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(A Weekly Newspaper)



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News Flash

Bike rally of women police officers under BBBP conducted

LIKABALI, February 6:

As part of a six-week celebration under Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) campaign, the Department of Women and Child Development, Lower Siang in collaboration with the District Administration and Police department, conducted a bike rally of women police officers.

Lower Siang Deputy Commissioner Rujum Rakshap and SP Gothombu Dajangju, accompanied by other HoDs, flagged off the event at Likabali.

The rally aimed to raise awareness and educate citizens about gender bias and improve the efficacy of welfare services for girls. It advocates women empowerment and highlights the significance of the girl child in society, besides encouraging them to realize their potential and make a mark for themselves in all sectors at par with their male counterparts.

Counseling session organised

BOMDILA, February 6:

In a bid to inspire and guide the girl students of JNV, Nafra toward greater focus, persistence, consistency in achieving their goals, a motivational and counselling session was organized by West Kameng Deputy Commissioner Akriti Sagar, along with SP Sudhansu Dhama, on Wednesday, February 5. They shared personal experiences, life lessons, and effective strategies to overcome challenges and stay committed to their aspirations.

The session emphasized the importance of self-discipline, hard work, and resilience in the face of adversity. The dignitaries encouraged students to set clear goals, maintain a positive mindset, and remain consistent in their efforts.

District Labour and Employment Exchange Officer (DLEO) Khandu Thongdok and District Library & Information Officer (DL&IO) Lobom Tamin also shared their personal experiences, urging students to believe in themselves and stay persistent in their pursuits.

During the interactive session, students actively participated by asking questions and addressing their doubts, making the event an enriching and inspiring one.

Khandu held review meeting with officials of East Siang district



PASIGHAT, February 11:

Chief Minister Pema Khandu termed government officers and officials, especially those in the districts as the real backbone of governance.

"If they work towards evolving solutions instead of ruing on problems, accelerated development of the state and the society can be a reality,"

he said addressing a review meeting here on Tuesday, February 11 with officials of East Siang district.

Khandu said that the council of ministers and MLAs are mere policy makers but the government officials are the ones who execute these policies on ground. Therefore, he pointed, the success of a particular

government depends on the honesty, sincerity and efficiency of government employees.

"We (politicians) are temporary. You (government employees) are permanent. We will come and go in five years but you will serve the people for more than 30 years.

(Contd on P-2)...

Wangsu emphasises Agricultrual Development at Namsai Visit

NAMSAI, February 10:

Breed, seed and feed are important ingredients crucial for development of farm sectors, said Agriculture Minister Gabriel D. Wangsu, who conducted an extensive daylong tour of agricultural and allied sector facilities in Namsai district.

The Minister, who holds multiple portfolios including Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry &

Veterinary, Fisheries and Food & Civil Supply, carried out detailed inspections of various facilities including the Namsai Dairy, Horti Nursery at Kherem and Farmer Training Centre. His itinerary also included visits to private pig farms in Emphum Village, local fisheries farms and the ongoing fertilizer unit construction at Nanam Khamti Village.

(Contd on P-2)...

DCM, Mein Attends 9th Convocation of Arunachal University of Studies

NAMSAI, February 11:

The Deputy Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh, Chowna Mein, graced the 9th Convocation of Arunachal University of Studies (AUS) as the Chief Guest. The event, held at the university campus in Namsai, marked a significant milestone for the master's degree/post graduating students, celebrating their academic achievements and future aspirations.

In his address, Chowna Mein lauded the collective efforts of the master's degree/post graduates, their families, mentors, and the AUS community. He emphasized the transformative role of education in shaping the future and urged them to leverage their knowledge for the progress of Arunachal Pradesh and the nation.

He commended AUS for its remarkable contributions to academic excellence, research, and community development. "What started as a humble institution has now become a beacon of education, boasting a dedicated faculty and a growing reputation for fostering young talent," he remarked. He acknowledged the university's role in nurturing young minds while contributing to the local economy by generating employment and supporting community growth.

The Deputy Chief Minister shared his vision for transforming Namsai into an educational hub with the planned establishment of a medical college and a fisheries college,

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Governor releases a book 'Birds are Poems; 100 narrative poems'

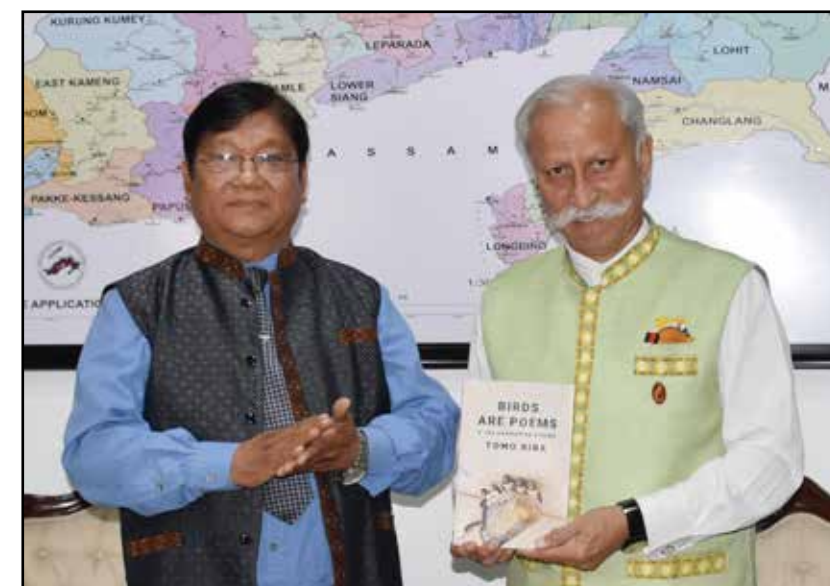
ITANAGAR, February 6:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh, Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.), released a book titled 'Birds are Poems; 100 Narrative Poems', authored by Prof. Tomo Riba, Vice Chancellor of Arunachal Pradesh University (APU), Pasighat, at Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on Thursday, February 6.

Commending Prof. Riba for his literary contribution, the Governor said that the book beautifully highlights the significance of birds, one of nature's most precious gifts, through poetic expression. He noted that the collection will raise awareness about the vital role of birds in the ecosystem and underscore the importance of every living creature in nature.

The Governor expressed his hope that the book will inspire readers to appreciate and protect these winged wonders. He said that it would foster a deeper connection between humans and nature.

The Governor also remarked that each poem carries moral and cultural significance, helping to preserve and promote the rich heritage and traditions of Arunachal Pradesh. He suggested that the book be translated into local languages to further support the promotion of indigenous dialects.



Prof. Riba shared insights into his work, explaining that the book consists of 100 narrative poems that depict the behaviors of birds familiar to him. He highlighted the critical role birds play in human life, particularly in agriculture, environmental balance, and seasonal changes. However, he expressed concern over the threats birds face due to habitat destruction, pollution, and hunting for food, feathers, and other body parts. As a result, many birds have been

forced to abandon their natural habitats in search of unfamiliar and often inhospitable environments, he said.

The event was attended by Commissioner of Education Amjad Tak and Secretary to the Governor Sharad Bhaskar Darade. They discussed strengthening the education scenario in the State particularly of higher education. The Vice Chancellor of Arunachal Pradesh University briefed the Governor about the progress of APU.

Live screening of 'Pariksha Pe Charcha' organized at Raj Bhavan

ITANAGAR, February 10:

Arunachal Pradesh Raj Bhavan organized the live screening of the 8th edition of 'Pariksha Pe Charcha' in the Durbar Hall of Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on Monday, February 10. Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi addressed the students, teachers and guardians on examination to reduce exam stress and promote a positive approach to learning. A large number of school students, teachers and guardians from various schools of the Itanagar Capital Region, including Private Schools participated in the programme.

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.), who is on an official tour to Uttar Pradesh in his message on the occasion said that 'Pariksha Pe Charcha' is more than just a discussion, but it's a celebration of learning, resilience, and the unwavering spirit of hard work. He said that examinations are not the ultimate destination, but a stepping stone in your journey of growth. They provide an opportunity to demonstrate your knowledge, discipline, and dedication. Instead of fearing them, embrace exams as challenges that will strengthen and refine you, he

said.

The Governor, in his message, advised the students to have trust in themselves, be confident, stay focused and committed and nurture sound minds and bodies. He said that success is not just about working hard; it's about working smart, staying positive, and believing in oneself.

The Governor urged the parents and teachers to encourage their wards, appreciate their efforts, and remind them that success is about learning and growth. He also exhorted the students to appear in their exams with courage and confidence. You are capable, you are prepared, and you will succeed, he said.

The Governor expressed sincere gratitude to the Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi on behalf of the people of Arunachal Pradesh for his initiative and personal participation.

Secretary to the Governor Sharad Bhaskar Darade addressed the participants on the occasion. He said that the Prime Minister interacts with them before examination because he is concerned about them as they are the future of the nation.

(Contd on P-2)...

Bharat Lok Sangeet – Arunachal Utsav 2025 begins



NAMSAI, February 9:

The vibrant cultural essence of Arunachal Pradesh took centre stage as the second edition of 'Bharat Lok Sangeet – Arunachal Utsav 2025' commenced at the Poi Pee Mau Tai Ground in Namsai on Sunday, February 9.

Organized by the Government of Arunachal Pradesh under the aegis of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' programme of the Centre, this festival

is a tribute to India's rich folk traditions, serving as a confluence of art, heritage, and cultural exchange. By bringing together artists from across the country and beyond, the festival has evolved into a powerful platform for fostering deeper cultural ties and strengthening Arunachal Pradesh's identity as a guardian of indigenous heritage.

Addressing the gathering of artists, and cultural enthusiasts,

Arunachal Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein emphasized the significance of folk music and dance as living traditions that connect generations and communities. He noted that this festival is not just an event but a reflection of India's ethos of Unity in Diversity. By showcasing folk traditions from Arunachal Pradesh, various states of India, and international participants from Bhutan and Thailand, the festival reinforces Arunachal Pradesh's role in global cultural diplomacy while celebrating the artistic brilliance of its people.

This year, the festival features 15 cultural troupes from Arunachal Pradesh, including performances by the Adi, Aka (Hrusso), Apatani, Idu Mishmi, Memba, Monpa, Nyishi, Tai Khamti, Olo, and other indigenous communities. Additionally, cultural groups from Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, and Manipur have joined the festival, ensuring a rich blend of regional traditions.

With the participation of international performers from Bhutan and Thailand, this edition marks a significant milestone in strengthening cross-cultural exchanges, reinforcing the message that folk traditions are universal, transcending borders and generations.

(Contd on P-2)...

Dukam attends Handicrafts Exhibition at DKCC

ITANAGAR, February 12:

The much-anticipated Handicrafts Exhibition 2025 by the Directorate of Handloom, Handicrafts & Sericulture, Government of Tripura was inaugurated at the Dorjee Khandu State Convention Centre (DKCC), I.G. Park, Itanagar, on February 12.

Organized under the Comprehensive Handicrafts Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS) and sponsored by the Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, the exhibition has brought together artisans and craftsmen from Tripura, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, West Bengal, and Uttar Pradesh.

Minister of Textile and Handicrafts, Nyato Dukam, extended his gratitude to the Government of Tripura for organizing the event in Arunachal Pradesh. He highlighted that such exhibitions go beyond economic benefits, serving as a platform for artisans to exchange knowledge, share skills, and learn from each other's craftsmanship. The Minister expressed hope for future collaborations between Arunachal Pradesh and

(Contd on P-2)...

Wordly Wise
“Keep your eyes on the stars and your feet on the ground.”
-Theodore Roosevelt

Contact Numbers of District Emergency Operation Centre, Capital Complex.
A. 0360-2292199 B. 0360-20006067
C. 09402657986 D. 08131809067
E. 09436224950 Sd/-Field Officer [Disaster Management]
For Deputy Commissioner Itanagar Capital Complex

Editorial

National Women’s Day

National Women’s Day is celebrated annually on February 13th in India, marking the birth anniversary of Sarojini Naidu, a renowned Indian poet, politician, and women’s rights activist. This day is dedicated to recognizing the contributions and achievements of women in various fields, as well as promoting women’s empowerment and equality.

The History of National Women’s Day
Sarojini Naidu was born on February 13, 1879, in Hyderabad, India. She was a prominent figure in the Indian independence movement and a vocal advocate for women’s rights. Naidu was one of the first Indian women to become involved in politics and was a key figure in the Indian National Congress. She was also a talented poet and writer, known for her collections of poetry, including “The Golden Threshold” and “The Feather of the Dawn”.

The Significance of National Women’s Day
National Women’s Day is a celebration of women’s achievements and contributions to society. It is a day to recognize the struggles and challenges faced by women throughout history and to promote women’s empowerment and equality. The day is also an opportunity to raise awareness about women’s rights and to promote gender equality.

Women’s Empowerment in India
India has made significant progress in promoting women’s empowerment in recent years. The government has launched several initiatives aimed at promoting women’s education, health, and economic empowerment. For example, the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme, launched in 2015, aims to promote girls’ education and to prevent female foeticide.

Despite these efforts, women in India still face significant challenges and barriers to empowerment. Women’s participation in the workforce is low, and they are often paid less than men for the same work. Women also face high levels of violence and harassment, both within and outside the home.

The Role of Women in Indian Society
Women play a vital role in Indian society, contributing to the economy, politics, and culture. Women are increasingly taking on leadership roles in politics, business, and other fields, and are making significant contributions to India’s development.

However, women in India still face significant social and cultural barriers to empowerment. Women are often expected to prioritize their roles as wives and mothers over their own careers and aspirations. Women are also often subjected to discriminatory practices, such as dowry and female foeticide.

Conclusion
National Women’s Day is a celebration of women’s achievements and contributions to society. It is a day to recognize the struggles and challenges faced by women throughout history and to promote women’s empowerment and equality. As we celebrate National Women’s Day, we must also acknowledge the significant challenges and barriers that women in India still face, and work towards creating a more equitable and just society for all.

SERVICE LINE			
POLICE STATION			
Itanagar	: 0360-2212233	Naharlagun	: 0360-2244329
Nirjuli	: 0360-2257220	Doimukh	: 0360-2277220
Banderdewa	: 0360-2266236		
FIRE STATION			
Itanagar : 0360-2212640		Naharlagun : 0360-2244399	

APST BUS SERVICE				
Sl. No.	Name of Route	Type of Service	Service Days	Departure Times
1.	Itanagar-Shillong	Night Service	Daily Service	05.00pm
2.	Itanagar-Nyapin	Night Service	Mon /Thu/Sat	02.00pm
3.	Itanagar-Aalo	Night Service	Daily Service	02.30pm
4.	Itanagar-Daporijo	Night Service	Daily Service	12.00 noon
5.	Itanagar-Yingkiong	Night Service	Alternate Day	01.00pm
6.	Itanagar-Seppa	Night Service	Daily Service	12.00 noon
7.	Itanagar-Khonsa	Night Service	Sun/Mon/Wed/Thu	01.00 pm
8.	Itanagar-Tezu	Night Service	Tuesday only	01.00 pm
9.	Itanagar-Koloriang	Night Service	Daily Service	02.30 pm
10.	Itanagar-Guwahati	Day Service	Daily Service	06.00 am
11.	Itanagar-Aalo	Day Service	Daily Service	05.30 am
12.	Itanagar-Pasighat	Day Service	Daily Service	06.00 am
13.	Itanagar-Tirbin	Day Service	Mon/Thu/Sat	05.30 am
14.	Itanagar-Bomdila	Day Service	Daily Service except Fri	06.00 am
15.	Itanagar-Palin	Day Service	Sun/Wed/Fri	06.00 am
16.	Itanagar-Mongla	Day Service	Mon/Wed/Fri	06.00 am
17.	Itanagar-Ampoli	Day Service	Sun/Tue/Thu	06.00 am
18.	Itanagar-Mengio	Day Service	Sun/Tue/Thu	06.00 am
19.	Itanagar-Kirini	Day Service	Daily Service except Sat	12.00 noon
20.	Itanagar-Gerukhamukh	Day Service	Daily Service except Fri	12.00 noon
21.	Itanagar-Balijan	Day Service	Daily Service	01.00 pm
22.	Itanagar-Tarasso	Day Service	Daily Service except Sat	05.30 am
23.	Itanagar-Sonajuli	Day Service	Daily Service except Sun	01.00 pm
24.	Itanagar-Lilabari	Mail Service	Daily Service except Sun	07.00 am
25.	Itanagar- Jote	Day Service	Daily Service except Sun	07.00 am & 01.00 pm

HELICOPTER SERVICE				
Arunachal Pradesh Helicopter Non-Schedule Flight Service Local Sector (Dauphin Pawan Hns) wef 01.10.2014				
DAY.	STATION	DEP.TIME	STATION	ARR.TIME
MONDAY	Naharlagun	09:00	Pasighat	1:05
	Pasighat	10:30	Pangin	0:50
	Pangin	10:55	Meduk/Monigong	0:50
	Meduk/Monigong	11:50	Pangin	12:40
	Pangin	12:45	Pasighat	1:05
TUESDAY	Pasighat	13:15	Naharlagun	4:30
	Naharlagun	09:00	Mohanbari	0:45
	Mohanbari	10:15	Khonsa	0:30
	Longding	11:15	Khonsa	0:20
	Khonsa	11:40	Changlang	0:40
WEDNESDAY	Changlang	12:05	Mohanbari	0:45
	Mohanbari	13:10	Naharlagun	3:40
	Naharlagun	09:00	Mohanbari	0:45
	Mohanbari	10:10	Pasighat	0:20
	Pasighat	10:45	Roing	0:30
THURSDAY	Roing	11:10	Anini	0:30
	Anini	11:45	Roing	0:15
	Roing	12:20	Dambuk	0:15
	Dambuk	12:40	Roing	0:20
	Roing	13:00	Pasighat	01:05
FRIDAY	Pasighat	13:50	Naharlagun	4:30
	Naharlagun	09:00	Mohanbari	0:45
	Mohanbari	10:00	Maio	0:40
	Maio	10:45	Vijaynagar	0:35
	Vijaynagar	11:25	Miao	0:40
SATURDAY	Miao	12:05	Mohanbari	0:45
	Mohanbari	13:00	Naharlagun	4:45
	Naharlagun	09:00	Mohanbari	0:45
	Mohanbari	10:30	Namsai	0:35
	Namsai	11:10	Tezu	0:35
SUNDAY	Tezu	11:35	Hayuliang	0:35
	Hayuliang	12:15	Tezu	0:20
	Namsai	12:55	Namsai	0:35
	Mohanbari	13:20	Mohanbari	0:45
	Mohanbari	14:20	Naharlagun	4:30
SATURDAY OFF DAY				FLY.TIME
SUNDAY OFF/MAINTANANCE				
NB:- Condition apply (VIP movement/ bad weather/patient evacuation/ technical snag/passengers availability and emergency etc)				

Youth foundation day celebrated

DADAM, February 7:
The Dadam Youth Association (D.Y.A.) here in Tirap district celebrated its first foundation day on Thursday, February 6.

The event commenced with a marathon with the theme ‘Run towards a Drug-Free Society’. A large number of youths and students from Dadam village actively participated in the event, promoting awareness about a healthier and addiction-free lifestyle.

Dadam CO Dr Metung Taku lauded the DYA for organising such meaningful initiatives at the grassroots level. She emphasised that “events like these inspire students to focus on their education and contribute to the overall development of the village.”

Dr Taku urged the youths and students to stay away from intoxicating substances and instead prioritise their education, as it would pave the way for success and a brighter future.



(Contd from P-1)

Khandu held review meeting with officials...

So your role in development of the state and welfare of the people becomes significant,” he said.
Khandu reiterated that the state government is committed to empower government officials, especially those working in the district administration. He observed thatthe role of Deputy Commissioners in realizing the goal of ‘Viksit Bharat, Viksit Arunachal’ by 2047 as envisioned by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, cannot be overstated.

“As the chief administrative officers at the district level, Deputy Commissioners are the backbone of governance and development in Arunachal Pradesh. Strengthening districts are crucial for improving last-mile citizen service delivery,” he added.

Khandu informed thatthe government is introducing Bottom-up Planning - involving preparation of District-level Vision and Development Plans for which deputy commissioners will have a major role to play.

He further informed that the government-appointed Guardian Ministers and Mentor Secretaries will hold review meetings in the respective allotted districts with all stakeholders and submit their reports to the government.

“Our objective will be to pinpoint the exact problems and needs of each district and identify the key areas to prioritize,” Khandu added.

Referring to the recently held conference of the deputy commissioners at Itanagar, Khanducited the six thematic themes of the conference and asked the officials to execute schemes and programmes with these themes as the foundation. The themes are Sundar Arunachal,Samridh Arunachal, Shikshit Arunachal,Swasth Arunachal. Surakshit Arunachal and Swachch Arunachal.

Talking about Pasighat, the oldest town of the state with a history of more than 100 years, the Chief Minister assured that the government will not withhold any step to develop the city into one of the top cities in the state.

He called for cooperation and unity amongst all irrespective of political or other affiliations.

“When it comes to development of our state and welfare of our people, we stand united as Team Arunachal,” he added.

All flagship schemes of the state and central government as well as other ongoing developmental projects in the district were reviewed by the Chief Minister.

The review meeting was attended by MLAs of the district, Oken Tayeng and Tabit Darang, BJP State President Kalling Moyong, Chief Councillor of Pasighat Municipal Council, DC, SP and Head of Departments.

Wangsu emphasises Agricultural Development...

Minister Wangsu called for the need for collaborative efforts to address current challenges highlighted by the officers during the tour, particularly in the areas of fodder, feeds and seeds. “Every upcoming initiative should be data driven for proper and effective implementation especially while procuring breed, seed or feed for our farmers,” he stated.

During a comprehensive review meeting held at the DC’s conference hall, department heads presented detailed reports on their research activities, achievements and operational status to the minister.

Wangsu in his address called for the need for strict quarantine measures on imported products to safeguard the state’s farming sector from disease. He also stressed the importance of a more targeted approach to distributing agricultural inputs and tools, ensuring farmers receive the specific resources they need, rather than a generic distribution. He urged officials to identify genuine farmers and prioritize attracting more young people to the field, expressing concern over declining farmer numbers and emphasising the crucial role of a strong primary agricultural sector for the overall economy. He also called for transparency and fairness in selecting beneficiaries for farmer-centric schemes.

The meeting was attended by C. R. Champa, DC, DAO, DFDO, DVO, DPO, DFCSO, ADO, HDO, FO and officials of the departments.

Minister also attended the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting organized by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Namsai, where he engaged with senior scientists and researchers who presented their ongoing projects. He stressed the importance of working with local germplasm and identifying gray areas that need attention, offering his intervention where necessary.

This visit of Wangsu is part of his ongoing tour of districts across the state to assess regional strengths and challenges in the agricultural sector.

DCM, Mein Attends 9th Convocation of Arunachal...

expressing optimism about the region’s growth as a center for learning. Addressing key challenges such as climate change and drug abuse, Mein highlighted the responsibility of educated youth in spearheading solutions through innovative thinking and sustainable development initiatives. He encouraged the graduates to remain rooted in their cultural heritage while striving for excellence in their professional endeavors.

Acknowledging the unwavering support of parents, families, and mentors, Mein said, “This day is not just a celebration of your success but a testament to the dedication and sacrifices made by your loved ones.”

The event also witnessed the inauguration of a Moot Court at Arunachal University of Studies, Namsai, aimed at enhancing practical legal education for students.

A key highlight of the convocation was the conferring of Doctor of Literature (D.Litt.) Honoris Causa award to Padma Shri Dr. Rajnikant for his exceptional contributions to women empowerment, artisan livelihoods, child rights, and skill development. Former BJP National Secretary, Sunil Deodhar was also conferred the D.Litt. Honorary Award for his remarkable contributions to social work.

Several esteemed dignitaries were present at the event, including MLA Namsai Zingnu Namchoom, former Bhutan MP Dupthob Yangstep, AUS Chancellor Kamal Lochan, Pro-Chancellor Vishva Lochan, Vice Chancellor Prof. D.S. Hernwal, Registrar Divyanshu Goel, Padma Shri Anshu Jamsenpa, National Teacher Awardee 2024 Jyoti Panka, Prof. Ajeya Jha, DC Namsai Shri C.R. Khampa, SP Sange Thinley, faculty members, parents and students.

The convocation underscored the enduring commitment of AUS to academic excellence and its significant role in shaping the future of Arunachal Pradesh.

Live screening of ‘Pariksha Pe Charcha’ organized...

The Secretary to Governor shared finer points of examination and advised them to give their best.

A High Tea was organized for the participants on behalf of the Governor.

The National Informatics Centre, Arunachal Pradesh and the technical team of the Information and Public Relations Department facilitated the live screening. Coordinated by the Directorate of School Education, Students and teachers from Itanagar Capital Region including Mallo Tarin Governor Higher Secondary School, PM Shri Govt. Higher Secondary School, Arunodaya, Govt. Secondary School, P-Sector, JNK Public School, Holy Cross Higher Secondary School, Nyokum Lapang and Vivekananda Kendra Vidyalaya, Chimpu attended the live screening of ‘Pariksha Pe Charcha’ at Raj Bhavan.

Bharat Lok Sangeet – Arunachal Utsav...

The Deputy CM also took the opportunity to acknowledge and honour the exceptional contributions of Arunachal’s cultural icons. He highlighted the Tai Khamti cultural troupe, which has made its presence felt at prestigious national events, including the Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav and the Republic Day celebrations in New Delhi. Their performance, as part of a larger ensemble of 5,000 artists, contributed to a Guinness World Record, an achievement that showcases Arunachal’s artistic excellence on the global stage. Given their continued commitment to preserving and promoting their rich cultural heritage, he suggested that the troupe be felicitated with certificates at the ongoing festival as a mark of appreciation for their dedication.

Looking ahead, Mein highlighted the growing international exposure that Arunachal Pradesh’s cultural heritage is receiving. He noted that cultural troupes from the state will soon participate in the North East Festival in Singapore, a testament to the increasing recognition of Arunachal’s folk traditions at global platforms.

By providing such opportunities, the government is ensuring that the younger generation remains connected to their roots while also gaining exposure to international cultural landscapes, he said.

He further emphasized the importance of supporting young artists, calling them the custodians of Arunachal’s rich heritage.

He reiterated the Government of Arunachal Pradesh’s unwavering commitment to nurturing talent through the Department of Art & Culture, which continues to provide platforms, resources, and encouragement to cultural practitioners. This support ensures that traditional art forms are not just preserved but also evolve with time, reaching wider audiences across India and the world.

Recognizing the role of heritage conservation in strengthening cultural identity, he also applauded the efforts of MLA Oken Tayeng, who serves as the president of the Arunachal chapter of INTACH (Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage). INTACH has been instrumental in preserving and promoting India’s rich cultural and architectural heritage. Mein expressed hope that such organizations would continue their work in Arunachal Pradesh, ensuring that indigenous art, traditions, and historical landmarks remain protected for future generations.

As the 2nd edition of Bharat Lok Sangeet – Arunachal Utsav 2025 unfolds; it stands as a symbol of Arunachal Pradesh’s cultural richness, resilience, and global outreach. The festival is not just a celebration of folk traditions but also a reaffirmation of Arunachal’s deep-rooted connection with India’s diverse cultural fabric. Through music, dance, and artistic expression, it brings people together, fostering a sense of shared heritage and mutual appreciation.

Mein extended his heartfelt gratitude to the organizers, participating artists, and the enthusiastic audience, expressing confidence that this festival will continue to grow as a premier cultural event, promoting Arunachal Pradesh as a beacon of folk heritage.

The event was attended by Ministers Wangki Lowang, Dasanglu Pul, and Gabriel D Wangsu, and MLAs Zingnu Namchoom, Dr Mohesh Chai, Mutchu Mithi, Chakat Aboh, Mopi Mihu, Nikh Kamin, Nyabi Jini Dirchi, Puinnyo Apum, Topin Ete, and Likha Soni, among others.

Dukam attends Handicrafts Exhibition...

other states, envisioning reciprocal events that would strengthen inter-state cultural and economic ties.

The Handicrafts Exhibition 2025 features 100 stalls, showcasing and selling a diverse range of handcrafted products, including handlooms, traditional crafts, jewelry, and more.

Speaking at the inaugural event, Bikash Debbarma, Minister of Handloom and Handicrafts, Tripura, expressed gratitude to the Government of Arunachal Pradesh for facilitating the exhibition in Itanagar. He emphasized the importance of such events in inspiring artisans to continue honing their craft while providing them with a much-needed marketplace for their products. Reiterating Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s call for ‘Vocal for Local’, Minister Debbarma stated that the exhibition aligns with the national vision of promoting indigenous handicrafts and creating sustainable livelihoods for local artisans.

The event was also attended by R Arun Kumar, Director HHS, Govt. Of Tripura, Kamal Kant Rathode, Assistant Director (Handicrafts), Handicrafts Service Centre, Itanagar, among others.

The exhibition will be open to the public from February 12 to February 21, 2025, offering visitors an opportunity to explore and support traditional Indian craftsmanship.

Wangsu Takes Stock of Development Projects in Roing



ROING, February 9:

Gabriel D. Wangsu, Minister for Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry & Veterinary, Fisheries, Legal Metrology & Consumer Affairs and Food & Civil Supply, visited Roing in Lower Dibang Valley district on Sunday, February 9 to inspect several key developmental projects. During his visit, the Minister conducted detailed assessments of various facilities and engaged with local officers to discuss progress and challenges in the region.

Wangsu's inspection included a visit to the District Veterinary Hospital (DVH) in Roing, where he reviewed the facilities and operations. He also visited the High Tech Pig Farm, the Dairy Plant in Kangkong, and the Oil Palm Factory and Bio-fertilizer Godown in Dambuk, all vital to the region's agricultural development.

At each site, Wangsu took time to discuss the challenges faced

by the departments, particularly regarding staff and infrastructure shortages. Head of departments pointed out the need for additional vehicles and buildings to ensure smooth operations. The Minister emphasized the importance of addressing these challenges and urged the officers to work together to improve conditions, particularly in areas like fodder, feeds and seeds.

"If you work hard, you will be rewarded," Wangsu assured the department officers, emphasizing his commitment to ensuring their career progression is well-supported. He also encouraged the officers to make the best use of the available revolving fund, highlighting that it could be a significant resource for the departments.

At the Oil Palm Factory, the Minister interacted with the workers and spoke about the vision of Prime

Minister Modi for a self-reliant nation, urging them to contribute to this goal through their work.

During his visit to the Food and Civil Supply office, Wangsu engaged with the officers to address their concerns and advised them to ensure food safety. He urged them to be vigilant and avoid distributing food supplies that are unfit for consumption.

Wangsu is currently touring districts across the state as part of an ongoing assessment of regional strengths and challenges. He informed the gathered officials that a new government policy is under development and emphasized that it would aim to be one of the best policies for the state.

The Minister was accompanied by MLA Puiunyo Apum, the SP of Roing and the Heads of Departments from various Agriculture and Allied Departments during the visit.

Lights, Camera, Arunachal: A Personal Reflection on the AFF

-By Nyatum Doe

As soon as I received an invitation from the Director IPR to attend the Arunachal Film Festival I was filled with pure joy and elation. As a film enthusiast, I had long hoped to experience the AFF, and this would be my first time. I left Tezu on the morning of 5th February, reserving my excitement, and arrived in Itanagar by late afternoon. Too tired to attend any events that day, I decided to rest in anticipation of the next day's activities.

The following morning, out of excitement I went to the venue at 12 Noon even though I knew that the inaugural was at 3PM. The exterior of the TNZ Cinema was beautifully adorned with flyers and hoardings, creating a vibrant atmosphere. Inside, I saw IPR Secretary NyaliEte and Nodal Officer DugyirPadu strolling attentively, while cross checking the final arrangements for the program. I joined them and learned that I was assigned to manage Screen 3—an important responsibility. After glancing through the schedule, I realized I would only be able to watch three films over the next three days, with the rest of my time dedicated to workshops.

The inaugural event began with lighting of the candles by the delegates led by PD Sona, Minister of Education; followed by the screening of Numb and Map-Al (the Salt). I was deeply impressed by the raw talent of Arunachal's filmmakers, and the positive energy of the day left me excited for the upcoming sessions.

The next day, I attended a workshop on film editing by Nitin Baid, known for his work on films like Gully Boy and Mashan. Initially disappointed by the low turnout, so to console myself, I told my colleagues inside that "workshops aren't for everyone; even a single serious person would be equivalent to 10 non person". Soon enough, more attendees arrived, and the hall was nearly full. The next workshop, led by Kenny Basumatary, the director of the Assamese film Local Kung Fu, was an eye opener. He demonstrated how, with commitment, filmmakers can create impressive movies even on a low budget. The enthusiasm and participation of the audience highlighted the growing interest in filmmaking in Arunachal.

The third day followed a similar rhythm of screenings of Movies/ Documentaries and workshops. A standout moment was Changes, an animation by Down Mountain Studio, which earned a Special Jury Mention. It was the first of its kind in the state, and the animation workshop by



Toonz Media Group further deepened my appreciation and understanding of Animation. Another notable session was by RaktimMondol, a professor at the Film and Television Institute of Jote (FTI), who focused on the art of cinematography. His insights into lighting, composition, and cinematographer's role in storytelling were incredibly enlightening.

The festival also provided much-needed recognition for local filmmakers. Grandpa, What's Your Name by LobsangPhuntso won the Best Documentary award, while 'Our Land, Our Lives' by T. Hasa received a Special Mention. In the short film category, Mok Mu by ChauAnandraNamchoom took home the Best Short Film award, with Change by Down Mountain Studio receiving a Special Mention. Films like Khew Ranai by Ria Taipodia, Seeds of The Future by JaringLoham, and Ihi Hang by Akom Emma Don captivated audiences with their excellent work, showcasing the immense talent of filmmakers and actors in Arunachal.

The AFF was not just a celebration of film but a festival of learning, a platform for the aspiring filmmaker and a catalyst for positive change. By sparking and encouraging a discourse on different views and opinions related to challenges and opportunities in the film industry in the state. The workshops provided valuable opportunities to interact with industry professionals. Discussions on funding, distribution, and marketing in the film industry were equally crucial and thought-provoking.

Although I couldn't watch most of the films due to my commitment at

Screen 3, the overall experience was overwhelming. One fellow movie lover remarked how special it was to watch films in a hall filled with passionate enthusiasts, comparing it to "100 people singing a symphony in perfect harmony"—a sentiment that perfectly captured the festival's essence.

In a state like Arunachal Pradesh, where the film industry is still in its early stages but holds immense potential, festivals like AFF are vital. As IPR Minister NyatoDukam stated, such events are key to sparking conversations around filmmaking and film industry. While some sceptics may question the value of such festivals, the mere fact that they ignite discussions proves their significance.

Additionally, IPR Secretary NyaliEte's mention of the AVGC-XR policy being discussed is a promising development for animation lovers and filmmakers. As informed by the IPR Minister, the upcoming Film and Technical Institute of Arunachal Pradesh will undoubtedly provide vital resources and training for aspiring filmmakers, photographers, and technical professionals.

As the festival concluded, I began my journey back to Tezu, reflecting on the future of filmmaking in Arunachal Pradesh. Though I'm a layman in filmmaking, the festival sparked a curiosity within me to learn more. I'm sure it had the same effect on many others. The AFF 2025 has left a lasting impression, and I look forward to seeing how it continues to shape the state's creative industry.

(The article is contributed by Nyatum Doe DIPRO Lohit)

DIPR opens Creche for employees, bids farewell to Director



ITANAGAR, February 6:

Complying with the Govt of India guidelines, the Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR)

has set up a Creche for the cause of its employees in its office premises.

Secretary IPR Nyali Ete inaugurated the day care center for the

children amidst presence of the department officers and officials recently on January 31 last coinciding the day with farewell of former Director Onyok Pertin.

Creche is a place where young children are cared for during the day while their parents are engaged in work. The Creche aims to provide day care facility for the children of the employees of the department.

According to the Maternity Benefit Act, a Creche facility is mandatory in the Govt of India (GoI) offices that have 50 or more employees.

Ete, while congratulating the department on the creche, appreciated the outgoing director Onyok Pertin for taking these new initiatives during his tenure. "The Department of Information and Public Relations today achieved a milestone with the inauguration of its Creche", he stated.

Later, at a befitting farewell programme, the officers & officials shared their experiences with Pertin and wished him a happy and healthy retirement life.

Legal Metrology and Consumer Affairs Department conducts market inspection

TAWANG, February 6:

A team of officials of the Legal Metrology and Consumer Affairs Department, Tawang district, led by Inspector (LM) Kesang Tashi, on Thursday, February 6 conducted a comprehensive inspection in Lungla sub-division, covering the Manpath Market and Zemithang area.

During the inspection, several traders were found violating the Legal Metrology Act, 2009 and the Packaged Commodities Rules, 2011. A total of nine offenders were booked for selling pre-packed commodities with-

out mandatory declarations such as maximum retail price (MRP), date of packaging, and address of manufacturer/ packers, which is a punishable offence under the law. Additionally, one trader was booked for violating Section 24 of the Legal Metrology Act, 2009.

To ensure compliance with legal standards, the department also conducted public awareness sessions, educating traders and consumers on the do's and don'ts regarding proper packaging and accurate weight measurement.

Furthermore, the team had carried out verification and stamping of weights and measures used by traders in the region to ensure fairness in trade practices.

The department urged all traders to comply with the prescribed rules and regulations to protect consumer rights and maintain ethical trade practices. Strict action will continue against violators to uphold transparency and fairness in the marketplace. The team encouraged the public to contact the department for any unfair trade practices, if found.

Monigong & Tuting Circles benefit from free health camp organised by Siang Trust

PASIGHAT, February 9:

Free Health Camps were conducted by Siang Trust in association with Sewa Bharati Purvanchal and Dhanawantari Sewa Yatra at many villages along Indo-China border including villages in Monigong Circle in Shi-Yomi s and Tuting Circle in Upper Siang. Free Health Camps were held in Monigong, Karo and Tato in Shi-Yomi district benefitting 203 needy patients.

In Tuting area, Free Health camps were held in Ngaming, Singging, Migging, Ayangging villages of Upper Siang district benefitting 185 patients. Free Pressure Tests, Sugar Tests and free medicines were provided in these camps.

Many needy patients and children of these interior villages benefited from these Health Camps. Specialist doctors and MBBS doctors from different parts

of the country namely Dr Devesh Kumar, Dr S Mittal, Dr Anuj, Dr Pushpendra, Dr Raunak Kumar, Dr Narayan Kotwal participated in these camps along with members of Siang Trust.

Dhanawantari Sewa Yatra Free Health Camps are conducted annually in different remote areas of Arunachal Pradesh annually. More such free health camps planned, as informed in a press release.

'Watershed Yatra' launched

ITANAGAR, February 6:

The Department of Land Resources (DoLR), Govt of India launched a national mass outreach campaign, 'Watershed Yatra', to generate people's participation and create awareness about the watershed development activities carried out under the Watershed Development Component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (WDC-PKSY 2.0) in the project areas by Union Rural Development Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan from Madhya Pradesh on Wednesday, February 5.

In Arunachal Pradesh too, the Department of Rural Development,

GoAP concurrently launched the Watershed Yatra, with the MLA cum Advisor to RD Minister, Taniya Soki flagging off the Yatra Van and distributing the DoLR-designed T-shirts (1000 Nos) to the Watershed Yodha's.

Addressing the gathering, Soki elaborated on the benefits of WDC-PKSY 2.0 schemes and suggested the public take advantage of the schemes. While pointing out the scarcity of water everywhere in the present day, he stressed on watershed development, advocating that "conservation is our utmost duty to protect and preserve the mother earth with a clean environment".

RD Joint Director (Rural Engineering) Chera Sanjiv briefed the gathering about the WDC-PMKSY-2.0 schemes, and the objective of Watershed Yatra and its importance. He informed that the Watershed Yatra will cover 18 districts, 49 blocks and 51 project areas along with Yatra Van team, drama team and officers from the State Level Nodal Agency, Itanagar. The Watershed Yatra starting from Papum Pare district will be culminating in Kamle district on March 18 next.

RD Director Tajin Jonnom and PD (RD), Yupia, Bengia Yakar also spoke on the occasion.

Training on Postmortem Examination and Other Medico-Legal Issues held

KHONSA, February 6:

In a first of its kind event in the Tirap, Changlang, and Longding (TCL) region aimed at boosting the medico-legal preparedness of healthcare professionals, a specialized training program for General Duty Medical Officers (GDMOs) of TCL was successfully conducted at General Hospital, Khonsa (GHK) on February 4 and 5.

As many as 40 doctors from across the TCL region attended this important program, which was organized in collaboration with the Directorate of Medical Education (Training & Research) and Forensic Sciences, TRIHMS, Naharlagun (GoAP).

District Medical Officer (DMO) Dr N Lowang extended a warm welcome to the resource persons, Dr Techhi Rekhi, Forensic Specialist, TRIHMS, and Dr Mope Loyi, Forensic Specialist from BPGH, Pasighat. She also welcomed the participating doctors from various health facilities

in Tirap, Changlang, and Longding, acknowledging their dedication to improving medico-legal expertise.

The two-day event covered case work test on Postmortem Examination (PME) report writing, approach to PME cases, medico-legal examination of sexual assault cases, demonstration on the use of Sexual Assault Forensic Examination (SAFE) kit, relevant medico-legal sections of BNS, BNSS, and BSA, medico-legal duties of doctors at Casualty, and orientation & advocacy on Medico-Legal Examination and Postmortem Reporting (MedLeaPR).

The training was highly interactive and insightful, marking a significant step in enhancing the technical capabilities and efficiency of doctors in handling postmortem and medico-legal cases. It was the first of its kind in the region and is expected to significantly improve the medico-legal preparedness of healthcare profes-

sionals.

Going forward, review meetings and workshops for doctors of TCL will be held regularly at General Hospital, Khonsa, to further strengthen their medico-legal knowledge and skills.

During the valedictory function, Medical Superintendent GHK Dr Tumli Basar extended his heartfelt gratitude to all participants for their active involvement. He expressed special appreciation to the resource persons for their invaluable contributions. He also acknowledged the efforts of Dr Thenyak Matey, SMO (SG) and Convener (training), for meticulously organizing the event and ensuring its success.

This training initiative represents a significant milestone in the continual professional development of medical officers in TCL and underscores the commitment of the GoAP to enhancing medico-legal standards in the State.

Governor launches Arunachal Tourism promotional calendar

Arunachal Pradesh has all the ingredients to become a world-class tourist destination: Governor



ITANAGAR, February 5:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) launched the 'Rise & Shine' calendar 2025 at Dorjee Khandu Convention Centre, Itanagar on February 1, 2025.

The calendar highlights the unparalleled beauty, cultural heritage and tourism potential of Arunachal Pradesh reinforcing the State Government's commitment to positioning the State as a premier tourism destination.

The Governor said that the event will contribute to promoting Arunachal Pradesh as a world-class tourism destination. He reposed his faith that the tourism and travel initiative would go a long way in reflecting the true cultural diversity of Arunachal Pradesh and harnessing the tourism potential of the State.

The Governor said that Arunachal Pradesh has all the ingredients to become a world-class tourist destination. With collective efforts from the government, local commu-

nities, and tourism agencies, we can unlock its true potential while preserving its unique heritage. He appealed to all to work together to showcase Arunachal Pradesh as a must-visit destination and contribute to the sustainable development of tourism in the region.

The Governor commended the Tourism Minister PD Sona, officers and officials of the State Tourism Department and Miss India Organization, Times Group for the joint venture. He said that through the collaboration with Times Group and Miss India Organization, the State will showcase the wonders of the State to the world.

The Governor, who has been emphasizing on harnessing the tourism potential of the State, said that the State Government is committed to addressing the issues related to the sector as tourism is one of the wheels of development and progress of Arunachal Pradesh. He said investments in infrastructure are in the pipeline, streamlining as well as digitizing the permit system, to

make travel easier and appealing to visitors. It will promote eco-tourism, adventure tourism, and community-based tourism while benefiting local communities. He stressed on focusing on hospitality to attract tourists.

State Tourism Minister Pasang Dorjee Sona, Secretary Tourism Ranphoa Ngowa and Brand & Operation Head, Miss India organization Ms Natasha Grover also spoke on the occasion.

The event was organized by the State Department of Tourism in collaboration with Miss India Organization, Times Group.

A specially curated audio-visual presentation of the State's tourism attractions was premiered, offering an immersive glimpse into the cultural and natural wealth of Arunachal Pradesh. The captivating visuals drew applause from the audience, setting the perfect tone for the evening, followed by a mesmerizing cultural dance performance representing Arunachal Pradesh's rich traditions.

Wanchos commemorate 150th Anniversary of Anglo-Wancho War

Wangsu describes the day as historic

NINU, February 5:

The 150th anniversary of the historic 1875 Anglo-Wancho War was commemorated in Ninu village in Longding district, through a grand event named 'Gantang', dedicated to honoring the unsung heroes who bravely resisted British forces on Sunday, February 2, 2025.

Gracing the occasion as the Chief Guest, Gabriel D. Wangsu, Arunachal Pradesh's Minister for Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry & Veterinary, Fisheries, Legal Metrology & Consumer Affairs and Food & Civil Supply, described it as a 'historic day' for the state. He expressed his deep gratitude for the opportunity to pay tribute to the warriors who sacrificed their lives to protect their land and people.

Wangsu shared a remarkable discovery from his research, recalling how he first came across a rare photograph of Wancho warriors captured during the war. This discovery helped uncover a crucial piece of history, bringing well-deserved recognition to the community's struggle and resilience. "We must reflect on the hardships and sacrifices of our ancestors. Their resistance ensured that the British could not subjugate us. Today, their bravery defines our identity. It is our duty to honor them and keep their legacy alive," Wangsu remarked.

Addressing the gathering, Minister Wangsu thanked the Government of Arunachal Pradesh, led by Chief Minister Pema Khandu and Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein, for their pivotal role in recognizing the Wancho heroes and reviving their lost history. "Our government is committed to recognizing the sacrifices of our indigenous warriors. The work of the State Core Committee on Unsung Heroes, led by DCM Chowna Mein, is

commendable in bringing to light the stories of our ancestors," he stated. He also acknowledged the efforts of researcher Nepha Wangsa, whose extensive research shed light on the Anglo-Wancho War.

As Minister for Animal Husbandry, Wangsu urged the villagers of Longchan Circle to recognize the importance of Mithun rearing, expressing concerns over its declining population in the region.

"Arunachal Pradesh accounts for nearly 90% of India's Mithun population, with our region being one of the highest contributors. It is crucial for us to focus on increasing Mithun rearing," he emphasized. He further announced plans to organize a special program in Longchan focused on Mithun conservation and rearing practices. Highlighting recent government initiatives, Wangsu pointed out that Mithun has now been officially recognized as a food animal, with its meat being formally named "Wesi." He called for greater community participation to ensure the successful implementation of government schemes related to Mithun conservation and other developmental programs.

Longding MLA Thangwang Wangham on the occasion paid tribute to the forefathers, stating: "Our ancestors fought for our land, freedom, and culture against foreign rule. Today, it is time for our younger generation to fight for economic freedom, freedom from illiteracy, and freedom from poverty. We must work together to make Wancho a vibrant and progressive tribe."

Chief of Ninu, Longwang Wangham, and researcher Nepha Wangsa also addressed the gathering, highlighting the historical significance of the Anglo-Wancho War of 1875.

Wangsa, the author of "The Nginu Massacre," has been at the forefront of advocating for the recognition of Arunachal's unsung heroes. "Bringing out the lost history of our ancestors has been a long and relentless journey, but today marks an accomplishment not just for me but for the entire Wancho community," Wangsa expressed. He also extended his gratitude to the State Government, including CM Pema Khandu, DCM Chowna Mein, Minister Wangsu, and former Advisor to CM Tai Tagak, for their instrumental roles in unearthing the long-buried history of the 1875 Anglo-Wancho War.

As part of the commemoration, the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) Arunachal Unit organized a Tiranga Yatra, a 3-km march that saw thousands of villagers from Longchan Circle and beyond participating. Students from various schools, including JNV Kaphcho, Ninu Govt. Secondary School, De Paul Nisa, Primary School Nisa, Primary School Ninu and Nawmai Khunjing Wangchin Academy, also took part, paying tribute to their ancestral warriors.

The event was also attended by Deputy Commissioner of Longding, ZPMs from various blocks, Tai Tagak, Chairman of Namaste Bharat Foundation, Northeast India, and Biki Yader, State Secretary of ABVP, along with other ABVP members, representatives from Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) and village Chiefs of Ninu, Nisa, Senua, Wakka, Longkai, Khogla and Kaimoi etc.

Notably, 2025 also marks the 150th anniversary of Bhagwan Veer Birsu Munda, India's first tribal freedom fighter, which coincides with the Ninu-Anglo Wancho War, further emphasizing the importance of honoring the sacrifices of tribal warriors.

Wangsu reviews progress & challenges in agri-allied sectors

CHANGLANG, February 6:

Agriculture & Allied Minister Gabriel D. Wangsu held a detailed review meeting with Heads of Departments (HoDs) and the Deputy Commissioner of Changlang district to assess the progress and challenges across agricultural and allied sectors in the district here on January 30 last.

Addressing the meeting, Minister Wangsu stressed on the importance of need-based distribution of scheme benefits and stressed the critical role of quality inputs, particularly in fisheries and agriculture. He directed the Fisheries Department to establish hatcheries using revolving funds to ensure sustainable fish seed production.

While addressing the concerns about scheme implementation, the minister particularly focused on the Atma Nirbhar program, emphasizing the necessity of proper beneficiary identification and subsequent support. He expressed serious concern regarding the potential misuse of scheme funds and called for stringent monitoring mechanisms.

The minister shared updates

on the innovative "Catch Them Young" initiative, revealing that fisheries and animal husbandry sectors are currently under the first phase, with agriculture and horticulture scheduled for the next phase. "We aim to nurture future leaders in these sectors through comprehensive training programs," stated Wangsu.

A significant announcement was made regarding the minister's personal initiative, "Krishi Kendra," which envisions a unified office space for all allied departments in each district. "This integration will significantly reduce farmers' difficulties in dealing with multiple departments," the minister explained.

He also highlighted the critical need for enhanced fodder production and cautioned HoDs about private dealership of plants. He emphasized the importance of providing proper nutrition to farmers and ensuring their welfare. The minister also addressed career progression concerns of department officials, linking it to their commitment to state development. "Our departments directly impact people's lives. It's crucial to identify

and motivate potential young farmers while ensuring existing farmers receive adequate support," the minister concluded, underlining the symbiotic relationship between departmental efficiency and agricultural progress.

During the meeting, department officials highlighted the district's substantial agricultural potential while bringing attention to critical challenges, including acute staff shortages, non-functional offices and current low productivity levels. The minister received comprehensive updates on flagship schemes' implementation and financial status.

The review meeting also covered progress updates on the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) and Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) schemes, with discussions on banking-related challenges in fund disbursement.

The meeting concluded with a renewed focus on strengthening the agricultural sector through improved coordination, efficient resource utilization, and farmer-centric approaches.

Maharashtra Public Service Commission team calls on Governor

ITANAGAR, February 6:

Four-member Maharashtra Public Service Commission team, accompanied by the Chairman, Arunachal Pradesh Public Service Commission Prof. (Dr.) Pradip Lingfa and member Col Koj Tari (Retd.) called on the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) at Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on January 30 last.

The MPSC Team including Dr. Devanand Shinde, Dr. Satish Deshpande, Dr. Abhay Wagh and Dr. Dilip Pandharpotte is on a weeklong study tour to share good practices of the

State Public Service Commission.

The Governor emphasized that merit must be the sole criterion for recommendations made by the Public Service Commission. He underscored that impartial and independent decision-making is crucial in fostering a secure, progressive, and developed society.

The Governor urged the members of the Public Service Commission of Arunachal Pradesh and Maharashtra, to ensure that the most capable individuals are recommended and entrusted with leadership roles by them. He stated that as India advances to-

wards realizing the Viksit Bharat@2047 vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, it is the duty of every responsible citizen, including Public Service Commission member to uphold justice and equity in all spheres of life.

The Governor also highlighted Arunachal Pradesh's developmental progress and the significant contributions of its people in governance and administration. He stressed that through the selection of highly qualified and competent candidates, the Public Service Commission can drive meaningful and lasting positive change.

Road Safety Awareness Campaign held

DEOMALI, February 5:

The District Road Safety Committee, Tirap, conducted a Road Safety Awareness Campaign at Wangcha Rajkumar Government College (WRGC), Deomali, on February 4 last. The program aimed to educate students and faculty about essential road safety measures, traffic rules, and emergency response techniques.

Speaking on the occasion, Er. Jolly Gamlin, AE, Highway, emphasized the importance of following road safety guidelines, especially on highways, to prevent accidents. Inspector Ngalo

Jilen, Officer-in-Charge, Deomali Police Station, elaborated on the consequences of traffic rule violations and the penalties under the Motor Vehicles (MV) Act. District Transport Officer (DTO) Khonsa, A. K. Wangsaham, delivered a detailed Power Point presentation, explaining various provisions of the MV Act, road safety regulations, and the significance of responsible driving.

Adding a critical health perspective, Dr. Namcha Hangphuk, Medical Officer (RBSK), conducted a First Aid Demonstration, equipping participants with essential life-saving techniques to

be used in case of road accidents.

To mark the event, Dr. Watsen Bangsia, Principal of WRGC led the attendees in taking a Road Safety Pledge, reinforcing their commitment to safe and responsible road practices.

The campaign successfully raised awareness among students and faculty, fostering a sense of responsibility towards road safety and compliance with traffic rules. The District Road Safety Committee, Tirap, continues its efforts to promote safer roads and reduce accidents through such educational initiatives.

MLA flags off new ambulance, inaugurates key projects

NAMSAL, February 5:

MLA cum Advisor to Minister, Sports & Youth Affairs and RWD, Chau Zingnu Namchom flagged off a new ambulance for the Primary Health Centre, Piyoung in the presence of Deputy

Commissioner C R Khampa, ZPC Nang Urmila Mancheykhun, ZPM Piyoung, GPCs, GPMs, officials, and the local community on Tuesday.

The ambulance was donated by the GPCs and GPMs of 03-Nin-

groo Zilla Parishad. Namchom also inaugurated two key infrastructure projects in Piyoung, namely - the newly constructed Water Treatment Plant and a Multipurpose Community Hall on the occasion.

DC reviews progress of state & central schemes

PASIGHAT, February 5:

East Siang DC Tayi Taggu reviewed the progress of various ongoing state and centrally sponsored schemes implemented by the Government departments, PMC and Smart City Mission during the monthly District level Monitoring Committee meeting (DLMC) at DC's Conference Hall here on Tuesday last.

Addressing the officers, the DC called for inter-department coordination for smooth and successful

achievement of development projects and asked the HoDs for innovative project proposals for the upcoming Budget 2025-26.

Some of the key projects reviewed were the status of up gradation of Bakin Pertin General Hospital to 300 bedded hospital, augmentation of water supply for Pasighat township, Vatsalaya sadan, Pasighat Solid Waste Management, infrastructure works at Arunachal University etc.

The DC also took stock of the status of beneficiary schemes under Chief Minister Social Security Schemes, Agri and allied sectors, Rural development including ongoing projects Pasighat Smart Mission Projects and Pasighat Municipal Council (PMC).

DPO Tatak Mibang , CEO, PSDCDL Dr. Manjuli Komut, MEO, PMC Jayanti Pertin . HoDs, SRA Benjamin Tabing were among others attended the meeting.

East Siang DA bids farewell to Roy

PASIGHAT, February 5:

East Siang District Administration bade farewell to IPR officer, HK Roy, Pasighat who served 36-year long in the Department of Information and Public Relations.

Deputy Commissioner Tayi Taggu, while honouring Roy, appreciated him for his exemplary work culture, who dedicatedly worked in

East Siang as APRO.

Officers and officials honored Roy's remarkable service at a farewell ceremony held in DC's Conference hall on Monday.

DC wished him a healthy and happy post-retirement life adding that Roy's dedication and service to the people of Arunachal Pradesh will be remembered and

cherished.

Joining in the technical division in the beginning of his service and known for his writing flair, he contributed immensely in the publicity and PR duties serving the people of East Kameng, Tawang and East Siang districts. He joined the service in 1988 and retired on January 31, 2025.

NHPC hands over ultra sound machine to District hospital

ANINI, February 5:

As a part of its Corporate Social Responsibility initiative, NHPC Ltd on Tuesday handed over the much needed Ultra Sound machine to the district Hospital Anini in the presence of local MLA Mopi Mihu, DC Pagli Sora, officials of NHPC, DMO, MS DH Anini and several Head of offices.

With the availability of the Ultrasound Machine in the district, the

suffering of patients and pregnant women will be alleviated to a great extent by not having to travel 230 Kms to the nearest town for availing this facility and will also aid in early detection of life threatening diseases.

Speaking on the occasion, MLA congratulated the District Hospital for the life changing achievement and exhorted NHPC Ltd to carry on their noble initiatives. He also stressed for effective use of the

machineries and tools available in the hospital and the need for periodic trainings on the latest know how of the hospital technicians.

This is the second major contribution of NHPC in the district, after construction of boys and girls hostel at Govt. Residential School, Ranli under Arzoo circle. NHPC Ltd is executing the Dibang Multipurpose Project in Dibang Valley and Lower Dibang Valley.

Siang Trust conducts free health camp at remote Namsing village

PASIGHAT, February 5:

A free health camp was conducted at Namsing village, Mebo Subdivision in East Siang district by Siang Trust NGO on February 2 last.

Senior Ophthalmologist Dr. Beauty Borang Perme , Senior Surgeon, Dr.Kaling Megu, Dental Surgeons Dr. Mini Ering and Dr. Miti Burang, Retired Additional Director(DHS), Dr. Saibal Bhattacharjee , Retired Joint

Director(DHS), Dr. Runi Tasung , SMO Incharge Dr.Lung Perme, medical staff of PHC Namsing, President of Siang Trust, Group Captain Mohonto Pang-ping Pao, VM (Retd.), supporting staff and representatives of Siang Trust participated in the health camp.

GBs, Village Secretary and elders of Namsing village also assisted in the conduct of the camp.

Total 246 patients from Nam-

sing, Kongkul, Seram, Gadum, Mer, Sogan villages were examined including senior citizens. Free pressure tests, sugar tests, free ECG, free medicines were given during the camp, besides 150 persons received treatment for eye ailments and 45 were treated for dental problems.

Similar health camps are planned for citizens of remote villages of the area.

No politics should drive scheme distribution: Wangsu



KHONSA, February 6:

In his maiden visit to Tirap district since taking office, Arunachal Pradesh Agriculture Minister Gabriel D. Wangsu strongly called for transparent, merit-based distribution of government schemes, stating that political considerations should not influence beneficiary selection.

Chairing a comprehensive review meeting in Khonsa on January 31 last, Wangsu, who holds multiple portfolios including Horticulture, Animal Husbandry & Veterinary, Fisheries, Legal Metrology & Consumer Affairs, and Food & Civil Supply, heard detailed presentations from department heads of the district on ongoing projects and their financial status.

"Scheme benefits must be distributed based on genuine need, free from political influence or familial connections," Wangsu stated while

discussing challenges in programs like the Atma Nirbhar initiative. He assured that funding would not be a constraint, and urged the officers to work dedicatedly for the welfare of the entire state, while he would look after their career's growth, promotions and RR related issues.

The minister raised concerns about unauthorized plant and cattle sales by private dealers, emphasizing the importance of farmer welfare. He also provided updates on new initiatives like 'Catch Them Young' and 'Krishi Kendra', designed to boost the agricultural sector.

Supporting Wangsu's stance, local legislators Wanglam Sawin from Khonsa East and Chakat Aboh from Khonsa West and Adviser to HM-Transport criticised the practice of multiple loan allocations to single families through political influence.

They stressed the agricultural department's vital role in addressing food scarcity in Tirap and Longding districts. Sawin particularly emphasised that proper scheme implementation requires comprehensive departmental oversight beyond mere geo-tagging.

During his visit, Wangsu inspected local agricultural facilities, including the Horticulture Nursery Farm and Cattle Farm at CK Road. He directed officials to procure large cardamom seeds only from registered suppliers and called for expansion of cattle farm facilities.

The review meeting was attended by key district officials including the Deputy Commissioner of Tirap and officers from various agricultural departments. Wangsu assured regular future visits to monitor progress in the district.

Govt focusing on quality education over quantity - Sona

RGU celebrates 42nd foundation day

RONO HILLS, February 5:

The 42nd foundation day of Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU) was celebrated here on Tuesday with great enthusiasm at the university's campus here, commemorating the laying of the foundation stone of the university on 4 February, 1984, by the then prime minister.

Minister for Education Pasang Dorjee Sona declared the commencement of the celebration by inaugurating the exhibition, wherein local entrepreneurs and various departments of the university set up stalls showcasing their products.

Addressing the gathering of faculty members, staffers, students and community members at the convention hall of the university, Sona said that the state government is focusing on quality education over quantity and the people of the state should allow the government a little time to improve and make the public education system in the state among the best in the country. "The teachers in government schools are recruited through competitions, yet the quality of education remains low in government schools, compared to private schools," he said. The state should have a holistic approach towards education, he said, adding that everyone is a stakeholder and has to work accordingly to see the changes they want.

Highlighting his tour to the nook and corner of the state to assess the education system, the minister observed that the foundation of the workforce or the students in senior secondary or in colleges is weak, therefore the root needs to be treated first. He said that his department would focus on improving and strengthening the primary education on priority to strengthen the foundation of education. The minister also urged the youths, especially those in the university, to be responsible and visionary in their responses, "espe-

cially on social media. The Minister further congratulated the university for and carving a niche for itself on national and international platforms.

Former RGU vice-chancellor, S Regunathan, who visited the campus after 33 years, commended that university, saying that it has grown from strength to strength with new departments, courses, institutes and other infrastructural developments. He acknowledged the role of RGU in development of nearby localities, especially the transformative development of Doimukh area. The concrete jungles should not replace traditional bamboo homes which have been a characteristic feature of the state, he said, adding that the students and scholars should always remain connected to their roots and culture, for their relevance lies in returning the fruits of education back to the society. He also stressed on realizing and harnessing the power of AI, "so that students can cope with the changing scenario."

RGU Acting Vice-Chancellor Prof SK Nayak in his speech said that during the time of independence the state had only two schools and now the state has schools in every village. The state has now private colleges, private law colleges, technical institutes of repute and we are witnessing a rejuvenated focus on education in the state. The gross enrolment ratio of the state is 30%, which is above the national average, Prof Nayak said, adding that, with perseverance and research-oriented outlook, RGU would further advance towards academic excellence.

RGU Registrar Dr NT Rikam shared the evolutionary journey of the university. He highlighted that in the beginning, the university had only three departments and 48 students and now the university has over 40 departments and 5,374 students enrolled. He applauded the university for meticulously maintaining the academ-

ic calendar with the best practice of organising convocation on fixed date, ie, 30 November each year. Rikam also highlighted a significant achievement of the university, "which is A accreditation by NAAC in 2024." He acknowledged the vital role of teachers, students, staffers, alumni and community members in building and shaping RGU.

As part of the celebration, the university organised photography and essay writing competitions for the students and employees. In the photography competition Sashakamoni Kashyap secured the first position. The second position was shared by Songio Tania and Priya Lomdak, and Shashank Mishra was adjudged third, while in the essay writing competition on the theme 'RGU of My Dreams: Milestones, Challenges and Way Forward', Nima Dorjee stood the winner, and Ankita Hazarika and Tutumoni Borah received the second and third prize, respectively.

The university also honored the outgoing teachers, officers and staffers of the preceding year. Prof Bhagabat Nayak, Kurian Thomas, Tikendra Nath, Sanjib Kumar Sur, Lalit Chandra Gogoi and Padma Bahadur Lama were felicitated as outgoing employees of the university.

The university also started an annual award series for the best employee of the university to boost the morale of the employees. Kanak Barman, Bake Karu, Rupan Kalandi, Tadar Monju, Raju Jomoh, Manik Das, and Shib Shankar Dutta were felicitated in this category for their exemplary services.

Sports competition and cultural evening for the students and employees was also organised to mark the event, besides an exhibition where students and employees of different departments exhibited various item like books, ethnic food, traditional dress and accessories, fruits and vegetables.

Health Minister inaugurates Integrated Mega Specialty Health Camp

DOIMUKH, February 5:

Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Biyuram Wahge inaugurated the Integrated Mega Specialty Health Camp at the District Hospital campus here in Doimukh on Tuesday.

During the event, the minister emphasized the importance of broadening the scope of Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) activities to create awareness on life threatening diseases and good health practices. He also highlighted key points such as organizing health camps in all districts to identify prevalent diseases and adopt strategic methods to combat them; Raising awareness about cancer and maximizing the use of social media for health campaigns and prioritizing the availability and functionality of medical equipment.

Wahge also addressed the roles and responsibilities of doctors and nurses, underscoring their importance in delivering quality healthcare services.

Doimukh MLA, Nabam Vivek

on the occasion expressed concerns about the district hospital, which was notified long back but yet to become fully functional. He requested the Minister to provide all necessary assistance to expedite the hospital's operational readiness.

Dr. Marbom Basar, Program Director, Arunachal Pradesh State AIDS Control Society (APSACS) shared insights about the National AIDS Control Program (NACP) Phase 5, which is set to conclude in 2026. He highlighted the implementation of the Sampoorna Suraksha strategy, initiated in districts like Papum Pare, East Kameng, and Lower Dibang Valley as part of the first phase. This comprehensive strategy includes counselling, testing, care, and linkages to antiretroviral therapy (ART) for targeted groups. Dr. Basar stressed the importance of adopting socially acceptable behaviour and noted that the prevention of HIV relies heavily on behavioural changes. He further mentioned a surge in HIV cases across Arunachal Pradesh during 2022-2023

and emphasized that stigmatization remains a significant barrier in society.

WHO Consultant Nidhi Sumnayan spoke about the "100 Days Intensified TB Campaign," focusing on eradicating tuberculosis through targeted efforts, while Dr. Riken Rina, DHS provided additional insights during the event, supporting the initiatives aimed at strengthening the state's healthcare system.

The Minister also launched the 100-day Intensified TB campaign and distributed food baskets to adopted TB patients.

A total of 230 patients benefited from the camp, which provided specialized services in Medicine, Surgery, Gynecology, Orthopedics, Chest, Eye, ENT, Pediatrics, Dermatology and AYUSH. Screenings for NCD, TB, HIV, and Hepatitis were also conducted.

Among others DC Papum Pare Jiken Bomjen, DMO Dr. Reena Ronya, SDO Doimukh Kipa Raja and HoDs attended the event.

Motivational and counselling session organized for girl students

BOMDILA, February 5:

To inspire and guide the girl students of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya (JNV), Nafra toward greater focus, persistence, consistency and sincerity in achieving their goals, a motivational and counselling session was organized here on Wednesday by West Kameng Deputy Commissioner Akriti Sagar along with Superintendent of Police Sudhansu Dhama.

Both of them shared personal

experiences, life lessons, and effective strategies to overcome challenges and stay committed to their aspirations.

The session emphasized the importance of self-discipline, hard work, and resilience in the face of adversity. The dignitaries encouraged students to set clear goals, maintain a positive mindset, and remain consistent in their efforts.

The District Labour and Em-

ployment Exchange Officer (DLEO) Khandu Thongdok and District Library & Information Officer (DL&IO) Lobom Tamin also shared their personal experiences, urging students to believe in themselves and stay persistent in their pursuits.

During the interactive session, students actively participated by asking questions and addressing their self-doubts, making the event an enriching and inspiring experience.

Pul inspects ongoing development projects in Anjaw

HAWAI, February 5:

Women & Child Development Minister Dasanglu Pul on Sunday, February 2 last inspected various ongoing development projects in Anjaw district aimed at enhancing infrastructure and connectivity in the region under the Vibrant Village Programme (VVP) and North Eastern Council (NEC) initiatives.

During the visit, the Minister also reviewed the construction of a new road connecting the BRO road to Kandun village, a crucial project under the VVP aimed at improving accessibility in the remote border areas. She also inspected the installation of

a high-mast flag post in Bara Kandun which she said "symbolises the spirit of nationalism and development in the frontier region."

At Kibithoo, India's eastern-most town, Pul took stock of the construction of a tourist lodge under the NEC. She noted that the project would not only boost tourism but also create livelihood opportunities for the local community.

She said that the govt is committed to ensuring that even the remotest villages in the border region receive the necessary infrastructure for growth and prosperity, adding that

these projects will play a vital role in improving connectivity, boosting tourism, and enhancing the overall socio-economic development of the district.

The minister also reviewed other development schemes in Kibithoo, Kaho, and Musai under the VVP. She emphasised the government's vision of making border villages self-reliant and well-connected.

During the tour, the minister was accompanied by Anjaw ZPC Soblem Pul, DC Millo Kojin, SP Rike Kamsi, the ZPMs of Manchal and Hawai South, and senior officials from various departments.

Integrated Health Campaign at Nari

NARI, February 6:

The Department of Health and Family Welfare, Lower Siang District recently organised three concurrent events at CHC Nari, comprising of an Integrated Health Campaign, launch of 100 days Tuberculosis Campaign and Sparsh Leprosy Campaign-2025 whereby a wide range of medical services were provided free of cost to the public of Nari Sub- Division.

The program was inaugurated by Rujjum Rakshap, DC Lower Siang in presence of Ainstein Koyu, ADC Nari, Junaki Bomjen Kaye, ZPM Nari, CO Nari, DMO, DRCHO, RFO and others.

During the IHC, various diseases are tested in a single camp along with provision of relevant treatment linkages including counselling sessions with risk and vulnerability assessments. The government is committed to bring-

ing health services at the doorstep of people through such camps.

Additionally, the district administration facilitated Adhaar enrolment and updation, while the department of forest initiated a plantation drive in the CHC under the aegis 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' with the motto 'Clean and Green Nari'.

Despite inclement weather, more than 400 beneficiaries availed the multitude of services in the camp.

SCERT successfully conducts APTET 2022

ITANAGAR, February 5:

The Arunachal Pradesh Teacher Eligibility Test (APTET) 2022 was successfully conducted by the State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT), Itanagar on February 2 last.

The examination was held smoothly across the designated centers ensuring fair and transparent evaluation of aspiring teachers in the state. APTET examination comprises of 02 (two) papers - Paper I for aspiring Primary Teachers (Classes 1 to 5) and Paper II for Upper Primary Teachers (Classes 6 to 8).

Earlier, the APTET was conducted by the Directorate of Elementary Education. However, with a strategic shift aimed at enhancing the quality and effectiveness of the examination process, SCERT has been handed over the responsibility

of conducting the prestigious eligibility test. The APTET serves as a crucial benchmark for candidates aspiring to join the teaching profession in Arunachal Pradesh, ensuring that only qualified and competent individuals enter the education sector.

The successful completion of the 2022 examination marks a significant step in streamlining the recruitment and selection process for teachers in the state. In a commendable effort to expedite the evaluation process, the candidates were provided with the duplicate copy of their OMR answer sheet wherein they have recorded their responses. The candidates can also view the scanned copies of their OMR Answer sheet by login with the credentials they used during the time of registration.

The APTET 2022 result has been declared within 48 hours of

the conduct of examination and candidates can view the result and the Answer Key in the websites <https://online.arunachaltet2022.in> or <https://scertarunachal.nic.in>

Out of 1797 candidates registered for Paper I, 1371 appeared and 244 candidates have passed with a pass percentage of 17.80%. And in Paper II, 2732 candidates were registered, 2230 appeared and 835 candidates have passed with a pass percentage of 37.44%.

SCERT, Itanagar, extended its gratitude to all stakeholders, including candidates, examination staff and officials including magistrates & police personnel for their cooperation in ensuring the seamless execution of the examination, stated a press release from State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT).

Dadamja Hoju Kuhwa celebrated with great enthusiasm

DADAM, February 5:

The popular festival of the Dadam area in Tirap district, Dadamja Hoju Kuhwa, was celebrated with great enthusiasm at the Dadam circle headquarters on Sunday.

Addressing the mammoth gathering, Chief Guest, Borduria-Bogapani MLA, and Advisor to the Minister Environment & Forest, Wanglin Lowangdong, lauded the people of Dadam for preserving their age-old traditions and cultural heritage. He also emphasized the unity among the Noctes, highlighting that Hoju Kuhwa is a unique festival of the Nocte community. He noted that this festival is celebrated during the lean season, a time when people face hardships due to a lack of livelihood opportunities.

Recalling the historical brotherhood between Dadam and Borduria, Lowangdong praised the Dadamja Hoju Kuhwa Organizing Committee for inviting him to grace the occasion as the Chief Guest. He earnestly appealed to the youth of Dadam to follow in the footsteps of their forefathers and continue practicing their rich cultural traditions for future generations.

Chief Patron and Khonsa West MLA & Advisor to the Minister Transport, Chakat Aboh, urged the people of Dadam to remain united and continue their spirit of hard work for the well-being of their area and the Nocte community as a whole. She expressed her appreciation to Lowangdong for accepting the invitation as the Chief Guest. Aboh also urged the

people of Dadam not to mix political differences while celebrating festivals like Hoju Kuhwa and Chalo Loku, emphasizing that culture fosters unity in society.

Speaking as the Guest of Honour, Tirap Deputy Commissioner Techu Aran commended the people of Dadam for keeping their ancient traditions intact. He stressed that no outsiders would teach them to preserve their cultural heritage and it is their own responsibility to protect, preserve, and promote their traditions for future generations. Taking advantage of the large gathering, the Deputy Commissioner strongly urged the people of Dadam and the rest of Tirap to stop hunting wild animals and birds, warning that frequent hunting could harm the environment and disrupt ecological balance, which would ultimately affect human life as well.

President of the 33rd Dadamja Hoju Kuhwa Celebration Committee, Wangroa Hakhun, spoke about the mythology and significance of Dadamja Hoju Kuhwa, which has been centrally celebrated at its headquarters in Dadam since 1992.

Unlike other agricultural harvest festivals, Hoju Kuhwa derives its name from two words - "Ho" meaning the lean period of the year, and "Ju" meaning celebration.

Thus, Hoju Kuhwa signifies a celebration during the lean season, uplifting pride and honor while showcasing resilience during agrarian hardships.

He further noted that while Hoju Kuhwa is traditionally celebrated in various villages of the Dadam area during March and April, the Dadamja Hoju Kuhwa was first centrally celebrated under the aegis of the Dadam Area Youth Association (DAYA) in 1992 with Wangchat Sumpa of Huan village as President and Wangdi Hakhun of Dadam village as Secretary. The event was formally inaugurated by the then Education Minister, Dera Natung.

The festival featured various traditional performances and activities, including offering of Rangtam (local wine) at the Chaam by the oldest man of Dadam village, Wentho-ram (Gun Blessings), mega dance performance by women from the Dadam area, traditional Hoju Kuhwa dance by villagers from Muktowa, Dadam, and Huakan, Modern Nocte dance performances by Hukan girls, Bera Girls, and United Kothin Boys, traditional game Wahphak-haapmin (Bamboo Stilt Walk Fight) competitions among the villagers of Dadam.

Among those present were Special Guest SP Tirap Singjatla Singpho, ADC H/Qs Tana Bapu, CO 36Bn CRPF Lamkhokam Lhouiem, ZPM Khonsa Block Wanghong Pan-ka, Chairperson NWA(Nocte Women Association)Smti Chasuum wangchadong, CO Borduria Yowa Anya, CO Dadam Dr. Metung Taku, along with government officers, panchayat leaders, GBs, OC PS Dadam, and Assam Rifles personnel.

Governor, First Lady of the State participate in Kumbh Mela rituals



PRAYAGRAJ, February 11: Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh, UYSM, YSM (Retd.), who is on a

4-day visit to Uttar Pradesh, accompanied by the First Lady of the State, Anagha Parnaik, visited the revered Someshwar Mahadev Temple, a historic and spiritually significant shrine in Prayagraj dedicated to Lord Shiva on 11th February 2025. The Governor performed Rudrabhishek, an elaborate Vedic ritual, seeking divine blessings for universal peace, prosperity, and well-being of all.

Immersed in the spiritual grandeur of the occasion, the Governor and the First Lady of the State participated in the auspicious rituals and the holy Sangam Snan at the Kumbh Mela in Prayagraj on 10th February 2025. The Governor's participation in these sacred traditions highlighted his deep reverence for India's spiritual legacy and his unwavering commitment to fostering cultural and religious harmony.

Following the temple visit, the Governor and the First Lady embarked on the Mahakumbh Kshetra Darshan, a sacred pilgrimage that led them to the Sangam, the confluence of the three holiest rivers in Hinduism, Ganga, Yamuna, and the mystical Saraswati.

NCORD Committee meeting held in Yupia

YUPIA, February 12:

A monthly District-Level NCORD Committee meeting was convened at the DC Conference Hall, Yupia, under the chairmanship of Jiken Bomjen, Deputy Commissioner to address various aspects of drug abuse and strategies for its prevention on Tuesday, February 11.

The meeting reviewed the actions taken by stakeholders on issues raised during the previous session and deliberated on new measures to combat the drug menace in the district.

DC-cum-Chairman of NCORD, Jiken Bomjen, expressed deep concern over the societal impact of drug abuse, emphasizing that the issue affects everyone in some capacity. He urged parents to monitor their children and advocated for preventive measures starting at home. The DC also recommended various awareness initiatives to be undertaken by the district administration.

Higio Yame, ADC Sagalee, described drug abuse as a societal evil and proposed the formation of sector-level committees for a more localized approach to tackling the issue.

She also reiterated the significance of NGO involvement in awareness and rehabilitation programs.

DSP Radhe Obing, representing the Superintendent of Police (S.P.), highlighted the widespread prevalence of drug abuse affecting all genders and economic groups. He outlined the challenges in tackling drug trafficking and its associated issues, such as prostitution and theft.

DSP Obing further disclosed that in 2025, three drug-related complaints had been filed, leading to the seizure of 650 grams of cannabis and 16 grams of heroin. He emphasized the critical role of community involvement and awareness in addressing the issue.

DMO Dr.Reena Ronya, informed the gathering about stringent monitoring of prescription medications to prevent misuse. She assured that no prescription drugs are being dispensed without valid prescriptions and that such transactions are closely tracked.

A representative from the Women and Child Development (WCD) Department highlighted the importance of public awareness cam-

paigns and the need to support rehabilitation centers. She stressed the necessity of involving NGOs for a better understanding of the issue.

Tadar Hania of the New Hope Foundation, Enchi, Doimukh, called for enhanced collaboration between the police and administration to focus on both addicts and non-addicts. He recommended providing counselling services by psychologists in schools and jails.

Similarly, Ngurang Taga of Avenue for Joint Counsel proposed training rehabilitated individuals in horticulture and agriculture to aid their reintegration into society.

Kipa Kanam of the Arunachal Pradesh Youth Organization underscored the need for a dedicated Narcotics Department to separate addicts from criminal offenders. He advocated for strict penalties for drug suppliers and peddlers and suggested creating job opportunities for reformed addicts.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks by DC Jiken Bomjen, marking the committee's collective resolve to combat the drug menace through collaborative and community-driven efforts.

Lowang reviews major projects and flagship schemes at Likabali

LIKABALI, February 10:

The first review meeting on major infrastructure projects and PM/CM flagship schemes was convened at the conference hall of Circuit House, Likabali by Wangki Lowang, Minister Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Geology, Mining & Minerals Development cum Guardian Minister for Lower Siang district on February 10.

While stressing on the need to align road projects within the State, the Minister spoke on the significance of the road connecting Siang to Subansiri from Pasighat -Ego-Garu-Gensi-Sibe to Tamen (247 km).

Lauding the district's scope for religious tourism, Lowang exhorted the administration to come up with innovative ideas to generate means of

self employment and economic development. He also exhorted the departmental heads to have a thorough knowledge of the guidelines of various funding sources, its judicious use and discouraged surrendering funds due to delay.

Secretary Education cum mentor secretary for the district, Duly Kamduk impressed upon the departmental heads to make all-out efforts to saturate PM and CM flagship schemes and to execute all works without compromising with the quality. He advised the working departments to draw program evaluation and review technique (PERT) of every work, in addition to financial & physical achievement while presenting the progress of work.

In his keynote address, Lower

Siang Deputy Commissioner Rujum Rakshap requested the Guardian Minister and Mentor Secretary to take up the district's issues at the highest level for holistic development, and also requested for additional funds to develop border areas to ameliorate the living conditions of the people.

State Assembly Deputy Speaker Kardo Nyigygor and Nari-Koyu MLA Tojir Kadu also spoke on the occasion.

Various departmental heads through PPT enlightened the house on a slew of projects going on and put forth major hurdles faced during the execution. The meeting was also attended by ZPC Marpe Nguba, SP Gothambo Dajangu, ADC Nari, HoDs and others.

ABC riders return after ride to BOBMCRM-2025

ITANAGAR, February 8:

Fifty riders of the Arunachal Bullet Club (ABC) and other clubs returned to Arunachal Pradesh on 6 January after a ride to the Brotherhood of Bulleteers Motorcycling Consortium Rider Mania (BOBMCRM)-2025, held at Dhordo, Gujarat, from 31 January to 2 February.

The riders from Arunachal showcased the rich cultural heritage of Arunachal during the event, promoting cultural exchange and tourism in the state.

ABC chief Techi Tufan informed that the riders started their ride from Kaho, the easternmost village of India in Arunachal, on 18 January, which was flagged off by Brigadier Jaspreet Singh of the 16 Bihar Regiment from Kaho. After reaching Itanagar, additional riders joined the convoy, which was flagged off by Itanagar Capital Region Deputy Commissioner Talo Potom on 22 January. "Riders from the Siang chapter, Roing, Longding, Shillong, Tinsukia, Ziro, and other

locations joined the convoy at Bon-gaigaon, Assam, before proceeding towards Gujarat," he said.

Tanung Jamoh, the moderator of the Federation of Arunachal Riders, informed that nine motorcycling clubs from the state took part in the ride.

The riders charted a new cross-country route from Kaho Koteswar, covering over 4,000 kilometres, connecting the easternmost and westernmost points of India.

Riders from various clubs included the Royal Riders of Arunachal, The Head Hunters, Decant Souls, Buffaloes Trail, the Royal Siang Riders, 30 Degree North, The Running Wolves and The Gliding Piranhas united under the ABC's banner for the journey.

Among the most inspiring stories from the ride was the participation of women riders, who braved over 4,000 kilometres across 12 days. Rakhe Agam, fondly known as the 'Iron Lady' within the riding fraternity, shared her excitement about

the experience.

"We were apprehensive about road conditions and our health, but we overcame every challenge to reach the westernmost point of India. We stood shoulder to shoulder with our male counterparts and proved that we are the tough daughters of Arunachal Pradesh," she said.

Agam added, "As the coordinator of lady riders, I take immense pride in announcing that Nang Suwanna Longkieng and Jennifer Yaro secured first and third place, respectively, in the women's dirt race."

Although the ABC had set out to secure the bid to host the BOBMCRM-2026, vice chief (admin) Sanjay Nath expressed disappointment that their efforts fell short this year.

"We went with high hopes, but unfortunately, we weren't successful this time. However, this is not the end. We will keep riding, keep trying and one day the ABC will rightfully host the BOBMCRM," he said.

Wangsu interacts with progressive farmers and inspects slew of projects under agri & allied sectors



PASIGHAT, February 8:

Agriculture Minister Gabriel D Wangsu has stressed that successful implementation of various agri and allied schemes will motivate more farmers as a viable economic activity.

The Minister, who is on his maiden visit to East Siang district, stressed this while taking stock of several agri and allied projects being implemented in the district. He also interacted with the beneficiary farmers during his field visits to farms of progressive farmers.

Later, Wangsu assessed the progress of ongoing schemes during a review meeting held at Siang Guest House with HoDS, in presence of local MLA Tapi Darang and DC Tayi Taggu.

Another highlight of his visit was to the floral village (Bodak) under Mebo sub-division, wherein the Minister lauded the Mission Pun: lek (floral village destination) initiated by local MLA Oken Tayeng. He urged the community to avail schemes to take

up floriculture as an economic activity in tune with the 'innovative' floral mission. MLA Tayeng, DC Taggu, ADC Mebo Sibbo Passing, and HoDs were present on the occasion.

Wangsu, who also holds the portfolio of Food & Civil Supplies among a list of others, also visited the Civil Supplies & District Agriculture Store, Pasighat.

During his visit, the Minister inspected the IDDP & ANE Diary Plant at VTI, Govt Piggery Farm at 7 mile, Pane Korong Fish farm & Fishery Office, DAO office, DHO office at GTC, District Veterinary Hospital and the liquid Nitrogen Plant, Oil Palm plantation and Dargon fruit cultivation of progressive farmer Miti Megu at 4 Mile, fish pond of progressive farmer Besing Tatin at Gobo.

He said that the integrated farming taken up by progressive farmers Megu & Tatin should also inspire others as 'model' success stories.

During his visit to fish pond of

Tatin taken up under PMMSY scheme in 2021-22, the Minister was apprised that Tatin has successfully done integrated farming of fish cum duck culture along with horticulture crops like banana, pineapple etc around the embankment of fish pond.

The Minister was also urged to increase the allotment of fish ponds under Atma Nirbhar Matsya Palan Yojana scheme for potential pisciculture district like East Siang.

The Minister also stressed on renovation of existing infrastructure in Veterinary Training Institute (VTI) for implementing the GoAP budget announcement for training of unemployed youth in animal husbandry & poultry under its 'Catch Them Young' initiative.

For the functioning of Ane dairy plant at VTI, Wangsu called for revival of dairy cooperative societies (DCS) in East Siang to tap the dairy sector for economic empowerment of dairy farmers.

Mass library awareness campaign organised

NAMSAL, February 8:

The mass library awareness campaign cum library membership drive organised by the District Library, Namsai in two phases concluded on Friday, February 8 in Mahabodhi Lord Buddha College, Piyong.

Held with the motto to promote reading habits among the students of the region, the first phase of the program was organized in December, 2024 covering all the middle, secondary and higher secondary schools in

the township, Govt Nursing School, Namsai and Arunachal University of Studies here before the second phase covering Ven Bethani College, and CP Namchoom Govt Polytechnic College at Namsai, and Mahabodhi Lord Buddha College, Piyong, benefiting more than 2000 students along with faculty members.

The resource persons of the program were Namsai EAC Oni Padun, District Horticulture Officer Mar-do Ninu, Treasury Officer SKS Hus-

sain, PGTs Raju Dutta and Manosh Kr PR, and Librarian S Mukhopadhyay.

The program was incited by Namsai Deputy Commissioner CR Khampa to spread the message of joy of reading among the student community and to encourage them to avail the maximum benefit of the hi-tech District Library at Namsai. In order to facilitate large numbers of library users, the District Library remains open six days a week from 9.30 am to 6.30 pm.

Two Drug Peddlers arrested by Anti Drug Squad East Siang Police

PASIGHAT, February 8:

In its mission to combating drug menace for a Drug Free East Siang, the Anti- Drug Squad (ADS) of East Siang Police has arrested two drug peddlers and seized 2.317 Kg Narcotics Substance.

East Siang Police had received credible information regarding a habitual drug user, residing in the 2-Mile area, who regularly procures Ganja and heroin from Silapathar on Friday after which operation was conducted which eventually led to the apprehension of the Drug Peddlers subsequently.

Acting on this intelligence, the

Anti-Drug Squad (ADS) East Siang Police swung into action and a team was formed under the leadership of Inspector Ige Lollen, OC PS Pasighat, along with SI K. Tangha, ASI R. Lowang, SI (SG) A.K. Deka, Ct. T. Ragyor, and Ct. O. Modi. The operation by ADS was conducted under the supervision of Ayup Boko, DSP (HQ), and under overall guidance of Shri Pankaj Lamba, IPS, SP East Siang.

The accused, Dhananjey Saha, a driver was apprehended from his residence. Upon interrogation, he disclosed that he procured Ganja from a woman in Silapathar and agreed to lead the police to her.

Subsequently, controlled delivery operation was conducted, leading to the apprehension of Junmoni Das near Rail Gate, Silapathar, with assistance from Dhemaji Police. A search of her residence led to the seizure of 2.317 kg of suspected Ganja, a digital weighing machine, and a smartphone.

A case has been registered at Pasighat PS under Section 20(b)(ii) (A) of the NDPS Act, 1985, informed the report.

East Siang Police urges citizens to report drug-related activities without hesitation to help create a drug-free East Siang.

Spear Corps organise Vocational Learning Tour under Operation Sadbhavna

PASIGHAT, February 9:

Aimed at developing skills and promoting entrepreneurship among the among the local community members and youth of the state, a Vocational Learning Tour under Operation Sadbhavna, an initiative of the Spear Corps of the Indian Army was flagged off on Saturday, from the Veterans Suvidha Kendra Pasighat for thirty members including youth from the East Siang district. The beneficiary trainees aged 21 to 50 hail from villages Sigar, Mebo, Ralling, Motum, and Pasighat.

In this tour, SEVA (Spear Corps Empowering Veterans and Aspirants) is providing participants with first-hand experience in the cane,

bamboo, and handcraft industries of Guwahati, Bolpur, and Kolkata with an aim to promote entrepreneurship. The tour includes visits to cane and bamboo industries in Guwahati, Bolpur, and Kolkata (Assam & West Bengal), allowing the participants from remote areas of Arunachal Pradesh to learn best practices from the flourishing industries in Assam and West Bengal. This initiative aims to provide sustainable livelihoods for the skilled personnel of Arunachal Pradesh, promote craftsmanship and eco-friendly products, and connect people across diverse regions with the rest of the country.

It may be mentioned that under this initiative to foster skill devel-

opment and entrepreneurship of local community by Indian Army, Spear Corps established SEVA (Spear Corps Empowering Veterans and Aspirants) at the Veterans Suvidha Kendra Pasighat to address veterans' grievances, provide them with opportunities for a second career, and empower the youth of Arunachal Pradesh through skill development. SEVA also offers diploma courses in the hospitality and IT sectors.

The beneficiaries have expressed gratitude for the exposure training to outside of the state and acknowledged the Indian Army's dedication to ensuring peace and development in the region, embodying its motto of "Nation First".

Quiz competition organised to mark the World Radio Day

TEZU, February 12:

To mark the World Radio Day (Feb 13), a quiz competition for college students of Tezu was conducted here on Wednesday, February 12 jointly by Bamboosa Library and Akashvani Tezu.

The quiz was aimed to instil interest among the youth about the contribution of Radio, through inter-

esting events and personalities associated with the growth of Radio and the Akashvani.

The first prize in the keenly fought quiz was won by the BA BED team (Omi Lego, Sonam Sah, and Roshni Kumari) of the Denning College for Teacher Education, while the second prize went to BED team comprising Kholi Lowang, Lod Yaja

and Zion Litin. The Commerce Dept team (Runu Chetia, Manish Kr Jha & Lahimi Menjo) of Indira Gandhi Govt College Tezu secured the third place. The quiz master was Uncle Moosa.

Akashvani Tezu will be broadcasting the Radio quiz tomorrow on the occasion of World Radio Day.

DC

Dated. Itanagar, the 31st January'2025

Sd/- [Talo Potom, IAS]
Deputy Commissioner
Capital: Itanagar

Sd/- (Khohey Thaley)
State Information Commissioner,
APIC-Itanagar

Sl No	Name of Post	Essential Qualification	Mode of Recruitment / Engagement	Corresponding Scale of Pay (TCPC) Honorarium
1	Research Cum Training Assistant No. of Post : 01	Bachelor's degree in Public Administration, Rural Development, Social Sciences, Management, or related fields with 60% Marks in Graduation. Age Limit : Within 40 Years Desirable : 1. Strong communication and interpersonal skills. 2. Domicile of the district concern shall be given preference. Experience: At least 2 Years of experience in program management, research or similar roles. Age Limit: Within 40 Years. Desirable: Candidates having a Higher degree and research experience in North Eastern state shall be given preference. Skill : Proficiency in MS Word and Excel or SPSS	Direct Recruitment on a Contract Basis through walk-in Interview & Skill Test with domicile	Rs 25000 per month
2	Accounts & MIS Assistant No. of Post : 01	Bachelor's degree in Economics, Commerce, Finance or a related field with 60% Marks in graduation. Age Limit : Within 40 Years Desirable : 1. Strong communication and interpersonal skills. 2. Domicile of the district concern shall be given preference. Experience: At least 2 years of experience in accounting, financial management and MIS operations. Age Limit : Within 40 years Skills: Knowledge of accounting software, PFMS, data entry and financial reporting.	Direct Recruitment on a Contract Basis through walk-in interview & Skill test with domicile	Rs 25000 per month
3	MTS/Sweeper No. of Post : 01	Minimum qualification of 10th grade pass. Age Limit: Within 40 Years. Desirable : 1. Strong communication and interpersonal 2. Domicile of the district concern & shall be given preference Experience: Experience in similar roles may be preferred but not mandatory. Skills: Basic cleaning and maintenance tasks, attention to detail and physical fitness for manual work.	Direct Recruitment on a Contract Basis through skills, walk-in & Skill Test with domicile	Rs 10,000 Per month

1. The interested candidates may submit their application during the official hours at the Office of the District Panchayat Development Officer (Old Building, DC's Office Khonsa).
2. The last date of submission of application along with required documents is on **12/02/2025 till 1600 hrs.**
3. **DATE AND PLACE OF INTERVIEW:** The walk in interview will be held in the Office chamber of the DPDO, Tirap District, Khonsa on **18/02/2025 from 1000 hrs onwards.**
4. **One candidate** can apply for only **one post**. If multiple applications are found, his/ her application shall be rejected.
5. The candidates must produce all necessary documents in **original** before the screening committee on the day of interview.
6. Candidate already serving in Govt. Service should furnish NOC from concerned HoDs.
7. The Competent authority reserves the right to review or cancel the recruitment at any stage.
8. The selection will be purely provisional and subject to fulfillment of the prescribed eligibility condition. If on verification, at any time, before or after the selection process, it is found that a candidate does not fulfill any of the eligibility criteria, his/her candidature shall be rejected without any notice.

**Chairperson 15-Tirap District Zilla Parishad
Tirap District Khonsa**

जन भागीदारी Public Participation



Government of Arunachal Pradesh
Department of Finance, Planning & Investment

10th edition of the Arunachal Film Festival begins



ITANAGAR, February 6:

The 10th edition of the Arunachal Film Festival (AFF), organized by the Department of Information and Public Relations (IPR) in collaboration with the Film Federation of Arunachal (FFA), was set in motion at the TNZ Cinema here on Thursday, February 6 with Education Minister Pasang Dorjee Sona inaugurating the three-day annual event that promotes local films alongside showcasing acclaimed national and international films.

The three screens at TNZ cinemas ran to a packed house.

Speaking as chief guest on the occasion, the Minister lauded the efforts of the organizers in promoting

the film industry in Arunachal Pradesh. He emphasized the power of cinema as a tool for mass communication, capable of spreading positive messages and driving societal change.

"If used properly, films can bring about a positive transformation apart from financial gains. With the growth of technology and the rise of social media and OTT platforms, there are immense opportunities for talented individuals," he said.

Sona further stated that the energy of youth must be channelized productively, comparing them to nuclear power—capable of both positive and negative impacts depending on how they are guided. He encouraged

aspiring filmmakers to use platforms like AFF to showcase their talent and contribute to the growth of Arunachal's film industry.

Earlier, Secretary IPR Nyali Ete, in his welcome address, outlined the three-day AFF schedule. He mentioned that this year's festival prioritizes films from the Northeast, with a special focus on entries from Arunachal Pradesh.

Ete informed that the curtain raiser event, held on January 30, featured the documentary "Zero to Hero", which received an overwhelming response. He also highlighted the introduction of a feedback box to gather constructive suggestions for future editions of AFF.

Organizing secretary S Flago appreciated the government's efforts in providing a platform for filmmakers, producers, actors, and artists. He urged participants to take full advantage of the opportunities presented by AFF.

Meanwhile, FFA president Techi U Tara acknowledged the challenges faced by filmmakers in the State. Despite facing hurdles, he praised individual filmmakers for their dedication and expressed optimism about the growing recognition of Arunachal's cinema beyond the State.

"With collective efforts from all stakeholders, the film industry in Arunachal Pradesh will achieve new heights," he stated. He also encouraged constructive criticism to help improve and strengthen the industry.

10th edition of Arunachal Film Festival ends Minister IPR attends the valedictory function

ITANAGAR, February 8:

The curtains were drawn on the 10th edition of Arunachal Film Festival (AFF) on Saturday, February 8 as the three-day celebration scripted resounding success, with a spotlight on encouraging local talent and fostering growth in the State's film industry.

The valedictory event was graced by IPR Minister Nyato Dukam, who hailed the Department of Information and Public Relations (IPR) for successfully organizing the event and recognizing the perseverance and creativity of local filmmakers, despite the many challenges they face.

"The film industry in Arunachal Pradesh is still in its infancy, but there is a lot of promise. The future is undoubtedly bright," he said.

The Minister, while emphasizing that challenges such as lack of a common language get in the way to reach a broader audience, urged the IPR Dept to devise solutions to these 'issues', calling for initiatives that would strengthen the State's film industry and make it more vibrant. He also pointed out that the success of AFF 2025 demonstrates the progress made in fostering a strong filmmaking community in the state.

On the occasion, Dukam disclosed that the Film and Television Institute (FTI) of Arunachal Pradesh would soon be commissioned, providing vital resources and training to aspiring filmmakers, photographers, and technical professionals. He urged that collective efforts must be made to overcome the logistical hurdles faced by filmmakers, including funding and distribution challenges, to elevate the industry and make Arunachal Pradesh a prominent player in India's film landscape.

In his address, Secretary IPR Nyali Ete shared his 'vision' for the future of filmmaking in Arunachal Pradesh. He highlighted the festival's success, particularly noting the growing interest in local filmmaking as a positive sign for the State's future film culture.

The Secy further elaborated the department's ongoing efforts to support budding filmmakers through initiatives like the AVGC-XR policy, recently introduced by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

Acknowledging the significant hurdles faced by filmmakers, includ-



ing limited finances, equipment, and distribution networks, Ete emphasized the importance of creating a sustainable ecosystem to help filmmakers succeed. He also confirmed that the FTI would offer specialized courses and workshops, providing valuable skills and knowledge to local youth eager to join the industry. He further 'reassured' filmmakers that the IPR is "fully" committed to help them by providing platforms like AFF for showcasing their work and fostering industry growth.

The final day of the festival featured an array of screenings, workshops, and engaging sessions. Documentaries such as "Grandpa What's Your Name", "Kheh Ranei", and "Seeds of the Future" were screened, offering audiences a powerful glimpse into real-life stories. The short film category saw standout entries like "Mok Mu", "Changes", and "When Will the Moon Bloom Again?" captivating viewers with their engaging narratives. A special highlight of the festival was the "In Conversation with Chum" session, where the acclaimed actress shared her journey from Northeast India to Bollywood, inspiring the audience with her experiences.

Two insightful workshops also drew large audiences. Raktim Mondol, a professor at the Film and Television Institute of India (FTII), conducted a session titled "The Art of Cinematography". Mondol spoke on the vital role cinematography plays in storytelling, emphasizing the importance of lighting, composition, and a

deep understanding of the script. He shared his expertise on cinematography across different genres, including commercials, documentaries, and fiction films, providing attendees with a well-rounded understanding of the art form.

The "Animation Filmmaking: From Script to Screen" workshop, led by Vinod VS from Toon Media Group, explored the entire animation production pipeline. From conceptualization and storyboarding to 3D modeling, character design, and sound, Vinod explained how animation can transcend traditional storytelling, offering filmmakers a new avenue to impact audiences emotionally and culturally. His workshop was particularly valuable for those interested in pursuing animation filmmaking, a field that continues to grow in significance.

As the festival concluded, awards were presented to the standout films. "Grandpa What's Your Name", directed by Lobsang Phuntso, won the Best Documentary award, while "Our Land Our Lives", by T Hasa, received a Special Mention Award in the documentary category. In the short film category, "Mok Mu", directed by Anandra Namchoom, won the Best Short Film award, with "Change", produced by Down Mountain Studio, receiving a Special Mention Award.

At the end, Dugyir Padu, PRO and Nodal Officer of AFF 2025, acknowledged the contributions of all quarters for making the event a grand success.

Tasing lays foundation stone for LSDG Village Niglok Clean & Green Theme

NIGLOK, February 12:

Minister for Panchayati Raj and Rural Development Ojing Tasing on Wednesday, February 12 laid the foundation stone for the implementation of community assets at Niglok Gram panchayat under Ruksin Sub-Division for LSDG Village funded fewer than 3% LSDG component of State Own Resource (SOR) Grant FY 2024-25. Under this Clean and Green Panchayat initiative for NiglokGP, it is set to achieving the model "Green & Clean Village" through community driven efforts and best practices in cleanliness, hygiene and plantation and other ecofriendly sustainable practices

Addressing the GBs, PRI members, youth, SHGs and the village community members, the Panchayati Raj & RD Minister Tasing said that the success of the transforming their village into a model clean and green village as part of sustainable development goals lies in the proactive efforts of every member of the village through community participation and making village cleanliness a way of life for the community. He said that successful implementation for sustainable clean and green village will help create livelihood opportunities and boost rural tourism for the Niglok GP and adjoining areas, while referring to success stories in this sector.



The minister also suggested for innovative local projects and adoption of best practices for localized sustainable development goals. (LSDG) on clean and green theme

Local MLA Ninong Ering in his address also stressed on the role of community in achieving the mission of "clean and green niglok" which he said have a positive impacts in various areas adding that role is of Government are that of a facilitator in the aim to achieve LSDG GPs.

Pasighat MLA Tapi Darang, DC Tayi Taggu, ZPC Olen Rome, ZPM Aruni Jamoh also spoke on the occasion.

Earlier, Director, Panchayat,

Tajing Jonnom, who has adopted LSDG Village Niglok, also highlighted the objectives and goals under the clean and green Panchayat Initiative for Niglok Gram Panchayat.

It may mentioned that seven villages have been adopted under LSDG Village in the state with more being covered in a phase wise manner each year to achieve the goal of sustainable Development goals by 2030.

SP Pankaj Lamba, State Nodal Officer for LSDG, Obang Mingki ADC Ruksin Kiran Ningo, DPDO Tajing Padung, EAC Ruksin John Modi were among others present on the occasion.

Refresher training on LSDGs & PDI held

AAALO, February 12:

Block level refresher training programme on Localization of Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs) and Panchayat Development Index (PDI) in West Siang district was held at the Panchayat office here on Wednesday, February 12.

In his inaugural address, ZPC

Tumpe Ete urged the GPMs and GPCs to gain knowledge of various government schemes, saying that government schemes cannot be properly implemented in grass root level without proper training and knowledge. He urged the heads of departments to implement the schemes from grass root level "so that development can

take place from the villages for Vikshit Bharat and Vikshit Arunachal."

Course director Rode Bui highlighted the importance of training programme.

The programme was conducted by West Siang district nodal officer-cum-district Panchayat development officer.

Training and Demonstration program on Mushroom Cultivation Technology held

PASIGHAT, February 7:

The three-day training and demonstration program on "Mushroom Cultivation Technology" was successfully conducted by the Mushroom Development Centre (MDC) under the District Horticulture Officer, East Siang district, from February 5 to 7.

The training sessions were held at Rayang village under Ruksin circle, Namsing village under Mebo sub-division, and the MDC training hall at GTC Pasighat.

The training program witnessed active participation from over 100 individuals, including members of Self-Help Groups (SHGs), individual farmers, and young entrepreneurs. The participants expressed their en-

thusiasm for implementing the skills gained during the training and urged the department to organize more such programs in the future.

The primary objective of the program was to impart foundational knowledge on mushroom cultivation and spawn production technology, focusing particularly on oyster and button mushroom cultivation.

Participants were also given hands-on training and introduced to value addition techniques, including recycling mushroom substrate for organic manure, aimed at promoting self-employment and sustainable income generation.

District Horticulture Officer A R Ering warmly welcomed the partici-

pants and provided an overview of the program's objectives. The resource persons included Dr RC Shakywar, Associate Professor at the Department of Plant Pathology, CHF Pasighat; Oyin Tayeng, SDHO Pasighat; Oyi Modi, HDO Pasighat; Dr Aido Taloh, HDO Ruksin; Nuka Dai, HDO MDC in-charge Pasighat; and Bini Tagom, HMO Mebo.

At the conclusion of the program, all participants were provided with mushroom cultivation kits, informative pamphlets, and certificates of participation. The program received positive feedback for its practical approach and focus on empowering individuals to explore mushroom farming as a viable income-generating activity.

'Safer Internet Day' organised

ITANAGAR, February 11:

"Safer Internet Day" was organised at various districts on Tuesday, February 11

In Tawang, an effort to promote safe internet practices, educate users on cyber threats, and encourage responsible use of the internet, the Safer Internet Day was observed at the DC office.

The event was chaired by Tawang Deputy Commissioner Kanki Darang, and witnessed the presence of Dr DW Thongon, public leaders, heads of offices, and data entry operators.

Addressing the gathering, the DC emphasised the importance of cyber awareness in today's digital era. He highlighted how the digital revolution has made information easily accessible, but also warned of the risks associated with careless internet use. He urged parents and children to utilise technology for constructive purposes while being vigilant against cyber frauds, stressing that clicking on inauthentic links and sharing personal information online could lead to severe financial and mental distress.

The SP elaborated the rising cases of cyber fraud and emphasised the need for collective efforts in spreading cyber awareness, particularly in rural areas. He assured that a dedicated cybercrime cell is actively working to address such issues, and encouraged the public to report any suspicious online activities.

District Informatics Officer (DIO) Pardeep Singh delivered a presentation on cyber threats, cyber hygiene practices, and safe internet usage. He provided insights into how individuals can protect themselves from online fraud and stay informed about cyber security resources.

In Yingkiang, ensuring the importance of raising awareness on internet online safety and digital well-being, Upper Siang also joins rest of the world in celebrating 'Safer Internet Day' with theme 'Together for Better Internet' at DC office Yingkiang.

The Deputy Commissioner, Upper Siang Sri Talo Jerang, in his keynote address to the participants emphasised on internet literacy, high-



lighting the importance of digital skills and knowledge for individuals to function in today's digital world.

Citing the significance of digital awareness among the public, DC also asked DIO to conduct similar workshops for general public, business men, youths, women groups etc to raise awareness on safe use of internet and to remain alert from digital frauds.

To mark the day DIO Sri Rishi Raj gave power point presentation on safer internet day and elucidated on advantages and disadvantages of internet use. He advised the participants to use govt generated email ids for official correspondences and avoid using office Wi-Fi for personal uses particularly for social media from security point of view. Admin officers, District Head of Officers and Govt officials from GA and various departments participated in the celebration.

In Upper Subansiri district, heads of departments, along with officers and officials of the DC's establishment attended an awareness programme on the Safer Internet Day, organised by the National Informatics Centre in Daporijo.

During the programme, DIO Dinesh Kr Rajak highlighted safe use of the internet, and outlined the advantages and disadvantages of internet technology.

"Cyber fraud and cybercrimes are increasing day by day with the

advancing of AI world; therefore, one must be aware of safely using the internet," he said, adding that one should not disclose their personal information to unknown callers and unverified persons in order to avert cybercrimes.

In Anjaw district, the day was observed at the DC office in headquarters Hawaii.

DIO Sajal Gupta delivered a presentation on the safe use of the internet, and explained its demerits, such as cyber bullying, phishing, vishing, smishing, identity theft, misinformation, financial fraud, data breaches, etc.

HoDs and other officials of various departments attended the awareness programme.

The West Kameng National Informatics Centre also observed the Safer Internet Day at Government College, Bomdila, with the college students and faculty members.

In Namsai, to raise mass awareness about the safe use of the internet, Safer Internet Day was celebrated at the District Library, Namsai, in conjunction with the rest of the country. The program was initiated by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India, through NIC.

The event saw the participation of around 100 students from various colleges, traders, EAC Namsai Oni Padun, and government officials.