on the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) at Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on December 26, 2023.

They discussed promotion of textiles and improvement in railway service.

The Governor emphasized on strengthening the industry ecosystem in the State, which has a vibrant textile segment. He said that large numbers of womenfolk of Arunachal Pradesh are involved in the textile sector and such a proactive role of the Ministry will reinforce 'Atmanirbhartha' amongst the Arunachali women in true sense.

The Governor stressed on promotion of traditional textiles of Arunachal Pradesh by fostering the growth of micro and small enterprises in the State. He said it will be the growth engine for employment opportunities with special focus on women empowerment.

The Governor also called for better services for the railway passengers, in view of large numbers of people availing the train services, especially the tourists. He further requested for commencing 'Goods train/bogies services' to facilitate transportation of goods and arts and crafts items to different parts of the country.

The Union Minister of State briefed the Governor on the proposed Railway projects as well as initiatives being taken by the Textile Ministry to promote textiles industry, through training and marketing.

Governor reviews problems of traffic congestion and poor road conditions of the Capital city

Administration must cater for convenience facilities, medical aid and emergency rescue facilities along the highway: Governor

ITANAGAR, December 27:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) reviewed the frequent traffic congestion and urgent repair of internal

roads of the Capital City Itanagar at Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on December 27, 2023.

The Governor expressed deep concern for the inconvenience caused to common people due to regular traffic jams and potholes on the city roads.

The Governor advised that internal roads should be quickly repaired, the vehicle parked on roadside removed and bypass/diversions be created at chokepoints. He urged the department of Urban Development to plan adequate parking areas and bazaar areas along the roads to decongest the traffic.

The Governor proposed a plantation drive along the highway, installing ornamental trees and flowers by the Environment and Forests Department with appropriate signage signifying the rich cultural aspects of flora and fauna of the State. The administration must cater for convenience facilities, medical aid and emergency rescue facilities along the highway, he said.

The Governor suggested that shops and malls must be made responsible for cleanliness and beautification of the areas near the premises. He also suggested removal of encroachments and waste disposal along the Trans Arunachal Highway from the Hollongi Airport to the Capital City and beyond.

The Governor called for concerted effort by all stakeholders and agencies, including district administration, police and Municipal Corporation in addressing the issues. He emphasized on working on 'mission mode', using technology and thinking out of the box to find solutions.

Principal Secretary (PWD), Commissioner (Urban Development), DIG (ICR), Deputy Commissioners of Itanagar Capital Region and Papum Pare, ASP (Capital), Commissioner, Itanagar Municipi-

pal Corporation, Chief Engineers of PWD and Highways briefed the Governor on the issues related to beautification and traffic of the State Capital.

Union MoS attends Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra in Lungla

LUNGLA, December 28:

The Union Minister of State for Railways and Textile, Darshana Jardosh graced the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra held at Kharsot Gram Panchayat in Lungla Subdivision.

The event saw the presence of Lungla MLA Tsering Lhamu, ZPM Thutan Gombu, I/C Deputy Commissioner Tawang Sang Khandu, Addl DC Lungla Lob-sang Wangchu Bapu, DNO Tsetan Droima, alongside other officials and public leaders.

Addressing the villagers, MoS Jardosh expressed her delight at the considerable turnout. She emphasized on the government's commitment to empowering women. Praising Lungla as the first constituency of the state assembly, she commended its residents for their significant contributions.

Highlighting the success of the Jal Jeevan Mission, she noted its saturation in the district. MoS Jardosh mentioned that the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra's reach, covering over 150,000 villages. She also acknowledged the IEC Van's role in spreading awareness about various government welfare schemes among the citizens. She expressed satisfaction that even those residing in the remote border areas of Indo-Tibet and Indo-Bhutan are benefiting from these initiatives.

Lungla MLA, Tsering Lhamu, extended a warm welcome to

Union MoS in Lungla. She commended the rapid development pace under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's dynamic leadership, aiming to transform India into a developed nation by 2047. Emphasizing the collective efforts towards national progress, she thanked the Union government for its special focus on border region residents.

Smti Lhamu specifically appreciated the advancements in roads, education, and healthcare sectors by both state and central governments.

Earlier, the Union MoS, MLA Lungla, and villagers participated in an online address by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The event showcased beneficiaries sharing their stories under Meri Kahani Meri Zubani, while the youth presented vibrant cultural programs.

Union Minister Sonowal offers prayers at Gurudwara on Veer Bal Diwas

PASIGHAT, December 28:

Union Minister of Ayush, Ports, Shipping & Waterways, GoI, Sarbananda Sonowal during his visit to Pasighat to lay foundation stones for capacity expansion at the North Eastern Institute of Ayurveda and Folk Medicine Research (NEIAFMR) also paid a visit to Gurudwara Sahib Pasighat (Gurudwara Shri Guru Gobind Singh Sabha) at Pasighat main market and paid obeisance and prayers on the occasion of Veer Bal Diwas.

Established in 1967, Pasighat Gurudwara stands as a testimony to the rich legacy of Pasighat Smart City.

To mark the nationwide observance of Veer Bal Diwas to commemorate the martyrdom of Sahibzadas Zorawar Singh &

Fateh Singh, the Union Minister paid his tribute to the brave four sons of Sikh Guru Guru Gobindji. "The teachings of Sikh Guru Gobindship inspire us all to be patriotic Indians and today we join the nation in honoring the martyrs who made the supreme sacrifice and inspires and evokes pride and patriotism in every Indian.

Sonowal urged all to together build and strive towards "Ek Bharat, Shresth Bharat" as envisioned by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to take India to the heights of one of the most developed nations, he said on the occasion.

Lok Sabha MP Tapir Gao, Health & Family Welfare Minister Alo Libang, Pasighat local MLA Kaling Moyong, Information Commissioner, Gumjum Haider, Chief Councillor, Pasighat Municipal Council, Okiam Moyong Borang and prominent personalities, Councillors, among others also offered prayers at Gurudwara Sahib to mark the occasion.

Union MoS reviews implementation of flagship programmes

ITANAGAR, December 28:

Minister of State for Railways and Textiles, Govt of India Darshana V Jardosh convened a meeting with the District Administration of Capital and Papum Pare in the presence of CS Incharge Vivek Pandey and Swapnil M Naik, Secretary GoAP to take review of flagship programmes and new and completed projects undertaken by various departments at the CS Conference Hall, Civil Secretariat.

The Minister took a detailed review of all the ongoing projects within Capital Itanagar and Papum Pare and asked the DCs Talo Po-

tom and Jiken Bomjen to ensure that all the implementing agencies ensure that the projects are implemented while ensuring that the benefits reaches to the masses.

She stressed on the need of awareness generation regarding various schemes which are for the welfare of the people. She discussed in detail about schemes like Ayushman Bharat - Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojna (PM-JAY) that provides free access to healthcare, Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) that provide cash incentive to pregnant women and lactating mothers, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Poshan Abhiyan Poshan Pakwara, Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY), Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana(PMAY), PM Svanidhi, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), Jal Jeevan Mission(JJM) etc.

The Minister urged on the need to improve the waste management system in the State Capital while urging the officers to have Swachh Bharat Abhiyan campaign. She said that NGOs should be involved in the cleanliness campaign and awareness on waste management especially plastic waste has to be carried out.

She welcomed the IMC officers for an exposure tour to Gujarat to learn the techniques of waste management while adding that one should always be encouraged to learn new and innovative ideas from each other.

Earlier, the DC PapumPare Jiken Bomjen presented a PPT providing datas and insights on various ongoing projects.

Among others, DC Capital Talo Potom, ADC Shweta Nagarkoti, Jt Commissioner IMC Datum Gadi and officers from various departments attended the meeting.

Mein attends the Gaon Burahs Conference at Namsai

NAMSAI, December 29:

The Gaon Burahs Conference of Namsai and adjoining districts was held on December 29 at the Hochayan Hall in POI PEE MAU Ground, Namsai, organized by the United Circle Gaon Burahs Association of Namsai District. Deputy Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh Chowna Mein graced the occasion as the Chief Guest which was also attended by the Gaon Burahs of Namsai, Lohit and Changlang Districts.

Addressing the GBs, Mein emphasized on the indispensable role of the Gaon Burah institutions in safeguarding the local customary laws and fostering peace, and maintenance of law & order and overall development in the villages. He said that the duties of Gaon Burahs are demanding and they have multifarious roles to play in the progress and development of a society. He further said that GBs being an institution of the administration at the village level, they must keep themselves aware of the latest developments in the villages and should keep the records of the graduates, employed & unemployed youths in the villages.

He suggested for arrangement of comprehensive workshops for the Gaon Burahs and the Gram Panchayats towards improving the overall functioning of the grassroots level governance.

He further said that GBs being the custodian of local customary laws, urged them to play a pro-active role in the conser-

vation of the natural resources, flora and fauna by stopping the rampant hunting and illegal fishing in their respective jurisdiction. He further urged them to adopt stringent measures to check illegal activities like opium cultivation and consumption of prohibited substances like drugs in their respective jurisdiction and other anti-social elements.

In the meeting, DC Nam-sai, C R Khampa highlighted the role of the Gaon Burahs and also distributed the GB Half Coat for summer season for the GBs.

The meeting was also attended by the President Tai Khamti Singpho Council, Phup Young Singpho, President Tai Khamti Development Society, Chow Siharaja Chowtang, ADC Chongkham, K Tikhak, President, All Arunachal GB Association, Gichik Laling and General Secretary, Nabam Tahi, among others.

National flag atop 73-ft tall flagpole hoisted in Tawang

TAWANG, December 29:

Local MLA Tsering Tashi and Flag Foundation of India CEO Ashim Kohli together hoisted the national tricolour atop a 73 feet tall flagpole on December 29 in the presence of Tawang Brigade Commander, Brig Vipul Singh Rajput.

The solemn ceremony was witnessed by officials of the district administration and troops of the Indian Army, the ITBP and the SSB, besides cadets of the 2 Arunachal Pradesh NCC Battalion, amid sloganeering of 'Bharat Mata Ki Jai' and 'Vande Mataram' by the tourists present on the occasion.

The Ceremonial Guard

of the Indian Army presented a 'Rashtriya Dhvaj' salute, with the national anthem playing in the background.

The MLA in his address thanked the troops' selfless service towards the nation, and praised the civil-military bonhomie in Tawang which has led to continued development in terms of infrastructure, medical facilities, education, and social wellbeing.

"This flag will be a source of inspiration for unity, integrity and national strength," he said.

MoA signed between GoAP and THDCIL for developing 1200 MW Kalai-II Hydro-Electric Project

ITANAGAR, December 30:

Continuing with its commitment towards securing the energy security of the country through clean and green energy, the Government of Arunachal Pradesh on December 30 signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with M/s Tehri Hydropower Development Corporation India Ltd (THDCIL), a central PSU, for developing the 1200 MW Kalai-II hydroelectric project in the Lohit river basin.

Ankur Garg, Commissioner (Hydropower) and Bhupender Gupta, Director (Technical) THDCIL, signed the MoA on behalf of the Govt of Arunachal Pradesh and M/s THDCIL respectively. Dr H. K. Paliwal, Adviser to the Govt of Arunachal Pradesh and Dharmendra, Chief Secretary presided over the MoA signing ceremony.

Earlier in August this year, the State Government had signed MoAs with three central PSUs - NHPC Ltd, SJVN Ltd and NEEPCO Ltd for developing 12 (twelve) hydropower projects with a com-

bined capacity of 11,517 MW to be developed in Subansiri, Dibang and Siang basins. With the allotment of Kalai-II project to THDCIL, the state has thus concluded MoAs for 13 projects with a total capacity of 12,717 MW in this calendar year. Kalai-II project was initially allotted to an independent power developer in 2009 but remained stalled due to various reasons. To unlock this potential, the Central and the State Governments made joint and concerted efforts over the last two years and the award of this project to THDCIL today will help restart its execution. This is the first project to be allotted to a central PSU in the Lohit basin and is also the first project to be taken up by Ms THDCIL in the state.

Ankur Garg, Commissioner (Hydropower) said that the project will bring in investment of over Rs. 13,000 Cr in the state during its construction phase. Once commissioned, it will generate over Rs. 300 Cr annually in free power revenue for the state and about Rs. 25 Cr annually for the Local Area Development Fund.

The Deputy Chief Minister, Chowna Mein conveyed that the project will create historic development and employment opportunities in the Lohit basin area. It will be developed in partnership with the State Government which will have a 26% equity share. The dividends from this equity participation will further augment the State's earnings from the projects.

The Chief Minister, Pema Khandu thanked the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi and the Union Power Minister R. K. Singh for unflinching support towards restarting the project. He expressed that the state is committed to ensuring full development of the hydropower potential for meeting the energy security of the country and asked

all the stakeholders to implement the project in a mission mode.

Governor visits Border Post of Pangsau Pass

ITANAGAR, December 30:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) visited the border post at Pangsau Pass in Changlang District and interacted with the security forces on 30th December 2023. The Governor was briefed on the terrain and existing situation in the area of Pangsau Pass by Col. Jetendra Mehta, Commanding Officer, 10 Assam Rifles as well as Changlang Deputy Commissioner Sunny K. Singh.

The Governor advised the security forces to be alert and vigilant to avert any untoward incident in the area of their responsibility. He also asked them to reach out to the local people and cultivate and strengthen the goodwill amongst the villagers.

The Governor interacted with the Government officials, Goan Brahs, Panchayat leaders and public at the Pangsau Pass Border Hut. He urged upon them to facilitate in registering all the eligible beneficiaries of welfare programmes, projects and schemes of the respective areas before the ensuing Republic Day.

The Governor, who administered the Viksit Bharat Sankalp pledge to the congregation on the occasion, exhorted the people to actively participate and contribute towards the Viksit Bharat vision of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. He said that the concerted endeavour in the Amrit Kaal by every citizen, particularly the youth of the day, who are the

future leaders will make India one of the most developed, progressive and prosperous nations in the world when the people of India celebrate the centenary celebration of Indian independence.

The Governor, while sharing his concern about drug addiction amongst the inhabitants appealed to the people, especially the women led Self Help Groups to work in a mission mode to eradicate the menace from the society. He also urged them to assist in eradication of tuberculosis as Ni-kshay Mitra.

The Governor said that in the age of MSME and Start-up, the youth of the State must be job creators and provide jobs to other youth. Therefore, the onus is on the GBs and elders of the society to ensure that the children go to school and complete their education.

The Governor suggested the officers and security personnel to motivate physically and mentally abled youth to join the Indian armed forces. He said that as sons of the soil, the local youth will be exceptionally effective and efficient as they are well acquainted with the terrain of the area.

The Gaon burahs and PRI members projected their problem to the Governor on the occasion. The Governor informed that the State Government has recommended restarting of border trade activities at the Pangsau Pass, which was welcomed with huge applause. He also said that from a security point of view, the alternate Nampong-Gandhigram- Vijoynagar Road will also be taken up with the concerned ministry.

Local MLA Laisam Simai and Deputy Commissioner Sunny K. Singh briefed the Gov-

ernor about the achievements and progress of developmental schemes, projects and programmes. They also apprised the Governor about the State and Central Governments initiatives in the district.

Inspector General of Police Chukhu Apa, Commissioner, Urban Development & Town Planning, Pawan Kumar Sain, Commanding Officer of 10 Assam Rifles Col. Jetendra Mehta, Superintendent of Police Kirli Padu, were present in the meeting amongst others.

Moyong dedicates double lane steel Arch Sibo Korong Bridge to the people of Pasighat

PASIGHAT, December 30:

Pasighat East MLA Kaling Moyong inaugurated the much awaited Double Lane Steel Arch Bridge, executed by the State PWD over Sibo Korong River on December 30.

He dedicated bridge to the people of Bogong Banggo in particular and Pasighat in general on behalf of the state government. The importance of the much awaited bridge, which will serve as lifeline for the people of eight villages of Balek group namely Sibo, Mongku, Roing, Balek, Rasam, Tigra and Gunne and Roying villages. Ten villages which are situated on the right bank of Sibo Korong River will be also connected, boosting inter village connectivity and connectivity to the headquarter Pasighat.

The Steel Arch Super Structure with RCC Decking has provision of footpath on either sides with approach road

works on both banks and protection work. The state of the art bridge replaces the old single lane Bailey Bridge popularly known as the “English Bridge” built in the 1960s that served as the life line of the Balek group of villages.

The bridge will accelerate ease of movement and boost socio-economic progress in the uplifting the rural economy, asserted MLA Moyong. He extended his gratitude to the state’s Chief Minister Pema Khandu and DCM Chowna Mein for their supports in fulfilling the aspirations of the people. The MLA also credited the PRI members, GBs, senior citizens, youths, all the Engineers, staff of PWD and labour-force engaged in the construction and also all the stakeholders and well-wishers for the successful completion of the much awaited Bridge.

DC Tayi Taggu on the occasion terming the Sibbo Korong Double lane Bridge as people’s asset, from now onwards said that it is the duty of every one of us to maintain and keep the state of the art Bridge in good condition.

Bogong-I ZPM Tamut Tasung, Chairman Sibbo-Korong Bridge Construction Committee Chairman Bani Perme, Bogong Banggo Kebang President (BBK) Basalung Jamoh, Ex-ZPC Kaling Dai, senior public Leaders Tobuk Dai and Okep Yomso also spoke on the occasion, terming as historic day for the Bogong Banngo adding that it was a ‘New Year Gift’ from the state government.

Host of dignitaries including Kenrik Ete Moyong, Central Zone-B Chief Engineer PWD B, Hage Pilya, SE PWD Gobo Yirang, Chief Councilor Okiam Moyong Borang, Dy. Chief

Councillor Rebecca Panyang Megu, EE Tani Taki HoDs and village community members and general public were present during the inauguration ceremony.

Workshop on translating children’s books to Kaman Mishmi language

TEZU, December 31:

“We have to be flag bearers in producing a variety of literary forms in our mother languages,” said Arunachal Pradesh Literary Society’s Lohit district president Alenso Chai in his address at the concluding session of a three-day translation workshop to produce children-friendly books in the Kaman Mishmi language, using Pratham Books’ free book portal www.storyweaver.org.

The workshop, organised jointly by Bamboosa Library here and Medo-based Forum of Library Activists, was coordinated by Akhilesh KR, a PhD scholar in linguistics at the Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf in Germany.

Congratulating the library activists for hosting the workshop, Chai said that “our goal in the next few years is to create a large pool of translations suitable for various age groups.”

Stating that he learnt a lot from the workshop, Chai expressed hope that “more members of the society will come forward to do translations in Arunachal languages.”

Expressing joy over “the enthusiastic response from the participants that led to the translation of six books,” Akhilesh reminded them that “languages like Hebrew in Israel and Maori tribal language in New Zealand, which had faced extinction and got totally sidelined, could rise to the status of vi-

brant official languages by the determined efforts of its speakers.”

“So, developing Kaman Mishmi language can surely be easy if the community members show enthusiasm,” he said.

Pratham Books are well-produced, with attractive illustrations graded into four difficulty levels, and can be freely translated by anyone in any language, with no prior permission. Idu Mishmi language titles are already available on the story-weaver platform.

“Let each one translate one title a week, and in a year we will have a large collection of Kaman Mishmi books suitable for a range of readers. Today, computer and technology have made this dream a reality,” Akhilesh said.

Sharing her experiences of the workshop, Forum of Library Activists secretary Keselo Tayang expressed great happiness over the informal interactions during the workshop, while participants Bethem Marai and Solina Kambrai were all praise for the friendly support extended by Akhilesh.

Lohit Youth Library Network coordinator S Mundayoor thanked Akhilesh “for being a volunteer of the library movement for the last four years, and for coming all the way to Tezu at your own expense to conduct this unique workshop.”

Bamboosa library in-charge Siwani Pul thanked New Delhi-based RPETA Trust for co-sponsoring the event.

NEWS IN PICTURE



The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) participating in the 'One-day State Level Human Rights Awareness Programme' at Itanagar on December 10, 2023.



Chief Minister Pema Khandu attending the 11th Greater Kameng Badminton Championship at Seijosa in Pakke Kessang district on December 2, 2023.



Union Minister of Earth Sciences, Kiren Rijiju, gracing the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra program at Rama Camp under the Dirang Circle of West Kameng District on December 9, 2023.



State Chief Minister Pema Khandu calls on the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) at Raj Bhavan, on December 12, 2023.



The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) participating in the 'Ideas for the vision of Viksit Bharat@2047' programme at Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on December 11, 2023.



DCM Chowna Mein attending the 9th Annual Central Sukapha Divas, a event organizes by the Tai Ahom Yuva Parishad (TAYPA) Central Committee at Dibrugarh on December 2, 2023.