

“Venturing Beyond: A Lohit Valley Entrepreneur’s Odyssey”

-By Nyatum Doke

This is not a success story but a story of a beginning, an initiation, and someone threading a path different from the one eulogised by our society. Often, I, along with my friends, visit the Community Convention Centre, Tezu (CCC), which, apart from being one of the most innovative structures made by the district administration, also houses a café- ‘The LaRose Patisserie’. The café is run by a young local entrepreneur, Miss Pamela Krong. One can see a galaxy of coffee, tea, and other products in the menu seldom expected in such a remote place. The products are not only unique in appearance, but also, savoury and luscious.

Pamela, a young lady from Lohit, born and brought up in Tezu, originally her parent are from Tehuliang village in Anjaw. She has a degree in sociology and a ‘Diploma in Pastry and Culinary Art’. Like every parent in our society, her parents, especially her father, wanted her to be an officer or do government service. But Pamela has dreams different from those that most young minds have: “I realized, that I don’t have a knack to study for hours; I was always inclined towards entrepreneurial activities, performing arts, etc. Therefore, “I decided to walk on the path that I love and made my choice accordingly,” she added.

She shared that before starting the café in the CCC,



she used to run a cloud kitchen. “When initially I started, many would say ‘market is down’ then some would tell our tribal people do not eat much of these things,” she shared with a smirk. “And yet I continued, and now I can proudly say that I am financially independent,” she smiled.

Sharing about the biggest challenge in her endeavour, she said “First, it’s difficult to start something new, i.e., business cake making, etc., which is not part of our culture. The people would be sceptical and sarcastically ask, After studying so much, would you be doing catering?” she shared. “Then it’s difficult to find the right people for the job; our tribals are shy people and therefore need some time to get acclimatized

to the kinds of hospitality that entrepreneurship demands,” she added. However, she said, “There is no dearth of talent and hardworking youth in our society if we look for it properly”.

“At first, when I was told to run the café at CCC, I was numb and had no idea how to start for at least two days, but I gathered some courage and agreed to start, she recalled. “Initiation is important; we have to begin somewhere. Once I started, everything fell into place. I am very thankful to the district administration for considering me for the café in the CCC,” she said with a sigh of relief.

“Today, I have around nine young girls working with me—learning and earning. I prefer giving opportunities to



the local youth—vocal for local, you see” she said with a sense of contentment. Then, on asking about the annual return or profit from her business, she replied, “Till now, I have not made an exact accounting; the money is coming as well as going out to pay the salary of the staff and the cost of the inputs for the product. However, “I save enough that I do not have to take financial help from my family,” she reiterated confidently.

Then, she added, “For now, I am not thinking much about profit per se, but I am focusing on surviving the competition in any form and spreading the footprint of my efforts. She emphatically quoted one of the lines that her uncle has told her: “Quality is something that should never be compromised; if quality is good, customers will surely come.”.

On being asked about her opinion on the role of government agencies in empowering entrepreneurs, Pamela shared that “the District Administration led by DC Shashvat Saurabh, IAS, could recognize and understand my potential and provided me with the opportunity that boosted my confidence to a great level.” She shared that she has also been shortlisted for the DeenDayal Upadhyaya Swavalamban Yojana (DDUSY), under which she will get 50.00 lakhs if everything goes well.

“I am planning to expand my business not just in Lohit but in the entire Arunachal and nearby states,” she said, hopeful. Then she also shared her ignorance about schemes and programs of the government to help entrepreneurs and said that it is essential for any budding entrepreneur to do the necessary research, as the government has

many schemes for them.

Pamela may not be the epitome of success in a conventional sense as of now, but the journey that she embarked upon will be trailblazing and will leave a positive footprint for sure. Her story is worth sharing with all the youth who may be uncertain about their choices given the societal pressure. Clearing a competitive exam and securing a government job is no doubt a good option, but that is not the only option. Everyone is not made for studies or government jobs; as it is said, “everyone is unique”.

Lastly, as Pamela puts, “It's ok to dream differently; one should thread the path where one's heart is instead of getting pushed by society; ultimately, in the long run, you will be alone to push yourself.”

(The contributor is DIPRO Lohit)



New Criminal Law launched

ITANAGAR, July 1:

New criminal law was launched at various districts in the State on July 1 bringing widespread changes in India's criminal justice system and ending colonial-era laws.

At Bomdila, Mama Natung, Minister of Home, Inter-State Border Affairs, PHE & WS, and Department of Indigenous Affairs, inaugurated the awareness programme on new Criminal Laws at the SP's Conference Hall in Bomdila in the presence of Kento Jini, Minister of Law, Legislative & Justice, SJETA, Tribal Affairs, and Sports and Youth Affairs, along with MLAs Likha Soni, Nikh Kamin, Nyabi Dirchi, Ealing Tallang, and CMD Toko Anuj.

Home Minister, Mama Natung briefed the attendees on the key aspects of the new criminal laws. He thanked the government and law makers who worked day and night to bring out scientific laws in consonance with current reality of the society and hoped that focus on scientific and evidence based investigation will result in effective prosecution in time to come. He urged the enforcement agencies to implement the laws in letter and spirit for the benefit of the public.

Earlier, while welcoming the dignitaries, SP West Kameng, Sudhanshu Dhama, highlighted the

salient features of the three new laws and informed the distinguished gathering about the extensive training provided to all levels of law enforcement agencies to ensure the efficient implementation of the new acts.

At Pasighat, the District Police organized special program here at Reserve Police line (RPL), Pasighat to sensitize on the key features of the reformatory new laws for citizens, police personnel and all stakeholders.

DC and SP along with PMC Chief Councillor Okiam Moyong Borang, her deputy Rebecca Pan-yang Megu and other councillors released handbook on the New Criminal Laws, 2023 published by the East Siang district Police for wide awareness among the general public.

DC East Siang, Tayi Taggu in his address said that the spirit behind the three enacted criminal laws for fair, speedy and time bound justice for citizens must be the guiding force in its implementation for the district police and judiciary and stakeholders. He stressed on maximum public awareness, so that speedy and fair justice reaches the last man in the line.

SP East Siang, Dr. Sachin Kumar Singhal, while briefing on the salient features of the new laws viz. Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Samhita, Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyan - said that the district police is committed for effective implementation. Citizen friendly and simplified provisions to register case from anywhere irrespective of jurisdiction and use of digital / electronic mode for online registration of case, Zero FIR, safeguards for women and child and the Transgender community, separate sections for crimes under Nyay Suraksha Samhita Act, virtual /electronic mode of FIR/

trial, time bound period for investigation by police and trial by Judiciary etc will address the pendency of cases faced by the people in the previous IPC, Cr.PC and facilitate speedy & efficient justice system to the people.

ASP Pankaj Lamba said that the district police are geared to implement the New laws in letter & spirit and highlighted the trainings imparted to acquaint police officers and personnel. Dy. SP Ayup Boko, Police officers from rank and file attended the meeting among participants.

At Ziro, a legal awareness campaign for effective implementation of new criminal laws of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), Bharitiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) and Bharitya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA) was organized at Golden Jubilee Hall of District Secretariat.

The awareness campaign was organized by the District Legal Services Authority, Ziro in collaboration with Lower Subansiri District Administration and District Police.

Chief Judicial Magistrate and Lower Subansiri District Legal Services Authority general secretary Damge Neri briefed the police officials, advocates of Lower Subansiri Bar Association and the gaon buras and buris on the BNS, BNSS and BSA in detail.

The CJM and Lower Subansiri District Magistrate Vivek H.P also handed over copies of the new criminal laws and digital equipments to gaon buras and buris for effective dissemination and implementation of the same at the District.

The legal awareness campaign was attended by police officers from the ranks of Sub-Inspector to Deputy Superintendent of Police, advocates, gaon buras and buris, members of Child Welfare Com-

mittee, officials from Department of Women and Child Development, Juvenile Justice Board members, court staffs and NGO members of the District.

At Namsai, the New Criminal Law was launched and awareness programme was conducted at Namsai District by Namsai District police.

Same programme was also observed at Mahadevpur and Chongkham Police Station. The programme was participated by DC Namsai, Secretary DLSA cum JMFC Namsai, SP Namsai, police officials, Bar association Namsai and representatives from women and child welfare department.

During the program DC Namsai, Secretary DLSA cum JMFC Namsai, SP Namsai deliberated on the New criminal Law, underlying new provisions, changes in criminal Law, speedy and victim centric Justice system enshrined in the new criminal law. The programme highlighted especially in provisions relating to welfare of women and child in the New criminal Law.

At Tezu, Awareness Program on three new criminal laws: Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita was held at the Conference Hall of the Senior Superintendent of Police Lohit. The program was attended by DC Shashvat Saurabh IAS and SSP Tumme Amo IPS Tumme Amo.

Speaking at the occasion DC Shashvat Saurabh said that it is important to have the knowledge of the new laws for executive magistrates, Police personnel in particular and for the public in general. He said that District Administration will be organising workshop in order to spread awareness and knowledge on the new laws.

SSP Tumme Amo IPS said that new law is citizen and justice

orientated with a focusing on protection of the citizens. He said that the new laws are comprehensive and covers all the stakeholders involved in the process of justice delivery. If there are certain provisions of the new laws have given more powers to the police; then, there are also provisions to protect the right of the people or any accused, he added. He hoped that with the new laws in place there will be speedy justice delivery.

Inspector D Singpho presented a powerpoint and explained the various provision of the new laws, he also explained how the new laws are different from the old ones.

The program was attended by EAC Sotailum Bellai, ZPM Balong Tindiya, Executive Magistrates, HoOs, Police officials, representatives of Student Unions, Women groups etc.

At Roing, new Criminal Law was conducted by the Roing Police.

During the programme, SP Akanksha Yadav highlighted special features of the NCL such as focus of NCL on citizen-centric laws, redefined offences and punishments, inclusion of technology in delivery of justice, victim-centric approach and greater accountability and transparency of Police. She also emphasized on the importance of the ongoing training programme for Police personnel.

TRIFED organizes Tribal Artisan Empanelment Mela

KHONSA, July 1:

TRIFED (The Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India) with the support and Cooperation of district Administration and in collaboration with the

Department of Textiles & Handicrafts, Khonsa, successfully organized the third phase of the Tribal Artisan Empanelment Mela 2024. The event took place at multiple locations across the northeastern states of India under the PTP-NER Scheme, bringing together tribal artisans from various regions on July 1.

While attending the Mela, DC Tirap Ira Singhal lauded TRIFED, the Government of India, and the Textiles & Handicrafts Department of Khonsa for conducting such an event to encourage tribal artisans to showcase and sell their products. She emphasized the importance of using bamboo, cane, and traditional yarn while avoiding plastic products. She also appreciated the artisans from different villages of Tirap district who attended the event despite inclement weather, making the program a grand success.

Assistant Director of Textiles & Handicrafts, Chano Lowang, informed that a total of 128 artisans from different villages of Tirap district participated and set up their sales stalls today. She expressed her gratitude to TRIFED under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for sponsoring the grand event and praised the District Administration, Tirap, for providing the venue to accommodate the tribal artisans of the district.

The Tribal Artisan Empanelment Mela aims to provide a platform for tribal artisans of the northeast to showcase their traditional art and craft, connect with potential buyers, and gain exposure to new markets. This initiative by TRIFED is part of its ongoing efforts to promote and support the socio-economic development of tribal communities through the marketing of their products.

"The Tribal Artisan Empanelment Mela is a crucial platform for tribal artisans to showcase their skills and craftsmanship. It not only provides them with an opportunity to access new markets but also helps in preserving and promoting the rich cultural heritage of our tribal communities," said Ms. Ira Singhal, IAS.

TRIFED remains committed to empowering tribal artisans by facilitating their participation in such events and creating avenues for sustainable livelihoods.

Parshuram Kund to become one of the biggest Pilgrimage Centers in NE India

NEW DELHI, July 1:

The sacred Parshuram Kund, nestled in the pristine landscapes of Lohit district in Arunachal Pradesh, is poised for a remarkable transformation. Under the Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD) scheme, a substantial grant of Rs 37.87 crore has been allocated to elevate Parshuram Kund into one of the region's largest pilgrimage centers. The ambitious project includes the installation of a 51-foot statue of Sage Parshuram, generously donated by the VIPRA Foundation, an organisation associated with the promotion and development of Parshuram Kund since the year 2021.

Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein, who is also the local representative of Chongkham-Wakro Constituency, has taken a proactive role in overseeing the development of Parshuram Kund into a major pilgrimage centre.

Parshuram Kund, steeped in Hindu mythology, holds im-

mense spiritual significance, and this transformation promises to enhance accessibility and foster cultural unity across generations. The convergence of tradition and sacred aura at Parshuram Kund mirrors the spirit of the Kumbh Mela, resonating deeply with devotees and pilgrims alike.

Although the complete development of the Prashuram Kund is still underway, the annually held Parshuram Kund Festival has already been witnessing a surge in the number of pilgrims with each passing year.

Marking the ongoing development, the VIPRA Foundation is organising a special Swasthya Kamana ceremony at the Dr. Ambedkar International Center in New Delhi on July 2, wherein felicitation of Union Culture and Tourism Minister, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and Arunachal Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister, Chowna Mein will take place along with some newly elected MPs.

The Founder of Vipra Foundation, Sushil Ojha and National President, Radheshyam Sharma Guruji will be present on the occasion along with other prominent leaders and stakeholders.

The foundation work for the installation of Lord Parshuram's statue at the site has been completed and the installation of the statue is likely to start soon.

Union Minister Shekhawat, DCM felicitated by VIPRA Foundation at New Delhi

NEW DELHI, July 3:

Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein sought the union tourism

ministry's support and guidance to develop the tourism industry in Arunachal Pradesh.

"Tourism is the only sector after hydropower that could help Arunachal becomes self-reliant," Mein said addressing the 'Swasti Kaamna Samaroh'-an event organized by VIPRA Foundation at Dr. Ambedkar International Center here on Tuesday, July 2.

He expressed hope that with the support of the tourism ministry, stakeholders like, VIPRA Foundation and International Society for Parshuram Consciousness, Parshuram Kund can be developed into the region's one of the largest pilgrimage sites.

He informed that the foundation work for installation of the 51-foot bronze statue of Lord Parshuram, donated by VIPRA Foundation, is expected to be completed within a month's time.

"I have instructed the department to commence the landscaping and beautification at the earliest, along with the construction of the approach road," Mein said.

The DCM further informed that the state government has approved the "Construction of River Front in Parshuram Kund in Lohit District" under NESIDS (OTRI) with a project cost of Rs. 50 crore during the state level empowered committee meeting on 26 June.

The proposal will be submitted to the DoNER ministry for early sanctioning. Additionally, the state government will provide an additional Rs. 50 crore for the development of the Kund.

The project envisages constructing a river front, spanning 200 meters on the left bank of the Lohit River along the mela ground.

The project includes lawns, walkways, a ramp for vertical movement, a viewing deck, an

outdoor amphitheater, a viewing tower, and a ritual deck for ash immersion by devotees.

"The development project aims to create a recreational space for the devotees attending the 'holy dip' Mela at the Sacred Kund, on occasion of Makar Sankranti in January, which attracts more than 100,000 pilgrims," Mein said.

The project is expected to boost interstate tourism and uplift the socio-economic activities in the area, he added.

Union culture and tourism minister Gajendra Singh Shekawat, MoS for agriculture and farmers welfare Bhagirath Chaudhary, founder of VIPRA Foundation Sushil Ojha, among others attended the programme.

Fisheries Department Distributes Fingerlings and Fish Feed to Boost Aquaculture

EMCHI, July 3:

The Papum Pare Fisheries department distributed fingerlings, fish feed and lime to 243 fish farmers of the district under the Atma Nirbhar Matsya Palan Yojana (ANMPY) for the years 2022-2023 and 2023-24 and Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) for the year 2022-2023 here at Govt. Fish Farm, Emchi on July 3.

The Fisheries department distributed six lakhs fingerlings to the local fish farmers. These fingerlings, produced indigenously at the Emchi govt. fish farm are expected to significantly boost fish production and meet the growing demand for fish in the market. The species distributed include rohu, catla, mrigul, grass carp, labio bata and labio genius known for

their good survival rate and high yield.

Alongside fingerlings, the department provided 600 tons of nutritionally balanced fish feed and lime. The feed is designed to ensure optimal growth and health of the fish, leading to higher productivity and profitability for farmers. The lime will be used to increase the availability of nutrients, to increase pH and buffer against daily pH fluctuations and to sterilize ponds prior to stocking.

Attending the event Papum Pare DC, Jiken Bomjen stated that, "This initiative is part of the government's continuous effort to support and empower our local fish farmers. By providing high-quality fingerlings and feed, we aim to boost fish production and enhance their livelihoods and promote the aquaculture sector."

"Unlike other animal rearing activities, fish farming is the safest option," he added while encouraging the unemployed youths to take up fish farming.

DC Bomjen further advised the Fisheries department to handhold and provides technical assistance to the fish farmers.

District Fisheries Development Officer Kipa Taja added, "We are committed to fostering a thriving aquaculture industry. This distribution program is a step towards achieving sustainable and profitable fish farming practices."

"To ensure the success of this initiative, the department is also offering training sessions for farmers. These sessions cover best practices in fish farming, efficient feed utilization, and sustainable aquaculture techniques. Technical support and regular follow-ups will be provided to

assist farmers in managing their aquaculture operations effectively," the DFDO added.

DFDO Taja also informed that "high altitude cold water fish such as trout has been introduced successfully at Silsango and Leporiang on a pilot basis last year. This commercially viable fish will increase the income generation of the fish farmers exponentially".

Among others Fishery Officer Yorum Sajan Taigh, beneficiaries and fishery department staffs were present on the occasion.

Governor launches a book on 'Kargil War'

BANGALURU, July 3:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) launched a book, titled 'Kargil War: The Turning Point' at Cariappa Hall, Rajendra Singhji Army Officers Institute (RSAOI), Bengaluru on July 3. The book, authored by the former Commanding Officer of 2nd battalion of Rajputana Rifles (2 RAJ RIF) late Col M B Ravindranath, Vir Chakra (VrC), gives insight of the actions and operations of the battalion from May to July of 1999 during Operation Vijay. The battalion (2 RAJ RIF) was instrumental in capturing an imposing feature 'Tololing' in the Drass Sector on the 12th and 13th of June 1999. It was the first success of the Indian Army and proved to be the turning point during 'Operation Vijay'.

Speaking on the occasion, the Governor, who also commanded 2nd battalion of Rajputana Rifles in 1990-93, commended Late

Col M B Ravindranath, Vrc for the in-depth narration of the valour and élan of the Indian Army. He also appreciated the contributions of Ms Anitha Ravindranath, wife of Col. Ravindranath and officers of 2 RAJ RIF in bringing out the publication. This reflects the institute bonhomie and spirit of camaraderie of our forces, he said.

The Governor, who was on a UN Mission in Angola, which was a highly volatile and conflict zone during the Kargil War said that the book is a firsthand report from the warzone and highlights the acumen and gallantry of officers and troops of the regiment. The book delves into many leadership nuances and psychological aspects of warfighting, he said.

The Governor said that the book, titled 'Kargil War: The Turning Point' is very inspiring and it must reach the people aiming to join the armed forces. He suggested that the book must be in every school and college library.

First Lady of the State Smt Anagha Parnaik, Lt Gen Mohinder Puri (Retd.), Ms Anitha Ravindranath, Col D Devasahayam (Retd.), CMD Radiant Group along with former Service Chiefs participated in the book launch.

The 12-chapter book provides comprehensive details starting from 'The Gathering Storm', when the intrusions came to light in early May 2009, the unit movement from Kigam to Drass, the preparations, acclimatization and training of troops, followed by the planning and the attacks on Tololing on 13 June and Three Pimples on 28 June 2009. The author has vividly described the challenges and gives a true picture of the combat realities. The author ends by highlighting the exceptional artillery fire support.

CM inaugurates FIFA Standard Artificial Turf Football Ground

TAWANG, July 4:

Chief Minister Pema Khandu announced that the state government is preparing a roadmap called

This policy too a part of the 100-day action plan of the state government.

Congratulating the people, especially youths and sports persons of the district on the asset inaugurated, the Chief Minister informed that similar FIFA standard facility is being provided in all district headquarters.



'Mission Olympic 2028' and 'Mission Olympic 2032' under its ambitious 100-day action plan on July 4.

According to Khandu the roadmap will be finalized and implemented within hundred days of the new government, which will scout and nurture talented athletes for the world's biggest sporting event, the Olympics.

Inaugurating a FIFA Standard Artificial Turf Football Ground at Gyalwa Tsangyang Gyatso High Altitude Stadium here on Thursday morning, July 4, he said that the aim is to send as many athletes as possible from the state to the Olympics representing the country.

Khandu also revealed that a new Youth Policy is also under preparation to tap and hone the talents of the youths in various fields.

"Recently I had the privilege to inaugurate ten such grounds across the state during a program held at Roing. We will ensure that similar facilities are provided at all Assembly constituency and panchayat levels also," he said.

Khandu also suggested that for upkeep and maintenance of the newly inaugurated artificial turf ground, the High Altitude Gyalwa Tsangyang Gyatso High Stadium be handed over to the Tawang district unit of the Arunachal Olympic Association.

"The stadium, complete with a track, will fuel the passion of sports enthusiasts and nurture talent in our region," he added.

While highlighting that the Tawang Marathon conducted last year has been an immensely successful endeavour, Khandu informed that from this year the

event will be organized jointly by the state government and the Indian Army based at Tawang.

“We have also decided that this event will be a calendar event and will be held every year on 24 October that marks the United Nation’s Day. The state government will provide Rs 2 crore as grant-in aid for conduct of the Tawang Marathon, which will be promoted as an international event,” he revealed.

Also present on the occasion were Tawang MLA Namgey Tsering, Kalaktang MLA Tseten Chombay, former MLA Tsering Tashi and 190 Mtn Brigade Commander Brig VS Rajput.

DC ask HoDs to Enrol workers on eShram portal

AALO, July 4:

West Siang DC Mamu Hage asked the district’s heads of departments (HoDs) to enrol their labourers on the eShram portal, and directed them to submit reports of disasters in the district on a daily basis to her office and to the district disaster management officer.

Addressing a district level monitoring committee meeting here on Thursday, July 4 the DC further asked the HoDs to depute their departments’ representatives to conduct circle-level monitoring committee meetings without fail.

She proposed to initiate “shramdaan,” involving the residents of every sector, in order to make the entire Aalo township a plastic-free zone.

The DC asked the DDSE to “submit the ratio of teachers and students of West Siang,” and directed the forest department to conduct Airgun Surrender Abhi-

yan in the district.

DMO Dr. Dubom Bagra informed that the district’s health department has achieved “five NQAS and LAQSHYA for West Siang.”

ZPC Tumpe Ete urged the HoDs to share their grievances with him, so that he may place them before the MLAs. He also requested the officers to work together for the overall development of the district.

ZPMs and circle officers also attended the meeting.

DCM attends launch event of Sampooranata Abhiyan

NAMSAI, July 4:

The Launch event of the Sampooranata Abhiyan which begins on July 4 to September 30’ 2024 as part of Aspirational District Program (ADP) and Aspirational Block Program (ABP) under the aegis of NITI Aagoy was held at Chongkham CD Block, Namsai.

The event kicked started with a ceremonial release of Tri-Color ballons to mark the launch of the Sampooranata Abhiyan in Chowkham CD Block & Namsai District followed by launch of Sampooranata Abhiyan T-Shirt.

Deputy Chief Minister, Chowna Mein urged all concern departments, PRI members and general public to coordinate & cooperate for 100% saturation of the 6 KPIs and also welcomed the young professional, Shan Muhammad, from NITI AAYOG to Chowkham while attending the programme as Chief Guest.

While addressing the gathering, Mein urged the District Administration to hold periodic review in a weekly or bi-monthly

manner to monitor the progress of the Sampooranata Abhiyan campaign and stated that he himself would be monitoring the progress & take part in monthly review meetings.

Earlier, DC Namsai, Shri C R Khampa addressed the crowd and briefly oriented on the ADP & ABP and emphasised working on 3 Tier model – Convergence, Collaboration and Competition.

He also announced ADP and ABP delta ranking for January 2024 and September 2023 respectively wherein under ADP, Namsai ranked 30th out of 112 Aspirational districts and under ABP, Chongkham ranked 297th out of 500 Aspirational blocks across India.

He also delved into the NITI Aayog’s 6 focused Key Performance Indicators in great details and sought the cooperation of concerned departments/agencies and general public in achieving the set target of saturation by 30th of September 2024.

DCM also inauguration of KPI saturation stalls of concerned departments later in the programme.

This was followed by 4 breakout sessions wherein Soil Mitra, Anganwadi workers, ASHAs and SHG members were sensitized & apprised of the action plan to achieve saturation by their concern HoD’s/ HoO’s under the overall supervision of DC Namsai, ADC Chongkham, DPO Namsai, CO Chongkham and Young Professional from NITI AAYOG.

The event saw participation of the officers from various departments including Health, Agriculture, Horticulture, ICDS, Ar-SRLM, Piramal Foundation, GBs, PRI leaders, and the general public.

80 % of government schools under Papum Pare (Rural) obtain LPCs

YUPIA, July 5:

Papum Pare DDSE T T Tara informed that 80 percent of government schools under Papum Pare District have obtained LPCs during the coordination meeting of the Education department held here at ZPC Conference hall on July 5.

"This has been possible with the right and timely intervention of the District Administration and All Papum Pare District Students Union," DDSE Tara added.

"While all the 17 schools under Kimin block have obtained LPCs, 65 out of 69 schools under Balijan block and 39 out of 50 schools under Sagalee block have been issued LPCs," he informed.

"Under Doimukh block all the schools except for schools under Banderdewa circle; since Banderdewa Administration falls under ICR, have obtained LPCs," the educator further added.

DDSE Tara further informed that all the requisite paper works for the LPCs for the schools under Mengio block have been completed and are under process in the office of the ADC Sagalee.

Terming it as a remarkable achievement in protecting government land and property from encroachments DDSE Tara added that "a Committee consisting of the PRI leaders, SMC members, student leaders and land department officials shall be constituted to resolve local issues if any and ensure the remaining schools obtain LPCs

MLAs 14-Doimukh

Nabam Vivek, 15 Sagalee Er Ratu Techhi and Deputy Commissioner Jiken Bomjen, ZPC Nabam akum

, All Papum Pare District Students Union leaders, ZPMs and officials of education department were present in the meeting.

DC take stoke of Development of Public Libraries in the district

NAMSAI, July 5:

To ensure mass public library movement Namsai Deputy Commissioner cum Chairman District Library Planning Committee C.R. Khampa convened a coordination meeting of the District Library Planning Committee on July 5 here in the Conference hall of the District Library, Namsai.

Expressing satisfaction on the performance and rapid development of the Namsai district library, Deputy Commissioner advised the house to encourage youths from the remote areas to act as library volunteers to expedite the public library movement throughout the district and to converge drug affected Namsai district into a Knowledge-based, educated district.

He also emphasised on promotion of reading habits from early childhood. Khampa also unveiled a brochure published by the District Library, Namsai.

Welcoming the house, Librarian S. Mukherjee presented the progressing graph of the library and highlighted that despite being state's youngest District library, it is the state's first fully automated public library which also offers "Library on Wheel" services. This initiative has benefited around 3000 students from various schools and Anganwadi Centres in Namsai by delivering books at the door step.

As per cloud based records, the library sees over 1500 monthly visitors, which is a positive indication of revival of reading habits.

All the outpost Administrative Officers present in the meeting have put forward various proposals to establish library in Lathao, Piyong, Chowkham circle to inculcate reading habits among the students and youths of the area.

The librarian submitted a concept paper has been submitted to the Deputy Commissioner for consideration of various developmental proposals pertaining to the massive development of libraries in the District. He also requested to all the heads of the educational institution to encourage their students to avail maximum services from the district library.

ADC Namsai K. Nyodu, EAC Lekang Dr T.Ete, CO Chowkham K.Loya, CO Lathao H.Nari, CO Piyong K. Saroh, Namsai DDSE, DIO, all the heads of the educational Institutions from various schools and colleges, DLPC members were present in the meeting.

DCM attends the 50th Capital Complex Dree Festival Celebration

PAPU NALLAH, July 5:

The Deputy Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh, Chowna Mein on July 5 graced the Golden Jubilee Capital Complex Dree Festival Celebration at Dree Ground, Papu Nallah. This celebration marks a significant milestone, symbolizing the rich traditions and history of the Apatani community.



Deputy CM Mein inaugurated the Apatani Heritage - Souvenir Shopping Complex and the Golden Jubilee Dree Heritage Gate. The new complex will serve as a platform for local artisans to display their unique crafts, fostering sustainable livelihoods and cultural exchange.

On the occasion, Mein released two books and one music album of the community. Name of the books released are 'Gangu Ellu' featuring the lyrical verses of fifty Apatani song by Taro Tallo, and another book 'Miji Nando' compiled by Dr. Hage Tabyo, containing Apatani Shamanic verses & folktales. The music album released is called 'Ane Aba' by Punyo Krah & Medu Foundation School.

Mein lauded the efforts put in the publication of the books and production of the music album as a means to preserve the rich folk legacy of the Apatani community. Prior to this, most of the literature pertaining to the indigenous communities were passed down orally through generations. Mein noted that books and audio-visual recordings today serve as powerful preservation mediums to capture the rich cultural heritage of the land and should be utilised to cover extensive range literary works by the various tribal communities of the State. In this context, Mein also cited potential for cultural and research tourism in the State.

Praising the Apatani community, Mein reflected on the festival's 50-year journey, emphasizing the importance of retrospection and future planning for the betterment of both the community and the State.

During the programme, Lifetime Achievement Awards were also conferred to the individuals associated with the conceptualisation and continuation of the Central Dree Festival. Among the recipients were Former Director of Arts & Culture, Lod Kojee who served as the First General Secretary of the Central Dree Festival Committee, along with Hage Kojee, IAS (Retd), Bamin Kano, Joram Lalin, Dr. Bengia Tolum and Shri P.G. Tago. In addition, Late Gyati Challa, Nani Challa, and Tasso Grayul were among the posthumous recipients of the award, for their visionary efforts.

Mein also commended the Apatani community for their contributions to the state's development, citing the example of Robin Hibu, the first IPS Officer and first DGP from Arunachal Pradesh, and many other Apatani officers serving in various administrative positions.

Exemplifying the government's commitment, Mein also highlighted GoAP's effort

to preserving and promoting the state's rich cultural heritage through various initiatives, such as the creation of the Department for Indigenous Affairs, Gurukul Schools, the introduction of local dialects as the third language, and honorariums for priests.

Deputy CM Mein urged the youth to remain disciplined, work hard, strive for perfection, and achieve professionalism in their chosen fields while staying connected to their roots.

The event was also attended by MLA Techhi Kaso as Guest of Honour, Deputy Speaker, APLA, Kardo Nygyor, MLA Ziro-Hapoli, Hage Appa, Itanagar Capital Region Mayor, Tame Phassang, Chief Patron, GJCCDFC, Millo Tago, IFS (Retd) and Chairman Dani Salu (IRS) among others.

MLAs convenes Coordination Meeting for Education Sector

YUPIA, July 5:

In a significant move to improve the quality of education under rural PapumPare District, 14 Doimukh MLA Nabam Vivek and 15 Sagalee MLA Er Ratu Techhi jointly convened a coordination meeting with the key stakeholders from the education sector aimed at enhancing collaborative efforts and addressing pressing challenges within the system.

The meeting, held at ZPC Conference Hall Yupia brought together representatives from the District Administrations, school administrators and Zilla Parishad Members.

DDSE cum DPO, TT Tara briefed about the issues and problems faced by the education department.

The issues the DDSE brought to primary focus was rationalization of teachers through transfer and posting, issue of subject teachers, merger of defunct and low enrolment schools, teacher accommodation, revival of hostels and stipendiary schools, improvement of school infrastructures and strategies to improve teacher quality, student performance and continuous professional development to equip teachers with the necessary skills and knowledge.

Speaking on the occasion 13 Doimukh MLA Nabam Vivek remarked, "this meeting represents a pivotal step towards fostering a more cohesive and effective education system. By bringing together all key stakeholders, we can collectively address the myriad of challenges faced by the education department and work towards our common goal of providing quality education for all."

He also called out to the teachers for shedding off all political differences and concentrate on improving the quality of education.

Speaking about the necessity of teacher rationalization, Vivek further assured of zero political interference in case of teacher transfer and posting.

Vivek suggested for a follow-up meeting to be scheduled after six months to review the progress and continue discussions.

15 Sagalee MLA Er. Ratu Techi while addressing the school administrators spoke about the proposal for merger of low enrollment schools.

He said that "Merging low enrollment schools is often considered as a strategy to optimize resources, improve educational offerings, and ensure sustainability. However challenges like community resistance, logistics, the impact on students has also to be considered before the merger finalisation; for which ground work and a general consensus is required."

The technocrat turned politician also sought cooperation and collective effort from all the stakeholders to face the challenges in the education department.

DC Papum Pare, Jiken Bomjena advised the teachers to be sincere and always be abreast about the latest developments in their respective subjects.

ZPC Smt. Nabam Yakum pointed out that the appointment of subject teachers as CRCCs and BRCCs deepens the subject teacher scarcity.

She suggested for BRCCs and CRCCs to teach in the nearby schools.

All Papum Pare District Students Union President Gollo Lento while assuring cooperation to the Education department also suggested for "no political or bureaucratic interference in the teacher transfer posting, discouraging development activities in low enrollment schools and allocating a fixed amount percentage of the MLAD for the education sector.

Earlier DPC Tang Moromi presented the overview of the Papum Pare education department. She highlighted the manpower strength, infrastructural assets, student's performance of the past two years and the state and centrally sponsored schemes implemented in the district.

All the ZPMs of Papum Pare also presented the issues faced by the schools pertaining to shortage of subject teachers, lack of teacher's accommodation and hostel facilities etc.

His holiness Dalai Lama turns 89

CM, DCM offer prayers for long life of spiritual leader

ITANAGAR, July 6:

Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama turned 89 on July 6. His birthday was celebrated in the State by organizing prayer ceremonies for his early recovery.

The Dalai Lama who is in the US, where he is recovering from a knee-replacement surgery said he is physically fit and is determined to continue his service to Lord Buddha's teachings, in his birthday message.

Chief Minister Pema Khandu on Saturday, July 6 joined the 89th birthday celebration of Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama, organised at the famous Golden Namgye Lhatse monastery in Tawang.

The 400-year-old monastery, popularly known as the Tawang monastery, is the largest Buddhist monastery in India and the second-largest in Asia.

On the occasion, the chief minister also took part in a cake-cutting event and joined a prayer ceremony organised by the monks.

"Offered prayers at the sacred Tawang Monastery on the auspicious occasion of His Holiness the XIVth Dalai Lama's 89th birthday. I prayed for His Holiness's good health, long life, and continued guidance for humanity through his invaluable teachings," Khandu posted on X.

He said, “May His Holiness continues to bless our world with his compassion, wisdom, and peace. Long Live His Holiness!”

The monks of Tawang monastery offered Den-Tsik Monlam, a prayer ceremony.

“May this special day inspire us to embrace compassion, empathy, and kindness, and strive towards creating a more harmonious world,” Khandu added.

To mark the occasion, Khandu, along with others, planted tree saplings at Urgelling, the birthplace of the sixth Dalai Lama.

Meanwhile, Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein attended the Dalai Lama’s birthday celebration at the Lhagon Jangchup Choeling monastery in the Dhargyeling Tibetan settlement camp in Tezu in Lohit district, where he urged all present to “embrace the Dalai Lama’s teachings of compassion, peace and harmony.”

He expressed appreciation for the Tibetan community “for zealously preserving their rich culture and traditions,” and said that the state government would provide support for the welfare of the Tibetan community residing in the state in their demarcated camps peacefully.

The DCM was presented with a shield and a certificate of appreciation from the Tibetan settlement office in Tezu, on behalf of the central Tibetan administration, based in Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh.

Earlier, prayers were offered for the wellbeing and long life of the Dalai Lama.

The celebration featured performances of traditional Tibetan dances by cultural troupes.

The event was attended also by the abbot of the monastery, Ven Dzogchen Ganor

Rinpoche, Education Minister Pasang Dorjee Sona, WCD Minister Dasanglu Pul, advisers Dr Mohesh Chai, Mutchu Mithi, Mopi Mihi and Chau Zingnu Namchom, former minister Nakul Chai, Lohit DC Shashvat Saurabh, Namsai DC CR Khampa, and Lohit SSP Tumme Amo, among others.

Wangsu urges NERIST to help farmers by introducing new, innovative tools

NIRJULI, July 8:

Agriculture Minister Gabriel D Wangsu urged the North Eastern Regional Institute of Science & Technology (NERIST) here to help the farmers of the state by introducing new and innovative tools and implements in the farm sector.

Wangsu, who inspected the institute’s agricultural engineering department during a whirlwind tour of various farms in the capital region on Saturday, July 6 underscored the importance of new technology in the farm sector, “for which,” he said, “introduction of new farm tools and machineries is vital.”

“The animal husbandry and dairy farming is a big department.

We can change and make the life of entire Arunachal if we work on it strategically. We have a lot of potential, but shouting slogans of having potential will not serve any purpose unless we put our energy practically into it,” he said.

During the inspection, NERIST faculty members, including Prof Sarsing Gao, Dr Madhusudhan Mishra, Dr

Yamem Tamut and Dr Santosh Tamang, along with drone specialists, highlighted various drone applications at the Nirjuli cattle farm.

The team, through a demonstration, explained the various applications of drones in cattle farming, right from mapping of campus to monitoring, surveillance, health assessment, grazing management, and crop detection, among other things.

The minister, accompanied by Animal Husbandry & Fisheries Secretary Hage Tari, Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Director Dr D Longri and Fishery Director Joyshil Taba, inspected the state cattle breeding centre-cum-dairy farm, poultry farm, and the Fish Farmers’ Training Centre here.

Wangsu said that “good works done in laboratories should be transferred to the farmers as the lab-to-land approach is paramount in achieving success, especially in the farming sector.”

The minister urged the dedicated staff to “spread such technical ideas to the nook and corner of the state.”

“Such technical and scientific knowledge should not be kept under lock and keys. They have to be shared with other progressive farmers of the state,” he said.

Later, the minister visited the Fish Farmers’ Training Centre in Emchi, and asked the officers to renovate the buildings – which are currently in a dilapidated condition – to enable new batches of trainees to start training soon. He also discussed plans to put up new infrastructure at the farm site to enable training of farmers of the state.

Natung takes stock of issues, challenges in Pakke-Kessang

LEMMI, July 8:

Home Minister Mama Natung held a meeting with the Pakke-Kessang district administration, the district police, and the heads of departments (HoD) at the circuit house on July 8.

During the meeting, SP Tasi Darang delivered a presentation on the performance report and various challenges faced by the police department in the district. Darang appealed to the home minister to provide the district with adequate police personnel; improve the infrastructure of the Seijosa police station; establish fire stations in the district; and create a PS outpost in Sede.

DC Bani Lego in his speech requested the minister to fulfil the basic requirements of the district, and initiate steps to permanently settle the interstate boundary dispute.

Natung in his address assured to put his best foot forward in bringing transformation and reformation in Pakke-Kessang “under the leadership of Chief Minister Pema Khandu.”

He stressed that “the heads of departments are the key implementing agencies for successful outcome of any government laws and policies,” and exhorted the HoDs to perform their duties diligently.

He also asked the district administration and the police to keep a strict vigil on the influx of outsiders from neighbouring states “and send timely reports on ILPs to the home department.”

Pakke-Kessang ZPM Sunil Nabam and PHE&WS EE Nyong Paloh also spoke.

The minister later inspected the newly constructed SP office and the SP bungalow here.

Natung was accompanied by Seppa East MLA Ealing Tallang, and the meeting was attended by administrative officers, HoDs, and officials of the police department.

WCD department reviews Central government schemes

ITANAGAR, July 8:

The women & child development (WCD) department conducted a meeting at the civil secretariat on July 8 to review the centrally-sponsored schemes (CSS).

The meeting was aimed at assessing the progress of various women and child welfare schemes, addressing challenges, “and strategising for improved implementation across the state,” the department informed in a release.

Attending the meeting, WCD Minister Dasanglu Pul lauded the department for its “tireless efforts in running the government’s policies and programmes,” which, she said, “immensely helped the women and child in life cycle-continuum basis.”

Pul’s adviser Tsering Lhamu in her address praised the department “for releasing comic books on the POCSO Act and creating awareness videos on safety of women and children.”

She suggested carrying out more awareness and sensitisation programmes in the state, especially in the remote areas.

“More efforts are needed to create awareness on the legislation, programme and policy of the government which may help everyone,” she added.

During the meeting, detailed presentations were made by the state nodal officers on various CSS’.

ICDS (HQ) DD TW Thungon spoke on Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0, while ICDS DD C Tangjang and CDPO (HQ) Bahi Koyu presented a brief on Mission Vatsalya and Mission Shakti scheme, respectively.

Short awareness videos on crucial topics, including illegal adoption, adoption procedures, the POCSO Act, the PMMVY, and the Poshan Abhiyan were screened during the meeting, the release said.

Goyal assures of help to local entrepreneurs

ITANAGAR, July 8:

Union Commerce & Industry Minister Piyush Goyal attended SAMVAD – the first outreach programme for investors and industry in the Northeast region – in Itanagar, where he assured of government support to local entrepreneurs on July 8.

Goyal engaged in a series of high-level meetings with state officials, business leaders, and local entrepreneurs to explore new opportunities for trade, investment, and sustainable development, aiming to integrate Arunachal Pradesh more effectively into the national and global economic frameworks.

A special summit, SAMVAD-2024, was organised, bringing together investors, industry experts and local entrepreneurs. It was aimed at showcasing the unique opportunities in Arunachal and attracting both

domestic and foreign investments to the region.

Goyal assured the local entrepreneurs of the central government's support in addressing their concerns and promoting entrepreneurship.

Recognising Arunachal's rich natural resources and biodiversity, the minister also emphasised on sustainable development. Initiatives to promote eco-friendly industries and practices were discussed, aligning with the national agenda of sustainable growth.

Goyal expressed optimism about the potential for growth in Arunachal, and said, "Arunachal Pradesh is a land of immense opportunities. The government's focus is on creating an environment conducive to business, enhancing connectivity, and ensuring sustainable development.

"We are committed to transforming this region into a significant hub of economic activity," he said, and added that "if India is to be developed, the northeastern states will have to be developed rapidly."

The minister interacted with representatives from various industries, including agriculture, handicrafts, tourism, and technology. He encouraged them to leverage the benefits of Unnati-2024 to expand their operations and tap into new markets. Emphasis was placed on promoting local products and services, boosting exports, and fostering innovation and entrepreneurship.

Chief Minister Pema Khandu expressed hope that Unnati-2024 would help Arunachal and other states in the Northeast touch newer heights.

He further informed that the state has been successfully implementing the Deen Dayal Upadhyay Yojana to help startups.

Union minister Kiren Rijiju highlighted initiatives aimed at the development and prosperity of Arunachal and the northeastern region, and emphasised his commitment to make Arunachal a destination for investors.

Union Minister calls on the Governor

ITANAGAR, July 8:

Union Minister for Power and Housing & Urban Affairs Manohar Lal Khattar called on the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh at Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on July 8. They discussed harnessing the vast hydropower potential in the State and urban amenities.

The Governor said that Arunachal Pradesh holds a significant portion of India's hydropower potential. With more than 58,000 MW of hydro potential, the State has substantial untapped resources. The strategic importance of Arunachal Pradesh, given its geographical location and natural resources, underscores the need for developing its hydropower capabilities to meet both regional and national energy demands. Natural terrain and available water resources provide an attractive opportunity for the State and also for the Nation, he said.

The Governor said that the development of hydropower in Arunachal Pradesh offers a promising opportunity to contribute to India's renewable energy goals and enhance the State's economic development for a State. He said that it is a boon and inclusive development through the hydro-power projects will facilitate rapid progress of the State.

The Union Minister assured the Governor to provide all necessary assistance for the State of Arunachal Pradesh from his ministries.

Union Minister Piyush Goyal calls on the Governor

ITANAGAR, July 9:

Union Minister for Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal called on the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) at Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on July 9. They discussed avenues for marketing of horticulture and textile and handicrafts products of Arunachal Pradesh in the national and international markets and promotions of indigenous production.

The Governor said that many horticultural products, particularly Kiwi are cultivated in Arunachal Pradesh in large quantities. With assistance from the ministry, the farmers can earn a handsome amount. He suggested the Union Minister for freight trains and cold storage to enhance the socio-economic development of the State.

The Governor also highlighted the indigenous expertise in textiles and handicrafts amongst the local community of Arunachal Pradesh. He said that this expertise is unique and exclusive, and needs assistance and promotion as it would have a huge impact on the economic development of the people, particularly womenfolk, who are traditionally engaged in weaving. It was also agreed that skilling of youth from the State should confirm to the industries being considered for establishment in the State.

The Union Minister assured the Governor to explore various ways and means to be an active partner in the progress of the people and the State of Arunachal Pradesh from Commerce and Industry ministries.

DC inaugurates Health and Wellness Centre

ITANAGAR, July 9:

The new Health and Wellness Centre (HWC) at Hokka Village, Jollang, was inaugurated on July 9 by Deputy Commissioner Capital Itanagar, Shweta Nagarkoti Mehta.

The Deputy Commissioner urged the residents to avail themselves of the basic health services offered by the HWC. She emphasized the importance of public co-operation in the implementation of significant government initiatives and encouraged the residents to support the HWC staff. She assured them of full support to ensure the efficient functioning of the center.

ZPM Taro Tagia expressed hope that the health center will serve a large population and discussed plans to equip the center with more medical equipment in the near future.

Dr. Kipa Tuglik, District Medical Officer, stressed the importance of maintaining a healthy life, especially as one ages.

Dr. Krishna Welly, DRCHO, stated that the new facility replaced the old center at Birup Village, which had become unfit for use due to various reasons. He informed that the project was completed through the collaborative efforts of the health staff of ICR, Jollang youths, and the local panchayat.

On the occasion, the DC and ZPM also carried out tree plantation at the location.

Among others, Dr. Giri Tali (DVBDCPO), Dr. Dominic Lokam, Dr. Usha Devi (DANO), Dr. Kipa Jitu (MO in charge of Chimpu), Junuma Murtem (HWO Jollang), panchayat leader, villag-

ers, the public and medical staff from the district and health center attended the event.

Doimukh MLA to provide Wi-fi Connections to Circle Offices

YUPIA, July 11:

MLA Nabam Vivek assured to install wi-fi facilities in all the Circle Offices of 14 Doimukh Assembly Constituency while chairing a co-ordination meeting with the Admin officers and Police Officers of Papumpare here at DC Conference Hall, Yupia on July 11.

“In this era of technology and all the correspondences being done online, it is sad that our circle Offices don’t have wi-fi facilities. The MLA lamented while addressing the officers and directing them to install wi-fi in their Offices; the installation charges of which shall be borne from his end.

Stressing on the importance of the Administration and Police joint meeting, Vivek added that “Effective administration relies on the seamless collaboration between police and administrative officers, leveraging their respective strengths to serve the public efficiently and maintain a stable and secure environment” and urged all to “join hands and bring about tangible and holistic development in the constituency.”

Terming drug menace as a serious concern he further asked the police officers to deal it with an iron hand.

He also appealed to the officers to be punctual and ensure ‘there are no lapses and delays in delivery of public service’.

During the meeting various issues related to law and or-

der, public safety, manpower and infrastructural gaps and improving administrative efficiency were discussed.

The admin officers briefed the MLA about the issues faced by them in service delivery. They spoke about road maintenance and construction projects, difficulties in ensuring efficient delivery of water, electricity and sanitation services, need for public transportation, lack of accommodation for the admin officers in the outpost, maintenance and development of public buildings, schools, hospitals, and other facilities and border issues.

DC Papumpare Jiken Bomjen while taking note of the issues, further directed the Circle Officers to strictly maintain status quo in the border issues.

To protect the government land from encroachment, he further directed all the Administrative Officers to ensure NOC is obtained for any plot near Government installations and structures.

Learning about rampant gambling in the weekly markets and melas, he added that “henceforth the owner of the market and melas shall be held liable and booked in case of violations”.

The OCs of various Police stations of Papum Pare also spoke about the problems and issues faced by them; most of them concerning lack of manpower, vehicles, accommodation and CCTVs in the nakas and beat Offices.

SP Papumpare Shri Tarugusar, also highlighted the issues of the department in general and requested the legislator to facilitate establishment of a Women police station at Yupia, owing to the existence of many courts near the DC Office premises and consequent protests led by women and construction of a police station in Jote-Poma area.

ADCs of Kimin, and Balijan, SDO Doimukh, Circle Officers, SDPO (HQ) and OCs attended the meeting.

Alumni association felicitates CBSE toppers

NAHARLAGUN, July 11:

The Kongkra Cohorts -an alumni association of government higher secondary school (GHSS) Naharlagun, comprising the batch of 1995 (Class 10) and the batch of 1997-'98 (Class 12) – felicitated the school's toppers in the Classes 10 and 12 CBSE examinations, at the GHSS on July 11.

During the function, which was attended by alumni members, faculty members, parents, guardians and scores of students of the school, Kongkra Cohorts member and RGU Joint Registrar Dr David Pertin informed that “the Kongkra Cohorts alumni association came up with the idea to institute the annual academic excellence awards with financial support for the first four toppers of the school in Class 10 and Class 12 humanities, science and commerce streams to instil healthy competition among the students.”

The four toppers – Pragya Bhardwaj (Class 10), Sartam Yanu (Class 12, humanities), Satyajit Roy Dakua (Class 12, commerce), and Biki Tutu (Class 12, science) – were felicitated with citations, mementoes and cash award of Rs 5,000 each “for topping in the school in the recently declared results of the CBSE's AISSE and AISSC examinations for the 2023-'24 academic session,” the association informed.

Dr Pertin encouraged the students to “imbibe discipline in your day-to-day activities of life”

and advised the students to “stay motivated while following your own interests and passions by engaging in essential learning that includes thinking, communicating, and interpersonal social responsibilities, and strive to build and live your dream careers ahead.”

Earlier, GHSS Vice Principal Phassang Sama commended the association's gesture, and urged it to “maintain the spirit, as it has started the maiden felicitation programme in the school.”

Among other alumni, Naharlagun EAC Khoda Bath, PWD JE Takhe Meenu, Yupia BEO Sanjeev Chetry, former general secretary of the school Nawan Lamnio, the Itanagar bench of the Gauhati High Court's Court Officer Mobi Riba, PWD Senior Estimator Ngilyang Ado, educationists Taying Yuma, Anil Kujur, Punyo Lento, Sanjay Singh and Bijon Paul, entrepreneur Tech Romen, and tour operator Bengia Mrinal were present at the programme.

In September last year the Kongkra Cohorts had donated 25 ceiling fans for the classrooms, “besides five CCTV cameras, with complete setup, to the school authority,” it said.

School bus flag off by MLA

TAWANG, July 11:

Local MLA Namgay Tsering on July 11 flagged off a school bus, which will ply between Khirmu and the government secondary school (GHSS) here.

The bus will ferry students from Khirmu and adjoining areas to the school.

The MLA recalled his days as a student of the GHSS here, and advised the students to be “honest, sincere, and hardworking.”

Exhorting the students to keep away from drugs and other intoxicants, he gave assurance that he would provide all possible help to them in “pursuing your career for higher studies and preparing for competitive examinations.”

GHSS Vice Principal Yesshi Chotten expressed gratitude to the MLA for providing the bus, saying that “this will benefit those students coming from far villages, and will further ensure their regular attendance in the classes.”

Tawang SP DW Thongon, DDSE (i/c) Dhondup, Assistant Station Superintendent (Transport) Tsering Phuntso, public leaders, teachers, and students were present at the flagging-off ceremony.

DC felicitates district toppers, schools

TAWANG, July 11:

Tawang Deputy Commissioner Kanki Darang on July 11 felicitated the district's toppers in the Classes 8, 10 and 12 exams, and the best performing schools during a meeting here with the heads of departments and school adopters of Tawang and Kyidphel blocks.

During the meeting, which was attended by teachers and adopters of 29 schools, the DC said that “though this year our district couldn't upgrade the toppers' list, we have increased our pass percentage,” and asked the teaching community and students to work harder.

“We have to look for reasons behind the poor performance by one or two schools and work on them in order to improve them and secure better results in the coming examinations,” he said.

Expressing concern over the shortage of teachers, he asked

officers with science and mathematics background to “spare a little time to teach at the schools, so that the regular classes of students are not hampered, till some arrangements for regular teachers are made.”

He asked the heads of schools to ensure that every teacher gives homework to the students, saying that “this will keep the continuity of study at home.”

The heads of schools presented their achievements and grievances, and the school adopters apprised the DC of their school visits and activity reports, besides providing inputs for ensuring the overall development of the schools adopted by them.

DDSE (i/c) Dondup urged the teachers to “extend full support and rededicate yourselves to making the future citizens of the nation.”

Ensure smooth and efficient delivery of services to the citizens: MLA Darang

PASIGHAT, July 11:

Pasighat East MLA, Tapi Darang on July 11 instructed the district administration to curb the menace of illegal encroachment with iron hands and assured to render all possible cooperation in this regard while attending a coordination meeting held here in the DC's conference hall.

The MLA stressed on importance of interdepartmental coordination to ensure smooth and efficient delivery of services to the citizens and asked all the departments to outreach and deliver welfare schemes to common people without being influenced.

He emphasized the need for innovative solutions to address the unique challenges of the Pasighat City in particular and the entire 38-Pasighat Assembly Constituency as a whole.

Taking serious note, the MLA asked Pasighat Smart City Development Corporation Limited (PSCDCL) to expedite the construction of ongoing market complex at Pasighat and hand over to the shopkeepers at the earliest possible.

He instructed the EE (highway) to explore options for bypass road to avoid traffic congestion in the city.

Darang also thoroughly discussed about improvement of water supply, power supply, schools' infrastructures, various issues of the business community related to garbage collection, installation of transformer in the market areas, parking places etc.

Several key stakeholders including DC Tayi Taggu, ASP Pankaj Lamba, Jt. Director (BPGH) Dr. T. Tali, CEO Smart City Dr. Manjuli Komut, engineers of various departments and HoDs attended the meeting and presented overviews of their respective departments, detailing the ongoing schemes and the projects being implemented in the city.

DC calls for proper implementation of projects

LIKABALI, July 12:

Lower Siang Deputy Commissioner Rujjum Rakshap has called for proper and on-time implementation of developmental projects in the district.

Chairing a District Level Monitoring Committee (DLMC) meeting on July 12 which was

held to review the status of central and state government schemes in the district, the DC emphasised the need for “strict monitoring, constant supervision, and quality maintenance of the developmental works by all the executing agencies.”

He drew the attention of the participants towards the importance of the Koyu-Goye road project, being executed by the PWD, which connects three districts – East Siang, Lower Siang and Leparada – and has vital strategic and economic importance.

The DC asked the district agriculture officer to “initiate the proposal for establishment of a Krishi Vigyan Kendra in the district on priority basis.”

Rakshap also asked the EEs of all departments to “have parleys and consultations with the other line departments to prepare comprehensive DPRs, ensuring incorporation of all required components, so that projects don't encounter controversy at the implementation stages.”

He said that the PRI members have important roles in formulation and implementation of schemes launched by the government. “They need to educate the people about the schemes and coordinate with the departments concerned,” he said.

Local MLA and Deputy Speaker Kardo Nyicyor, speaking on the occasion, termed the agriculture and allied departments “the mainstay of the rural economy of the state.”

Nyicyor said that the department should carry out proper survey and identify feasible projects “and also the best potential beneficiaries, involving the panchayat members, while preparing projects and selecting beneficiaries.”

Speaking on the requirement of infrastructure development in the district, Nyicyor said that “it shall be done once the official formalities for the district headquarters are completed.”

“Siji shall be a model district headquarters with proper town planning and exemplary execution of the infrastructure development works,” he observed.

Speaking on the efforts to improve the education sector in the district, he emphasised the idea of “pulling together the understaffed schools of the villages having poor infrastructures and resources to a centralised location, and providing it with the best possible infrastructures and teaching faculties.”

He also mooted the idea of “proper exploration and identification of potential hydropower projects in the district to boost the economy, and at the same time to be self-sufficient in electricity.”

Nari-Koyu MLA Tojir Kadu asked the officers to “disseminate information to the public on the developmental schemes launched by the government, so that the schemes reach the rightful beneficiaries.”

DPDO Tajum Ronya asked the departments to identify the issues and problems being faced by them in implementing the projects, “so that the next DLMC meeting can focus on finding solutions to the problems.”

Earlier, officials of the executing agencies delivered presentations on the achievements and progress of their ongoing projects.

The meeting was attended also by, among others, ZPC M Nguba, ZPMs, Lower Siang Galo Welfare Society unit president Senggo Taipodia, the EEs of all the works departments, and heads of offices.

Pul highlights huge potential in AP-OIL meet on geothermal and critical minerals exploration

ITANAGAR, July 12:

Arunachal Pradesh Science & Technology Minister Dasanglu Pul said that Arunachal offers “huge potential for geothermal energy as an alternative source of green energy to secure future energy needs of India, including critical minerals, which are still untapped, for its utilisation,” Itanagar-based Centre for Earth Sciences & Himalayan Studies (CES&HS).

Pul said this while chairing a high-profile meeting at the Oil India Ltd’s (OIL) headquarters in Noida, UP, on July 12 in a significant move towards sustainable energy development.

Addressing the participants, including OIL Managing Director Dr Ranjit Rath and Pul’s adviser Phurpa Tsering, she urged the OIL to “forge coordinated efforts and share expertise with the state government to successfully tap the geothermal energy potential of the region to enhance energy security,” and advocated ensuring “sustainable development with a disaster management plan in place in the seismologically active north-eastern part of India.”

She assured the OIL team of the state government’s support in exploring for geothermal energy,” including natural oil and gas and critical minerals, which will propel the state’s economic growth and development.”

Dr Rath expressed keen interest to “invest in the exploration and production of untapped natural resources in Arunachal Pradesh,”

and informed that “the OIL has taken up a collaboration project with the BPCL and the HPCL to expand natural gas pipelines in Arunachal Pradesh, ensuring 24/7 supply to every household.”

He emphasised that investment in exploration is crucial for sustained growth of the nation. “We are committed to making Arunachal Pradesh a revenue-generating state through the development of its vast natural resources,” he added.

Tsering commended the OIL’s initiative and emphasised the need for expert collaboration for the state’s progress. He also acknowledged the OIL’s CSR division “for its continuous support of various developmental projects.”

OIL Executive Director (E&D) Saloma Yomdo stressed the importance of diversifying into geothermal energy and critical minerals exploration “as the company has expertise in exploration and production techniques.”

CES&HS Director Tana Tage presented the details of “the findings and progress made during the recent investigation and feasibility studies of geothermal energy by the centre.”

“In the findings, hot springs survey and investigation carried out in four districts, Tawang district shows promising potential for geothermal energy for generating electricity and other applications like space heating and cooling and drying of perishable food items,” he said.

In response to this, Dr Rath suggested conducting a “re-connaissance survey jointly with the OIL and the National Centre for Seismology on the abandoned wells previously drilled by the OIL.”

National Centre for Seismology Director Dr OP Mishra, the OIL's chief general managers, its HR director, and other officials from the OIL and the CES&HS also participated in the meeting.

DC Visits Border Area Govt Secondary School

SOHA, July 12:

Tirap Deputy Commissioner Ira Singhal on July 12 visited the government secondary school (GSS) here in the district with the aim of enhancing the academic performance and future career prospects of the students of Soha area.

She was accompanied by DDSE KC Lowangcha, Soha CO Dingzang Baham, and staff of the DDSE office.

During a meeting with the school's headmaster, the village chief, GBs, PRI members, and students from Soha and nearby villages regarding "zero per cent results in the Class 10 CBSE exam 2023-'24," the DC directed the teaching staff and parents to "ensure that all teachers posted at GSS Soha must settle at their quarters by the coming Monday."

In a four-point directive, the DC further said that "parents-teachers-members meeting should be conducted within the next week of this month and remedial teaching should be conducted by the respective subject teacher after the completion of formal classes for weaker/slow-learner students, starting next week."

She said that morning assembly at the school must be completed before 9 am to ensure that classes start promptly at 9 am.

"Failure to comply with

the instructions within a week will result in issuance of suspension orders," the DC warned.

During the meeting, it was also decided that the GSS' headmaster would submit a report on the implementation of the measures to the DC and the DDSE by 20 July.

Addressing the gathering, the DDSE advised the parents to cooperate fully to achieve better results in the CBSE examination.

A career counseling session was also conducted, enriching the students' understanding and inspiring them to explore new ideas for their futures.

Among others, Soha village chief Wangroi Lowang commended the DC and the DDSE for their efforts to improve the quality of education in the area.

Fisheries Summer Meet, 2024

Arunachal Minister seeks separate fisheries policy for Himalayan region

MADURAI, July 12:

Fisheries Minister Gabriel D. Wangsu has asked the centre to consider separate policy and schemes for the Himalayan states saying that the needs and topography in these states are completely different from the rest of India. The centre also may like to revisit and revise the unit cost of all construction works considering the high cost index and remoteness, he added.

The minister was addressing the Fisheries Summer Meet, 2024 at Madurai in Tamil Nadu on June 12 which was attended by Union Minister for Fisheries Dr. Rajiv Ranjan Singh, Ministers of State Dr. SP Baghel and George Kurien besides Fisheries ministers

from various states, top officials from the Govt of India and state governments/UTs.

Stating that Arunachal Pradesh is one of the pioneer states in cold water fisheries in the entire North Eastern India, Wangsu demanded a substation of Directorate of Coldwater Fish Research to fulfill the need for proper R&D facilities for documentation of breeding and culture protocol of these species of fishes available in the state.

"Arunachal Pradesh is a power house of the country and more and more hydropower stations are coming up, thereby creating large water bodies which can be judiciously exploited for fish production in mass scale", the minister said while seeking a comprehensive technology package for its integrated development and management with adequate financial support.

Addressing the day-long function he also sought mapping of resources employing geospatial techniques for preparing resource inventory and optimum utilization, and one time grant for strengthening, and up-gradation of existing seed producing infrastructure of both cold and warm water calibrating to its optimum capacity so as to overcome recurring shortage of quality seed in desired quantity.

"In-situ conservation of indigenous germplasm of fish species is a big challenge because of heightened anthropogenic activities, habitat degradation and destruction coupled with adverse effect of climate change. Our open water systems are fast dwindling and are on the verge of extinction", the minister pointed out and advocated for a comprehensive package with adequate financial support for propagation and mass awareness to save these precious wealth.

“Since working period is limited because of long rainy season, rationalization of subsidy from the current four instalments to two equal instalments against all schemes shall definitely expedite perfect implementation of the schemes and timely utilization of fund”, he observed. He further requested the Centre for extension of PMMSY scheme for another 2 years with additional fund and launch new scheme to compensate against for the loss caused due to delinking fisheries from RKVY scheme.

Impressed by the short video on the Integrated Aqua Park of Ziro screened at the Summer Meet, the Union Minister RR Singh expressed his desire to visit Arunachal Pradesh and personally take stock of all fishery related developments in the state. While summarizing today's proceedings Singh assured all out support to the states in addressing respective concerns and make India a prominent nation in fishery sector.

The Joint Secretary in the ministry Sagar Mehra, later addressing the meet informed that, the ministry would initiate for making payments against central schemes in 2 instalments instead of four. Revision of unit cost of all constructions in the Himalayan states too would be considered in new central scheme, he observed and informed that proposals for brood banks and hatcheries from states would be attended to with due diligence. Report quoting sources in the Fishery Ministry said senior officials at the Centre have taken note of the issues raised by the Arunachal Minister and that the Centre would address these concerns in coming days.

Sensitization programme on legal services held

ITANAGAR, July 13:

A one-day sensitization programme on legal services for disaster victims, new criminal laws, and women's schemes was organized by the District Legal Services Authority, Yupia, Papum Pare District, in collaboration with the Arunachal Pradesh Women's Welfare Society and the One Stop Centre, Itanagar, Papum Pare District, on July 13, 2024, at Lor Potung Village, Papum Pare District.

Advocate Taying Nega, Legal Aid Counsel, informed attendees about the role of the Legal Services Authority for disaster victims, explained how people can avail themselves of its benefits, and discussed Legal Aid and the Arunachal Pradesh Victim's Compensation Scheme. Advocate Nada Nampi deliberated on the new criminal laws, and Advocate Ribbom Riba explained how to access the One Stop Centre and Women Helpline Services, along with various women's schemes under the Department of Women and Child Development. She also made the participants aware of Mission Shakti, Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana, and Dulari Kanya under the Sankalp initiative of the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India.

Kani Nada Maling, President of APWWS, emphasized the importance of women and citizens being aware of these schemes and laws to better utilize existing government provisions. She pointed out that due to a lack of awareness, many people do not know whom to approach for help, and organizing awareness programs will

inform them about how they can avail themselves of legal services for disaster victims, understand new criminal laws, and access various women's schemes. She highlighted the APWWS's role in advocating for women's rights and ensuring that government schemes reach the grassroots.

Asst. Secretary General APWWS, Taku Yasap Tadar, concluded the programme with a vote of thanks. She expressed satisfaction with the programme, noting its necessity as many were unaware of how to access legal services during disasters and various women's schemes. The team provided participants with contact numbers for necessary assistance.

Chief Minister calls on the Governor

ITANAGAR, July 15:

Chief Minister, Pema Khandu called on the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh

Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) at Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on July 15. In the first meeting after forming of the new State government, they discussed developmental projects, education, tourism and budget related issues and actions to mitigate the challenges due to natural calamities amongst other State matters of importance.

The Governor emphasized that every citizen of the State, especially elected representatives, government officials, and youth, must immediately commit to their greater duties and the overarching goals of 'Viksit Arunachal' and 'Vikshit Bharat'. He urged the people to strive towards the vision of reform, perform, and transform for the nation.

The Governor highlighted

the importance of using technology to ensure transparency, real-time monitoring, empowerment of all sections of society, and the protection of their rights. He stated that the responsibility for transformation rests with visionary leadership, proactive performance from the bureaucracy, and active participation from the common people in the spirit of Jan Bhagidari.

The Chief Minister updated the Governor on the State's developmental progress and the new government's initiatives.

State Minister for Education and Tourism etc Pasang Dorjee Sona and Commissioner to Chief Minister Sonam Chombay were also present in the meeting.

Donyi Polo Namlo foundation day celebrated

DAPORIJO, July 15:

The second foundation day of the Donyi Polo Namlo was celebrated at the namlo ground here in Upper Subansiri district on July 15.

During the programme, IFCSAP district unit chief adviser Tayir Bulo stressed on preservation and promotion of age-old culture, and urged the indigenous priests to “avoid or minimise your fees for the welfare of the entire indigenous believers, so that common people can participate in indigenous practices.”

“According to a common survey, the indigenous people are converting to other religions owing to higher and expensive cost for performing local rituals,” he said.

District Art & Culture Officer Taw Ekke, who also attended the programme, apprised the gath-

ering of the department's policies, and urged them to “be proactive in preservation and promotion of the indigenous culture.”

He added that they “should not fully depend on the department in purview of preservation and promotion of culture and religion.”

Furthermore, he urged the priests who are honorarium recipients to be sincere and devote themselves to preserve and promote the indigenous culture, “since you have registered as frontliners.”

Traditional chanting, songs and dances by members of various namlos/gamgi centres were the highlights of the day.

The best performers were awarded certificates with trophies.

Cabinet approves bill to ensure pro- bity in recruitment exams

ITANAGAR July 15:

The State Cabinet that met on July 15 under Chief Minister Pema Khandu made several landmark decisions.

Pradesh Examination (Measures for Prevention of Unfair Means in Recruitment) Act 2024” in order to prevent and curb the offences related to leakage of question papers and other malpractices during the recruitment examinations conducted by various recruitment agencies.

The draft bill which incorporates stringent penalties and imprisonment with imposition of fine up to one crore shall be tabled in the ensuing second session of the 8th Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly commencing from 19th July next for discussion and passage of the same. The bill after becoming an Act will ensure free and fair selection process of all posts under the Government of Arunachal Pradesh and detect malpractices.

The Cabinet further approved the proposal for encadrement of 13 various categories of posts of Arunachal Pradesh Staff Selection Board (APSSB) into common cadre of Arunachal Pradesh Civil Service and Arunachal Pradesh Secretariat Service Common Cadre. This move was necessitated to bring proper and systematic human resource management in the APSSB for free and fair recruitment process. It is



The most notable decisions taken by the Cabinet is approving enactment of “The Arunachal

noteworthy that the State Government had already encadred and merged all categories of posts of

Arunachal Pradesh Public Service Commission into common cadre of Arunachal Pradesh Civil Secretariat Service and postings were done accordingly. This decision will enable officers from APCS and APSS to be transferred in APSSB on tenure basis for a period of 3 years.

The Chief Minister and Cabinet Ministers were briefed by the Director General of Police (DGP), IG L&O, Secretary Home and the Superintendent of Police (SP) Capital on the salient features and implementation strategy of the 3 new criminal laws.

The officers highlighted key reforms aimed at enhancing public safety and streamlining legal procedures. They discussed the phased implementation plan, training programs for law enforcement, public awareness campaigns, and monitoring mechanisms. The Chief Minister and Cabinet Ministers provided valuable inputs, underscoring the importance of a coordinated approach for the successful adoption of these reforms.

Wangsu addresses Agri review meeting

NAHARLAGUN, July 16:

Calling upon all the officers to work as a team, the Minister for Agri & allied Gabriel D. Wangsu on July 16 appealed them to make the most of services of KVKs, and work hand in hand for the overall development of the state.

Addressing the review-cum-coordination meeting of the Department of Agriculture here on Tuesday, the Minister advised the officers to secure all the residential and farmland through proper documentation by mapping and obtaining LPC from district administration so

that legal proceedings can be initiated to combat encroachment.

Accompanied by Advisor Talem Taboh, MLA and Commissioner for Agriculture Bidol Tayeng, Wangsu reiterated and urged upon the officers to protect seeds and germplasm of the state as a primary responsibility.

"There may be hitches in executing some projects but it must be ensured that germplasm of any part of Arunachal is protected at all cost," he added stating that seeds will be their ultimate USP (Unique Selling Proposition) for the state in future.

He assured the officers of all possible help from his side as a Minister, while informing that roadmap is being set up to address all concerns and accelerate growth of agriculture in the state.

However, he appealed all the officers to work as a team to realise that dream of prosperity for the people of the state. "I walk the talk and but as a minister I have no such magic wand to complete all the tasks in one go, but I genuinely assure you that all concerns would be looked into," the minister added.

MLA cum advisor to the Minister Talem Taboh also spoke on the occasion.

Earlier, the review meeting began with Commissioner Agri Bidol Tayang highlighting the topics of the review meeting followed by technical session.

The meeting was attended by the Director, Joint Director, Scientists from KVKs, District Agriculture Development Officers and Agriculture Officers from different parts of the state Arunachal Pradesh.

CM held meeting with CBOs

ITANAGAR, July 16:

Chief Minister Pema Khandu has called upon the state's Community Based Organizations (CBOs) to suggest, cooperate and assist the state government in realizing the goal for self-sustenance, to multiply state-owned resources and turn resources into revenue.

In his opening remarks during the pre-budget consultative meeting with CBOs at CMO on July 16, Khandu said that the CBOs representing all the communities of the state have in the past put in valuable suggestions, especially in health and education sectors, which the government considered and incorporated in the state's annual budgets reaping rich dividends.

He pointed that based on the government's commitment for inclusive governance, pre-budget consultative meetings form the core around which the state budget is prepared.

To convert resources into revenue, Khandu highlighted two sectors – hydropower and tourism – which, he said, can be tapped systemically to enhance the pool of state-owned resources.

He, however, made it clear that all hydropower projects in consideration will be implemented only with consent of the local communities.

"Yes, hydropower is our best bet to revenue generation. Our annual revenue, which is about Rs 500 crore at the moment can soar to more than Rs 1000 crore in the next 5-10 years if all the proposed hydropower projects are executed successfully. But no, no project will be implemented without the consent of local communities," he said.

He informed that MoUs have been signed only with reputed

central government agencies that include, NHPC, NEEPCO, NTPC and SJVN by doing away with private and unreliable companies and firms.

Khandu urged the CBOs to communicate the benefits of tapping the state's massive hydropower potential that can make Arunachal Pradesh a self-sustainable state to their respective community members.

The other sector that can be a gamechanger for Arunachal Pradesh according to Khandu is tourism. He though strongly pushed for ensuring high-end tourism.

"With the ILP system in place and a proper policy we can easily control and regulate the tourism sector that would benefit the local communities, generate income for youths and contribute to the state-owned pool of resources while keeping our environment intact," he said.

Khandu cited the tourism policy followed by neighbouring country Bhutan, which too solely depends upon tourism and hydropower, and said that a similar policy can be implemented here in Arunachal Pradesh.

He urged the CBOs to encourage their community members to invest in home stays and if possible in high-end hotels to attract high-end tourists.

Meanwhile, Khandu drew attention of the CBOs towards the malice of money-for-vote culture that were rampant in the recently concluded Assembly and General Elections in few constituencies.

"I have been time and again campaigning for the end of money culture in elections but in vain. I have reports with me on use of huge money to influence voters in some of the assembly constituencies. CBOs have to raise to the occasion if we want to end corruption for I have been continuously saying corruption

begins when one gives or takes money in exchange of votes," Khandu said.

He expressed gratitude to the CBOs for their constant support and insightful feedbacks.

"Your voices have shaped our budget, ensuring every community in Arunachal Pradesh is heard and their concerns addressed. Through this collaborative spirit, we've incorporated many invaluable suggestions, driving inclusive growth and sustainable development," Khandu added.

Committee to be established to develop new Industrial Policy; Dukam

ITANAGAR, July 16:

Industries Minister Nyato Dukam on July 16 informed that a committee will soon be established to develop a new Industrial Policy aimed at attracting further investments.

This announcement was made following a coordination-cum-review meeting with senior officials from the Departments of Industries, IPR & Printing, Trade & Commerce, Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Labour & Employment, Textile & Handicrafts, and Sericulture.

The meeting, held at the DK Convention Centre, was chaired by Minister Dukam and in presence of Dr. Mohesh Chai, Advisor to the Minister of Industries, etc., along with secretaries and directors from the involved departments and other officers. The meeting was also attended by Arunachal Pradesh Building & Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board chairman Rotom Dagam.

Minister Dukam emphasized that the new Industrial Poli-

cy will draw from comprehensive stakeholder inputs to ensure the policy fully realizes the state's industrial potential while maintaining investor-friendly measures. He also called for robust coordination among departments to explore and capitalize on opportunities that will enhance the dynamism and success of these departments. Assuring full support, Minister Dukam highlighted the political will within the government, which he expects will be matched by departmental efforts for the people's welfare.

Advisor Dr. Chai advocated for forward-thinking policies tailored to the state's unique needs, urging the identification and communication of opportunities to eligible beneficiaries. He underscored the critical role of the Departments of Industries, Trade, and Commerce as the state's growth engines, and stressed on the importance of strengthening these departments through teamwork and close coordination.

During the meeting, officials from each department presented PowerPoint slides, detailing various challenges, opportunities, and strategies for moving forward.

ODOP meetings held for KP & LS Dists

Sweet chestnut, large cardamom and kiwi selected as ODOPs

ZIRO, July 17:

A District Level Committee meeting on One District One Product (ODOP) scheme under Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce & Industry was held at Golden Jubilee Hall of District Secretariat on July 17.

Chairing the meet, Keyi Panyor Deputy Commissioner i/c

Vivek H.P pointed out the uniqueness of sweet chestnut as a potential ODOP and expressed interest in selecting it as the ODOP for the district. The DC also urged the members to focus on cluster-based approach to reap benefits of mechanization and economics of scale.

Keyi Panyor DHO Likha Chague proposed selection of Sweet Chestnut as ODOP pointing out the geographical suitability and resilience of the crop. The DHO also affirmed that sweet chestnut has high local demand and can be processed in powder form to increase its sale value.

After a comprehensive discussion among the members and considering all the pros and cons, Sweet Chestnut and Large Cardamom were selected as the ODOP for Keyi Panyor District.

Earlier, Deputy Director Industry Takhe Tamo highlighted the aims and objectives of the meeting followed by a brief overview of ODOP scheme by Omkar Mishra, representative of Ernst & Young LLP.

Among others, SDHO Tasso Yallu, ADTH Toko Okey, SDAO Dani Tabin, Senong Namchoom, DMM, ArSRLM, Duyu Odi, ADO Yachuli, Pobu Kare, Block Coordinator, ArSRLM, Debia Sanka, Chairperson Radhpu Hapa Multipurpose Society, Debia Teji, Chairman HTWS and entrepreneurs Toko Kamin and Likha Chagu attended the meeting.

The ODOP meeting for Lower Subansiri District was also held on 12th July last presided over by DC H.P Vivek.

Kiwi fruit was selected as the ODOP for Lower Subansiri district.

The meeting was attended by DDI Takhe Tamo, DHO Hibu Dante, DAO Tasso Butung, ADTH Toko Okey, Michi Bida Rinya,

Block Coordinator, ArSRLM Ziro, Anu Nalo, District coordinator, ArSRLM Ziro, Mihin Tayu, Secretary KWUI MPCs Ziro, Taro Tatang, Chairman Kiwi Growers Cooperative Society Ziro, Prem Kr. Subba, Assistant Manager, SBI Ziro, and Tage Rita Takhe, prominent entrepreneur and founder of Naara-Aaba winery.

DC Vivek H.P highlighted the potential and current status of kiwi fruit in the district and also stressed upon the importance of setting up a Common Facility Centre (CFC) in Lower Subansiri District which would provide value addition to kiwi fruits and enhance the income of local kiwi farmers. (DIPRO).

CM urges for more flight connectivity from Donyi Polo Airport

ITANAGAR, July 17:

Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu has requested the Union Civil Aviation Ministry to increase flight connectivity to and from the Donyi Polo Airport, Itanagar for improvement of quality of life of citizens, connectivity, tourism and commerce in the state.

In a letter (DO.No.CM (ARUN)-07/2024-25/16th July 2024) addressed to Union Civil Aviation Minister Kinjarapu Ram-mohan Naidu dispatched Tuesday, July 17 Khandu pointed that as of now, one flight each is being operated to and from the Donyi Polo Airport to Kolkata (6 times a week) and New Delhi (4 times a week).

These flights, he said, are regularly operating at complete capacity, often leading to immense surges in travel fares and unavailability of tickets for prospective

passengers, including in cases of medical and other exigencies. Also the absence of daily flight operations hampers ease of access for visitors, tourists, etc., often forcing them to seek other travel options.

Khandu further pointed that connectivity options through connecting flights to major cities from the Kolkata and New Delhi airports is poor. To prove his point, he cited that there is no same-day connectivity while travelling from Itanagar to Bhopal and Kochi, causing passengers to spend an additional night at New Delhi or Kolkata, the layover while travelling from Itanagar to Ahmedabad is 5 hrs. 25 min, while returning from Ahmedabad to Itanagar is 4 hrs. 40 min and the layover while travelling from Itanagar to Bengaluru is 6 hours

The Chief Minister also lamented the discontinuation of flight services between Itanagar and Guwahati operated by FlyBig under the UDAN scheme since November 2023.

He appealed the Union Minister to increase flight services from Itanagar to New Delhi and Kolkata, preferably including an additional morning departure from Itanagar to New Delhi, daily operations of flights from Itanagar to New Delhi, direct flight connectivity to other major Metros such as Bengaluru, Chennai, Mumbai, Hyderabad, etc, improvement of connectivity options from New Delhi and Kolkata Airports for connections to major cities and reinstating flight services between Itanagar and Guwahati under the RCS-UDAN scheme.

Meanwhile in another letter directed to Rahul Bhatia, Group Managing Director of InterGlobe Aviation Limited (IndiGo), Khandu sought increase in number of flights to Delhi, pref-

erably a morning departure flight from Itanagar. He also requested for direct flight connectivity from Itanagar to other major Metros such as Bengaluru, Chennai, Mumbai, Hyderabad etc.

Expressing gratitude to IndiGo for operating the first flight from the Donyi Polo Airport, and for connecting Itanagar to Kolkata and New Delhi through regular flights, Khandu said that the initiation has been of immense comfort and convenience to people of Arunachal Pradesh and other States, tourists, students and others.

He informed that the State's department of Civil Aviation has already been instructed to provide all necessary support to IndiGo for the enhancement and extension of flight services.

It may be noted that IndiGo has announced to operate flight services between Itanagar and Kolkata 7 days a week starting July 31. Currently there's no flight service on the route on Wednesday.

“Make horticulture a working and result-oriented department” - Wangsu

ITANAGAR, July 17:

In his quest to understand the various issues of the Horticulture department, Minister Gabriel D. Wangsu on Wednesday held a review meeting at DK Convention Hall on July 17.

After marathon discussion and reviewing of the matters, the Minister urged the officers to come up with innovative and out-of-box ideas in their planning and execution of various programmes.

“Let us unitedly give the best to our people, and I assure you to give my best to see to it that all your concerns are addressed in right earnest”, the minister assured, and added that he is aware of various constraints and challenges the officers are confronting in the districts.

He appealed the officers to develop work culture, and make horticulture a working and result-oriented department in the state, while also underscoring the urgent need to secure all government land in public interest.

“Highlight all your performances and success stories through public platforms and let those be replicated throughout”, Wangsu said adding that the department must work like a corporate house and all tasks must be accomplished in time bound manner.

Earlier Advisor Talem Taboh, MLA and Ms. Koj Rinya, IFS, Secretary, for Horticulture also addressed the 6-hour long session.

During the review meeting all the District Horticulture Officers of the state and other senior officers highlighted their performances and various activities. Progress of various CSS and state plan schemes were thoroughly reviewed and challenges identified for further improvement and facilitate perfect grounding of all schemes down at the grassroots.

State Road Safety Council Meeting held

NAHARLAGUN, July 18:

A State Road Safety Council meeting was held in the con-

ference hall of Chief Secretary Dharmendra on July 18.

Addressing the participants, Transport Minister Ojing Tasing, who along with Transport Commissioner Vivek Pandey, ADGP Vivek Kishore, DIG Vijay Kumer, Traffic (Highway) SP Sepraj Perme, the director of the NERIST, among others, attended the meeting, said, “Wherever roads are damaged during monsoon or rainy season, it is the duty of the highway department or all departments concerned to improve the stretch of the road concerned within 24 hours.”

Saying that “the capital road is our mirror,” he urged the department concerned to “maintain every district's road condition.”

Regarding the proposal for installation of traffic lights at all busy junctions in Itanagar, the minister requested the department to “include Pasighat (E/Siang), which is also one of the oldest towns in the state.”

“Reckless driving on the highway must be controlled; night patrolling should be carried out; and bars and resorts should be directed to maintain the timings,” he said.

The chief secretary said that “we must make serious efforts to stop accidents,” and suggested conducting a “road safety meeting” every three months, adding that “we have a large percentage of accidents in our state.”

The transport commissioner presented a brief on the issues pertaining to road safety management, and on “bringing a qualitative change in road safety in the state.”

Road safety fund; refresher course for drivers; identification of black spots; painting

zebra crossings and road signs; driving training school certification by the transport department; and ensuring safe transportation of schoolchildren were also discussed at the meeting.

Leverage opportunities to combat economic challenges: Minister Wangsu

NIRJULI, July 18:

The department of Animal Husbandry, Veterinary and Dairy Development has tremendous scopes to work upon and leverage the opportunities in addressing the economic challenges of the people, said Minister Gabriel D. Wangsu while addressing officers at a review meeting on July 18.

Advocating for preparation of road map and vision documents specifying the area of focus in order to encourage livestock farming activities, he urged the officers to identify potential progressive farmers who could don the role of job provider in future.

The Minister for Animal Husbandry, Veterinary and Dairy Development, also appealed the officers to take up development of green fodder in the districts as the livestock cannot thrive without feed and fodder.

The minister opined that corpus fund, may be required to revamp the department farms and fields, which can be used during exigencies and for revenue earning since all activities of the department are seasonal and time bound.

“From the day one of my joining as Minister I had set agendas for the department, however without your cooperation I shall be rendered handicapped, and that shall harm the interest of the state,”

Wangsu maintained and assured the officers to look into their career related issues.

Earlier, MLA-cum-advisor to the Minister, Talem Taboh, in his brief speech, advised the officers to keep good rapport with the local leaders, and emphasized that DVOs should attend the developmental meetings in the districts.

Secretary, AHV&DD Hage Tari emphasized for robust data and proper maintenance of the records in the department and urged to focus on prevention, treatment and immunization of livestock.

The review meeting discussed various issues pertaining to animal husbandry sector in Arunachal Pradesh and the Minister was briefed about the status of various CSS and state plan schemes of the last five years as well as constraints faced by the officers through power point presentations.

Meeting held regarding border issues

YUPIA, July 19:

A meeting of the newly inducted members of the Regional Border Dispute Committee for Papum Pare was held to evaluate the ground work done by the previous border committee and assess the current conditions and to formulate strategies to solve the border issues between Assam and Arunachal amicably here in the ZPC Conference Hall, Yupia on July 19.

The newly inducted members include Land Management Minister Balo Raja as Chairman and 14 Doimukh MLA Nabam Vivek, Rajya Sabha MP Nabam Rebia, Papum Pare DC Jiken Bomjen and SP Taru Gusar as members.

Addressing the administrative officers present in the meeting 14 Doimukh MLA Nabam Vivek, while highlighting the significance of understanding on-the-ground conditions to address border related challenges said that “Accurate and up-to date information is vital for informed decision – making. By assessing the ground realities, we can develop targeted solutions that address ‘area specific ‘causes of border issues”.

He further asked all the Administrative officers for completing a reviewed field assessments of the border areas by the end of August, 2024 and also proposed for meetings with the Chairman and the Assam counterpart in September, 2024.

Rajya Sabha MP Nabam Rebia briefed about the MoU signed by both the Chief Ministers of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh during Namsai Declaration.

To ‘workout an amicable solution’ MP Rebia also called for prior stakeholder consultations which includes inputs from local authorities, community leaders and the affected people before taking any decision on the boundary issue and further suggested for thoroughly studying the Tarun Chaterjee Commission Report.

He also suggested for better coordination among the elected representatives, Administration, Police & Forest on the boundary issues.

DC PapumPare Jiken Bomjen called for maintaining status quo at the border areas and avoiding provocative actions at all cost.

He briefed about the present status of the border issues with Lakhimpur and Sonitpur Districts of Assam with Papum Pare and also highlighted the action takers on the boundary issues of the previous meetings.

DC Bomjen further implored all to abide by the MoU signed during the Namsai declaration which was signed by the Chief Ministers of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh. He also advised the Police and Forest officials to keep strict vigil in the border areas till an agreement is reached between both the states.

Nabam Akin Hina, President, Border People's Forum while speaking on occasion suggested for conducting local level meeting in consultation with the stake holders of the area and conducting joint patrolling in the boundary areas by Assam and Arunachal Pradesh to check illegal activities in the area. He also pointed out the shortage of Police Personnel at Kimin Police Station.

Rome Mele, Deputy Director (Inter-State Border Affairs) presented a PPT on the position of the boundary villages of Papum Pare District and the demands of the affected people of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh.

All the admin officers also presented the status of boundary dispute cases under their jurisdictions.

Among others the meeting was attended by SP Taru Gusar, DFO T.T. Toppu, ADC Balijan Tarkar Rava, ADC Kimin Tage Tatung, SDO Domukh Kipa Raja, Circle Officers and RFOs of Kakoi, Taraso, Balijan and Kimin and Teli Hormin, General Secretary, Border People's Forum.

Lohit Youth Library volunteer wins laurel in Mussoorie Academy

TEZU, July 19:

Lohit Youth Library Movement won hearty appreciation at the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, (LBSNAA),

Mussoorie, when senior volunteer Keselo Tayang of Bamboosa Library Tezu presented a talk on the power and role of voluntarism in spreading the joy of reading in bringing about educational enhancement of reading deprived in marginal language communities.

She was a guest speaker during the in-service Training programme on "Good Governance in Himalayan & North East States/UTs", and was talking on "Jan Bhagidari for quality learning – the role of Community Libraries" on Jul 18, 2024. She stressed on the vital importance of hand-holding of Govt agencies with NGOs and Youth groups, drawing from the rich experience of 16 years at the Lohit Youth Libraries. She appealed to the officers to take lead in supporting rural library activities, to strengthen educational base in rural Himalayan states, and cited the noble examples set by Prashant Lokhande, IAS., founder -patron of Lohit Youth Libraries, Sanjay Sain, IPS., ex- SP Roing and Ayushi Sudan IAS, ex- DC Anjaw. 10 senior officers from Arunachal attended the programme which had 32 participants from different Himalayan states/ UTs.

Speaking online from Bamboosa Library, Tezu, S Mundayoor, Coordinator, Lohit Youth Library Network, traced the history of the growth and popularity of printed literature and reading in India in 19th century. He pointed out that dedicated nationalists, revolutionaries, and social reformers vigorously promoted reading by the common people to awaken their thinking, and set up informal reading rooms and study-centres, in spite of facing extreme persecution by the British rulers. We need to revive that nationalistic urge to empower common people with reading in their mother languages, even

if our Himalayan languages are minor and now treated as script-less. 'People should have the freedom to read in their mother languages'.

Sharing her happiness at being invited to speak at LBSNAA, Keselo Tayang thanked the faculty and remarked: "It was a great experience because I found that the participants from NE and the Himalayan States were very supportive and eager to promote reading in their own areas. Their enthusiasm and pro-active attitude were truly inspiring."

Several participant officers interacted with Keselo Tayang after the talk and lauded her for her powerful presentation.

Prashant Lokhande, now Jt. Sec Home, GOI too lauded Keselo and her team of Lohit youth Library volunteers and conveyed his best wishes to all reading promotion activists in Arunachal.

DC ensures protection of every child from Vaccine-preventable diseases

PASIGHAT, July 19:

East Siang Deputy Commissioner Tayi Taggu on July 19 called for 100 percent immunisation coverage in every health centre of the district, in order to ensure that "every child is protected from vaccine preventable diseases."

The DC was addressing a review meeting on the district task force for immunisation's routine immunisation (RI) coverage during the first quarter of this year.

DMO Dr Komling Perme stressed on carrying out proper household surveys in the villages and the urban areas "as the basis for successful implementation of the micro-plan for RI."

Dr Perme also called for “proactive efforts to cover floating population under the immunisation programme.”

“All health centres must be prepared for National Quality Assurance Standards (NQAS) certification to meet the 50 per cent target by 2025 and 100 per cent NQAS certification of health facilities, covering the district hospital, PHCs, CHCs and UPHCs by 2026,” the DMO said.

The meeting also highlighted the requirement of ASHAs as ASHAs are overburdened in the urban health centres.

DRCHO Dr N Angu delivered a presentation highlighting the status of the RI, and measles and rubella immunisation at the PHCs in Ruksin, Mebo and Pasighat blocks, BPGH, and the FRU in Ruksin.

Dr Angu also highlighted “the award of quality certification of HWCs of Berung and the FRU of Ruksin under NQAS and Laqshya programme.”

WHO RRT & routine immunisation consultant Dr Aishwarya RG shared inputs for strengthening RI in rural and urban areas.

3 bills introduced in Assembly on first day of budget session

ITANAGAR, July 19:

The Budget session of the 8th Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly kick started on Thursday, July 19 here at the state Legislative Assembly.

The first day of the Budget Session saw the introduction of 3 key bills of the state government for the consideration by the assembly.

Chief Minister Pema Khandu introduced the Arunachal Pradesh Public Examination (measures to prevent Unfair means in Recruitment) Bill, 2024, in order to prevent and curb offenses related to leakage of question papers and other malpractices during the recruitment examinations conducted by various recruiting agencies.

The Arunachal Pradesh Amending Bill, 2024 was introduced by Kento Jini Minister of Law, Legislative and Justice, Social Justice, Empowerment & Tribal Affairs, Sports and Youth Affairs.

The Balipara/Tirap/Sadiya Frontier Tract Jhum Land Regulations (Amendment) Bill, 2024 was also introduced by Balo Raja, Minister of Urban Development, Town Planning, Urban Local Bodies, Housing, Land Management and Civil Aviation.

The house also discussion on motion of thanks to Governor’s address, moved by Mutchu Mithi, MLA Roing, and seconded by Jikke Tako, MLA Tali Kra Daadi.

Mithi while expressing his gratitude to the Governor for the support to the government appreciated the state government for the efficient and effective execution and implementation of various developmental activities. He also lauded the government for equitable and equal distribution of resources.

Expressing concern over the under-construction mega dam by China near Arunachal Pradesh, BJP MLA Ninong Ering urged the government to take up the issue with the Centre.

China is building a 60,000 megawatt dam on the Yarlung Tsangpo River in Medog, near the international border.

Tsangpo is known as Siang in Arunachal and Brahmaputra in Assam. The main channel of this river is the Jamuna, which flows through Bangladesh before joining the Bay of Bengal.

Participating in the motion of thanks to the governor’s address in the Assembly, Ering said, “We cannot trust our neighbour. You never know what they can do. They can either divert the entire river flow, drying up our Siang, or release water at once, causing unprecedented floods havoc downstream.”

He added that not just India, but the construction of the dam might also affect Bangladesh.

“People’s safety and country’s security cannot be compromised. Our motto should be ‘nation first’ and we have to think for India’s security,” the former minister of state for minority affairs said.

While supporting construction of dams with storage capacity to check floods in the region, the MLA from Pasighat West Assembly constituency informed that there is no water treaty between India and China so far.

Referring to the opposition by anti-dam protagonists, the lawmaker suggested that they should be consulted before constructing dams, so that the interest of the people is looked into.

“Hydropower is Arunachal Pradesh’ only resource,” he added.

Senior MLA, Borduria-Bogapani Wanglin Lowangdong, apprised the government on prevailing problem of unemployment, facts on the lacunae in the education system like shortage of basic infrastructure and hu-

man resource in the education sector. While pointing out the topic missed by the Governor, he highlighted the house on the problem of increased prevalence of drug addiction in the state and requested the government to take up suitable measures to control the menace.

Nationalist Congress Party MLA from Bordumsa-Diyun, Nikh Kamin suggested for good infrastructure in education and health sector and emphasized on proper work culture.. He urged the government to make drinking water available in every household.

Thangwang Wangham, National People's Party MLA from Longding- Pumao constituency suggested for formulation of a digital library in every school of the state.

Other MLAs participating in the discussion of Governor's address were Dr Mohesh Chai, Jotam Toko Takam, Pani Taram.

Arun Amrit- a locally manufactured bio-fertilizer showcased

ITANAGAR, July 19:

Arun Amrit, a locally manufactured bio-fertilizer, was showcased during Eighth State Legislative Assembly Session by the Department of Agriculture on July 19.

The "Arun Amrit" as part of "Vocal for Local" initiative, is being manufactured in Ziro, Lower Subansiri District since the year 2022. The production was funded under RKVY-RAFTAAR scheme of Govt of India which aims at increasing farmer's income and as sustainable approach in farming system.

The bio-fertilizer production unit in Ziro has installed capacity of 500 Mt annually that meets the state's requirement and has potential for supplying to neighbouring state as well. The sustainable farming is the need of hour and aids in doing away with the chemical fertilizers which has adverse effects on quality of soil in the long run. The production of Arun Amrit is a step towards organic farming in the state.

Chief Minister Pema Khandu, Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein, Speaker Tesam Pongte and host of ministers and MLAs visited the stall and showed immense interest on this local product.

The Chief Minister appreciated and congratulated the department for successful commissioning of the bio-fertilizer and asked them to continue quality production for benefits of the farmers. The packets of bio-fertilizer and instructional manual were distributed to the visitors.

The promotional stall of "Arun Amrit" was initiated by Minister for Agriculture & Allied Gabriel D. Wangsu with the District Administration, Ziro and the department of Agriculture.

Beti Janmotsava observed in CHC Kimin

KIMIN, July 22:

The Department of Women and Child Development in collaboration with the District Administration and Health Department organized "Beti Janmotsava" under Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao (BBBP) Scheme at Community Health Centre, Kimin on July 22.

While gathering in her welcome & keynote address, Jaya Taba, Deputy Director, District ICDS Cell, Yupia in her keynote address highlighted the programmes under BBBP scheme and its benefits.

She advised the women participants to take advantage of women centric central/state schemes.

"Beti Bachao Beti Padhao is a central scheme especially launched to save the girl child and educate them," she further added and exhorted all to report any form of violence against women or girl child even within the family or amongst relatives.

Also while highlighting provisions under Protection of children from Sexual Offence Act 2012 (POCSO), Domestic Violence Act 2005, DD Taba added that "Police and other agencies are mandated to protect and help the victims," and urged all to seek assistance from the concern authorities by dialling Child Help Line 1098 which is available for 24x7 as and when required.

Dr Minge Tato Tana, M.O I/C, CHC Balijan also attended the program. Dr. Tana highlighted the importance of breastfeeding, infant care and also dwelt on maintenance of personal hygiene of lactating mothers and Child.

She also briefed about the importance of timely vaccination of infants and other vaccines required in a lifetime.

The program ended with distribution of gift hampers to the mothers present.

Anganwadi workers, Ashas and women from the nearby areas attended the program.

Assembly passes Balipara, Tirap, Sadiya Frontier Tract Jhum Land Regulation (Amend- ment) bill

ITANAGAR, July 22:

The Balipara/ Tirap/ Sadiya Frontier Tract Jhum Land Regulations (Amendment) bill 2024 was passed unanimously in the house on the second day of the budget session. The bill was earlier moved by Minister of Urban Development, town planning, urban local bodies.etc Balo Raja here on Monday, July 22

The Bill mainly aims at the amendment of section 10 of the Jhum Land Regulations Act 1947. This Bill tries to streamline the land acquisition process which would help in clearing out the disparity in compensation, shorten the time for land acquisition and lead to enhancement of revenue generation in the form of land revenue. The Bill also aims at strengthening, preserving and protecting the customary rights over land of the people of the state. Till now the JLR Act 1947 is being followed according to which the land acquisition is done by providing "reasonable compensation". However, there was no clear cut definition or mechanism for calculating the "reasonable rate" of compensation in the JLR Act 1947. Hence, the compensation is calculated and provided at different rates as per the interpretation of the acquiring companies and as deemed fit by the concerned Deputy Commissioner. Hence, the bill aims at changing the present system of land acquisition process.

Question hour

Chief Minister, Pema Khandu informed the House, that development is priority for the

government therefore, for socio economic upliftment of the concerned area, multilateral road was constructed on Monday, July 22 while answering to question put forward by the NPP MLALongding -Pumao, Thangwang Wangham about the reason as to why the government had the dire need to construct new additional road between Senua and VKV Longding involving huge amount of the government fund whereas there is already a shorter road connecting these 2 places, the state Chief Minister and Minister of Public Works Department ,

Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein informed that the government has so far terminated 53 Memoranda of Agreements (MoAs) after issuing show cause notices to private power developers. DCM was responding to Congress MLA Kumar Waii's starred question regarding the status of hydro power MoAs with power developers.

"The State Govt has terminated 53 MoAs after issuing show cause/intent to terminate notices, due to the failure of the companies to commence implementation on time. Out of the total terminated projects, 11 projects have been allotted to interested developers, including Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs)," DCM said in response to Waii, adding that the government is considering terminating MoAs with non-serious and underperforming developers.

DCM further informed that the remaining 42 projects will be re-allotted to interested developers. The government has issued show cause notices/intent to terminate notices to 73 developers due to their failure to commence project implementation.

"If the developers' replies are not satisfactory, their MoAs will be terminated," he added.

The DCM also informed the house that on August 12, 2023, MoAs for 12 projects were signed in the presence of the Union Power Minister with CPSUs. The total installed capacity of these 12 projects is 12,723 Megawatts, with an investment of Rs. 1,35,360 crores.

"It is a pleasure to inform the house that the Dibang multipurpose project has commenced construction activities at the project site. The project is being executed in mission mode and is expected to be completed by 2032. As of June 30, 2024, the project has achieved an overall physical progress of 12.22%," DCM said.

He added that the state government is conducting regular review meetings with developers to ensure sustainable economic development, timely project completion, increased power generation, and accelerated project progress.

Waii had sought details on the total number of MoUs and MoAs for power project development in Arunachal Pradesh that have been terminated or withdrawn. He also inquired about the government's actions against defaulting developers.

The Deputy Chief Minister further explained that the delay in implementing the power grid project in Changlang district is due to issues with forest clearance, working permissions, and right-of-way clearances. He responded to Nampong MLA Laisam Simai's starred question on the reasons for the delay, affirming that Changlang district will be connected to the power grid by 2025.

Home minister Mama Natung informed that all the notified Women Police Stations (WPS) across the state will be made func-

tional in phases. The home minister was responding to Borduria-Bogapani MLA Wanglin Lowangdong's starred question regarding WPS Khonsa.

Natung added that 21 WPS were notified under Chief Minister Pema Khandu's government in 2018 to address women-related issues. However, due to the Covid pandemic, only seven WPSs – Tawang, Seppa, Itanagar, Ziro, Aalo, Pasighat and Tezu – were able to become functional.

He also mentioned that the lack of required infrastructure, other necessary components, and delays in sanctioning manpower were factors contributing to the non-functioning of the remaining 14 notified WPSs. He assured the house that the remaining WPSs would be made functional in phases.

Lowangdong argued that the Tirap, Changlang and Longding belt have witnessed numerous women-related crimes. He cited the recent custodial death of a woman prisoner in Changlang, attributing it to the absence of a separate women's police station.

"In the TCL belt, there are many cases related to women, such as narcotic substance cases. I seek a precise answer from the government instead of mere assurances," said Lowangdong.

Kumar Waii, MLA INC, reiterated that to bring about quality education the right to education must be abolished. The number of schools must be minimized and the existing ones should be provided with complete required human resource and infrastructure. He also urged the government to make provisions for the regularization of SSA teachers and to transfer them to different districts based on needs. He requested the

government to make a system of promotion or to give allowance to teachers and police personnel on merit basis. He emphasized on transparent and people friendly government.

The House also continued with the discussion on motion of thanks' to the Governor's address..

Chief Minister Pema Khandu, reiterated his commitment to ensuring equitable distribution of development funds across all districts. Participating in the 'motion of thanks' to the Governor's address delivered in the first session of the Eight Legislative Assembly on June 15, the CM said suggestions put by various members irrespective of party affiliations would be honoured by the state government. He emphasised the crucial role of connectivity in the state's development journey, aiming to achieve a 'Viksit Arunachal' by 2047, aligning with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision for a prosperous India.

Highlighting significant strides in overcoming communication challenges such as road, air, railway, and digital connectivity, Khandu credited these advancements to sustained attention from the central government. He acknowledged connectivity as a historical impediment to development and noted that since assuming office in July 2016, his administration has prioritised enhancing infrastructure.

Looking ahead, Khandu outlined ambitious plans to connect all remaining villages in Arunachal Pradesh with road and mobile networks within the next five years. He cited a nine-fold increase in road construction pace over the past eight years and a 143 per cent expansion of the state's national highway network due to initiatives spearheaded by Modi. In

terms of tourism, Khandu reported a remarkable 141 per cent rise in domestic tourist visits and a 36 per cent increase in foreign tourist arrivals. In healthcare, over 7 lakh people have benefited from the Chief Minister Arogya Arunachal Yojana (CMAAY), while one lakh women have been connected to various schemes through self-help groups. Additionally, more than 20,000 farmers have been supported under schemes promoting self-reliant agriculture, he added.

Advocating for a development framework anchored in transparency and accountability, Khandu encouraged proactive participation from legislators across party lines to achieve a robust Gross State Happiness Index.

Taking part in the discussion, lone Congress member Kumar Waii suggested a change in the state's land policy by giving ownership to people so that seeking finance to start business from banks by people could be made easier.

PPA legislator Nabam Vivek suggested the government for prioritising the health and education sectors while Independent member Laisam Simai suggested for including the Indo-Myanmar border under the Centre's ambitious vibrant village programme in the state.

Private Member's resolution

Toko Tatung, MLA Yachulimoved the private member's resolution for the government of Arunachal Pradesh to take a steps to introduce the state Nursery Act which will basically help in producing quality plant material. This Act is to ensure availability and supply of genuine planting material for farmers.

Tatung informed the house that this Act will allow the state to generate employment and revenue for the state. It will help in keeping

a check on the quality of cash crop saplings being brought into the state and will help in good quality produce.

Obituary reference

The Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly paid tribute to former Power and PWD minister TaloMugli, who passed away on July 18th after a prolonged illness at Raga in Kamle district. Members of the Legislative Assembly remembered the contributions made by the former minister during his illustrious political career. The house observed two minutes of silence as a mark of respect to late Mugli.

Taking part in the obituary reference, Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein recalled the significant contributions of late Mugli in the socio-cultural promotion of the Nyishi community, his efforts in indigenous faith and cultural movements. "Whatever he did for Arunachal will always be cherished," said DCM. "Though TaloMugli is no longer with us today, his friendship and the moments we spent together in the service of the state will be cherished forever," Mein added with a poignant tone.

Legislative Assembly Speaker TesamPongte conveyed condolences on behalf of the house to the bereaved family members. "On behalf of the sixty honorable members and myself, I would like to convey condolences to the bereaved family members. I pray to almighty gods Rangfra, Syi-Donyi, and Donyi-Polo for the eternal peace of the departed soul of TaloMugliji and strength for the family members," said the Speaker.

Home minister Mama Natung, in his address, fondly remembered late Mugli for his contributions in shaping Nyishi society. "He was always a guiding and fatherly figure. He rose from grass-

roots to the ministerial level. Today, it's a sad moment that we lost such a towering leader of our state. In this hour of grief, I, on behalf of my entire constituency and myself, convey heartfelt condolences to the family of late TaloMugli. My prayers and thoughts are with them," said Natung.

"He was himself an institution and an inspirational figure. He was an eloquent speaker who captivated listeners through his speeches," said minister of commerce, industries, and IPR Nyato Dukam, while remembering late Mugli.

Congress MLA Kumar Waii praised late Mugli for his exuberant energy in games and sports and his role in Nyishi unification. Former minister HonchunNgandam and legislators Pani Taram, Jikke Tako, RotomTebin, Tania Soki and Tojir Kadu also participated in the obituary reference.

Prevention of unfair means in recruitment gets overwhelming support

ITANAGAR, July 23:

The Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly passed two bills on Tuesday, July 23: the Arunachal Pradesh Amending Bill 2024 and the Arunachal Pradesh Public Examination (Measures for Prevention of Unfair Means in Recruitment) Bill 2024.

The Prevention of Unfair Means in Recruitment Bill received thunderous support from legislators of all parties, with many praising Chief Minister Pema Khandu for introducing this much-needed legislation to safeguard future generations from malpractices and unfair means in state competitive examinations.

In tabling the bill for consideration, Chief Minister Pema Khandu thanked legislators for their active participation in the discussions. "Your active participation in the discussions has been instrumental in advancing these important reforms. Together, we remain committed to working towards a more transparent, fair, and progressive governance framework in our state," CM Khandu exhorted.

CM Khandu referred to the paper leakage fiasco in the Arunachal Pradesh Public Service Commission incident as reflecting our societal mindset and a collective failure of the state. He called for a change in societal mindset, stating, "No matter how strong a law we enact, no law can provide foolproof security until and unless society changes its mindset," appealing to society to change its mindset towards such malpractices in competitive examinations.

"Through this bill, the government aims to enact stringent laws to deal with offenders. This bill comprises five chapters with 27 sections. The act imposes stringent penalties for offenses related to impersonation, leakages, and malpractices in Chapter II of the act," he informed the house.

"As per Section 11, all offenses under this Act shall be cognizable, non-bailable, and non-compoundable," CM added.

When members suggested increasing penalties from Rs 1 crore to Rs 5 crore and increasing imprisonment terms from three years to life imprisonment, the Chief Minister clarified that the proposed bill includes more stringent sections and clauses than any state and central acts regarding preventive measures against unfair means.

He informed the house that while the central act provides for a penalty of Rs 10 lakhs, the proposed bill proposes a penalty of Rs 1 crore. The central act lacks a debarment clause in case of offense; however, under Section 14 of the bill, an examinee convicted of an offense under this act shall be debarred from taking any future public examinations.

He also noted that the central act does not mention a redressal cell or a high-level inquiry committee, whereas the proposed bill includes both. "However, since members have suggested that the penalty amount should be increased and more stringent clauses added, our intention is clear. All 60 members and the younger generation want this Act to be introduced to deal with such malpractices. The Advocate General will be consulted for amendments if necessary," CM added.

Law, Legislative, and Justice Minister Kento Jini informed the house that the Arunachal Pradesh Amending Bill 2024 was necessitated in the Assembly due to the repealment or replacement of three major acts: the Indian Penal Code (IPC), the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC), and the Indian Evidence Act (IEA) in parliament.

"The new laws introduced include the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) replacing the IPC 1860, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) 2023 replacing the CrPC 1899/98/1973, and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA) 2023 replacing the IEA 1872," the minister informed.

"These three central laws introduced in 2023 represent a significant overhaul of India's criminal justice and judicial delivery system, replacing colonial-era legislations. Due to the replace-

ment of these three central laws, we have brought forth the present Amending Bill 2024, amending a total of 49 local laws," Jini said.

Question Hour

Arunachal government to install AI-based CCTV cameras in 22 check gates

Arunachal Pradesh home minister Mama Natung said the state government is contemplating to install AI-based CCTV cameras in 22 check gates of the state to ensure that no unwanted elements and restricted items pass through such gates along the inter-state boundary.

Responding to a question by NCP member Likha Soni during question hour in the Assembly, the minister informed that all the 30 check gates are currently under stringent supervision to prevent the entry of undesirable social elements and drugs.

"The government is always committed in ensuring proper facilities at the check gates for the safety of people and the state," the minister said.

Responding to a supplementary question from the MLA regarding the current condition of the Dirak check gate in Namsai district, which is also a gateway to several other districts in the state, Natung informed that it was operational since 1989 and is running with proper infrastructure facilities.

"There are three sentry posts at the gate out of which two are managed by CRPF and one by state police. CCTV cameras have been installed for proper surveillance," Natung said.

Responding to another question by NPP MLA Thangwang Wangham regarding lack of infrastructure at the police station at Pumao circle in Longding district bordering Nagaland, the minister

said the police station was notified as C class in 1989 and infrastructure upgrade for the outpost could not be taken up because of non-availability of allotted land to the home department.

"The state government is aware of the situation as instances of movement of anti-social elements from Nagaland have been reported on several occasions," Natung said and added that proposal for infrastructure development is under consideration of the government.

The home minister informed that the state Cabinet last year sanctioned 3,000 posts of police personnel and once the recruitment process is completed, manpower requirement in many police stations in the state would be fulfilled.

Arunachal Pradesh is placed among the top four states in the country for all categories of substance abuse informed Health and Family Welfare Minister Biyuram Wahge the house while responding to a question by senior BJP member Wanglin Lowangdong, said that according to a survey, the magnitude of substance use in the northeastern state is 'alarming,' the Minister added.

The survey examined the extent and pattern of use of eight categories of psychoactive substances – alcohol, cannabis, opioids, cocaine, amphetamine stimulants, sedatives, inhalants and hallucinogens – and found that Arunachal Pradesh is among the top four states in India, the minister said.

He added that opium cultivation has been in practice among several tribes of the state for centuries while poppy cultivation and opium consumption have been deeply ingrained in the socio-economic and cultural life of the peo-

ple in the eastern part of Arunachal Pradesh.

“A report by the Central Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) warns of large-scale commercial cultivation of poppy in the state. The report emphasised the urgent need for intervention to prevent adverse impact on national security, and the health and survival of various tribes inhabiting remote and inaccessible areas of the state,” Wahge said.

The unchecked spread of addiction among the young population could potentially result in the extinction of the communities; the minister added quoting the NCP report.

He said that in response to the challenges, the state cabinet had approved the policy on psychoactive substances 2021 which aimed at, inter alia, eradicating the use of psychoactive substances in the community, emphasising the need for primary prevention programmes and forming guidelines for regulating all demands.

The state government also created the Arunachal Pradesh Drug De-Addiction Society (AP-DDS) under the Chief Minister’s flagship programme – Mukhya Mantri Nasha Mukhti Abhiyan (MMNMA) and has undertaken several activities to combat substance abuse, Wahge said.

The government has also opened several drug de-addictions-cum-rehabilitation centres across the state involving both government healthcare facilities and NGOs, the minister said.

“So far seven district hospitals in Anjaw, Changlang, Dibang Valley, Namsai, Tirap, West Kameng and Upper Siang have been identified for setting up addiction treatment facilities,” Wahge said.

Plans are also in place to provide opium substitution thera-

py (OST) across 14 districts with existing facilities and conduct regular screening of government employees and community members. (News credit Arunachal Times & PTI)

Budget Estimate for 2024-25 Tabled

Focus is on health, education, and infrastructure

ITANAGAR, July 24:

The Budget Estimates and the Financial Statement for the year 2024-25 was presented by Chowna mein, Deputy Chief Minister & Minister – in – Charge of Finance on Wednesday, July 24.

Mein presented a Rs. 993.08-crore deficit budget, with a 2.08 percent Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) target for 2024-25. The budget focuses on three major pillars: healthy human resources, robust infrastructure, and a vibrant economy centered around an enabling ecosystem of good governance and secure governance.

Presenting the budget in the house, DCM, who is also the finance and planning minister, stated, “The budget estimate is pegged at Rs. 35,840.79 crore, a 20.85 percent increase over the 2023-24 figure. I am delighted to inform you that we have achieved an impressive 186 percent expansion in the State Budget over the past nine years, reaching Rs. 35,840.79 Cr in BE 24-25. The Revised Estimate (RE) for the last fiscal year 2023-24 reflects a steady rise in our growth trajectory, paving the way for even greater outcomes by the end of the current fiscal year.”

The DCM added that the state has witnessed unprecedented economic growth, resulting in a 135 percent rise in GSDP and a

105 percent increase in per capita income.

“In this budget, I shall focus on three pillars: healthy human resources, robust infrastructure, and a vibrant economy centered around the enabling ecosystem of good governance and a secure environment,” Mein said.

Focusing on human resources, the minister of finance and planning allocated Rs. 2,139 crore for the education sector under Arun Shri Mission. This includes infrastructure buildings, education conclaves, integrated inventory assessment, and management systems for all government schools.

The Deputy Chief Minister declared 2024-25 as the “Year of Youth and Youth Aspiration,” allocating Rs. 100 crore towards various activities to empower and fulfill the aspirations of the youth. These include a holistic and inclusive approach across various sectors focusing on health, education, skill upgrading, tourism and sports, among others.

Stressing on the health sector in Arunachal, the finance minister allocated Rs. 709 crore for investment. “We aim to build a high-quality and affordable healthcare system for all citizens,” he said.

For the empowerment of women, the government allocated Rs. 372 crore for projects covering activities related to women and child development. The government also announced plans to construct 200 pink toilets across all districts, marking a significant step towards improving sanitation facilities for women.

In infrastructure development, the minister earmarked Rs.1,827 crore for the public works department and Rs. 830 crore for rural development.

To boost agriculture and allied sectors, the minister announced Rs. 621 crore. "Our agricultural goals include increasing the area under cultivation, enhancing productivity, improving remuneration for farmers, and boosting exports," he announced.

For the augmentation and upgrade of power department infrastructure, the minister allocated Rs. 337 crore, and Rs. 287 crore for various initiatives in home correctional and fire services. The

resolution on de-reservation of forest area where developmental activities are being hampered and human settlements are already there in order to boost the developmental activities in the region. He informed the house that because of the reservation of various areas in capital region and other areas in the district, the general public is facing problem in renewal of allotment order, mortgaging of one's own land, etc. He said the reason behind this issue was because of

The Forest Conservation Act 1980 significantly limited the powers of the state governments to notify and occupy forest land for development purposes and restricted the state governments from issuing further notification for the expansion of the state capital thus halting any plan and anticipated expansion. Therefore, the hands of the government are tied in this respect by law and the government cannot undo this Act and without the order of the Supreme



government also proposed Rs. 112 crore for the department of social justice empowerment and tribal affairs, and Rs. 61 crore for the department of indigenous affairs for the preservation, protection, and promotion of indigenous legacy.

Meanwhile, the department of planning felicitated winners of the three best suggestions of Jan Bhagidari 2024-25. The first prize was awarded to the Youth Mission for Clean River – "Revitalizing our rivers," followed by the Arunachal Pradesh Women Welfare Society for "Gender Empowerment and Supporting Women's Welfare," and Boken Jempen for his initiative on Clean and Green Environment.

Private Member's Resolution

Toko Tatung, MLA, Yahuli Lower Subansiri moved a

the lack of consultation with the natives in such matters.

Replying to Tatung, Minister of Environment and Forest, Wangki Lowang said that the problem has already been taken up by the government. An empowered Committee had already been constituted in this regard to examine the interlocutory application file with respect to the de reservation of forest land in the state. The interlocutory Application (IA) has been prepared and submitted for approval and the file is currently under review for vetting by the Law department. And the Land Management department would file the IA in the Supreme Court for de reservation of areas in the capital region, Namsai, Deomali and Bhalukpong.

Court there cannot be any more de reservation and regularization of habitation in forest sanctuaries and national parks.

Question hour:

Replying to a supplementary question raised by MLA Wanglin Lowangdong, regarding the Shortage of Administrative Officers in Tirap district, Chief Minister, Pema Khandu said that due to the APPSC fiasco, there had been no appointments of entry grade and lateral entry admin officers for the last 2-3 years. Therefore, out of the 230 sanctioned posts of circle officers, only 130 posts are occupied leaving a huge gap of 106 Officers. Out of the 17 posts that were sanctioned for Tirap district only eight posts have been posted in the district till date. CM assured

that recruitment process would start soon as the Commission for the same was also in place now.

Earlier, the Education Minister PD Sona said, "Let's have a composite and comprehensive school environment" while informing the house that about 600 numbers of Schools that are not functioning have been closed down to equally distribute and streamline the funds and infrastructure in the other functioning schools. He was responding to a supplementary question put up by INC member Kumar Waii on whether the Government is taking up policies on defunct schools in the state.

The Education Minister informed that requisition of teachers have been given to the APPSC to rationalize the shortage of teachers in the Education Department while answering the question put up by MLA Pani Taram.

While agreeing with the opposition Member Thangwang Wangham, about air pollution, hazards caused to the environment and public health by the Iron Smelter factory at Lekhi Village the Minister Environment and Forest Department, Wangki Lowang said that it is concerning for the people but unavoidable since industrialization is also necessary for the development. Saying that "development and pollution is complementary to each other" permissible limit of pollution needs to be set, the Minister added.

Regarding the quartz consumption as a raw material in the factory in question, the Minister informed the house that there is no mining of quartz so far in the state, therefore the resources are not supplied by the government, so the question of royalty or revenue does not arise as far the raw material for the factory is concerned.

Earlier, Dr. Mohesh Chai, Advisor Health & Family welfare and Commerce & Industries informed the house on the starred question put forward by him to the Minister of Land Management on whether any land was allotted for the establishment of JNV school at Tezu, informed the house that in the 1980s a plot of land was allotted for the establishment of JNV school which had been encroached and that a "chaipatti bagan" is in place in the allotted land.

Governor felicitates Kabak Yano and Roshibina Devi

ITANAGAR, July 25:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) felicitated distinguished achievers



Kabak Yano, Everest and Roshibina Devi, Wushu expert at Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on July 25.

The Governor said that the people of Arunachal Pradesh are proud of their sportspersons. He said that Ms Yano and Ms Devi are symbols of women empowerment. By conquering Mount Everest, Ms Yano has proved that the daughters of Arunachal Pradesh are tough, courageous, adventurous, enterprising and meritorious. Ms. Devi, who has recently been honoured with the prestigious Arjuna Award for her outstanding achievements in Wushu, with her achievement will motivate other youths of the State to excel in their chosen field, he said.

The Governor advised them that as distinguished and popular sportspersons, they must create community awareness amongst the youth against social evils, particularly the drug menace.

The Governor commended the Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU), Arunachal Pradesh Campus, Pasighat for promoting games and sports along with academic courses. Both Ms Yano and Ms Devi are students of Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU), Arunachal Pradesh Campus, Pasighat.

Avinash Kharel, Acting Campus Director and Dr. Muluvesalu Keyho, Assistant Professor, Law, of Rashtriya Raksha University were present on the occasion.

DC emphasize on multipurpose indoor stadium

KHONSA, July 25:

Tirap Deputy Commissioner Ira Singhal on July 25 emphasised the need for a multipurpose indoor stadium in the district headquarters here, during a district-level sports development meeting.

Presiding over the meeting, the DC urged the presidents and secretaries of various sports disciplines to “encourage more youth participation in sports through proper training and coaching.”

District Sports Officer Noah Mongku stressed the need for an indoor gym in Khonsa to provide proper training to sports persons.

Arunachal Olympic Association (AOA) secretary-general Bamang Tago, who also attended the meeting, assured the members of various sports associations of all possible help and support from his end, and promised to prioritise their concerns at higher levels.

The meeting was attended also by Tirap District Olympic Association (TDOA) president Yum Pangkhu, TDOA secretary Tethun Dada, its vice president Somgang Lowang, TDBA president Tesah Tangjang, TDWA president Techa Lowang, judo coach Kabin Doyu, and various other presidents and secretaries of different sports disciplines

Marathon discussion on the Budget Estimate

Arunachal is one of best performing State in country in terms of capital investment: CM

ITANAGAR, July 25:

The Arunachal Pradesh Appropriation (No.2) Bill was passed in the house on Thursday, July 25 after a marathon of discussion on the Budget Estimate which was presented by Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein on July 24 in the State Legislative Assembly.

Pema Khandu, Chief Minister of the state gladly informed that the state is one of

the best performer states in the country in terms of capital investment. He said that the government is hopeful of achieving the target of “Viksit Arunachal” by the next 10 to 15 years. The government has adopted ‘Bottom Up’ approach in the planning process, thereby empowering the districts. Since youths are the future therefore the government has declared the year as the “Year of Youth”. He urged the youths to take advantage of Deen Dayal Swalamban Yojana and UNNATI – 2024.

To meet up the shortage of teachers in the schools, the government had come up with a scheme namely, Mukhya Mantri Shiksha Kosh, as a temporary measure since the APPSC was not in place. Through it nearly 773 teachers have already been posted at schools and 200 more are to be added. While 600 posts are already with the APPSC.

He informed that the government would entirely sponsor any APST student who bags a seat in the IIT (Indian Institute of Technology). He further informed that even at international level, if any APST student gets admission in any university that is within the 150 QS World University ranking, the state would sponsor 75% of the total expenses and even the student was unable to bear the remaining 25%, the government would gladly sponsor the remaining 25% as well.

The state aims at rolling out the National Education policy 2020 in the state soon, saying that the focus will mainly be on the primary schools. 900 Primary schools have already been started.

The CM assured renovation of dilapidated structure in

phase wise manner as the government would focus on infrastructure development in the coming 5 years.

This year, under PMGSY 645.52 kms road has been sanctioned within an investment cost 665crores. Also under the Vibrant Village programme 105kms road have been sanctioned covering around 1022kms of road, the tendering process of which is under process. Within the interstate highway project, 2878kms of new highway will be constructed and the tendering process has been initiated for the same, the CM added.

Since, the government exchequer is spends a lot in paying a huge amount of government fund to the service holders (regular, contractual, contingency workers) pensioners and for developmental activities, income generation is the need of the hour for the government.

In conclusion, he announced that to ensure quality work for larger infrastructure on ground, the government plans on strengthening monitoring process by engaging a third party which would be an independent agency.

Deputy Chief Minister, Chowna Mein informed that Healthy human resource; Robust Infrastructure and Vibrant economy were the 3 pillars of the Budget estimate 2024-25. The whole budget has been framed around these 3 pillars. The government aims nurturing the youths for bright future of the state and strengthening governance, ease of living and business, administrative reforms, connectivity, social security, etc. Replying to the questions put up by the members earlier, Mein informed that

the cabinet had already taken decision on regularisation of contingency workers who have already served for 15 years in a phase wise manner against vacancies. He also informed that only through litigation in the court the decentralization of recruitment process could be brought about and by any action of the government.

He further informed that hydro power projects were not pocket policy as the government aims at making the state self sufficient in power supply and that the projects would generate employment, boost tourism and generate revenue for the state.

He also cleared the air-relating Gurukuls to religion. He said that the Gurukuls were set up to preserve the language, attire, customs, culture, history of the region and had nothing to do with religion. And that we all needed to protect and preserve our rich heritage and culture.

Question Hour:

Chief Minister assures probe against officers involved in illegal assurance of LPC- Chief Minister Pema Khandu assured that the officers, if any, involved in the issue of Land Possession Certificate illegally against Telluliang village of Lohit District, enquiry would be made and necessary action would be taken. The Chief Minister was replying to the query of Tezu-Sunpura MLA, Dr. Mohesh Chai. The question was regarding issuance of LPCs to certain people of Jhalukbari and New Danglat village against the LPC quota of Telluliang village whereas depriving the real land owners of Telluliang village.

GoAP to formulate policy to promote agri, horticulture- The state government will

formulate its maiden agriculture and horticulture policy to motivate the youths towards farming, the Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly was informed on Thursday, July 25.

Agriculture, Horticulture, Fisheries & Dairy Development Minister Gabriel Denwang Wangsu said that various experts and stakeholders would be involved to make the policy attractive to the youths of the state.

The minister was responding to a question raised by lone Congress member Kumar Waii during the question hour.

The state budget for 2024-'25, which was presented in the House by Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein on Wednesday, mentioned framing a new 'farm to fork' agricultural and horticultural policy, focusing on natural farming, higher farm gate prices, enhanced market linkages and export of crops, fruits, vegetables and flowers.

The government has kept a provision of Rs 621 crores in the budget for the agriculture and allied sectors, Wangsu said.

"Through the policy, we will try to catch up with more young farmers to make them members of the hardcore farming community via a scientific approach," the minister said.

Responding to a supplementary question from the Congress legislator, the minister said that there is no wasteland as such declared in the state and reclamation of acidic soil is taken up on cultivated fields only.

He assured the members that the government would work in the interest of farming community of the state

While replying to the question of whether any steps

is being taken up by the government to fix the appointment and retirement age of contingency workers by Nampong MLA Laisam Simai, RWD Minister PD Sona said it was high time that the government took a decision regarding the retirement age of the contingency workers. He assured that the ministry would formulate system on equitable distribution of contingency workers. Speaker Tesam Pongte also suggested the government to take up measures on the above issue and on decentralization of recruitment of contingency workers at EAC and CO levels.

The Arunachal Pradesh Police has been facing an acute shortage of police personnel, informed Home Minister Mama Natung in the House during the Question Hour. The shortage of personnel is due to creation of new districts and the inability of the recruiting agencies to complete the process on time, the Minister added.

Responding to a question from BJP MLA Wanglin Lowangdong during question hour, Natung said that his department could not even fill the sanctioned posts in many districts.

In 2011, the union home ministry announced a special package for the Tirap, Changlang and Longding (TCL) region, sanctioning 1,949 posts of civil police.

Of those posts, 140 are still pending, the home minister said.

Natung said that in April 2018, the home department had advertised, inviting applications for 82 vacant posts for the three eastern districts. However, the advertisement was cancelled due to procedural issues.

“The home department later submitted a requisition against those posts to the Arunachal Pradesh Staff Selection Board for recruitment, which is under process. Once the recruitment is completed, the vacant posts will be filled up,” he added.

Responding to a supplementary from another BJP member Jikke Tako, Natung said that the state Cabinet has decided to post adequate police personnel in various districts after the recruitment process is over.

The Speaker adjourned the house sine die.

Kargil Vijay Diwas celebrated

Governor expresses hope that the heroic deeds of the Kargil War soldiers would continue to inspire the nation's youth

ITANAGAR, July 26:

The Kargil Vijay Diwas was celebrated on Friday, July 26 with the rest of the country.

At Raj Bhavan Itanagar, the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) led the assemblage in paying homage to the Kargil War Martyrs. He laid a wreath and paid floral tribute to the indomitable courage and supreme sacrifice by the brave hearts during the Kargil War, of the Indian Armed Forces personnel.

Speaking on the occasion, the Governor

reminisced about the bravery and sacrifices of the Kargil War heroes and their unwavering commitment to the country's sovereignty and territorial integrity. He expressed hope that the heroic deeds of the Kargil War soldiers would continue to inspire the nation's youth.

Highlighting notable incidents from the war, the Governor said that the Kargil War was fought by junior officers and other ranks. The victory and triumph showcase the superior and advanced training programs within the Indian armed forces.

The Governor urged today's youth to recognize the importance of national security and border defense. He encouraged them to adopt a 'Nation First' mindset and contribute to the nation's progress, prosperity, and development.

The Governor also noted the high sense of patriotism and nationalism among the people of Arunachal Pradesh, which was witnessed during the 1962 Chinese aggression. He encouraged the youth of Arunachal Pradesh to join the armed forces and take pride in serving the nation.

The Governor presented a book, titled 'Kargil War: The

Turning Point' to the participating institutions. The book, which was launched by the Governor at Cariappa Hall, Rajendra Singhji Army Officers Institute (RSAOI), Bengaluru on 3rd July 2024 is authored by the former Commanding Officer of 2nd battalion of Rajputana Rifles (2 RAJ RIF) late Col M B Ravindranath, Vir Chakra (VrC). It gives insight of the actions and operations of the battalion from May to July of 1999 during Operation Vijay. The battalion (2 RAJ RIF) was instrumental in capturing an imposing feature 'Tololing' in the Drass Sector on the 12th and 13th of June 1999. It was the first success of the Indian Army and proved to be the turning point during 'Operation Vijay'.

The First Lady of the State, Anagha Parnaik, State Home Minister Mama Natung, Director General of Police Anand Mohan, Inspector General, North East Frontier Headquarters, Indo Tibetan Border Police, Itanagar Mukesh Singh, Major General Jarken Gamlin (Retd.), Secretary to Governor, Darade Sharad Bhaskar and Air Commodore R.D. Mosabi (Retd.), Director cum Secretary, Rajya Sainik Board, also participated in paying floral tributes and laying

wreaths on the occasion.

The personnel of Indo Tibetan Border Police personnel, commanded by Head Constable Md. Azfar Ali presented 'Shok Shashtra', 'Salami Shashtra' accompanied by the bugle calls of 'Last Post' and 'Rouse Rev-eille'.



A Short Film on the Kargil War and an audio video presentation 'We are Infantry' added vibes of patriotism and nationalism to the momentous occasion.

Ex-servicemen, troops of Indo Tibetan Border Police, members of National Cadet Corps from 1 Arunachal Pradesh Battalion NCC Naharlagun, Bharat Scouts and Guides and students from government and private educational institutions including, Govt. Upper Primary School, ESS Sector, Govt. Upper Primary School, D Sector, Donyi Polo Mission School for Hearing and Visually Impaired, Chimpu and Oju Mission School participated as special guests of the Governor, in the programme.

At PASIGHAT, The Spear Corps of the Indian Army celebrated 'Rajat Jayanti' (25th Anniversary) of 'Kargil Vijay Diwas' with a grand weapon display and cultural programme, commemorating the 25th anniversary of the Kargil War victory. The event showcased the Indian Army's rich heritage and military prowess, paying tribute to the brave-hearts who fought valiantly for the nation.

Senior Military Officers during the address to the gathering paid rich tributes to the brave-hearts of the Kargil War, highlighting the gallant action, indomitable spirit and courage of the Indian Armed Forces and reaffirmed the commitment to protecting the nation.

The cultural programme featured performances by local dance troupes and vocal artists and performances by Cadets of Sainik School Niglok, while the weapon display showcased the latest state-of-the-art military equipment & technology.

The event was attended by senior Army officials from Sigar Military Station, civil dignitar-

ies including Vice Chancellor of Arunachal Pradesh State University Tomo Riba, DC Tayi Tagu, SP Dr Sachin Kumar Singhal and Indian Army veterans. The event was open to the local populace who joined in large numbers. More than 1000 locals including cadets from NCC and Students of Rashtriya Raksha University and civilians from all walks of life attended the event and made it a resounding success.

Motivational Seminars were also conducted in the week preceding the event at Kendriya Vidhyalaya Pasighat, Don Bosco School Mebo and Rashtriya Raksha University Pasighat. Students and Cadets were shown movies on Kargil War and role of Indian Armed Forces during the Kargil War of 1999. Students eagerly asked questions, displaying their enthusiasm and curiosity.

At Tawang, Kargil Vijay Diwas was celebrated with a series of solemn and celebratory events, paying tribute to the brave Indian Armed Forces personnel who secured victory in the Kargil War.

Deputy Commissioner Kanki Darang reflected on the sacrifices made by soldiers during the Kargil conflict. He praised their valor, recalling their victory and the famous slogan "Yeh dil maange more" in his address.

Expressing heartfelt prayers for those who could not return and highlighted the pivotal role of the Scouts in high-altitude warfare, Darang emphasized that the Kargil War served as a clear message to intruders about the vigilance of Indian border guarding forces, who are committed to defending every inch of Indian territory.

Earlier, Brigadier VS Rajput extended his gratitude to the local community for their unwavering support. He appealed to ev-

eryone to contribute to national causes and to foster strong civil-military relations in Tawang.

A wreath-laying ceremony was held at the Tawang War Memorial along with plantation of trees by DC Kanki Darang, Brigadier VS Rajput, Commander of the Tawang Brigade, ADC Sang Khan-du, SP Dorjee Wangdi Thongon, other senior officers, ex-servicemen, public leaders, and students.

The celebrations also included patriotic cultural programs, student speech competitions in various languages, and performances that underscored the nation's respect and admiration for its armed forces.

Refresher training imparted to Ziro GBs

ZIRO, July 26:

A one-day refresher training programme for the gaon buras and gaon buris of Lower Subansiri District was organized at the Sub-Divisional Office, Old Ziro here on Friday, July 26.

Attending the programme as the chief guest, SDO Old Ziro Rani Perme appealed the HGBs and GBs to properly verify the official documents like ST, PRC, LPC and ILP forms before authenticating them and putting their signatures. The SDO also dwelt at length on the roles and responsibilities of the GBs.

Resource person Yachang Tacho, PI deliberated on The Assam Frontier (Administration of Justice) Regulation-1945 and The Arunachal Pradesh Civil Court Act.

HGB and president of Apatani Gaon Bura-Buri Association Nani Hanya and HGB Millo Gambo also spoke on the occasion.

64 red coated gaon bura and gaon buris from the district attended the refresher training programme.

DC East Siang chairs NCORD meeting

Emphasizes on close vigil of entry points, hot spots of drugs

PASIGHAT, July 26:

A meeting of District Level Committee of Narco Coordination Centre (NCORD) was held on Friday, July 26 under the chairpersonship of East Siang Deputy Commissioner at the office conference hall here to discuss the comprehensive strategy to counter the menace of drug abuse in East Siang district.

DC Tayi Taggu reviewed the implementation of the measures taken and progress achieved to eliminate drug abuse and its peddling in the district.

While taking detailed appraisal from members of NCORD Committee regarding the present scenario of drug related occurrences, areas of concern, age group of addicts, hot spots of drug abuse the DC stressed upon the concerned officers to further intensify IEC activities, connecting communities including sub-divisional, circle and civil society members.

He also took feedback from the members of the Committee who presented the latest report related to action taken against drug-addiction and drug trafficking in the district.

The DC also meticulously reviewed and discussed of functioning of Drug De-addiction Centres and Addiction Treatment Facility Centre (ATFC) and stressed for making them fully functional so that sufferings of the drug-affected persons is mitigated. He

emphasized on ensuring proper counseling and rehabilitation for individuals struggling with addiction.

Superintendent of Police, Dr. Sachin Kumar Singhal apprised the meeting that police personnel were working tirelessly to contain the menace of drugs. Many FIRs were registered and many drug peddlers were arrested and lodged in jails besides seizure of heroin and other contraband substances.

The meeting among others was attended by ASP Pankaj Lamba, DySP Ayup Boko, DMO Dr. Komling Perme, ADC Mebo Sibo Passing, Supdt (T&E) Kingman Komut, ABAK (East Siang Unit) Gen Secy Tigul Megu, WASE President and Gen. Secy Yamik Dulom Darang and Joya Tasung Moyong respectively and representative from Agriculture and Education departments.

District Level Sports Committee meeting held

CHANGLANG, July 26:

A sports committee meeting for Changlang district was held under the chairmanship of Changlang Deputy Commissioner Vishal Sah at the DC's conference hall here on Friday, July 26.

The DC emphasised the necessity of multipurpose indoor stadiums in Changlang headquarters and other subdivisions, such as Kharsang, Miao, Jairampur, Nampong and Bordumsa-Diyun. He also urged the presidents and secretaries of various sports associations to "encourage more youth participation in sports and maintain internal discipline."

"For success in sports, it's important that our youth are provided with a residential academy

where coaches, proper diet, gym facilities and training facilities exist. Various sports assets that are presently functional can be brought under the association to act as a revenue source for them. At the same time, infrastructure that has gone to disuse can be brought back by assuming a responsible ownership in consultation with the district administration," the DC suggested.

The meeting was attended also by Arunachal Olympic Association secretary-general Bamang Tago and his team, along with members of the Changlang District Olympic Association (DOA).

During his interaction with the members of associations for various disciplines, Tago assured them of all help and support from his end and promised to prioritise their concerns at higher levels. "He also gave hands-on training on the guidelines that should be followed for associations to get affiliation, the records that need to be maintained, and the approach they should have while interacting with officials and other functionaries," stated a press release.

Tago emphasised that "a code of conduct and guidelines should be formulated immediately for working of the district-level associations and a calendar of activities may be charted out to work actively in collaboration with the district administration," it said.

DOA general secretary Janwang Khimnhun appealed to the district authority to organise district-level sports competition. The lack of coaches and infrastructure was also highlighted in the meeting.

Changlang Football Club member Kamjung Kamba, Changlang Karate Association coach Recha Sawin, Changlang District Judo Association coach Ponkap Techy, Changlang Martial Art

Academy, Jairampur coach Indra Sonar, Miao Boxing coach Teshon Kongkang, Martial Art And Fitness Club Kharsang president Nongcha Langching, and other athletes of various discipline attended the meeting

World Hepatitis Day observed

ITANAGAR, July 28:

Along with the rest of the world, World Hepatitis Day, with the theme is 'one life, one liver', was observed on Sunday, July 28.

At Raj Bhavan dispensary, Itanagar, District Health Society, Itanagar Capital Complex organized an awareness camp under the aegis of the, it aimed to raise public awareness about viral hepatitis and its impact on public health.

A large number of people from all walks of life, particularly from 'A', 'B', and 'P' sectors of Itanagar, including Raj Bhavan staff and ITBP personnel, turned up for free check-ups, testing and advice about the different types of hepatitis and prevention strategies, testing, and treatment options.

Senior Medical Officer, Dr. Jennifer Tayeng said that Hepatitis is an inflammation of the liver that is caused by a variety of infectious viruses and non-infectious agents leading to a range of health problems, some of which can be fatal. Stating that Viral Hepatitis B is a silent killer, has no cure and causes liver cancer, liver cirrhosis and liver failure, she advised that the best treatment is vaccination.

Dr. Tayeng said that ensuring good hygiene and avoiding contact with contaminated

objects or bodily fluids can protect against infection by any hepatitis virus. She further advised the people against regular liquor drinking and frequent use of processed foods in their daily meals.

Limiting red and fatty cuts of meat and deep-fried foods in unhealthy oils, and avoiding processed meats (like hot dogs and deli meats) are some of the preventive measures, she said.

At PASIGHAT, World Hepatitis Day was observed at Judicial jail Pasighat. It was jointly organized by General Administration and District Health Society East Siang. It was launched by Deputy Commissioner Tayi Taggu.

Speaking on the occasion, DC Taggu opined that it is such a wastage spending time in jail during one's productive life and advised the inmates to reform their lifestyle. DMO Dr. K. Perme, while welcoming all educated the inmates on signs and symptoms and prevention of Hepatitis. To mark the occasion IEC activities along with Screening of 55 jail inmates were carried out. The programme was coordinated by Judicial EAC Sanjay Taram and DRCHO Dr. Nidak Angu.

ACGF organize workshop on Junior Robotics and basic AI

ZIRO, July 29:

The Apatani Career Guidance Forum (ACGF) in collaboration with Xantra-the first edtech in north-east successfully conducted a one-day awareness-cum-expo-

sure program on Junior Robotics and Basic Artificial Intelligence at Padi Lalyang Memorial School Auditorium Hall last Saturday, July 27.

The event attracted more than 300 students from 25 schools, educators and technology enthusiasts from across the region, eager to delve into the world of robotics and Artificial Intelligence.

The program aimed to introduce young minds to the fundamental concepts of robotics and AI, offering them hands-on experience and inspiring them to pursue careers in technology. The event featured a series of interactive presentations, demonstrations and expert talks, making it a comprehensive learning experience for all attendees.

The programme comprised interactive presentations where students had the opportunity to learn and understand basics of Robotics, AI, gaining practical experience and a deeper understanding of Robotics-AI, hands-on demonstrations by experts showcasing basic Robotics-AI applications, explaining how artificial intelligence works and its potential to revolutionize various industries, question and answer sessions where participants engaged with experts, and asked questions thereby enhancing their understanding of the subjects.

ACGF president Er. Mudang Tacho welcomed the participants while advisor ACGF and Secretary Horticulture Koj Rinya presented an inspiring talk and encouraged the students to be ready to face the future of robotics and AI.

Dr Nayan Basumatary, the founder director of Xantra-the first Edtech in northeast said,

‘We are committed to develop the AI-eco-system of northeast through our Robotics-AI workshops and by supporting the school students in their learning’.

AEDMA Conclave 2024: Unlocking Employment Opportunities in the Digital Era

ITANAGAR, July 29:

The Arunachal Electronic and Digital Media Association (AEDMA) successfully hosted its annual Conclave 2024 at the Waii International Hotel on Monday, July 29 marking the 12th Foundation Day of the organization. The event brought together key stakeholders from the digital media industry, government officials, and aspiring entrepreneurs to discuss and explore opportunities in the digital age.

The theme for this year’s conclave, “Unlocking Employment Opportunities in the Digital Era: Leveraging Entrepreneurship and Government Support,” highlighted the critical role of digital media in creating employment and fostering entrepreneurship. Esteemed guests and speakers shared their insights on leveraging digital platforms and government initiatives to empower the youth and drive economic growth.

IPR & Printing Minister Nyato Dukam in his speech lauded the organizers for their extraordinary efforts in hosting the event for the benefit of the youth. He underscored the vast entrepreneurship opportunities in the state and assured that the state government is committed

to transforming youths into job creators rather than job seekers.

He also advised the youth to be passionate about their ventures and to use government funding responsibly without misuse. Addressing the memorandum submitted by the organizers, Minister Dukam assured that he would pursue it and provide further assistance wherever required.

Speakers at the event included Jarpum Gamlin, CEO & Founding Editor of Eastern Sentinel, Binanda Saikia, Chief Manager Lead Bank, Tage Rita, Founder of Naara Aaba, Tumi Riba, Founder of Oven Yumms, and Linkam Markia, Founder of Itamoto Pvt Ltd.

All the speakers advised upcoming entrepreneurs to maintain professionalism and work ethics, have long-term goals and plans, and ensure proper records and documentation. They emphasized not losing hope at every hurdle.

Nyali Ete, IPR & Printing Secretary, expressed hope for positive outcomes from the Conclave and assured assistance whenever required.

AEDMA President J T Tagam, in his address, highlighted the 12-year journey of AEDMA and the challenges faced and overcome. An audio-visual presentation was also screened in this regard

Minister Graces training programme on large cardamom

KHONSA, July 29:

A one-day training program on the “Economics and Cultivation Package of Practices of large car-

damom” was organized by Rural Development department under MGNREGA, Khonsa, Tirap district on Monday, July 29. About 60 farmers from Khonsa block attended the training program.

Minister, Rural Development, Panchayati Raj, Transport and Cooperation, Ojing Tasing asked the farmers to judiciously utilized more productively the financial support the Government is providing under the MGNREGA Scheme on the various agro-horticulture crops taking up in the district while gracing the programme.

He also asked the district administration to actively engaged with the KVK and concern line departments in the identification and selection for introduction of new high value low volume exotic crops which will not only help to increased our farmers income but also improved their livelihood. I

Earlier, the Deputy Commissioner, Ira Singhal, presented a slide show to the participants the total income generated from cultivation of large cardamom in one-acre land area.

While, pointing out that the cultivation of cardamom is economically very viable with high economic returned the DC informed that more farmers should be encourage to take up cultivation of Large cardamom in those blocks in the district where the agro-climatic condition is favorable to this crop.

The District Project Director of the Tirap Community Resource Management Society presented to the participants on the cultivation package of practices on large cardamom in the programme.

He further, shared in details to the participating farmers on topics like the agro-climatic

conditions, the different varieties of large cardamom, insects' pests and diseases management including viral diseases associated with Large cardamom, proper field management of cardamom orchard as well as alder-based Large cardamom agro-forestry system.

The program was attended by Wanglan Sawen, MLA 55-Khonsa East (ST) AC, Chakat Aboh, MLA 56-Khonsa West (ST) AC cum Adviser to HM-Transport and a host of dignitaries from the district administration.

DC flags off 'Safai Apnao, Bimari Bhagao' campaign

LEMMI, July 30:

Pakke-Kessang Deputy Commissioner Bani Lego flagged off a month-long 'Safai Apnao, Bimari Bhagao' campaign, being organised by the District Urban Development Agency, here on Tuesday, July 30 in the presence of SP Tasi Darang, Pakke-Kessang ZPM Sunil Nabam, and others.

The programme started with the UD&H EE highlighting the various aspects of the campaign, while the DC spoke on the importance of "basic cleanliness habits to be practiced by the citizens for self-hygiene and clean town."

The ZPM urged the participants to "actively engage in cleanliness drives and keep the town clean."

Members of the district administration and various government departments, besides those of the Pakke-Kessang Bazaar Committee, NGO Green Peace Pakke, and the public participated in Tuesday's cleanliness drive.

The Safai Apnao, Bimari Bhagao initiative emphasises on comprehensive interventions, such as cleanliness drives, advocacy, and interdepartmental collaboration, to be executed by all urban local bodies.

The primary goal is to promote cleanliness and prevent diseases – a critical endeavour during the monsoon season. The drive will be carried out as per the prepared action plan by various departments till 31 August.

Minister inaugurates water supply at Pipak Village

AALO, July 30:

Sports & Youth Affairs Minister Kento Jini inaugurated the drinking water supply for Kombo Pipak village, near Jirdin in West Siang district, on Tuesday July 30 thereby fulfilling the longstanding demand of the villagers for drinking water supply.

Speaking on the occasion, Jini urged the villagers to "spare your time and land for overall development of the area."

Earlier, the minister adopted Pipak village. He informed that "the entire village road connectivity, from SFS College to Tadin, is under construction and there is a plan to construct an all-weather road to Jelly, Ngomdir, and Beye villages."

He further said that the Eklavaya Model Residential School in Kombo Tarsu "will be completed soon."

Kombo CO Iken Bam, all ZPMs, panchayat leaders and government officials attended the programme.

Tasing inaugurates infrastructures in districts

KHONSA, July 30:

Panchayati Raj & Rural Development Minister Ojing Tasing inaugurated a slew of infrastructures in Tirap district on Monday, July 29.

The minister inaugurated the District Panchayat Resource Centre (DPRC) here, a block public health unit at the Deomali CHC, a Panchayat Bhavan-cum-community service centre in Wakka, and Panchayat Bhavans in Longchan and Khela.

The DPRC has been constructed for conducting training programmes to build the capacity of the panchayat officials. It can also be used by other departments for similar purposes.

Responding to a memorandum submitted by the public of Wakka circle, the minister said that he would initiate sanctioning a bus service from Longding to Khanu, considering the recent bus accident between Wakka and Khanu. Tasing said that he would "discuss with the RD & PR director regarding the construction of an approach road and boundary wall for the Panchayat Bhavan."

In response to another memorandum, submitted by the people of Longchan circle, regarding construction of footpaths connecting Longkai and Kaimoi, and Longkai and Laho; construction of a CC pavement road from the main road to the Panchayat Bhavan; a mini-bus service from Nginu to Kanubari; implementation of the Pandhan Mantri Awas Yojana, etc, the minister said that he would look into the matters.

Tasing's adviser Chakat Aboh, Khonsa East MLA Wan-

glam Sawin, Panchayati Raj Director Tamune Miso, Tirap Deputy Commissioner Ira Singhal, Zilla Parishad Chairperson Chathong Lowang, and Tirap SP S Singpho were present during the inauguration programmes.

Earlier, on 28 July, Tasing held a district-level coordination meeting at the DC's conference hall here, where all the five departments under the minister's purview presented their reports.

Tasing urged the HoDs and the panchayat leaders to "work harder and be more proactive in implementing developmental projects."

He emphasised the importance of adhering to the state government's 100-day action plan policy, and assured to make efforts to modernise the transport system, including infrastructure, to ensure smooth operation of transport services in the district.

Sawin requested the minister to provide a Volvo bus for the district.

Earlier, PD Nangram Pingkap provided an overview of the panchayati raj institution and rural development in the district, highlighting various challenges, such as acute shortage of staff and the lack of vehicles in the department.

The station superintendent presented a brief history of the state transport service in the district, and emphasised the need for its upgradation. He highlighted that, "due to shortage of vehicles, three routes – Khonsa to Lazu, Khonsa to Dadam, and Deomali to Soha – have been discontinued, causing hardship to the public."

"Despite these challenges, the department achieved 110 percent of its revenue target for FY 2023-'24," the station superintendent said.

The district registrar of cooperative societies provided an overview of the cooperative societies in the district, and requested appointment of a regular DRCS, besides seeking a JICS or SICS to be posted to the district.

The district coordinator of the ArSRLM presented the status of the ArSRLM's work and targets in the TCL belt.

On Tuesday, Tasing visited Changlang district, where he laid the foundation stone of the District Panchayat Resource Centre, funded under the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan.

Later, the minister held a meeting with the team of the ArSRLM and members of various SHGs of the district, which was followed by a review meeting at the DC's conference hall with officials of various departments, such as transport, rural development, panchayat, cooperative society.

The minister urged all the departments to work for the betterment of the public, "although many departments are understaffed."

During the meeting, Changlang Deputy Commissioner Vishal Sah gave a detailed presentation on the functioning of the reviewed departments.

'Learn and Fun' vocational education programme held

ROING, July 31:

A two days 'Vocational Education (Learn N Fun)' programme was conducted for the children of Child Care Institution, Roing by the District Child Protection Unit, Department of Women and Child Development, Lower Dibang Valley district.

The objective of vocational education was to explore the children's creativity and imagination. The activities aimed to help the children improve their way of thinking, feeling and behaving, as well as gain confidence, sense of achievement and learn new skills.

The programme was attended by Children and staffs of Children's Home, Specialized Adoption Agency (SAA), Chairperson Nani Maria Society and DCPU Roing, altogether there were 80 participants in the programme. Certificates were awarded to 53 participants.

Deputy Director (ICDS) Cum DCPO G. A. Perying shared the importance of vocational Educational for the children and encouraged children to take part with full involvement. Desai Linggi (Chairperson, Nani Maria Society) expressed her gratefulness for the conduct of the programme.

During the two days technical session, the resource persons covered various topics. Resource Person Sabnam Ray (Manager Academic, Team Lease service ltd, Bangalore) covered the topics on Introductions of self, importance of proper body language, how to develop career map, and planning of daily activities. Sashi Pratap Sah (Project Manager, Trio VidyakKendra Pvt. Ltd, Bangalore) focused on Ice breaking session, brainstorming session, goals discussion and Fun activities (Pictionary, Bingo, math baseball etc) and Sasanka Saikia (Freelance Artist, A&C Organization, Nisha Art & Crafts School Guwahati) took up Art and Craft activities, where the children were taught how to make sunflower, paper ball, butterfly and basic drawing techniques, types of shading, colour concept, 3d paper flower (wall pasting), matchstick flower pot, aeroplane etc.

DA for strict implementation of “Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers & their Rehabilitation Act 2013”

PASIGHAT, July 31:

DC East Siang Tayi Taggu has asked all stakeholders for strict implementation of the “Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act 2013 in the district and asked for conducting time bound survey and submission of report at both Sub-divisional and district level and for extending support for skill development and assistances under various livelihood schemes etc for a dignified life.

The DC also directed PMC to conduct a survey on insanitary toilets within the municipality areas so that these to be replaced with sanitary toilets.

The DC who is also the Chairman District Vigilance Committee said this while chairing the District Vigilance Committee (DVC) of East Siang District on the implementation of the “The Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavenger and Their Rehabilitation Act 2013” in the district.

MLA Tapi Darang, in his address asked the District Administration and PMC authority to implement the Act, in letter and spirit, so that any beneficiaries or individuals found engaged as manual Scavenger are given a proper rehabilitation and other facilities as per the Act.

The local MLA also pointed out to the PMC authority to conduct a proper survey along the stretches of Pane Korong stream and other habitations as insanitary toilets are contaminating and pol-

luting the streams through direct disposal of wastes /septic pipe wastes directly into the stream which is posing health hazard and risk of spread of diseases to the citizens/ dwellers. The MLA also called for conducting awareness drive among the citizens.

The SP East Siang, Dr. Sachin Kumar Singhal also assured support for strict enforcement as per provisions of the Act.

Chief Councillor, PMC, Okiam Moyong Borang, informed that a preliminary survey on insanitary latrines/septic tanks have already been initiated and Fund proposal for conversion of insanitary latrines and other equipments shall be placed before the state Government, she added.

ZPC, Olen Rome, also suggested offered suggestions for effective implementation and awareness campaign.

The House resolved for formation of sub-division vigilance committee (Ruksin and Mebo) and Survey Committee for East Siang.

EE PMC, Er. Tadar Tarang, in his PPT presentation, highlighted on the salient features of the “Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers & their Rehabilitation Act 2013” and the objectives of the Act to eliminate manual scavenging and rehabilitate to a life of dignity, use of modern technology for cleaning of sewers, septic tanks etc, to eliminate insanitary toilets, being punishable offences, he highlighted penalties for construction of insanitary latrine or engaging manual scavengers, the prohibition of persons for employment for hazardous cleaning of sewers and septic tanks, role of Urban and Local bodies for construction of sanitary community toilets to eliminate open defecation etc.

The meeting was attended by, DMO Dr. Komling Perme,

EAC Ruksin John Modi, EAC Mebo Toni Mitkong, Dy. SP Ayup Boko, EE (UD), Sophia Lego, CDPO, Pasighat, K. Moyong, FAO, Pasighat Momang Megu among others.

Minister takes stock of new terminal at Donyi-Polo Airport

HOLLONGI, July 31:

Civil Aviation Minister Balo Raja conducted an inspection of the under-construction new terminal at the Donyi Polo Airport, Itanagar on Wednesday, July 31.

During the visit, the minister assessed the progress of the construction work, emphasizing the importance of timely completion to meet the growing passenger demand in the region.

Raja pointed out that the terminal is a crucial infrastructure project aimed at enhancing the airport's capacity and improving the overall passenger experience.

The new terminal is expected to significantly boost the airport's ability to handle more passengers from 200 to 400, reflecting the region's increasing connectivity needs.

The minister's inspection was also focused on ensuring that the construction work adheres to quality standards and the construction works are completed by the end of 2024 and the terminal made operational.

The Aviation Minister also visited the air traffic control room and interacted with the officials on duty.

Swapnil Naik, Secretary Civil Aviation, DC Papum Pare Jiken Bomjen, Executive Engineers PWD Techi Ramdaand AAI officials accompanied the Minister.

NEWS IN PICTURE



Chief Minister, Pema Khandu called on the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) at Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on July 15, 2024.



Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) launching a book, titled 'Kargil War: The Turning Point' at Cariappa Hall, Rajendra Singhji Army Officers Institute (RSAOI), Bengaluru on July 3' 2024.



Fisheries Minister Gabriel D. Wangsu addressing the Fisheries Summer Meet, 2024 at Madurai in Tamil Nadu on June 12 which was attended by Fisheries ministers from various states, top officials from the Govt of India and state governments/UTs.



Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) met the Governor of Karnataka Thawar Chand Gehlot at Raj Bhavan, Bangalore on July 3' 2024.



Deputy Chief Minister, Chowna Mein launching event of the Sampoonnata Abhiyan as part of Aspirational District Program (ADP) and Aspirational Block Program (ABP) under the aegis of NITI Aagoy at Chongkham CD Block, Namsai on July 4' 2024.



Home Minister Mama Natung inaugurating the awareness programme on new Criminal Laws in the presence of Kento Jini, Minister of Law along with MLAs Likha Soni, Nikh Kamin, Nyabi Dirchi, Ealing Tallang, and CMD Toko Anuj at the SP's Conference Hall on Bomdila at July 1' 2024.