

The Dynamics of Democracy vis-à-vis Tribal society of Arunachal Pradesh

- (Nyatum Doke)

As the Election year is approaching close, the plot for the 'Game of throne' is slowly being set in motion. The ritual of the number game is on. Every day one can see high drama of nudging each other to form alliance and counter alliance. The groups in social media are becoming a warzone filled with the cacophony of political chicanery.

Tribal Society to Modern Polity: The Transition:

Our tribal societies have hitherto been simple and living together in solidarity with each other. The emergence of the democratic process no doubt has positively changed the functioning of the society by providing everyone an opportunity to become part of the governance. Then, with the newly laid focus on inclusive governance the people are expected to be an active participant in the development process instead of being a passive recipient. In addition, with the digital revolution, gradually everyone is getting virtually connected and every voice is heard.

This high intensity and high-pitched war of words becomes much louder with each passing day. Earlier, as our villages are small and the electorates are countable in the fingertip-personal campaigning was the easiest thing. Now, our houses are basically moved into the social media groups, with various groups representing virtual or digital versions of constituencies, villages, clans etc. Therefore, turning it into the platform of deliberation and debate leading to political education and socialization.

Tribal Society Vis a Vis Digital world

However, there is a caveat, in our society every person is known to

the other person leading to personal vilification. Even a genuine remark on some issue may be taken as personal attack or vendetta. Then, there is a chance that personal and private issues become a public issue. Amidst all the mudsling and cross firings, it is the fabric of the society that is affected. Also, any person in a digital world can write anything in the guise of anonymity- leading to creation of false narrative.

Owing to our closeness with each other living in a sparsely populated tribal society- which actually was a boon, is becoming a poisonous tool. Even for an official or public action, questions are being raised at the personal level. Per se this may not look bad initially, however this will set a wrong trend. There is a properly laid down mechanism in the system which needs to be followed so that transparency and accountability is ensured- we should follow proper channels.

Our society at the crossroad:

People should understand the difference between the "institution" and the "individuals"- for example if a police officer is enforcing law or a magistrate is issuing an order- it is not the person but the institution that is at the work. I understand some will argue that ultimately cognitive biases of the person holding the post will come into play- but, isn't such kind of thinking in itself reflects the biasness.

It is a fact that our society is at the crossroads- we have been availing the latest gadgets and technologies but the way we think and act still inexorably remains the traditional. For example, for an argument with someone in modern platforms via Twitter or Facebook the Arunachalee tribal

may still want a "Local-style" solution.

Instilling conviction- Need of a Civic culture:

Then how much participation is adequate- that is also a thing to ponder, as Almond and Verba while studying political culture put forth 'The civic Culture'- a balance between too much participation and complete apathy needs to be chalked out as ideal one. Too much participation and over activism are bad because important issues get hijacked by the individuals with subterfuge motives. If unthinking masses with a particular ideology participates as a 'superfluous entity' (Hannah Ardent) which will lead only to democracy turning into totalitarianism.

Consequently, it makes the members of the community lose interest on important issues- leading to individualistic culture (Daniel J Elazar) where politics becomes a market place between the individuals seeking to maximize their self-interest with minimal community involvement: this in itself would be a grave travesty of democracy.

We should be thoughtful and participate or deliberate in a responsible manner. The plurality of values and ideas should be respected, appreciated and tolerated. There is a need to rethink and understand the dynamics of democracy vis a vis tribal society like Arunachal Pradesh. We must understand that the goal of the discourse, debate and deliberation under the democratic set up is to instill conviction and to encourage the capacity to form conviction in the fellow citizens and not the other way around.

(writer is DIPRO Longding)



6th Batch FTC for Horticulture Field Staffers begins

PASIGHAT, November 1:

The inaugural ceremony of 6th Batch Foundation Training Course (FTC) for Horticulture Field Staffers (HFS) at the Pasighat Mushroom Development Centre, where the field staffers from various districts of the state are undergoing the six months long training program.

Dr. BN Hazarika, Dean, College of Horticulture and Forestry who graced the occasion as Chief Guest, encouraged the trainee staffers to keep up their learning curve high for self betterment and progress of community, society and nation as a whole. He also exhorted the field staffers to work with dedication and sincerity towards their profession.

Dr. A.K. Tripathi, Dean CAU-College of Agriculture who was invited as Guest of Honor spoke about challenges, opportunities and scope of horticulture sector in the context of developing the predominantly hill economy of Arunachal Pradesh.

The special guest during the occasion, Dr. SM Hussain, Head KVK, East Siang eloquently stressed on the importance of imparting periodic and regular training to field staffs, so that new insights in horticulture subjects

could be gathered and adoption of new technologies for better remuneration from horticulture related activity could be made possible.

SDHO, Oyin Tayeng briefed about the pivotal role of field level extension workers, current scenario of horticulture sector in the state and its vast future potentialities.

Earlier, DHO AR Ering, welcomed all and spoke about the aims and objectives of the training program. HDO Dr. Aido Taloh also spoke on the occasion.

Assam Rifles inaugurates Hangpan Dada Museum

BORDURIA, November 2:

A momentous occasion unfolded here on Nov 2 as Brigadier Swarn Singh, VSM, Commander 25 Sector Assam Rifles, unveiled the Hangpan Dada Museum in Borduria Village in Tirap district.

The inauguration, graced by the presence of Chasen Dada, the wife of the late Havildar Hangpan Dada, Ashok Chakra (Posthumous), served as a poignant tribute to the remarkable valor and sacrifice of the brave Indian Army soldier.

Havildar Hangpan Dada's unwavering dedication to the nation during his service in the Kupwara District of Jammu & Kashmir led to the thwarting of a major infiltration attempt and the prevention of hostile activities in the region. His extraordinary bravery not only saved lives but also set a shining example of patriotism for future generations.

The Hangpan Dada Museum stands as a testament to his selfless service and is aimed at showcasing his courageous act, inspiring the youth to uphold the

spirit of devotion to the country. The museum's design, concept, and curation were meticulously executed by the Khonsa Battalion Assam Rifles, in collaboration with the Public Works Department (PWD) of Tirap.

In addition to the inauguration, a solemn wreath-laying ceremony was conducted, honoring the memory of the Brave heart whose legacy continues to inspire the local community. The people of Borduria expressed their heartfelt appreciation for the collaborative efforts of the Assam Rifles and the PWD, which resulted in the establishment of the museum, a cherished monument that symbolizes the indomitable spirit and pride of the region.

The inauguration program was attended by Veer Nari Chasan Dada, ZPM Borduria Block Adv Chakhin Sarah Wanglat, SP Tirap Rahul Gupta, IPS, Col. Aman Ahluwalia, SM, CO 6 Assam Rifles, L.Kipgen, Second-in-Command 36Bn CRPF, Shri D.K. Thuingdok, EAC, Lazu, Lim Modi, CO Borduria, Pik Tayom, CO Dadam, Engineers from PWD, Head of Departments from District Headquarters, Khonsa, Panchayat leaders, Gaon Buras and public from Borduria village.

Papum Pare DA starts 'Seva Maah' with SAD 2.0 at Doimukh

DOIMUKH, November 2:

The Papum Pare District Administration has started its month long 'Seva Maah' with Seva Aapke Dwar 2.0 here at Monday Market, Doimukh on November 2, 2023.

Doimukh MLA, Tana Hali Tara attended the programme as Chief Guest and gave away awards to the achievers in Sports and Education.

He also distributed Certificates of Benefits to the beneficiaries of various government schemes specially Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry and Veterinary, Land Management, Industries, UD & Housing etc.

Papum Pare SP, Taru Gusar also participated in the event and felicitated the achievers of the district.

A total of 30 government departments provided essential public services to the people and many local SHGs displayed their beautiful products during the camp.

Seven (07) more such camps would be organised in various locations of the district in this month.

2134 beneficiaries benefited in 1st SAD held at Silli village

LIKABALI, November 2:

The Lower Siang District Administration conducted Seva Aapke Dwar 2.0 camp to commensurate National Unity Day at Silk village, 10 kms away from district Hqs here recently.

The SAD was inaugurated by Deputy Commissioner Mar-to Riba in the presence of DySP, HoDs, PRIs members, public leaders and general public etc, wherein, 2134 beneficiaries from 10 villages benefited under Likabali circle with various schemes.

The SAD campaign aimed to deliver all government services to the citizens, including - Aadhar enrolment, Schedule Tribe certificates, Permanent Residence certificate, Income certificate, Driving license, job cards, distributions of items of agriculture and horticulture.

On the occasion, commendation certificate was given to win-

ners for the best awardees / best performer of concerned department/individual/ by the DC.

Likabali DMO, Dr N. Geiyi made public awareness about the benefits under Dulari Kalyan Schemes, CMAAY (Chief Minister Arogya Arunachal Yojana) and PMJAY (Prime Minister Jan Arogya Yojana). Health departments provided general health checked up, individual awareness, lab facilities, HIV testing, Hepatitis B testing, ECG and other Pathological tests.

B. Bhatercharjee, Branch Manager, Lead Schemes, SBI Likabali have made awareness on PMBJY, ATP etc and he assured to resolved the subsidy related issues shortly for successful implementation of the flagship schemes/programmes.

Earlier, IPR team made awareness of the various schemes through loud speaker on Aadhar-EPIC link, various schemes under Atma Nirbhar Bagwani (ANBY), Atma Nirbar Krishi Yojana (ANKY) Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme, Deen Dyal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, MGNREGA etc.

In all, 23 HoDs, PRIs members, GBs/LIGBS, NGOs/SHGs of Likabali attended the SAD to make public service at door step for common people.

Experts from various fields deliver talks at 'GSSB Alumni Special & Experts Session'

PASIGHAT, November 2:

Proponent of Tani Lipi (script), writer & former MD APIDFC, Tony Koyu, while addressing the students, alumni and community members on the occasion of "Gov-

ernment Secondary School Balek (GSSB) Alumni Special and Experts Session on Important topics" held on October 26 last, said 'today's youths and students face many distractions in this age of social media and as such parents, elders, community and society have a vital role to help them steer towards building a better future'. Follow the footsteps of your illustrious Alumni, he exhorted and stressed on discipline and hard work for success.

He also felicitated 10 meritorious Alumni of GSSB.

Director IPR, Onyok Pertin also spoke on the theme of "community awareness" adding sensitizing the community on education, health & hygiene, global warming, pollution, self-employment avenues etc will create an enabling environment for the community to participate and contribute whole hearted in the society and for success of the policies and programmes of the State and Central Government. Community awareness help bring the desired behavior change in society, he added.

Dr. Tajom Tasung, also addressed the students, parents & community members on 'Social Ethics & Scientific Temperament' for a progressive, harmonious and fostering social cooperation and value-based society, while DHO Oter spoke on "Horticulture as Occupation". Annu Moyong, an alumna, spoke on the role of youth and its role in society.

Chairman, Platinum Jubilee Celebration Committee, GSS Balek, Oyem Dai, thanked all the stakeholders for the support extended adding that such sessions will benefit students, alumni, parents, community members & society as a whole. Organizing

Secretary, Tobom Dai, Headmaster GSSB, Kalom Ering, former ZPC, Kaling Dai were among other present on the occasion.

Experts from various fields roped in to interact and deliver on their respective subject matters ranging from career counselling, NEP 2020, Mental health, community awareness, social media, environment & conservation and wide range of themes, agri-entrepreneurship as part of parent-teacher-student special session & Alumni-student-youth feature during the three-day Platinum Jubilee celebrations of Govt, Sec. School Balek including cultural events.

Fire burns down class rooms of GSS Pachin Colony

Education Minister assures help to run the school smoothly

ITANAGAR, November 3:

Govt Secondary School Pachin Colony, Naharlagun caught fire partially burning down a total of 9 (nine) classrooms on November 3 last.

Education Minister Taba Tedir, who visited the spot to take stock of the situation along with Capital Complex MLA Techikaso, ICR DC Talo Potom, ADC Shweta Nagarkoti, DDSE S T Zara and his team of officers, Corporator Gyamar Tuvin, SMC members and others, assured all kind of help from his end for the school to run smoothly and to ensure that the classes could be convened regularly and there is no any inconvenience to the students.

The fire was supposed to have initiated from a kutch house adjacent to the school which was completely burnt down and spread further burning down one more

kutch house. All the 9 classrooms have been completely damaged burning down the furnitures, electrical appliances, ceiling, floors, white board etc.

Fire tenders managed to control the fire from further spreading.

Later, the DC and the ADC had a detailed meeting with the staffs of the school in the presence of the MLA to work out modalities and to make arrangements to ensure the conduct of regular classes without any interruption.

Accordingly, the school authorities were directed to conduct the classes in two shifts viz 7am to 10.30 am for nursery to class VI and 11 am to 3.30 am for class VII to X till the damaged classrooms are repaired and fit for use. They also directed the concerned works departments and the school authorities to immediately carry out the damage assessment survey.

International lecture series held at JNC

PASIGHAT, November 3:

Coordinated by Dr. Apilang Apum, Assistant Professor, Economics, Jawaharlal Nehru College (JNC) Pasighat in collaboration with JNC-IQAC, an International lecture on the topic "Plantation Regimes in North East India" was organised here on November 3 last in blended mode.

Roderick Wijunamai, Cornell University, New York, USA was the resource person who dealt on important issues pertaining to the Oil Palm Plantation in North East India.

Resource person Wijunamai highlighted the issues of how the 'Grand Idea' of making India a self-reliant in edible oil production under National Mission on Edible

Oil- Oil Palm (NMEO-OP) why was not happening in practice in a proper manner. He brought out the gender aspect of such policies which were very patriarchal in nature.

The resource person stressed on asking important questions likes 'What is the main agenda behind such policy? Who defines the value in the market? What kind of benefits the farmers get? And how does it impact the local economy'.

Wijunamai opined that government were unable to persuade the big companies to set up the industry because they were unable to speculate profits from it which causes a big loss to the farmers and therefore it was important to know the socio-economic and cultural environment of the community before making any policies.

The programme was attended by the JNC Principal Dr. Tasi Taloh, IQAC Coordinator Dr. DP Panda, HoD (Economics) Nong Tayeng, faculty members and students of the college.

State educational achievement survey conducted

ITANAGAR, November 3:

Parakh 2023, a state educational achievement survey (SEAS) was conducted in various schools of Capital Itanagar on November 3 last.

DDSE Capital Itanagar ST Zara informed that the exam was conducted in 41 schools of Capital Itanagar for three categories viz. for students of Class III, VI and IX.

APO Tori Gadi informed that approx 30 students from each category in each schools participated in the exam as part of the SEAS.

NTCA Exhibition on Tribal & Forest Dweller's Art

Behelti Ama brings glory to Arunachal & Lohit Youth Library Movement in Delhi

WAKRO, November 3:

It was indeed a march 'from the margins to the Centre' for tribal and forest dwelling artists like Behelti Ama from Wakro Cricle, who were chosen to exhibit their art works at a prestigious exhibition by the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), New Delhi, to mark the completion of 50 years of Project Tiger in India.

The exhibition, "Silent Conversation: From Margins to the Centre", organised jointly by the Sankala Foundation & NTCA, was inaugurated by the President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu at the India Habitat Centre on November 3, 2023.

Expressing her happiness at being able to participate in the art exhibition, Behelti Ama, senior volunteer of Lohit Youth Library Network and a fine arts student at the Kalakshetra Foundation, Chennai said, "The Mishmi community has a special relationship with tigers. They are considered our brothers, a part of our family". Behelti's wood carving art work focuses on "the co-existence of the Mishmi people with Tigers and other related wildlife". She expressed her gratitude to the NTCA and the Sankala Foundation for organizing such an event and her college, the Kalakshetra Foundation, Chennai, for the excellent honing of her rural artistic talents. A keen visitor who interacted with the artists mentioned that her artwork was one among the best.

Representing Arunachal was also Dapsham Kimsing and

Tilying Rikki, from the Namdapha WLS with one art piece each.

The 3-day exhibition pays tribute to the successful completion of 50 years of Project Tiger, a wildlife conservation initiative launched in 1973 that aimed to protect and preserve the Bengal tiger. An important aspect of the project was the involvement of local communities in the conservation effort. The exhibition was an effort to celebrate the symbiotic relationship between tigers and tribal communities through art.

More than 100 artworks showcased reflected the age-old bonds of tribal communities through unique styles such as Gond, Bhil, and many others. It sheds light on the conservation of wildlife and the role tigers play in balancing the ecology. The event has given the artists from remote corners of India, a unique opportunity to showcase their work in the national capital. The paintings are available for purchase, with the proceeds flowing directly into the bank accounts of the artists.

Joint meeting on Weekly Market Regulation held

YUPIA, November 3:

The 2nd Joint meeting on Weekly Market Regulation was convened at DC Conference Hall, Yupia on November 3 last in which thorough discussion was made on major issues pertaining to streamlining of business activities of weekly markets and checking gambling activities as well as keeping the surroundings of weekly markets clean.

While chairing the meeting, Papum Pare DC, Cheechung Chukhu, has asked the EE, UD & Housing to design a modality

for collection & disposal of garbage from weekly markets. He also asked the District Agriculture Officer-cum-Member Secretary, APMC to organise 'Melas' in interior places of the district and allow selling of only local vegetables, fruits and other products for generating employment and promoting local products.

SP, Taru Gusar, told that immediately after the previous meeting, he clearly instructed all the OCs of local police stations to be vigilant and check illegal activities in the weekly markets. He urged local people to cooperate with them and be the eyes and ears of police. He expressed his hopefulness that joining of Phassang Simi, one of the seniormost and well experienced police officer as OC of Doimukh Police Station will help in checking illegal activities in Doimukh Sub-Division in general and weekly markets of Doimukh in particular.

Tai Arun, Trade Development Officer, Papum Pare informed that apart from the income to its owner and revenue to the government, weekly markets provide various daily used essential commodities at reasonable prices to local people and also give opportunities for selling of local products, however needful measures are to be undertaken for checking the illegal activities and ensuring cleanliness of the surroundings.

After a lengthy discussion with owners of weekly markets, executive members of APPDSU and Doimukh Market Committee, the District Administration has ordered for complete banning of gambling activities and also decided to enforce a one month 'Rest Period' starting from Monday, 13th November 2023. During this period all the weekly market owners have to cooperate with the

District Administration and District Police and fulfil the criteria for streamlining the weekly markets like submission of food safety license for all the food vendors, Inner Line Permit details of all the sellers who come from outside the state, mandatorily depute at least 2 volunteers for traffic regulation, deposition of garbage collection fee to the EE, UD & Housing etc.

During this one month 'Rest Period', only local people are allowed to sell their local products in the weekly markets and as an incentive, those owners who fulfil all the set criteria may start their markets even before completion of one month period.

ADCs of Kimin and Balijan, SDO Doimukh, OC Doimukh Police Station and other officials from the Department of Agriculture and Trade & Commerce also attended the meeting.

Lower Subansiri operationalizes Single Window Clearance System

ZIRO, November 3:

Lower Subansiri became the 14th District in the state to operationalize the Single Window Clearance System in issue of new and renewal of trading license to entrepreneurs under the ease of doing business portal of the state www.eod.arunachal.gov.in

A team of officials from the Planning and Investment Department had conducted hands-on training to officials of Lower Subansiri District Administration to operationalize the single window clearance system.

A digitally downloaded trading license to first applicant entrepreneur Duley Bajo was handed over by Lower Subansiri Deputy Commissioner Bamin Nime at his

office chamber here on November 3 last.

Congratulating the departments of Planning, Trade and Commerce, DC Nime said the online system of applying and getting the trading licenses would be a great relief to the entrepreneurs who need not run around the offices and treasury to get their trading licenses issued or renewed, he said, while adding entrepreneurs could now get new trading license or renew their existing ones from the comfort of their homes.

The project is a part of ease of doing business in which entrepreneurs are provided seamless and transparent delivery of services to run their business enterprises.

The programme was also attended by District Planning Officer Joram Tatum, Trade Development Officer Sorang Yapa and other officials of the departments of Planning, Trade and Commerce.

RGUIEF celebrates Foundation Commemoration Day

'Conducive environment prerequisite for inclusive growth of community'- Ering

RONO HILLS, November 3:

Former Union Minister of Minority Affairs and senior State Legislator, who is also RGU's Court Member, Ninong Ering said that an environment conducive to flourish for indigenous tribes of the state is a prerequisite for excellence not only in an institute like RGU but everywhere.

Attending the Commemoration programme of the Foundation Day of the RGUIEF (Rajiv Gandhi University Indigenous Employees Forum), themed as "Celebrating the Indigenousness at RGU Campus" here on Novem-

ber 3 last, Ering advised the participants to remain united and act as the torchbearers of the society while upholding the pan Arunachalee idea.

Advocating for the overall growth of the indigenous people as enshrined in the constitution of India and as documented in the University's Act for inclusive growth of the indigenous community, he emphasized on "discipline, good teaching and good management" to spearhead the Rajiv Gandhi University to greater heights, adding for that, the contribution of the local people is much needed.

RGU Alumni and Spokesperson of State BJP Nabam Vivek who is also the Secretary of Arunachal Cricket Association exhorted one and all to recommit and rededicate on the occasion of the foundation day commemoration, and appreciated the idea behind celebrating the diversity of the state in one platform. Stressing on the need for better coordination among the indigenous members, he urged the members to take the responsibility to work for the overall growth of the state through the highest institute of learning.

Earlier, President of RGUIEF, Prof. Jumyir Basar in her welcome speech and opening remark informed that originally the Forum was founded in 2007 with Late Prof. Pura Tado & Prof. Tomo Riba as founding chairman and secretary, and the main target to celebrate the foundation day of the forum while celebrating the indigenousness is to bring together the diverse community of the state in one platform and celebrate their contributions in the growth journey of this varsity thus far, since its inception.

While justifying the formation of the forum, she maintained that the forum tries to give a vi-

brant space for all indigenous employees who gave their heart and spirits for the upliftment of RGU in some way or the other.

Alumni of RGU and Philanthropist Yab Basu, Entrepreneur Yowa Jyoti, RGUIEF Secretary Dr. Nani Tamang Jose, Organizing Chairman of the celebration committee Dr. David Gao and Organizing Secretary Pitam Jomoh also spoke on how to work towards making RGU a better sustainable institution with a clarion call to the indigenous members to lead from the front.

On the sideline of the celebrations, the Vice-President of RGUIEF Dr. David Pertin, informed that, in the run up to the celebrations, the organizing committee had organized football, volleyball, tug of war and badminton competitions for both men & women besides drawing and futsal competition for children on 28th & 29th October, 2023 as part of the celebration. The prizes along with trophies, citations and cash prizes to the winners of the competitions were given away by the guests during the programme.

Later, the evening got electrified with the scintillating performances by the student dancing troupes from various departments and songs by popular singers of the university, while the diversity walk by tribal employees representing various tribes of the state captured the limelight, and the local cuisines and delicacies served shaped the celebrations at its best.

Singing on to the tunes of popular local song “Aruge Komchi nyi donyi ge” as a welcome song by the RGUIEF members set the tone of the evening. The cultural events were beautifully anchored by Dr. Tunung Tabing and Mige Kambu.

Amongst others, the Nyishi Elite Society President Prof. Tana Showren, senior professors of the varsity Prof. Tasi Kaye, Prof. Ashan Riddi, Prof. Sumpam Tangjang, Prof. Hui Tag, various Deans, Directors, Heads of the Departments, all the indigenous faculty members, officers, staff, research scholars, students and alumni of the university, APPSC Member Advocate Mepung Tadar Bage, Bobia (Sagalee) Gram Panchayat Chairperson Nabam Takia, family members of the founding president and secretary of RGUIEF, besides many prominent leaders of the locality, and host of invitees participated in the celebrations.

Ziro resolves to make MCKR more effective and successful

ZIRO, November 3:

The people of Ziro plateau resolved to make the Mission Clean Kley River (MCKR) more effective and successful than the previous versions during a mass meeting held on November 3 last here at District Secretariat.

Chairing the meeting, Lower Subansiri Deputy Commissioner Bamin Nime agreed to the proposal of Apatani Youth Association (AYA) to adopt the cleanup operation of the river on pilot basis. This will make the efforts of the Kley River cleaning up process more streamlined, effective and better coordinated, the DC said, while also agreeing to issue an order against open defecation at some few places in the valley.

While urging the Heads of Departments, PRI leaders, students and the public of the valley to cooperate in the up-

coming 9th edition of MCKR scheduled to be held on November 13 next, AYA president Tapi Mali informed last year more than 4000 people of the valley had participated at the MCKR. We anticipate people of Ziro valley to cooperate again with AYA and will turn up in more number than the previous year, said the AYA president.

The 27 km long Kley River is the lone river of Ziro valley touching upon all the villages of the Apatani plateau. The Apatani Youth Association had initiated the movement of cleanup operation of the river in 2015 which eventually turned into a calendar based event.

The meeting was also attended by SP Keni Bagra, DMO Dr. Nani Rika, HoD's, members of AYA, Apatani Gaon Bura, Gaon Buri Association and NGO's.

Meanwhile, the AYA also appealed the DC to issue an order to allow selling of only green fire crackers and allow bursting till 10 pm during the upcoming Diwali celebration for a safe and pollution free Diwali celebration.

Chief Minister calls on the Governor

ITANAGAR, November 3:

Chief Minister Pema Khandu called on the Governor Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) at Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on November 3, 2023.

They discussed developmental projects, social and administrative issues and welfare programmes.

The Chief Minister briefed the Governor regarding the cabinet decisions, to include

State Industrial and Investment Policy 2020, transfer and posting policy of health officials, Solid Waste Management, Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF) and honorarium to all the Third Language Teachers to preserve and promote own dialect and language of different tribes of Arunachal Pradesh.

The Governor, who visited the vibrant border villages of Taksing and Tuting shared his observation with the Chief Minister. He opined that road connectivity projects to vibrant border villages needed to be restored and power supply to Tuting needs to be reestablished which were damaged due to heavy rains.

The Governor, while discussing health and education sectors, suggested the Chief Minister for setting up of village volunteers, particularly womenfolk, who can be trained in health care, hygiene and sanitation. They can be rewarded with incentives by the State Government, he recommended.

The Governor also shared his concern regarding drug peddling, which was being addressed by the Director General of Police. The Governor, who led the celebration of the foundation day of 8 States and 7 Union Territories recently at Raj Bhavan, Itanagar, said that a delegation of student ambassadors came from Ladakh to participate in the Ladakh Diwas, presenting Ladakhi cultural programme. In the same way, we could send students from Arunachal Pradesh on our Statehood Day in other States, as the exchange programme will help our students to learn about the culture and traditions of other States.

CM graces Golden Jubilee celebration of RK Sarada Mission School;

Assures government support in upgrading the school

KHONSA, November 4:

Chief Minister Pema Khandu has assured government support in the form of grant-in-aid to meet the salary gap of teachers working in Sarada Mission Girls' School Khonsa.

Attending the Golden Jubilee celebration of the school here on November 4, 2023 last, Khandu while appealing the Ramakrishna Sarada Mission authorities to upgrade the school to higher secondary, assured that all infrastructure needed for the upgradation will be taken care by the state government.

"We are celebrating 50 years of the school. It is the right time for the school to upgrade to higher secondary," he said.

Khandu, on behalf of the people, expressed gratitude to the pioneers of the Mission, who had ventured into the state to spread education when basic facilities, particularly communication, were a distant dream in the state.

"My respect and gratitude to the first batch of Matajis, teachers and staff of the school, who faced all hardships with a smile just to educate our girls and boys. Today students of this school are serving the state and country in various capacities," he said.

Khandu also put on record his gratitude to Shri KAA Raja, the then administrative head of Arunachal for having convinced RK Sarada Mission to open school in remote Khonsa.

He also expressed gratitude and appreciation to the Chiefs

of Namsang and Borduria for supporting the cause of education and donating 30.88 acres of land for establishment of the school. He said that their (Chiefs') foresight has benefitted hundreds of kids to become successful in their lives by receiving quality foundation studying in the school.

Emphasizing that schools play a pivotal role in imparting education to children and ensuring their all-round development, Khandu said that the state government is committed to extending every possible support to all organizations like RK Sarada Mission engaged in providing quality education to the children of Arunachal Pradesh.

He observed that people of central and eastern Arunachal were lucky to get Ramakrishna Mission (Aalo in West Siang and Deomali in Tirap) and Sarada Mission (Khonsa) as early as the 70s. He said that these schools have impacted the education of children of central and eastern Arunachal which can be vouched by the large number of officers from the two zones in government departments.

"Not to deny the quality education offered by Ramakrishna Mission and Sarada Mission to children of western Arunachal, we approached the Mission headquarters and today we have a Sarada Mission Girls' school at Dirang (West Kameng) and a Rama Krishna Mission school at Lumdung, Seppa (East Kameng)," Khandu revealed.

Requesting the Mission authorities to support the state government in rolling out the National Education Policy 2020 in toto in all Ramakrishna Mission and Sarada Mission schools in the state. He informed that the revolutionary policy has to be rolled out in toto across the state by 2030 and

for which the state government has prepared a road map and a Task Force is in work.

The celebration was also attended by Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein, Education Minister Taba Tedir, PHED Minister Wangki Lowang, RWD Minister Honchun Ngandam, Deputy Speaker Tesam Pongte, local MLA-cum-Chief of Borduria Wangling Lowangdong, all TCL MLAs, Pravrajika Anilprana, Secretary, Ramakrishna Sarada Mission, DGP Anand Mohan, Commissioner Education Ankur Garg and others.

More than 200 former students also attended the celebration.

Meanwhile, the Chief Minister and his cabinet colleagues inaugurated two projects of Tirap Police.

These are Phase-I of 'Tirap Netra' (IP-based CCTV surveillance system of Tirap district) with 57 cameras including 8 Automatic Number Plate Reader (ANPR) cameras and the Netra control room for integrated monitoring of CCTVs at SP Office. In Phase-II, the project will cover check-gates and other town habitations such as Deomali and Lazu.

They also flagged off the first drug rehabilitation batch of 15 destitute individuals of Tirap sponsored by PGCIL under its CSR scheme.

This is part of Project Pratighaat initiative of the District Police, which is a women-led transformation of Tirap into a drug-free district.

Project Pratighaat involves - door to door counselling by a team of local women volunteers, police team and subject experts and continuous surveillance by the community.

4th DRDO-Kisan-Jawan-Vigyan Mela 2023 organized

TAWANG, November 5:

The 4th DRDO Kisan-Jawan-Vigyan Mela 2023 was organized at DRL R&D Centre Changbu, Tawang on Sunday, November 5, 2023.

DRDO Kisan-Jawan-Vigyan Mela is an annual event which provides a platform for interaction of farmers and Armed personals with scientists, and enable fostering of national integration among the villagers in the border region.

Dr MK Verma, Director, ICAR-Central Institute of Temperate Horticulture (CITH), Srinagar, J&K graced the occasion as Chief Guest, while Tawang DC, Kanki Darang and Brig VS Rajput, SM, Cdr 190 Mtn Bde were Guests of Honor.

Head of Agriculture & Allied departments of Tawang attended as invitees and subject experts.

The Mela witnessed the signing and exchange of Memorandum of Understanding between DRL-DRDO, Tezpur and ICAR-CITH, Srinagar for field evaluation of elite germplasms of temperate fruits, developed by CITH, for its suitability under Tawang condition at DRL R&D Centre, Tawang.

DC Darang inaugurated the Mela and set the stage for Farm produce Competition, Flower Show & Competition, Self Help Group (SHG) Product Sale & Competition, Science Exhibition, Science Quiz & Model Competition and Kisan Gosthi.

More than 300 participants consisting of farmers, govt officials, Army personals and SHG members participated in various events during the Mela. Students from vari-

ous schools of Tawang and nearby areas participated in Science Quiz and Model competition.

Tawang Dist Hospital achieves milestone with successful spinal surgery

TAWANG, November 5:

A significant milestone was achieved at KDS, District Hospital, Tawang on Sunday, November 5 last as for the first time, a spinal surgery was performed on a 42-year-old male resident of Gyankhar village, Tawang, who was afflicted with a D7 fracture leading to paraplegia.

The intricate surgery involved pedicle screw fixation coupled with decompression, a procedure essential for the patient's well-being and future mobility. The Operation Team, consisting Dr. Joydep Ghosh (Spine Surgeon) from Apollo Hospital, Guwahati, who lent his expertise to the surgery on invitation from Dr. Dukhum Magu, Ortho Surgeon at KDS DH Tawang, Dr. Dukhum Magu spearheaded the surgical team and played a pivotal role in the operation, Dr. Ashish Pao (Anesthesia). The surgery owed much of its success to Dr. Pao's proficient anesthesia administration. His expertise was invaluable Dr. N. Namshum (Medical Superintendent) who monitored the entire operation. He ensured the process adhered to the highest medical standards and Dr. Rinchin Neema (DMO, Incharge), who provided unwavering support and coordination throughout the surgery, enhancing the overall efficiency of the operation, and a dedicated OT Team with committed professionals in the operation theatre ensured seamless execution of the procedure,.

Due to the collective efforts of this skilled and dedicated team, the surgery was a resounding success. This accomplishment marks a significant advancement in medical expertise, promising hope and healing for many more in the future.

CM, DCM & galaxy of dignitaries kick off 2 projects of Tirap Police

KHONSA, November 6:

State Chief Minister Pema Khandu along with DCM Chowna Mein and other dignitaries and senior officers inaugurated two projects of Tirap Police during their visit to Ram Krishna Sarda Mission School, Khonsa on November 6 last:

The inauguration of CCTV network project 'Tirap Netra' - Phase I of 'Tirap Netra,' an IP-based CCTV surveillance system for Tirap district, featuring 57 cameras, including 8 Automatic Number Plate Reader (ANPR) cameras in Khonsa town. The Netra control room at the SP Office for integrated monitoring of CCTVs was also inaugurated. Phase II of Tirap Netra will extend coverage to Check gates and other towns such as Deomali & Lazu.

The project has been undertaken with the objectives of - enhancing the feeling of safety and security in district especially women security, force Multiplier for police in solving criminal cases and managing Law and order, ANPR cameras will help in catching Traffic rule violators and tracking the incoming vehicles in the district and supervision over police staff activities at Nakas and check gates.

Flagging off of PGCIL sponsored drug rehabilitation batch

of destitute individuals was also organised under Project Pratighaat - The first drug rehabilitation batch of 15 destitute individuals from Tirap district, sponsored by Powergrid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) under the CSR scheme, was flagged off.

Executive Director Powergrid Aadesh Gupta was also present on the occasion.

The Chief Minister also handed over blankets and badminton rackets to the destitute individuals and Mrs Sotung Bangsia from Care me home, society accepted them on this individual's behalf. This initiative is part of Project Pratighaat, a women-led transformation of Tirap into a drug-free district. 25 Women volunteers led by ZPC Tirap Mrs Chathong Lowang, the driving force behind Project Pratighaat, were also felicitated by the CM on the occasion.

Project Pratighaat aims strives to attain a community led change in the society along with empowerment of women folks. It involves 4 components - Door to door counselling by a team of local women volunteers, police team & subject experts, Continuous surveillance by the community, SP's official number given as helpline number to share drug peddler information and CSR contribution to mobilise funds for rehabilitation of destitute youth.

Project Pratighaat was started by SP Tirap Rahul Gupta with the objective to eliminate drug addiction in Tirap by using the force of Nari Shakti, in the process, empowering women too. Since its inception on 23rd Aug 2023, total 312 individuals have been counselled under the initiative and out of these 61 have already enrolled themselves in the rehabilitation centers. There were a lot of underprivileged individuals who wanted

to undergo rehabilitation but did not have resources, therefore, Corporate Social Responsibility funding dimension was added to Project Pratighaat and its first batch was flagged off by the Chief Minister Khandu on the day.

Moreover, in last 4 months, Tirap Police have dealt a heavy blow to drug trafficking in the district arresting total 23 individuals and seizing 315 gm Heroin.

DCM highlights state's progress in power sector at National Conference

NEW DELHI, November 6:

Deputy Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh, Chowna Mein, highlighted progress of power sectors in the State in the Conference of Ministers of Power and New & Renewable Energy of States and Union Territories which was chaired by the Union Minister of Power, New & Renewable Energy, R K Singh, in New Delhi on November 6 last.

During the conference, Deputy Chief Minister Mein underscored the significant advancements achieved by Arunachal Pradesh in the power sector, under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the guidance of Union Minister of Power, New & Renewable Energy, R. K. Singh.

Mein informed that on 12th August 2023, the Government of Arunachal Pradesh allocated 12 mega-hydro projects, with a collective capacity exceeding 11,500 MW, to three Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs), the MoU of which was signed in presence of Union Power Minister. He said that the successful implementation of these projects will not only bol-

sters the state's economy but also contributes to the nation's energy security through clean and renewable sources. He further emphasized the commitment of GoAP to ensuring the timely implementation of these projects.

Addressing the challenges posed by the rugged terrain and dense forest areas of Arunachal Pradesh, Deputy CM Mein deliberated on various components of the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS), which will modernize the state's power systems and reduce the historically high Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) losses. He also stated the successful commissioning of a vital high voltage transmission lines, the 132 KV Roing-Chapakhowa line and the upcoming 220 KV Kathalguri-Namsai line, will significantly improve the reliability of power supply in large parts of the State. In this context, Union Minister of Power and NRE, R.K. Singh commended the state's vast potential in the Energy sector and anticipated much greater revenue inflows to the State attributed to the power sector.

He further informed that earlier this year, GoAP initiated the Golden Jubilee Border Village Illumination Program to provide electricity to remote villages along the international borders. This unique project involves the operation of 50 micro-hydel projects with standalone distribution systems to ensure uninterrupted power supply to residents and defense establishments. Already, 17 projects in the first phase have been completed which were recently inaugurated by the Union Home Minister, Amit Shah when he visited Kibithoo, one of the vibrant villages in Arunachal Pradesh. These projects are now transforming the lives of citizens in these challenging border areas.

Deputy CM Mein also shared that the State Electricity Regulatory Commission, which had been dormant since 2019, has been reconstituted and is now operational. The Commission has already issued the tariff order for the current year.

Key agenda items presented at the conference included- Under the PM-KUSUM Scheme, GoAP has achieved a 100% target for distributing 200 solar water pumps during 2021-22. For the current year, 500 potential beneficiaries have been identified, and an increase in the target from 200 to 500 has been requested.

For Rooftop Solar Power Program Phase II, GoAP has submitted a demand requirement of 1 MW to MNRE and is prepared to execute the works as soon as the allocation is received. Recognizing the potential for Green Hydrogen in Arunachal Pradesh, GoAP intends to submit a proposal for a Domestic Electrolyser Manufacturing Plant in the state and seeks technical guidance and financial assistance. They also aim to explore the use of green hydrogen in industries such as fertilizer manufacturing and methanol production. Requested for the deployment of an expert team to identify high solar potential areas and provide technical guidance for a state-wide survey to identify suitable locations, as solar energy projects have faced challenges due to climatic conditions and short daylight hours. To identify the Sela Pass as a feasible location for wind energy projects and propose to conduct a detailed techno-commercial study to move this initiative forward. Green Open Access Rules to be finalised and to provide green open access to entities with a load above 100 KW. State Govt's efforts to reduce AT&C losses, with the ex-

pectation of a significant drop in losses with the implementation of the RDSS Loss reduction component. Request for the assistance of an appropriate PSU like NEEPCO to conduct a state-wide survey to identify potential sites for Pump Storage Plants (PSPs). Comprehensive Scheme for Strengthening of Transmission & Distribution System in Arunachal Pradesh is expected to be completed in December 2024 and anticipating a substantial reduction in T&D losses after the completion. Initiating the issuance of regulations in line with the Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Rules, 2020 to ensure the rights of electricity consumers in the State thereby simplifying the new connections and 98 small hydro power projects registered for carbon credits under the Universal Carbon Registration, accumulating a substantial number of Carbon Offset Units for future trade.

Deputy CM Mein also highlighted crucial requirements for the State and sought the support of the Power Ministry for a Comprehensive Plan for developing Small and Mini Hydroelectric projects with a capacity of 356 MW in remote areas, which should be considered a nationally significant strategic project with financial support. Financial support for the installation of 30,000 solar street lights across all districts of the State, a project with a total cost of Rs. 90.00 crores. Support in expediting the approval of schemes for electrifying villages along international borders. Planning and upgrading the transmission network to the 220 KV level to meet future requirements and power evacuation from upcoming hydro-electric projects. Immediate sanctioning of proposals for system modernization, electrification of villages, smart metering, and power con-

nectivity to telecommunication towers under the RDSS Scheme.

In the Conference were also present, Secretary (MoP) Pankaj Agarwal and Secretary (MNRE) B.S. Bhalla. Deputy Chief Minister was accompanied by Commissioner (Power), GoAP, Ankur Garg and Chief Engineer (Transmission), Ginko Linggi.

Polling of vacant seats of 5 GP & 1 ZP went off peacefully

ITANAGAR, November 6:

The voting for 5 (Five) GP Constituencies and 1 (one) ZP Constituency took place on Monday, November 6, 2023 in 5 (five) districts of Papum Pare, Shi-Yomi, Lower Siang, Lower Dibang Valley and Anjaw.

The State Election Commission had announced by-election to 54 (fifty-four) vacant Gram Panchayat Constituencies (GPCs) and 2 (two) vacant Zilla Parishad Constituencies of 23 (twenty-three) Districts on October 6, 2023.

Subsequently, the last date of filing nomination and last date of scrutiny was on October 16 and 18, 2023 respectively. After the withdrawal of candidates on October 21, 2023, in all 49 (forty-nine) Gram Panchayat Constituencies were declared uncontested and 1 (one) Zilla Parishad Constituency was declared uncontested.

The polling started at 7:00 am in the morning and closed at 4:00 pm in evening in 1 (one) GPC (Tacha-I) in Papum Pare District, 1 (one) GPC (Hirong-Segment 4) in Shi-Yomi District, 1 (one) GPC (Telam-D Segment) in Lower Siang District and 2 (two) GPCs (Malek and Cheta I & II) in Lower Dibang Valley District, and 1 (one) Zilla Parishad Constituency (Hayuliang

Goiliang) in Anjaw District. The polling ended peacefully in all the polling stations as per information received.

Out of total of 3788 voters in above constituencies, 1515 votes were polled in 4 (four) GP Constituencies and 1 (one) ZP Constituency, and report of 1 (one) GP Constituency located in remote circle in Shi-Yomi District is awaited at the time of filing of this report.

Arunachal Pradesh Governor meets his Nagaland counterpart

KOHIMA, November 7:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.), accompanied by the First Lady of the State Smt Anagha Parnaik, met the Nagaland Governor Shri La Ganesan at Raj Bhavan, Kohima on 7th November 2023.

Their discussion covered various important topics related to the development and security of both States.

The Governor conveyed the good wishes of the people of Arunachal Pradesh for the Naga people. He emphasized the importance of promoting the cultural richness of both States as the vibrant culture, traditions and heritages are similar to each other.

The Governor discussed internal security issues with his counterpart as both States share a 55 km length interstate boundary. He stressed on securing the areas along the border for ensuring law and order and to instil a sense of security amongst the villagers and enhance the overall well-being of the communities living in these regions.

The Governor also met the family members of Kargil War

Hero Captain (Late) N Kenguruse, Maha Vir Chakra during his two-day official visit to the State of Nagaland. Captain (Late) Kenguruse was an Indian Army officer of 2nd Battalion, Rajputana Rifles. He was martyred at the Lone Hill, Drass Sector on June 28, 1999 in the Kargil War. He was posthumously awarded the Maha Vir Chakra for his bravery at the battlefield.

During his visit to Kohima, the Governor laid a wreath at the Kohima War Cemetery and paid homage to the fallen soldiers. The ceremony was conducted by the Assam Rifles.

Seva Aapke Dwar at Sagalee & Parang

SAGALEE, November 7:

Seva Aapke Dwar 2.0 Mega Camp of Sagalee and Parang Circle was held on November 7 last in general ground Sagalee.

The programme was officially inaugurated by Techii Serbang, ZPM Sagalee in the presence of Audil Toko, ADC, Sagalee, Koj Tacho EAC, Sagalee, Miss Khoda Oniya, CO Sagalee, Hibu Akha, CO Parang and HoDs of both the Circles.

This was followed by the unveiling of foundation stone for ALC barrack by Audil Toko, ADC Sagalee in the presence of Er. Nabam Takar, EE PWD Sagalee and Techii Kaha, Social Worker.

On the occasion, Laptops were awarded to Abo Techii Tara, Class -X and Ms. Sonali Tayem, class XII of GHSS, Sagalee for scoring positions as toppers in CBSE Examination 2022-23 under Sagalee Block.

Further, 9 (Nine) players and 1 (one) Team Manager were awarded appreciation certificate for representing Papum Pare dis-

trict and for being the winner of 6th State Level Football Hangpan Dada Memorial Trophy 2023-24 by the DSO Papum Pare.

Tadar Take, gold Medal winner, National Taekwondo Championship 2018 and Shri Tarh Tamu Bronze medal in National Taekwondo Championship 2022 were also awarded for excellence in sports.

The Seva Aapke Dwar 2.0 successfully completed with over 200 participations from both the circles. Total 18 departments participated in the programme

628 beneficiaries benefitted from first 'SAD 2.0' in Pugging Vill

PUGGING, November 7:

The District Administration Upper Siang district launched its first 'Seva Apke Dwar 2.0' program in Pugging village on Tuesday, November 7 last for the financial year 2023-24. Pugging village is situated 25 kms away from District Hqs Yingkiong.

Deputy Commissioner Hage Lailang inaugurated the camp and appealed people to avail the benefits services provided by various departments and said that this initiative is aimed at ensuring that every eligible beneficiary receives the benefits of government schemes at their doorstep, with the goal of eliminating any backlog in queues by 2023 and targets for full saturation of govt welfare schemes.

Meanwhile, Smti Oyiti Siboh, first Gaon Buri from Pugging village thanked the district administration for conducting SAD 2.0 and said that all villagers have immensely benefitted from the camp. She said that though Pugging is located few kms away from Yingkiong still there is no mobile net-

work connectivity and it is their long pending demand to the govt to install a mobile tower to mitigate the problem of people to access mobile network and internet facility. She further emphasised that public of Pugging village will be very happy if their village is connected through mobile network services like rest of the district at earliest.

During the camp, the DC also handed over Paddy Tresser machine from Dept of Agriculture to young progressive farmer Omin Taron on 100% subsidy under SMAM (Sub-Mission on Agriculture Mechanisation). He also handed over marriage certificates, ST, PRCs etc to the beneficiaries.

Altogether 628 beneficiaries benefitted from services provided by various departments.

East Siang APLS organizes symposium on A:bang

PASIGHAT, November 8:

The Arunachal Pradesh Literary Society (APLS), East Siang branch organized a one-day symposium on A:bang: its evolution and preservation at the Horticulture and Forestry College auditorium, Pasighat here on Wednesday, November 8 last.

Pasighat East MLA Kaling Moyong, Padmashree Mamang Dai and APLS Advisor (Itanagar) Tokong Pertin graced the occasion as Chief Guest, Guest of Honour and Special Guest respectively.

In his address, Moyong lauded the efforts of East Siang APLS President Ponung Ering Angu and her team for organizing the 'Symposium on Abang' with a mission to promote and preserve age-old traditional customs, tales, saying, unwritten events etc

through Adi folklore "ABANG" to inspiring the future generations. It is an integral part of Adi community but due to lack of practice and experts (Miris), the age-old traditional art was gradually eroding due to modernization. The younger generations must know and understand the value of spiritual traditions of Adi community and such interactions and coordination was need of the hour, the MLA opined.

Guest of Honour Padmashree Mamang Dai and Special Guest APLS Advisor (Itanagar) Tokong Pertin, appreciated the efforts of East Siang APLS and encouraged the participants. The duo stressed the need to revive and preserve the age-old culture.

During technical sessions, resource persons Kaling Borang, Tashiram Pertin, Obang Doruk, Bodong Yirang, Nakmin Perme, Nong Dai and Yayom Dai delivered lectures, appreciated the organizer and motivated the participants. Professors and students from Arunachal Unit, JNC, Doying Gumin College, Daying Ering and Siang Royal B. Ed College, host officers and public participated in the daylong symposium.

Governor reviews attestation Parade of Assam Rifles Mahila recruits

ITANAGAR, November 8:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) reviewed the attestation parade of the Assam Rifles Mahila (Women) recruits at Assam Rifles Training Centre and School (ARTC&S), Sukhovi, Nagaland on 8th November 2023.

He took salute of the marching contingents commanded by Recruit Maina Saikia. Major (Mrs.) Seeta Ashok Shelke, Adjutant of ARTC&S arraigned the Parade.

The Governor said that the joining of women in the armed forces reflects the changing scenario of the country. He said that the women recruits' attestation parade is the best example of women empowerment. These women personnel will secure a good livelihood for themselves and for their family and also inspire the girls in the future to stand on their own feet and contribute to the progress of the nation.

The Governor, while appreciating the smart turn out of the women recruits in the parade commended the officers and instructors of the training centre, which aims to make capable, disciplined and physically and mentally fit soldiers. He said that Assam Rifles personnel are stationed in Counter Insurgency operation areas; therefore, it is very important that they prepare themselves to take on their responsibilities with efficiency and effectiveness.

382 women recruits, including 12 from Arunachal Pradesh, after their 44 weeks training, attested to the organization on the day, who will be posted in different Units of the Assam Rifles in Arunachal Pradesh and other parts of the North East region.

The Governor presented awards to the best recruits in battle craft, weapon handling, jungle lane shooting and other specializations in counter insurgency operations. Recruit Nonie Chizo received the Overall Best Recruit Award, Recruit Vephilu Hoshi received the Award for Best in Physical training, Recruit Maina Saikia received the award for Best

in Drill and Recruit Catherine M Saidan received the Award for Best in Firing.

First Lady of Arunachal Pradesh Smt Anagha Parnaik, Director General of Assam Rifles, Lt. General PC Nair, PVSM, AVSM, YSM, PhD, Commandant, Assam Rifles Training Centre and School, Sukhovi Brig. Raman Sharma, officers and Junior Commission Officers, Instructors and personnel of Assam Rifles were present on the occasion.

SAD 2.0 at Chilippam Gompa benefits 500 beneficiaries

RUPA, November 8:

Seva Aapke Dwar 2.0 was organized at Chilippam Gompa in Rupa Sub-division of West Kameng District here yesterday, November 8, 2023.

ZPM Rupa, Karma Dorjee Thongdok inaugurated the SAD camp in presence of EAC Rupa, Tsering Pentsom, CO Shergaon, Anjali Siga, all Heads of Departments of the district, besides other officials, and local public.

Over 500 beneficiaries accessed services from more than 20 government departments.

People from all villages under Rupa Sub-division and adjoining areas whole heartedly participated in the programme and availed the services that the government is providing at their door step.

Pre E-Pragati meeting held to review progress of CSS

BOMDILA, November 8:

Under the Chairmanship of Akriti Sagar, Deputy Commissioner of Bomdila, a pre-E-Pragati meeting

was convened at DC's Conference Hall here recently to review the progress of the 14 Central Sector Schemes (CSS) Saturation Trackers.

The DC, while reviewing the status of all ongoing schemes, emphasized the importance of adherence to project standards and timelines and urged upon the working agencies and administrative officers both to conduct on-site visits to ensure timely and quality project completion.

The Additional Deputy Commissioners (ADCs) from the five subdivisions provided updates on the status of various schemes within their respective areas and shared valuable insights into the challenges faced.

The meeting was attended by the administrative officers, heads of departments (HODs), engineers from various departments, and other government officials.

Coordination meeting held to assess progress of schemes under ARSLM

BOMDILA, November 8:

A coordination meeting was held under the Chairmanship of DC Bomdila, Akriti Sagar, with the ARSLM, line departments, and Block Mission Managers (BMM) across five sub-divisions at the DC's Conference Hall here recently.

The meeting was held to assess the progress of various ongoing schemes and evaluate the performance of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) while gaining insights into the challenges faced at the grass-roots level.

While chairing the meeting, DC Sagar commended the BMMs for their commendable work at the

grassroots level. She emphasized the importance of coordination between the BMMs, the concerned administrative officers, and other stakeholders to effectively address the obstacles faced. She further urged the ARSLM to support and promote special SHGs, including those representing physically handicapped individuals and transgender individuals.

The DC also stressed the need for coordinated efforts with ANMs and ASHA workers to ensure comprehensive household coverage.

The BMMs, in turn, presented the achievements of SHGs within their respective clusters and outlined the challenges they encountered through informative presentations.

Meeting discusses implementation of JAP of NCPCR

YINGKIONG, November 8:

A meeting with the Traders, shopkeepers, women led organizations and HoDs was organized at Tourist Hall Nov 7 in connection with the implementation of the Joint Action Plan (JAP) which is developed by the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) with the sole objective of Prevention of Drugs and Substance Abuse among children and illicit trafficking in the country.

Addressing the occasion, Upper Siang DC, Hage Lailang sought cooperation from all stakeholders in order to make the society safe and secure. He asked the traders association to comply with the government directives in this regard and prohibit the selling of cigarette and other tobacco products to any individual below the age of 18 years.

To reinforce in its commitment to prevent the children from abusing substance, he remarked that search and seizure operation will be carried out throughout the district so that no shops can sell cigarette and tobacco products within 100 yards of the school campus and requested the parents and the school teachers to be role model for their children, besides emphasizing on good parenting for nurturing the children. He also asked the parents and guardians to be watchful of their child and to take note of any erratic behavior which will help in early identification of children who are abusing harmful substances. He encouraged on to avail the facilities of Drug-De addiction center, Yingkiong to seek help relating to substance abuse.

Dr. India Modi, District Programme Officer, National Tobacco Control Programme, highlighted the ill effects of substance abuse especially tobacco consumption among the younger population. He briefed on the various provision of COTPA Act 2003 to raise awareness among the traders.

Earlier, Ojing Talom CDPO -cum-In-Charge DD ICDS Yingkiong informed that meeting has been conducted to discuss Sales of Inhalants by the traders and Proper implementation of the COTPA Act 2003 in the district.

He explained that the inhalants are substances whose chemical vapors are inhaled to produce euphoric or disinhibiting effects in the body of an individual. As per the National Survey on extent and pattern of substance use in India by AIIMS, New Delhi, it is the 5th most widespread psychoactive substance used in India only falling behind Alcohol, Cannabis, Opioids and Cocaine. Some examples are solvents, paint thinner, aerosol sprays, dendrite, whitener

(correction fluid) and Rubber Solution used for Tyre Puncture repair which are easily available in the market.

He remarked that because of its easy accessibility and low cost, its misuse is prevalent especially among the younger population.

Awareness programme on 'Women's Health & Hygiene' held

NIRJULI, November 8:

The team of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA), NERIST conducted an awareness programme on Women's Health and Hygiene at NERIST Health Unit here recently.

The programme was led by Prof. Pradip Lingfa, Regional Coordinator, Unnat Bharat Abhiyan and coordinated by Institute UBA Coordinator, Prof. T. Patel.

Addressing the programme, Prof. Lingfa highlighted the importance of maintaining health at the top priority for the welfare of human being and community as a whole.

Dr. Tana Natung, State Nodal Officer Child Health, National Health Mission, Department of Health and Family Welfare and Dr. Michi Anthony from Alphabet Hospitals attended as the invited guests and experts of the programme.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Tana emphasized on various common health issues and the ways to treat in the best possible ways. He urged the gathering not to skip health related advertisement telecast in the TV and radio as they contain important message duly communicated by the experts. He also highlighted about the various government schemes and facilities available to support at the time of financial difficulties for the treatment.

Dr. Sushmita Pradhan Taggu, CMO, NERIST in her address, advised the gatherings on various Dos and Don'ts for leading healthy life.

The active participation and interaction by a large numbers of women staffs from the institute made the programme a success.

APP celebrates 51st Raising Day

NAHARLAGUN, November 8:

The Arunachal Pradesh (APP) celebrated its 51st Raising day in a befitting manner at the Police Training Center (PTC) here on Wednesday, November 8, 2023.

Home Minister Bamang Felix attended as chief guest, while DGP, Anand Mohan, IPS as guest of honor.

Addressing the gathering, the Home Minister inspired the Arunachal Pradesh police (APP) for performing exceedingly well in executing their responsibilities and effortless duty. While lauding the police department, Felix said that the state government aimed to upgrade the capacity of the department and its personnel and informed that in last 5 years, 1085 police personals have been promoted in different ranks. Remembering the sacrifices made by the police personnel, he said that, 'we have to remember those lives of police personnel who lose their life, while serving the people of the nation'.

The Home Minister also inspected the Parade Contingents on the ground followed by ceremonial march past.

Later, the Minister handed over the DGP's Commendation Disc award for the year 2023 to 30 police officers and 15 other police officers for APP raising Day Service Medal.

Earlier, DGP, Anand Mohan explained the growth of the APP since the recruitment of its first batch in 1974, and therefore '8th November' is celebrated every year as Raising of Arunachal Pradesh Police. Since 2002 Arunachal Pradesh Police is being headed by a Director General of Police.

DGP in his speech said that, today we have a dedicated police force of 12000 men and women, 142 notified PSS of which 110 are functional PSs including 07 functional women police stations, 7 Battalions, a special Task Force SDRR and 24 sanctioned fire stations with specialized fire personnel.

Further, the DGP was delighted to inform that PTC, Banderdewa has been awarded with the Union Home Minister's trophy for best training institute for the year-2021-2022.

The Institutions has also been awarded the Governor's Salver by the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh for best performance unit along with ITBP and BRO. Another feather in the hat has been added by the crime branch police station (SIT) which has on ISO 9001, 2015 got certification for intelligence collection, detection and investigations of cases having sensitive and heinous nature.

The DGP said that APP has become the 1st police force to have achieved complete successful migration of its CCTNS infrastructures into the GOI based Meghraj cloud-based data center. Further he said, CCTVS Arunachal Pradesh police was in 1st position amongst the Hilly State of the country during August and currently on top 5.

Other highlights of the APP Raising Day included hosting of the APP flag by the DGP and the March Past by different police

force and band display by the students of VKV PTC Banderdewa.

Kayak & Raft Guide Training conducted

SEPPA, November 8:

A 20 (twenty) days Kayak and Raft Guide, Safety Training Education Course & Assessment started at Seppa recently.

Altogether 21 (twenty one) trainees have registered for the course of which, 13 (thirteen) are from East Kameng and 8 (eight) from Upper Subansiri district.

Seppa MLA Tapuk Taku and Deputy Commissioner Sachin Rana graced the inaugural function as Chief Guest and Guest of honor.

The training aimed to train the youths in water sports and adventure which will be a boost in promoting tourism as well as in earning livelihood. The 20 days course has been divided into 3 parts - 8 days Kayak Guide, 8 days Raft Guide and 4 days on safety Training Education Course and Assessment. Tsering Chotak and Anton Sveshnikova, Instructors from International Rafting Federation (IRF) are imparting the training as trainers.

7th Tawang Festival begins with a vibrant street carnival

TAWANG, November 8:

The 7th Tawang Festival commenced with a vibrant street carnival that featured traditional Monpa folk cultural dances and a band display by the students from Government Higher Secondary School, Jang, as well as Indian Army jawans on November 8 last.

Approximately 400 artists graced the occasion with captivat-

ing performances of various folk dances, including Aji Lhamo, Baa Chham, yak dance, Lion dance, Arpo, and Kyeng Chham among others.

The street carnival in the old market of Tawang attracted the attention of notables, namely State Chief Minister Pema Khandu, local MLA Tsering Tashi, and MLA Lungla, Tsering Lhamu. The cultural extravaganza also drew thousands of tourists and local residents.

In the evening, the cultural show took place at the grand Mentsem-Tse Tawang festival ground, commencing with the monks of Tawang Monastery performing the Mangalacharan.

Chief Minister Khandu officially inaugurated the festival from the festival stage. Despite bone-chilling cold, the show witnessed tremendous turnout of spectators.

Festival Chief Coordinator Namgye Tsering and Deputy Commissioner of Tawang, Kanki Darang, extended their warm greetings to the distinguished guests on the occasion.

The Festival continued till November 10th with a second street carnival featuring even more artists.

KDOWS organizes cleanliness drive

PASIGHAT, November 9:

Organized by KDOWS ((Kuri Dajum Olung Welfare Society), more than forty KDO clan students from JN College, Pasighat on Wednesday, actively participated in a cleanliness drive at the Centenary Park (popularly known as Hornbill Children Park) Pasighat.

Led by the JNC-KDO Students Union President and General Secretary Daniel Taki and Mijing

Taki respectively, all the participants thoroughly cleaned in and around the park with an assurance to devote their services in future too for betterment of the society and appealed the younger generations to maintain cleanliness in the city for healthy environment and a healthy life.

The duo extended their gratitude to the Pasighat Municipal Council for providing vehicle for waste disposal.

New Zealand kiwi experts tour Ziro valley to explore collaboration for kiwi production

ZIRO, November 9:

A joint eight-member team from New Zealand High Commission and Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India winded up their three-day field visit to Ziro on Nov 9.

The team visited the valley to explore feasible areas to target improvement and development of kiwi fruit production and associate value chain activities in North Western and North Eastern Himalayan region. Arunachal Pradesh along with Himachal Pradesh had been nominated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India to conduct the feasibility study.

The eight-member team comprised New Zealanders Daniel Black (Field Research Manager) and Dr. Stephanie Montgomery (Programme Manager), Chirag Bhatia and Shiva Reddy (MIDH Consultants) from the Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India, Wasim Hussain Raja and Supreetha, BG Scientists from ICAR Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR)-CITH Dirang, and Boker Riba (Consultant MIDH) and Ben-

jamin Pertin (DHO Hq.) from the Directorate of Horticulture.

In order to explore the scope of collaboration on diffusion of innovations and transfer of technology to enhance kiwi fruit production in Arunachal Pradesh, the team members along with Director Horticulture Nawa Lobsang, Kime Bune (India Invest), Tasso Yatung, Associate Professor from College of Horticulture Pasighat, Lower Subansiri DHO Hibu Dante, SDHO Tasso Yallu, HDO Mollo Tara and Scientist In-charge Kiwi Research Centre, Ziro Tape Gab made extensive field visits to several kiwi orchards at Ziro valley during their three-day program.

In course of their field visits, the team interacted with the farmers in their orchards and also demonstrated training and pruning techniques followed in New Zealand. The team also later visited the Govt. Horticulture Nursery Ziro.

The field visits were followed by a meeting with the kiwi farmers held under the chairmanship of DHO Hibu Dante where various issues and grievances faced by kiwi growers were discussed at length. The kiwi experts expressed feasibility of mutual beneficial co-operation between New Zealand and India in kiwi production. They identified the kiwi fruit varieties of Hayward, Monty, Bruno and Allison to be converged and promoted between New Zealand and India as these varieties were feasible and suitable to Indian climatic conditions.

The key findings of the team, included - (a) Poor Training/ Pruning Management: Farmers need to receive proper training lessons on kiwi fruit cultivation techniques including pruning and management. This will help improve the overall quality and productivity of the fruit. (b). Small sized-

fruit, grade below national and international standards: It is crucial for farmers to focus on improving the size of the kiwi fruits grown in Ziro valley to meet national and international standards for better marketability and increased profitability to farmers. (c). Organic Cultivation: The team appreciated the organic cultivation of kiwi fruits at Ziro valley which indicates focus on sustainable and environment friendly farming practices, and which is also a strong unique selling point (USP) in the market. (d). Appreciation to hard-working farmers in difficult terrain: The team recognized the hard work put in by kiwi farmers of Ziro valley overcoming the challenges of difficult terrain. (e). Tasty kiwi fruits of Ziro: The team appreciated the tasty kiwi fruits of Ziro which enhances favorable consumer feedbacks and potential success in the market. It also indicates the potential for producing high quality kiwi fruits in the region.

Later, the team also visited the Naara-Aaba kiwi winery and also called on Lower Subansiri Deputy Commissioner Bamin Nime at Subansiri Sadan. New Zealand annually produces 558000 MT of kiwi fruits while India produces 6047 MT of which Ziro valley alone produces 852 MT.

Khandu flags off Monduro 3.0 at Tawang

TAWANG, November 9:

State Chief Minister Pema Khandu flagged off the world's highest mountain biking race Monduro 3.0 here on November 9 last in presence of the local legislator Tsering-Tashi.

'Mon' stands for land of the Monpas and 'Duro' depicts Enduro format of the MTB. Mon-

duro 3.0 is the first after the state government declared it a calendar event.

Khandu expressed happiness over the participation of mountain bikers from countries like Nepal, Indonesia and Britain besides those from across the country.

"This is an indication that the event has grown from its humble beginnings and has caught the attention of enthusiasts from across the globe. This will not only boost the morale of our youths to take up sports but also develop tourism in the region," he said.

Revealing that Arunachal Pradesh languished at the bottom when it came to sports and games in the country, Khandu said that with support of the central government, the state government has concentrated on developing sports infrastructure and encouraging youths to take up sports as profession.

"In recent years our commitment has shown results. Our youths today are winning medals not only in national but also in international levels. Under the present government at the Centre, even India has emerged as a global power in sports and games," he said.

Referring to the ongoing National Games (that concludes today) at Goa, Khandu asserted that Arunachal's emergence as a sporting state can be vouched from the fact that it is ranked 21st in the medal tally from amongst 34 states/union territories.

"When it comes to the North East, we are third after Manipur and Assam," he informed. Khandu said that due to the consistent efforts of the state government, Arunachal Pradesh is today able to host national level events.

"As President of the Ar-

unachal Pradesh Football Association, I proudly inform you that we will be hosting several top matches of the ensuing Santosh Trophy championship, India's biggest football event," he announced.

Wishing the participants all the best, Khandu also expressed happiness that Monduro event will henceforth be included in the Asian Endurance Series (AES) as informed by the organizers of the initiative to bring together all motorsports enthusiasts in Asia. He assured that the state government would willingly support the initiative in whatever possible way.

4th DLMC meeting of Upper Siang held

HoDs asked to participate in SAD to maximize benefits to people

YINGKIONG, November 9:

The 4th monthly District Level Monitoring Committee (DLMC) of Upper Siang was conducted under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Hage Lailang at DC conference hall, Yingkiong on November 9 last to review the status of physical and financial achievements and progress of centrally and state sponsored schemes in the district.

The meeting was attended by Liyon Borang, Secretary Health and Family Welfare, GoAP cum Mentor Secretary, Upper Siang Sarkar Apke Dwar and Zilla Parishad Chairperson Lumgeng Litin.

Addressing the officers, the Mentor Secretary briefly highlighted the role and responsibility of Mentor Secretary which is to oversee, monitor and review SAD activities in the district and called upon all head of departments to participate in SAD camps whenever it is conducted in the district

to provide maximum benefits to public. The Secretary also appreciated the progress of developmental activities in Upper Siang and advised the officers to maintain work culture and to ensure proper monitoring and timely completion of development projects to take forward Upper Siang to new heights of development.

In his speech, the DC also urged upon the executing agencies to maintain proper supervision, quality of works and strictly adhere to timeline to complete the ongoing projects in a stipulated time period.

ZPM Lumgeng Litin also pointed out some infrastructures development which are still lagging behind timeline of projects and requested executing agencies to speed up the construction works in greater public interest.

While in an extensive deliberations, all head of departments presented the overview and status of development schemes implemented by the respective departments through power point presentations.

All Admin officers, Head of Departments, all DLMC members and official attended the meeting.

ERO takes stock of Electoral Roll preparedness

DAPORIJO, November 9:

Bidol Tayeng Commissioner (Agriculture), Electoral Roll Observer (ERO) of Upper Subansiri District called on meeting with DEO, EROs, AEROs & VLOs here today and took stock of preparedness of Electoral Revision Roll in Upper Subansiri District.

After taking reports from various election officers, Tayeng

said that remaining revision of Electoral Roll be done within a given stipulated time of Commission.

Mika Nyori DC-cum-DEO briefly presented the overall preparatory rolls of 5 assembly constituencies. All the EROs and AROs attended the meeting.

Uttarakhand Diwas celebrated at Raj Bhawan

ITANAGAR, November 9:

In the spirit of 'Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat', the foundation day of Uttarakhand was celebrated at Raj Bhawan, Itanagar on November 9, 2023.

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) and the First Lady of the State Smt Anagha Parnaik along with the natives of Uttarakhand, working in Arunachal Pradesh, participated in the celebration.

Speaking on the occasion, the Governor conveyed the good wishes of all Arunachalis to the people of Uttarakhand. He also reciprocated the goodwill extended by the Uttarakhand Governor.

The Governor, who has done 'Chardham Yatra' spoke about the 'Devbhumi' as an educational hub and land of patriotic people. He said that every household has a member in the Indian Armed Forces.

The Governor advised the Uttarakhand people to take back good practices in Arunachal Pradesh. He said that there are lots of similarities amongst the people of Arunachal Pradesh with Uttarakhand as Himalayan States, in terms of traditions, customs, small scale industries and art and crafts.

The Governor and the First Lady of the State interacted with

all the participants individually and enquired about the professional life, livelihood and their family members. They also hosted a high tea for the participants.

The people of Uttarakhand, from all walks of life who have been in Arunachal Pradesh for decades shared their accomplishments and challenges. They expressed happiness for being part of the celebration, which was conducted for the first time.

Adding colours to the Uttarakhand Diwas, as a token of appreciation, they brought homemade Garhwali and Kumaoni special dishes for the Governor, First lady of the State and other guests.

As part of the celebration, the audio-visual message of the Governor of Uttarakhand Lt. General Gurmit Singh, PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, VSM (Retd.) was played on the occasion.

Governor graces Assam Valley School Foundation Day Celebration

Governor dwells on need to develop leadership traits & imbibe values to enable students succeed in lives

ITANAGAR, November 9:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) graced the 28th Founders' Day celebration of the Assam Valley School, Balipara, Assam on November 9, 2023.

Established in 1995 by the Williamson Magor Education Trust in the heart of Assam, the Assam Valley School is ranked today as the 2nd Most Respected Co-educational Residential School in India and best in Eastern India.

The Governor dwelt on the need to develop leadership traits

and imbibe values that will enable them to succeed in their lives. He amplified the need to build passion, motivation and develop an attitude of internal intensity and external calm to deal with challenges. He further advised them to be curious and inquisitive and develop critical thinking. He said that curiosity fosters a love for learning and can lead to great discoveries and innovations.

The Governor, while emphasizing on the importance of empathy and kindness towards others, advised the students to embrace Diversity and instil respect for people from different backgrounds, cultures, and beliefs. Diversity enriches our lives and makes us more understanding and compassionate individuals, he said. The Governor encouraged the students to be Responsible Citizens. He asked them to instill a sense of civic responsibility and participate in community service and also be aware of social issues.

Earlier, the Governor released the 'Year Book' of the school and presented the Founders' Awards to the winners. He also visited the exhibitions, set up by the students and commended them and their teachers for the excellent display.

Tobacco Free Village Advocacy Meeting held

SINGCHUNG, November 9:

The District Tobacco Control Cell (DTCC) in Bomdila organized a 'Tobacco Free Village Advocacy Meeting' with all the stakeholders of Singchung Village under the National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP).

The event held on November 9 last, included participation from shopkeepers, PRI Members,

SHGs under ArSRLM, staff of PHC Singchung, youths, and ASHA/Anganwadi workers of Singchung village in Singchung Subdivision of West Kameng district, besides CDPO Singchung, SMO i/c, PHC Singchung, PRI leaders, SHGs, officials and general public.

Sang Dorjee Dirkipa (District Consultant, DTC Cell, Bomdila) sensitized the stakeholders on Tobacco Control Laws (COTPA 2003) and TOFEI (Tobacco Free Educational Institutions) Guidelines. He raised awareness about the harmful effects of Tobacco through a PPT.

Detailed discussions were also held regarding initiatives aimed at reducing the usage of tobacco products. The roles and responsibilities of stakeholders in implementing Tobacco Control Laws and advocating a Tobacco-Free Village were addressed based on guidelines and directions provided by NTCP.

Khanlong Zongluju, CDPO, Singchung, Smti. Nang Wangmu, GPC, Singchung Village and Thupten Chodup, BCCH, ArSRLM also addressed the meeting.

The meeting decided that a village-level committee would be formed to ensure the strict implementation and compliance of COTPA 2003 in the village. Furthermore, GBs, PRI Members, Medical officials, SHGs, and youths under the leadership of GPC Singchung Village will initiate activities for the Tobacco-Free Village Mission.

ARC campaign held at Kamhua Noknu

LONGDING, November 9:

An awareness Program was held at Kamhua Noknu village in Pongchau circle on November 9 last by DIPR office under the

aegis of District Administration Longding.

During the program awareness and information related to various schemes and programs of the government of Arunachal were given to the people by the participating departments.

Speaking at the occasion Miss Mitek Tarang VO Longding shared information related to Atmanirbhar Pashupalan Yojana and other schemes in the department. Also, ADO Tokmem Siram while informing about the schemes urged the people to be careful while filling up the application forms to avoid rejection. She shared the detail procedure.

Fishery Officer Dang Tatin also spoke on the occasion and requested people to take up the schemes and also suggested them to make use of the govt subsidies in efficient manner to make themselves financially empowered. District Labour and employment officer and District tourism officer also spoke on the occasion.

The Program was attended by GPC, GPMs, public leaders, and other members of the village. While sharing his experience the GPC of Kamhua Noknu thanked the Govt of Arunachal and the District administration for conducting such awareness Program.

DCM calls on Union Power Minister

NEW DELHI, November 9:

The day 2 of the Conference of Power and NRE Ministers of States and UTs at the Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi on Nov 9, presided over by the Minister of Power and NRE, R. K. Singh deliberated on the key topics of the agenda which included Pump Storage Projects

(PSPs), the National Transmission Plan, Implementation of Rights of Electricity Consumers and the exploration of Carbon Markets, where Arunachal Pradesh holds immense potential.

The comprehensive discussions highlighted the commitment of the government to enhance the energy sector on the day.

Minister-in-Charge of Power, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Deputy Chief Minister, Chowna Mein stressed upon the State's potential in the exploration of Pumped Storage Plants, owing to its favorable geographical terrains at high altitude. In this light, Mein requested for a detailed survey of the State to be carried out by NEEPCO.

Among other agendas, Mein also provided insights into the progress of the Comprehensive Scheme for Transmission in the state, slated for completion by December 2024. This scheme promises to significantly reduce Transmission and Distribution (T&D) losses, marking a pivotal step in Arunachal Pradesh's energy infrastructure development.

Later in the evening, the DCM called on the Union Minister of Power R. K. Singh, where they discussed issues related to Hydropower projects and the RDSS scheme. Mein also sought early sanction for small and mini hydel project proposals from the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE).

In response, Union Minister of Power acknowledged Arunachal Pradesh's achievements in the past 7-8 years and gave assurance for early resolution of pending issues, reflecting the government's commitment to promote sustainable energy initiatives in the region.

Lowangdong graces XXI College Week Celebration of WRGC, Deomali;

Calls upon students to resist from harmful influences

DEOMALI, November 9:

Borduria Bogapani MLA, Wanglin Lowangdong and ADC Deomali Ms. Vishakha Yadav graced the inaugural day of the XXI College Week Celebration of Wangcha Rajkumar Govt. College (WRGC) Deomali as Chief Guest and Guest of Honour here on November 9 last.

In his address, Lowangdong emphasized upon the students that they are the vital vision, perception, and future of the district. Pointing on the concerning issue of drug abuse in Tirap, Changlang, and Longding districts, he urged the students to resist those harmful influences and take a leadership role in shaping the future of the state and the region. Lowangdong counselled them to focus on their studies and resist temptations.

Lowangdong, on the occasion commended the college administration for enhancing its infrastructure and establishing the Department of Education this year. In response to the General-Secretary of WRGC Students' Union, Toling Tesia's memorandum, the MLA declared that, "I will champion this cause, as it is not just my college but yours and ours." He assured personal funds for completion of the college welcome gate and committed for engaging all legislators of the district to address the construction of a rostrum and the boundary wall for the old college campus.

Earlier, while extending a warm welcome to all, Dr. Monshi Tayeng, Principal WRGC, called upon the students to actively en-

gage in college activities. Dr. Tayeng also provided insights into the college's total strength and academic performance.

The event wrapped up with a Vote of Thanks by Dr. Chatung Lowang, followed by a tour of the newly inaugurated Adhyayan: The Learning Pavilion and a brief visit to the historic old college campus.

The program was also attended by Mrs. Chasuum Wangchadong, Chairperson, Nocte Women Association; Chief of Namsang and Pansumthong villages, HoDs of various departments and other dignitaries.

Governor suggests more outreach programmes by Indian Armed Forces

Naval Officers calls on the Governor

ITANAGAR, November 10:

Three-member team of Naval Officers, led by Commander Ronie Chowpoo called on the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) at Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on November 10, 2023.

The naval officers, including Lt. Commander Rige Bagra and Lt. Commander Saloni Gandhi briefed the Governor about the Indian Navy's Awareness Campaign cum Outreach Programme.

The Governor commended the Indian Navy and the naval officers for their endeavour to motivate the youth of Arunachal Pradesh and reaching out to the students of the institutes of higher studies in the State to join the Indian Navy. He said that with good inborn physical fitness and agility, the youth of the State have huge potential for being inducted in the Indian Armed Forces.

The Governor suggested more Outreach Programmes by the Indian Armed Forces at school and college levels. For the welfare of the youth of the State, he further suggested use of audio-visual aids to showcase the prowess of the Indian Navy. Raj Bhavan will always be ready to facilitate such programmes, he said.

The Naval Officers informed that as part of Indian Navy's Awareness Campaign, an Outreach Programme was conducted by an Indian Navy team at National Institute of Technology (NIT) and North Eastern Regional Institute of Science and Technology (NERIST), Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh. The young minds were given an insight into the Indian Navy.

While encouraging the students to avail opportunities of joining the Indian Navy, several avenues and various modalities for joining the Indian Navy were highlighted. The interaction programme received a very enthusiastic and positive response from students and faculty of the institute.

The Indian Navy is the maritime branch of the Indian Armed Forces and is one of the most prestigious maritime forces in the world. The Indian Navy is expected to deter all maritime threats to the country and ensure safe passage to our energy and other resources by ensuring protection of sea-lanes of communications. The job of an Indian Naval Officer also includes navigation, rescuing stranded castaways, and general maintenance and upkeep of heavy machinery. They enable diplomacy, search and rescue operations, anti piracy operations and defence of our territorial waters.

National Webinar on Millet Farming & Soil Health in AP

RONO HILLS, November 10:

On the occasion of International Year of Millets, the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences at Rajiv Gandhi University organized a National Webinar on November 10, 2023.

Drawing participants from across India, the event served as a pivotal platform for enriching discussions and insights.

RGU VC Prof. Saket Kushwaha addressed the webinar on the importance of millets in daily life, emphasizing their nutritional value, historical significance, and traditional importance in Indian culture. He urged the people to include millets in their diet for a healthier lifestyle and called for a revival of their use in Indian cuisine. He also spoke about the university's extension activities to reach farmers with information on millets and help them grow and market them sustainably.

He emphasized the need for a bottom-up approach to millet research driven by the needs of farmers and consumers, calling for more research on new varieties and recipes.

Registrar Dr. N. T. Rikam, on the occasion, highlighted the crucial role of millets in the context of Arunachal Pradesh, delving into both cultural and nutritional aspects, while Finance Officer, Prof. Otem Padung, in a notable advisory, urged the scientists to embrace a bottom-up extension approach, underscoring the importance of community engagement for more meaningful impact.

Prof. Sumpam Tangjang, Dean of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, extended warm wishes to participants from diverse regions,

fostering a sense of unity in the collective pursuit of knowledge.

The lineup of expert speakers brought diverse perspectives to the forefront. Prof. D. K. Patagiri, Professor and Head of the Department of Soil Sciences at Assam Agricultural University, initiated discussions on the topic 'Soils of Northeastern India: A focus on millet production.' He delved into the intricacies of different soil types and their implications for millet cultivation.

Dr. Pankaj Kumar Shah, Associate Professor in the Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding, Nagaland University, enriched the audience with insights into the nutritional importance of millets, emphasizing the unique aspects relevant to Northeastern India. Dr. Abhinav Kumar, Assistant Professor-cum-Junior Scientist in the Department of Entomology at Bihar Agricultural University, Bihar, addressed the critical issue of major insect pests affecting millets and proposed effective management strategies.

Dr. Taking Gammi, Veterinary Officer, Department of AHV and DD, Arunachal Pradesh shared insights into the potential of integrated farming with millets, illustrating how it can contribute to better incomes for farmers. The economic aspects of millet production in India were analyzed by Dr. R. S. Bhawar, Assistant Professor-cum-Junior Scientist in the Department of Agricultural Economics at Bihar Agricultural University, Bihar.

The National Webinar emerged as a comprehensive platform for the exchange of knowledge, fostering collaboration and promoting sustainable practices in millet farming and soil health, contributing significantly to the agricultural landscape of Arunachal Pradesh and beyond.

DCM graces the 3rd Inter-State Cultural Exchange Festival of Assam & Arunachal

Mein emphasizes on cordial relations with neighbours for peaceful co-existence

HOLLONGI, November 10:

Arunachal Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister, Chowna Mein graced the inaugural ceremony of 3rd Inter-State Cultural Exchange Festival of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh at Hollongi on November 10 last.

Speaking on the occasion, the DCM said that 'friends may change but neighbours never change' and emphasized on maintaining cordial relations with the neighbours for peaceful co-existence. He also narrated on the age old bonding between the people of Assam & Arunachal Pradesh during the British Era prior to independence and NEFA days, said that this legacy should be passed on to the younger generations.

Lauding Doimukh MLA, Taha Hali Tara who was also the Chief Patron of the Organizing Committee, he emphasized on the transformative power of cultural exchange in fostering deep understanding, appreciation and unity between different communities. He said that the cultural festival not only highlighted the talents of artists and performers but also created invaluable opportunities for cultural dialogue, instilling pride and unity across diverse communities.

Mein stated that such cultural events serve as a bridge to connect people from different communities and regions, strengthening relationships and transcending boundaries to em-

brace shared roots. He expressed his support for the conduct of the Inter-State Cultural Exchange Festival into a bigger event in days to come while acknowledging its pivotal role in fostering social harmony, peace and progress.

"As we stride forward," the Deputy Chief Minister stated, "let's embrace the richness of diversity and build a future filled with unity and understanding." "The festival stands as a testament to the power of cultural exchange in creating a tapestry of unity amidst the beautiful diversity of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh," he added.

He further said that many prominent personalities like Dr Bhupen Hazarika have helped to unite the sister States of North East and particularly between people of Assam & Arunachal Pradesh through his songs and music. His songs are very much loved even today in Arunachal Pradesh, he said. He added that likewise, prominent literary personalities of Arunachal Pradesh like Late Lummer Dai and Padmashree awardee, Y D Thongchi have contributed a lot in the Assamese Literatures and their works earned recognition and accolades from the Assam Sahitya Sabha.

Mein also asserted that Hollongi will grow into one of the most develop area in the Capital region owing to the Green Airport and called upon the people of the area to maintain the natural beauty and not to destroy the beautiful landscape of the area. He informed that to keep the beautiful landscape intact and to check any kind of unsystematic & unauthorized construction in the airport area, Govt of Arunachal Pradesh have

constituted Arunachal Pradesh Airport Area Planning & Development Authority. He requested everyone to abide by the rules and regulations as prescribed in the Arunachal Pradesh Airport Area Planning & Development Authority Bill 2023.

Among others, the event was also attended by Doimukh MLA Tana Hali Tara, Chairman of OBC Development Board for Gohpur Sub-Division, Nomal Boruah, Organizing Patron, Yowa Bullet, Organizing Chairman, Yowa Nunu, Government Officials, PRI Leaders and Gaon Burahs.

On the occasion, People from both the States belonging to different communities such as Nyishi, Apatani, Mikir, Bodo, Assamese, Adivasi, Nepali, Chakma, Galo, Mising and others presented their traditional folk dances.

The inter-state cultural exchange festival of Assam & Arunachal witnessed various events including songs, folk dances, fashion show, etc.

First Lady of the State inaugurates Skill Development Training programme

ITANAGAR, November 10:

In an effort to promote women empowerment and spirit of self-reliance amongst womenfolk, the First Lady of Arunachal Pradesh Smt Anagha Parnaik inaugurated a 2-month certificate course in tailoring for marginalized women at Oju Welfare Centre, Naharlagun on November 10, 2023.

60 (sixty) beneficiaries including widows, single mother, housewives, unemployed girls and including inmates of Shakti Sadan

are availing the training, conducted by Oju Welfare Association (OWA), and supported by Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), Itanagar Branch, where in SIDBI have provided 30 sewing machines.

Speaking on the occasion, the First Lady of the State commended OWA and SIDBI, Itanagar for the programme, which she said will make marginalized women and unemployed girls self-reliant and Atma Nirbhar to sustain their livelihood. Oju Welfare Association's sincere efforts will contribute towards Atma Nirbhar Bharat, she said.

The First Lady of the State said that the upliftment of financially marginalized women is not just a matter of social justice; it is a pathway to stronger economies, healthier communities, and a more equitable world. It is our collective responsibility to create an environment where women of all backgrounds have the opportunity to thrive financially. By working together, we can unlock the untapped potential of these women and build a brighter, more prosperous future for all, she said.

The First Lady of the State underscored the importance of making womenfolk financially independent and earn a respected position in the society. She said that when women have the means to support themselves and their families, the overall economic well-being of a community improves.

Chairperson, OWA, Smt Ratan Anya, informed that the Skill Training in 'Cutting and Tailoring programme' is a Social initiative of OWA and supported by Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), Itanagar branch, who provided 30 sewing machines. She said that OWA has a target of 60 beneficiaries per batch, for two months, i.e. 6 batches a year and

360 beneficiaries per Annum and 1800 in the next 5 years. The beneficiaries were identified through students from the Department of Social Work, Rajiv Gandhi University, who are currently undergoing internship at OWA. OWA will try to link them to various welfare schemes and programs such as MUDRA, PM Vishwakarma scheme etc. wherein they can avail loan and start their business, Anya said.

Albert L Gangte, Branch Manager, SIDBI, Itanagar branch and Hibu Tato, Accountant, SIDBI were present along with members of OWA on the occasion.

Hands on Training cum Go-Live of service under EoDB conducted

AALO, November 13:

The Hands-on Training-cum-Go-Live of Services under Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) was conducted by the Department of Planning & Investment, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh here at Circuit House, Aalo on November 13 last.

The Investment Division of the Department of Finance, Planning & Investment has developed a single Window Clearance Portal (www.eodbarunachal.gov.in) which is a one-step-shop for attaining all clearance such as Licenses, Permits, NoCs, and Renewal, etc. without any physical touch points. This portal also facilitates collection of Application Free Online, and is integrated with a dashboard to monitor the real-time processing of applications and revenue generation of the state through EoDB.

The training was attended by all the ADCs, DDIs and Commerce and Industries from West Siang, Upper Siang and Leparada districts along with their concerned

officers & officials, issuing Trade License & Factory License officers and officials, Jan Suvidha Kendra Data Entry operators of West Siang district and a team from the Department of Planning & Investment, Itanagar who have imparted the training.

Mallo reviews WCD activities in Lohit

TEZU, November 13:

Ms Indra Mallo, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Women & Child Development, Govt. of India visited Tezu on Monday, November 13 last and interacted with all the WCD state officials and non-institutional care beneficiaries in presence of DC Lohit and Administrative officers at District Secretariat, Tezu.

Mallo interacted with the beneficiaries of non-institutional care and encouraged them to continue their studies. She also urged the DC to extend all possible way in delivering services to the beneficiaries. She thoroughly reviewed the status on Child Helpline, one stop center, POCSO cases, WHL, Anganwadi centers, CCL and other various issues faced while facilitating the services.

Further, she took stocks of the activities undertaken by the concerned WCD department in the district and issued necessary direction to all the stakeholders and concerned members for attaining the objectives. She also urged everyone to coordinate with each other and directed the administrative officers to monitor them regularly.

Earlier, Lohit DC, Shashvat Saurabh, welcomed the Joint Secretary, GoI and highlighted the issues and the fast pace development activities going on in district,

particularly in the field of AWC and education.

The review meeting ended with vote of thanks from the CWC member.

Tali gets maiden high-profile visit

Road to remote Pipsorang from Tali will become motorable by next I Day - CM

PIPSORANG, November 15:

Chief Minister Pema Khandu on Nov 15, announced that the road to remote Pipsorang from Tali in Kra Daadi district will become motorable by Independence Day next year.

“The Tricolour will be unfurled by local legislator Jikke Tako at Pipsorang on Independence Day next year and he will come by road,” he declared.

It may be noted that out of the 60 assembly constituencies in Arunachal Pradesh, Tali was the only one unconnected by road. Khandu had promised in 2017 that his next visit to Tali would be by road and he fulfilled it this year on February 27 when he rode to Tali and joined the Nyokum celebrations there. Pipsorang, an administrative unit of Tali constituency, however still remains unconnected. A 55 km road from Tali to Pipsorang is under construction.

This visit to Pipsorang by chopper along with Union Minister for Earth Sciences Kiren Rijiju, Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein, Rajya Sabha MP Nabam Rebia and Chambang legislator Balo Raja is the maiden high profile visit to the area.

Addressing the villagers, Khandu appreciated local legislator Jikke Tako, a first timer, for his sincere efforts in bringing development to his remote constituency.

“I have seen him (Tako) always talking passionately about his constituency and what the government must do to bring in succour to the villagers confined to the region due to lack of road connectivity. His sincere efforts are now bearing fruits. Tali today is connected with an all-weather road, there is regular electricity and water supply. And the road to Pipsorang is progressing satisfactorily,” he said.

Khandu especially praised Tako's call of ‘Back to Tali’ to those who migrated from Tali and settled down at places like the state capital and district headquarters. With proper road connectivity and basic facilities including health, education and administration at door-step, he observed that people will come back for sure.

“The region is beaming with resources. Once all modern amenities and facilities are available here, Tali can develop shoulder to shoulder with other constituencies,” he said.

To a request made by Tako for road connectivity with Limeking in Upper Subansiri, Khandu assured that the state government will look into it positively and discuss it in detail with concerned officials on priority.

Reminding that construction of roads need central support, he asserted that Rijiju, a cabinet minister in the central government, is always ready to coordinate for developmental and welfare projects in the state.

Khandu expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi under whose regime since 2014, Arunachal Pradesh has witnessed a developmental phase never seen before in 75 years.

“Think about it. 75 years had passed since we attained Independence but a place like Tali had no road connectivity. Only after the BJP came to power, the dream of a

road to Tali could be completed in 2023,” he said.

Inaugurating the upgraded Pipsorang SDO headquarters from an administrative circle with headquarters at Kolang, Khandu announced Rs 30 crores for development of the requisite infrastructure. He also assured that installation of 4G towers in the region will be fast-tracked.

Meanwhile, the Chief Minister also launched creation of Paye circle with headquarters at Rikmun Riango and Nyorig circle with headquarters at Roing. Also formally started Piped Water Scheme under Jaljeevan Mission at Lengoing Koleng (Pipsorang headquarters) and adjoining villages.

Governor participates in Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas celebration

Governor launches the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra;

ZIRO, November 15:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, participated in the Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas, which commemorates the birthday of Bhagwan Bisra Munda, at Ziro in Lower Subansiri on Wednesday, November 15, 2023.

The Governor paid a flowery tribute to a portrait of Bhagwan Bisra Munda and lit the inaugural lamp of the celebration. An exhibition of tribal heroes in the Indian Freedom Movement was displayed at Abo Tani Hall, Ziro. He distributed certificate and cash awards to the winners of the walkathon, organized on the occasion of Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas.

On the special occasion, the Governor launched the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra. He said that the Yatra is an effort of Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi

to make India a developed nation by 2047. He said that the Yatra has special focus on the development and progress of tribal communities.

The Governor said that the Yatra must reach every corner of the State. Sincere effort must be put in to ensure that targeted people avail benefits from the State and Central Governments schemes and programmes. He advised the Government officials to reach out to the rural communities, stay with them and discuss and address their challenges.

The Governor said that Vikshit Bharat Sankalp Yatra is a gift from the Hon'ble Prime Minister and to make it successful, every citizen needs to contribute. He appealed to the people to come forward and assist and cooperate with government machineries for the Vikshit Bharat Mission.

Leading the people in taking pledge for Viksit Bharat Sankalp, the Governor exhorted the Government officials to work harder and ensure beneficiaries who haven't got benefits of welfare schemes are reached. He said all welfare schemes must reach full saturation.

The Governor witnessed the live streaming of Prime Minister's programme at Khunti, Jharkhand along with the people in addition to a message from the President of India on the occasion.

As an encouragement to the entrepreneurs, artisans and progressive farmers, the Governor distributed beneficiary's certificates under Atma Nirbhar Kishi Yojana, Sub-mission on Agri farm machinery, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Rural), Atmanirbhar Pasu Palan Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban), PM SVANidhi, Pradhan Mantri

Ujjwala Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana, Atma Nirbha Bagwani Yojana, Farmstead compost for doubling of farmers' income, promotion of fishery based integrated farming system models for livelihood improvement of farmers, Arunachal Garmin Express Yojana and Arun Shree Rinn Yojana. He also flagged off the Information Education Communication (IEC) mobile vans under the programme and distributed certificates to the beneficiaries of various central government flagship programmes and schemes.

Local MLA and State Minister for Agriculture and allied sectors, Er. Tage Taki highlighted the initiatives of State and Central Governments on the occasion.

Lower Subansiri Deputy Commissioner Bamin Nime also spoke on the occasion.

Commissioner, Fisheries, Saugat Biswas, District Prabhari Officer Devinder Kumar, Director (Rural Connectivity) Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India, Superintendent of Police, Keni Bagra and large numbers of beneficiaries, government officials, Goan Burahs, Panchayat members and people from all walks of life attended the launching programme of Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra.

The main focus of the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra will be on reaching out to people and create awareness and providing benefits of welfare schemes like sanitation facilities, essential financial services, electricity connections, access to LPG cylinders, housing for the poor, food security, proper nutrition, reliable healthcare, clean drinking water, etc. Enrolment of potential beneficiaries will be done through details ascertained during the Yatra.

IEC vehicle flagged off to mark Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra

TAWANG, November 15:

A virtual launch event for the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra and the celebration of Janjati Gaurav Diwas was organized at DC office here on Wednesday, November 15 last.

MLA Tawang, Tsering Tashi and Dr. Veena Kumari Darmel, the district incharge for Viksit Bharat Sankalp, flagged off the IEC vehicle from the office. The vehicle will traverse 87 Gram Panchayat segments in Tawang district by January 23, 2024, carrying information materials.

The journey began with a stop at Gyangkhar GP, where a documentary on Union Government's developmental initiatives was screened. Additionally, beneficiaries of welfare schemes were honored, and their success stories recorded as 'Meri Kahani Meri Zubani'.

The IEC van proceeded to Kyidphel GP, coinciding with the ongoing 3rd Seva Apke Dwar 2.0 event, inaugurated earlier by Public Leader Tenzin Monpa, EAC Kyidphel Tsering Choden, and other officials.

During the Seva Apke Dwar camp at Kyidphel, MLA Tsering Tashi highlighted the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision to develop India by 2047. He welcomed Dr. Veena Kumari Dermal and urged her to explore other areas like Mago and Jemeithang on her next visit. Expressing gratitude, he pledged efforts toward achieving India's development goals.

The event included cultural programs, certificate distributions, agricultural tool distributions, and DC Tawang's donation of books to

the Nahmed village community library. Public Leader Tenzin Monpa and DC Tawang Kanki Darang also addressed the gathering.

Photography site & Revamped General Ground, Piyong inaugurated

NAMSAI, November 15:

Deputy Commissioner Namsai inaugurated a Photography site and the Revamped General Ground at Circle Hqs, Piyong on Saturday.

The undulated general ground was revamped through crowd funding by APCS officers of 2016 batch under the aegis of "Project-37" and executed by Indira Thamoung Riba, Circle Officer, Piyong.

The DC lauded the gesture of APCS 2016 batch officers and said "I take utmost pride in the APCS 2016 batch for coming up with this initiative of crowd funding for such noble causes with a motto of 'Giving Back to the Society'. 'You have set an example for others to emulate and I hope that many such initiatives would be taken up by others as well. It may be a small step, but it triggers you to do even better", he stated and also appreciated the general public for coming forward with a helping hand for successful completion of this project. He said that the presence of a proper ground would provide a platform to the youth to keep themselves busy in sports and being physically and mentally fit.

A photography site constructed under the aegis of Project-37 in front of the general ground was also inaugurated by the DC at the same time.

Nang Sawani Hopak ZPM 3-Ningroo, Gaon Burahs, Panchayat leaders and public leaders were present.

Special Administrative Camp at Chasa

CHASA, November 15:

The Tirap District Administration, in a pioneering effort to bolster community engagement and convenience, conducted a successful administrative camp recently at Chasa village in Longo Circle.

The program was spearheaded by Circle Officer, Dr. Ripi Doni, in the interest of public services at the doorstep of the people.

Under the umbrella of the initiative, a range of pivotal services was extended to the residents, including distribution of educational material such as SVEEP activities and ARC pamphlets on central and state flagship programs by the District Information and Public Relations Office (DIPRO) in Tirap.

Additionally, the Circle Officer, Longo facilitated on-the-spot issuance of crucial documents such as ST/PRC/Birth and affidavits, ensuring the community's immediate access to vital paperwork.

Further enhancing the scope of assistance, the Statistics Department oversaw the seamless registration of Aadhaar cards, enabling residents to benefit from a crucial identification mechanism.

The State Bank of India branch in Khonsa actively contributed by facilitating swift bank account services and the much-needed KYC up-dation.

During the event, a significant number of documents were successfully issued to the beneficiaries, with 100 ST documents, 55 birth certificates, 50 PRC documents, 50 Aadhaar cards, and 40 KYC updates.

Expressing heartfelt gratitude on behalf of the Chasa village, Chief Wangheh Rajkumar lauded the District Administration

for their unwavering commitment to bringing essential services to the doorstep of the community. The timely and efficient execution of the administrative camp has undoubtedly amplified the trust and solidarity within Chasa and the surrounding regions.

The administration remains steadfast in its commitment to fostering community welfare and plans to continue these vital initiatives, ensuring the sustained development and well-being of the residents within the district.

Janjatiya Gaurav Divas and Seva Aap Ke Dwar.2 held

ZIRO, November 16:

As part of 'Janjatiya Gaurav Divas', ten school students from various schools of the valley took part at the 3 kms walkathon organized here on Nov 16.

The participants walked on foot from Dani Kunia Govt. Higher Secondary School covering Pai Gate, Hapoli Market and the walk culminated at the Padi Yubee Outdoor Stadium.

Lower Subansiri Deputy Commissioner Bamin Nime flagged off the walkathon and later distributed the prizes to the winners.

Speaking on the occasion, DC Nime urged the school students to imbibe the habit of walking, which he said was good for health.

Rakhe Tasar, Tayo Tasuk and Tushal Kumar were awarded cash prizes of Rs 3000/-, 2000/- and 1000/- along with certificates for securing first, second and third prizes respectively, while the rest participants were awarded Rs 1000/- each along with certificates by the DC.

Meanwhile, the Lower Subansiri District Administration also organized a Seva Aap Ke Dwar.2 at Siiro village as part of 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra'. Civil departments including Health and Family Welfare, Agriculture, Horticulture, Women and Child Development, Economics and Statistics, Food and Civil Supplies, Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and few public sector banks took part at the outreach programme and put up stalls.

The camp was inaugurated by Siiro Zilla Parishad Member Hibu Ochey in presence of Gano ZPM Takhe Taling and villagers of Siiro and Hong.

Later, Lower Subansiri Deputy Commissioner Bamin Nime and District Prabari officer Devender Kumar also attended the camp and distributed certificates to the beneficiaries.

The DC urged the villagers to make the best use of such outreach activities to fulfill the saturation goals of Govt. flagship schemes to achieve the status of 'Viksit' or developed India by 2047 as laid out by the Central Govt.

DLC meet on Svanidhi se Samridhi held

ZIRO, November 16:

The District Level Committee meeting on Svanidhi se Samridhi was held at the District Secretariat conference hall here on November 16 last.

Chairing the meet, Lower Deputy Commissioner-cum-DUDA chairman Bamin Nime appreciated the performance of the Central Bank of India, Ziro branch for timely disbursement of loans to the beneficiaries and

urged the other banks of the District to follow suit. The DC also suggested clubbing up of the Svanidhi camp with the upcoming Seva Aapke Dwar 2.0 for broader outreach activities particularly at Yachuli and Old Ziro areas.

Earlier, Executive Engineer-cum-Member Secretary, DUDA Ziro, Er. Nich Jacob highlighted the details of the PM Svanidhi and Samridhi schemes. He also expressed dissatisfaction on non-disbursement of loans by some of the public sector banks to beneficiaries covered under the schemes.

In course of the meeting, the DLC members fixed 24th November as the date to conduct the Svanidhi Se Samridhi camp.

The meeting was attended by all members of the DLC including the Executive Engineers of Power and PWD, District Food & Civil Supply Officer, Deputy Director (ICDS), District Labour and Employment Officer and Branch Managers of SBI Ziro, Apex Bank Hapoli, Central Bank Ziro and Rural Bank Ziro.

DC flags off four vehicles under ArSRLM

LIKABALI, November 16:

Lower Siang Deputy Commissioner Marto Riba flagged off four vehicles of Arunachal Grameen Express Yojana (AGEY 1.0 and AGEY 2.0) under Arunachal State Rural Livelihood Mission (ArSRLM), block unit on Nov 16.

Expressing his gratitude to ArSRLM team for their generous act, DC Riba appealed to the beneficiaries to maintain the ve-

hicles in good condition for income generation for their SHGs.

He also assured to extend all possible help to ArSRLM's Likabali block unit for creating self employment opportunities for rural women in the district.

Earlier, ArSRLM Likabali block mission manager Bomjum Taso said that the aim of the schemes is "to generate income diversification and promote livelihood activities of women self help group and their family members under ArSRLM initiatives."

Mein joins celebration of 148th birth anniversary of Bhagwan Veer Birsa Munda

LEKANG, November 16:

On the occasion of Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas, a grand celebration unfolded on Wednesday in Kumari Adivasi village under Lekang circle in Namsai district of Arunachal Pradesh, marking the 148th birth anniversary of the revered tribal warrior, Bhagwan Veer Birsa Munda.

The event was graced by Arunachal Pradesh DCM as Chief Guest, where he paid homage to Munda's legacy along with the people of Adivasi village.

At the event, Mein highlighted that under the Modi Government, Birsa Munda's legacy evolved as Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas, honoring tribal war heroes and uplifting tribal societies nationwide. It provides an opportunity for reflection on their sacrifices and a platform to pay humble tributes.

Mein, in his address, thanked Prime Minister Modi for launching two historic initiatives

- 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra' and 'PM Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan' in Jharkhand on the occasion today. These initiatives focus on socio-economic upliftment, preservation of cultural heritage, and improved education and healthcare opportunities for tribal communities.

As part of advancing development for the tribal communities, enhanced connectivity, infrastructure, education and healthcare opportunities are being availed today by the people of Arunachal Pradesh, who collectively represent a diverse spread of indigenous tribes. Emphasizing on this, Mein stated that every road and corner in Lekang Circle are today well-connected; the secondary school in the area will be upgraded to a Golden Jubilee Secondary School; and the Govt of Arunachal is working for holistic development in every district and village of Arunachal Pradesh.

Mein also mentioned that GoAP has considered Birsa Munda's legacy to be a guiding path towards unveiling other great tribal warriors in the state. Continuing with the effort of documenting the names of unsung heroes and warriors of Arunachal Pradesh, GoAP is coming up with war memorials for the Anglo-Abor, Anglo-Khamti and Anglo-Wancho Wars; along with the plan of building a war museum in the State.

In his concluding remarks, Mein stated that today's celebration was not only for the tribal people but for every community member and the State as a whole.

The event was also attended by MP Tapir Gao, MLA Jummum Ete Deori, ZPC Namsai Nang Urmila Mancheykhun,

DC Namsai, BJP Karyakartas, Govt officials and others.

DCM joins National Press Day celebration *Mein emphasizes the crucial role of media, as the Fourth Pillar of Democracy*

ITANAGAR, November 16:

Arunachal Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister, Chowna Mein, joined the vibrant celebration of National Press Day here on November 16 last organized by the Arunachal Press Club (APC) in collaboration with the Directorate of Information and Public Relations, GoAP.

The event was a true celebration of press freedom and the dedicated work of responsible media individuals from all over the state.

Addressing on the occasion, Mein emphasized the crucial role of the media, as the Fourth Pillar of Democracy, playing a pivotal role in the societal growth by keeping citizens informed. He also acknowledged that the media acts as the eyes and ears of the government, enabling the latter to receive data pertaining to a broad spectrum of activities from different corners of the State, sometimes on a first-hand basis.

Despite the challenges faced in Arunachal, Mein observed significant progress in the State's media landscape. From a modest start with a few journalists and newspapers like 'Echo of Arunachal' and 'The Arunachal Times,' the media in Arunachal Pradesh has evolved into a sizable family. They have witnessed several new talents joining the media fraternity in the state, especially in electronic and digital media. The State now boasts nine daily newspapers, two weekly publications in

print media, and 16 electronic and digital media outlets under the Arunachal Press Club.

Mein anticipated continued growth in media houses but urged remembrance of pioneers who laid the foundation. He commended the Arunachal Press Club for initiating Excellence in Journalism Awards, honoring pioneering figures of the State Media House like Late V Ravindran and Late Taro Chatung. Mein paid tribute to V Ravindran, a veteran journalist who significantly contributed to print journalism's early years in Arunachal Pradesh and acknowledged Taro Chatung as the pioneer of electronic media in the State.

The Deputy CM Mein expressed the GoAP's commitment, under the leadership of Chief Minister Pema Khandu and Minister of IPR Bamang Felix, to the welfare of media persons. Numerous programs and policies have been implemented to support journalists in Arunachal Pradesh. In this context, Mein has assured to provide funds for a library, gym, restaurant, and guest rooms in the Arunachal Press Club Building, as it is the center of media activities in the State. He further said that there is a need to preserve the history of the media professionals and their contributions that have collectively shaped the growth of media houses in Arunachal today. In this context, he suggested the Press Club to come up with a journalists' archive honoring the contributions of pioneer journalists in the State.

On the occasion, Mein also felicitated Senior Journalist Pradeep Kumar Behra with the Life time Achievement Award and Editor-In-Chief, Arunachal Today Sangge Droma, and reporters Topi Ete and Nanman Jugli with the Taro Chatung Excellence Award for their commendable work in the

field of journalism. In addition, he congratulated all other awardees of the media fraternity for their incredible contributions to the state. He also unveiled the APUWJ Press Vest, which will enable media professionals to be formally identified while reporting on the field, especially in volatile situations.

The event was also attended by the IPR Minister (GoAP), Bamang Felix, MLA and Advisor to IPR Minister, Laisam Simai, MLA and Advisor to Minister Agriculture, Gabriel D. Wangsu, Director IPR, Onyok Pertin, PROs, Executive Members of APC, APUWJ, AEDMA, Editors, senior journalists and other members of the media fraternity.

Libang exhorts JNC students to carry forward the legacy of excellence

'Hilltop Radiance 2023'- 55th Annual College Week of JNC begins

PASIGHAT, November 16:

Gracing the 55th Annual College Day Celebrations – “The Hilltop Radiance 2023” of the state’s first higher learning institution, Jawaharlal Nehru College, here on Tuesday, Minister for Health & Family welfare, WCD & Tribal Affairs, Alo Libang exhorted the students to carry forward the legacy of the pioneer Institution in pursuing excellence in academia and all round personality growth.

The Alumni of the institution from various part of the state, have contributed in building ‘Modern Arunachal Pradesh’ in various capacities and fields and like them “you have to lead the State and the Nation”, he added.

The State Government is fully committed in taking forward

the education sector and responded positively to the two-point memorandum submitted by GS, JNC SU, Tarin Gammeng.

Libang, who is also an alumnus of JNC, exuded that the various cultural, literary, games and sports activities help open new vistas for the all-round growth and creativity and future avenues for them. The Minister motivated them to contribute to the Nation, as academicians, Researchers, entrepreneurs, progressive farmers, teachers, policy makers, administrators and innovators, sports persons, Artists, and in cultural, creative and various other fields through dint of hard work and dedication.

The Chief Guest along with MLA Kaling Moyong lighted the Olympic Torch carried by Abina Doley and Karik Saroh.

Local MLA, Kaling Moyong, in his address to the students, said that JNC has produced eminent personalities and the institution is continuing to impart quality education to students of the state. As the local MLA, he also assured to extend support and take up for continued support from the State Government to the pioneer institution. Moyong also spoke on the Smart City Pasighat becoming a fast growing education hub of the state. He expressed hope that the celebrations will foster sportsmanship, unity, team spirit and discipline.

Earlier, Principal JNC, Dr. Tasi Taloh, highlighted the growth of the JNC established in 1964 during the NEFA days has presently more than 5000 (five thousand students) pursuing various academic courses in Arts, Science and Commerce and 75 (seventy five) faculty members. The students have brought laurels to its Alma mater in various fields and have excelled as University toppers in UG and

PG Courses, he further informed on the occasion.

Faculty members have also been recognized for their outstanding contributions to higher education sector. He also highlighted the various infrastructural up-gradation and revamping of the college with the constant support of the State Government. JNC has also made its presence in the fields of research, successfully organizing national and international seminar, development of Smart classes etc.

Earlier, JNC-SU, Gen. Secy. Tarin Gammeng submitted a two-point memorandum to the Minister for RCC wall fencing of the General Ground, and for provision of additional toilets in the campus.

SP Sumit Kumar Jha, Vice-Chancellor (APU) Prof. Tomo Riba, ADC (Hq) Oli Perme, PMC Chief Councillor Okiam Moyong Borang and her Deputy Rebecca Panyang Megu, HoDs, Vice-Principal JNC, Dr. Leki Sitang, faculty members, Band Contingents from VKV Oyan, students were among others who joined the inaugural of the 55th Annual College Week of JNC.

Cultural presentations, March past, track and field events featured on the first day.

AYA leads 9th edition of MCKR

Let us prevent Kley River from turning into another Yamuna - Taki

ZIRO, November 16:

Let us not allow our lone river to turn into a dirty river like Yamuna and we should all make concerted efforts to save our dying Kley River, said local MLA and Minister Agri & Allied Er. Tage Taki, while participating at the 9th edi-

tion of Mission Clean Kley River (MCKR) here on Monday.

Elaborating more on saving the Kley river from pollution and maintaining its cleanliness, Minister Taki appealed the dwelling house owners located near the river not to release the household water directly to the river but to treat it prior to its release to the river. Further, Taki also pointed out it was not possible for Apatani Youth Association (AYA) or the District Administration to continue handholding the cleanup operation for a long time but it was the conscientious duty of the citizens of the valley to keep their lone river clean.

Meanwhile, the Minister also donated T-shirts to all participants of the MCKR.

Despite being a Monday and a working day, more than 2500 denizens of Ziro valley turned up to lend their helping hands in cleaning up the 29 kms stretch Kley river surrounding the valley.

Using traditional bamboo poles, brooms, nets, clippers and gunny bags, participants cleaned up the river from piled up garbage, plastic bottles, sanitary napkins, polythene bags and dead animal carcass which were later disposed of to their designated dumping sites using UD and Housing garbage disposal vans.

Urging the denizens of the valley to continue cooperating with AYA in keeping the Kley River clean, AYA president Tapi Mali informed that he District Administration had recently issued an office memorandum outsourcing the task of cleanliness of the river to AYA on pilot-project basis. Considering the sincerity, dedication and seriousness of AYA for the past eight years in upkeep of our lone river, the District Administration, AWAZ, CBO's, PRI leaders, student leaders and NGO's in

a joint meeting has entrusted the responsibility of maintaining the cleanliness of Kley River to AYA, which is a huge responsibility and daunting task for us, said Mali. The AYA president further appealed the people of the valley to inculcate civic sense and not to dump garbage at the river which would cut their task easier.

Apatani Women Association Ziro (AWAZ) president Hibu Lilly and General Secretary Leegang Ania appealed the women not to dump sanitary napkins, huggies and plastics items into the river. We also appeal our women farmers not to dispose of the plastic items at the river, but to carry back the left-over plastic items from paddy field back to their homes for their proper disposals, they appealed. Further, the AWAZ representatives informed this year they found the Kley River cleaner than last year. Perhaps our recent one-month awareness campaigns at the villages of the valley on 'proper garbage segregation, management and disposal' has been effective and brought some positive changes in garbage management at the valley which is indicative and reflected through a cleaner Kley River, they echoed.

The operation MCKR was divided into 16 sectors with an overall in-charge team leader from AYA assisted by a HoD and participating members. The day-long MCKR started from 9 am in the morning till late in the noon.

The 9th edition MCKR was participated by local MLA and Minister Tage Taki, Lower Subansiri Deputy Commissioner Bamin Nime, all HoDs and staffs, PRI leaders, Apatani Women Association Ziro (AWAZ), Apatani Gaon Bura-Buri Association, CBOs, Apatani Students Union,

students of St. Clare and Mudo Tamo colleges, higher secondary school students from all schools of the valley, market welfare committees and general public.

East Siang DA organizes SAD 2.0 in Rani village

PASIGHAT, November 16:

Organized by the district administration, the first Seva Apke Dwar 2.0 (SAD) camp for East Siang district was conducted at the Government Secondary School, Rani village under Ruksin subdivision on Wednesday under active supervision of the nodal officer Tatak Mibang, DPO.

According to official source, twenty six departments extended various valuable and need based services to more than three hundred underprivileged citizens on the day.

Rani ZPM, Besing Tatin in presence of Oyan ZPM Bimal Lego, HoDs, PRI leaders, GBs and villagers formally inaugurated the SAD and Vikshit Bharat Sankalp Yatra campaign here yesterday. ZPM Tatin along with others inspected all the stalls interacted with the officials and villagers.

Addressing the villagers, he said the new concept of Seva Aapke Dwar 2.0, modified from the erstwhile Sarkar Aapke Dwar has been initiated to offer people services to its citizens' doorstep that they need in the state, aiming to bridge the gap between the government and the people by bringing various facilities and services to the remote locations. He appealed the villagers to avail optimum benefits during the camp.

Nalo, Wangsu flag off Motor cycle expedition 'NE on wheels'

ITANAGAR, November 17:

A motorcycle expedition themed 'Northeast on wheels', being undertaken by a group of motorcyclists from different parts of the country, was jointly flagged off by Tourism Minister Nakap Nalo and Kanubari MLA Gabriel D Wangsu from the Gompa premises here on November 17 last.

Pune-based NGO Amazing Namaste Foundation and Arunachal's tourism department are jointly promoting the expedition.

Riders from Mumbai, Pune, Ahmedabad and Delhi on 17 motorcycles will travel to Ziro (L/Subansiri), Daporijo (U/Subansiri), Aalo (W/Siang), Mechukha (Shi-Yomi), Pasighat (E/Siang), Roing (Lower Dibang Valley), Tezu (Lo-hit) and Namsai (Namsai).

Nalo termed the expedition "an important event to explore and promote the tourism potentials of the state," while Tourism Secretary Swapnil Mahesh Naik said that his department is "giving equal importance to adventure tourism and will support NGOs like Amazing Namaste Foundation for organising motorcycle expedition Season-2 in the state."

Amazing Namaste Foundation President Atul Kulkarni said that "the objective of the expedition is not only to promote tourism but to explore the potentials of the state."

He harked back to 2022, saying that "last year, the slogan 'Jai Hind' was written with 2,350 helmets in Tawang and recorded in the Guinness Book of World Records." It was a joint initiative of the state government and the Amazing Namaste Foundation, he said.

Tourism Director KN Damo also attended the flagging-off ceremony.

New LPG connections under PMUY distributed at SAD, Hollongi

BALIJAN, November 17:

The Seva Maah: Journey towards saturation programme of Balijan Sub-Division has started with Seva Aapke Dwar 2.0 camp at Hollongi on November 17 last.

The programme was inaugurated by Chief Guest Tana Hali Tara, MLA 14th Doimukh Assembly Constituency in the presence of Dr. Marchina Boria, ADC Balijan, Head of the Offices, PRI members and the general public.

MLA Tara on the occasion distributed the new LPG connections under PMUY to beneficiaries. Birth, PRC, ST certificates, Trading License etc were issued in the camp.

The next SAKD 2.0 camps will be held on 24th November and 1st December at Sangdupota and Taraso circles respectively.

Cataract Blindness Backlog Free (CBBF) Campaign held

LONGDING, November 17:

A Cataract Blindness Backlog Free (CBBF) Campaign under the Pradhan Mantri Netra Jyoti Abhiyan 2022-23 was conducted in Longding district.

The campaign was flagged off by Longding Deputy Commissioner, Bani Lego on November 17 last in presence of DMO Dr Worar Taku and Dr Kato Lego (Nodal Officer, CBBF) and other medical staff.

As a part of the campaign, 8 ophthalmic assistants, led by

Ophthalmic Surgeon Dr. Chowdim Tayang, Howdim Tayang & Dr. Yapa Gupa from Tezu and Ziro Hospital carried out a door-to-door survey from November 17 to 21, 2023. The team took screening operable cataract cases and visited all the villages in the district.

A total of 158 individuals were identified. Subsequently, patient lifting and pre-operative check-up were done on November 23 last at District Hospital, Longding by the consulting team. An aggregate of 54 patients were admitted for the Surgery.

Longding-Pumao MLA, Tanpho Wangnaw inaugurated the surgical drive conducted the next day on November 24, 2023 and dedicated the campaign to the people of the district. He interacted and communicated with all the patients and complimented the team for their tireless efforts. The surgeries were done on following two days November 24 & 25 last.

5th edition of Arunachal Lit Fest 2023 held successfully CM proposes 'Writers Village' for creative minds;

ITANAGAR, November 18:

The 5th edition of the Arunachal Literature Festival was organized by the Department of Information & Public Relations in collaboration with the Arunachal Pradesh Literary Society (APLS) from November 16-18, 2023.

The Arunachal Lit Fest is a calendar event aimed at promoting creative writings through interface between the local writers and established authors/writers, besides giving a forum to encourage the local emerging talents to enhance their skills in creative writing. Themed "Read, Reflect, Reimagine", many

prominent authors, writers, poets, publishers, upcoming writers and literature lovers from across the state and outside participated in the 3-day event. ALF 2023 is the 5th edition of the festival. While the first three editions were held at Itanagar and the 4th edition was held at Namsai.

Chief Minister Pema Khandu proposed establishing a 'writers' village', "somewhere suitable in Arunachal Pradesh," in order to provide the perfect ambience to writers, artistes, researchers and creative minds.

"This 'village' would be a resort in the laps of nature where writers and artistes can push their creative pursuits in peace and solitude," the Chief Minister said during the valedictory function of the three-day Arunachal Literature Festival (ALF) at the DK Convention Centre here on November 18 last.

The Literature Festival 2023 successfully concluded on Saturday on a positive note to scale the literary mission to next higher level.

Khandu stated, "Arunachal Pradesh has some of the best locations where the mind roams free, hearts beat in perfect rhythm and the soul is at total peace. Writers and artistes just need such an ambience to perfect their art. We will offer it". According to him, the "Writers' Village" would be a perfect resort with all basic facilities at some remote location, where writers can stay for weeks and months finetuning their creative pursuits.

"I would like to invite all creative minds to avail this facility," he said.

The ALF is being attended by more than fifty renowned and budding authors and poets from across the country including those from Arunachal Pradesh. Some of

the big names this year are Anand Neelakanthan, Kavita Kane, Preethi Shenoy, Asgar Wajahat, Mahesh Dattani, Janice Pariat and Anuja Chandramouli.

"Literature is a reflection of humanity and a way for us to understand each other. By listening to the voice of another person we can begin to figure out how the individual thinks. I believe that literature is important because of its purpose and in a society, which is becoming increasingly detached from human interaction, novels create a conversation," he said.

Khandu was all praise for the state Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) for organizing the festival annually since 2018 in collaboration with Arunachal Pradesh Literary Society (APLS) headed by renowned authors like Padmashrees Y D Thongchi and Mamang Dai.

Acknowledging that the festival is growing with each passing year, Khandu suggested that the festival should travel across the state and not stay confined to the state capital. He assured enhancement of funds for organizing the festival on rotation basis across the state from next year.

Adding to a previous speaker's concern, Khandu reiterated his stance on significance of preserving local dialects and languages. He said that the younger generation ought to learn and speak in their native tongues naturally.

"It is our responsibility to teach our kids our mother tongue and it's the responsibility of our kids to take it forward. We must always remember that cultural erosion begins when use of local dialects gets disrupted," he said.

The state government, he informed, has successfully introduced several tribe-dialects in the syllabus of primary level schools

and work is on to do the same for remaining of the tribes.

Khandu expressed optimism that the ALF will successfully ignite young minds to not only read literature but also write it.

"Literature helps us to unlock our minds and perception of the world and allows us to see out of the box. With this, we begin to reflect, ask questions, and understand better. Meanwhile, reading literature gives us knowledge about history, religion, customs, and traditions; and provides us the opportunity of understanding customs and beliefs other than our own. Literature helps us to understand other systems of living around the world," Khandu added.

The idea behind conducting Arunachal Literature Festival is to give a platform to local authors and poets and encourage them in the field of literature. The festival invites national and international level authors to spark meaningful discussion centring on literature. It also aims at letting local youths meet both big and small publishing houses to know the hows and whys of publishing.

Speaking on the occasion, IPR Minister Bamang Felix reiterated that government is committed to strengthen the literary mission in the state by extending every possible means and support.

Saying that 'civilization is preserved in literature', Felix said that Arunachal Literature festival provides the platform to pass on the knowledge to younger generations. He called for developing reading habit and simultaneously writing for a better human being, besides opting as a career for the youngster.

The minister asked the department to work out the modalities with the shortcoming and difficulties faced during organizing the

festival so to perform better in the coming days.

Earlier, sharing their experiences and feedback during the Lit festival, Nawang Tsering Shakspo, a senior writer from Ladakh, Prof. K.P Mohanan from Kerala and Ashwani Kumar from Mumbai were all in appreciation for successful conduct of the festival, besides logistic supports extended to the guests. While Tsering spoke on cultural and religious similarity between Monpas of Arunachal and people of Ladakh and opined for strengthen the ties through writings and cultural exchange. Prof. Mohanan stressed on promotion, protection and preservation of local languages (dialects) through literatures in such platform like Lit fest and advocated for including special session for children in coming literature festivals. Ashwani Kumar said, "every brick of Itanagar speaks the language of poetry", adding that state has lots to offer in literature in terms of its diversity of languages and culture and find a significant place in the field.

On the occasion, the Chief Minister also gave away the prizes to the winners of the spot essay & painting competition held on Day 1 among students of various schools of the capital complex. Presentation of Tapu dance by cultural troupes from Arts & Culture department was another highlight of the programme.

The Day 3 also witnessed a series of literary events - including panel discussions on Media & Literature and Impact of Self Help Books by eminent experts, poetry recitation, short story reading session and a Prose Workshop by Pori Hilodari which was well received by the young participants, most of them are students.

The day began with a session on "Media and Literature" with

journalist Ranju Dodum moderating the session with noted journalist, writer, & rights activist Sanjoy Hazarika, along with journalists and poets Sudhir Saxena and Shiv Narayan. The discussion focused on the role that media plays in the discourse of everyday lives and the history of relations between literature and media, both in the country and internationally.

Hazarika also said that there is no such thing as a national media and that every regional media in any language is mainstream. Saxena, while he agreed with Hazarika, said that the absence of a national media is the collective failure of the country. The panelists, however, hoped that the narrative landscape of the media can become brighter and that we must stay optimistic.

Another session on Impact of Self-Help Books impressed upon the significance of books in one's life. The panelist included Preeti Shenay, Kanishka Gupta, Anand Neelakantan and Asgar Wajahat.

Two Poetry Recitation sessions were conducted at Rhododendron Hall, the first being moderated by Asghar Wajahat and participated by as many as fifteen poets including established poets and local budding talents, while the second poetry recitation and the last session of this year Lit Fest was moderated by Rokkaiah Rajathi (F), a Tamil writer, well known by her pen name Salma and participated by a good numbers of Poets & writers, presenting their thoughts and imaginations on various aspects of life to the audience.

Author Ponung Ering Angu moderated a Short Story Reading session with participation of eminent authors, including-Prof K.P Mohanan, Yashoda Murmu, Geli Ete and lastly Tashi Thongchi, whose story 'Cocoon' was read

out by APLS Gen Secretary Mukul Pathak. While winding up the session, moderator Angu state, "Every society has a story to tell", and laid emphasis on presenting the rich traditional heritage of tribal society with its folk lores & tales and the vibrant life style of people especially in context to Arunachal Pradesh through writings.

Earlier, gracing the inaugural session as chief guest on Day 1, November 16 last, Home & IPR & Printing Minister Bamang Felix said that, government is committed to provide every support for the cause of literary progress and called upon the Arunachal Pradesh Literary Society to draw out a pragmatic mechanism to upkeep the literary mission in the state and invited young people to participate and watch the literary discourses during various sessions to sharpen and enhance their talent of writings.

Felix observed that 'World is not complete without literature' as it is passed down from generation to generations, and hence advocated for more such literary outcomes to carry forward to the coming generations.

Applauding the state's literary pioneers and mentors - Padmashree and Sahitya Academy Awardee YD Thongchi, Padmashree Mamang Dai and late Lummer Dai for their contributions towards achieving this momentum to the literary world in the state, thus providing a platform to the local writers/poets to have meaningful discussions to upgrade skills, the IPR & P Minister hoped for fruitful interactions during the two-day technical sessions in various aspects.

Guest of honour, Advisor to Minister IPR & Printing Laisam Simai, said that Arunachal Literature festival is the biggest platform ever given to young budding talents of the state to explore their potentials

in writing and hone their skills in creative writing. Stating that the government is providing ample opportunities to promote young potentials, he called upon budding writers to enhance their art of writings through interacting with the established writers and authors and translate their imagination into reality.

Delighted with the large turn-out and enthusiasm towards literary activities, which is high than the previous years, Simai attributed the progress to Padmashree Thongchi and Padmashree Dai for pioneering and guiding the literary movement in the state. Welcoming each one of the authors and poets to the event for a successful brainstorming sessions during the next two days, Simai urged upon them to keep inspiring the young generations of the state to go ahead in the field of literature.

Secretary, Sahitya Akademi, Dr. K. Sreenivasara, in his speech, said that literature festival brings together bests of minds, provides freedom of creativity and bring new knowledge for betterment of the society.

IPR Director Onyok Pertin and Deputy Director Marbang Ezing also spoke on the occasion.

The three-day ALit Fest began with lighting of the ceremonial lamp by the dignitaries followed by welcome song by the students from Green Mount School, Itanagar. Other highlights of the inaugural session included release of five books, cultural display by the department of Arts & Culture. Book exhibitions by Research department and other book sellers including Reader's Realm, besides stalls displaying arts & crafts etc are part of the festival.

Earlier in the day, an on-the-spot Essay and Painting competition was also conducted to mark

the event, where all together 96 (ninety-six) children from various schools of the capital complex participated.

The Day 2 witnessed a series of events that included - poetry recitations, short story reading sessions, and discussion and deliberation on diverse topics by panel experts. Many visitors including literature lovers, students and others attended the event in large numbers and also visited the book stalls and other arts & crafts stalls.

During the forenoon, Author Ponung Ering Angu moderated a Poetry Session with participation of various Authors/Poets, namely- Ashwani Kumar, Guru T Ladakhi, Narang Tsering Shakspo, Lincoln Mura Singh, Theyiesinuo Keditso (Mekhela Mama), Beni Sumer Yanthan, Ato Lego etc at the Rhododendron Hall.

The themes ranged from nationalism, fragile ecology, everyday life, of rootlessness, of ancestral land etc.

Moderator Ponung Ering Angu spoke on the importance of poetry as one the form of self-expression which connects with readers on different themes. While at the Orchid Hall a Panel discussion was held on "Reimagining mythology", moderated by Mahesh Dattani and participated by Kaling Borang, Anand Neelakantan and Anuja Chandramouli. Another Panel discussion on "Changing Narratives", moderated by Padmashree Mamang Dai, was participated by Guru Ladaki, Ashish Kundra and Sanjoy Hazarika. The panel discussed on pros and cons of clear cultural influence on youths and kind of cultural and literature equilibrium aspire in changing scenario of literature.

While, in the afternoon session, "AI & The Future of Literature" was moderated by Dr.

Mukesh Kumar, with participating panels - Prof. Ashwani Kumar, Dr. A. Venugopalan, Kanishka Gupta, Balram Gumasta and Pratap Dixit discussing on how AI can pose challenges to writers and their reactions.

A lively poetry recitation session dedicated to 'Queers & Allies' termed as 'Rainbow Session' was well participated by enthusiastic gatherings with cheers and applause. This is the second time that such platform was provided to the community, after it was introduced for the first time at the 4th edition of AP Lit Fest last year at Namsai.

Moderated by Manabi Bandopadhyay, the first Transgender College Principal from West Bengal and a writer and poet herself, the session had presentations by panel members – Partha Sarathi Majumder, Sanjana Simon, A Ravathi, Moge Basar, Wanggo Socia, Raju Ghising and Babuilu Tawang reflecting the life of the transgender and the pain, agony and social stigmas associated with it.

Moderator Manabi had faced prejudice and discriminations at every hurdle of her life and fought for equality of the community in the society. An activist to her gender cause, Manabi started the session with her poem titled "Read Reflect Reimagine" which she wrote last night in tune with this year theme of the Lit Fest, shows the life journey and the societal attitude towards the gender.

A Ravathi, a writer by profession, performed mono-acting of her play in Tamil depicting social discriminations meted out to the community and seeking justice, equality and dignity in the society. Young participants- Wanggo Socia and Babuilu Tawang through their recitations touched the hearts of the gathering.

Well-coordinated by Sawang Wangchha, the session was captivating to the cause dedicated upon, as all of them clearly voiced out the message of equality, love, respect and dignity in society.

Later, APLS President & Padmashree Y.D Thongchi, while facilitating the panelist, said that our state has the most tolerant society with equal rights and respects to all without any social discrimination. Thongchi also authored a short story on 'transgender' in Assamese for social awareness among the people.

Earlier, at a Short Story reading session, moderated by senior Story Writer, Satish Jayaswal, in all six members in panel, presented their stories, narrating the socio-cultural and generational differences, besides other social issues and human conflicts in the society. Besides other prominent writers, Isaac Jilen, a RGU student narrated his story "Worth Unspoken", where a boy dies of dog bite due to communication gap between parents & children and the ignorance which led to the misfortune, while Remon Longku read out a popular Tangsa folk lore on "Lake of no return".

The day also witnessed Poet and noted influencer, Theyiesinuo Kreditsu known famously for her Instagram handle "Mekhala Mama", in conversation with journalist Ranju Dodum, where she spoke about the need to normalize wearing traditional tribal clothes and how weaving is an essential part of tribal heritage.

Later a Poetry workshop was conducted by Tenzin Tsundue, noted Poet, Writer and Tibetan refugee and activist, where many young literary enthusiasts participated in the session. 'Where is my country story' written by Y.D

Thongchi was also read out by Dr. Kompi Riba, Dr. Doyir Ete and Tenzing Tsundue himself.

Mein attends Golden Jubilee celebration of Kumari Kachari Milan Jyoti Club

NAMSAI, November 18:

Arunachal Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister, Chowna Mein, graced the Golden Jubilee celebration of Kumari Kachari Milan Jyoti Club, held at the Kumari Kachari Govt. Primary School Playground at Kachari Village under Lekang Circle on November 18 last.

The event, comprised of sports, cultural, and literary festivities, marked the Club's fifty years of dedicated service to the Kachari Community, symbolizing their dedication to community development.

In his address, Mein congratulated Kumari Kachari Milan Jyoti Club for its outstanding 50 years journey and highlighted the fact that being one of the oldest clubs in the region; they had served the people of the Kachari Community with elegance and sheer dedication.

Honoring the legacy of the pioneers of the club, Mein along with the others present on the occasion paid tribute to the founding members of the club. Established in 1973 by visionary individuals seeking to address the challenges faced by the youth in their village, the Kumari Kachari Milan Jyoti Club has become a symbol of positive change, Mein said and added that the club, founded to advocate for social welfare and education, has initiated numerous programs for the welfare and education of the

village's students.

Mein, while remembering the founding members of the club, lauded their dedicated service to the society and for their works for the welfare and upliftment of the society through various activities such as games and sports, education and cultural. He acknowledged the legacy of good works done by the members of the Kumari Kachari Milan Jyoti Club and exhorted to continue for several more years to come while maintaining mutual understanding and peaceful coexistence; which will also lead to the further development of the region.

He applauded the Kachari community in the region for prioritizing their cultural heritage, which also aligns with the GoAP's commitment to preserve the indigenous cultures of the land. He acknowledged it to be a vital aspect for holistic development of the State, while carrying out progressive reforms towards a fully developed Nation by 2047, as envisioned by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The DCM also assured to facilitate financial aid towards the construction of the club's building for the continued growth and development of the club so as to enable it to carry its social works for the betterment of the society.

On the occasion, Mein also released the Golden Jubilee Souvenir of the Kachari Milan Jyoti Club titled 'Our Aspirations'. It is a 50th year special edition magazine consisting insightful articles highlighting the rich history of the Kachari community in the region, along with the club's glorious journey of fifty years.

The event was also attended by MLA Lekang Jumum Ete Deori, District BJP

President, Chow Sujana Namchoom, ZPM Upper Lekang Jugesh Taye, ZPM Lower Lekang Bijoy Ballav Neog, Senior Citizens, Executive members of All Arunachal Pradesh Kachari Community Development Council, Kumari Kachari Millon Jyoti Club, among others.

Fire Safety Awareness Programme at different places in Daporijo

DAPORIJO, November 18:

Upper Subansiri District Police led by SP, Thutan Jamba in collaboration with District Disaster Management Authority (DDMO) Ms. Annie Yangfo, Daporijo Electrical Sub-Division JE Michi Yapa and Fire Station Daporijo OC Buru Maling conducted a Fire Safety Awareness Programme at different places and colonies at Polo, Sigin, Tanyum, Pakam Colony, Golden Market and Gandhi Market on November 18 last.

The main objective of the programme was to create awareness in preventing fire accident and sensitizing people to take responsibility in it.

Addressing the occasion, SP informed that Upper Subansiri District specially Daporijo town has recorded highest number of fire incident in last two years in the state. He said, "Fire incident is human induced hazard" which is caused mostly by people, adding that all colonies/sectors of Daporijo town is prone to fire accident, and urged upon the people to be pro-active in preventing fire incident.

Dy SP, Gamli Loyi appealed the people to keep fire extinguisher in each house and shops compulsorily to extinguish and to prevent spreading to neigh-

bors and colonies.

Fire Station OC, Buru Maling urged people to form volunteers in colonies/sectors to help fire service staff during fire incident as staff in Daporijo and Dumporijo town is less in number.

Daporijo Police Station OC, Token Dubi appealed the people to stop haphazard parking in colonies/ sectors to pave way for easy entry of fire tender vehicle during fire incident.

DDMO informed that the fire accident is mostly started from local kutchra house made from locally available material which is vulnerable to caught fire immediately. Burning fire in local kitchen and not douse properly before sleep, candle light burning using wooden and bamboo material as base stand, burning fire by teenagers gathering in and around house/colonies and do not douse fire before departure is the main cause of fire incident, she highlighted and suggested people to increase size of hearth (local chulha-MIREM), increase the height of RAPKO (a sack to dry meat hanged above local chula) among others.

Michi Yapa informed that mostly fire accidents are caused due to electrical short circuit and overload. He urged the people to do proper earthing while connecting wiring in the house/shops/ establishments, use proper rated wire, not to overload the current by using multiple appliances at a time.

While winding up, SP thanked the public and supporting departments for participating in the programme and appealed all to co-operate and disseminate information among family members to prevent fire incident in future.

DCM inaugurates ADC office & GHSS Auditorium

Govt focuses on bringing administration to the doorstep of people - Mein

CHONGKHAM, November 19:

Deputy Chief Minister, Chowna Mein inaugurated the new office building of the Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC), Chongkham on Sunday, November 19, 2023.

Mein, in his address to the people on the occasion, said that under the leadership of Chief Minister Pema Khandu and with steadfast support from Cabinet Ministers, the Government of Arunachal Pradesh (GoAP) has placed a paramount focus of bringing administration to the doorstep of the people.

The completion of new office structures for ADC headquarters in Chongkham and Wakro within the current tenure exemplifies this commitment, paving the way for more efficient governance at the grassroots level, he said.

Expressing gratitude, Mein acknowledged the people-centric approach of the government, underlining the prompt functionality of these ADC headquarters towards bringing administration to the doorstep of the people. He also applauded Deputy Commissioner Namsai, C R Khampa's for his assurance given towards implementing Jan Suvidha in the ADC Headquarters. This move will streamline document issuance, sparing citizens the inconvenience of traveling to the District Headquarters, he added.

He called upon the people to help maintain the new office building in the upkeep of the office premises citing that it will

add to the beauty of the township. He further said that Govt is further looking forward to develop the rural areas so that it does not lag behind.

On the day, the DCM also inaugurated an Exam Hall cum Auditorium of the Govt Higher Secondary School, Chongkham, fulfilling a longstanding demand of the school authorities and the students. Mein highlighted the school's exceptional performance and its integral role in the community, noting that the newly inaugurated Auditorium Hall will facilitate co-curricular activities and provide an ideal environment for examinations.

He informed that Govt Higher Secondary School, Chongkham will be taken up under the Golden Jubilee Model School Program and its infrastructure will be upgraded and exhorted the students to focus on their studies and work hard and also wished them for a bright and successful career and to bring laurel to their families and the Institute.

Physics Depart of DNGC collaborates with APEDA to promote energy efficiency

ITANAGAR, November 20:

In a stride towards promoting energy efficiency and awareness, the Department of Physics at Dera Natung Government College (DNGC), Itanagar, joined hands with Arunachal Pradesh Energy Development Agency (APEDA).

Together, they organized a comprehensive one-day Retailer Training-cum-Workshop program on November 20, 2023, adhering to the standards of the labelling program by the Bureau

of Energy Efficiency, Ministry of Power. The event took place in the College Conference Hall.

Er. Asi Linggi, Deputy Director of APEDA, inaugurated the program. Emphasizing its objectives and significance of star labeling for electronic appliances, Linggi stressed the global commitment to achieving net-zero emissions by 2070, underlining the collective responsibility to create a sustainable and safer Earth for future generations.

Dr. M. Q Khan, Principal of DNGC, praised APEDA's initiative in raising awareness among students about energy conservation and efficiency. He underscored the crucial role energy plays in our daily lives.

Resource person for the event, Rana Pratap Poddar, an Energy Auditor from IVENCO EWSA SERVICES, facilitated an engaging and interactive training session. Poddar acquainted participants with the standards and labeling protocols for electronic appliances, emphasizing the BEE star labeling and rating system.

The program featured three highly successful technical sessions, offering valuable insights from a consumer perspective. The culmination of the event was marked by an energetic quiz competition, showcasing the enthusiastic participation of students. Thupen Eton, Minyir Ingo, and Chello Nimey secured the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes, respectively.

The program well coordinated by Dr. Hage Doley saw the active involvement of nearly 100 students. Faculty members from various departments of the college also attended, contributing to the success of this enlightening initiative on energy efficiency.

SAD 2.0 held at Bomdo

YINGKIONG, November 21:

Smt Dimum Yalik, GPC Bomdo inaugurated the SAD 2.0 camp held at Bomdo village on Tuesday, November 21 last in presence of ADC Dochara Lama, Admin Officers, Head of Department, PRI members, GBs, official and general public. Around 600 beneficiaries availed the government services offered by 30 departments.

At SAD 2.0 Camp, ADC Dochara Lama presented garden tools, provided by Department of Horticulture Yingkiong to Medo Ane SHG and individuals.

6th NE India Fashion Week - The Artisans Movement concludes

ITANAGAR, November 21:

The sixth edition of North East India Fashion Week - The Artisans Movement ended on a high with host of top weavers and designers showcasing their creations at the finale day on November 21 last.

The fashion week, which began at the Koro Happa River Island in Jollang, Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh on November 18 last, showcased more than 30 designers and weavers from all across North-east India, designer and CEO Yana Ngoba Chakpu informed.

State Chief Minister and Chief Guest Pema Khandu, MLA and chief patron of the event Techi Kaso, Tripura Minister and guest of honour Bikash Debbarma among other distinguished guests, attended the inaugural ceremony of the festival.

The fashion extravaganza was being organized by One Arunachal, a registered NGO dedicated towards raising awareness and preserving the traditional and

cultural oneness of Arunachal Pradesh.

Top designers presenting their creations on the finale day included - Angie Ngoba Namchoom, Yajir Mara, Bezai Jaboku, Jibom Roley, Konyak weaver Angap, Siang YangdaWaii, Yana In Style and Joram Nampi.

Yana Ngoba's flagship event, North East India Fashion Week - The Artisans Movement aimed to systematically conduct a series of pilot studies towards improving the prospects for inclusion, empowerment, and quality of life of artisans and weavers in north-east India. The event commemorate the movement & showcase the talents of artisans from northeast India. More than 30 designers and weavers participated in the 3-day fashion event.

Northeast India Fashion Week (NEIFW) is an annual event which has conducted five fashion related events since its inception. Since then, the organizers of the NEIFW have worked tirelessly towards promoting the handloom and handicrafts of Northeast India significantly at the grassroots level. While conducting its annual event it has provided a level playing platform for not only the exuberant and extremely talented fashion industry of the northeast India but also its local artisans and weavers. The NEIFW has enabled unifying local designers and artisans to revive and globalize the handlooms and handicrafts of the northeast and thereby has encouraged traditional artisans to recreate their art. In its previous editions, NEIFW has received immense support, both financial and intellectual from various state and central government departments as well as important public sector undertakings. Over the past years, it has seen growing participation that has attracted celebrities from

not just the fashion industry but also from movie and music industries. NEIFW has been endorsed by celebrities like Adil Hussain, Ash King, Minisha Lamba, Rajni Basumatary, etc., and various other state dignitaries in its previous instalments.

Speaking on the sixth edition of the Fashion Week, Chairman One Arunachal Joram Tat said, "Through North East India Fashion Week- The Artisans Movement, we strive to identify artisan role models, boost self-esteem within the artisan community, advocate for their skills, and offer a platform to showcase their unique talents. With the valuable support of our NGO, we are committed to training and promoting the weavers and designers from the region through ongoing skill development and capacity building. This endeavor aims to enhance employability, secure better livelihoods, dignify labor, and establish a brand presence with global market connections."

RGU Women's Team secures 3rd in East Zone Inter-University Badminton Championship

RONO HILLS, November 21:

The Women's Badminton team of RGU has secured 3rd position in East Zone Inter-University Badminton Championship held at Nagaland University from November 21 to 24 last. With this, RGU has qualified for Khelo India Games and All India Inter University Badminton Championship in which top four teams from each zone will participate.

Championship was played on knock-out cum league basis where fifty university teams from east zone competed for the title.

In run to secure 3rd position, team RGU defeated National Sports University, Manipur, Hemchand Yadav Viswavidyalaya, Chhattisgarh, Ranchi University and Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar Bihar University. This is the first time when RGU has qualified for Khelo India Games and All India Inter University Games in team event.

5 member RGU team consisting Taku Neha from DNGC, Itanagar, Tayo Rini from Saint Claret College, Zero, Jomoni Lochung, Osinam Eko and Ingam Potom from Department of Physical Education and Sports Sciences participated in the tournament.

Mein inaugurates Girl's Academic Block at RKM Vidyapeeth, Lumdung;

Affirms govt's commitment to sanction necessary funds

SEPPA, November 21:

Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein inaugurated the newly built Sarada Bhawan (Girl's Academic Block) at Ramakrishna Mission Vidyapeeth, Lumdung on Tuesday, November 21 last, while the General Secretary Ramakrishna Math & Ramakrishna Mission, Belur Math, West Bengal, Swami Suviranandaji Maharaj laid the foundation stone for the Brahmananda Bhavan (Boy's Hostel) with a capacity of 480 students and also unveiled a divine statue of Goddess Saraswati in the campus.

In his address, the DCM acknowledged the invaluable contributions of the Swamijis and Matajis of Ramakrishna Mission, who have been imparting quality education in Arunachal Pradesh since NEFA days renouncing the worldly pleasures. He commended

their paramount dedication to fostering educational opportunities, especially at a time when modern amenities, road connectivity and proper infrastructure were scarce. Their contributions have played a pivotal role in advancing the educational and healthcare landscape in Arunachal Pradesh.

On the occasion, Mein extended heartfelt appreciation to the people of Lumdung for their generous donation of a vast and picturesque piece of land free of cost for the establishment of the school. He also remembered former Lt Governor of Arunachal Pradesh, K.A.A. Raja for his visionary initiatives that paved the way for the Ramakrishna Mission School at Deomali and Ramakrishna Mission Girls School at Khonsa.

The Ramakrishna Mission Vidyapeeth, Lumdung, a co-educational institution, stands as a beacon of educational excellence with separate blocks for girls and boys equipped with modern amenities.

Impressed with the infrastructural development in the first phase, Mein affirmed the government's commitment to sanctioning necessary funds in the second phase, aiming to transform the school into a model institution of the State. He expressed interest in establishing a Higher Education Institution or College of Ramakrishna Mission in the State and assured continued government support. He also highlighted the substantial progress of Arunachal Pradesh, positioning it as one of the most rapidly developing states in India.

Underscoring the importance of education in building an inclusive, just and fair society, nurturing character and inspiring youth to contribute to nation-building while preserving the cul-

tural roots of Arunachal Pradesh, he advised the young generations to adopt modernization without losing their cultural roots.

Looking beyond education, the DCM articulated plans for a guest house and other accommodation facilities in the area and assured to provide fund for the construction of a guest house at Lumdung. Citing that Arunachal Pradesh has huge potential in tourism, especially in adventure and education, he also emphasized on promoting education and tourism, hand in hand.

Among others, Minister DoTCL & IT, Wangki Lowang, Minister Sports & Youth Affairs, Mama Natung, MLA Bameng (East Kameng), Goruk Pordung, MLA Seppa East, Tapak Taku, Secretary RKM Lumdung, Swami Sarvagananda and Secretary RKSM Narattam Nagar, Swami Ashuteshananda.

100 hrs Cyber Security Course conducted

DOIMUKH, November 22:

In a big step towards making people more aware and secure in the digital world, the National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT), an Autonomous Scientific Society of Government of India's Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, recently finished a 100-hour Cyber Security Course which began on September 16, 2023 in partnership with NIELIT Itanagar Centre and the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Rajiv Gandhi University, Doimukh, Arunachal Pradesh under the project titled "Capacity Building in IECT including training in Digital Skill sets and Current Industry Demanding Technologies for various sec-

tions of society in the NE States" and funded by the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology, Govt. of India.

The course aimed to give participants a thorough understanding of cyber security, addressing the growing importance of this field in computer science. Given the increasing use of the internet, the goal was to equip people with the knowledge and skills needed to stay safe online.

A standout feature of the course was its accessibility, being offered free of charge on a first-come-first-serve basis. This approach allowed a diverse group of people to benefit from the program, despite limited available seats.

Gom Taye from the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at RGU led the 100 Hours Cyber Security course as the resource person. The success of the initiative is credited to the collaborative efforts of key individuals, including Rintu Das, Director In-charge of NIELIT Itanagar Centre, Anup Kumar, Scientist-D, Academic Head at NIELIT Itanagar Centre, and Dr. Marpe Sora, PhD (CSE), Head of the Department of Computer Science & Engineering.

The inauguration was conducted online via Google Meet, where the persons involved from NIELIT, Itanagar Centre and from Computer Science & Engineering, RGU discussed the course's significance with registered participants. Guest speaker Indrajeet Bhuyan, a Security Professional & Researcher from Singtel, Singapore, joined the session to provide insights into the Cyber Security domain and discuss career prospects in the field.

Around 25 students actively took part in the course, showing a keen interest in learning about cyber security. The highlight was the online certification examina-

tion conducted by NIELIT, Kohima, which saw 21 students participating on November 18, 2023.

The evident curiosity and enthusiasm of the students emphasized the importance and demand for such initiatives in the region. Encouraged by the positive response, the organisers expressed their commitment for similar courses in future, aiming to further strengthen cyber security in Arunachal Pradesh.

In a world that's rapidly embracing digital advancements, initiatives like the Cyber Security Course play a crucial role in promoting cyber awareness and skills, ensuring a safer online environment for everyone. Under the project, NIELIT Itanagar and its Extension Centres Pasighat and Tezu are imparting training to cover 4000 school dropouts and students of school and colleges, 600 Women, 400 Farmers, 600 Elderly Persons, 1600 Technical Graduates / Diploma holders, 360 Engineering Graduates and 400 Teachers in Arunachal Pradesh in 2 years' time during 2022-2023 and 2023-24. The project is currently running in the 2nd year and NIELIT Itanagar and its extension Centres are putting efforts to train the target beneficiaries earmarked for the 2nd year i.e F. Y 2023-24.

Awareness campaign on career prospects in RBI held

ITANAGAR, November 22:

A one-day program on "Awareness campaign on career prospects in Reserve Bank of India", initiated by RBI, Itanagar branch in collaboration with the Department of Commerce, Dera Natung Government College (DNGC), Itanagar was organized on November 22 last

at the Conference hall of DNGC, Itanagar.

A total of 83 students from various departments of the college attended the program.

Principal Dr. M.Q Khan, while highlighting the prevalent problem of unemployment in the state and the nation, lauded the efforts of RBI in conducting such programs for the students. He also encouraged the students to grab such opportunities and reap maximum benefit out of such programmes.

The first resource person, Raju Manpang, Manager RBI, Itanagar Branch, in his presentation briefed the history and functions of RBI. He also delivered a presentation on the salary, promotional aspects and other benefits attached with such career at RBI, while Chhouraj Kumar Deori, Assistant Manager, RBI conducted a quiz competition among the students and prizes were given to the winners.

Students actively participated in the question and answer session after the presentation by the resource persons.

Earlier, Dr. Wangda G. Gyana, HoD (in charge), while welcoming all highlighted the importance of organizing such awareness program for the students.

Ms. Pate Jumshi, Assistant Professor also spoke on the occasion.

Nalo launches e-stamping & e-Registration Fee Collection system

ITANAGAR, November 22:

Land Management & Tourism Minister Nakap Nalo launched the e-stamping system in the state here at Civil Secretariat in Itanagar on November 22 last.

With this, Arunachal Pradesh became the 24th state in the country to adopt the online e-stamping system & e-Registration Fee Collection application service.

Lauding the Department of Land Management, headed by Secretary A.K. Singh and Director Mamata Riba for this historic occasion that has added to yet another milestone in the digital journey of Arunachal Pradesh, Nalo said that e-stamping will not only save time and stress for the citizens, but will also solve the problem of revenue leakage.

He said that since all fees will be collected online, chances of mismanagement of funds will be considerably lower. He also said that the burden and stress on department officers will be lessened as earlier these officers had to travel to get the stamp papers.

Nalo said that digitalization has paved way for our state to grow in leaps and bounds along with the rest of the states. Sharing Chief Minister Pema Khandu's vision, he said the government needs such dedicated, honest & sincere bureaucrats who can bring the government's vision into reality.

K. Bhattacharya, Regional Manager-Eastern region, Stockholding Corporation of India Limited (SHCIL) informed that the decision to opt for e-stamping was taken in the light of various scams that took place in the beginning of the last decade. He said a distinctive growth in revenue collection & a visible customer satisfaction could be felt in the states where e-stamping has already been launched. He thanked the State Government for bringing in this much needed digital revolution.

Techi Deram, Senior Citizen of Itanagar and Donik Tayu & Gora Lotak, both former councilors, became the first three citizens

to receive the online e-stamp paper. They were handed over their documents by the Land Management Minister.

The online e-stamping and e-Registration Fee Collection System has been introduced by the Department of Land Management, Government of Arunachal Pradesh in association with SHCIL, a central record keeping agency, in order to streamline & modernize the process of stamp documents. It aims to eliminate the inconveniences associated with physical stamping such as delays, shortage, artificial scarcity etc while also ensuring compliances with legal requirements and is yet another feather in the cap under ease of living and good governance.

Farm tour to initiate Community Based Tourism

BHALUKPONG, November 23: A two-day Farm Tour organized by the Department of Tourism, Govt of Arunachal Pradesh, aimed at initiating Community Based Tourism in Tippi and Bhalukpong, concluded on November 23, 2023.

The team of twenty-two members from diverse tribes explored Kaziranga National Park and Orchid Park, emphasizing Community Based Tourism and Conservation.

ZPM Bhalukpong, Extra Assistant Commissioner, and Panchayat leaders flagged off the tour on November 21 last. The team departed from Bhalukpong and arrived at Kohora Range in Kaziranga on the same day, where an orientation and interaction program with local tourism stakeholders was conducted.

The Day 2 of the tour featured a morning safari at Kaziranga National Park and an afternoon visit to Kaziranga Orchid Park.

The participants witnessed community involvement in tourism roles and how the orchid park association contributed to cultural preservation, creating vibrant attractions and employment opportunities. The Farm tour concluded with a valuable feedback session.

RTI Awareness Session held; PIOs urged to promptly respond to appellant's requests

TAWANG, November 23:

State Information Commissioner, Sonam Yudron, conducted an awareness session on the Right to Information Act here on November 23 last.

Emphasizing the importance of Public Information Officers (PIOs) providing accurate and timely information to appellants, the SIC urged the public authorities to proactively disclose information for transparency and accountability regarding public funds and outlined the duties and responsibilities of officers within their organizations.

She also highlighted some instances where the Arunachal Pradesh Information Commission (APIC) had penalized PIOs for failing to furnish information promptly to appellants.

On the occasion, the SIC urged upon the PIOs to promptly respond to the appellant's requests and avoid unnecessary delays. She further expressed gratitude to all participants for their attentive participation.

Superintendent of Police, Tawang, DW Thongon, praised the

informative session, affirming its benefits for all attendees. He assured that all RTI inquiries would be addressed promptly, aiming to resolve matters before they escalate to higher authorities.

During discussion, an appellant inquired about provisions for inspecting projects, while PIOs sought clarity on conducting ongoing hearings at the Commission. They also appealed the SIC for measures to address appellants who fail to attend hearings and suggested streamlining information collection at the PIO's office.

Coordination meeting held on improvement of education quality

PASIGHAT, November 23:

One day coordination meeting convened with Govt Schools Principals, headmasters, headmistresses, BEOs/BRCCs and CRCCs of East Siang District under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Tayi Taggu on improvement of education quality and blueprints for target set of 10% in CBSE results over the previous CBSE results of the district here on Saturday in the DC's conference hall.

DC paid his highest regard and respect to the learned teachers who put decades of their precious time sincerely to shape our future. While addressing, he said that once teachers dedicated themselves sincerely for the growth of students, achieving target set of 10% improvements in district's CBSE results over previous year results is not a big task.

He stressed on his speech as saying that teachers are the nation builder and without them our existence is meaningless. "Best Teachers are not the one who has a vast knowledge but the one who

makes their teaching understood by the students, thus it is vehemently important for teachers to make teaching-learning experience in more disseminated and eloquent manner." DC added.

Earlier, DIET Principal Tapang Taki presented PPT on blueprint 'Board for exams preparation' for the session 2023-2024 in which he imparted the roles and responsibilities of stakeholders of Schools for achieves of target set of 10% in CBSE exams for this session. DDSE Odhuk Tabing also addresses the stakeholders during meeting.

"Cycling together to make Itanagar a Cycling City" organized

ITANAGAR, November 23:

Itanagar cycling club celebrated its 5th foundation day recently with a Joy ride from 4th Chimi Mountain Pass Challenge and later on conducted an interaction cum prize distribution programme at Bedu Bedang Waterfall.

The Foundation Day Joy Ride started from Zero Point Itanagar to Police Headquarters Chandranagar. Participants from 13 years old to 55 Years old graced the occasion.

The 4th Chimi Mountain Pass Challenge was also organized on the occasion. Chimi Mountain Pass at an altitude of around 5000ft. approx. is the Highest Mountain pass in Itanagar Capital Region. The 7km uphill challenge is the toughest uphill climb of Itanagar.

Kago Mobin of Itanagar Cycling Club defended his title to be crowned the King of Chimi Top for the second time. He won the race clocking 44minute and 25 seconds, while Geyon Panyang stood second position with a tim-

ing of 55minute and 13 seconds. The Third position was grabbed by Gumku David with a timing of 57 minutes and 36 seconds.

The theme of the event was "Cycling together to make Itanagar a Cycling City".

Itanagar cycling club is working towards making Itanagar a Cycling City. ICC is Promoting cycling for Sports, Adventure, Environment Protection, Travel, Fitness etc. with various activities conducted from time to time.

Vivek Shrestha and Miss Bomdila, Kena, representative of EARTH COUNCIL, International NGO flagged off the event.

ECI emphasises on maintaining "cleanliness and accuracy" in electoral rolls;

ITANAGAR, November 23:

The Election Commission of India (ECI) has emphasised on removal of photo similar entries (PSE) and demographic similar entries (DSE) from the electoral rolls, and on maintaining "cleanliness and accuracy" in the electoral rolls for the 2024 simultaneous elections.

The ECI reviewed the progress of the ongoing special summary revision of electoral rolls in Arunachal during a virtual meeting with the CEO and the DEOs on November 17 last.

Key concerns for the upcoming 2024 elections were also discussed during the meeting. Several other election-related issues, including low voter turnout, criminal cases, violations of the model code of conduct, social media misconduct, distribution of EPIC by BLOs in areas without a post office, pending cases related to electoral offences, establishment of permanent structures in the as-

sured minimum facility at polling stations for long-term community benefit, strict adherence to SOPs in processing deletion requests, particularly for deceased and repeated voters, and deletion of names from the electoral roll if non-bailable warrants remain unresolved for over six months were discussed and reviewed.

The ECI sought active participation of all the stakeholders "to ensure success and integrity of the electoral process."

Deputy Election Commissioner of India, Manoj Kumar Sahoo, who chaired the meeting, highlighted the relevant legal provisions related to the conduct of elections. He asked for submission of a detailed report on the districts with lower voter turnouts to the ECI.

Besides Chief Electoral Officer Pawan Kumar Sain and the DEOs, SPNO Chukhu Apa, Joint CEO Liken Koyu and Deputy CEO Shania Mize participated in the meeting.

Mein reviews pending issues in implementation of CSST&DS-AP project

ITANAGAR, November 23:

An important meeting of Power, Forest, Land Management and Deputy Commissioners has been convened by the Deputy Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh and the Minister-In-Charge of Power & NCER, Chowna Mein to review the pending issues being encountered in implementation of the project "Comprehensive Scheme for Strengthening of Transmission & Distribution System in Arunachal Pradesh" (CSST&DS-AP) on November 23 last here at State Civil Secretariat.

Citing the significance of the project to ensure reliable and uninterrupted power supply to all parts of the State, the Deputy Chief Minister urged upon the Deputy Commissioners to take up this scheme on priority basis. He asked them to take the pending land issues seriously and to gear up the acquisition of land and also to resolve all pending issues by December 24, 2023. He suggested them to create a separate shell for the project and also to take the help of local representatives to resolve the complicated issues.

The meeting also discussed various measures to expedite the implementation of the scheme and ensure timely completion of all pending projects.

Chief Secretary, Dharmendra, PCCF, Jitendra Kumar, Advisor to DCM, Anupam Tangu, Commissioner (Power), Ankur Garg, Secretary Power, R K Sharma, Secretary (LM), A K Singh, Chief Engineer (Transmission), T.K. Tara, CGM (PowerGrid), P V S Sudhagar, GM (PGCIL), Vineet Kumar, Deputy Commissioners, DFOs and DLRSOs from 20 districts attended the meeting.

Mein reviews preparation for upcoming Parashuram Kund Fest

TEZU, November 23:

Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein held a review meeting at the Parshuram Kund in Lohit district to discuss about the planning and preparation for the upcoming Parshuram Kund Festival 2024.

During the meeting, observations and feedback pertaining from the last Festival that took place earlier this year were reviewed.

Keeping these in mind, a strategic route plan addressing all these bottlenecks has been devised to ensure a hassle-free experience for the pilgrims attending the Parshuram Kund Festival in 2024.

As per the plan, designated parking space appropriated as per different category of vehicles, proper entry and exit pathways, temporary setup of food stalls and arrangement of free Prasadam served by the Parshuram Sewa Samity, Manav Utthan Sewa Samity and the BRO at parking, have been chalked out.

Mein instructed the executing agencies to expedite the construction and expedite completion of all pending works by March 2024. He also said that a master plan for the 150 Cr Parshuram Kund Project have been prepared and instructions have been given to prepare a DPR accordingly, for further submission to the Govt of India.

Mein also informed that the 51 ft statue of Sage Parshuram will be unveiled in the month of January right after the PKF - 24. He also assured to provide Grants-in-Aid for the Parshuram Kund.

Meanwhile, Founding Member of the VIPRA Foundation, Sushil Ojha, informed that the Piling works of the Foundation has been completed. The making of the statue of sage Parshuram has been completed and is expected to reach the site from Durgapur in the next 15 to 20 days, following which, the installation work will be completed by December 2023. The statue is being donated by VIPRA Foundation.

Mein also inspected the ongoing infrastructure project at the Parshuram Kund Pilgrimage Site constructed under the PRASAD scheme.

The upcoming festival will be hosting cultural displays and trade fairs, showcasing the indigenous cultural heritage of the land, as well as exhibition of products by local SHGs and small businesses. Strict prohibition of liquor at the food stalls will be levied and adventure activities will be planned for tourists visiting the festival. Priority will be given to effective management of ailing and elderly pilgrims, as well as ensuring round the clock upkeep of washrooms and waiting sheds and other public spaces at the festival site.

Among others, the review meeting was attended by DC Lohit, Shashvat Saurabh, HoDs, Members of Parshuram Dham Sewa Ashram Samity and Members of VIPRA Foundation.

CM holds meeting to explore scope of implementing 3D printing technology in building construction

ITANAGAR, November 23:

Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu on Monday held a meeting with M/s Merlin Automation Solutions Private Limited to explore the scope of implementing 3D printing technology in the construction of buildings such as PHCs, CHCs, Government schools, Anganwadi centres and other community infrastructure.

The Chief Minister was informed that use of 3D printing technology would drastically reduce the time required for construction, produce less waste and construct building with twice the strength of conventional construction. The use of this technology would also allow speedier construction of building in remote areas and in higher altitude locations and reduce time

extensions required due to short favourable working season in these areas. It will help construction workers upgrade their skills in modern construction technology and gain more meaningful employment. It will also help in constructing buildings with lesser impact on environment and will reduce overall cost of construction in future.

Khandu said that over the past several years, the development of infrastructure and connectivity, especially in hitherto unconnected areas of the State, has been the highest priority of the Government of Arunachal Pradesh. He gave directions to the concerned departments to explore use cases for use of 3D printing technology for the construction of buildings etc.

Merlin Automation Solutions is an Indian company which is the manufacturer of world's largest 3D printer for the construction industry. All design, manufacturing and software are developed indigenously.

Merlin contributed to the construction of the world's largest 3D printer site at Chandigarh. M/s Merlin informed that 3D printing technology is being used by the Indian Postal Service, Border Roads Organization etc. for the construction of building complexes in various locations such as Chandigarh and Ladakh.

DNGC collaborates with APEDA to promote energy efficiency

ITANAGAR, November 23:

In a stride towards promoting energy efficiency and awareness, the Department of Physics at Dera Natung Government College (DNGC), Itanagar, joined hands with Arunachal Pradesh Energy Development Agency (APEDA).

Together, they organized a comprehensive one-day Retailer Training-cum-Workshop program on November 20, 2023, adhering to the standards of the labelling program by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency, Ministry of Power at the College Conference Hall.

Er. Asi Linggi, Deputy Director of APEDA, inaugurated the program, emphasizing its objectives and the significance of star labelling for electronic appliances. Linggi stressed the global commitment to achieving net-zero emissions by 2070, underlining the collective responsibility to create a sustainable and safer Earth for future generations.

Dr. M. Q Khan, Principal of DNGC, praised APEDA's initiative in raising awareness among students about energy conservation and efficiency. He underscored the crucial role energy plays in our daily lives.

The resource person for the event, Rana Pratap Poddar, an Energy Auditor from IVENCO EWSA SERVICES, facilitated an engaging and interactive training session. Poddar acquainted participants with the standards and labelling protocols for electronic appliances, emphasizing the BEE star labelling and rating system.

The program featured three highly successful technical sessions, offering valuable insights from a consumer perspective. The culmination of the event was marked by an energetic Quiz competition, showcasing the enthusiastic participation of students. Thupen Eton, Minyir Ingo, and Chello Nimey secured the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes, respectively.

Dr. Hage Doley skillfully coordinated the program, which saw the active involvement of nearly 100 students. Faculty members from various departments of the

college also attended, contributing to the success of this enlightening initiative on energy efficiency.

Jt. Secretary Gol visits West Siang

AALO, November 23:

Vineet Mathur (IFOS), Jt. Secretary, Department of Consumer Affairs, Govt of India, New Delhi recently visited the district of West Siang for two days under the programme Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra.

On the first day, he visited the Jirdin area, while on the following day, Mathur along with Asunam Perme CO, Marjum Karga DPO, Yomli Jini DHO, Damya Lombi HDO, Tojom Ete, ADO Aalo and officials of different department accompanied him.

The Jt Secretary interacted with the villagers of Doji Jeko, Yamko Bagra and Angu villages and minutely briefed them about the programme of Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra. He appealed all the villagers to avail govt's schemes both state and central govt.

At Pushi Bango, he visited Orange and Pineapple gardens and beneficiaries of PMAY. The farmers of these villages were appreciated by Mathur.

While interacting with the farmers, he encouraged them to avail govt schemes and live a dignified life by availing all the schemes provided by central and state government.

WCD Director tours KK District

Legal adoption ensures hassle free child adoption: WCD Director

KOLORIANG, November 23:

The Women and Child Development (WCD) Director Tokmem

Pertin Loyi appealed the people of Kurung Kumey District to adopt children legally during an 'Awareness Campaign on Legal Adoption' conducted at DC's conference hall here recently.

The Director, who was on one-week tour to District to participate at the ongoing celebration of National Adoption Awareness Month, said adopting legal means to adopt children saves the adopting parents from legal complications in future.

The WCD Director explained the concepts of adoption, authorities and agencies for adoption, who can be adopted, which can adopt, age criteria of prospective parents, and punitive provisions.

Welcoming the Director and the team members from Hq. Itanagar to the District, Kurung Kumey WCD Deputy Director Kago Maya Gyati said no WCD Director has till date reached a remote and far-flung District like Kurung Kumey. 'We are very glad our Director madam and the team has chosen the District to take part at the Adoption Awareness Month, and this visit will surely remain as a source of inspiration and encouragement to WCD and ICDS functionaries of the District', said Maya.

During the awareness campaign, screening of videos and PPT presentation on legal adoptions were also relayed to the public.

At Koloriang, the team visited the One-Stop Centre, Child Help Line and Women Help Line centers.

The team also visited Sarli, Parsiparlo, Sangram, Cham-bang and Palin ICDS Projects. In course of the field visits, the team attended the legal adoption awareness campaigns and

inspected the ICDS Projects, Anganwadi Centres and the Crèches of the respective ICDS projects of the District.

District Prabhari reviews preparations of Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra

TEZU, November 23:

Pankaj Kumar, IRS, District Prabhari for Lohit district reviewed the preparations of the upcoming Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra at District Secretariat, Tezu recently.

While welcoming the District Prabhari, DC Lohit, Shashvat Saurabh deliberately highlighted the preparation on the upcoming Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra. He further briefed on the various flagship schemes implemented in district.

DPO Lohit presented a power point presentation on the activities to be conducted under Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra in Lohit District.

EE WRD, Tezu presented power point presentation on the status of Jal Shakti Abhiyan in Lohit district.

District Prabhari instructed the officers to work in a mission mode to achieve 100% saturation of flagship welfare schemes.

District Prabhari who is also the Nodal Officer for Jal Shakti Abhiyan extensively reviewed the status of Jal Shakti Abhiyan and issued necessary direction to concerned members to attain the objectives.

DC Lohit extended the gratitude to the District Prabhari cum Nodal officer for extending all possible way to ensure the objectives.

CM announces creation of Lab-le circle, inaugurates several projects

PAYENG, November 23:

Chief Minister Pema Khandu officially announced the creation of a new administrative circle Lab-le out of the existing Payeng circle in Upper Subansiri district, which was pending since several years here on November 23 last.

In a public meeting at Kublong village under Taliha Assembly Constituency here, Khandu admitted slow pace of infrastructural development in the Payeng administrative circle created way back in 1999.

"This is my maiden visit to Payeng circle and I admit it has not developed as it should have being one of the oldest administrative circles of the state government. May be there was not a proper plan. May be political will at the highest level was not the strongest. But I promise this will change," he said.

Reacting to one previous speaker – Tara Payeng, the first Tagin MLA, who was instrumental in creation of the circle headquarters – Khandu acknowledged his sentiments on underdevelopment of the region. He assured Payeng that the veteran will be a living witness to the transformation that the area will undergo in a few years from now.

"Every public representative's heart beats for his or her constituency. Payengji, the first MLA of the region, has the right to resent the lack of development of the area he represented in the legislative assembly. May god give you good health and witness the change you always wanted," he said.

Khandu assured that his priority will be to provide all requisite infrastructure and manpower to both the circles – Payeng and the newly announced Lab-le.

Pointing that Arunachal's slow pace of development before 2014 was due to the then central government's lackadaisical attitude towards the North East, he hailed the NDA government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the region's unprecedented transformation.

"Narendra Modi's outlook towards North East is completely different. There's no policy, program or budget prepared today without including the North East. The difference it has made can be seen," he remarked.

Mentioning that the assembly elections are just round the corner, Khandu sought support and cooperation from the people to maintain the accelerated pace of development across the state.

"We have a blueprint ready to take our beloved state on a fast-packed developmental trajectory once the impending elections are done and dusted," he revealed.

While responding to several memorandums submitted by the locals, the Chief Minister assured that every demand, which are all genuine, will be taken care of by the state government in a phased manner.

Meanwhile, Khandu in presence of the four legislators of Upper Subansiri – Tourism Minister Nakap Nalo, Nyato Dukam, Rode Bui and Tanya Soki – along with legislators Phurpa Tsering and Hayeng Mangfi, inaugurated several projects including infrastructure of Taliha Government Secondary School, a stadium at Taliha, road from Bogne to Lepajaring, one Inspection Bungalow at Kodak, acircle office building

and CO residential quarter, Taliha, augmentation of Taliha water supply and PMGSY roads from Noh bridge to Papa, Taliha to Duchok, Tajina bridge to Ramsing and Tajina bridge to Baring.

Joint review meeting of RD, PR & ArSRLM of Lohit District held

TEZU, November 23:

A combined review meeting of RD, PR & ArSRLM of Lohit District was held under the Chairmanship of Amarnath Talwade, Secretary, RD & PR, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh here on November 23 last.

T. Miso, Director, PR along with other officers from RD & PR, ArSRLM from Itanagar participated in the meeting, which was attended by Lohit Deputy Commissioner, ZPM Tezu, PRIs members, Project Director-cum-DPDO, DRDA, Tezu, BDO, Tezu and Wakro, BMM, ArSLM, Tezu and other officers/officials of DRDA/Block.

Addressing the meeting, the Secretary, RD emphasized on conversion of schemes for the fruitful implementation of all the Rural development activities in the state. He also requested all concerned to work sincerely for achieving the targets under various centrally sponsored programmes.

Director, PR also kept his views and suggestions for successful implementation of schemes under Panchayati Raj institutions.

The meeting concluded with vote of thanks by DC Shashvat Saurabh.

In the morning hours, the Secretary along with other concerned officer/officials visited various RD & PR, ArSRLM scheme/projects implemented in Tezu CD Block.

CM dedicates State-of-Art District Secretariat to people of East Kameng

SEPPA, November 23:

State Chief Minister Pema Khandu on Monday dedicated the state-of-art District Secretariate, Block A and B, to the people of East Kameng here in presence of Union Minister for Earth Science Kiren Rijiju, state cabinet minister Mama Natung and MLAs Tapuk Taku, Goruk Pordung, Hayeng Mangfi and Biyuram Wahge, who is also the state BJP President.

Observing that a good ambience is of utmost importance to enhance performance level, Khandu said that the state government is committed to provide quality infrastructure so that its employees, especially in the districts, can work in the perfect ambience and perform better.

"The state-of-the-art District Secretariat building at Seppa, equipped with modern facilities, stands as a beacon of development, progress and growth. This will further ensure ease and speed of delivery of services for citizens welfare in East Kameng," he said.

Counting several achievements made in governance and revenue generation, he credited the government employees for their contributions.

"Without your support, commitment and sincerity, the progress we have made in the last six seven years wouldn't have been possible. I have full faith on you that together we will take our state to newer heights," Khandu said.

He urge the government officials to not leave anything unturned to make sure the last mile delivery and saturation of schemes

with an emphasis on revenue generation for all-round development of and the state.

To facilitate immediate shifting of the district administration to the new secretariat building, Khandu handed over the sanction order to deputy commissioner Sachin Rana for procurement of equipment and furniture. He also assured allotment of funds required to complete Block C and D of the District Secretariat.

Khandu and Rijiju along with the MLAs later attended a massive BJP meeting at the Seppa General Ground and laid the foundation for BJP district office to be constructed at Wessang.

Setting the tone for the ensuing general and assembly elections, Khandu urged the karyakartas of the district to create awareness on the various welfare schemes and projects of both the central and state governments so that the last person in the remotest village can know what the BJP government is doing for him.

Hailing BJP, the largest political party of the world, as the only party that can deliver, he said that BJP is the cleanest amongst all political parties.

“BJP is the only party that can boldly speak against money culture in elections. I urge you all to campaign for a fair elections that is based on performance and not on which candidate can pay how much in cash or kind,” he appealed.

Terming cash-for-vote as the biggest setback for good governance, Khandu asserted that the ‘ill’ needs to be down away with immediately.

“A leader who buys votes will never deliver. Let us unite in the fight against this malpractice to uphold the sanctity of democ-

racy and thwart corruption,” he urged.

Earlier in the day, the Chief Minister inaugurated an approach road along-with CC Drainage and Protection Wall from NH 229 to DunkrPutung; strengthening & realignment of 33KV line from Bana to Wessang along the trans-Arunachal highway; Babunh MHS at Bengde and Watta MHS at Khenewa.

He also laid the foundation stones of an outdoor sports stadium at Seppa and one RCC bridge over Kameng river to connect Seppa town with New Seppa.

NCC Car Rally to instill camaraderie, leadership & patriotism among youth

TAWANG, November 23:

As a part of the 75th anniversary celebrations of the National Cadet Corps (NCC), the NCC Directorate of the North East region organized a special outreach program - a Car Rally from November 6 to 26 next covering various parts of the region.

The rally journeyed through 277 schools, 151 colleges, and 44 districts, spanning six states with an objective to instill camaraderie, leadership, sportsmanship, adventure, and patriotism among the youth, encouraging them to embrace these values.

Led by Major General Gagan Deep, Additional Director General of NCC, the rally reached Tawang on Sunday evening where it was welcomed at the Tawang War Memorial by Brigadier VS Rajput, Commander of Tawang brigade.

The participants paid homage to Jaswant Singh Rawat, a

hero of the 1962 Indo-Sino war, at Jaswant Garh in Tawang district before reaching the memorial.

The following day, the participants visited Bumla pass and engaged with NCC cadets from the Higher Secondary School in Tawang. During an interactive session at the school, Major General Gagan Deep motivated the young cadets to consider careers in the armed forces and other paramilitary services, emphasizing their role in nation-building.

The Car Rally which commenced on November 6 last was jointly flagged off from Tawang back to their respective headquarters by Brigadier VS Rajput and Additional Deputy Commissioner Tawang, Rinchin Leta from the Tawang War Memorial.

Innovative Science Programme for teachers launched

BOMDILA, November 23:

Gurushala, a teacher capacity building program, an initiative of Indus Towers Ltd. and Vodafone Idea Foundation and implemented by Pratham Education Foundation, launched a six-month Science Programme for educators in collaboration with the office of Deputy Director of School Education (DDSE), West Kameng district.

The program commenced on November 23 last at Asvagosh Library, Bomdila with teachers teaching science to students of grades 6 to 8 with the aim to equip educators with creative tools and strategies to make science education more engaging and relevant for students.

The Science Programme began with face-to-face training sessions centered on the theme of "Introducing Everyday Science in

the Classrooms". Teachers underwent a comprehensive two-day training focused on hands-on experiments, activity-based learning, and promoting scientific temper. Customized science kits will be distributed to schools associated with the participating teachers, who will receive training on utilizing these kits effectively in their classrooms.

Designated as Education Leaders, these teachers will play a crucial role in conducting Teaching-Learning Material (TLM) and activity-based classes, instigating transformative changes in fostering scientific temper. To provide continuous support and professional development, virtual training sessions will complement the face-to-face training.

The 2-day training involved hands-on problem-solving, skills-boosting fun activities and sessions on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) to promote interdisciplinary education and to lay the foundation for innovation. Additionally, Teaching-Learning Material creation and teacher-led sessions, allowing teachers to prepare and deliver were conducted. The training concluded with an orientation session on using the science kit and manual.

The collaborative program of the Department of Education, West Kameng district with the Pratham Education Foundation is an initiative of District Administration, West Kameng under the guidance of DC Smti. Akriti Sagar.

Review meeting on status of CM/PM flagship scheme held

AALO, November 23:

A review meeting for the latest status of CM/PM flagship schemes with its beneficiary status, Central

and State funding major projects was held at the DC's Conference Hall, here recently.

Presided over by West Siang Deputy Commissioner Ms Mamu Hage and co-chaired by Vineet Mathur, Joint Secretary, department of Consumer Affairs, Govt. of India, the review meeting was attended by all HoDs, officers stakeholders.

The HoDs and the line departments specially Health, NRLM, Agriculture, Horticulture, Rural Development, Fisheries, PHED, AH & VD, Urban Development and Housing, women & Child Development ICDS, Education, Youth Affairs & Sports, Food & Civil Supply, Lead Bank and Highway presented their schemes and major projects on PPT.

Addressing the officers, Vineet Mathur, Jt. Secretary suggested to reach the reach out as possible as they can and improve the achievement of targets as framed by the central government and state government. He also enlightened on the support system given by the government of India, state and Gram Panchayat to achieve the target.

MLA dedicates 92 projects to people of Doimukh

DOIMUKH, November 24:

Doimukh MLA Tana Hali Tara dedicated 92 projects executed from 2019-2023 by various departments to the people of Doimukh, Gumto and Banderdewa Circle at a mega inaugural event organized at the SDO ground here on November 24 last.

Out of the 92 completed projects dedicated on the day, 12 were under PWD, 5 under RWD, 6 under Power, 9 under Education

department, 49 under PHED, 8 under WRD and 3 under UD department.

Few major projects included the development of all-weather road from Tani Happa village to Green old Integrated farm at Tara-juli, 11KV line from Doimukh to RGU (6Kms) and installation of 2 high mast towers at Rajiv Gandhi University, installation of 100 KVA substation from Potung colony to Dull Happa, Augmentation and extension of water supply to RGU, Augmentation and extension of water supply to Banderdewa, Augmentation and strengthening of water supply at Denka Village, PMGSY roads from NEEPCO to Lekha, Emchi to Amba, Doimukh to Buka-II etc.

Addressing on the gathering, the MLA said that "Holding mass centralized inaugural programme is economical both in terms of money and time and gives a bird's view of the major projects completed within the given time frame." He requested the public to take ownership of the government assets and protect them.

Lauding the efforts of the Head of Offices for completing the projects within the deadlines, Hali added that, "The will to serve the public and a cohesive team spirit beyond any party affiliations is the mantra to deliverance of good service to the people".

Reiterating his will to further glorify Doimukh subdivision, which is one of the oldest subdivisions established way back in 1948, Tana Hali Tara sought support and cooperation from the people of Doimukh.

The MLA further informed that a similar inaugural program was also held in Balijan in July, 2023 last, where 156 projects were dedicated to the public of Balijan Circle. Few im-

portant projects included - new office building of ADC Balijan, Office of the AE WRD, Sangdupota, Steel Girder Bridge with RCC decking over river Papum at Ramghat, bridges over Mugoli, Tengabari, Lenka, Hollongi, Drupa rivers.

ZPM Sangdupota, Hina Camdir Tok, ZPM Gumto Chukhu Bablu, Senior citizens Ganya Lazi, Yorum Nilo, Phasang Sikap, Nabam Pali, SDO Tana Yaho also spoke on the occasion.

SP Taru Gusar, PRI leaders, HoOs, GBs and public of Gumto, Doimukh and Banderde-wa circles attended the event.

State Level Mega Mock Exercise on Earthquake Scenario conducted

ITANAGAR, November 24:

Mega Mock exercise on earthquake scenario was conducted at various locations of Capital Itanagar on November 24 last. Similar mock exercises were conducted all over the state for awareness of the people on earthquake preparedness.

Responsible Officer DC, Talo Potom informed that such exercises should be carried out more often to generate awareness about the various aspects of disaster as well as to train people on how to conduct themselves during disasters.

During the mock exercise, a hypothetical earthquake scenario was created to check on the preparedness level of the district and most importantly activating the Incident Response Team to tackle disaster and to build up the capacity of the district for disaster management as our state lies in the Seismic Zone V.

The IRT was led by Incident Commander Smti Shweta Nagarkoti, ADC who actively supervised the overall operation of the IRT including rescue operation, logistics, man and machineries, food etc.

Once, the earthquake siren was blown, calls were received by the DEOC (District Emergency Operating Centre) led by Nodal Officer Mary Tanyang CO, Itanagar to give update on disaster and to seek help and accordingly the Incident Response System (IRS) was activated by the team.

On being informed about the disaster, EAC Takam Nicholas who was the Planning Section Chief prepared the Incident Action plan (IAP) with the help of Incident Response Team (IRT). Rescue vehicles were mobilized at the staging site and which were later sent to various locations for rescue operation, informed Staging area manager Inspector Yomken Riram.

SDPO Kengo Dirchi who was the Operations Section Chief looked after the detainment of the rescue vehicles and the search and rescue operation. Ambulances and Fire Tenders were put to service as and where required.

Medical Aid Post was also set up at various locations to respond and to provide medical aid to the injured patients under the supervision of Nodal Officer Dr Giri Tali.

Retired General Major Shishir Bahl Coordinator from NDMA along with Komkar Dulom Director Disaster Management visited the incident sites and took stock of the entire situation.

Further, a relief camp was also set up at GUPS Niti Vihar to provide shelter to the victims under the supervision of Nodal officer Kago Lod Asha, CDPO Itanagar.

Altogether, Personnels from Police Department, Fire & Emergency Services, NDRF, SDRF, CRPF, AAPDA MITRAS, NCC and volunteers participated in the mock exercise.

The Liaisoning Officer Moromi Dodum Sonam, DDMO informed that the Mock Exercise was conducted in various locations namely - Kingcup Public School, Niti Vihar Itanagar, Office of the Commissioner Tax & Excise, C- Sector Itanagar, Itafort Upper Primary Health Centre, C- Sector Itanagar, Alexander House, Niti Vihar, Itanagar and Division IV link bridge, F- Sector, Itanagar.

Later, after completion of the mock exercise, a debriefing session was held by the State Disaster Management Authority.

Similar mock exercises were conducted in various districts across the state.

At AALO: Joining with the rest of the state, the District Disaster Management Authority of West Siang district successfully conducted the mock exercise on earthquake at Aalo township under the guidance of Smti Mabi Taipodia Jini, ADC Aalo and Dorjee Nima, DDMO Aalo. The Mock Exercise was jointly conducted by Indian Army, ITBP Jawans, NCC army Wing, Fire Service fighters and Community volunteers.

During the day long mock drill exercise, four incident sites were selected at DC Office, General Hospital, Puak Gumin and Govt. Secondary School New Market. The earthquake mock exercise drill was conducted as per the guidelines of the govt and every available resource, equipments and machineries were engaged during the mock exercise.

At BOMDILA: A Mega Mock Drill Exercise on Earthquake was successfully conducted

in West Kameng district at 5 (five) different incident sites, namely - Govt Middle School, Bomdila, General Hospital, Bomdila, EAC Office, Bhalukpong, Kalachakra Gompa, Dirang and Rupa Market.

An imaginary earthquake situation with a magnitude of 6.5 was simulated at these five points. The exercise began with a hooter, and rescue and medical teams reached the incident areas, rescuing stranded and injured people who were then transported to hospitals for further medical facilities.

A part of the hospital was also shown as damaged, where stranded patients were evacuated, and first aid was provided to casualties at MAP. Other patients were relocated to another hospital. Electricity and water supply were disrupted, and a fire started in the damaged wing.

The Mega Mock Exercise received assistance from Police, Fire Services, SSB, ITBP, Government Officials, NSS, Government College, NCC, GHSS, AAPDA Mitra Volunteers, and the general public.

At LONGDING: In an attempt to review the disaster management plans during unprecedented emergency situations and to enhance the abilities to respond faster, a mock drill exercise on earthquake preparedness was organized on November 23 last along with the rest of the state under supervision of Vijay Mate, DDMO, in association with District Administration.

The mock drill exercise shows engagement of all the members of the Incident Response system - security forces, police, Health department, HoDs of various line departments. Mock Drill was successfully conducted in Longding district in five different locations, namely - GHSS Longding, Dis-

trict hospital, Zedua colony, Main Market area, DC office.

At PASIGHAT: Multi State level Mock Exercise on earthquake disaster conducted at Pasighat in five incidents sites in which selected sites were DC Office, Mirku Govt. Secondary school, Balaji Mandir, Family Mart and Bakin Pertin general Hospital, Pasighat.

Mock drill on earthquake was organized by State Disaster Management Authority and District Disaster Management Authority in collaboration with National Disaster management Authority under the aegis of Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India.

For conduct of mock exercise, Incident Response System of East Siang had been activated, where the Incident Response team members had been given their roles and responsibility to carry out during the mock drill. In addition, supporting agencies like SDRF, Police personal, NCC team, medical team and AAPDA MITRA volunteers were involved and made the mock drill successfully. JCB, dumper truck, ambulance, hearse van and APST bus were also used for the mock drill demonstration. Headed by SDRF personals and AAPDA MITRA, volunteers displayed the rescue system at the incidents sites how one must deal during disaster. Methodical search operation, evacuation and rescue operation were demonstrated and also district fire brigade team had demonstrated the fire extinguishing process.

Throughout the exercise, DDMO T. Tashi sensitized and carry out awareness on the earthquake disaster to public and also appealed them not to panic during mock exercise. In addition, he imparted the do's and don'ts and appealed public to get alerts and sought cooperation from the con-

cerned authority in such adversity.

At YUPIA: Along with the rest of the state, a Mega Mock exercise on earthquake scenario was conducted at various locations of Papum Pare on Nov 23 along with other districts. A hypothetical earthquake scenario was created during the mock exercise to check the preparedness of the district and most importantly activating the Incident Response Team to tackle any unforeseen disaster.

The IRT was led by Incident Commander Smti Tame Yajum, SDO who actively supervised the overall operation of the IRT including search and rescue operations, logistics, man and machineries deployment etc.

Once the siren, signaling the earthquake was blown at 9.03 am, Rescue vehicles were mobilized at the staging site and which were later sent to various locations for rescue operations.

The Liaisoning officer, Nima Tashi, DDMO informed that the Mock Exercise was conducted at Pare Dam, IOCL depot Emchi, Yupia village, DC Office and Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Vidyalaya, Yupia.

Supervising the drill, Responsible Officer DC, Cheechung Chukhu said that such exercise generates awareness about the various aspects of disaster as well as trains people on how to conduct themselves during disasters.

Altogether, Personnels from Police Department, Fire & Emergency services, NDRF, SDRF, CRPF, AAPDA MITRAS, NCC and volunteers participated in the Mock exercise. Later, after completion of the mock exercise, a debriefing session was held by the State Disaster Management Authority.

At YINGKIONG: Along with rest of the part of the State,

Upper Siang District Administration District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) conducted the State Level Mock Exercise Simulating Earthquake Scenario successfully at Yingkiong Township under the guidance of NDMA, Govt of India on November 23.

ADC Dochora Lama, who was also Incident Commander, oversaw the management at staging area at General ground, Yingkiong. After the accomplishment of mock exercise, in debriefing session Lama highly appreciated all participants and said that such exercise is conducted as a precautionary measure to remain prepared for any eventualities and how to respond to the earthquake disaster.

SP Upper Siang, Token Saring was also present and supervised the whole exercise.

DDMO Beru Dulom also thanked all Govt Depts, Police personnel, medical team, APWWS unit, Yingkiong, Community volunteers and 1st Arunachal Scout for making the event successful. He informed that basic objective of mock exercise is to review emergency preparedness mechanism and quality of Standard Operations Procedures involving all stakeholders in the district.

Mock exercise was conducted at Govt Secondary School, Parsing Colony, Office of EE Electrical, Libang Hotel, District Hospital, Yingkiong. Various Govt departments, Police, Medical, School, APWWS Yingkiong, Community Volunteers and 1st Arunachal Scout participated.

At ZIRO: The Lower Subansiri District Administration led by District Disaster Management Department also took part at the state level mock exercise on earthquake scenario here on November 23 last.

The District Secretariat,

Govt. Higher Secondary School Hija, Pine Ridge Complex and Gyati Takka General Hospital were identified as incident sites where the earthquake drills including the 'Drop-Cover-Hold' were conducted under the Incident Commander and Additional Deputy Commissioner Millo Kojin.

DCM releases book 'The Long Journey' at a Book Launch

ITANAGAR, November 24:

Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein released a book 'The Long Journey: Memoirs and Anecdotes' authored by Retired Deputy Director of Information & Public Relations, Denhang Bosai at the book launch event hosted by the Arunachal Pradesh Literacy Society at JN State Museum Auditorium in Itanagar on November 24 last.

Mein, in his address, expressed his delight at releasing a work of such substance. He stated that Bosai's endeavor goes beyond the realm of literary contribution and introduces a roadmap for the youths of Arunachal Pradesh.

He highlighted that the insights within these pages were a guide to navigating challenges, fostering resilience and instilling a proactive mindset essential for shaping the future of Arunachal Pradesh. He further noted that the thought-provoking articles by Bosai are anticipated to act as an inspiration for the younger generation in Arunachal Pradesh.

Underlining Arunachal's wealth of stories stemming out of diverse cultural heritage, Mein said that the diverse literary forms like poetry, drama, folklore and rhapsodies of the tribal societies can be compiled into accessible books. Through such initiative, we

can also translate those literatures written in local scripts into English, ensuring a wider audience. Mein suggested the Arunachal Pradesh Literacy Society to initiate such works. He also said that the books so published can be purchased by the government and distributed in various libraries across the state for youths and younger generations to read.

'The Long Journey' is not just a collection of words; it's a compilation of articles written by the author in various perspectives during his long service life in IPR Department and published in various newspapers in the state.

Denhang Bosai's insightful articles delve into critical youth-centric issues, addressing challenges that resonate with the young minds of Arunachal Pradesh. Issues that have the potential to stifle the state's progress and the importance of recognizing responsibilities along with rights are thoughtfully explored within the pages of this memoir. For instance, the book has touched upon several topics like Bandh culture being a scourge and the need for nipping it in the bud, pervasive negativity and pessimism choking Arunachal's growth, knowing your responsibilities and not only your rights, drug addiction, alcoholism, 50 glorious years of Arunachal Pradesh and Arunachal Pradesh's long journey from secluded entity and so on.

The event was also attended by prominent literary figures, including President of the Arunachal Pradesh Literacy Society, Padmashree Y.D. Thongchi, Director Research, Kango Tayeng, General Secretary APLS, Mukul Pathak, President, APLS, Lower Subansiri unit, Dr. Hage Tabyo, along with the members of APLS and others.

National workshop on “Advanced production technologies & entrepreneurs development”

PASIGHAT, November 24:

A two days National level workshop on “Advanced production technologies and entrepreneurs development prospects in Arecanut, Mushroom and Ginger crops in context to North East region” was successfully organised by the Department of Horticulture on November 23 and 24 last at the College of Horticulture & Forestry auditorium, Pasighat.

There were an overwhelming participation of one hundred and three progressive farmers and various SHGs from East Siang, nearby district and neighbouring state of Assam.

Gracing the occasion as Chief Guest, Pasighat West MLA Ninong Ering, while appreciating the department for conducting such workshops also highlighted about potential of horticulture sector due to presence tropical, subtropical and temperate climate in the state. He also emphasised on importance of dignity of labour and commercialization of horticulture in the state.

Guest of honour, Somnath Roy Chowdhury, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Apex University, Pasighat stressed on importance of value addition of these crops which can change the economic status of our farmers.

Special Guest, Dr SM Hussain, Head of KVK East Siang, spoke about importance of and potential of Arecanut, Mushroom and Ginger crops in the region for sustainable farming and area expansion.

The Director Horticulture briefed about the importance of conducting such workshop program frequently to establish communication between farmers, extension workers and scientist in the field of horticulture.

Earlier, the training started with welcome address by DHO AR Ering, while the Key Note address was presented by the Director Horticulture Ngawang Lobsang.

In the technical session resource persons, Dr. Daya Ram, Consultant Mushroom, Dr. Rajendra Prasad University CAU, Samastipur, Bihar, Dr. P Raja, Prof, Department of Plant Pathology, CHF, CAU, Pasighat and Dr. RC Shakywar, Assoc Prof, Department of Plant Pathology CHF, CAU Pasighat delivered on various topic on production technology, spawn production and post-harvest handling of mushrooms. Dr. LS Singh, Senior Scientist, CPCRI, Kahikuchi, Assam and Dr. Barun Singh, Assoc Prof, Department of Fruit science, CHF, CAU Pasighat gave detailed presentation on commercial production technology of Arecanut crop. Dr. DM Barman, Deputy Director, Spice Board Guwahati and Shri Biju Pariyar, Additional Director, Department of Horticulture, Govt. of Sikkim guided the participants on advance production technology and recent approaches in post-harvest-handling/value addition of ginger crop.

The two days program was also attended by extension functionaries from different districts of the state including Oyin Tayeng, SDHO Pasighat, Nuka Dai, HDO Bilat, Dr. Aido Taloh, HDO Ruksin and Bini Tagom, HMO Mebo.

Later on the concluding day, Dr DK Pandey, Head of Social Science, CHF, Pasighat gave away the certificate of participation to all the trainees.

NITI Aayog organises WEP State Workshop at Itanagar

Govt to set up dedicated Development Cell for women entrepreneurs – CM

ITANAGAR, November 24:

State Chief Minister Pema Khandu has announced that the state government will set up a dedicated Development Cell for women entrepreneurs with seed money of Rs 5 crore.

Speaking at the opening session of the Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP) State Workshop, organized by NITI Aayog at DK Convention Centre here on November 24 last, Khandu said, “The Dedicated Entrepreneurship Centre for Women will function as a hub for women entrepreneurs providing access to mentorship, capacity building exercises, and other programs beneficial for women-led start ups. The Centre will also run dedicated incubation and acceleration programmes for women.”

He also rolled out five new initiatives under WEP, which are ‘Supporting clean energy entrepreneurship through Atal Innovation Centre-SELCO Foundation partnership’; ‘Engendering growth for vibrant home-stay owners through the Maitri Programme in partnership with MakeMyTrip’; ‘launching of NASSCOM Future Skills’; ‘helpline for NE women entrepreneurs in collaboration with FICCI FLO’ and ‘launch of BITS, Pilani, and Aditya Birla Foundation’s Women Entrepreneurs programme’. These initiatives will be implemented by NITI Aayog and today’s roll out is for all states of the North East.

Lauding the NITI Aayog for the initiatives and conducting

a one-day workshop for women entrepreneurs of the North East at Itanagar, Khandu informed that over the past 7 years, his Government has adopted a holistic approach to creating an enabling environment for women entrepreneurs that includes multiple interventions such as policy support, monetary support through front-ended subsidies, earmarking of schemes for women entrepreneurs and micro-entrepreneurs, etc. He specifically mentioned that approximately 6,500 of more than 20,000 MSMEs in Arunachal Pradesh are owned by women.

Referring to the Arunachal Pradesh Start-up Policy, spanning five years from its notification, Khandu said that under the policy a minimum of one Incubation Centre would be established in the state, and also to extend the facilities to at least 50% districts over the next five years. Besides, he informed that a special clause to support women entrepreneurs has also been included in the Arunachal Pradesh Start-up Policy 2022-23.

"We have mobilized more than 85,000 women into 9,301 SHGs, 951 PLFs and 27 model CLFs. We have provided credit linkages to more than 2,900 SHGs and provided more than Rs.33 Crore bank credit to SHGs," he informed.

Khandu opined that it is only when women rise and break free from barriers that the nation witnesses the true potential of their limitless capabilities.

"Women-led development has always been the priority of the Government of India and the Government of Arunachal Pradesh," he asserted.

The new initiatives, Khandu believed are poised to make a significant impact on the landscape of women entrepreneurship, pro-

viding avenues for skill development, mentorship, and financial support.

"I request all of us present here and indeed all our present and aspiring entrepreneurs of Arunachal Pradesh to take advantage of these initiatives. Let us this platform, this golden opportunity, to unite, create, and pave the way for a future for women entrepreneurship promotion and reaching the last mile," he added.

Present on the occasion were NITI Aayog's Dr Chintan Vaishnav, Mission Director, Atal Innovation Mission, Yashodhara Rajoria, Co-lead for WEP in States, Executive Committee Member, WEP and Anna Roy, Senior Advisor, Chief Secretary Dharmendra, central and state government officials and women entrepreneurs from various North-Eastern states.

Governor interacts with people of Vibrant Border Villages

KIBITHOO, November 25:

Arunachal Pradesh Governor Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) interacted with inhabitants of border villages, selected under Vibrant Border Village programme at Kibithoo in Anjaw District on November 25, 2023.

Interacting with the villagers, the Governor, who launched the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra for the State from Ziro a fortnight earlier, said that the programme aims to ensure that the people who could not avail benefits for welfare schemes and programmes of Central Government must be provided before 26th of January 2024. It has a special focus on tribal welfare and wellbeing of the tribal community. He appealed to the people

who are yet to avail benefits from Central government schemes and programmes, to come forward and avail it.

He advised the government officials to work in a mission mode and ensure that all the eligible persons are registered as beneficiaries and 100% saturation is achieved. He also advised the administration and elected representatives to reach out to the distant villages in a continuous cycle every day.

The Governor said that National Education Policy 2020 is all about learning and skilling. He advised all to contribute in the implementation of the new education policy. The Governor expressed his concern about the school dropout rate and advised the concerned officials and teaching community to take proactive measures to reduce the rate.

The Governor shared his deep apprehension of the drug abuse amongst the people. He said that it is destroying our youth and our future generation. He earnestly appealed to the people, especially the Gaon burahs, Panchayati members and elders of the society to educate and guide the individuals involved in the drug menace.

Highlighting the importance of Ayushman Bharath programme, he called for the cooperation of the local people for setting up of village volunteers, particularly womenfolk, who can be trained in health care, hygiene and sanitation. They can lead the way to ensure cleanliness in villages and could be incentivized by the State government, he said.

The Governor advised the youth to harness their potential in the field of games and sports. He said that in addition to the State Government, which is promoting games and sports in the State, the Indian Army stationed in differ-

ent parts of Arunachal Pradesh is always there to help them in preparing playgrounds and venues for recreation activities.

Local MLA Smt Danglu Pul and Anjaw District Deputy Commissioner Talo Jerang also spoke on the occasion. Jerang briefed the Governor about the development activities in the district and activities under Vibrant Border Village programme. He expressed gratitude of the people of Anjaw to the Central and State Governments.

Later, the Governor had a special interaction with the Goan burahs of the border villages, while the First Lady of the State Smt Anagha Parnaik met the womenfolk and children. She enquired about the wellbeing of the villagers and the children.

Chalo Loku celebrated with enthusiasm across Tirap district

Libang commends Nocte Community for diligently preserving their rich culture

KHONSA, November 25:

The 55th Nocte Chalo Loku celebration at Khonsa Nehru Stadium on Saturday, Nov 25 last saw distinguished presence of Health Minister Alo Libang as Chief Guest and Puna Hinda, MD-PH Construction as Guest of Honour. Chalo Loku, celebrated by the Nocte community after the paddy harvest, marks the commencement of the New Year.

Speaking on the occasion, Libang commended the Nocte Community for diligently preserving their rich cultural heritage and highlighted the extensive development initiatives undertaken by the state government, covering re-

gions from Longding in the east to Tawang in the west. He mentioned the imminent inauguration of the new General Hospital building at Khonsa, constructed by PWD, and the ongoing efforts of the health department in combating drug abuse under the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan.

On the occasion, Libang congratulated the Nocte community and emphasized on the long-standing tradition of tribal festivals rooted in agriculture. He stressed the need for practical application, protection, and promotion of cultural practices by present and future generations, stating that mere verbal commitment to cultural preservation is insufficient.

Puna Hinda, in his speech, urged the youths of Tirap and Longding to abstain from drug abuse and become responsible citizens. He expressed concern over the detrimental impact of drug abuse on the future of Tirap and the entire state of Arunachal Pradesh. Hinda informed on the completion of long-pending road projects by PH Construction, acknowledging the support and advice received from MLAs Wanglin Lowangdong and Chakat Aboh.

Chief Patron and MLA Wanglin Lowangdong, while wishing festival greetings, emphasized the importance of unity among Nocetes from various clans, villages, political parties, and denominations to preserve and promote ancestral traditions and culture.

MLA Chakat Aboh, ZPC Tirap Chathong Lowang, ZPM Khonsa Wanghong Panka, Khela Bunting ZPM Tumwang Lowang, SP Tirap Rahul Gupta, Chairperson NWA (Nocte Women Association) Smti Chasuum Wangchadong, Heads of Departments, and dance troupes from Kheti, Huakan, and Chasa attended the programme.

The festivities featured captivating cultural performances by troupes from Huakan, Kheti, Chasa, and a mesmerizing dance by Khonsa town women.

At Deomali, Dy. Speaker Tesam Pongte graced the Loku celebration and expressed hope that the festival would foster peace, unity, and emotional integration among the people of the state.

Guest of Honour and ADC Deomali, Vishakha Yadav, also extended greetings to the Nocte community and spoke on the significance of the occasion in bringing prosperity, happiness, and tranquillity to society.

Uphold the gallant traditions of Indian Armed Forces in guarding sensitive borders - Governor to troops

WALONG, November 25:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) met the troops of Indian Army and personnel of Indo Tibetan Border Police, Border Roads Organization and Arunachal Pradesh Police at Walong in Anjaw District on November 25, 2023.

The Governor said that the international border of Arunachal Pradesh is sensitive and strategically important for the security of the nation. He exhorted the forces to be alert and uphold the gallant traditions of Indian Armed Forces in guarding the sensitive borders.

The Governor shared fine points of border management with the security forces. He encouraged the personnel to maintain physical fitness and sound mental alertness. He also shared modern-day security design and steps with the personnel to keep the border safe and secure.

The Governor advised the security forces to be vigilant and instill a sense of security amongst the people. He emphasized on reinforcing the goodwill amongst the local population for the troops and personnel.

During his daylong tour to Anjaw District, the Governor laid a wreath at the Walong War memorial.

Earlier, at Kibithoo, the 2 Div General Officer Commanding Major General VS Deshpande and 82 Mountain Brigade Commander Brig. R. Bhandari Briefed the Governor on the operational preparedness and security measures in place for maintaining the sanctity of Line of Actual Control. They also informed the Governor of the bonhomie existing amongst the security forces and local population and cordial relations with the District Administration.

Director General of Police Anand Mohan, Anjaw Deputy Commissioner Talo Jerang, Superintendent of Police, Rike Kamsi, officers and troops of Bihar, Assam and Punjab regiments and personnel from Indo Tibetan Border Police, Border Roads Organization and Arunachal Pradesh Police and Indian Air Force officers were present on the occasion.

Governor participates in Constitution Day celebration

Empowerment of women involves granting tools, opportunities and autonomy to do at free will - Governor

ITANAGAR, November 26:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) participated in the Constitution Day celebra-

tion at State Legislative Assembly Complex, Itanagar on November 26, 2023.

To commemorate the Day, the Governor unveiled a statue of Mahatma Gandhi, titled 'Into the future' amidst singing of Gandhi ji's favourite Bhajan, 'Vaishnav Jana To Tene Kahiye', at the entrance of the State Legislative Assembly Complex.

The Governor complimented Pasang D. Sona and his team for the concept and selection of an inspiring and unique statue of the Father of the Nation. He said that the statue embodied the core values that guide our nation. He also felicitated Ashish Bose, Principal sculptor of the statue on the occasion.

Chief Minister Pema Khandu, Union Minister, Earth Sciences, Kiren Rijiju, Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein, Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Harivansh N. Singh, Speaker of the State Legislative Assembly, Pasang D. Sona and Deputy Speaker Tesam Pongte, along with members of the State Assembly, government officials, women organizations and students from various schools and colleges also participated in the programme.

The Governor greeted the people on the Constitution Day, which commemorates the adoption of the Constitution of India and congratulated the Speaker and his team for celebrating the special occasion with a theme to commemorate Women's Reservation Bill, 2023.

The Governor said that the Constitution of India grants equality to women and also empowers the State to adopt measures of positive discrimination in favor of women. He said within the framework of democratic polity, our laws, development policies, plans and programmes have aimed at women's advancement in different spheres.

The Governor said that

empowerment of women involves granting them tools, opportunities and autonomy to do at free will. Rectifying discrimination, ensuring fairness and economic empowerment are important. Education and the spirit of entrepreneurship play a pivotal role. Nari Sashaktikaran is one way for India to become Viswa Guru again, he said.

The Governor, while expressing concern about depicting women in bad light in movies and entertainment media, called upon the people to educate and inculcate values amongst the male child to respect women and girl child. He also said that community efforts are binding to support the effort of the government in women empowerment.

As part of the Constitution Day celebration, the Governor administered the pledge to the participants, to uphold and abide by the Constitution of India, by reading the Preamble. He also gave away prizes to the winners of competitions, including quiz, extempore speech, calligraphy and mural painting, organized as part of the celebration.

In his address, the Chief Minister Pema Khandu expressed gratitude to the Prime Minister for initiating the Constitution Day celebration. He recalled the contributions of the Constituent Assembly and said that the framers of the Constitution were aware of the rich diversity of the country and made sincere efforts to ensure that the rights and beliefs of every section of the people of India were taken into account while drafting the Constitution, while making special reference of North East Frontier (Assam) Tribal and Excluded Areas.

The Chief Minister also highlighted the initiatives of the State Government towards women empowerment, and made special reference to the Women Entrepreneurship Program (WEP) to support

women's entrepreneurship and self-reliance. He said the State Government will take all steps to handhold and provide a platform to women, so that when the nation celebrates Amrit Kaal, the State will be proud of its contributions.

Union Minister Shri Rijiju highlighted the importance of the Constitution of India, its relevance to common people and his initiative in translating the Constitution book in different languages during his tenure as the Union Law Minister.

Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein said that the Constitution of India changed the fate of millions of people and provided dignity to every Indian. It has a vision for the future and embodies the voice of the people. While welcoming the Women Reservation Bill, he recalled the women achievers of the State.

Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman, Harivansh N. Singh delivered the keynote address. He said that if women and children lead the world, there will be more peace and harmony, while highlighting the background of the passing of the Nari Shakti Vandhan Adhiniyam. He drew attention to the enormous contributions of women from epic times and post independence. They made valuable contributions towards women emancipation and empowerment. He also spoke at length outlining various provisions of the Constitution which provided impetus to the growth, development and opportunities for women, thus providing them dignity and pride.

Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman said all this was possible due to dynamic leadership and concern of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji, who initiated the campaign 'Sab Ka Saath, Sab Ka Vikas, Sab Ka Vishwas aur Sab Ka Prayas'.

Speaker of the State Legislative Assembly, P. D Sona said the

Pink Constitution Day was to celebrate the passing of the Women's Reservation Bill. He called upon womenfolk to come out of the cocoon and spread their wings to be part of developmental and political progress of the State and Nation. He also highlighted various initiatives of the State Legislative Secretariat to commemorate the day.

Deputy Speaker Tesam Pongte also spoke, rendering a vote of thanks to all dignitaries, who graced the occasion.

The students of Rajiv Gandhi University, Donyi Polo Mission School for hearing and visually impaired and Oju Mission presented women empowerment themed cultural programmes on the occasion.

The daylong celebration was organized by the Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly with the theme, 'Pink Constitution Day' to celebrate the passing of Women's Reservation Bill, 2023 (Nari Shakti Vandhan Adhiniyam).

Mein inaugurates Transformative Developments at Mahabodhi Centre on Founder's Centenary Celebration

DEOMALI, November 28:

In a momentous tribute to the revered Founder of Mahabodhi Society in India, Venerable Dr. Acharya Buddharakkhita, on account of his birth centenary, DCM Chowna Mein graced the 38th Annual Poi Kanto Sangha & Maha Kathina Ceremony at the Mahabodhi Centre, Natun Basti, Deomali in Tirap District on Monday.

Mein, known for his commitment to education and development, took part in unveiling pivotal infrastructure expansions at the Centre, underscoring the commitment to providing a holistic ap-

proach to human resource development.

The ceremony featured the inauguration of an extended Venerable Acharya Buddharakkhita Boy's Hostel with a dining hall and enhanced amenities. Additionally, a newly consecrated Meditation Hall was introduced, providing monks and students with a serene space for spiritual contemplation and mindfulness.

He also launched the second phase of Mahabodhi Rising Wisdom School in the Centre. New classrooms, a library and a computer lab are part of this phase, which aims to improve the learning environment and give students modern facilities for their academic journey. The school imparts both monastic teachings and NCERT curriculum to the students. Emphasizing on this, Mein stated that GoAP is supportive of all initiatives that preserve the ancient culture and heritage of the land. He also assured continued support of the Govt towards the infrastructure development of the school.

Reflecting on Acharya Buddharakkhita's life, the DCM emphasized the importance of preserving age-old culture and traditions for overall growth and development. He recalled Acharya's dream of establishing a Buddhist University in Arunachal Pradesh and his efforts to draft plans for it. While a college named Mahabodhi Lord Buddha College was established in Namsai, Mein expressed his enduring vision for a Buddhist University in the State, echoing the ancient legacy of institutions like Nalanda University, where education and culture coexist harmoniously.

He expressed heartfelt gratitude to the Mahabodhi Educational, Cultural and Social Welfare Society of Arunachal Pradesh for

their sacrificial life for humanitarian service to the society and for imparting value-based educations to the children. He emphasized the pivotal role such initiatives play in human resource development and empowerment of the region. The ceremony marked not just the physical expansion of the Mahabodhi Centre but also a spiritual tribute to the ideals and teachings of Most Venerable Acharya Buddharakkhita, inspiring generations to come.

Most Venerable Acharya Buddharakkhita, born in Imphal, Manipur, and an engineer graduate from Kolkata, played a pivotal role in the Indian Freedom Movement. Having experienced the violence of the Second World War during his military service, he later renounced worldly pursuits to seek peace and truth. His journey led him to the path of Buddha, and under the guidance of the Most Venerable Chandamani Mahathera, he became known as Venerable Acharya Buddharakkhita. He scarified his whole life in study, practice and teaching of the Buddha's words by establishing Mahabodhi Society, Bengaluru.

The event was also attended by Minister of PHE, DoTCL & IT, Wangki Lowang, President Maha Bodhi Society, Venerable Kasapa Mahathera Bhante, Gen Secy Maha Bodhi Society Venerable Ananda Bhante, Director of Mahabodhi Society, Venerable Asaji Bhante, Former Minister Wangpha Lowang, DC Tirap, ADC Deomali & SP Tirap among other dignitaries.

Later, the DCM paid a visit to Adhyayan -The Learning Pavilion at Govt Upper Primary School at NTC Deomali and at Wangcha Rajkumar Govt College, Deomali, Tirap. This is the district's modern learning centre with innovative

ideas, initiated by ADC Deomali, Vishakha Yadav to instill reading habits amongst the school children and college students with attractive features and updated information creating a conducive atmosphere for studies.

He also visited the 'Digi-kaksha' (Smart Classroom), a unique initiative by the ADC at Govt Upper Primary School, NTC Deomali and interacts with students and teachers. 'Digi-kaksha' is a digital class room that focuses on integrating digital tools into the curriculum, ensuring that students have access to technology-enhanced learning experiences, and preparing them for a tech-driven future. Mein lauded the initiative of Ms Yadav and assured govt support for further strengthening the man power and infrastructure requirements of the Govt Schools and the College.

Constitution Day commemorates passage of Women's Reservation Bill

State govt taking strides toward women-led development - Khandu

ITANAGAR, November 28:

Extending gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi under whose leadership the Nari

Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam was introduced and passed unanimously by both the Houses of Parliament, State Chief Minister Pema Khandu said that women in India will now exercise greater legislative powers, and play an even greater role in the development of the country.

Speaking at the Constitution Day celebrations at the State Legislative Assembly here on Sunday, Khandu said that this Constitutional Amendment provides

33 percent vertical reservation to women in all three categories in Parliament-General (including OBC), Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

"It is worth mentioning that there were 4 attempts by previous governments for passing the Women's Reservation Bill, which was first brought by the then government in 1996. But it was only due to the steadfast determination of the Narendra Modi government that the Bill could become law in 2023.

The Bill serves as another reminder of the BJP government's unerring focus on women's empowerment and women-led development. It is a significant move that this year's Constitution Day has been rechristened as the Pink Constitution Day, commemorating the passage of Women's Reservation Bill," Khandu said.

He further said that to fulfil the aspirations of the Prime Minister, the state government is taking strides toward women-led development, embracing progress, empowerment and equality for a brighter, inclusive future. He informed that 47.34% of Panchayat representatives in Arunachal Pradesh are women and expressed hope that the number of women representatives crosses 50%, including in the State Legislative Assembly.

"Our government has provided more than 50,000 women with LPG connections under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana. We have sanctioned more than 47,000 houses under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana. Close to 99% of our households have been provided household water connections. We have constructed more than 27,000 toilets under the Swachh Bharat Mission. Nearly 1.5 lakh beneficiaries are receiving

free rations under the Antyodaya Anna Yojana. Our 6,225 Anganwadi Centres regularly provide nutritional and health support to 1.8 lakh pregnant women, lactating mothers and children. Our State currently serves 34,226 beneficiaries under the Poshan Abhiyan. We have also ensured safe deliveries of 25,563 women through the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana. We have mobilized more than 85,000 women into SHGs and provided them with Rs. 33 Crore bank credit to enable them to take up entrepreneurship activities,” Khandu added.

Paying rich tributes to Bharat Ratna Dr. B R Ambedkar on his 125th birth anniversary, he said that as Chairman of the Drafting Committee of the Constitution, Dr. Ambedkar has left an indelible mark and legacy on the history of modern India. “The Constitution is a living document that represents a vision for a dynamic and modern India. That India was one of the first countries to offer equal voting rights to women is also, a testament to the vision of our founding fathers,” he said.

Present on the occasion were Governor Lt General (Rtd) KT Parnaik as the chief guest, Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Harivansh Narayan Singh as the keynote speaker, Speaker P D Sona, Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein, Deputy Speaker Tesam Pongte, cabinet ministers and MLAs.

Earlier in the day, Governor Lt General KT Parnaik unveiled a statue of Mahatma Gandhi themed ‘Into the Future’ to mark the occasion outside the Assembly building. The statue is first of its kind in the country, depicting that a child leads the Father of nation.

Governor visits Vibrant Border Village Hurii

HURII, November 28:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) visited Hurii, one of the Vibrant Border Village in remote Damin Circle of Kurung Kumey district on Tuesday, November 28, 2023.

He interacted with Goan Burahs, Panchayat members, government officials and villagers of Hurii. Local MLA Lokam Tassar was also present in the meeting.

The Governor said that the State of Arunachal Pradesh is making progress in every sector and to enhance the pace of development, it needs the cooperation and contribution of the people. He exhorted the villagers to encourage their children to go to schools and colleges, maintain cleanliness and hygiene in the village, protect their flora and fauna and assist the State machinery in implementing welfare programmes, schemes and projects in their area.

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

The Governor advised the government officials to work in a mission mode and ensure that all the eligible persons are regis-

tered as beneficiaries and 100% saturation is achieved. He laid the onus on the district administration and elected representatives to reach out to the distant villages to accomplish the target before coming Republic Day and realize the vision of Prime Minister.

The Governor said that in order to take development to border areas, the Government of India has initiated a Vibrant Border Village programme, where basic needs of the people will be addressed. He said that it is a collaborative developmental approach and requires concerted effort of the local habitants and the security forces.

The Governor commended the villagers for their very good cordial relation with security forces in their area. He said that security forces are for the security and wellbeing of the people in the area.

Later, the Governor interacted with security forces stationed at Hurii, including Rajputana Rifles, Indo Tibetan Border Police and Border Roads organization. He advised them to carry out regular training and remain alert while patrolling at the line of Actual Control.

The Governor advised the security forces to guide the youth of the area to join the Indian Armed Forces.

Governor reviews developmental programmes of Kurung Kumey District

KOLORIANG, November 28:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) visited Kurung Kumey district on

Tuesday, November 28, 2023.

In his maiden visit to Koloriang, the Governor reviewed developmental programmes and schemes of the district.

Local MLA Lokam Tassar, Deputy Commissioner, Ibom Tao, Superintendent of Police Bomken Basar, District Heads of Department and former elected leaders were also present in the meeting.

The Governor expressed his concern about the slow implementations of welfare initiatives of the government and shortage of departmental officers in the district. He suggested the use of technology and automation for planning and project implementation.

The Governor emphasized on education, health and agriculture. He appealed to elected representatives, Panchayat members, Gaon Burahs and youth to focus on students completing minimum basic education, i.e. 10 plus two which will provide them opportunities for employment, he said.

The Governor reiterated for village volunteers, especially womenfolk for health and sanitation inspector, who can be trained in health care, hygiene and sanitation. They can lead the way to ensure cleanliness in villages and could be incentivized by the State government, he said.

The Governor, while highlighting the initiatives of the Government in the health sector, particularly to eradicate Tuberculosis and Cancer, urged the people to adopt TB patients under the Nikshay Mitra programme.

The Governor stressed on the agrarian community to become Atma Nirbhar (Self-reliant) by focusing on agriculture, horticulture and allied sectors.

The Governor said that for progress and prosperity, there must be good infrastructure, including

roads, hospitals, educational institutes and other basic facilities in the district. The successful implementation of the programme under Vibrant Village Programme of our visionary Prime Minister Narendra Modi will help in reverse migration, as soon as development reaches the border areas.

Earlier, the Governor interacted with Goan Burahs, Panchayat members, government officials and people of Koloriang. He shared his concern of drug addictions amongst the youth of the State.

The Governor called upon all stakeholders to prepare the youth for recruitment in Army/paramilitary forces, so that we can contribute to the raising of additional battalions of Arunachal Scouts.

The Governor visited Vivekananda Kendra Vidyalaya, Koloriang and interacted with the teachers and students of the school. He said that the VKV schools are synonyms with discipline, good grooming and respect for all and exhorted them to excel as a model school. The Governor felicitated achievers of the school during his visit.

The students presented a patriotic song and traditional group dance on the occasion. The alumni of the school also were present on the special occasion for the school.

Earlier on the day, the Governor made an aerial tour of Sarli, a remote village border village and touched down at Huri.

Vikshit Bharat Sankalp Yatra Campaign in East Siang

PASIGHAT, November 30:

East Siang District Administration organized the Vikshit Bharat Sankalp

Yatra (VBSY) (Urban) campaign on November 30 last, wherein the IEC (Information, Education and Communication) Van under VBSY disseminated the flagship schemes of the Central Government at various locations - main market Pasighat, Tata Sumo Counter, Near Bus Station and Pasighat Sabji Mandi to create maximum awareness in East Siang on the Central Flagship schemes.

This was a part of the ongoing nationwide outreach initiatives aimed at informing and empowering citizens about Central Government flagship schemes and development initiatives launched by the Prime Minister on November 15 last.

The HoDs, HoOs, Banking Institutions, AIR, Health were on the spot to interact and inform the general public about the various flagship programmes in various sectors of health, education, agri and allied and various sectors.

Governor graces 21st Convocation of RGU

Governor calls upon graduating students to contribute towards the cause of the Society, State & Nation

RONO HILLS, November 30:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) graced the 21st Convocation of Rajiv Gandhi University, Rono Hills, as Chief Guest at its University Campus on November 30, 2023.

Altogether 6186 undergraduate and 969 post graduate degrees were awarded in the 21st Convocation of RGU, while 28 Master of Philosophy and 120 Doctor of Philosophy degrees were also awarded on the occasion. 30 toppers in Undergraduate courses and 38 toppers in 38 Post graduation courses received gold medals. 14 M Phil, 77 PhD, 21 gold medallists in Undergraduate

courses and 24 gold medallists Post graduation courses were female candidates.

Congratulating the graduating candidates, the Governor said that as future educated leaders in their chosen sphere of profession, they will have tremendous opportunities for your growth and progression. He advised them to create a new work culture that would adhere to values, ethics and morals, in a world that is besieged with several conflicts and concerns and called upon them to contribute towards the cause of the society, State and nation.

The Governor complimented governing bodies, deans, professors and faculty for their vision, commitment, conviction and determination in the transformative journey of Rajiv Gandhi University since 1984. He also commended them for their contribution towards training the young and aspiring minds, which he said is reflected by the growing stature of the university alumni and leadership roles they have imbibed over the years. PhD degrees have enhanced exponentially over the past five years and have risen nearly 400% over these years, he said.

The Governor who participated in the Pink Constitution Day celebration was delighted that out of 110 PhD awardees this year there were 70 female candidates and female students securing UG Gold Medals were more than double of their counterparts. The proportion for PG gold medallists also continues to be on a higher side in favour of women. The 82% pass percent of Undergraduates and over 62% for Post Graduate candidates are equally worth acknowledging, he said.

The Governor, while emphasizing the higher educational institute to adopt a multiple mode of 'Education & Skilling' of Students to enable enhancement of job opportunities said that the Government of

India, under leadership of our Prime Minister, Narendra Modi has now come out with the National Education Policy-2020 which weaves a comprehensive futuristic vision and makes concrete pragmatic stipulations. It highlights the need for full equity and inclusion as the cornerstone of all educational decisions to ensure that all students are able to thrive in the education system, he said.

The Governor said that the fundamental principles enumerated in the NEP 2020 are that it will guide the education system and individual institutions incorporating rootedness and pride in India, and its rich, diverse, ancient and modern culture and knowledge systems and tradition.

He said that it further envisions an education system rooted in Indian ethos that contributes directly to transforming India, that is Bharat, sustainably into an equitable and vibrant knowledge society, by providing high quality education to all, and thereby making India a global knowledge superpower. The vision of the policy is to instill among the learners a deep-rooted pride in being Indian, not only in thought, but also in spirit, intellect and deeds, as well as to develop knowledge, skills, values, and disposition that support responsible commitment to human rights, sustainable development and global well-being, thereby reflecting a truly global citizen, he said.

The Governor also underscored the requirement of special emphasis of education in human values. He said that value-based education must be included in the development of humanistic, ethical, constitutional and universal human values, which will enhance acceptance of cultural diversities and generate respect for others.

Sharing his observation during his district tours and reposing his

faith on RGU, the Governor said that the tribal societies in the State are transiting through the Third Decade of 21st Century and aspiring to make a huge leap from Tradition to Development. Your villages and towns are in dire need of indigenous Teachers, Engineers, Doctors and Entrepreneurs. That is the gap you will be able to fill to take the State to new heights of achievement, he said.

The Governor called upon the RGU fraternity to resolve to play their vital role of developing character through education. It must strive to achieve global benchmarking given the vastness and diversity of the global village we live in today, he said.

Advising the students, who are continuing their studies, the Governor stressed on removing fear psychosis while facing examination. He said that the students should welcome examinations as an opportunity for self-evaluation so that they become aware of their strengths and weaknesses and build themselves into better and stronger individuals. He advised them to read PM Modi's book 'Examination Warrior' which contains his high wisdom on the matter of examination. The book will prove a very powerful tool to change our perspective towards examinations, he said while reminding the students that knowledge will help you overcome fear of failure and arm you with problem solving abilities.

The Governor, Chancellor, Vice Chancellor and Convocation Speaker presented the gold medals, MPhil and PhD degrees. Chancellor's Gold medal to Post Graduate topper was awarded to Chandan Chetry, M. Tech (Computer Science Engineering) and Vice Chancellor's Gold medal to Under Graduate topper was awarded to Ms Minam Yomso, B. Sc (Physics) of JNC, Pasighat. Gold medal for M Phil was awarded to Shri Manngam Wang-

pan. Pushpa Rani Mitra Gold Medal, instituted by Prof. Amitava Mitrea (Retd.), former Pro VC, RGU, for topper amongst girl students in faculty of social sciences was awarded to Ms. Hibu Mayur, MA in Psychology.

Dr. J. Suresh Babu, Chancellor, Prof. Saket Kushwaha, Vice Chancellor and Dr. N.T. Rikam of Rajiv Gandhi University, also spoke on the occasion. Prof. G.D. Sharma, a renowned academician and the President, Association of Indian Universities, New Delhi, delivered the convocation address.

Local MLA Tana Hali Tara, members of the Court, the Academic Council, and the Executive Council, Deans of Faculties, Heads of Departments and Directors of Institutes, Awardees of medals and degrees and their Family Members as well as Relatives, Statutory Officers, Faculty Members, Staff, Students, Community members and other guests also attended the ceremony.

State Cabinet approves formulation of AP Logistics Policy;

Reviews progress of flagship schemes

ITANAGAR, November 30:

The State Cabinet in its meeting here on November 30 last approved formulation of the Arunachal Pradesh Logistics Policy in alignment with the PM Gati Shakti Framework. The Policy has aimed to “Augment integrated, multi-modal, logistics ecosystem for a ‘Developed Arunachal Pradesh 2047’”.

Logistics has been a focus sector for the country for some time. In 2021, the PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan was launched to provide multimodal connectivity infrastructure to eco-

nomie zones. In 2022, the National Logistics Policy was launched with focus on bringing in efficiency and reduce costs. In the 2022 annual report on Logistics Ease Across Different States (LEADS), Arunachal ranks in the ‘Aspirer’ category, behind the ‘Fast Mover’ and ‘Achiever’ categories, stating a clear need to have a policy intervention for improvements in the logistics sector.

The Cabinet, under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Pema Khandu, took cognizance of the recent improvements in connectivity infrastructure and the growth opportunities it presents. The Policy aims to bring all connectivity projects under one umbrella. Some of the key projects mentioned in the Policy, for implementation in a time bound manner, are the Arunachal Frontier Highway from Nafra to Vijonagar, Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in Balinong, establishment of nine new industrial areas, upgradation of Lekhi/Naharlagun Inter-State Bus Terminus (ISBT), warehouse facility for Itanagar Capital Complex at Chimpu and logistics Hub at Namsai which is already proposed for financing under the PM Gati Shakti scheme.

The Cabinet also reviewed progress of the twelve flagship schemes of Government of India which are aimed to be saturated latest by March 2024. The schemes reviewed by the state Cabinet are as - Soil Health Card, Kisan Credit Card, PM Kisan Samman Nidhi, Jal Jeevan Mission, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana, Atan Pension Yojana, Svamitva, Ayushman Bharat, SvaNidhi, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Gramin and Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Urban.

Aboh inaugurates infrastructures

CHINKOI, November 30:

Khonsa West MLA, Chakat Aboh, achieved a significant milestone by inaugurating a Community Hall in Lower Chinkoi village and two classrooms in Upper Chinkoi village as part of the SIDF 2021-22 initiatives on November 30 last.

The Public Works Department (PWD) served as the executing agency for these commendable projects.

Expressing her unwavering commitment to education, the MLA in her speech, urged upon the parents and students to collaborate with the teaching staff in the newly inaugurated schools. Emphasizing the pivotal role of teachers as inspirations, she encouraged the students to attend school regularly, dedicating themselves to their educational pursuits with sincerity. She also highlighted her focus on education, health, agriculture, road communication, electricity, and water supply.

In recognition of the executing agency, for adhering to timelines and guidelines, Aboh expressed her appreciation for the timely completion of these essential projects.

The inauguration ceremony witnessed the presence of CO Dadam Pik Tayom, Engineer officers from PWD, Chiefs, GBs, PRIs, Members of ESDA (Elite Society of Dadam Area), Members of Dadam Area Youth Association, and members of Dadam Area Women Association. Public leaders from various villages of 56-Khonsa West A/C in attendance. The Chiefs of Upper Chinkoi, Wangchat Lowang, and Lower Chinkoi, Jakha Lowang, praised the MLA for her dedicated efforts in spearheading the development of crucial infrastructure in their respective villages.

NEWS IN PICTURE



Chief Minister Pema Khandu attending the Golden Jubilee celebration of Sarada Mission Girls' School Khonsa on November 4, 2023.



The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) reviewing the attestation parade of the Assam Rifles Mahila (Women) recruits at Assam Rifles Training Centre and School (ARTC&S), Sukhovi, Nagaland on November 8, 2023.



Arunachal Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister, Chowna Mein attending the inaugural ceremony of 3rd Inter-State Cultural Exchange Festival of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh at Hollongi on November 10, 2023.



The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.), accompanied by the First Lady of the State Smt Anagha Parnaik, met the Nagaland Governor Shri La Ganesan at Raj Bhavan, Kohima on 7th November 2023.



State Chief Minister Pema Khandu inaugurating the state-of-art District Secretariate, Block A and B, to the people of East Kameng in presence of Union Minister for Earth Science Kiren Rijiju, state cabinet minister Mama Natung and MLAs Tapuk Taku, Goruk Pordung, Hayeng Mangfi at Seppa on November 23, 2023.



Arunachal Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister, Chowna Mein, attending the vibrant celebration of National Press Day at Itanagar on November 16, 2023.