

# Is Arunachal ready for Emerging Technologies?

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The juggernaut of Digitization is pervading every inch of our life. Off late, everyone has realized the importance of running in tandem with the ever-evolving technological development and the GoAP is not an exception. The first of its kind capacity building workshop on 'emerging technologies' was conducted for the officials recently by ATI under the aegis of GoAP recently. The rate at which technological growth is happening, is unanticipated and unprecedented. Every second, the world around us is changing, pushing our existing set of skills and knowledge towards redundancy. In this parlance where do we stand- are we running fast enough?

Charting the Path,: the efforts taken-

As per PIB report "Over 1,310 Gram Panchayats have been connected with optical fibre under Bharat Net scheme and over 1,156 more towers have been planned to bring digital inclusion". To add, recently, dedicated 254 4G mobile towers to the state the towers will cover 336 villages. Also 1,156 4G towers planned under USOF, locations have already been identified.

As part of another scheme, i.e. 4G saturation scheme, 2,424 4G site sites are to be installed ,which includes 270 sites through OFC, 1,237 sites through microwave and 917 through VSAT to bring more connectivity. Also, under the Vibrant Village Programs and other schemes the government is looking forward to bridge the physical as well as digital gap, thereby ensuring inclusive growth and Inclusive development: reaching the last mile.

An Introspection: Is all well?

The efforts of the govt are commendable, however the installation of towers as we have seen on many instances does not ensure necessary service. The tower needs constant power supply and most of the time owing to erratic power supply the efforts get defeated. Then, the maintenance of the entire set up, be it a mobile tower station or a VSAT needs skills, even for minor maintenance work or defects the services get affected for months- same is the case with optical fibers- which is more delicate. Therefore, along with the quantity, ensuring consistency of the service and quality human resource is crucial.

Training the officers and the officials is a good step, but we also need to take up a bottom-up approach. Reaping the benefits of Digitization or Emerging technology would require an overhaul of our educational system. We need to revamp and take forward with vigor the programs like 'Adhunik Shiksha Yojana (Smart Classroom)' that was launched by CM some years back. The Smart Classroom if pursued in the true sense has the potential to bring great change- however we seldom find smart classrooms in schools.

Also, apart from just making the classroom smart we may also take up efforts to make the students smarter. We may encourage the students to look beyond the traditional subjects and learn basic computer Programming, Computer Language, emerging technologies etc by introducing it into the syllabus of the schools. I understand it sounds difficult- but the future will be a lot more

difficult if the early initiation is not made. We may try to do it on a Pilot basis in a few selected schools. Then, the skill training being sponsored by Govt under various schemes should include training related to repairing and maintenance of V-SAT, Telecom towers, Computer Hardware and other related future proof skills apart from focusing on mundane skills. It will help in preparing a pool of future ready youths.

When will Arunachal be ready?

Though. Arunachal is in a nascent stage of digital revolution, and a discussion on emerging technology may look like a farsighted dream. But, given the present pace of growth, I am sure, we will be at the crossroads sooner than we are expecting. The questions like "is Arunachal Ready for emerging technologies" or "when will Arunachal be ready" then, is a misnomer, as the digital revolution is already becoming a reality, it's everywhere; as the saying goes "we are forced to love something that we would otherwise prefer to love to hate".

With emergence of sophisticated and pervasive technologies- new cultural and social dynamics will evolve. We need to prepare and make ourselves ready for all the challenges that the emerging technologies may bring. Revolutionary beginnings have already been initiated by the GoAP. Surely, in days to come we will be able to embrace the forces of digital revolution along with the emerging technologies with fewer hiccups and less hesitations.

*(The writer of the Article is  
DIPRO Longding)*



## Solung celebrated with traditional fanfare across state

*DCM lauds Adi community for upholding their democratic setup of Kebang system*

### **BOLENG, September 1:**

The Adi community of Boleng in Siang district celebrated Solung festival in a grand manner here on-September 1.

Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein joined the festivity.

Greeting the people on the occasion, Mein lauded the Adi community for zealously preserving their unique folksongs and traditional dances. He expressed appreciation for the community “for upholding their democratic setup of kebang system, which has been practiced since the olden days.”

The DCM spoke also about the state’s achievements over the past couple of years, including economic growth, infrastructure development, healthcare initiatives, and hydropower projects, which, he said, “are poised to attract investments.”

He assured to allocate funds for the development of the new districts, particularly those near the borders, through the Vibrant Villages Programme (VVP), and further informed that the Forest (Conservation) Act Amendment Bill -2023 has been recently passed by the union government, which, he said, “will further aid infra-

structure development in the border region within an aerial distance of 100 kms from the international border, as it will minimise the hindrances faced during implementation of developmental projects due to the stringent Forest Conservation Act.”

Earlier, Mein unfurled the Solung festival flag and attended the rituals of that were carried out in the traditional way.

Mein was accompanied by, among others, Karbi-Anglong (Assam) MP Horen Singh Bey, Arunachal East MP Tapir Gao, MLAs Biyuram Wahge and Ojing Tasing, the DC, and panchayat leaders.

In Upper Siang Hqs Yingkiong, Tourism Minister Nakap Nalo, along with Health Minister Alo Libang, Planning Commissioner Pawan Kumar Sain, and All Nyishi Students’ Union president Nabam Dodum joined the festivity.

Greeting the people of the district, Nalo said, “Festival brings all people together and the unique culture and traditions passed down through generations have to be preserved and protected to ensure their existence for future generations.”

Stating that Upper Siang has huge scope in ecotourism development, Nalo informed about the state government’s efforts to promote local tourism through the Chief Minister Paryatan Vikas Yojana and the Deko Apna Pradesh initiative. He exhorted all to avail of the benefits of such ambitious programmes of the government through the district administration to improve tourism facilities in the area.

Sain spoke on “the need for boosting the tourism potential of the Upper Siang and millet cultivation.” He emphasized also on involving the schoolchildren of VKV Yingkiong in cleanliness drives.

Minister Libang and Student leader Dodum also spoke on the occasion.

The celebration of Solung, the main festival of the Adis, began in East Siang district on the day. The festivities began in the morning with the hoisting of the Solung flag and ritual offerings to goddess Kiine Naane for a bumper harvest and wellbeing of domestic animals. The organizers invited Solungmiriis (priests) from different parts of the Adi belt to perform rituals and lead the womenfolk in narrating Solung Aabang (rhapsody).

Attending the celebration in Ralung village, PHED Executive Engineer Toni Taki urged the youths to shoulder the responsibility of preserving their cultural identity. He appealed to the members of the community to maintain cordial relations with the people of other communities.

Earlier, Taki inaugurated the newly erected gate at the festival ground, which was donated by one Tomi Paron in memory of his father Otom Paron.

Eminent writer and executive member of the Mising Agom Kebang, Bijoy Bori, said that festivals provide the people the opportunity to gather on a single platform, which promotes unity and integrity, and helps them know one another better.

He emphasized on using one’s mother tongue for cultural promotion.

Pasighat West MLA Ninong Ering, former MLA Tatung Jamoh, JN College Assistant Professor Eruk Libang, Ruksin ZPM Aruni Jamoh, former ZPM Tonggeng Panyang, Ralung village GB John Tatung, and organizing secretary Tater Libang also spoke on the occasion.

Other highlights of the day included traditional ponung dance, recreational events, and a community feast. The festival was also celebrated in Bilat, Mirem, Pasighat, Sille-Oyan, Mebo and Namsing circles.

## Drug peddler arrested

### **KHONSA, September 1:**

A drug peddler in possession of suspected heroin was arrested from Helipad Colony here in Tirap district during a raid conducted by a joint team of the Tirap police and the CRPF on September 1, Said the police.

The peddler has been identified as Wangtoh Wangsu [44], of Mintong village in Longding district, Tirap SP Rahul Gupta said.

The police seized the suspected heroin, weighing 10.71 grams, in the presence of an executive magistrate. The drug had been packed in a plastic soap case, the SP said, adding that a case has been registered under the NDPS Act at the Khonsa police station.

The case has been endorsed to SI S Tapak for investigation.

“We have so far received information about two peddlers on drug helpline number (9436046055), and both have been converted into successful raids with arrests,” the SP added.

## ELC launched in Upper Subansiri

### **DAPORIJO, September 1:**

EAC (Election) Tajum Ronya launched the Electoral Literacy Club (ELC) under the Systematic Voters Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) programme at the government higher secondary school here in Upper Subansiri district on September 1 last.

Ronya in his address dwelt on the role of potential voters in building a strong and healthy democracy in the state and the country.

He exhorted the students to “create awareness among family, friend circles and society to exercise the right of universal adult franchise which is granted under Article 326 of the Indian Constitution.”

School Principal N Kurdu advised the students to learn and understand the concept of electoral rights, saying that it is important from the academic point of view too.

SVEEP nodal officer Tuter Ropuk explained the significance of electoral literacy.

A voters’ pledge was also administered under Ronya’s supervision.

## One-day reading campaign held

### **ROING, September 1:**

A one-day reading campaign ‘Joy of Reading is Our Birth right’ was conducted at Govt. Residential School Jumupani and GRS New Elope in Hunli Sub Division of Lower Dibang Valley district on 31 August 2023 by the Dibang Youth Library and AIMSU.

The reading campaign is aimed to reach the joy of reading to the unreached valleys of Dibang and to inculcate basic reading skills among the rural tribal students. The rural students tremendously enjoyed the activities of reading aloud, action rhymes and theatre reading, which would go a long way to enhance their enthusiasm to read and improve their abilities to read efficiently.

The Dibang Library team was led by Mentor Santosh Chet-

ry and volunteers Aloka Mili and Bithem Marai, while the AIMSU team consisted of Anjame Mena (President Women Wing) and Dengo Mimi (Health Secretary).

## LBSNAA trainee officers complete weeklong field study in East Siang

### **PASIGHAT, September 2:**

Fourteen Trainee Officers of the 98th Foundation course from Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA), Mussorie who were in East Siang as part of their Field Study & Research programme to rural areas have completed their weeklong field study on Saturday, September 2 and shared their experiences and feedback during a debriefing meeting with DC East Siang Tayi Taggu, SP Sumit Kumar Jha and HoDs of development departments.

The field Study involve Kebang system, Customary practice, arts and crafts, livelihood pattern, land and agriculture, role of Panchayati Raj, ongoing GoI flagship ships and interactions with PRIs, GBs and beneficiaries, youth, students, SHGs, farmers, Village Secretaries.

East Siang DC commended the keen interest shown by the Trainee officers to understand to get a firsthand experience on the impact of various development projects in the lives of the rural populace and on the expectations and aspirations of the people and exposure on the rich culture and heritage. He hoped that these grass-root experiences will help them to understand and serve the people of India in the best possible way. The DC also highlighted on the major thrust areas of the Government of

Arunachal Pradesh viz. e -office initiative, health, education and sports sector to channelize the energy of the youth.

SP EastSiang, Sumit Kumar Jha also hoped that first hand insight and interactions SHGs, youth, PRIs and grassroot people have sensitized them about the society, culture and potentials, development needs in all its aspect. He also appreciated their thorough documentation of the field visits on every development aspect.

Earlier, Each Trainee shared their observations and feedback gained after their visits to Schools, HeathCentres etc, adding that their interactions with beneficiaries of Govt. Schemes, Women SHGs, GBs, Youth ,students ,Teachers, ASHAS, farmers and members of the village community has really helpful in their field study & documentation process. The rich culture and tradition, artistic skills in handloom and Handicrafts have really impressed us. The Team has also visited Zero-Waste Siluk Village in East Siang.

The Trainee Officers who were stationed in Kiyit and Motum Village during their stay, said that they have been touched by the simplicity, warm hospitality of the people and will be taking back warm memories of the warmth of the people, cooperation of the District Administration of East Siang and Arunachal Pradesh.

## DC visits sites to assess flood affected areas

### DIRANG, September 2:

DC, Bomdila, Akriti Sagar, conducted a meeting at ADC's Conference Hall, Dirang, with the participation of the Commanding Officer (CO) of the 16th Madras

Regiment, ADC Dirang, and other administrative officers recently to discuss various issues relating to the district.

The primary focus of the meeting with the Madras Regiment was to discuss various collective projects.

In addition to this, site visits were carried out to assess and address the current situations. Flood-affected areas along the Meyong River in Dirang were visited to gauge the extent of the impact and to plan necessary actions.

Subsequently, an inspection was conducted at the Mini Secretariat area, specifically to review the ongoing construction work of the Mini Secretariat Building and the ADC Bungalow in Zingka.

## Holistic transformation of Arunachal is Centre's top priority—Union MoS

### PASIGHAT, September 3:

The holistic transformation of the state of Arunachal Pradesh from Infrastructure to Health & Education, is on the top priority of the Central Govt, asserted Union MoS for Education, Dr. Subhas Sarkar here on September 3.

Addressing a media briefing here on Sunday during his two-day visit to East Siang district, the MoS said that no effort left unturned by the Central Government to make Arunachal Pradesh one of the most progressive states in tune with the rapid transformation India has made in recent years under the Central Government led by the Prime Minister.

The Minister also extended his Solunggreetings to the people, while lauding the rich cultural legacy of the people.

Earlier, Union MoS for Education, Dr. Subhas Sarkar also held a review meeting with HoDs of various departments on the implementation of central govt flagship schemes and major achievements made by the respective departments ranging from social sectors like Education, Health, Rural Development, Skill development, women and child development, agri and allied and various development sectors in general. The Union MoS also met and interacted with beneficiaries of various Central Government Schemes ANBKY, PM-KISAN/PMSKY, SMAM, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY Gramin), progressive farmers of East Siang and took feedbacks.

The meeting was also attended by Lok Sabha MP Tapir Gao, MLAs, Ninong Ering, Kaling Moyong, ZPC Olen Rome, DC Tayi Taggu, SP Sumit Kumar Jha, HoDs of all Departments among others.

The Union MoS for Education, also stressed on capacity building of Teachers for imparting quality education. The need for public participation and ownership of government assets was also pointed out by the Minister.

Earlier, Lok Sabha MP, Tapir Gao, drew the attention of the Union MoS for expediting the construction of Infrastructural works of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Pasighat, setting up of SBI Regional offices in the eastern and western zone to cater solely to the state of Arunachal Pradesh. The MP also requested the MoS to tie up with the Minister MoHUA, GoI to give priority to the proposal for selection of Gumin Nagar under the "Incubation of 8 New Cities" project.

## Awareness meeting on clean air for blue skies held

**AALO, September 4:**

An awareness meeting on the 4th International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies was conducted at the Conference hall of General Hospital Aalo on September 4. The theme for the 4th International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies is "Together for Clean Air".

Dr. Tsering Wangmu Tato (NPCCHH) presented the ill effect of air pollution, water pollution etc in power point presentation.

During the awareness meeting, the Air Pollution, WATER pollution and its impact on human health was discussed. Dr Wangmu appealed the every individual to take the strong decision to protect the environment.

Dr. Jombom Kato, Medical Superintendent of GH Aalo appealed the authority to transfer more doctors as the General Hospital is functioning without required doctors and urged the people to cooperate with the doctors and nurses for smooth functioning of the hospital.

DMO Dr. Dubom Bagra, Bahi Koyu CDPO, Dr. J Padu also spoke during the meeting.

The awareness meeting was attended by chairperson mother vision, president and secretary of AP-WWS District unit Aalo and traffic police personnel.

## SDE Commissioner visits Ziro

*Creating sustainable entrepreneurs to be focus of SDE Dept - Commissioner*

**ZIRO, September 4:**

A re-look at the skill development policy of the state for a holistic skill development eco-system

which would propel spirit of entrepreneurship among youth of the state is need of the hour, said commissioner designate for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Saugat Biswas on his maiden tour to Ziro here on Monday, September 4, 2023.

Highlighting that skill development was a means to hone the inherent talents and ignite the passions of the youth, the commissioner said entrepreneurship should be outcome of the Department of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship which would bring tangible result and positive effects in the lives of the youth.

Further, the commissioner highlighted the necessity of leveraging the potential of Govt. schemes and departments including textiles, handloom and handicrafts, SRLM, PMEGP, PMFME, tourism, horticulture and fisheries by putting relevant skilling initiatives in place. He further added that Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Department would develop a converged road map in that direction.

Underscoring the importance of sustenance of entrepreneurial ventures, the commissioner said institutionalization of 'hand holding' system of such entrepreneurial ventures along with the sick ones by Govt. was needed to sustain the spirit of entrepreneurship.

During the two-day visit of Ziro valley in Lower Subansiri District, the commissioner visited the Govt. Industrial Training Institute at Manipolyang and had a first-hand glance of the functioning of institute besides interacting with staffs and officials including listening to their grievances.

Later in the day, Lower Subansiri Deputy Commissioner Bamin Nime organized a meet-

ing-cum-interaction session at Subansiri Sadan involving all the members of District Skill Committee (DSC) comprising 15 Head of Offices from various line departments. The meeting resolved to draw a road map of the various skill development training programmes to be undertaken for youth and entrepreneurs of the district. 'Convergence and collaboration' were also decided to be incorporated while undertaking skill development training programmes of the departments.

The commissioner also interacted with few local upcoming and successful entrepreneurs from the fields of horticulture, agriculture, textiles and handicrafts and took their inputs. He also visited the Textiles and Handicrafts craft centre, Diilyang Diibu Multipurpose Cooperative Society and the Naara Aba Winery prior to his departure back to Itanagar.

## Twelfth Session of AP Legislative Assembly held;

*Assembly pays condolences to 3 former Ministers, passes many bills*

**ITANAGAR, September 4:**

The Twelfth session of the seventh Legislative Assembly began here on Monday, September 4, 2023 with the assembly paying condolences to three former Ministers, Late Kardu Taipodia, Late Neelam Taram and Late Chow Tewa Mein who expired earlier in May this year.

Chief Minister Pema Khanu expressed gratitude to all three former Ministers for their invaluable contributions to the development of the state. Remembering Taipodia as an energetic and youthful person, he said Taipodia was one of the people who had

advised him to resolve the Assam-Arunachal border issue back when he had met him in 2012. Khandu credited Taram for the creation of Yachuli constituency and the office of Divisional Commissioner (West). He said Taram was also instrumental in establishing the Panyor Hydropower Station in its current location. His death, he said, is not only a loss for the Nyishi community but for the entire state.

Khandu remembered C.T Mein as a very senior and learned politician who saw Arunachal transitioning from Pradesh Council in 1972 to Provisional Legislative Assembly in 1975 to gaining Statehood in 1987. He said Mein was very active in the society and contributed to its upliftment even after his formal exit from politics.

Khandu later requested the respective MLAs of the three constituencies which were earlier represented by Taipodia, Taram and Mein to discuss with their Deputy Commissioners and send a government proposal for renaming any government institution in their district in the former Ministers' names.

The current session also has an all women team as the Panel of Chairmen comprising of legislators Jummum Ete Deori, Chakat Aboh, Dasanglu Pul and Tsering Lhamu.

**INTRODUCTION OF BILLS:** The first day of the session also saw the introduction of three bills; The Arunachal Pradesh Court Fees Bill 2023 introduced by Chief Minister Pema Khandu, The Arunachal Pradesh Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill 2023 introduced by Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein and The Arunachal Pradesh Airport Area, Planning and Development Authority introduced by Town

Planning Minister Kamlung Mosang.

**ASSENT TO BILLS:** Secretary, Legislative Assembly reported the assent of the Governor to The Arunachal Pradesh Goods Tax (Amendment) Bill 2023, The Arunachal Pradesh Protection of Drinking Water Catchment Areas Bill 2023, The Assam Frontier (Administration of Justice) regulation (Amendment) Bill 2023, The Arunachal Pradesh Appropriation (No 1) Bill 2023 and The Arunachal Pradesh Appropriation (No 2) Bill, 2023.

Assembly passes two important government bills

The State Legislative Assembly on second day, Tuesday passed two important government bills by voice votes.

The Arunachal Pradesh Airport Area Planning & Development Authority Bill 2023, which aimed at constituting an authority to oversee the developmental work in the airport area, which was introduced by Town Planning Minister Kamlung Mosang on Monday, September 4, was passed by the assembly without any debate.

Making a statement on the bill, Mosang said that, with the recent construction of the Donyi Polo Airport in Hollongi near here, and airports in Pasighat, Tezu and Daporijo, tourists from within India and overseas are expected to arrive in the state.

"The development of airports along with the adjoining areas as per international standard is of utmost importance," he said, and added that, "for orderly planning and development of the areas near airports, it is required to be regulated by a dedicated team of manpower. The bill is aimed at regulating the growth and development of areas around airports."

The house also passed the Arunachal Pradesh Court Fees Bill, 2023 with minor amendments, moved by Chief Minister, Pema Khandu who also holds the law, legislative and justice portfolios, had tabled the bill in the House on Monday. The Court Fee Act, 1870, which is a pre-independence and pre-Constitution law extended to Arunachal Pradesh by virtue of its extension clause, is followed by all courts in the state as per the Assam Court Fees (Amendment) Act, 1972, as the state does not have a high court of its own.

The Union Law & Justice Ministry on 6 March this year directed all the states to enact their own state Acts on court fees as the Court Fees Act, 1870 is being proposed to be repealed by the central government.

Question Hour:

Arunachal Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister who is also Minister in-charge of Finance & Planning Chowna Mein on Tuesday told the Assembly that the state roads, including the ones in Tirap district headquarters Khonsa, are being developed under the Chief Minister's Comprehensive State Road Development Plan, which is a five-year plan stretching 2019 to 2024.

Replying to a supplementary question from Congress member Wanglin Lowangdong during question hour, the Deputy Chief Minister said that for the 16 different schemes, amounting to over Rs 8.90 crore, sanctioned during the year 2022-23, Budget Estimate 2023-24 of PWD is under submission for approval. He also assured the House that remaining (road) length which could not be covered under CM's Comprehensive State Road Development Plan (CMCSRDP) 2019-24 will be taken up in CMCSRDP 2024-29.

While raising the matter, the senior Congress member alleged that Khonsa, one of the oldest townships, has been deprived of good roads, proper sanitation and drainage system. "Seeing the condition, we, the four legislators of Tirap district, submitted a combined note to Chief Minister in July 2022 for earmarking an amount of Rs 15 crore for the improvement of Khonsa township roads," informed the former minister and pleaded the government to sanction the requisite fund so that the oldest town "could be taken ample care of".

Responding to another supplementary from senior Congress legislator Ninong Ering, the DCM told the House that the project proposal of Ering for upgradation of road from Rani Tinali to Oiramghat (Assam) via Sika-Tode, Sika-Bamin, VKV Oyan and Kemi Check Gate, measuring 14.922 km, under the North Eastern Road Sector Development Scheme (NERSDS), which was forwarded to NEC in October 2021 for consideration

after obtaining approval of competent authority, had not been approved by the NEC.

"Again, we took it up with the NEC but by that the scheme NERSDS (2014-15 to 2022) has already elapsed.

Now, the NERSDS has been merged with the North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme, NESIDS, (Road), the guidelines of which came just 10 days back. Once guidelines come into force, we will bring the proposal to the State Level Selection Committee, which is the competent authority. Once the select committee recommends, we will definitely send the project proposal to the NEC," he assured.

Earlier, raising the road issue, the Pasighat West MLA said

in a lighter vein "India is a powerful country in the world and India's Chandrayaan-3 has reached the Moon but our very Sika-Tode and Sika-Bamin villages are yet to see a bus service till date."

While responding to question by Mebo MLA, Lombo Tayeng regarding re-alignment and construction of 11KV power line from Kongkul to Namsing which was washed away due to Siang flood and if the government is aware of the new 11 KV alignments & construction of new 11 KV line from Kongkul to Namsing via Agam & Sogan area under Mebo administrative Sub-Division taken place, the DCM informed the house that the government is aware of the fact that 11 KV High Tension line from Kongkul to Namsing was washed away by flood on 5th Sept'2022 and restoration work of "Re-alignment and construction of new 11 kV line from Kongkul to Namsing via Agam and Sogan area under Mebo Administrative Sub-Division" was taken up by the Executive Engineer (E) Pasighat, completed and restored power supply to Mebo administrative Sub-Division.

The Department has been directed to submit the proposal in RE 2023-24 for consideration and decision of the government as soon as possible, DCM further informed.

Environment and Forest Minister Mama Natung informed that the Arunachal Pradesh government has carried out afforestation programme in 16,560.46 hectare of land in the state during 2022-23 under Compensatory Afforestation Fund and Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) scheme while responding to a query by Pasighat West MLA Ninong Ering and Borduria Bogapani MLA Wanglin Lowangdong on the total

allocation of fund through CAMPA to the state in 2022-23 and reason for disparity in allocation of CAMPA fund.

An amount of Rs 196.93 crore was sanctioned by the national authority (CAMPA) under the environment, forest and climate change ministry to the state for the year 2022-23, the Minister informed. The minister further informed that under the compensatory afforestation component, preparatory works were undertaken in 2,986.23 hectare, creation of plantations in 4,459.16 hectare and maintenance of plantations in 24,177.35 hectare of land in the state during 2022-23.

Assembly adopts resolution on celebrating historic success of

Chandrayaan 3 Mission;  
*Speaker adjourns the house sine die*

The Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly on third day sitting of its twelfth session on September 6, 2023 unanimously adopted a government resolution on "Celebrating the historic success of the Chandrayaan-3 Mission" by voice vote.

Moving the resolution on the floor of the house here on Wednesday, Science & Technology Minister Honchun Ngandam stated that the state assembly commended the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) for its tireless efforts and proudly joined the nation in celebrating the historic success of Chandrayaan -3 Mission to the Moon. On behalf of the government, he extended heartfelt appreciation to the dedicated scientists behind this monumental achievement, which not only marks a triumph for the space agency but also signifies nation's global progress and prominence. He informed that the state assembly welcomed designating 23rd August as "National Space Day" to commemorate the momentous occasion.

“Landing near the Moon’s South Pole with precise accuracy is a remarkable feat in itself, showcasing the indomitable spirit of our scientists and the data collected by the ‘Pragyan’ rover promises to advance knowledge and unlock mysteries on Moon’s surface and beyond”, the Minister stated, adding “in an era of technological advancement and innovation, Bharat’s scientists are beacons of knowledge, dedication and expertise and their commitments propelled the nation to the forefront of global scientific achievements”.

Congratulating the Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his visionary leadership and unwavering support for Bharat’s space program, Ngandam told that the assembly also takes pride in the substantial contribution of women scientists to Chandrayaan-3’s success as it would motivate the aspiring female scientists in the years to come. He also informed that the state government has welcomed the naming of two moon points – Tiranga point ( Chandrayaan -2 foot print) and ShivShakti point ( Chandrayaan - 3’s landing site), symbolizing our rich heritage and scientific aspirations, adding that the success aligns with PM’s call for ‘Jai Vigyan, Jai Anusandhan and facilitate opportunities for Bharat’s start-ups, MSMEs and job creations, besides promoting innovations.

“The state assembly echoes PM’s emphasis that knowledge gained from Chandrayaan-3 will benefit humanity, especially in the global south, exemplifying Bharat’s belief in ‘Vasundhaiva Kutumbakam’ and its achievements in the space sector reflect progress, self-reliance and global leadership signifying the rise of New Bharat”, the minister said, while exuding hope that the feat will inspire more

youngsters towards scientific pursuits.

Khonsa East MLA Wanglam Sawin, who was the lone participant to speak on the resolution, congratulated the entire nation, PMO and ISRO members & scientists for successful launch of Chandrayaan -3, terming it as a great achievement and a great day for the people of the country.

The state assembly on the day also unanimously passed the Arunachal Pradesh Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2023 without any discussion.

Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein, who is also the Minister-in-charge of Tax, Excise & Narcotics, while moving the amendment bill on the floor of the house for consideration and passing, stated that the bill is placed to amend the Arunachal Pradesh Goods & Services Tax Act, 2017 ( Act No. 7 of 2017), adding, the proposed legislation will enable administration of taxation under GST in a better and efficient manner.

Chief Minister Pema Khandu informed the house that the state government is working on considering the Siang flood to declare as national disaster considering its seriousness. He said that government is aware of the grave flood situation in the area, adding that the matter has to taken up with Govt of India after detailed survey and investigation of the affected areas.

Khandu was responding to zero hour discussion regarding the “Siang flood declared as National Calamities”, raised by Mebo MLA Lombo Tayeng.

Earlier, while raising the issue, Tayeng said that the constant and massive land erosion of Siang river flood water is of great concern, as the river course is fre-

quently changing causing massive land erosion to the tune of few lakhs hectares of cultivated and fertile cultivable land, besides other properties including buildings are eroded away at Mebo Sub Division in East Siang district. He told that the area of D. Ering Memorial Wildlife Sanctuary also reduced down to considerable measure due to constant bank erosion and the people of Mebo Sub-Division in particular are rendered homeless and landless, besides affecting government establishments. The MLA requested the government to take up the issue to declare it as national disaster, adding, if adequate measures are not taken, it may be disastrous in near future.

Question Hour:

Education Minister Taba Tedir informed that government has started infrastructure developments in 8 Inter-Village (IV) schools across the state under Mission Shiksha in the first phase through Executing Agency Urban Development & Housing department. The schools are – GUPS Kuntse, Tawang, GMS Balem, West Kameng, GUPS Khodaso, Pakke Kessang, GUPS Ruchi Korong, East Kameng, GUPS Tapiaso, Papum Pare, GPS Delipaji, Lower Subansiri, GMS Ampongne, Kurung Kumey and GUPS Mite in Kamle district.

The minister was replying to a query raised by Borduria-Bogapani MLA Wanglin Lowangdong on status of Mission Shiksha Schools in the state with reference to IV school Paniduria in Tirap district.

Tedir told that out of 25 IV schools proposed, only 8 have been identified and taken up for infrastructure development, while rest would be taken up on allocation of fund from the government. An amount of Rs 10.00 Cr was re-

ceived under the Mission Shiksha from the state govt during 2021-22, while Rs 12 Cr from SASCI during 2022-23, he said, adding till date in total Rs 22.00 Cr has been received and released against the total requirement amount of Rs 33.94 Cr for ongoing 8 IV Schools.

Raising a supplementary, Kanubari MLA Gabriel D. Wangsu called for need based identification of project sites and framing of requisite criterias for proper implementation of such projects by all works departments.

Chief Minister Pema Khan-du, while replying to a question of MLA Wanglin Lowangdong on district quota for govt jobs, told the house that the state government had notified 80% reservation policy in group C and D posts against direct recruitment at district level, but the matter is subjudice in Guwahati High Court due to which vacancies of around 710 are yet to be filled up. Staff Selection Board (SSB) has been set to regulate the recruitment process through proper mechanism and transparency, the Chief Minister said, adding the government is looking into ways to provide opportunities in jobs to all communities through district quota.

Later, Speaker PD Sona adjourned the house sine e die.

## **DC reviews progress of central & state sponsored schemes**

*'Go out the extra mile in helping out beneficiaries' - DC*

**PASIGHAT, September 4:**

DC East Siang, Tayi Taggu, reviewed the status of ongoing central and state sponsored schemes implemented by all the government departments, while chairing the District Level Vigilance Commit-

tee meeting cum e-Pragati review meeting here at DC Conference on Wednesday.

He took stock of the education and health sector, Infrastructure, connectivity and power, agri-allied, sericulture, Sericulture sector, livelihood, skill development, smart city projects etc.

He asked the HoDs to submit the achievements and the challenges faced by the respective departments during ground level implementations. He also stressed on consultation with PRI members during formulation of Village Action Plan to meet up the development requirements at the grass-root level.

The DC also for timely 100% saturation of beneficiary related activities and stressed on timely and quality of work completion. Efforts should be made to go the extra mile to help out the beneficiaries particularly from rural areas and urban poor in availing subsidy schemes, particularly as many face in matters of paper works for loan sanctioning.

Taggu also asked all to step up awareness and mobilize the community in generating awareness on schemes like AP Vidya Scheme for Girl students. Under this scheme girl child after passing Class V and enrolled in Class VI in state government schools is entitled to get Rs.10000 (Ten Thousand) as fixed deposit in her Bank Account to be able to withdraw after completing Class XII to promote girl's education. He also sought to know the self-employment and other employment trades taken up by youth and trainees after taking up skill development training in various trades and asked for follow up action after the completion of training period.

Earlier, the HoDs in their PPT presentations highlighted

physical and financial achievements under their respective sectors.

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Earlier, the HoDs in their PPT presentations highlighted physical and financial achievements under their respective sectors.

## Table Top Exercise & Mock Drill on earthquake conducted

### LONGDING, September 5:

The District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) in collaboration with the 12th BN National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), Doimukh conducted a Table Top Exercise and Mock exercise on earthquake scenario on September 4 & 5 with all stakeholders (DDMA & IRS team members), HoDS, Police, Health Department with an ambulance & nursing staff, CAPFs, Fire & Emergency Service, CBOs, NGOs, Trained Community Volunteers (AAPDA MITRA) etc at Deputy Commissioner conference hall & Deputy Commissioner Office Complex here respectively.

A table top exercise prelude to mock drill on earthquake scenario was held at DC Conference hall on the previous day, which was presided over by G Amte, EAC Longding.

The DDMO, while welcoming the house, briefed the NDRF about Longding district emphasizing on importance of holding such program periodically to assess the strength and weakness to cope up with if any unforeseen disaster strikes. An updated DDMP (District Disaster Management plan) was presented to NDRF officials to acquaint themselves about the district and its vulnerability to different hazards.

A PPT was presented by R.K Swami, Asst. Commandant 12 th BN NDRF Doimukh and M Sonowal.

The next day, an earthquake mock drill and preparedness activity was conducted to apprise everyone how to prepare them to deal with an emergency situation and to test emergency response plans at DC office building. The drill focused on activation of the full response system, incorporated decision making and life safety aspects.

Among others, the program was attended by M Tato, ADC Longding, G Amte EAC, L Wangham, ZPC, DIPRO i/c/ and CO Pumao Bini Shiva, all administrative officers, medical team, Fire & Emergency Services, APP, 36 BN CRPF, 40th Assam Rifle, trained AAPDA MITRA community volunteers, staffs of DC Office, representatives of line depts. And other stakeholders of Longding district.

## Netai Chandra Dey of RKMS selected for National Teacher Award

### DEOMALI, September 5:

Netai Chandra Dey of the Ramakrishna Mission School (RKMS) in Narottam Nagar (Tirap) has been selected as a recipient of the prestigious National Teacher's Award for 2023.

This recognition highlights his exceptional contributions to the field of education and his significant impact on students' lives, said a statement from the RKMS.

"His journey in education spans over three decades, during which he has exhibited unwavering commitment to nurturing young minds. As an innovative and compassionate teacher, he has inspired countless students to achieve their potential and excel academically," the school said. "His teaching methodologies emphasize not only academic excellence but also holistic development.

His ability to create engaging and interactive learning environments has earned him respect and admiration from students, colleagues, and parents alike. His dedication extends beyond the classroom, as he has actively participated in various educational initiatives and community outreach programmes.

"His dedication to fostering a love for learning has resulted in consistently outstanding academic results. His students consistently achieve top ranks in national and regional examinations, a testament to his effective teaching strategies and mentorship," it said.

The National Teacher's Award is a well-deserved recognition of his outstanding contributions to education, the school said, adding that "his commitment to shaping the future generations and instilling values in them has not only impacted individual lives but also contributed positively to the society at large. The award serves as an inspiration for educators across the nation to strive for excellence in their teaching practices."

"In a rapidly evolving educational landscape, Netai Chandra Dey's innovative approach, dedica-

tion, and passion for teaching serve as a beacon of light. His recognition as a National Teacher's Award recipient reaffirms the crucial role that educators play in shaping the future of the nation," the statement read.

This is not the first time that an RKMS teacher has received accolades at the state and national level. English PG teacher Debasish Roy of the same school too has been selected for the State Teacher Award, 2023. So far three teachers of the institution have received the state award and three others the national award for best teacher.

"The state has also announced a gold medal for the Ramakrishna Mission," it said.

## DC felicitates teachers on Teacher's day

### TAWANG, September 5:

Tawang DC Kanki Darang felicitated the teachers of government schools under Tawang constituency on behalf of the local MLA Tsering Tashi.

In a felicitation programme held at Conference hall of DC office on Monday, September 4 last, the DDSE Hridhar Phuntso conveyed his best wishes to all the teachers for their services and expressed his gratitude to all the MLAs of the district for honoring the teachers every year on the occasion of Teacher's day.

Speaking to the teachers, the DC congratulated the teaching fraternity of the district for CBSE results and asked them to put more effort to bring better results next time. He remembered his own teachers who taught him, adding that after parents it's the teachers who make us better citizens and save us from going out of track in life. He said that the teachers are

the guiding light of society who leads us to the path of wisdom and knowledge. While conveying his wishes to all the teachers, the DC appealed them to rededicate themselves in the making of future citizens of the country.

Later, the DC felicitated all the teachers with khada and presentation of memento on behalf of the local MLA Tsering Tashi.

Similar programmes were also held in other two constituencies of the district on the occasion of teacher's day.

## Governor reviews Raja Sainik Board

### ITANAGAR, September 5:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) reviewed the organization and functioning of Raja Sainik Board, State Unit at Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on Tuesday, September 5, 2023.

The Governor, who is President of the Raja Sainik Board emphasized on redressal of queries related to the welfare of Ex-Servicemen and the families of deceased service personnel. He particularly focused on utilization of the disciplined and trained people coming from armed forces in the service of the State.

The Governor underscored the significance of various welfare schemes designed to improve the quality of life for Ex-Servicemen residing in Arunachal Pradesh. He advised the members to streamline various avenues for employment for the Ex-Servicemen and their wards.

The Governor expressed his gratitude to all participants for their dedication and contributions towards the betterment of the lives of Ex-Servicemen in Arunachal

Pradesh. He said that the State remains steadfast in its commitment to enhance the quality of life for those who have selflessly served the nation, and further efforts will be made to strengthen the existing welfare schemes.

Air Commodore R D Mosabi (Retd), the Director cum Secretary of the Raja Sainik Board, presented a comprehensive briefing to the esteemed gathering, providing insights into the progress and effective implementation of various schemes for Ex-Servicemen and their families.

The meeting served as a forum for constructive discussions and deliberations, with the Governor reaffirming the State's commitment to the well-being of Ex-Servicemen and their families. One of the key areas discussed during the meeting was the reservations for Ex-Servicemen in recruitment processes, which play a significant role in ensuring employment opportunities for veterans who have served the nation with dedication and valour.

Principal Secretary (Home) Kaling Tayeng, Commissioners and Secretaries of Urban Development, Education, finance, Housing, Administrative Reforms, and State Selection boards attended the meeting.

## State Teacher's award to 40 teachers

*CM announces creation of 500 posts to regularize contractual teachers*

### ITANAGAR, September 5:

Celebrating the Teacher's Day at State Banquet Hall here on Tuesday, September 5 last, Chief Minister Pema Khandu announced the creation of 500 posts to regularize contractual teachers. In addi-

tion, an enhancement of salaries was announced, marking a 22% raise with an added 3% Dearness Allowance for all categories of teaching and non-teaching staff in KGBV, SCBAV, vocational teachers, BRCC teachers and staff benefiting about 4400 employees, besides extending state top up for contractual teachers appointed after 18th May 2020.

Khandu also announced regularization of 500 ISSE teachers, impacting approximately 4,900 teachers and indirectly benefiting a population of nearly 30,000 people.

He expressed profound appreciation for the Education Department's relentless efforts in achieving desired learning outcomes and underscored the significance of integrating technology in managing and monitoring school activities.

Khandu emphasized on the importance of duty and warned against indulgence in illegal activities, specifically citing illegal appointments of teachers and MTS staff reported from some districts recently.

"No one indulging in such illegal activities shall be spared. They shall be taken with stiffest action as per provisions of the law," he cautioned. He also warned of strong action against delinquents' staffs involved in dereliction of duty.

While assuring that the government remains committed to addressing staff issues, Khandu also stressed the reciprocal responsibility of the staff in executing their duties with utmost sincerity.

He reiterated the government's commitment to enhance educational standards in the state while expressing concern over the previous year's 10th and 12th grade results. He encouraged the teach-

ing fraternity to set higher teaching standards and play their role proactively in shaping the future generation.

This Teacher's Day marked a historic moment as it brought together all 26 districts, nearly 178 schools, and DDSE offices virtually to witness the celebration. Unveiling the 'Vidya Samiksha Kendra', a platform aimed at connecting schools, teachers, students, and policymakers, Khandu openly interacted with students from Anjaw, Leparada, Yazali, and Yupia.

To mark the occasion, 40 teachers from across the state were awarded with cash prizes, mementos, shawls, and commendation certificates. A book on the history of Arunachal Pradesh and a handbook for ECCE teachers were also released on the occasion.

Also present in the day-long celebration were Education Minister Taba Tedir, Advisor to Minister Education Kento Rina, Chief Secretary Dharmendra, Principal Secretary Planning and Finance Dr. Sharat Chauhan, Commissioner Education Amjad Tak and others.

Along with the rest of the country, the Teacher's Day was also celebrated in a befitting manner in many schools of Upper Subansiri district.

At the government secondary school in Rijo, colourful cultural programmes and sports competitions were held as part of celebration. It witnessed the participation of teachers and students.

The students offered gifts to their class teachers, and the teachers spoke on the contributions of former president of India Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, on whose birth anniversary the day is celebrated.

At the government higher secondary school in Dumporijo, the day was celebrated in a grand manner with cultural events.

Meantime, the women's wing of the All Upper Subansiri District Students' Union donated an 'open library' to the school. It was inaugurated by SP Thutan Jamba, in the presence of Vice Principal Arun Murtem and Daporijo PS OC Token Dubai.

In East Siang HQ Pasighat, the Arunachal Pradesh University (APU) celebrated the day with fanfare and fervour.

APU Registrar Narmi Darang told the students that "Teachers' Day celebration is not only for APU teaching fraternity but also for the teachers who taught the APU's teaching fraternity during their school, college and university days."

APU Vice Chancellor Prof Tomo Riba highlighted the role of teachers, and urged the students to "uphold the sanctity of the teacher-learner bond and pay tribute to the teachers who have moulded your lives."

Copies of a souvenir, along with study kits were distributed among the students as part of the programme.

The Arunachal Pradesh Technical Teachers Association also celebrated Teachers' Day across the state.

The day was celebrated at RGGPI, Itanagar, besides at the polytechnic institutes in Namsai, Pasighat, Roing and Tezu.

Students of six polytechnic institutes also donated blood voluntarily to mark the day. More than 70 units of blood were donated on the occasion.

## 233 teachers of various schools felicitated

**JANG, September 5:**

Tawang ZPC, Leki Gombu along with ADC Jang RD Thungon and

public leaders - Tashi and Thutan felicitated 233 teachers of various schools (including private and govt aided) under Mokto constituency on behalf of the local MLA and present Chief Minister Pema Khandu on Teacher's day, September 5.

Speaking on the occasion, ZPC Gombu conveyed gratitude to all the teachers for their service in the interior villages of the district, namely - Mago, Thingbu, Lughang, Thikshi, Shurbin, T. Gonpa etc. He said that education can bring true development and change in the society. Teachers are the nation builder and the responsibility of making good future citizens of the country depends largely on the dedication and sincerity of teachers, he said, adding that most of the parents in villages still don't know much about the importance of education, but teachers can make them aware of it.

ADC Thungon, in his address spoke about the importance of all round development of a student in making of a good future citizen. He also conveyed the wishes and gratitude of the Chief Minister to the teachers.

Public leaders Tashi and Thutan also conveyed their best wishes and gratitude to the teachers.

The students and other participants presented colorful cultural programmes in honour of teachers. The teachers also expressed their gratitude to the Chief Minister and all the public for wishes and honour given to them.

At Tawang headquarters Commander Tawang Brigade, Brigadier VS Rajput along with DDSE Tawang Hridhar Phuntso and Education officer Tawang Brigade Lt. Colonel Sasmita visited various schools and presented token of love and their wishes to the teachers.

## **DTFC on Beti Bachao Beti Padhao approves action plan for 2023-24**

**TAWANG, September 6:**

The members of District Task Force Committee on Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) met in the conference hall of DC office under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner, Kanki Darang to prepare and approve the district action plan for the year 2023-24 here on Wednesday, Sept 6.

In his brief remark DC cum Chairman DTFC BBBP, Tawang lauded the exposure tours for girls by skill development department in different parts of the country. He said that this would give our daughters the opportunity to know more about the country. He advocated for skill upgradation and skill development training to girls for self dependence which would make them more empowered.

In his welcome address, CDPO, Jang, Gyati Loder informed that Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme was launched on 22nd January 2015 to address the issue of decline in child sex ratio in the country along with related issues of empowerment of girls and women.

Speaking on the scheme, he informed that it aims to improve the sex ratio at birth, improvement in the percentage of institutional deliveries and check dropout rate among girls etc.

The CDPO also presented proposals of the department and informed about the implementing depts, annual calendar and activities prescribed under the scheme as per the guidelines.

DDSE, DMO and DDI Tawang, also presented proposals which were approved by the District Task Force Committee.

## **DC reviews progress of projects**

**TAWANG, September 6:**

The second district level monitoring committee (DLMC) monthly meeting of Tawang district was held in the Conference hall of DC office here on Wednesday, Sept 6.

Deputy Commissioner Kanki Darang reviewed the progress of various centrally sponsored schemes and state flagship programmes being implemented in the district by departments concerned. The department dealing with 14 centrally sponsored schemes under saturation tracker presented the achievement reports through power point presentation and latest report on PM /CM action points.

Addressing the officers, the DC stressed on timely completion of projects without compromising the quality of works and before onset of winter and asked them to strictly monitor and supervise the works by physically visiting the project sites.

Earlier, EAC cum District Planning Officer, Choiki Dondup in his welcome address sought cooperation from departments in timely submission of work progress and completion reports for compilation and further submission to the higher authorities.

## **Rashtriya Poshan Maah launched**

**ZIRO, September 6:**

The month long celebration of Rashtriya Poshan Maah or the National Nutrition Month for Lower Subansiri District was launched by Deputy Commissioner Bam Nime at Abotani Hall here on Wednesday, Sept 6.

The programme is organized by District ICDS Cell, Ziro and Ziro-I ICDS Project.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC appreciated the Women and Child Development Department for taking keen initiative for the celebration and called upon the frontline workers of the department to work with more zeal and dedication to run the Anganwadi centers regularly. He also exhorted the participants to focus on care and nutrition of mothers and children in their families and society at large.

Resource person and PHED Executive Engineer Kago Habung spoke on efficient water management and water supply to anganwadi centers and toilets, and assured to help in facilitation of the same if any center had been devoid of the same.

Sub-Divisional Horticulture Officer Tasso Yallu informed about the significance of adding fruits in food habits particularly for pregnant women and lactating mothers.

Nutritionist Padi Yamer highlighted the importance of nutrition while Dentist Ankita Rajput spoke on oral hygiene.

ZPM Nani Jailyang also spoke on the occasion and urged the women and children to take active part in the ensuing celebration.

Earlier, Ziro-I ICDS project CDPO Takhe Rinyo Bullo welcomed the participants and briefed the Poshan Abhiyaan and informed it was a Prime Minister's Flagship programme under National Nutrition Mission which aimed to reduce malnourishment from the country and achieve the improvement of nutrition status of 0-6 year's children, adolescent girls, pregnant woman and lactating mother.

On the occasion, a healthy baby show competition was also organized for toddlers from ages one to five while recipe competi-

tion among the Anganwadi workers and prize distributions were other attractions of the programme.

240 participants including Anganwadi workers, helpers and general public attended the function.

## Adhaar enrollment camp held

**OLD KATANG, September 6:**

Observing that many MGNREGA job card holders in remote villages lack Adhaar cards, the Tirap district administration has organized an Adhaar enrollment camp at Old Katang village in the district on Wednesday, September 6.

During the camp, 51 Adhaar enrollments were done, 50 ST and 30 birth certificates were issued, benefiting 75 households in Bari Basip CD block.

The progress of Aadhaar-based Payment System (ABPS) has also been reviewed and the mixed route of wage payment (NACH and ABPS routes) has been extended till 31st December 2023 or till further order.

## 18 youths trained by AR selected in armed forces

**KHONSA, September 6:**

Eighteen youths of Tirap and Longding districts, who were given pre-recruitment training by the Khonsa battalion of the Assam Rifles (AR), have been selected as constables (GD) in the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF), and as SSF and riflemen (GD) in the AR.

While 11 male candidates have been selected by the AR, two males and a female candidate have been selected by the Indo-Tibetan Border Police. Further, two male

candidates each have been selected by the Border Security Force and the Central Reserve Police Force.

The battalion had conducted the pre-recruitment training from 16 March to 19 April this year in its headquarters. Twenty-seven male and eight female candidates had attended it.

On Saturday, September 2 the Khonsa battalion of the AR felicitated the successful candidates.

Battalion Commandant Col Aman Ahluwalia, Tirap SP Rahul Gupta and Longo CO Ripi Doni conveyed their best wishes to the candidates and encouraged them to be role models for the younger generation and defense service aspirants.

The commandant also asked the selected candidates to motivate their peers to join the security forces and serve the country.

The family members of the successful candidates expressed gratitude to the battalion for conducting the pre-recruitment rally, which resulted in the selection of their wards.

## District Level Science Seminar held

**AALO, September 6:**

The District Level Science Seminar on "Millets: A Super Food and a Diet Fad" was conducted successfully at Govt. Hr. Secondary School, Aalo in West Siang District recently.

Miss Jeena Jilen, a class VIII student of VKV Jirdin won the 1st prize and now she will be representing the West Siang District in state level seminar.

During the seminar, various student from 8 schools of West Siang took participated the seminar.

“Through this Seminar, everyone literally realized the enormous value and benefits of millets”, the West Siang DDSE West Siang said.

Bahi Koyu CDPO, Dr. Dubom Bagra DMO and Tojom Ete, ADO attended the seminar as Judges.

## **Sensitization & awareness on POCSO & protection of women held**

**AALO, September 6:**

A sensitization and awareness program on "Protection of Children from sexual Offence Act 2012 (POCSO) and Protection of Women from Sexual harassment work at work place" was conducted in the DC's Conference Hall here on Wednesday, Sept 6.

West Siang Deputy Commissioner Penga Tato, while chairing the meeting, urged all private and government school's hostel to engage warden of girls hosted by lady teacher. He also informed the DDSE to ensure to monitor the private schools girl's hostel to be looked after by lady teacher as warden.

The DC further urged upon all the public, officers, school teachers to be aware of the POCSO Act 2012 and sexual harassment of women in work place.

Advocate Marphy Ete, as a resource person highlighted the protection of women from sexual harassment in work places and presented the punishment and rules applied for violation the sexual harassment of women in work places through a power point presentation, while Advocate (Special Public Prosecutor) Karken Angu highlighted the POCSO related cases and its punishments. "Most

of the POCSO cases are generally practiced in the institutions and home", she said and requested every participants to lodge an FIR against the offender. Also she appealed everyone to be aware of the POCSO Act, 2012.

Bahi Koyu, CDPO i/c Dy. Director ICDS highlighted the aims and objective of the awareness meeting.

Among others, HoDs, Admin Officers, NGO's, APWWS, Police Officers attended the awareness meeting.

## **Farmers' training on Horticulture crops**

**TAWANG, September 7:**

A one-day farmers' training on different activities of Horticulture crops with special emphasis to 'One District One Product' (ODOP) was organised on September 7 last at Khartoot village.

In all 40 farmers attended the training programme.

Tenzin Monpa, Senior public leader, while attending the programme as chief guest urged the farmers to adopt the latest technology provided by the department of Horticulture in the production of fruits & vegetables on commercial basis. He also suggested for group approach rather than individual farming to obtain better income.

Safior Rahman, District Horticulture Officer, Tawang imparted training on the various departmental schemes, their pattern of assistance etc. He also demonstrated the detail package of practices of Walnut as Walnut is notified for Tawang District as One District One Product(ODOP). He also emphasised on organic farming.

Nitul Gogoi, Deputy Manager, SBI, Tawang explained about

various social security schemes viz; Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana(PMSBY), Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana(PMJJBY), Atal Pension Yojana(APY).

Mridul Basumatary, Field Officer, SBI, Tawang explained about the pattern of assistance, moratorium etc for Atma Nirbhar Bagwani Yojana(ANBY).

## **DC promotes 'vocal for local' at Ziro office**

**ZIRO, September 7:**

The concept of 'vocal for local' in dressing etiquette introduced at the District Secretariat is showing positive result with the maximum staffs and officials turning up in their traditional attires while attending their offices here recently.

As per the official advisory order issued few years back, the 200 staffs of District Secretariat are advised to come in their traditional attires every Monday and 15th of every month.

The idea of introducing 'vocal for local' and advisory note issued to the staffs to come in their traditional attires at least twice in a month is to showcase our cultural roots and reiterate our faith and belief in our traditional dressing sense designed and developed by our forefathers but improvised by us, said Lower Subansiri Deputy Commissioner Bamin Nime. The DC has sponsored the cost of one set of local traditional dress to all the Group C and D staffs of the District Secretariat. A few months back the DC had also purchased one new set of uniforms for all the drivers as well.

Many of the staffs also echoed the voice of the DC and said attending office in their traditional dresses felt good for a change and

made them realize the spirit of being tribal.

## Yachuli gets a new Notary office

**YACHULI, September 7:**

A new Notary office for Yachuli was inaugurated by Additional Deputy Commissioner Toko Babu here on September 7.

The office is located near the ADC's office premises. Of the four-notary public appointed by the government for Lower Subansiri district, the ADC inaugurated the office of Advocate Toko Tako, the newly appointed notary public for Yachuli.

Speaking on the occasion, ADC Babu said as per the notification issued by Govt. any document which needs to be verified, authenticated, certified and attested shall be notarized before the Notary public.

Congratulating the people of Yachuli on getting the Notary office, the ADC appealed the newly appointed Notaries of the District to work for benefit of the public and ease their problems in preparation of various valid Govt. documents. He further appealed them to work sincerely and be exemplary to their junior advocates by their good legal works including maintaining legal documents properly, following correct legal procedures and maintaining proper register books, serial number, names of the documents etc.

Briefing the roles and functions of Notary public as per the provision of Notary Act 1952 and Notary rules 1956, Advocate Toko Tako informed all the documents will henceforth be maintained in a Notarial Register for record keeping.

The inaugural function was also attended by circle officer Chukhu Taba, Notary public Pura Dollo and Mihin Laling, Head goan burah Nabam Bida and prominent elders and public of Yachuli.

## Review meeting on 3rd Chief Secretaries Conference held

**AALO, September 7:**

The review meeting on 3rd Chief Secretaries was held at DC conference hall here in West Siang district on September 7.

The meeting was chaired by Penga Tato, Deputy Commissioner, West Siang district. The theme of the meeting was "Promoting ease of living through good governance and use of technology" and sub-theme "Ease of Schooling" for secondary and Higher Secondary Schools of Aalo.

In his address, DC Tato urged all the Head of schools to take care of their students by providing facilities provided by the govt. He appealed all of them to submit the feedbacks to DDSE Aaloby following the guidelines provided by the govt.

Earlier, Yidak Angu, DDSE Aalopresented the aims and objective of the meeting.

The Principals, Vice Principals from various school of West Siang were presented their grievances on the line of "Ease of schooling by using technologies and other required infrastructures guidelines provided by the government.

Ms Sara E Borang, PD-DRDA, T. Loyi (DSO) Sports also spoke during the meeting.

Principals, Vice Principals from various Govt Secondary and Hr. Secondary Schools including

VKV Jirdin, President and Secretaries of APPWS District Unit attended the meeting.

## International Literacy Day observed

**EMCHI, September 8:**

The District Literacy Mission Authority, (DLMA) Papum Pare District observed International Literacy Day 2023 here at GUPS, Emchi under Doimukh Sub-Division in collaboration with Block Literacy Mission Committee, Doimukh Block on September 8.

Chukhu Bablu, former ZPC cum ZPM Gumto attended the celebration as Chief Guest. In his speech, Bablu called upon all the block/cluster Level functionaries, volunteers, teachers and educated youths including PRIs and GBs to spread awareness among the masses about the importance of literacy and the ongoing Govt. of India's scheme for adult education New India Literacy Programme (NILP) or Ullas-Nav Bharat 'Saksarta Karyakaram'. "Education plays a key role in building a developed society; therefore, every stakeholder must shoulder responsibilities to eradicate illiteracy for the greater interest of the society, he said, adding, NILP is a volunteerism driven scheme and therefore the privilege lot should volunteer without expecting remuneration for their contribution".

Speaking on the occasion, C.K. Yab, DAEO highlighted the importance of International Literacy Day and briefed the participants about ongoing government scheme 'New India Literacy Programme (NILP) or Ullas-Nav Bharat 'Saksarta Karyakaram' which was launched in state last year.

Briefing about the implementation of the scheme in the dis-

trict, Yab further informed that “the district has constituted five block level literacy committees headed by concerned administrative officers as chairperson. With 168 identified learning centers in Papum Pare and engagement of 185 volunteers comprising of Anganwadi workers, Asha workers, Govt. school teachers, church & youth volunteers to carry out activities at block level, the District Literacy Mission Authority seeks to ensure that the non-literate population is benefitted from the scheme.”

T.T. Tara, DDSE cum Member Secretary, DLMA exhorted for concerted effort by all block level committee members and volunteer teachers in motivating adult learners to attend Literacy class to attain the objectives of the scheme. “Educating someone is a great achievement and it brings peace to one’s mind & souls, so volunteer yourself to educate non literates,” he added.

Further, he urged the non literates to come forward to grab the opportunity provided by the govt. and educate themselves through NILP.

Dr. Mumne Borang, CO, Doimukh informed the participants that Arunachal Pradesh literacy rate accounts at 65% which stands 2nd lowest in India just above Bihar and still our state requires lot of efforts to eradicate illiteracy. “Education is a basic right of everyone and one must not shy away to learn and should not hesitate to volunteer to educate, as knowledge is power and sharing knowledge is empowerment”, she added.

The other highlights of the National Literacy Day celebrations included experience sharing by the Volunteer Teachers and Adult Learners, presentation of songs by the teachers and Adult Learners and plantation programme.

Earlier, a Prabhat Ferry was also organized by the Govt. Upper Primary School, Emchi as a part of the programme. More than 150 participants attended the programme which included Volunteer Teachers and Adult Learners from 43 centers of Doimukh Block, GBs, PRIs leaders, teachers and students of Emchi.

Similar programs were also held at all the 4 blocks of Papum Pare District under the banner of Block Literacy Mission Committee headed by ADC Sagalee, ADC Balijan, ADC Kimin, EAC Mengio and BEO/BRCC/CRCCs of the block.

### **PTM marks International Literacy Day at Kapu**

#### **KAPU, September 8:**

The coordination meeting of parents and teachers, showed 99% turn up from various villages as far as 12kms from the Govt Secondary School, Kapu on September 8 to mark the International Literacy Day.

The main objective of the meeting was to improve the performance of Class X students of Govt. Secondary School, Kapu in the upcoming CBSE examination 2023-24. The meeting was attended by parents of Class X students, PRI members and teachers.

Dr. Ripi Doni, Circle officer and chairman of school committee gave the students the tips and tricks to pass the board examination. She exhorted that there are three factors viz students, teachers and parents for the success of a student and all these three factors ought to play a pivotal role for the success. Dr. Doni further requested the teachers as well as the parents to play equivalent role for the all-

round development of the students.

Many speakers spoke in length and the focal point of discussion was how to improve the pass percentage of the Class X students in the Board Examination 2023-24.

In the meeting, Teacher-Student’s clubs were formed as per the number of Class X students, in which students are divided and accordingly grouped into Teacher-Students club. Each teacher will be responsible for overall academic growth of the student under his/her club. The teacher of each club will guide each student and track the performance in each unit test and find the weak subject where students need to focus more in order to improve the performance during the board exam.

Earlier, School Headmaster, Awang Ngoapo highlighted the aims and objectives of the meeting.

### **Lohit Youth Library Network celebrates 16th Annual Day**

#### **TEZU, September 9:**

“Today we must draw inspiration from the early learners of NEFA days, who started education soon after Independence, overcoming great hardships” remarked Er. Ms. Y Doji, Suptd Engineer (Power).

She was addressing readers, award recipients, volunteers, parents, and youth library activists at the 16th Annual Day celebrations of the Lohit Youth Library Network at Bamboosa Library Tezu on Saturday, September 9.

She hoped that the reading movement will extend across the Siang valley following the model of Lohit Youth Libraries.

Ms Doji also gave away the "Ranganatha" Award to Ringya Dellang, former Bamboosa Library I/c, Tezu & Manoj Kumar Giri, volunteer, Dibang Youth Library, Roing, for their dedicated contribution to reading promotion efforts.

Speaking as the Special guest at the celebrations, Kamleshwar Rao, Asstt Commissioner, Tezu recalled that even though he wasn't a reader in school, he had evolved as an avid reader, after he entered college. "Academic textbooks merely provide you with technical information, but reading outside academic texts gives you a vision." He urged the young readers to make the senior volunteers their role models because they had once been in their positions and had since grown and achieved tremendously. "There's a long way to go for you!", he exhorted the readers.

Sokhep Kri, Director, Dept of Indigenous Affairs, Itanagar and the Convenor of Lohit Youth Libraries exhorted the new readers to continue reading. While praising the Forum of Library Activists, he said "These elder sisters are sharing their time and energies to help you rural students achieve academic progress, in spite of their busy university studies."

Merit Certificates for senior volunteers, AIR Tezu quiz winners, Literacy Day Quiz winners and regular readers of the previous year were awarded during the celebrations. Best library reader awards for 2022-23 for middle school readers of Tezu were awarded to Arpita Kumari (Police Welfare School) and Anushka Kumari (TCM Govt. UP School).

The highlight of the celebrations was the several reading activities presented by the regular readers of Bamboosa Library. They also shared their warm memories of the days they had spent at the Bamboosa Library. "When I return from the library, my mind is very calm and I am able to sleep very well that night", said Arpita Kumari, an awardee. Asinla Krong a student from Anjaw and Anushka Kumari, Tezu outlined how the library movement has changed their lives.

Presenting the annual report, Coordinator, Lohit Youth Library Network, said that the emergence of the Forum of Activists of Lohit Youth Libraries (FOAL) and the RPETA Trust Delhi for supporting reading promotion activities in Arunachal are the landmarks during the year.

Keselo Tayang, Secretary, FOAL, spoke on the many events the Forum carried out during the previous year and thanked the RPETA Trust and the Bamboosa Library for their thoughtful and consistent support to reading promotion, while Siwani Dellang, Volunteer I/C at the Bamboosa Library spoke on the activities held during 2023-24 for school and college students, Jeenamsi Ngadong outlined the salient features of the youth library movement.

Earlier, Senior Volunteer Sakelu Chikro welcomed the guests, while Bethem Marai compered the proceedings and Solina Kambrai recorded the heartfelt gratitude of the library volunteers to the state govt leaders, district administration and other elite book-lovers across the world for supporting the Library Network.

## Cyber Forensic training for Judiciaries of Itanagar Permanent Bench

**NAHARLAGUN, September 10:** The National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT), Itanagar, in association with Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC) Kolkata, an Autonomous Scientific Society under the administrative control of Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India organized the a one day "Cyber Forensic Training Program for Judiciaries of Itanagar Permanent Bench, Yupia, Arunachal Pradesh" under Gauhati High court there at Administrative Training Institute (ATI), D-Sector, Naharlagun on September 10.

The training was sponsored by Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) under project 'Development of Cyber Forensic Training-cum-Investigation Labs in North-Eastern States and Cloud based Centralized Cyber Forensics Lab Infrastructures', which was being implemented by CDAC, Kolkata and NIELIT, Kohima.

Tailang Laji, Joint Registrar, Itanagar Permanent Bench, in his inaugural speech, emphasized on how analysis of digital evidence, Cyber Laws and Acts is becoming increasingly important for investigation and prosecution. He stressed for adequate training to the Judiciaries for representing the digital evidence in court and the importance of empowering the Judiciaries with the appropriate knowledge and tools of Cyber Forensics and appreciated the initiative taken by CDAC, Kolkata & NIELIT Itanagar for such training program.

Asok Bandyopadhyay, Associate Director and Project Chief Investigator, CDAC, Kolkata, then described the scope, deliverables and importance of the MeitY-sponsored cyber forensic project especially in the context of the NE States. He emphasized the need for such training for the Judiciaries of the state and thanked the Itanagar Permanent Bench for their cooperation.

Earlier, Rintu Das, Director In-charge, NIELIT Itanagar Centre welcomed to the Guests, Shri Tailang Laji, Joint Registrar, Itanagar Permanent Bench, Professor Faisal Fasih, NUJS, Kolkata, Shri Asok Bandyopadhyay, Associate Director & Project Chief Investigator & Shri Sourav Mitra, Joint Director, C-DAC Kolkata and all the participants.

Das further informed about the training activities of NIELIT Itanagar Centre and its Extension Centres Pasighat & Tezu and also briefed about the Cyber Forensic Training for Judiciaries.

A team comprising of experts from CDAC, Kolkata and NUJS, Kolkata provided the training sessions on the Communication Devices-Cybercrime perspective, Appreciation and attribution of Digital Evidence, IT Act, Social Media Forensics and Mobile Forensics. Altogether, 47 nos. of Judiciaries attended the above said training. The program completed successfully with positive feedback from the participants.

## **Police recovers brown sugar:**

*Major inter-district supply chain disrupted*

**PASIGHAT, September 10:** East Siang Supdt. of Police Sumit Kumar Jha during a press briefing,

held here on Tuesday informed that on Sunday, Sept-10, at around 9.30 AM an information was received from OC, Aalo Police Station Inspector Duto Bagra that as per his local sources, some boys from Aalo have gone to Pasighat to receive contraband drugs from a lady peddler. Accordingly, OC PS Pasighat Inspector Tabin Padung with his team rushed at the spot and proposed for more teams to place 'NAKAS' at multiple suspected locations.

SP Jha further informed that he formed three teams each under DySP(P) Taba Biroy, APPS, Lady Inspr. Ojum Riba, OC WPS and Inspr. Tabin Padung to place Nakas and to conduct the raids. WASE President Smt Yamik Dulom Darang was also contacted to reach near Sirki Petrol Pump with her team to act as independent witness. At around 12 Noon, a lady named Nung Padung @ Yage Yompang came from Rengging side towards Pasighat and was intercepted by police team near Sirki Petrol Pump. One of the Lady Police named L/Ct. Yade Dupit Perme identified her by face and alerted the police team that she was arrested earlier in NDPS cases during 2022.

The vehicle was searched and cash amount of Rs. 1,05,630/- which she received after sale of contraband drugs was recovered and seized. She further disclosed that she had delivered the contraband to three boys who have left for Aalo. One of them was on Scooty, one on Motorbike and the third one was driving Bolero Car. Both OC PS Pasighat, OC WPS Pasighat along with their teams led by Dy. SP(P) Taba Biroy chased them till Aalo.

Meanwhile, OC PS Pangin, Inspector T. Pasar and OC PS Aalo, Inspector Duto Bagra were given specific details about all three ve-

hicles and were requested to intercept them. Two vehicles were intercepted by OC, Aalo and one by OC, Pangin.

A case was also registered at Aalo PS. Three boys (peddlers) along with the main lady peddler were brought to Pasighat PS. After detail interrogation, police team with WASE mothers and Magistrate went ahead for house search of Smti Yage Yompang at Lower Banskota, Pasighat and from there, 10 soap cases of contraband drugs which were hidden in an abandoned public toilet were recovered and seized.

In total, 147 grams of contraband suspected to be brown sugar was recovered, which is the highest seizure till date in East Siang district, informed Jha, adding that the Police team, apart from the names already mentioned, comprised of SI(P) K. Tangha, SI(P) Kodak Dagium, SI (P) Kaling Pait, H/C T. Lama, H/C Taking Tabi, L/Ct. O. Pertin, L/Ct. Abit Wangjen, L/Ct. Bancha Kamhua, L/Ct. Yade Dupit Perme and L/HC Y. Rina and Driver Ct Sode Lingu.

The SP appreciated the coordinated efforts by police team of three districts viz, East Siang, Siang and West Siang and also the support extended by WASE Mothers. The 10-12 hours long operation has given a big blow to the inter-district supply chain in Arunachal Pradesh, he said and informed that further investigation to establish backward linkages is on.

## **VK Arunjyoti organizes competitions for students**

**AALO, September 11:**

Vivekananda Kendra Arun Jyoti organized "ARISE! AWAKE!! COMPETITION" for students

based on books of “The Power of Mind, Freedom fighter of North East and works of Vivekananda Kendra in Arunachal Pradesh” to promote “Know the Self” at Gumin Kinn, Aalo in West Siang District on Monday, September 11.

The competition was on three Steps - MCQ based on the book “Freedom fighter of North East- with special reference to Arunachal Pradesh”, One Day Personality Development Camp for those who will get more than 60% in the above MCQ test and three day workshop on Pariksha De HasteinHastein for selected students.

The competition was initiated by 14 schools of West Siang District on 02th Sept, 2023. 568 number of students registered for competition and 478 number of students appeared the exam.

Govt. Hr. Sec. School Aalo, Liroboma, Yomcha, Nehru Memorial Hr. Sec School Aalo, Govt Sec School P.I, New Market, NEKTE, Kamba, Kombo, VKV Jirdin, JNV Kombo, KV Aalo, St. Mary School students had scored more than 60% and they were selected for one day camp.

## Moyong launches Smart City Public Wi-Fi service

### PASIGHAT, September 12:

Pasighat East MLA-cum-Advisor to the Minister (UD&H, ULB & Town Planning), GoAP formally launched the “Public Wi-Fi at 10 locations of Pasighat log-in on to the Pasighat Smart City Wi-fi service at Giidi Notko on Tuesday, September 12 in presence of DC Tayi Taggu, SP Sumit Kumar

Jha, PMC Chief Councillor Okiam Moyong Borang, Dr. Manjuli Komut CEO PSCDCL, members of CSFCC, other dignitaries and large gathering of public.

While lauding the initiative of the Pasighat Smart City Mission, MLA Moyong expressed hope that with the extension of Wi-fi facility in various locations of Pasighat, business factor was going to be enhanced in the city. He noted that basic online services could be availed by every section of the society. He also added that students’ community, researchers and scholars and business community would be immensely benefited from this Wi-fi service.

Moyong further added that city-wide Wi-Fi public facility was one the first of its kind in the state and the Pasighat Smart City Mission was properly aligned towards the objective of the Digital India transformation Mission of the Government of India. He categorically advised the younger generation to avail the optimum benefits of the service for knowledge, skill and personality development and overall welfare of the society.

CEO PSCDCL, Dr. Manjuli Komut informed that the “Public Wi-Fi at 10 locations of Pasighat covering 30 access points” was taken up under the City Innovation Exchange (CIX) of Smart City Mission by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, GoI. She also apprised that the facility has been extended to DC’s Office Complex, Siang Guest House, Pasighat Bazar, Civil terminal of Pasighat Airport, Komlighat, BPGH, APST Bus Stand & JN College. The CEO in her message has appealed the younger generation for judicious use of the public Wi-fi system.

## 376 beneficiaries benefitted at SAD in Kaimai village

### KAIMAI, September 12:

Tirap District Administration conducted the 5th Sewa Aapke Dwar camp for season 2023 at Kaimai village on Sept 12, wherein 376 beneficiaries of Kaimai and Lap-tang benefited from various government schemes.

The programme was graced by DC Hento Karga in presence of Khonsa ZPM Wanghong Panka, Nodal Officer (SAD) Pik Tayom, Asstt Comdt 36bBn CRPF Sudhansh Kumar, HoDs, BM-AP-Apex Bank, ArSRLM, officials from various departments, PRIs and local populace.

The DC distributed 150 Booklets on government major schemes as a part of Arunachal Rising Campaign, 2023 compiled by IPR department in collaboration with District Administration.

In his address, the DC urged all the beneficiaries under various schemes including PMJAY /CMAAY/ ANKY/ANBY/Dulari Kanya Scheme/MGNREGA. He highlighted central and State government various major schemes under flagship program.

Project Director, DRDA cum DPDO Nangram Pingkapin his speech urged all the PRIs leaders to motivate and activate all and involve in identifying all eligible unskilled workers to issue Job Card under MGNREGA.

Dy. Director, WCD Smti Hacham Bangsia, made awareness about benefits/schemes under ICDS and SJE&TA in local dialects.

District Agriculture Officer Pangnye Khoisia enlightened about International Year of Millet in which he said that series of

awareness training program conducted at various blocks.

ZPM Wanghong Panka and Khamwang Lowang, Chief of Kaimai lauded the District Administration and government departments for conducting Sewa Aapke Dwar at Kaimai village and provided various schemes at the doorsteps.

On the occasion, 6th Assam Rifles officials make awareness about “Know Your Armed Forces” pertinent to criteria for recruitment in Armed Forces.

Awareness on SVEEP (Systematic Voter’s Education and Electoral Participation) activities was carried out by representative of IPR department Gawang Sumpa in local dialect for greater participation in the election for a strong democracy.

During the camp, the DC issued 163 nos of ST certificates /61 Nos. PRC, 11 Job Cards, Agriculture and Horticulture equipment/materials distributed to 22 progressive farmers on spot. NCD screening test also done to 50 patients, while 35 CMAAY form filled by department of health.

## **Defence Minister dedicates 90 BRO projects including state’s Nechiphu Tunnel to nation**

*Nechiphu Tunnel is one more example of the Centre’s commitment- CM*

### **NECHIPHU, September 12:**

Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh has dedicated to the nation 90 infrastructure projects of Border Roads Organisation (BRO), worth over Rs 2,900 crore, spread across 11 States/Union Territories.

The projects were inaugurated by the Raksha Mantri at an event in Jammu on Tuesday morning, September 12, 2023.

These included Nechiphu Tunnel in Arunachal Pradesh; two airfields in West Bengal; two helipads; 22 roads and 63 bridges. Of these 90 projects, 36 are in Arunachal Pradesh; 26 in Ladakh; 11 in Jammu & Kashmir; five in Mizoram; three in Himachal Pradesh; two each in Sikkim, Uttarakhand & West Bengal and one each in Nagaland, Rajasthan and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu was present at the Nechiphu tunnel site in West Kameng district connected virtually to the main event.

In his brief address, Khandu lauded the BRO for successful completion of the tunnel within a short span of time. He also expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh for their sincere efforts in improving connectivity in the border state.

“The only bottleneck to development in the state was its poor connectivity, owing majorly to the lackadaisical attitude of the previous governments at the Centre. Since Modi became the Prime Minister, Arunachal has witnessed complete transformation in its connectivity sector. Nechiphu Tunnel is one more example of the Centre’s commitment,” he said.

Underscoring the significance of the Nechiphu Tunnel, Khandu said that it will not only shorten the distance for people travelling on the Balipara-Charduar-Tawang (BCT) road but also ease the danger of driving in the fog that engulfs the area for most part of the year.

“Dense fog in the area made travelling on the curvy road most dangerous. Many fatal accidents have occurred in the area. This tunnel will now bypass the fog zone providing safe travel to all,” he added.

The 500-metre long Nechiphu Tunnel along with the nearing completion Sela Tunnel, will provide all-weather connectivity to the strategic Tawang Region. It will be beneficial to the Armed Forces deployed in the region and the tourists visiting Tawang. Rajnath Singh had laid the foundation stone of the tunnel in October 2020.

Complementing the BRO for its proactive role not only in constructing roads, bridges and tunnels but also in helping locals, both directly (employment) and indirectly (facilities like health centres, schools, etc), Khandu expressed hope that all projects under BRO in Arunachal will be completed successfully.

The BRO has completed the construction of these strategically-important projects in record time; most of them in a single working season using state-of-the-art technology.

In his address, the Raksha Mantri described the BRO as ‘bro (brother)’ of the Armed Forces, asserting that, through its infrastructure projects, BRO is not only securing India’s borders, but also playing a key role in the socio-economic development of the far-flung areas.

Singh credited the timely completion of these projects to the hard work and dedication of its personnel as well as the commitment of the government under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

“Together with BRO, we are ensuring that the nation is secure and border areas are developed. Timely completion of infrastructure projects in far-flung areas has now become the new normal of New India,” he said.

With the day’s inauguration of 90 projects worth Rs 2,900

crore, a record 295 infrastructure projects of the BRO, at an overall cost of approx. Rs 8,000 crore, have been dedicated to the nation since 2021. In 2022, 103 projects worth approx. Rs 2,900 crore were inaugurated; while in 2021, 102 projects at a cost of over Rs 2,200 crore were dedicated to the nation.

## Universal Brotherhood Day observed

### KYIDPHEL, September 13:

The Vivekananda Kendriya Vidyalaya, Kyidphel in Tawang district celebrated the 130th universal brotherhood day on Sept 13 in honour of the historic Chicago Address by Swami Vivekananda in the world parliament of religions in 1893.

Tawang DC, Kanki Darang and SP, DW Thongon participated the celebration along with EAC Kyidphel, Tsering Choden, other SSG members, guests representing various NGOs from Tawang, West Kameng and parents.

The students of VKV Kyidphel presented beautiful cultural programme and drama on life of Swami Vivekananda on the occasion.

Hindi Teacher, Rakesh Petkar spoke in detail on the importance of the day, while Pema Lhamu, a student of class IX presented the Chicago address of Swami Vivekananda.

Addressing the PTA members and guests, DC said Swami Vivekananda was the first youth icon of this great country, who participated in the world parliament of religions in Chicago and represented India, proudly presenting the great culture civilization and Indian identity in 1893, though our country was being ruled by the Britishers at that time. He spoke

about the life of swami Vivekananda and his experiences with his guru Ramakrishna Paramhansa. He discussed about Vasudeva Kutumbakam and mission one world one family, the DC said and told that "We should walk on the path shown to us by Swami Vivekananda and work for the development of the nation". He motivated the students to work for development of nation and appreciated the beautiful cultural performance by them. On the occasion, the DC also asked the parents to motivate and monitor the activities of their children.

Earlier, Praanth Yuva Pramukh and Cluster incharge VKV Rinchin Norbu spoke about the role of Kendra in service of nation while teachers Vivekananda Roy and Mandita Limbu through power point presentation explained the reports on NEP 2020 and progress of school.

The winners and participants of various competitions held in school during the session were felicitated by the Deputy Commissioner.

At TAFRAGAM: Vivekananda Kendra Vidyalaya (VKV), Tafrogam celebrated the anniversary of Swami Vivekananda's famous speech delivered on September 11, 1893 in Chicago to the delegates of the World Parliament of Religions on 11th September 2023.

On the occasion, MP Arunachal East, Tapir Gao inaugurated the Auditorium Hall of VKV Tafrogam.

Gao, in his speech complimented all the participants of the event, especially the parents for admitting their students in VKVs. He mentioned that all should work like Eknathji. The MP requested the parents to teach their children their local dialects in order to preserve the culture. He also donated an amount of 1 Lakh to Vivekananda Kendra.

Earlier, the MP lighted the ceremonial lamp followed by chanting of Mangalacharan by the students of Class IX and a song called "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" was sung by the students of class X followed by welcome address by the Principal, Smt Manisha Devi.

Guest of honour, DC Lohit, Shashvat Saurabh appreciated the VKVs for its service and also inspired the students to develop the thoughts and qualities of Swami Vivekananda in them. He mentioned the best performance of three VKVs of Lohit District in academic and co-curriculum activity in entire Lohit district.

Smti Timita Namchoom, Alumni of VKV Tafrogam spoke on the significance of celebrating Universal Brotherhood Day, where she also told about the famous 'Chicago Address' of Swami Vivekananda. A skit on the life incidents of Swami Vivekananda was performed by the students of classes VI, VII and VIII.

Jeevantu Tikhak, Lohit Vibhag Yuva Pramukh, Vivekananda Kendra introduced about Vivekananda Kendra and its activity among the audience. In his speech, he requested the gathering to be a patron of Vivekananda Kendra.

## RGU signs MoU with CUSB, Gaya, Bihar

### DOIMUMKH, September 13:

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU) and Central University of South Bihar (CUSB), Gaya, Bihar, for academic and collaborative researches in area of mutual interests here on Monday, Sept 11.

Both the organizations have agreed to come together and have decided to work jointly on set

terms and conditions in identified areas of mutual interest, in accordance with the prevailing regulations and norms of either or both the Parties, as may be applicable.

RGU, Vice Chancellor Prof. Saket Kushwaha termed the inking of the MoU a welcoming step towards achieving academic heights on mutually benefitting parameters for both the parties. He said that the research projects under the MoU will instill positive vibes in the socio-economic and cultural development of both the states. He emphasized on the importance of undertaking extension, outreach, documentation and sensitization programmes on various cultural-related studies and was optimistic that this joint venture will yield the desired results.

He further disclosed that, any publication, document and paper arising out of joint work conducted by the participants pursuant to this MoU will be jointly owned without misusing the official emblem and logo of both the organisations, adding both the parties shall be responsible to carry out the activities under the area of collaboration and New Project, Program, Conference, Seminar, Workshops and like which is co-designed and organized by both the parties. The financial arrangements wherever involved will be decided and approved after mutual consent and shall be agreed to for each activity individually on resource deployment, arrangements and mobilization will be planned accordingly.

The Vice-Chancellor of CUSB Prof. Kameshwar Nath Singh, in his address through virtual mode said that the basic purpose of the MoU is to yield optimum benefit while maintaining institutional accountability, professional and social responsibility in right perspective keeping

in view the huge scope of cultural exchange-based research and training. He emphasized on exchanges and support on logistics mutually beneficial manner for both the parties, besides sharing of knowledge base.

RGU's Registrar Dr. Nabam Tadar Rikam lauding the initiative of the joint endeavours by RGU and SBU reiterated that interdependency factor will benefit both the organizations and emphasized for maintaining a functionally active MoU and further maintained that both the parties mutually agrees for financing of joint activities from internal and external sources available with them as per the discretions and the responsibilities bestowed under "the mutually discussed and agreed upon agreement" for each specific cooperation and activities.

On collaborative Research Programs in specific fields of interest, the Registrar informed that both RGU and SBU will jointly identify specific fields to conduct collaborative research programs of mutual interest, also Training programs for students will be explored and organized as per set guidelines besides student exchange programs for students will be explored and conducted accordingly which will be beneficial mutually for both Parties.

The Registrar of CUSB Col. Rajeev Kumar Singh (Retd.) advocated for playing the role of a facilitator in implementing the programs and activities envisaged in the MoU.

Earlier, the Assistant Professor in Physics and Nodal Officer from RGU Dr. Sonika, while presenting the MOU mentioned that the joint venture will be academically very viable especially in terms of exchange avenues for students, academic fraternity and

researchers alike, wherein any registered students or researchers of either of the varsities could get enrolment for a period of one semester and get benefitted immensely.

The MoU was signed by RGU's Registrar Dr. Nabam Tadar Rikam and CUSB's Registrar Col. Rajeev Kumar Singh (Retd.) in presence of Vice-Chancellors of both the universities, faculty members and other officers from the two organizations both physically and on virtual modes.

## School safety programs on disaster preparedness conducted

**KHONSA, September 13:**

In order to ensure safety of children in disasters, the District Disaster Management Authority, Tirap conducted a series of mock drills and demonstrations on School safety and awareness generation activities on September 12 and 13 at Govt. Higher Secondary School, Khonsa and Bari-Basip Residential school.

The programme was conducted as the children in schools are the most vulnerable during disasters and a safe and secure environment is a prerequisite for any institution, where ensuring safety of children, teachers and staff members during disasters is of utmost necessary.

The demonstrations on various disasters were conducted to educate and train the students on how to respond to unforeseen emergencies such as earthquakes, fire etc to ensure the safety of the students.

Along with the School safety programs, the basic self defence training was also provided to the students by resource person Yum Pangkhu, Judo Coach in which 51

girls, 49 boys and 8 teaching staffs participated.

## Governor launches State-level 'Ayushman Bhava' campaign

*Ayushman Bhava must be collective 'whole of society' effort: Governor*

### ITANAGAR, September 13:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) launched the State-level 'Ayushman Bhava' campaign from Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on Wednesday, September 13, 2023, which was launched by the President of India earlier in the day.

The campaign aims to ensure optimum delivery of health schemes to every intended beneficiary, including those in the last mile.

Speaking on the occasion, the Governor said that Ayushman Bhava is a blessing for a long and healthy life and complemented everyone involved in building an intensified campaign around it to enhance awareness about various health sector schemes with the view to achieve saturation coverage of essential and critical healthcare services in both rural and urban areas. He said that the launching of 'Ayushman Bhava' campaign and the planned State-wide activities, the Health Department will be able to further improve the delivery of all National and State-run health schemes to every intended beneficiary as well as the quality of healthcare service delivered to the citizens, especially at the Ayushman Bharat Health & Wellness Centre level.

The Governor said that this 'Antyodaya' approach of saturation of healthcare services in every

village embodies the remarkable vision of Prime Minister, Narendra Modi for a healthier and more prosperous India. He thanked the Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare for taking the initiative to build momentum for the noble cause.

The Governor said that with cooperation from all Government Departments, every individual - women, children, adolescents, adults and the elderly will be touched through the three planned elements during the campaign namely; Ayushman Apke Dwar 3.0, Ayushman Sabha and Ayushman Mela at Ayushman Bharat-Health and Wellness Centre. He urged all to join hands in the noble endeavour and make it a resounding success.

The Governor said that Ayushman Bhava must be a collective 'whole of society' effort. He strongly recommended that the tribal communities, Panchayat members and Goan Burahs assist the Government Health Organizations by encouraging 'Volunteer men and women' who can be trained in 'First Aid' and in maintaining 'Hygiene and Sanitation' in the village premises as well as households. Such volunteers will act as the first line of healthcare and can be duly incentivized. The contributions of individual volunteers will greatly add to the 'Ayushman Bhava' campaign, he said.

The Governor exhorted the village and community organization functionaries and government officials to reach out to the people and participate in any welfare measures of the State and Central Governments to make it meaningful and benefitting to the targeted population. He said that sincere and dedicated people participation will make it 'Jan Andolan' or 'People's movement'.

The Governor appealed to people to donate any organ or tissues, which can be used after one's demise and give a new lease of life to those in need. He also advised the health department to maintain proper records at State, District and Circle levels for immediate necessary action.

Earlier, Chief Minister Pema Khandu, who was virtually connected from Tawang participated in the launching programme. He highlighted the areas which need to be focused to make the health governance successful in the state.

State Health Minister Alo Libang and Health Secretary Lyon Borang also spoke on the occasion, while the Principal Secretary Health Dr. Sharat Chauhan presented a roadmap for the health sector through a PowerPoint presentation.

On the special occasion, the Governor conferred 'Best Performing District' awards under Pradhan Mantri TB Mukh Bharat Abhiyan to Namsai, West Siang and Papum Pare districts. He also awarded 'Best Performing Non-Governmental Organization' under Pradhan Mantri TB Mukh Bharat Abhiyan to Olley AI Foundation, Ziro, Indian Red Cross Society, Arunachal Pradesh and Oju Welfare Association, Naharlagun.

Certificate of Appreciation for 'Ni-kshay Mitras' (TB patient care-takers) were announced. The names were - Alo Libang, Minister Health & Family Welfare, Nabam Tuki, MLA & former chief minister, MLAs - Tana Hali Tara, Techikaso, Kanggong Taku and Karikho Kri, IMC Mayor Tame Phasang, Professor Saket Kushwaha, VC, RGU and Tojo Karga, DIG, Prisons, Jullang.

Chief Secretary Dharmendra, Commissioner, Secretaries and Senior Officers of various Depart-

ments at State, including Health and Family Welfare, National Health Mission and National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme (NTEP) also attended the function and District Level Officers were connected virtually.

## NES President lauds rich culture & heritage of Adi community

*“We are a living culture” - Pad-mashree Mamang Dai*

**PASIGHAT, September 13:**

Nyishi Elite Society (NES) President, Prof. Tana Showren, while gracing as the chief guest of the Central Solung Celebration here on September 9, said that “Nature and Culture” is closely inter-connected in the lives of the indigenous communities since time immemorial.

All our festivals celebrated by the various tribes and the customs, folkdances and rituals show reverence to Mother Nature’s mountains and rivers, agricultural cycles, flora and fauna, he said, adding that the traditional knowledge of conserving and protecting our Mother Nature is need of the hour to fight against the climate change that we are witnessing due to wanton destruction of forests, rivers and wildlife.

Earlier, he performed “Taku Taabat “as part of traditional inauguration of the festival. The NES President was accompanied by his team of NES executive members.

Extending his Solung greetings, Prof. Showren lauded the rich culture, heritage, traditional knowledge of the Adi community. He also thanked the Central Solung Festival Celebration Committee (CSFCC-23) led by President Oyin Moyong & GS Kalen Komut for the invitation to the NES. Call-

ing for taking pride in speaking in our own language/dialects, he said that language is a distinct identity of civilizations and we must as parents, elders, society must save our language from extinction for the future generations.

Noted Author and Pad-mashree Dr. Mamang Dai, while extending her Solung greetings, said that our rich oral tradition is a window to our rich past and mythology drawing on our collective social memory of time immemorial, adding that, “We are a living culture” which is reflected through all our festivals of the state. Calling on the young generation on the need to keep in touch with their roots, she said that, “You must have a foundation of our collective history of your own culture” and at the same time move with the time and contribute to the society through your innovation, creativity, sporting excellence and other areas.

Earlier, Local MLA Kal-ing Moyong extended his warm welcome to the NES team led by President Prof. Tana Showren. He also spoke on promoting our culture and heritage through celebration of age-old festivals.

DC East Siang Tayi Taggu as special guest, President. Adi Baane Ane Kebang (ABAK) Onam Darang Pertin, ABK East Siang President, Er. Diji Tamuk, host of dignitaries and personalities from Adi community were also present on the occasion.

The highlights of the cultural display included Solung Yoga by Likor Village, Tapu War Dance by Komkar Village, Nokyin Delong by Damro Village, Disang Folkdance by Milang Village, Pasi Kongki by Adi Pasi Reyi Ane Rasing.

Earlier, Oyin Moyong President Central Solung Celebra-

tion Festival Committee (CSFCC-23) narrated the history of Central Solung Celebration since 1965-66 organized first at Pangin and the contributions of Golgi Botte Talom Rukbo and late T. Taki among others.

Kalen Komut General Secretary CSFCC -23 also spoke on the occasion.

The three-day Solung celebration featured Miss Lune, cultural and literary and sports activities.

## CM virtually joins launch of Ayushman Bhava Campaign; Endorses decentralization of medicine procurement for govt hospitals

**TAWANG, September 13:**

Chief Minister Pema Khandu asserted that the Ayushman Bhava program must not be limited to the district hospitals but reach out to each and every village of the state.

Virtually joining the launch of Ayushman Bhava Campaign by Governor Lt. General KT Parnaik (Rtd) here on Wednesday, September 13, 2023, Khandu said that the campaign will work towards saturating the coverage of various health schemes in mission mode for optimum delivery of healthcare services to the last mile in tandem with the Central government’s commitment of ‘sabka vikas’.

Noting that panchayats have to play a seminal role in making the people’s programs more effective, he advised the District Medical Officers (DMOs) to keep them in the loop for coordination and successful implementation of the campaign scheduled from 17th September to 2nd October next.

He further asked the DMOs to chalk out a detailed program for

their respective districts by Thursday and submit the same to concerned deputy commissioners and zila parishad chairpersons as per the program detailed by the Union Health Ministry.

Immediately after the COVID pandemic, Khandu informed that the state government has on mission mode taken upon itself to upgrade District Hospitals, Community Health Centres, Primary Health Centres, Sub Centres and Health and Wellness Centres across the state. As a result, he said that the state has witnessed significant improvement in Maternal and Child Care, institutional delivery, Critical and Emergency Care, Cancer Care, Renal Care etc.

“In the last two and half years, the human resources gap in health sector has been substantially bridged bringing it down from the erstwhile 33% to about 6% now,” he revealed.

Khandu went on to inform that the state government has approved establishment of a Public Health Nursing Cadre for strengthening the nursing services across the State through creation of 450 posts of Public Health Nursing Cadre in Groups C, B and A and 623 posts of Hospital Nursing Cadre, comprising of Group B non-gazetted, Group B gazette and Group A posts to meet the pressing secondary healthcare needs due to increasing footfall in the public health facilities.

To meet the Indian Nursing Council Norms, 5 posts of Associate Professors (Nursing) and 18 posts of Assistant Professors (Nursing) have also been created, he informed.

Khandu also said that the intake capacity of MBBS students at TRIHMS will be enhanced from the present 50 to 110 seats from the next academic session.

Informing that TRIHMS has started services like Cardiac Cath Lab in addition to existing critical care services like ICUs, renal care, cancer care etc. he said that in order to augment the health human resource of the lone medical college in the state, creation of 272 ancillary posts including nursing officers for TRIHMS was approved during the last Cabinet meeting on August 25.

Khandu expressed satisfaction in implementation of two significant health services to the needy – PM Jan Arogya Yojna and the CM Arogya Arunachal Yojna. He said that while PMJAY has achieved 100% enrollment in 89 villages across 16 districts of the state, 5.7 lakh people have been enrolled under CMAAY and more than 25000 patients have availed tertiary care benefits so far.

In a significant move, the Chief Minister endorsed decentralization of medicine procurement for government hospitals. Claiming that type of diseases varied from district to district owing to geographic and topographic differences, he suggested procurement of medicines through district committees as per the district's requirements.

“Moreover, the medicines centrally procured may get expired by the time these reach the districts from the state capital,” he pointed.

Meanwhile, Khandu appreciated all Nikshay Mitras, who are fighting against TB by supporting treatment of TB patients, expressing optimism that more would volunteer in future. He also congratulated all ‘best performing districts’ in various categories who were awarded by the Governor during the occasion.

## “Go extra miles to project department in limelight”- Ete to IPR officers

**ITANAGAR, September 13:**

IPR & Printing Secretary Nyali Ete exhorted the IPR officers posted in Itanagar Capital Region (ICR) to go extra miles to project the department in limelight and in right earnest.

Motivating the officers to work hard and perform better at a coordination meeting at his office chamber here on September 8, Ete exhorted each one of them to work in a coordinated approach for better coverage of all government events including VIP programmes.

Praising the officers for their efforts taken during emergencies like covid pandemic and through Arunachal Raising Campaign in districts, the Secretary emphasized on more such concerted efforts with proper coordination among themselves, besides liaising with other line departments to make programmes successful, besides bringing the department in the forefront.

IPR Director Onyok Per-tin, while welcoming all highlighted the aims and objectives of the meeting which has been convened to discuss functional jurisdiction of the PRO/DIPROs in the capital region.

Deputy Director Gijum Tali also spoke and gave words of advice to the officers.

All the officers placed their grievances and deliberated on the matter of functional jurisdiction and came out with the solution to have a proper coordination among them to facilitate better coverage of programmes.

## Mein joins BA:NÉ SOLUNG GÍ:DÍ 2023 at Roing

### ROING, September 13:

Arunachal Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein attended the 'BA:NÉ SOLUNG GÍ:DÍ 2023' celebration in Roing, Lower Dibang Valley district on Sept 13 as the Chief Guest.

The celebration served as a platform to showcase the rich heritage and vibrant culture of the Adi community, along with rituals to seeking blessings for a prosperous harvest season.

While addressing the gathering, Deputy Chief Minister, Mein expressed his gratitude to the Central Solung Celebration Committee, Roing, for making him a part of the central solung festival celebration. He lauded the festive spirit of the Adi Community and emphasized on the maintenance of the unity in diversity citing the rich cultural diversity of the State and uniqueness of each tribe's cultural aspects.

He also commented on the political maturity and dynamic qualities of Arunachal's young MLAs, citing them as sources of valuable learning in the legislative assembly. He also highlighted the developmental strides made under the present leadership of the State Govt which is leading to accelerated growth and development in the region.

Deliberating on the PM Modi's Panch Pran, he called upon everyone to be responsive of our own duties and be a contributor in Nation's progress towards achieving the goal of a developed nation by 2047 as envisioned by the Prime Minister.

Saying that we much be aware of our own history and culture, he said that it is a matter of pride for all of us that our forefathers had also fought wars against the Colonial rule. He stated that our forefathers have fought three major known wars which are Anglo-Khamti War of 1839, Anglo-Wancho War of 1875 and Anglo-Abor Wars of 1858, 1859, 1894 & 1911-12 against the British rule and we are proud of it.

He further informed that war memorials will be built in all the war sites including in the Anglo-Abor war site at Dambuk soon.

Mein also launched two books at the festival celebration called, "Pémí-Pio Bédang" & "Kéyum-Kéro," authored by Ilo Libang, which narrates about the rhapsodies and the folk tales of the Adis. He also felicitated the toppers of Class X and XII of the community from Lower Dibang Valley District and acknowledged the Adi Culture & Literary Society for their initiative of felicitating the toppers which will further motivate them in their studies.

Responding to the memorandums on the occasion, the Deputy CM assured for upgradation of the Gi:Di Notko and also for the installation of High Mast in some selected schools of Lower Dibang Valley district.

The festival was also attended by MLA Roing, Mutchu Mithi as Guest of Honour, Lok Sabha MP, Tapir Gao as Special Guest, MLA Dambuk cum Chief Patron of the Festival, Gum Tayeng, Former Minister, Roding Pertin, ZPC LDV Toni Borang, DC Roing, Soumya Saurabh (IAS) and SP Akanksha Yadav (IPS), among others.

## Legal awareness program at Seppa

### SEPPA, September 13:

An awareness program on POC-SO ACT 2012 was held at Seppa by District Child Protection Unit, W&CD Department in collaboration with District Legal Service Authority, East Kameng, Seppa.

Sachin Rana, Deputy Commissioner attended as chief guest, while Habung Tangu, Chief Judicial Magistrate, East Kameng as Resource Person.

Along with the awareness program, the house observed 6th Rashtriya Poshan Maah and also took Poshan Pledge.

On the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner urged everyone to follow the activities given under National Nutrition Month and encouraged education department to adopt backyard kitchen garden for healthy and clean eating habits of the students.

The resource person elaborated POC-SO ACT along with various case studies and also highlighted on various other acts like Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act 2013, Arunachal Pradesh Victim Compensation Scheme 2011, Legal Aid Clinic, and Legal Aid Counsellor.

The program was attended by all administrative officers and officers from departments of Health, Police, Education, Legal cum Probation Officers, members of Local Complaint Committee, Members of Juvenile Justice Board, CDPOs, Members of Child Welfare Committee, District Child Protection Officer, Presiding Officer of Internal Complaint Committee and Chairperson CCI.

Earlier, the department had also organized similar program on

Crime against Women, where Jaya Taba, Deputy Director W&CD, stated that her department aimed to provide a platform for fruitful discussion of legal matters by all stakeholders of the district.

## 238 villagers benefitted at SAD camp

**GONGKHAR, September 13:**

The 2nd Seva Apke Dwar 2.0 camp of Tawang district was held at Gongkhar village under Mogto circle on Sept 13.

238 villagers from Gongkhar, Khet, Gyamdong and nearby hamlets were benefitted from this camp. A total of 29 government departments provided their service to the villagers at their doorstep in this camp.

Interacting with the villagers after formal inauguration of the camp, DC Tawang, Kanki Darang asked the gaon burahs and panchayat leaders to ensure that no villager should be missed out in availing benefits of these camps. We are in the process of saturating the schemes specially a few which are under saturation tracker, so all should cooperate and handhold those villagers who are not aware in availing benefits of various welfare schemes, he added.

The DC also gave patient hearing to the grievances placed by villagers and assured that every possible measure will be taken immediately to redress those grievances.

The 2nd Seva Apke Dwar camp at Gongkhar was attended by ADC Jang RD Thongon, DPDO Tawang Tenzin Jambey, EAC cum DPO Choiki Dondup, Circle Officer Mogto Phuntso Tashi, other head of offices from Tawang and Jang sub division.

The agricultural and horticulture department officials visited agriculture and horticulture farms, while PD DRDA visited the project sites of MGNREGA for monitoring and supervision. The DC also monitored few such projects on the way.

## RGU gets a new girl's hostel

**DOIMUKH, September 13:**

A newly constructed 100 seated girl's hostel of Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU), Rono Hills, Doimukhgot inaugurated here on Tuesday by the Vice Chancellor of RGU Prof. Saket Kushwaha.

The hostel has been constructed from the fund allocated through Higher Education Financing Agency (HEFA) of the Ministry of Education and the construction work was executed by the Central Public Works Department (CPWD)'s Kimin division and named as the Pakke Halls of Residence (for girls). Expressing his satisfaction over the execution of the project the Vice Chancellor termed it as an achievement for the university where the executing agency and the university system worked in tandem to complete the project on time. With this, 100 more students will get accommodation in the university campus. He also informed the gathering that two more hostels for girls will be completed soon. The foundation stones for the two hostels got repositioned in the entrances of the two buildings today by the Vice Chancellor in presence of the who's who of the university and from the executing agency.

RGU's Registrar Dr. Nabam Tadar Rikam also lauded the executing agency for ensuring quality of works. He informed that

the project got started last year on 7th March, 2022 with an estimated cost of Rs. 7.715 Crore. RGU's Finance Officer Prof. Otem Padung who was very elated informed that the hostel rooms shall be allocated on premium payment basis and maintained that the facilities are of high standards. In the sideline of the inaugural programme, RGU's Joint Registrar (UGC & Projects) Dr. David Pertin informed that the hostels and other projects are being funded and executed through HEFA loans. RGU availed the HEFA allocations which is a new method of funding the premier institutions by using the instrument of securitizing the future flows. Under this scheme, RGU as a central government run institution agreed to escrow a specific amount from their internally earned resources and have drawn a credit line which has been used for creating the required capital and research assets as per the laid down guidelines of the governmental funding agency.

The Executive Engineer of RGU Basant Kumar Shah informed that the rooms were furnished with modern day appliances and facilities and there is a dining hall of 50 boarders at a time.

Among others, RGU's Dean of Basic Sciences Prof. Sanjeev Kumar, Dean of Languages Prof. SS Singh, Dean, Life Sciences & Agricultural Sciences Prof. Sumpam Tangjang, Dean of Students Welfare Prof. Gibji Nimasow, Chief Warden Dr. Tabang Mibang, Joint Registrars Dr. Nani Tamang Jose, Dr. David Pertin and Kurian Thomas, wardens of various hostels, and while from CPWD Kimin division, the SE&PD, Dhiraj Bhattacharya, EE&SM Saraswati Konwar, Assistant Engineers Amrit Paul and Manoj Kumar Nandy, besides Contractors, suppliers and others witnessed the programmes.

## DCM inaugurates reading hall in Namsai District Library

*Mass awareness on library movement is the need of the hour - Mein*

**NAMSAI, September 13:**

Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein inaugurated a reading hall in District Library, Namsai recently.

MLA, Namsai Chau Zingnu Namchoom, MLA Lekang, Smti. Jummun Ete Deori, Secretary Planning R. K Sharma, ZPC, Namsai, DC & SP Namsai, Padma Sathyanarayan Mundayoor, all heads of departments, heads of CBOs, NGOs, Student organisations, teachers and students were present on the occasion.

The project was executed by PWD, Namsai with a cost of Rs 60.00 lakhs under SIDF and Rs 15.26 lakhs Untied fund.

Addressing the gathering, the DCM said that a mass awareness on library movement is the need of the hour, which can be taken up by convergence. The concept of bringing school students from villages to visit the district library should be initiated and the students should be made aware about the existence of a library of this quality, he stated.

Addressing the issue on shortage of voltage & transformer, he said that for a development to take place a strong and consistent power supply is a prerequisite. Hence a source for consistent power supply for running the library unit should be looked into. He also said that since all district headquarters have libraries, the library movement can be taken up in these areas but one should also take the responsibility of catering to the needs of the villagers. For which he welcomed pitching of ideas from grass-root levels and

the execution of which shall be facilitated by us legislators, he said.

Speaking on the inflicting drug menace in the district, he said that student organisations should not be a mere spectator and should speak out against drug abuse. He concluded by appealing to the students and youths of the area to avail the modern library services being provided by district library Namsai and encouraged everyone to visit the library as frequent as possible with an aim to light a lamp of knowledge in every corner of the district.

MLA Namchoom, in his speech drew comparison from the past and said that the district had very less opportunity prior to 2014 which has changed immensely due to the efforts and contributions made by team Namsai. Being a student who pursued History honours, he appreciated the different sections in the district library comprising of books of Arunachal History, North East history, Indian and world history. In a district as Namsai, where drug abuse is a rampant menace, a conducive environment for students provided by district library is must, he said and urged the student union leaders, CBOs, officers to mention and spread the word of the library wherever and whenever possible.

MLA Smti Ete Deori congratulated the entire team on the occasion. She focused on the importance of library is the lives of children and urged the students to get themselves registered and chose library as a safe heaven to study in case there are disturbances in their homes. She further mentioned that a book is a child's biggest friend and library is a knowledge centre which can pave the paths of the children to a more ethical and flourishing way of living.

R.K Sharma, Secretary, Planning who was the former DC of Namsai said that district library Namsai was able to see consistent development because it has always received tremendous love and support from HDCM and the local legislators. He talked about the ongoing debate of digital and physical books and mentioned that both versions have its pros and cons. In this technology driven society one should keep up with the advancements but at the same time physical books should be seen as equally important and the mix of both can be found in district library Namsai, he said. Mentioning that the service of library should be catered to all sections of society, he highlighted the importance of developing children library along with library for civil service aspirants, officials etc. He said that more space is required in the district library and suggested that children library can be segregated from the existing system by extending the building. He concluded by requesting the honourable legislators to facilitate the sustenance of the district library for which recurring expenditures shall be required.

Earlier in his welcome address DC, C.R Khampa expressed that as the administrative head of the district he is proud to witness the consistent development of the district library. He mentioned that district library prior to 2014, then sub divisional Library had hardly 2000 books with 62 registered members which was notified as district library in 2018. Since then the Library has been expanding with number of books increasing from 2000 to 160000 and registered members increased from 62 to 832. Average footfall of the district library is more than 1200 per month and around 1600 books are in circulation. The library is acting

as a knowledge centre for the society in true sense. He informed that although, it is one of the youngest district library in the state, but, leaving behind all the public libraries in Arunachal Pradesh and to some extent in entire North Eastern state the library has become the 1st public library which is fully automated with modern RFID Technology.

Speaking on the occasion Padma Shri Sathyanarayan Mundayoor talked about the importance of developing one's own literature. He advised the students to try translating books in their own mother tongue. We should try to develop a literature of Arunachal and aim to make Arunachal a reading society, he said.

During the programme, awards were presented to winners of Craft competition conducted by District Library, Namsai. Miss Devika Mukhopadya was adjudged as the winner in Jr category and Miss Devika Rai in the senior.

The inauguration session was followed by an academic session. District Library Namsai has started Library on Wheel Service for the first time in the department of public libraries in Arunachal Pradesh. Just as the district administration has been organising Seva Aap Ki Dwar program to ensure delivery of public services of every government scheme at the door step of the people, in the same line, the motto of this Library is to reach its readers when readers could not reach to the library (Library at door step).

School children (up to Class V standard) usually face difficulties to visit the library without assistance from their parents, to resolve this problem and with an aim to inculcate reading habit from an early age, the district library, Namsai has initiated the supply of library books mainly on

children's literature, comics, biography, general knowledge etc. to schools situated in and around Namsai township area through a single Institutional library membership card.

At present under a pilot project, library books are being supplied on regular interval in four schools viz. Blooming Buds Public School, Tiny Tots School, VKV and Kendiya Vidyalaya, Namsai and Model AWC, Kaba.

### District Level Coordination Committee Meeting held

**AALO, September 13:**

West Siang DC Penga Tato urged government officials, NGOs and the women's commission to be proactive in curbing plastic pollution.

Chairing a district-level coordination committee meeting here on September 8 to mark the International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies, the DC said that "air pollution is a problem which looms large in horizon for our district, and if we do not act now, we might be too late in future."

He stressed on "strict vigilance and monitoring at all the educational institutions for tobacco-free educational institution (TOFEI) compliance," and urged the school authorities and the National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP) to "conduct regular visits and supervision for the same."

DMO Dr Dubom Bagra highlighted the aims and objectives of the NTCP and the National Programme on Climate Change & Human Health, while DPO Dr Tsering Wangmu presented details of the activities and achievements under the NTCP, and requested the HoDs and other stakeholders to

continue supporting the aims and objectives of the National Rural Conservation Plan.

Integrated Disease Surveillance Project (IDSP) epidemiologist Ajen Pujen presented a brief on climate change, air pollution, and the related health problems.

### Khandu graces 3-day Banggo Solung celebrations,

**MEBO, September 13:**

Acknowledging the recurring land erosions by River Siang every monsoon in Mebo area of East Siang district a major cause of concern, Chief Minister Pema Khandu said that construction of a 'barrage' on the river is the only viable option to tame its course and flow.

Attending the opening day of the 3-day Banggo Solung celebrations at Meboin East Siang district on September 7 last, Khandu counted the massive loses caused by flooding waters of River Siang along the left bank in the plains of Mebo area.

"Couple of years ago, the all-important Mebo-Dhola road was breached. We constructed an alternate road. This too was eroded the next year. We then spent about Rs 35 crores through the department of Water Resources to construct flood protection structures. These too got eroded. The famous Daying Ering Wildlife Sanctuary on the right bank is also shrinking due to soil erosion. We need to find a long-term solution to the problem," he said.

Khandu admitted that safeguarding a 23 km long bank is not an easy task but the governments, both at the state and central levels, are committed to make life easy for the 10-plus villages that bear the brunt of River Siang ev-

ery monsoon. He informed that the Central government has asked the state government to submit a comprehensive plan for protection of both left and right banks as a single project. The state government through WRD is working on it, he said.

Sharing reports of China proposing to construct a dam worth over 60000MW over River Siang in Tibet just before it enters Arunachal Pradesh, Khandu expressed serious concerns but assured that both Centre and state government are privy to the development. He said that while the Centre is responding to the development at its level, the concern of the state government is to save River Siang at all cost and also to keep its flow under control.

"History is witness that we cannot trust our 'neighbor'. 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 flood havoc downstream," he said.

"The only solution to these threats," Khandu added, "is that we too construct a barrage on the River Siang. While this barrage will save water from the tributaries within Arunachal to maintain the natural flow of Siang, it will also protect our land from flash floods. Hydropower generation is our secondary objective."

He, however, passed the onus on the Adi society whether to build the barrage or not. He said that 30-40 years down the line people shouldn't blame the leadership for not doing anything while China was building the mega dam.

Meanwhile, hailing the Adis for taking pride in their rich culture, Khandu reiterated his stand for passing on the heritage to the next generation without dilution. He urged the elders to encour-

age the young ones to participate in traditional practices and learn to speak their native languages passed down since generations.

"Without our identity, we will be lost in the vast majority of people who have long lost their indigeneity," Khandu added.

Guest of Honour, MP Tapir Gao, while extending his Solung-Greetings lauded the Banggo Celebration Committee for language promotion efforts like "Adi Agom Pokii", besides craft & folk-dance competitions as he expressed concern over diminishing use of one's indigenous dialects/languages among the young generation.

Our language is an integral part of our cultural heritage he asserted and called every section of society to pass on our language, mythology, culture, folklores and folkdances to the future generations.

The MP said that the visible climate change that we are witnessing with extreme weather conditions can be mitigated with conservation of the greenery and protection of our flora and fauna and urged all stakeholders and community members, youth to join in the conservation's efforts.

Earlier, Local MLA cum Chief Patron BSCC -2023, Lombo Tayeng, while extending his warm welcome and festival greetings to all, also took the opportunity to highlight the grievances of the people with special focus on the havoc caused by the annual Siang flooding and constant bank erosion, power supply. Tayeng sought for Permanent Road through Kiyit-Seram-Namsing villages.

Earlier, the Solung Mythology was narrated by Nakmin Perme, Chief Advisor BSCC-23. The Chairman BSCC-23, Kalen Pertin extended the welcome address.

The Banggo Celebration was attended by host of dignitaries, MLAs Ninong Ering, Kaling Moyong, Advisor to CM, Tangor Tapak, former ministers Roding Pertin and Bosiram Siram, former MLAs Ralom Borang and Tatung Jamoh, ZPC Olen Rome, DC Tayi Taggu, SP, Sumit Kumar Jha, Chief Councillor PMC Okiam Moyong-Borang and host of other invitees.

The Tug of War competition was won by Bodak Village. The three-day Banggo celebrations will feature inter-villages, folk dance competitions, Archery competitions, exhibitions and food stalls and other cultural highlights etc.

## Project Pratighaat in Tirap gains strength

### **KHONSA, September 14:**

A significant gathering took place in Tutnyu village in Tirap district, as part of 'Project Pratighaat - Nari Shakti Against Drug Menace in Tirap' organised by District Police and ZPC Tirap.

The event brought together key figures including SP Tirap, Rahul Gupta IPS, ZPC Tirap, Smt. Chathong Lowang, Project Director Tirap District, Shri Nangram Pingkap, CO Lazu, Shri D. K. Thongdok, village leaders, GBs, and the Chairperson of Care Me Home Society, Smt. Songtung Bangsia, local youths, community leaders, members of the Tutsa Women Welfare Association, Nocte Women Association, and residents from various Tutnyu block villages.

The event aimed to raise awareness about the dangers of drug abuse.

In his address, the SP explained the goals of 'Project Pratighaat,' which includes women volunteers counselling young

people with drug addiction, working alongside Lazu Police Station staff. He encouraged the public to share information about drug dealers, promising confidentiality.

CO Lazu specifically asked the public not to grow opium in the upcoming winter season and called on village councils to admonish those who support drug dealers.

All speakers urged the community to unite against drugs and support the district police.

A heartfelt talk by a former addict moved the audience.

Dignitaries at the event praised the efforts of women volunteers who have engaged themselves in door-to-door counselling in Deomali and Khonsa, lauding their dedication and commitment to the cause.

The gathering marked the fifth mobilization session of 'Project Pratighaat.' The project began on August 23, 2023, with a monumental gathering in Deomali, followed by a session in Khonsa town on August 31, 2023. Two more sessions were held in the Borduria and Soha police station areas by the respective Officer-in-charges of Police stations.

Since the start, the program has involved women workers and police visiting homes to counsel those affected by drug addiction. So far, 83 people in the district have received counseling. A remarkable 14 have taken the brave step of joining treatment centers, with more in queue to join rehabilitation center as soon as the space is available.

Women-led NGOs have shown great enthusiasm for this community effort, which aims to eliminate drug abuse and empower women. 'Project Pratighaat' remains dedicated to these goals.

Additionally, Tirap District Police have cracked down on drug

peddlers, arresting 16 peddlers and seizing 171 grams of heroin in the last two months.

As district police and community continue with 'Project Pratighaat,' all resolved to remain committed to a drug-free, empowered community. Together, we are making progress toward a healthier future for Tirap district.

## **Assam Rifles provides Medicare to border villages of India & Myanmar**

**KHONSA, September 14:**

In a unique effort, the Assam Rifles set up a series of medical camps at border villages of Tirap & Longding districts that not only cater to the residents of these districts, but also to residents of remote villages of Myanmar.

These medical camps were set up at Noglo, Chop and Kunsu and benefitted around 500 unprivileged people.

These camps were set up with an aim to screen all patients, dispense health related information, distribute medicine for common ailments and refer individuals to hospitals for treatment of serious conditions. The camps were organized in close coordination with the local public health centers who assisted Assam Rifles by providing doctors and nurses at these camps.

It is a widely known fact that life expectancy is limited in villages because of the significant health issues gripping in rural India with diseases that are often contagious, infections and water-borne. Conduct of such camps are community empowerment methods which help keep hospitalizations from diseases at bay, while simultaneously revealing the work that has yet to be done in terms of

access to basic health care centers and accurate healthcare information, which are top barriers to health in rural areas.

Furthermore, villagers across the Indo-Myanmar border have been neglected for far too long and the people are deprived of even the most basic facilities. This considerate gesture was much needed and hence received much appreciation from the people who were filled with gratitude for the kind initiative undertaken by Assam Rifles.

## **Mein joins Lekang SOLUNG GÍ:DÍ 2023 celebration**

**NAMSAI, September 14:**

Arunachal Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein attended the 'Lekang Solung GÍ:DÍ 2023' Celebration held in Nongkhon Satgharia, Namsai, as Chief Guest on Tuesday. He was accompanied by MP Lok Sabha Arunachal East, Tapir Gao as Guest of Honour, Minister of Health & Family Welfare, Alo Libang as Special Guest and a host of MLAs as special invitees.

Addressing the gathering, DCM Mein extended greetings of the Solung festival to the people present on the occasion and commended the organizing committee for arranging a vibrant programme to commemorate the festival. As the Solung festival is steeped in the cultural essence of the Adi community, Mein noted that honoring the long-standing traditions of the indigenous tribes of Arunachal Pradesh is a crucial step towards preserving the culture of the state.

He stated that the people of Arunachal Pradesh should take pride in their indigenous cultural heritages, that is time-tested and carefully passed down to genera-

tions over the many historic decades. He also talked about the vital contribution of their ancestors in resisting the British rule and holding on to their traditions and values during those crucial times.

Emphasizing to know about own history, Mein asserted that it is one of the driving forces behind the pursuit undertaken by the Govt of Arunachal Pradesh towards reviving the lost glory of their state's unsung heroes and formally reinstating their heroic war tales in front of the entire nation and beyond. He also stated that active documentation of the state's culture & traditions pertaining to the various indigenous tribal communities is being carried out by the state government. In this context, Mein encouraged the younger generation to learn and speak their native dialects and languages, so that it doesn't cease to exist.

Mein maintained an active participation throughout the festival, where he hoisted the Solung flag and joined in one of the Solung rituals called 'Binyat', that is traditionally performed to seek blessings from the Goddess of Prosperity, Kine Nane for a bumper harvest.

During the festival, the DCM also stressed upon the need for enhancing the tourism sector of the state, that can greatly boost the revenue stream of the local people. In this regard, the state govt is working towards implementing a Bhisamak Nagar Festival and preparing for the launch of a folk music festival, he added.

The celebration was also attended by the Executive Members of Adi Baane KeBang, Tai Khamti Singpho Council, Govt Officers and GBs, among others.

## Investiture ceremony of student council held

**ZIRO, September 14:**

Saint Claret College, Ziro hosted an Investiture Ceremony of its Junior Claretine Council (JCC) & inauguration of cells and associations at the College auditorium.

On the occasion, a total of 35 Rajiv Gandhi University Ranks holders of 2023 from the college, including 2 overall rank holders in Bachelor of Arts and 2 in Bachelor of Commerce were also felicitated and honoured.

Principal SCCZ, Dr. Fr. Allwyn Mendoz presented the JCC members and also administered an oath-taking ceremony. The members were officially commissioned by Superintendent of Police, Ziro, Keni Bagra, who graced the occasion as the Chief Guest.

In his speech, SP Bagra, exhorted the students to accumulate knowledge not only for academic excellence, but to be successful leaders as well in the future. He also asked the students to embrace responsibilities with sincere dedication and enthusiasm. He also pointed out some of the challenges that the modern generation of youths faces, such as drug addiction, alcoholism, etc.

Guest of Honor District Tourism Officer, Dikchu Raji Tamin exhorted the JCC members to undertake all responsibilities assigned with utmost sincerity and dedication. He further stressed that they should have the will to serve and grow.

Principal SCCZ, Dr. Fr. Allwyn Mendoz expressed words of gratitude to all the rank holders for bringing laurels to the college and wished them the best for their future.

A total of 27 JCC members for the academic year 2023-24, led by Captain Tamuk Jumi of III Semester and Vice-Captain Punyo Biida of I Semester pledged to be worthy and ideal Claretines, to do their best to be at the service of the college and to be moulded intellectually competent, professionally skilled, spiritually evolved, morally upright, socially responsive and culturally tolerant citizens, through holistic Claretine education, for advancing a civilization of love.

Junior Claretine Council (JCC) is a body of the student representatives of Saint Claret College, Ziro, which is non-political in character. Its role is to be at the service of the academic fraternity of the Institution.

Coordinators and Animators of various cells and associations of the college viz., People Education & Social Empowerment Centre (PESEC), Saint Claret Art & Literary Endeavour (SCALE), Claretine Association for Social Action (CASA), Sports and Games Association (SAGA), Claretine Youth for Christ (CYC), Counselling Cell presented their mottos and visions.

On the occasion, Assistant Professor Dani Lalyang from the Department of Political Science was also awarded the Veliyannoor Varkey-Mary Senior Claretine Award for meritorious services rendered to SCCZ and its stakeholders.

Aamii Gegul Tayeng was awarded the Dani Tabin Yaniya Memorial Award for being the Topper from Saint Claret College, Ziro in the RGU Examinations 2023. Bamin Rema of I Semester was also awarded the Habung Pappu Memorial Scholarship for being the topper in BA First Year 2022-23.

## ICR DA joins Ayushman Bhava Campaign

**ITANAGAR, September 14:**

Along with rest of the nation, the Itanagar Capital District Administration virtually witnessed the National Level- Ayushman Bhava Campaign launched by the President of India and the subsequent launch of the State-level 'Ayushman Bhava' campaign by the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh at DC office Conference Hall.

ICR DC Talo Potom, CMS TRIHMS Dr Tao Kakki, DMO Dr Mandip Perme and his team of other doctors, EAC Itanagar, HoDs, Corporators, Panchayat leaders, and others were present on the occasion.

Interacting with the participants, the DC expressed hope that the launch of the Ayushman Bhava will give impetus to the health programmes being implemented in the Capital Region.

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare which is an umbrella initiative for enhanced awareness about various health care schemes and to saturate critical health care services in the country organized the launching programme.

## Meeting discusses constitution of committees for ST certificate & PRC in ICR

**ITANAGAR, September 14:**

A meeting in connection with the constitution of Recommending Committee and Verification Committee for issuance of Schedule Tribe Certificate and Permanent Residential Certificate under the jurisdiction of Capital Itanagar was convened

in the chamber of the Deputy Commissioner Capital Itanagar Talo Potom with the Corporators, panchayat leaders, representative from Nyishi Elite Society, EAC Itanagar and other administrative officers and OCs.

The DC informed that as per the latest guidelines for rural areas, a committee consisting of village head/ gaon bura, gram panchayat member and member of apex CBO of that APST community of which the certificate is applied for and for urban areas, Circle officer along with member of local municipality and member of apex CBO of that APST community of which the certificate is applied for is to be constituted for recommending cases of STC.

Also a committee consisting of Circle Officer and officer in charge of Local Police station/ Zilla Parishad Member for rural areas and EXtra Assistant Commissioner and officer incharge of local police station for urban areas is to be constituted for verification of such cases. The certificate issuing authority shall issue the certificate or reject the application on the basis of the report of the recommendation and verification committee.

EAC Dr Dana Unna highlighted the notification dated the 1st August, 2022 which mandates the Deputy Commissioner of every district and Additional Deputy Commissioners/SDO of the independent Sub- Divisions to be the certificate issuing authorities in respect of their districts and subdivisions. She also highlighted the eligibility criteria for both STC and PRC.

Bengia Tadap, representative of NES said that proper assessment has to be done by all to ensure that only the genuine cases are considered.

## Ayushman Bhava Campaign Portal launched in Upper Siang

**YINGKIONG, September 14:**

Joining the rest of the country 'AYUSHMAN BHAVAHA CAMPAIGN PORTAL' was launched by the Upper Siang Zilla Parishad Chairperson Lumgeng Litin in presence of Deputy Commissioner Hage Lailang, District Medical Officer Dr.Gepeng Litin, DRCHO Dr.Andeng Sitek, DTO Dr.Ayik Miyu, Dr. karo Teng , Dr. Patuk and staffs at NIC conference hall, DC office.

Launching the programme, ZPC Lumgeng Litin impressed upon the District Administration, Health department and all other stakeholders to work in team in a well-planned manner to achieve the target and to ensure that every citizens gets the benefits of health care services in the district.

Deputy Commissioner also spoke and urged upon the health department to undertake the campaign on mission mode and ask the District Medical Officer to prepare action plan and disseminate the information to all circles, blocks and villages to raise awareness on health care schemes so that maximum people can avail the advantages of health schemes.

Earlier DRCHO Dr.Andeng Sitek highlighted the objective of Ayushman Bhava Campaign and informed that it is an umbrella initiative for enhanced awareness about various health care schemes and to saturate critical health care services in rural and urban areas. She also informed that two Health and wellness Centres at Ramsing Pittung and Simong villages have been identified to launch the Ayushman Bhava Campaign.

District Tuberculosis Officer Dr. Ahik Miyu also spoke and expressed his deep gratitude to Nikshay Mitras for their philanthropic services towards TB patients of the district.

During the event, Nikshay Mitras Alo Libang, Minister Health and family welfare cum Local Legislator and MLA Kang-gong Taku were also felicitated for adopting 43 and 28 TB patients respectively under Prime Minister TB Mukht Bharat Abhiyan during last 1 year since its inception from 17th September '2022 onwards.

At the same time, two families were also distributed AYUSHMAN CARD under PM Jan Arogya Yojana. Organ Donation pledge was also taken by the members present during the program.

## **Padmashree YD Thongchi releases Nending Ommo's book 'Resonance: Echoes of Life'**

**ITANAGAR, September 14:**

Renowned Sahitya Akademi Awardee and President of the Arunachal Pradesh Literary Society (APLS), Padmashree Y. D Thongchi recently released 'Resonance: Echoes of Life,' a poetic masterpiece authored by Nending Ommo, an Assistant Professor at Dera Natung Government College (DNGC), Itanagar.

'Resonance: Echoes of Life' is the fifth literary offering of Nending Ommo, a heartfelt collection of his poems that have been carefully crafted over the years.

In his address, APLS President & Padmashree Thongchi expressed his delight at the burgeoning literary activities and the literary works contributed by writers from Arunachal Pradesh. He

highlighted the relentless efforts of the Arunachal Pradesh Literary Society in nurturing a robust literary community within the state, resulting in numerous writers regularly penning and publishing their works. He also underscored that the literary works of the local writers should be included in the curriculum of schools to University.

APLS General Secretary Pathak lauded the Nending Ommo's poetic creations, describing them as a sincere reflection of his beliefs and perspectives on life's diverse facets.

DNGC Principal Dr. M.Q Khan in his keynote address commended the author's ability to instil profound experiences and thoughts into simple yet evocative expressions in his poems. Khan emphasised his encouragement for college teachers to engage in book publication and expressed his joy at Ommo's debut poetry work. He also delivered an insightful discourse on poetry, tracing its evolution from luminaries like TS Eliot to William Wordsworth.

Vice Principal of Government College Yachuli, Dr. Tech Yoen Tara who graced the event as a special invitee, while congratulating Ommo said that he is a hidden lamp, full of talents and vigour and he rightly vented out his literary acumen through the book.

Nending Ommo, a prolific author had previously published four books, including 'Love Song to Jesus' (2007), 'The Quintessence of Apatani Language (Prelude)' (2011), 'Phonetics and Phonology of Apatani' (2015), Co-edited book 'Apatani: Change and continuity' (2023). Ommo's sixth book, the second edition of 'The Quintessence of Apatani Language (Prelude)' is under print.

Assistant Professor Dr. Taro Sindik of the Department of

Hindi at DNGC while moderating the programme provided a glimpse into Ommo's journey as a writer and poet, while a former student of DNGC, Talu Mara, enriched the event with a recitation of a poem titled 'Racial Blues' from Ommo's latest book.

Earlier, Head of Department (English) Dr. J. R Padhi while welcoming all, expressed that Ommo's poems dealt with complex issues in simple words that will resonate with his readers.

Assistant Professor in English Ms. Joram Reynu also spoke on the occasion and expressed her happiness as the book release was an achievement for the department and the college.

The crowning jewel of the evening, 'Resonance: Echoes of Life,' is a compilation of 64 captivating poems by Nending Ommo, published by HSRA Publication, Bengaluru which is available in local book stores and soon will be available on Amazon, Flipkart and Kindle. This literary event not only celebrated Ommo's poetic prowess but also served as a testament to the thriving literary landscape in Arunachal Pradesh, nurtured by the relentless efforts of the Arunachal Pradesh Literary Society.

The event was attended by several prominent figures, literary luminaries and professors and students of DNGC.

## **DC launches Ayushman Bhavah Campaign in Tirap**

**KHONSA, September 14:**

Along with rest of the country and states, Tirap Deputy Commissioner Hento Karga in presence of DMO Tirap and Doctors launched Ayushman Bhavah campaign.

Earlier, the launching program of Ayushman Bhavah centrally by the President of India Smti Droupadi Murmu at Rastrapati Bhavan, New Delhi and Ayushman Bhavah campaign launched by the Governor in the state of Arunachal Pradesh virtually was also witnessed at NIC, DC's office, Khonsa.

While launching the campaign, the DC urged the health department and its allied departments WCD/ICDS, Panchayat members to optimize the uptake of services, provide platform to people to express their issues and concerns about the healthcare service and augment behavior change among people through group wellness activities. He asked the DMO to conduct Ayushman Mela at AB-HWCs (Weekly) for 3 weeks categorically – Week 1 - Non-Communicable Diseases, Week 2 - TB, Leprosy & other communicable diseases and Week 3 - Maternal & Child Health and Nutrition and to maintain reporting in AB-HWC portal. He also appealed all the stakeholders SHGs, school teachers, members of youth groups, local media, and prominent members of the community to join the AYUSHMAN BHAVAH campaign.

Earlier, the formal launching program started with welcome speech from DMO, Khonsa Dr. N. Lowang, in which she highlighted the significance of Ayushman Bhavah Campaign in length.

Mean while, appreciation of Nikshay Mitra program was enlightened by DTO(NTEP) Dr. Jayanti Thingnok in which she acknowledged the names of NIKSHAY MITRAS in Tirap district, namely - Wangki Lowang, Minister PHE&WS etc adopted 7 patients for 1 year, Wanglin Lowangdong, MLA adopted 4 patients for 1 year, Miss Jasmine Shin, Chairman,

PATKAI HILLS (NGO), Deomali adopted 1 patient for 6 months, Dr. N. Lowang, DMO, Khonsa adopted 1 patient for 6 months, Smti H. Bangsia, DD(WCD), Khonsa adopted 1 patient for 6 months, Dr. M. Gammeng, MD, Gen.Hospital, Khonsa adopted 1 patient for 6 months, Dr. Agnes Wanglat, OBS & Gyneo adopted 1 patient for 1 year, Dr. Tatok Gao, DRCHO, Khonsa 1 patient for 6 months and Dr. Jayanti Thingnok, DTO (DTC-Deomali) adopted 1 patient for 6 months.

Later, the DC administered pledge for organ donation after death.

### **DA, IPR holds meeting with the land donors of FTI, Jote**

#### **RAKAP, September 14:**

DC Papum Pare Cheechung Chukhu asked the authorities of the CPWD and Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute (SRTFI), Kolkota to be empathetic towards the land donors, who have donated 43.32 acres of land free of cost for the construction of the institution.

He said this while chairing a joint meeting of the District Administration, Information and Public Relations Department, PRI members, GBs, land donors of Film and Television Institute, Jote (Jullang Rakap) and representatives from CPWD to assess the land dispute and water supply connection issues of FTI at the FTI conference hall on September 14.

Addressing the CPWD and SRTFI members he specifically pointed out that "In many parts of Arunachal Pradesh, including Papum Pare district natural resources like water, forest etc have private/community ownership. So individual/community consent becomes

indispensable in order to execute the works smoothly."

"This joint meeting is the result of the lackadaisical attitude of the CPWD and SRTFI towards the land donors and their grievances. For any developmental work of such a big stature to be completed successfully on schedule, building rapport and winning the confidence of the local is a prerequisite," he added.

"Out of the 43.32 acres only 3 acres is disputed, which can be resolved through proper coordination among the executing agencies, FTI and stakeholders like land owners and panchayat leaders," he further added while urging the land owners to coordinate with the administration.

Speaking on the occasion Director IPR, OnyokPertin said that the "Role of the IPR department in the project is supervisory and monitory in nature. The department acts as bridge between the land donors, SRTFI and the government."

He further suggested for drafting a Memorandum of Agreement between the FTI and the land donors to ensure that the sacrifice of the donors are recognized.

Taba Kunya, GPC Rakap while speaking on behalf of the land donors informed that the "public of Jullang Rakap have cooperated with the CPWD and have made no claims on any civil work so far."

"However, the water supply work, for which the survey was conducted by the PHE department, GoAP with the assistance of the PRI members and GBs of Jullang Rakap village, should involve the PRI members during the execution," he demanded.

Kunya also felt that "Few considerations should be made for the group C and D posts for the

land donors once the FTI becomes functional.”

After threadbare discussions the owners of the 3 acre disputed land owners agreed to withdraw their cases in lieu of some lump sum compensation; a representation to be written to Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, GoI to involve the panchayat leaders, GBs and public during the water supply work execution and posting of SRTFI officials and officers who understands the local sentiments.

The FTI is an ambitious project of the union Information and Broadcasting Ministry whose foundation stone was laid on 9th February, 2019 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The FTI is the first film and television institute in the north east and the third in the country.

Deputy Director, IPR Marbang Ezing, CO Sangdupota Dr. Heera Panggen, ZPM Sangdupota Hina Camdir Tok, GBs, land donors and engineers of CPWD attended the meeting.

## ArSRLM conducts SHGs saving bank account opening drive

### BORDURIA, September 15:

The Arunachal State Rural Livelihoods Mission (ArSRLM) conducted a mass savings bank account opening drive for SHGs here in Tirap district on September 15.

Twenty-three SHGs submitted the opening forms in the Khonsa branches of the Apex Bank and the State Bank of India.

As on date, 170 SHGs out of 341 have savings bank accounts.

DMMU District Mission Manager Toge Tarak briefed the

SHG members on the functioning of the ArSRLM, and the importance of financial inclusion and savings bank accounts of SHGs promoted under the ArSRLM.

The drive will be carried out in the entire district during the current and the next month to ensure that every SHG promoted by the ArSRLM has a savings bank account.

Toge Tarak, District Mission Manager, DMMU Khonsa (TCL) ArSRLM briefed the SHG members on functioning of ArSRLM, importance of Financial Inclusion and Saving Bank Account of SHGs promoted under ArSRLM.

## Ziro gears up to celebrate ZFM, India's biggest outdoor music festival

### ZIRO, September 15:

A review meeting to work out the modalities for a smooth and seamless celebration of the forthcoming 10th edition of Ziro Festival of Music (ZFM), India's biggest outdoor music festival was conducted at Conference Hall of District Secretariat on September 15.

Presiding the meeting, Lower Subansiri Deputy Commissioner-cum-chairman ZFM Bamin Nime urged all the stakeholders to pool in and cooperate in making the present ZFM edition a bigger success than the previous version. While underscoring traffic, security arrangements and waste management as 'core issues' of the festival, the DC informed a 'core committee' would be formed soon to oversee the minute and overall preparations of the mega festival.

SP Keni Bagra informed three additional companies of armed police would be deputed during the festival. Besides, traffic

management, police beat houses would be set up at festival ground Biiri and Nago Putu, while mobile squads would be formed to keep a close vigil at the camp sites and surrounding areas of the festival ground, the SP informed.

Acknowledging 'camp sites' indeed play a crucial role in accommodating the last hour visitors to the festival, District Tourism Officer Dikchu Raji said instant camp site registrations would be done on the spot and no harassment would be meted out to them nor the festival visitors.

Lamenting low funding of ZFM as compared to Tawang Festival, Dambuk Orange Festival and other mega festivals of the state, Tani Supun Dukung general secretary Taku Chatung said ZFM has become synonymous with Ziro and reckoned as its mirror by the outside world. ZFM should be responsible and sensible and continue to promote the spirit and slogan of 'Ziro-Drug-Zero' he emphasized.

Earlier, Director ZFM Bobby Hano informed a new addition of the 10th edition of ZFM would be addition of 'Takerv Stage' at Kasa Resort where stage performances would be staged on 29th and 30th. Some of the star performers include Grammy award winner and Padma Bhushan awardee Pandit Vishnu Mohan Bhatt to listen to whom 30 Swedish fans are coming all the way to Ziro, while Mohit Chauhan and Farhan Akhtar are the Bollywood attractions, informed Bobby, while adding local artists and bands would also get equal opportunity to perform at the stage. The final artist line up would be made known to all in a couple of days, he added.

Informing another innovation designed for the current ZFM, Bobby informed 'An Audit Report on Waste Management' would be

carried out by a Bangalore based company after the end of the festival while 100 volunteers from St.Claret college would assist in waste management during the festival.

Apatani Youth Association president Tapi Mali, general secretary Nani Tangu, Apatani Student Union general secretary Koj Nichi, Apatani Women Association Ziro general secretary Leegang Ania, representatives of Apatani Tour Operators Union and Tour Guides also shared their views at the meeting attended by several HoD's, members of bazaar committees and Meha Pillo youth group.

## Meeting on Ayushman Bhava programme held

**TAWANG, September 15:**

Tawang DC Kanki Darang on Friday, September 15 chaired a meeting with the members of the district task force committee on the implementation of the Ayushman Bhava programme.

Addressing the programme officers, the MOs of various CHCs and PHCs, and the HWOs of health & wellness centres, the DC said that “the central government is trying to ensure good health of its citizens through the Ayushman Bhava programme.”

“We all should contribute sincerely in delivering the service to the public,” he said, and sought cooperation from all sectors “during conduct of Ayushman Aapke Dwar, Ayushman Mela, Ayushman Sabha and Ayushman Gram Panchayat to achieve one hundred percent saturation of all the health services in every village.”

DMO Dr Rinchin Neema informed that “two villages – Shyaro and Khet – will achieve one hundred percent saturation of

health schemes like CMAAY, AB-PMAY, etc, by 2 October this year, during the Ayushman Pakhwada.”

This was followed by a review of the district plan, presented by Hemant Pegu. The MOs and HWOs were invited to offer suggestions to ensure better health services at their respective centers.

## Prof. NA Khan takes charge of Vice Chancellor of APU

**PASIGHAT, September 15:**

A distinguished educationist, Prof. Nasir Ahmed Khan, a Hyderabad Central University senior professor assumed office as the Vice-Chancellor of Apex Professional University (APU), Pasighat. He took over charge from the APU Chancellor Acharya Dhanwant Singh.

According to VC, APU, Prof. Khan education presents a great opportunity for India which has a very diverse and young human resource to harness the demographic dividend. He assured that he would focus on the quality education and integration of technology with education support service.

Prior to joining the APU, Prof. Khan has held various key positions and has thirty four years of impressive academic as well as administrative experiences in various capacities. He is recipient of many awards including Shiksha Ratan Award, 2011. He travelled extensively across the globe to attend seminars and present research papers. 32 students have been awarded Ph.D and M. Phils and 2 post Doctoral Fellows (PDFs) under his supervision.

APU Chancellor Acharya Dhanwant Singh while extending his good wishes has stated that Prof. Khan has considerable administrative experience as he

served as the head of the department and Director in the university system (Hyderabad Central University).

## Union Minister calls on the Governor

**ITANAGAR, September 16:**

Union Minister of Earth Sciences Kiren Rijiju called on the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) at Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on 16th September 2023. They discussed developmental initiatives applying the latest accomplishment in science and technology.

The Governor emphasized on using satellite data for enhancing agricultural and horticultural productions, monitoring progress in infrastructural development, including roads, observing areas prone to landslides and floods. He requested the Union Minister for Earth Sciences to assist and facilitate the State Government providing real time data.

The Governor informed that many places in the State are frequently affected by heavy rains, thunderstorms, cyclonic wind, hailstorms, cloudburst and floods. He suggested for an observation centre in the State to share information and technologies of the earth system science for socio-economic benefit of the society.

The Governor also suggested for carrying out geophysical exploration for providing critical new information regarding the subsurface geology and mineral deposit in the State.

The Union Minister was very positive and forthcoming to provide needed assistance to the State on his behalf.

## MIDH officials visit vibrant villages, assess horti development

**TAWANG, September 16:**

Union Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) Cell Under Secretaries Harit Kumar Shakya and Anil Kumar Meena, along with state Horticulture Director Nawang Lobsang and Tawang District Horticulture Officer (HQ) Benjamin Pertin, visited 'vibrant villages' Audung, BekharKitpi, and T-Gonpa near here on September 15 and 16.

Tawang District Horticulture Officer Safior Rahman organized the field visit programmes to assess the kiwi, walnut, vegetables, etc, gardens established in the villages with financial assistance from the MIDH Cell.

During the visits, the duo interacted with farmers and villagers about the centrally-sponsored schemes, with special emphasis on agriculture and allied sectors, and the assistance that the farmers are availing of. The undersecretaries noted also the issues raised by the farmers, especially the menace of wild animals, and marketing of their produces.

The duo assured the farmers that provision will be made to set up solar fences to protect the gardens from the menace of wild animals.

They also advised the horticulture department to "educate the farmers for marketing of their produces through forward and backward linkages by forming farmers-producers' organizations."

## Ayushman Bhava launched in Namsai

**NAMSAI, September 17:**

Namsai district virtually joined

the nationwide launching of AYUSHMAN BHAVA by the President of India. Though the campaign was launched on Wednesday, it will be introduced during the 'Seva Pakhwada' starting on September 17, 2023 next.

During the district launching of the campaign, the Ni-kshay Mitras involved in supplementing nutritional food to consented TB patients were awarded with certificates.

On the occasion, the district level meeting was chaired by DC, Namsai in presence of ZPC Namsai Nang Urmila Mancheykhun and ZPM Chongkham Chow Jenia Namchoom.

In his address, the DC briefed about the campaign and said that, Ayushman Bhava campaign is basically an effort to saturate all health sector schemes under 6 targeted indicators- PMJAY, ABHA ID generation, NCD screening, TB screening, ANC registration and immunization. Under the campaign the noble cause of blood donation and organ donation will be promoted. "The basic framework has been made and the targets to saturate all the villages will continue even after the campaign period till March 2024", he said. He urged all the stakeholders, specially the PRI members to provide assistance during the campaign.

Further the administrative officers were directed to coordinate with the health officials to ensure logistic support and public mobilization for successful conduct of the campaign.

The launch was attended by all the admin officers, HoDs, officials of health department and PRI members.

## Implementation of ANBY ensured by Committee in Tawang

**TAWANG, September 20:**

Tawang's district-level implementation committee for the Atma nirbhar Bagwani Yojana (ANBY) has decided to ensure implementation of the programmes under the ANBY as per the timeline set, with combined efforts of the departmental functionaries and the bank authorities concerned.

The decision was taken during a meeting of the committee chaired by DC Kanki Darang here on Saturday, September 16 last.

"A total of 194 applications/proposals amounting to Rs 3,39,35,490 was finalized against the target amount of Rs 5,00,00,000".

"It was also decided to consider further receipt of applications/proposals under the ANBY in the greater interest of the farming community, and to achieve optimum utilisation of the target amount".

## DC launches 6th Rashtriya Poshan Maah Abhiyaan

**PASIGHAT, September 21:**

East Siang Deputy Commissioner Tayi Taggu launched the 6th Rashtriya Poshan Maah at Yagrung Village, few kilometers off the Hqs of Pasighatin East Siang district in presence of DD (ICDS) Machi Gao, CDPOs of Ruksin, Mebo and Pasighat, martyr's family members, PRI leaders, GBs and villager September 21.

Divisional level ICDS cell under Women and Child Department organized the program 'Meri Mati, Meri Desh, Vhiru Ka Vandan' in commemoration of the

great freedom fighter and warrior Matmur Jamoh. Taggu paid floral tribute to the memorial statue of freedom fighter Matmur Jamoh and also took part in the massive plantation drive in Yagrung and nearby Sibut Anganwadi Centre.

Addressing the gathering, the DC said that the program was launched with the vision to ensure the attainment of 'Malnutrition Free India'. The Abhiyaan has been instrumental in advancing nutritional outcomes for pregnant women, lactating mothers, adolescent girls, and children under 6 years of age in a comprehensive manner, he said, adding that the programme was aimed at strengthening content, delivery, outreach, and outcomes.

The focus remains on cultivating practices that foster health, wellness and immunity against diseases and malnutrition through a theme centered on "Suposhit Bharat, Sakshar Bharat, Sashakt Bharat". The Jan Andolan movement under Poshan Maah would serve as an extended platform for united celebration under the 'Meri Mati Mera Desh' campaign, commemorating the nation's journey of freedom and progress in the Amrit Kaal, Taggu stated.

DD (ICDS) Machi Gao informed that the month-long event would witness concentrated efforts to enhance ground-level nutritional awareness through campaigns focusing on key themes around Exclusive Breastfeeding and Complementary Feeding.

Activities like Swasth Balak Spardha (Healthy Child Competition) aim to instill a spirit of healthy competition for nutrition and overall well-being including nutrition sensitization, and addressing anemia through 'Test, Treat and Talk'.

## Coordination meeting on Nal Jal Mitra scheme held

### PASIGHAT, September 21:

A coordination meeting under the chairmanship of East Siang Deputy Commissioner Tayi Taggu on proper implementation of "Nal Jal Mitra Scheme" was held on September 21 in the DC's conference hall which was attended by the ZPC Olom Rome along with the ZPMs and GP chairpersons, EE PHED OlingTaloh and DRDA and Skill development officials.

Addressing the house, the DC informed that the Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave a call that not a single household should be left out of 'Har Ghar Nal Se Jal' noble mission. The scheme was being implemented in a very democratic manner to achieve 100 per cent saturation of tap water connection without any discrimination. He said that 'Jal Jeevan Mission'(JJM) is a flagship programme of the central government to provide potable water to every household functional tap connection with a mission to improve the lives of the people by providing safe drinking water to every house.

After going through the status report, presented by the EE (PHED), the DC informed that after providing potable water tap connections directly from the Water Treatment Plant (WTP), the PHED was now implementing "Nal Jal Mitra Scheme" under JJM.

The Village Water Sanitation Committees (VWSC) of the respective villages have to carry out necessary maintenance work in future by appointing skilled plumbers/laborers from their own, he said and directed the GPs/villages to submit the list of workers

to his office on or before September 25 so that Skill Development department could provide necessary training to the listed workers.

EE (PHED) ErOlingTaloh informed that under the chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner, the JJM had been effectively implementing in the district by his department, adding under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) 84% households of the district were being provided potable water tap connections.

## CM, DCM to take part in Balek GSS Platinum Jubilee Celebration

### PASIGHAT, September 21:

Chief Minister Pema Khandu and Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein will join the three days long Balek Government Secondary School Platinum Jubilee Celebration (BGSSPJC) scheduled to be held from October 25 to 27 next at Balek village in Pasighat.

The Balek Secondary School is one of the oldest schools of the state which was established in the year 1946, upgraded to UPS in 1965 and further upgraded to Secondary level in 1982 and was affiliated to CBSE in 1985.

In this regard, a coordination committee meeting was held here on Wednesday under the chairmanship of the local MLA Kaling Moyong which was attended by the DC Tayi Taggu, SP Sumit Kr Jha, Organizing Chairman Oyem Dai, Secretary Tobom Dai, DDSE Odhuk Tabing, PMC Chief Okiam Moyong Borang, HoDs, elected representatives and all the celebration committee members.

While seeking wholehearted cooperation from the society to make the celebration a grand success, MLA Moyong stated that committees and subcommittees of BGSSPJC were working in tandem and everything

was going in the right direction. He reviewed the progress on various plans for the celebration and advised the committee members to use every penny judiciously in a befitting manner.

The MLA expressed his gratitude to the Chief Minister Pema Khandu and DCM Chowna Mein in particular for their moral support for smooth conduct of the event. Taking the privilege, Moyong added that there has been noticeable progress over the last one year and the VVIPs would inaugurate and lay foundation stones of many projects on the inaugural day.

DC, Tayi Taggu opined that such meetings provide a chance for committee chairmen and other members to understand each others' perspective. He on behalf of the district administration assured to extend all logistic supports and cooperation for smooth conduct of the ensuing celebration.

SP, Sumit Kr Jha assured that adequate measures would be taken on priority to tackle law and order, traffic management and all other security related issues by the police department.

Among others, organizing chairman Oyem Dai, secretary Tobom Dai, chairman (Resource mobilization) Tajom Tasung, Head Master Kalom Ering and SMC members of Balek Secondary School also shared their views and experiences.

## **SEC interacts with officers for firsthand information and suggestions on PR polls**

**TAWANG, September 21:**

State Election Commissioner, Rinchin Tashi, had an interaction with the administrative officers of Tawang district in the office chamber of Deputy Commissioner here

recently on September 21, 2023.

While interacting with the officers, he informed that this was his first interaction with the district level officers and shall meet the officers of other districts in days to come to have the firsthand information and suggestions from officers dealing the Panchayat elections at ground level to make panchayat election process more vibrant.

He also discussed on the history of Panchayati Raj Institution in Arunachal Pradesh since its inception and various other amendments to make it more effective.

Along with the election process of general elections, state panchayat activities should also continue with the same responsibilities and duties, he said and took feedbacks from officers on improvisation of panchayat election on the line with general elections using modern techniques and methods.

There are lots of misinformation and to contain with such misinformation, education and awareness programme and accessibility to election information is very important, Tashi added.

DC Tawang, Kanki Darang, suggested that there should be summary revision every year for panchayat elections and photo electoral rolls for panchayat elections.

The administrative officers from sub divisions also placed their suggestions based on their past experiences of conducting panchayat elections.

## **'Food Mela' to mark Rashtriya Poshan Maah**

**TAWANG, September 21:**

As a part of celebrating Rashtriya Poshan Maah, the Women and Child Development Department, Tawang had conducted a 'Food

Mela' Competition under Beti Bachao, Beti Padao Programme on September 21.

Variety of food items made of millet and locally available food grains were prepared by the supervisors and Gram Sevikas, the officials from all the five WCD projects of Tawang district participated in the competition.

Addressing the occasion, SP, DW Thongon spoke on nutritional value of millet, adding, "the traditional food we prepare from millet are very nutritious, but considering the demand of the consumers, the food items prepared should be palatable and appealing, which the participants of the food mela competition has done". He called upon them to share the recipes with the hoteliers so that they can cater local delicacies to their guests.

DC, Kanki Darang, while stating that "cooking is an art and not everyone can be good cook", appreciated the efforts put in by the officials of WCD in preparing variety of dishes from millet and other local grains. He further said that to encourage the local self-help groups, these local delicacies should be made available in every hotel once a week. "We discuss about the nutrition value of millet and other local organic grains, let us share such healthy and nutritious food with our guests also", he added and informed that discussion held with District Tourism officer to select some hotels for catering local food once a week to its guests. "This would provide them to taste local delicacies and bring some income to local chefs and members of SHGs", the DC said.

Earlier, CDPO Jang, Gyati Loder, in his welcome address informed about the importance of Rashtriya Poshan Maah and Beti Bachao Beti Padhao programme.

The programme concluded with felicitation to the winners of food mela, in which Lungla WCD project bagged first position, while Tawang and Kyidphel projects were adjudged second and third position respectively.

## Training on Destination Management conducted

### TEZU, September 21:

A two days training program on Destination Management through Upskilling and Responsible Practices was held at Tezu, Lohit District on September 20 and 21 on the theme "Revisiting and Upskilling Homestay Operators".

Around 80 tourism stakeholders from several destinations of Lohit district, which included Hotel, Homestay, Restaurant and Transport owners joined the training program.

The inaugural session was chaired by Kamleshwar Rao S, Assistant Commissioner and Smti Bengia Manna Sonam, Dy. Director (Tourism).

Rao in his speech spoke about the opportunities for the development of tourism in Lohit district and the benefit of conducting such training programmes for the unemployed youths and other tourism stakeholders. He also spoke of the various ongoing projects undertaken by the district administration to provide better facilities for tourists and also increase the overall tourist footfalls.

In her speech, Smti Bengia Manna Sonam, spoke about the purpose of the training, which was for taking old destination to new heights through responsible practices by the stakeholders. She also mentioned about the role of home stays in showcasing the culture and

heritage of Tezu, and Lohit district as a whole and informed about various schemes funded by the government for tourism stakeholders and students to pursue their career in the tourism industry.

Earlier, Smt. Dibroo Catherine Boo, District Tourism Officer welcome all to the programme.

A technical session was also held, where the resource persons shared many inputs on how to develop the hospitality industry in the state and a refresher training session was also conducted on Hotel and Restaurant Management, and advance bakery.

Raj Basu, Advisor, Rural Tourism & Home stays elaborated the theme of Sustainable Development of Destinations through responsible practices by tourism stakeholders, while Soumitra Kar, Master Trainer, SFICI, Itanagar updated the hospitality stakeholders on the various room categorization, meal plans and other aspects of hospitality management like housekeeping and table layout.

A session on advanced bakery and housekeeping was also conducted by the trainers from the State Food Craft Institute, Itanagar in which the participants learned the basics of bread making and advanced bakery.

Subsequent to the training programme, a sensitization programme for the YUVA Tourism Club members of Tezu was also conducted at Kendriya Vidyalaya, Vivekananda Kendra Vidyalaya and Indira Gandhi Govt. College, Tezu and they were explained about their responsibilities and encouraged to actively participate in all the activities conducted for the Club.

A quiz competition was also conducted for the club members and at the end of the programme the students also took the Travel for LiFE Pledge.

## Millet recipe competition organized

### YINGKIONG, September 21:

As a part of month long Rashtriya Poshan Maah Celebration 2023 from September 1 to 30 next with theme "Suposhit Bharat, Skshar Bharat, Sashakt Bharat", the Department of Women and Child Development here conducted a 'Millet Recipe Competition' at CDPO Office here on September 21 last.

Five Aganwadi centers enthusiastically participated in the competition and prepared varieties of nutritious delicacies from millets.

In-Charge DD, WCD ICDS, Yingkiong, Ojing Talom briefed the highlights of the observation of Poshan Maah and importance of millets on the occasion.

Panel of judges were DF & CSO Naku Siram, DIPRO Y. Jerang and Ms Karga, Coordinator ArSLM. All of them highly appreciated the creativity of Anganwadi women and exhorted them to keep on exploring the benefits of millets.

Later on, winners were felicitated with cash awards.

## Minister inaugurates Block Library

### DEOMALI, September 21:

PHED & WS, DoTCL & IT Minister, Wangki Lowang inaugurated the Namsang Block Library, an establishment under the Department of Public Libraries in Deomali Sub-Division recently on September 21.

Lowang appreciated the works and efforts of the Library Department and encouraged the public of Deomali township to enroll themselves as registered library members at the new public

library. On the occasion, as an act of encouragement, the Minister signed up for a library membership card.

Earlier, Ms. Chapun Sumnyan, DL & IO Khonsa highlighted on the rules & regulation of the newly inaugurated library office. She also thanked the Executing Agency W.R.D Deomali for extending their unified support and assistance in conducting a successful program.

Among others, in attendance were Executing Department's Executive Er. S. K Srivastava, Er. I. Riba, A.E WRD, Er. B.Basar, J.E WRD, Dr. Balban Kamlo, CO Soha, Er. Taro Jeram Executive Engineer P.W.D, Millo Tamang, D.F.O, Wangphoon Lowang, ZPM Deomali, Sam Korok, ZPM Soha, HoDs, faculties of W.R.G College and other public leaders etc.

## District Level Monitoring Committee meeting held

**AALO, September 22:**

West Siang District Level Monitoring Committee meeting was held at DC conference hall under the chairmanship of Penga Tato, DC West Siang on September 22.

Addressing all, DC Tato urged the executing agencies to complete the project in time without compromising the quality of works. He urged them to complete the multipurpose cultural hall which will be used for ensuring election purposes. He also asked the departments to achieve 100% work completion in time and called upon them to obtain undertaking before execution of any projects. The DC also appealed the people to cooperate for disposal of the garbage's as Aalo township is

facing hard to dispose of the solid waste.

West Siang ZPC, Tumpe Ete requested the executing agencies to handover the list of project/schemes to every ZPMs so that they can monitor the progress of the schemes. He vehemently discouraged the RTI activists, who are using the RTI act as means. The ZPC further appealed all the HoD's, executing agencies, admin officers and PRI leaders to work together to achieve the goal of progress. He further requested the concerned departments to issue the list of projects of West Siang to his office so that PR leaders could monitor the schemes properly.

ZPM, Danli Niri apprised that steel bridge over River Siyom connecting Kambu village is in slow progress and requested the authorities to complete the works as early as possible.

Earlier, Marjum Karga, DPO cum member secretary DLMC, in his welcome address highlighted on the meeting which was to review the progress of various developmental projects in the district. He appealed the executing agencies and concern administrative officers to conduct circle level monitoring committees so that progress of the projects can be easily monitoring by concern ADC & Circle Officers in their Jurisdictions.

The meeting was attended by all ZPMs, works department, BDOs and HoDs of the district.

## Governor meets Assam Governor; Discusses bilateral issues

**GUWAHATI, September 22:**

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

the Governor of Assam Gulab Chand Kataria at Raj Bhavan, Kharguli Hills, Guwahati on September 22, 2023.

They discussed bilateral issues including interstate-boundary and enhancing goodwill between the residents of both neighbouring States.

The Governor, who was on a two-day visit to Assam, commended Assam and Arunachal Pradesh Chief Ministers for taking concrete initiatives to resolve the boundary issue. He opined that a conscientious approach will strengthen the long-standing friendship among the people.

The Governors also deliberated on various opportunities for collaboration between the people of Arunachal Pradesh and Assam for their mutual benefit. He proposed increasing cultural and educational exchange programs to promote the rich culture of the region among the youth of both states.

The Governors exchanged ideas on preserving the natural environment, biodiversity, and archaeological treasures that are integral to the identity of the region. They stressed the need to expedite the implementation of development projects that will contribute to the overall progress and well-being of their respective populations.

## Governor launches 'Nasha Mukh Bharat - Nasha Mukh Arunachal Abhiyan'

*MoU signed to make Nasha Mukh Arunachal*

**ITANAGAR, September 22:**

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) launched the State-level 'Nasha Mukh Bharat-

Nasha Mukta Arunachal Abhiyan' at a launching programme organised at Dera Natung Govt. College Jubilee Hall Auditorium here on September 22, 2023.

The programme witnessed the signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Dera Natung Govt. College and Rajyoga Education & Research Foundation, Brahma Kumaris, Itanagar.

In his address, the Governor said that 'Nasha Mukta Bharat-Nasha Mukta Arunachal Abhiyan' is not just a campaign but a commitment to the wellbeing of the people. By tackling the root cause of drug abuse, raising awareness and providing support, it aspires to pave the way for a brighter, healthier future for the State and the nation.

The Governor commended the Brahma Kumaris and authority of Dera Natung Government College, Itanagar for signing the MoU. He said that it is a challenging task but expressed hope that the endeavour will bring good results and go a long way in fortifying a promising future for the youth of the State.

The Governor emphasised on a healthy family environment at home as a first and foremost step towards Nasha Mukta society. A good upbringing of a child will never give a chance to stray and pick up bad habits.

The Governor said that the State Government is committed and has Arunachal Pradesh Psychoactive Substance Policy 2021 in place, but, he underscored the involvement of the society as a whole to assist those going into addiction. He appealed to the people not to neglect even one individual and help the person to get rid of the bad habit.

The Governor said drug addiction is a serious issue and called for strong action against drug peddlers and suppliers. He suggested for use of technology in tracking peddlers and drug suppliers. With real-time tracking, we can keep an eye and eradicate drug menace from our society, he said.

Minister of Health & Family Welfare, Social Justice, Empowerment & Tribal Affairs, and Women & Child Development Alo Libang, in his address, strongly called upon the youths comprising most of the students to shoulder the responsibility of making the state free from any kind of addictions and substance abuse.

Terming the day as historic, he urged the students to be pro active in this regard and abide by the pledge taken on the occasion to stay away from addictions.

Our state is witnessing speedy development in all sectors, the minister said, and expressed his gratitude to the Brahma Kumaris centres for their endeavour towards saving the future of Arunachal Pradesh. Advising them to stay optimistic in life, Libang appealed all to support the fight against drug abuse and any kinds of addictive substances as a responsible citizen.

Government had adopted a legislation in the line and Arunachal Pradesh Psychoactive Substances Policy is in place to eradicate the menace from the society, the minister stated, adding rehabilitation centres have been set up in some districts for necessary treatment and counseling of the addicts.

Earlier, Secretary to Governor Darade Sharad Bhaskar, while appreciating the Brahma Kumaris for their selfless services for the betterment of the society, stressed on the need to check the demand and supply of these abusive sub-

stances, besides proper counseling to the addicts as it tends to many criminal activities. Stating that peer pressure among the youngsters led to addictions, he called upon the students not to succumb to such pressures for a healthy life and society.

Dr M.Q. Khan, Principal, DNGC, speaking on the occasion, highlighted on the NMBA. He said that the rate of drug addiction in the state is high, mostly in adolescent age and hence launching of NMBA is necessitated to control drug addictions, premature deaths etc through creating awareness, educating and counseling. He also spoke on the significance of meditation for one's personality development to wean away from wrong path and deal with peer pressures among the students.

Dr. Banarasi Lal Saha, Secretary, Medical Wing of Rajyoga Education & Research Foundation (RERF), Brahma Kumaris, Mount Abu, Rajasthan, informed that GoI, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has signed a MoU with the Brahma Kumaris, RERF on March 4, 2023 to undertake the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan for eradicating addictions from the country through change in life style, counselling and meditation.

Dr. Sachin Parab, National Coordinator, "My India-Addiction free India Campaign", BK, Mumbai, in his keynote address gave a detailed demonstration on their initiatives taken across around 180 countries and highlighted on the ill effects of addictions through a power point presentation. In a very lively presentation, Dr Parab motivated the student attendees to shun the wrong practices and channelize their energy in positive way for an addiction free society.

Brahma Kumar Prof. Jayadeba Sahoo and Asst Professor,

DNGC, Dr. Ratna Tayeng also spoke on the occasion.

On the occasion, Manager, Brahma Kumaris, Itanagar Centre, Brahma Kumari Junu administered the Nasha Mukta (De-addiction) pledge to the participants.

As part of the programme, Rajyoga Teacher from Tezpur, Brahma Kumari Kamala conducted a meditation session on the occasion.

Special invitees, faculty members of Dera Natung Govt. College and other educational institutes, NSS programme officers and volunteers and students from different colleges and schools of the Capital Itanagar participated in the launching programme.

## Health Mela held at CHC Mebo

### PASIGHAT, September 23:

The District Health Society (DHS) in collaboration with the BPGH Pasighat had organized a health Mela at CHC, Mebo on September 23 as a part of Ayushman Bhavah campaign.

The Mela was formally inaugurated by Mebo ADC Ainstein Koyu in presence of DMO, DR-CHO, JDHS and MS of BPGH, MO incharge and host leaders and other officers.

Altogether 482 registered patients were provided medicine, surgery, Obs & Gynae, ophthalmology, ENT, pediatric, Ultrasonography and Dental services.

According to official sources, ID cards generation under PM-JAY/CMAAY/ABHA, NCD/TB screening, Saans Bahu Sammelan, FP counseling etc was also part of the camp.

Meanwhile, continuing Ayushman Bhav-Seva Phakwada, a Voluntary Blood Donation drive

was organized by BPGH Pasighat and Tasi Panggeng Community Health Centre (FRU) in collaboration with BROS -a social group of likeminded individuals from Bilat, Ruksin and Oyan-Sille and Legong Banggo Students Union (LBSU) at FRU, Ruksin on the previous day on Sept-22 in which 18 units of blood were collected.

The drive was initiated to maintain the buffer-stock of blood units at BPGH and the newly commissioned Blood Storage Unit at FRU Ruksin. This was a welcome activity from the BROS and LBSU, who voluntarily accepted to participate in the drive, stated Dr. Kadum Jonnom, MOi/c Ruksin FRU. He also added that FRU Ruksin would now be able to carry out blood transfusion activities on need basis. Dr. Kadum while extending his gratitude appreciated BROS and LBSU and volunteer donors for their noble gesture. Such participation boosts the morale of the health service providers, he stated.

## First ever Butterfly Walk & Nature Trail event held

### TEZU, September 24:

The Kamlang Tiger Reserve conducted a butterfly walk and nature trail event for the first time ever in association with WIKI LOVES BUTTERFLIES and AMYAA (Non-Governmental Organization) NGO on September 24.

The main goals of the event were to uncover the diversity of undiscovered butterflies and to expose all participants to a wide audience. The event also served to raise awareness of the tiger reserve's breathtaking wildlife and sceneries.

Bunty Tao, Range Forest Officer, gave a brief introduction regarding "Kamlang Tiger Reserve & its Biodiversity" to kick off this programme. Following that, students from Apna Vidya Bhavan, Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya, Government Secondary School, Don Bosco School, and Arunachal University of Studies (AUS) gave an introduction to themselves. PhD students from Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU) and North-Eastern Hill University (NEHU), as well as several enthusiasts from adjacent districts, participated alongside the schoolchildren. They introduced themselves and spoke of their excitement to experience the tiger reserve's uncharted diversity on this, their first visit.

Aditya Das, Field Biologist and the event's lead planner, gave a thorough summary of the event's programme to begin. He also provided a brief presentation about the value of butterflies, the need for conservation, and ways that everyone of us may help.

The programme began with a butterfly walk up to Champa Bridge, one of the hanging bridge locations in the tiger reserve, from Mithun Gate, a birdwatching and butterfly watch view point area. The participants were split up into groups and led by subject-matter specialists. The scientist assisted the participants in correctly identifying and cataloguing the butterflies. He also gave the learners a comprehensive understanding of the abundant biodiversity and untold treasures that science has yet to uncover.

By firsthand observations and some photography, a total of 15-20 species of butterflies like Green Dragon tail, Spotted Sawtooth, White Dragon tail, Common Mormon, Common Yeoman, Purple Sapphire, Commander, Popin-

jay, Great Orange Tip, Chocolate Albatross, Black Prince, Common Jester, Elbowed Pierrot, Straight Pierrot, Tiger Hopper, Glassy Tiger, Common Rose were identified & recorded along the walk. If the weather was excellent, the number would have gone up, but the enthusiasm and interest didn't let them down.

The students also participated in interactive games like Nature Bingos and Nature Art Installation activities, which were introduced to them by Niranjana Nayak of ART FOR NATURE and Bethem Marai of AMYAA Ngo based at Lohit district. The participants enthusiastically engaged in the games and had fun while playing.

The Range Officer gave out participation certificates and prizes to the victors after the game and walk session, as well as compliments and best wishes to everyone for their enthusiastic involvement and active engagement, while the Field Biologist and Chief Coordinator, gave a vote of appreciation to the participants.

## **Union Civil Aviation Minister inaugurates New Terminal Building at Tezu**

**TEZU, September 24:**

Marking a significant milestone in the development of aviation infrastructure in the region, promising enhanced connectivity and improved passenger services, the Union Minister of Civil Aviation & Steel, Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, inaugurated the newly constructed state-of-the-art Terminal Building at Tezu Airport on Sunday, September 24, 2023.

The new domestic terminal building has a domestic terminal

area of 4000 sq. mtrs with a peak hour capacity of 300 passengers annually. It also houses five check-in counters, with three more to be added in the future. Additionally, the terminal has two arrival carousels and two aircraft parking bays for ATR-72 type aircraft.

Unveiling the inauguration plaque, the Union Minister for Civil Aviation expressed his gratitude to the people of Arunachal Pradesh for their unwavering support in driving development in the state. He described Arunachal Pradesh, known as the 'Land of the Rising Sun,' as the future 'Gateway of Bharat,' where horticultural exports are poised to flourish. Presently, the region's fruits are reaching destinations as far as Germany, London, and Singapore.

The Union Minister also emphasised on the enhanced capability of Tezu Airport with the addition of the new terminal building, which is also the second civil terminal in the state of Arunachal Pradesh under Airport Authority of India. He anticipated that it will greatly increase tourist footfall in the region and add on to the regional economy.

He also mentioned that under the double-engine government of PM Narendra Modi and CM Pema Khandu, development in Arunachal Pradesh has already achieved significant strides and will continue to soar greater heights. He also emphasised that in the nine years of Modi Sarkar, 75 new airports have been constructed in the entire nation, adding to a total of 137 airports, along with 17 Airports in North East India and 4 airports (including ALGs) in Arunachal Pradesh that were constructed in the past nine years.

Scindia also termed North East as the 'HIRA' (diamond) of India, citing HIRA stands for

Highway, Internet, Railway and Aviation and reiterated the PM Modi's commitment of making it a new engine of growth for India. He further said that the NE region will become the gateway of India in days to come as it has the potential for Trade, Agri & Horticulture Produces, etc.

On the occasion, the Union Minister extended an invitation to the people of Tezu to actively participate in the region's growth. He highlighted that the Tezu Terminal building, constructed at a cost of Rs 170 crore on 212 acres of land, with a 1500-meter runway, is fully equipped to handle aircraft of the ATR-72 type. With Tezu now on the aerial map, the state has a total of four airports: Tezu, Zero, Holongi, and Pasighat. Tezu is currently connected to Imphal, Dibrugarh, and Guwahati.

He further announced that Itanagar will soon be connected to Rupsi, Jorhat, and Delhi under the UDAAN-5 scheme of the Government of India. He also emphasized that Prime Minister Narendra Modi regards Arunachal as the point from which the 'Arun,' meaning Sun, spreads to enter India, exemplifying Atulniya Bharat. Just 40 kilometres from Tezu lies the famous 'Swarna Bodh Temple,' renowned for religious tourism.

Scindia noted that under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Modi, not only has the number of airports increased phenomenally since 2014, but the country has also gained prominence on the global aviation map. He observed that India is progressing, as evidenced by the success of G20 and Chandrayaan 3, in addition to the expansion of aviation infrastructure to now encompass 149 airports. What was once unimaginable, such as aircraft landings, is now a reality, and the entire

nation is connected through Highways, Internet, Railways, and Aviation (HIRA). Many remote areas have gained prominence through the UDAN initiative, and Tezu is one of these success stories.

Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein, in his speech expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the Union Minister for dedicating the new Terminal Building at Tezu Airport and emphasized that the Tezu Airport holds immense importance owing to its strategic location, connecting various tourist destinations such as Dong Valley, Mayudia, Parshuram Kund, Namdapha Tiger Reserve, Bhismaknagar and many more.

Reflecting on the history of Tezu Airport, Mein added that it has undergone a long journey. Initially built during 1963-67, the airport was operated by the Indian Air Force until 2004. Subsequently, it was transferred to the Airport Authority of India, but remained inactive for civil operations. He also mentioned that during 1985-86, the Airport Authority of India constructed a temporary Civil Terminal Building, which was utilized by INDIAN AIRLINES D-27 (FOKKER) Aircraft, serving as a 25-seater aircraft connecting Mohanbari to Tezu.

Speaking further, Mein added that the Civil Terminal building at Walong has also been completed, while works at Tuting and Mechukha ALGs are currently in progress and highlighted that the State Government has invested a total of Rs 229 Crore in the Civil Aviation Sector over the last 7 years. Further, to ensure seamless all-weather flight operations, the DCM appealed to the Ministry of Civil Aviation to provide and facilitate the installation of necessary navigational equipment such as ILS, VOR (Very High-Fre-

quency Omni Range) approach, DME (Distance Measuring Equipment), etc., at Tezu and Pasighat Airports. He further requested the Ministry to intervene and extend support for the development of civil terminal infrastructure at Vijaynagar ALG and also urged for the establishment of ALGs at Alinye, near Anini in Dibang Valley District, and at Zimthung, Dirang. The operationalisation of these ALGs would serve both defense purposes and civilian needs, he added.

Earlier, in his welcome address, Vumlunmang Vualnam, Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation, expressed his delight that the inauguration of Tezu Airport has connected the easternmost part of the country, with an international border within an 80-kilometer catchment area, to the rest of India.

He expressed optimism about Tezu's potential, stating that the Terminal Building has the capacity to handle 300 passengers at present, with the potential for expansion to accommodate up to 1000 passengers in the near future. The government's keen interest and support at the highest level have made it possible for this region to achieve air connectivity, which offers substantial opportunities for cargo, trade, and passenger travel.

Vualnam encouraged the implementation of Prime Minister Modi's 'One District, One Product' initiative in Arunachal and urged youngsters, Self-Help Groups (SHGs), and Women's Groups to utilise Tezu Airport as a launching pad for economic development in the region. Arunachal's fruits, vegetables, flowers, and medicinal herbs have vast potential to reach global markets.

As part of his visit to Arunachal Pradesh, the Union Minis-

ter also took a tour of the Mekelang village in Tezu on foot and inspected several infrastructure projects and schemes such as the PMGSY road, PM-AWAJ Yojana and Har Ghar Jal Yojana under JJM. He also distributed Ayushman Bharat Health Cards to the beneficiaries and visited and interacted with the children of Anganwadi centre and beneficiaries of various welfare schemes in the area.

Besides DCM Chowna Mein, the inauguration ceremony was graced by State's Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation, Nakap Nalo, Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha), Tapir Gao; Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha), Nabam Rebia, local MLA Karikho Kri, other senior officers and officials from GoI and state government and local public.

## Candle light vigil held to protest brutal killing of youth

**KHONSA, September 25:**

A candle light vigil protesting against brutal killing of an innocent boy Late Lokhi Wangsu of Naitong village on September 18, 2023 last in Towang Reserve Area of Borduria was jointly organized by various organizations from both Tirap and Longding districts at Khonsa on September 25.

The organizations included - All Tirap District Students Union, Longding District Students Union, Changlang District Students Union, Wancho Council, Nocte Students Union, All Tutsa Students Union, All Ollo Students Union, Borduria Welfare Federation, Nocte Mother's Federation, Chopnu Students Union, Naitong Youth Association, Nokphan Students Union and Borduria Youth Association.

The candle light vigil rally carried out from Khonsa Bazar Taxi stand to Nehru Stadium, Khonsa began with two-minute prayers to mark respect to the departed soul of Late Lokhi Wangsu.

While lighting the candle light at the portrait of Late Lokhi Wangsu by all the participants, the student leaders and other social organizations vehemently condemned the brutal killing of Lt Lokhi Wangsu on that fateful day. They placed a joint public memorandum to the government demanding - immediate establishment of high-level enquiry committee to investigate and arrest the culprit involved in cold blooded murder of Lt. Lokhi Wangsu of Naitong village, to discuss with the Assam counterpart and stop patrolling of Assam Forest guard and Battalion in the Towang Forest Reserve until the Namsai Declaration is resolved by both the state governments of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh, immediate increase in the number of forest guard deployed in the Borduria range, immediate taking initiative to talk with Assam counterpart or Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh in order to provide compensation to the victim family without any delay and both the state's forest department to maintain status quo until the matter is solved.

### 3rd Upper Siang monthly DLMC meeting held

#### YINGKIONG, September 25:

Upper Siang DC Hage Lailang chaired the 3rd Monthly District Level Monitoring Committee meeting of Upper Siang at DC conference Hall here on September 25.

All CSS, SSS, PM & CM flagship schemes physical and

financial achievement were reviewed and discussed in the meeting attended by Zilla Parishad Chairperson Lumgeng Litin, ZPMs of Mariyang, Geku, Mopom, HoDs & Administrative officers.

While reviewing the reports of various departments, the DC asked the HoDs to take DLMC meeting seriously and come out with full preparations. He also reiterated that scheme implementing agencies should maintain transparency and accountability and proper coordination with local administration and PRI leaders of respective areas. He also informed that as per guidelines, sub-divisional monitoring committee will be constitute to monitor works at sub-division and circle level and every officers should attend such meeting without fail.

ZPC Lumgeng Litin, on the occasion emphasised that adequate publicity and awareness program need to be created among the public about various programmes and policies of government so that public can have clear knowledge about benefits of schemes being implemented in their areas. Expressing concern over erratic power supply in Yingkiong Township and Upper Siang as a whole, he requested the Hydro Power dept for early solution and streamlining of power supply to mitigate the problem. At the same time, he also requested the HoDs to intimate local legislator or PRI leaders prior to submission of any developmental schemes proposal to government.

During the meeting all HoDs, EE (PHED, WRD, UD & Housing, PWD, HPD, DDSE, DFDO, DAO, DHO, ADI, PD, DRDA, DD(ICDS), DFO, ADTH, ArSLM, BDOs of Jengging, Yingkiong & Mariyang presented

their reports. Outpost administrative officers from Mariyang and Jengging also spoke and shared the problems like lack of coordination, accountability on the part of executing agencies and need for bridging the communication gap for smooth monitoring of works going in their respective administrative areas.

In the meeting, DPO, Talut Tatak also apprised the house on upcoming Seva Maah programme and read out the role and responsibilities of each and every department and also requested the departments to submit required reports at earliest for complication.

### Awareness program on anemia held

#### GUMTO, September 26:

A two day awareness program on anemia themed 'Test, Treat, Talk Anemia' was organised at Gumto on September 25th and 26th.

The event was jointly organised by District ICDS cell Yupia, CDPO Doimukh ICDS Project in collaboration with The Central Bureau of Communication under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, GoI.

The two day event witnessed photo exhibition on Poshan maah observance in the district, talks on Anemia, Poshan Abhiyan and other social welfare schemes of the state and central government and a recipe competition on locally available food that are rich in iron.

The resource persons on the first day included CO Gumto, Miss Taya Yullu, Dr. L Chukhi, MO CHC Doimukh and Smti Aro-ti Tayeng, DD, ICDS, while on the second day, ZPM Chukhu Bablu, Dr. Bengia Yalam, MO, Ayush, Chukhu Atul, GPC Gumto, Rakesh

Doley and CDPO Smt Maya Murtem were the resource persons.

The program witnessed participation from SHG members, Anganwadi workers, pregnant and lactating mothers from the nearby areas and PRI members

## Chief Minister calls on the Governor

### ITANAGAR, September 26:

Chief Minister Pema Khandu called on the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) at Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on September 26, 2023.

They discussed education, vibrant village programme and ongoing developmental projects in the State.

The Governor, who participated in the two-day conference of higher and technical education, advised the Chief Minister for setting up a 'Think Tank', which will recommend the State Government on the implementation of the National Education Policy 2020. He also shared his concern of slow progress of infrastructure construction of Arunachal Pradesh University.

The Governor stressed on strengthening the youth activities, especially National Cadet Corps (NCC). He discussed the need to promote NCC in all educational institutions.

The Governor shared his observation about the Vibrant Village programme with the Chief Minister. He suggested all weather roads, dedicated banking facilities, community hall and playgrounds for sporting activities in the remote villages.

Earlier, the Chief Minister briefed the Governor about his meetings in the national capital. He also apprised the Governor about ongoing projects in the State.

## Governor condoles demise of former APPSC member

### ITANAGAR, September 26:

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) has condoled the demise of a former member of the State Public Service Commission Jathi Pulu.

He said that the passing away of Pulu is a great loss to the people of Arunachal Pradesh, particularly the Idu community.

In a condolence message on September 26 last, the Governor said, "I join the people of the State in offering our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family and pray for the eternal peace to the departed soul".

## Arunachalee youths to participate in Under -14 Subroto Cup

### PASIGHAT, September 27:

In a display of community engagement, fostering talent and nation building, NCC Group Hqs, Dibrugarh in collaboration with Indian Army has selected and trained NCC Football Team comprising of 16 Players of NE region of which four talented youths are from Arunachal Pradesh for participating in Under-14 Subroto Cup Championship 2023 scheduled to be held at Bangaluru from October 2 next.

Tajum Popak, Oken Ruku, Taram Popak and Tasen Podo are the youngsters from Arunachal selected to be part of the NCC Football Team.

The 3rd and final training camp featuring cadets from all the states of North East region culminated at Rayang Military Station on September 22 last and the team comprising of 16 play-

ers including four youth from Arunachal Pradesh hailing from Manigong (Shi Yomi District) will now be proceeding to Bengaluru.

Three Selection cum Training Camps were conducted by the NCC Group Hqs at Rayang Military Station in East Siang district under the aegis of Spear Head Division/ Spear Corps from Jun to Aug 23 last. These camps provided a platform to the young boys to showcase their talent, dedication and sportsmanship.

The Indian Army and NCC have consistently extended their support to the local communities, emphasizing the importance of education, discipline and overall development for the youth. The positive impact of the training camps extended beyond the football field as the players were also exposed to the Army way of life.

Subroto Cup is a prestigious football tournament known for nurturing young talent and promoting the spirit of sportsmanship amongst the youth. The competition will be played at the ASC Centre, the Air Force School, Jalahalli and the Air Force School, Yehalanka in Bengaluru.

The training camps were meticulously organized, incorporating rigorous training sessions and coaching by experienced mentors. Such engagements help in bridging gaps and fostering sense of harmony, reinforcing the role of Indian Army and NCC in Nation Building. Through these camps, NCC and Army are not only nurturing young talent but also promoting unity, discipline, and patriotism among the youth, ultimately contributing to the Nation's progress and wellbeing.

### 3 Wushu players, who missed Asian Games will be treated as participants & provided with incentives as per state's sports policy - CM

*Khandu encourages them to train harder & focus on 2026 Asian Games*

**ITANAGAR, September 27:**

State Chief Minister Pema Khandu on Wednesday assured that the three Wushu players of the state, who missed to participate in the ongoing Asian Games being held at Hangzhou in China, due to denial of visa by the neighbouring country, will be treated as participants of the Asian Games as members of the Indian Wushu team and will be provided with incentives as per the state's sports policy.

The three Wushu athletes Onilu Tega, Nyeman Wangsu and Mepung Lamgu along with Sports and Youth Affairs Minister Mama Natung, their coach Maibam Premchandra Singh, Sports Secretary Abu Tayeng, officials of the Arunachal Olympic Association and Arunachal Wushu Association had called on the Chief Minister here at State Civil Secretariat on September 27, 2023.

Acknowledging the fact that the three athletes were the first from Arunachal Pradesh ever to qualify for the Asian Games but had to miss the prestigious event for no fault of theirs, Khandu said that they will receive the cash incentive of Rs 20 lakhs each in accordance with the state's sports policy for an athlete participating in the Asian Games. He also said that Coach Maibam Premchandra Singh will receive his share of 10% of the incentives awarded to the athletes.

Interacting with the young Wushu players, Khandu encouraged them to train harder and focus on the 2026 Asian Games scheduled to be held at Tokyo, Japan.

"As true sportspersons you are not supposed to get disheartened but prepare harder for the next tournament. You might have lost this chance to show your talent but for us you already are heroes and medal winners," he said.

He also asked them not to worry about their future as the state's sports policy provides for a government job to excelling sportspersons.

"You need not worry. You are very young now. As and when the time comes, you will get a job with the government," he added.

Encouraging them to concentrate on their training, the Chief Minister assured that hence all expenses of their training, dietary requirements, etc will be borne by the state government keeping in mind the Tokyo Asian Games.

It may be noted that Wushu is yet to be included as an event in the Olympics.

He commended the Arunachal Olympic Association and Arunachal Wushu Association for initiating to take up the stapled visa issue with the Indian Olympic Association at the highest level and assured support of the state government.

The three athletes expressed gratitude to the Chief Minister and people of the state for their overwhelming support in the face of disappointment for not being able to compete in the Asian Games for which they had prepared for years, day and night.

"But we are determined. We will prepare harder for the 2026 Asian Games and leave no stone unturned to win medals for our country and make Arunach-

al Pradesh proud," they said in unison. "Representing India on the international stage and contributing through sports for the country and state by winning medals has always been and always will be our cherished dream," they added.

### Career Guidance cum Motivational Talk at RGU

**RONO HILLS, September 27:**

The Career Counselling & Placement Cell of Rajiv Gandhi University organized a Career Guidance cum Motivational Talk programme in association with Helping Hands & Alternative Learning System, New Delhi at the Convention Hall of RGU on Wednesday, September 27, 2023 which was attended by 600 plus students of the university and from the neighbouring affiliated college, Govt. College Doimukh.

Speaking on the occasion, RGU Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Saket Kushwaha briefed about the aims and objectives of the programme and said that such programmes play a role of pathfinder for many confused aspirants and assured that it will be made a regular programme henceforth, amidst cheers. He also narrated about the core contribution of the university through teaching, learning, research and community services.

Special Commissioner of Police, Delhi Armed Police and President of NGO, Helping Hands Robin Hibu, who also happens to be an Alumni of RGU, while interacting with the students, gave an overview on career options with special focus on trying out of box as per the available facilities in the country and beyond spoke in length about the preparedness of students for competitions as a Resource Person.

Hibu in his deliberations

suggested that one should choose friends wisely for achieving higher goals and to do SWOT analysis of self. Unless one understands well about their strengths and abilities the achievements of targets become difficult. He asked the students to remain free from excessive use of mobile phones and encouraged them to use it only to enhance their knowledge.

Speaking about his mantra of good health, he advised all to be an early riser and urged all not to forget their roots, and be the ambassadors of their native place. He also handed over his Autobiography books to the Vice-Chancellor and Registrar of RGU.

Executive Director of ALS, New Delhi Manish K. Gautam, attending as Resource Person spoke about Five Ds - to dream big in life quoting the former President of India Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, to dream such dreams that doesn't let you sleep, to be determined to take one's dreams into reality, to be disciplined as one cannot be successful in life without being disciplined and to set deadlines to do things within a given time and to have the right direction with understanding the generation and creation options in life with a desire to excel. Both the guests attended the series of queries from the students covering various facets during a lively interaction with the participants in a Q&A Session and cleared all the doubts & queries of the participants.

Earlier, RGU Registrar, while welcoming all, briefed about the university. Among others, RGU's Dean of Life Sciences and Agricultural Sciences Prof. SumpamTangjang, Director IQAC and Head of Commerce Prof. R.C. Parida, Joint Registrar Dr. David Pertin, Head of Physical Education & Sports Sciences Dr. Sambhu Prasad were present during the programme.

## Swachhata Hi Seva campaign flagged off

**TEZU, September 27:**

As a prelude to Swachh Bharat Diwas, the Swachhata Hi Seva (SHS) campaign for Lohit District was flagged off recently by Kamaleshwar Rao S, and Lohit District BJP President at Tezu.

SHS aims to disseminate the importance of a Sampurna Swachh, to reinforce the concept of sanitation as everyone's business and to mobilize public for active participation in making "Garbage free India."

Kamaleshwar Rao S urged the people of Lohit District to join hand in making our district free from garbage.

In the morning, a rally was organized to sensitize and spread awareness among the people regarding SWACHHATA HI SEVA under Swachh Bharat Diwas.

In the line, Safai Mitra Suraksha Shivir under SHS-2023 was also organized for all the sanitation workers and UD&H staffs.

The launching-cum-awareness program concluded with the pledge taking ceremony to remain committed towards cleanliness and devote time for this.

NSS students, Nimkey Vidya Niketan School, Community Based Organizations, NGOs, public leaders and other civil society organizations also participated enthusiastically in the rally.

## Review meeting on Aspirational district & Aspirational block programme held

**NAMSAI, September 27:**

A review meeting on the Aspirational district programme and aspirational block programme chaired

by Secretary, Planning & Investment cum State Prabhari Officer, Govt. of A.P, R. K Sharma was held at District Secretariat, Namsai recently.

Addressing the meeting, Sharma informed that Niti Ayog has been insisting on holding a review meeting on the ADP. He further apprised that Chief Secretary has raised a question on the degrading monthly delta ranking of Namsai district and stressed that it should be constantly monitored. We should hence focus on a targeted approach because it is difficult to target all the activities, parameter wise progress should be reviewed and then we should decide on which activities to focus on in-order for the delta as well as district ranking to improve, he stated.

Earlier, while welcoming the members, DC Namsai C.R Khampa said that the district ranking has improved but we have a long way to go to saturate all the KPIs. He urged the department concerned to report all issues faced on the ground. He further suggested for conducting cluster wise training of all anganwadis workers regarding SAM and MAM data collection and reporting.

He apprised that alongside the district KPIs, the block KPIs shall also be focused.

DPO gave a detailed power point presentation of all the KPIs. The identified areas in different sectors requiring focus were discussed at length. In the health sector, conduct of ANC within first trimester, NQUAS, IPHS norms, continuity of 4 ANCs, HR gap were identified. Likewise, for education sector focus was put on the functionality of toilets in schools and drinking water facilities.

Soil Health card's, micro irrigation, PMAY(G) were other subjects that required to be focused.

The meeting was attended by all the administrative officers and HoDs.

## 2-day Ziro Literary Festival organised

### ZIRO, September 28:

The fourth edition of Ziro Literary Festival (ZLF) commenced here at Saint Claret College, Ziro (SCCZ).

The two-day event is organised by SCCZ and PWLO Entertainment in association with Oil India Limited, under the theme, 'Celebrating Creativity for all'. The fest is supported by Lower Subansiri District Administration.

A series of outcome-based workshops were also conducted for the students of Saint Claret College, Ziro as part of ZLF 2023.

Prominent authors, journalists, filmmakers, social activists, teachers, scholars, and students are taking an active part in the captivating talks and discussion sessions.

The fest began with a captivating discussion on 'Tribal customary laws and the modern world', moderated by journalist Ranju Dodum with former Chairperson, APSCW Jarjum Ete, research scholar Gaby Miyum Damin and journalist Karma Paljor.

On the topic of 'India's Northeast and its Neighbours,' ambassador Gautam Mukhopadhyaya and award-winning journalist Sadiq Naqvi also led fascinating discussions. Journalist Karma Paljor mediated the conversation.

Banwang Losu, a Wancho author who prepared the Wancho script, shared his views in 'A brighter future for tribal literature', a conversation with Make peace Sitlhou.

Prominent Assamese novelist, poet and activist, Dr. Rita

Chowdhury and Tanuj Solanki who himself is an author shared their views on, 'So you wrote a book. Now what?'. The discussion was led by journalist Makepeace Sitlhou.

DC Lower Subansiri, Bam-in Nime in his address, welcomed and appreciated all the resource persons for coming and sharing their knowledge with the participants, while the Principal SCCZ, Dr. Fr. Allwyn Mendoz highlighted the importance of Literary festivals and the motive for conducting the Ziro Literary Festival annually.

The day concluded with a musical gig by AryJuliant and Asrie from Lombok Island, Indonesia, who thrilled the audience with their catchy tunes.

The Ziro Literary Festival is a celebration of reading, critical thinking, creative expression, and communal sharing. It is held annually at Saint Claret College, Ziro, wherein an array of award-winning writers, journalists, thinkers, and accomplished artists and students are provided a platform through series of discussions, readings, and hands-on workshops.

## Coordination meet discusses proper implementation of 'Nal Jal Mitra Scheme'

### PALIN, September 28:

A coordination meeting under the chairmanship of Kra Daadi Deputy Commissioner, Bengia Nighee was held recently to discuss proper implementation of 'Nal Jal Mitra Scheme', which was attended by ZPMs and GP chairpersons, EE PHED Tali and Palin, Administrative officers and DRDA and skill development officials.

Addressing the house, the DC exhorted them to work

in tandem for the success of the scheme.

Rido Tarak, PD cum DPDO and Charu Sakap, PHED EE Palin both gave an overview of the scheme, which was being implemented in a very democratic manner to achieve 100 per cent saturation of tap water connection without any discrimination.

Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) is a flagship programme of the central government to provide potable water to every household functional tap connection with a mission to improve the lives of the people by providing safe drinking water to every house.

After going through the status report, the DC informed that after providing potable water tap connections directly from the Water Treatment Plant (WTP), the PHED was now implementing "Nal Jal Mitra Scheme" under JJM and the Village Water Sanitation Committees (VWSC) of the respective villages have to carry out necessary maintenance works in future by appointing skilled plumbers/laborers from their own. He exhorted all the GPCs present to ensure that VWSC is formed in all the villages and their bank accounts are active.

ZPC Smti Charu Menia appealed to the department heads to ensure that panchayat leaders are also kept in the loop regarding any development about the scheme.

PD cum DPDO also spoke.

## Indian Army's Vibrant Village initiatives in East Kameng

### SEPPA, September 28:

In a remarkable display of dedication to fostering socio-economic development in the region, the Indian Army has

conducted various programs recently to promote Vibrant Village Program (VVP) in Bameng, Khenewa and Chayangtajo in collaboration with District Administration of East Kameng District.

The program mainly focused on Information Technology (IT) training workshop, career counselling session to students, Agro-tourism Training, Homestay and Hospitality Guidance, Agnipath Scheme Career Counselling and information on various governmental schemes.

A comprehensive lecture on beneficial schemes by the Government of India shed light on the numerous avenues of support available to the people. The Agro-Tourism training and homestay development and hospitality workshop opened doors to a new world of opportunities for locals interested in harnessing the potential of their natural surroundings for tourism and hospitality ventures. With all these diverse arrays of activities, the aim was nurturing not just the skills but also the aspirations of the community. These sessions provided invaluable insights and guidance to the talented young students and the general public.

The local response to this initiative has been nothing short of heartwarming. The people brimming with happiness and delight, enthusiastically participated in all the activities, showcasing their unwavering support for such transformative endeavours. It is evident that these initiatives have ignited a spark of optimism and ambition in the hearts of the local population, paving the way for a brighter and more prosperous Vibrant Villages in interior parts of the country.

## Plantation & cleanliness drive on World Environmental Health Day

**DOIMUKH, September 28:**

In a remarkable display of community engagement, students from the MA 3rd Semester of the Department of Education of Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU) organized a one-day Tree Plantation Cum Cleanliness Drive on the occasion of World Environmental Health Day.

The event, held at the Community Health Centre in Doimukh, Papum Pare district, aimed to underscore the pivotal role trees play in the environment and foster a sense of responsibility among local residents.

The students embarked on a spirited march from RGU's Department of Education to the Community Health Centre in Doimukh. During the procession, they proudly carried self-made dustbins and banners to emphasize the significance of environmental health. Upon reaching their destination, the students showcased a thought-provoking skit accompanied by an awareness song, vividly depicting the ongoing environmental degradation and its dire consequences. This powerful performance delivered a compelling message to the public, urging them to take ownership of their environment for a brighter future.

As part of their initiative, the students planted tree saplings in the vicinity of the Community Health Centre and took measures to protect these saplings from domestic animals and trespassers. To promote cleanliness, they also installed self-made dustbins within the CHC premises, emphasizing the importance of responsible waste disposal.

Addressing the gathering, Dean of the Faculty of Education, Prof. T. Lhungdim, and Head of the Department of Education at RGU, Prof. P.K Acharya, lauded and motivated the students for their commendable efforts in serving their community members.

Program coordinator, Dr. Tage Monju, shed light on the significance of World Environmental Health Day and encouraged students to become active citizens in creating a cleaner environment for the well-being of our planet, while Dr. Anga Padu, another program coordinator, stressed the vital role of cleanliness and tree plantation drives in enhancing the overall quality of life on Earth.

Dr. Lobsang Chuki, the Medical Officer in charge of the Community Health Centre in Doimukh, expressed her heartfelt gratitude to the students for their tree plantation drive. She also utilized the opportunity to raise awareness about rabies, emphasizing the importance of proper animal vaccination and offering precautionary measures to prevent this deadly disease.

This initiative by RGU students stands as a testament to the profound impact of education and community involvement in promoting environmental health and responsibility.

## Namsai DWSM meeting held

**NAMSAI, September 28:**

District Water & Sanitation Mission (DWSM) meeting was held at DC's conference Hall here on Tuesday under the chairmanship of DC, Namsai C.R Khampa in presence of MLA Namsai Chau Zingnu Namchoom, MLA Lekang, Smti Jummum Ete Deori, ZPC

Namsai, all ZPMs, administrative officers and officers of PHED and RD dept.

Addressing the meeting, Namsai MLA, urged the member secretaries to conduct periodic block level coordination meeting and said that all the ground issues requiring prioritisation should be brought to the knowledge of the chairman, DWSM.

Multi departmental Convergence & Effective IEC have a big role to play for saturation of JJM and SBM. He opined that site visits of all the ongoing work should be done by member secretaries along with officers of PHED. To further the creation of sense of responsibility, he suggested that the members of the households facing water crisis should be included in the Village Water and Sanitation Committee. He also suggested that exposure visits of VWSC should be planned where interaction can be done with members of VWSC of functional and successful water treatment plants. He further affirmed that the issues and hurdles of the department shall be placed in state level forum.

Lekang MLA, Smti Jumum Ete Deori apprised that out of all the completed projects under JJM in Lekang circle, majority are defunct. "There is lack of coordination and awareness amongst the villagers, hence intervention is needed from our end", she said, adding that a strategy needs to be worked out to functionally reap the efforts of JJM. She concluded by saying that the list of all works executed by various departments should be given to the concerned legislators and ZPMs.

Presiding over the meeting, the DC said that DWSM is an activity carried out as a part of the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) by PHED. He stated that unlike other parts of

the state, the water supply system in the district is not gravity driven but mostly regulated through lift water system. Sustaining the unit has become a big concern in Namsai for which village wise Village Water and Sanitation Committee (VWSC) has been formed, but the sense of ownership is lacking, therefore despite achieving 90% plus physical achievement, many are defunct. He further added that Panchayats should have a functional office in the village level and thus urged to Member Secretaries to functionalize the Gram Panchayat offices.

DPDO, Namsai W. Mosang informed the house that under the grey water management for achieving ODF plus, work is being done in convergence with RD department. Individual soak pits and drains are being constructed under MGNREGA. A total of 605 units are being constructed in the district and the aim is to achieve 100% saturation by October.

### **NILP Assessment Test promoting adult education conducted**

#### **ITANAGAR, September 28:**

New India Literacy Program Assessment Test 2023-24, under New India Literacy Programme (NILP) was conducted on Sunday at OJU Welfare Association and two other centres at Itanagar and Naharlagun run by Arunachal Pradesh Women Welfare Society (APWWS).

The programme is a new scheme promoting adult education. It mainly focuses on complete eradication of illiteracy, by providing basic literacy.

At OWA, the assessment test was facilitated by Ms. Binny Yachu as Centre Superintendent, Ms. Kabom Tatak and Ms. Bini Kompi as Invigilator.

At APWWS Itanagar Centre, Kani Nada Maling, President APWWS was the Centre Superintendent. Yomjum Geyi Jongsam was the Incharge along with Taku Yasap Tadar, Joram Rosy, Milo Sumka, Ipu Angu as invigilators.

At Naharlagun Centre, Rerik Karlo Dighbak was the Centre Superintendent and Engam Rumi Zirdo was the Invigilator.

Tori Gadi, APO-cum- Assistant Nodal Officer, DLMA, ICR along with his team also visited the exam centres and took stock of the examination.

All together 28 learners from OWA and 34 from APWWS Centres appeared for the assessment test.

### **'Chintan Shivir' discusses Block Development Strategies**

#### **NAMSAI, September 28:**

The District Steering Committee for Aspirational Block Program 'Chintan Shivir' was organised at GHSS, Chongkham, under the theme "Aspire to Inspire" as a follow up to the review meeting on 'Aspirational District Programme' and 'Aspirational Block program' under the chairmanship of R.K Sharma, Secretary Planning & Investment.

The 'Shivir' was chaired by DC Namsai C.R Khampa in presence of ZPC Chongkham, Chow Jenia Namchoom and all the PRI members of Chongkham CD Block.

The Aspirational Block Programme is being monitored by Niti Aayog. The objective of the program is to make Block Development Strategies (BDS) finding the critical gaps and outline the priorities across 9 sectors, 5 themes and 39 key performance Indicators

(KPIs). The 9 sectors are Health, Nutrition, Agriculture, Education, Drinking water & Sanitation, livelihood, Financial Services, Information & technology and Rural Development.

In the Chintan Shivir, the idea of Aspirational Block Program (ABP) was explained to all the stakeholders and deliberations on all the 39 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) were held to contrive the Block Development Strategy.

Later, in an interactive session, the themes and sector specific block development plans were explored comprehensively by conducting SWOT & Gap Analysis with a focus to put forth practical key interventions.

During the discussion, emphasis was given on the concept of Jan Bhagidari and the house fixated on achieving saturation of all KPIs by making it a 'Jan Aandolan'.

The chairman urged the departments not to work in silos and encouraged convergence amongst the stakeholders wherever feasible in order to achieve all the targeted KPIs.

Among others, administrative officers, District Planning officer, all Heads of offices/departments including block level officials, Gaon Buras, CBOs, other elderly leaders of the community, Branch Manager SBI (Financial Services) and officials of Priamal Foundation attended.

## Meeting discusses modalities for Seva Maah observance

### ITANAGAR, September 28:

A meeting was convened in the chamber of the Deputy Commissioner Capital, Itanagar Talopotom with all the Heads of Department

under Capital Itanagar to discuss the modalities for the Seva Maah observance in the month of November 2023.

The Seva Maah envisages to intensify SAD camps and ensure welfare schemes and programmes benefit the people in the last mile.

Addressing the meeting, DC Potom urged all the departments concerned for their cooperation for the successful conduct of the Seva Maah. He informed that the event would be implemented in a mission mode to achieve 100% saturation of selected schemes and services.

EAC Takam Nicholas through a PPT informed in detail about the Seva Maah plan. He informed that a total of two mega events per week have been proposed for Capital Itanagar and suitable date and venue for organizing the SAKD 2.0 camp would be intimated soon to all departments.

## One-day Workshop on "Short Filmmaking"

### PASIGHAT, September 28:

In its efforts to connect and engage with the young generation in promotion of creative pursuits and literature, the East Siang Unit of Arunachal Pradesh Literary Society (APLS) in collaboration with the Department of Hindi, Jawaharlal Nehru Govt. College (JNC), Pasighat successfully organized a one-day workshop on "Short Filmmaking" at the Conference Hall of JNC here on Tuesday with the active participation of students, faculty members and APLS, ES Unit.

The workshop aims to empower budding filmmakers by offering them a platform by offering them an opportunity to explore the intricacies of short film production.

The Workshop also featured the screening of a moving Short Movie "Compulsion" directed by promising young filmmaker, Ninur Padung based on the original story of Otul Jerang, the winner of the Best original short story competition conducted by APLS, East Siang, which was selected from numerous submissions.

Chief Guest, Principal JNC, Tasi Taloh felicitated winner of best story, Otul Jerang, Director Ninur Padung, cast and crew members and presented certificate of award from APLS, ESU to Otul Jerang.

While addressing the occasion, Taloh appreciated the efforts made by APLS & Hindi Department, JNC for giving opportunity to young talent to showcase their creative writings and creative expression on social issues through various mediums. He also hoped that the rich oral literatures like Aabangs (Rhapsody) of the Adis and alike will be documented by the APLS and young generation for posterity.

The Organizing Secretary of the workshop & General Secretary, APLS, ESU, Dr. Ing Perme expressed happiness at the workshop turnout, underscoring its value in providing practical insights into various aspects of short filmmaking.

HoD, Department of Hindi and Associate Professor, Dr. H.N. Pandey, Associate Prof. Dr. Rajesh Verma, Dr. D P Panda, Dr. S. N. Sinha, HoD English, also appreciated the efforts made to encourage the youth in creative pursuits.

Earlier, in her introductory speech, President, APLS, Ponung Ering Angu, spoke on the objectives of APLS for promoting artistic expression and skilling the youth by encouraging them to explore the cinematic and various mediums of story-telling.

The workshop also featured a Poetry Recital by APLS Member & Poet, Smti Manju Lata, who is serving as a PGT (English) D,aying Ering Govt. Higher Secondary School, Pasighat.

The impressive cast of the short film Poonam Biswakarma, Inding Mize, Soumaya Sarkar, Vikash Sarkar, Sumon Sarkar, Anju Biswakarma were also felicitated on the occasion.

## **Govt signs MoU with NGI to explore feasibility of harnessing geothermal potentials** *Right step towards 'green and clean energy production' - CM*

**ITANAGAR, September 28:**

Arunachal Pradesh Government has signed a MoU with the Norwegian Geotechnical Institute (NGI) to explore feasibility of harnessing geothermal potentials that the state's numerous hot springs offer.

The MoU was signed here on Wednesday by Repo Ronya, Secretary, Science and Technology, Govt of Arunachal Pradesh, and Dr Rajinder Bhasin, Technical Expert, NGI, Norway, in presence of Chief Minister Pema Khandu, Science and Technology Minister Honchun Ngandam, Chief Secretary Dharmendra and Dr Vivek Kumar, Senior Advisor, Norwegian Embassy, New Delhi.

Congratulating NGI and the department of science and technology, Chief Minister Pema Khandu said that it's a right step towards green and clean energy production especially in the light of global warming concerns.

"It's a great coincidence that this MoU is being signed on World Tourism Day as its theme this year is 'Tourism & Green Investment' that perfectly goes in

tandem with this new initiative," Khandu pointed.

He expressed optimism that the study will lead to development of renewable geothermal sources in Arunachal Pradesh and increase energy supply to meet present and future demands.

"Many of the hot springs are located in mountain areas where generators run on fossil fuel for electricity and heating. These can be replaced by geothermal energy with no CO2 emissions," he said.

Admitting that this is completely a new technology for the state, Khandu expressed hope that NGI, with its expertise in the field and experience in successfully implementing one project in Ladakh, will give a new direction to energy production that will be beneficial not only to the local populace residing in the high mountains but also to the army personnel posted there.

Khandu also expressed hope that Arunachal's relation with NGI will go beyond harnessing geothermal resources, especially in the fields of road construction and tunneling.

"Arunachal Pradesh is geographically and geologically completely different from rest of the country. Therefore, a tailor-made technology is needed for construction of roads and tunnels here. As Norway, with similar geological features, has one of the world's best road infrastructure and world class tunnels, we can benefit from its technology," he expressed.

Dr Rajinder Bhasin, Technical Expert, NGI, agreed with the Chief Minister and informed that Norway, despite being a small country, has about 7000 kms of tunnels that shorten road distances eventually enhancing government revenue.

Dr Bhasin, who visited a few places in West Kameng, said the state has tremendous potential for development of infrastructure to make it one of the best tourism states in the country.

"I have worked for about a decade in Bhutan and I thought Bhutan was the ultimate. But visiting Arunachal Pradesh for the first time, I realized that I was wrong all the time. This is heaven," he said.

Representing the Norwegian Embassy, Senior Advisor Dr Vivek Kumar said that the Embassy is ready to facilitate cooperation between Norwegian agencies and experts with the state government in sectors that matter.

The current project is also being technically supported by the Royal Norwegian Embassy through NGI.

The Centre for Earth Sciences & Himalayan Studies (an autonomous organization of Department of Science & Technology), Government of Arunachal Pradesh, has been interacting with NGI for technical assistance to perform feasibility studies for harnessing geothermal resources in the State.

The intention of this MoU is to provide a facilitating mechanism for the two parties to work together on mutually agreed, progressive and supportive activities; aiming for further development in the field of Geotechnics and Rock Engineering by dealing with complex sub-surface geological and geotechnical issues faced by the state.

To begin with, NGI will carry out geological, geochemical and geothermal investigation of few selected geothermal sites in Tawang and West Kameng districts that will include MT Survey to decipher the deeper geoelectrical configuration of geothermal

springs (hot-springs) and feasibility to utilize the Geothermal Energy resources for further use.

## District Zoonotic Committee Meet reviews prevention & control of zoonotic diseases

### YUPIA, September 28:

A meeting of the District Level Zoonotic Committee was held under the chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner CheechungChukhu at the DC Conference Hall, Yupia.

The district level Zoonotic Committee reviews the burden of priority Zoonotic disease prevalent in the district and advice the district authorities on specific measures to be taken for prevention and control of zoonotic diseases. Zoonotic diseases are infections that are spread between animals and human.

During the meeting, the DC called for inter-sectoral collaboration between health, veterinary sectors and the PRI members at all levels to formulate a comprehensive IEC plan and launch an awareness campaign on zoonotic diseases like rabies. "Such inter-sectoral efforts will improve data sharing mechanisms including early warning signals to prevent outbreaks," he added.

On being informed that out of the 387 dog bite cases under Doimukh block from October 2022 to September 2023, 326 were from the Doimukh CHC alone; the DC directed the surveillance team and the DVO to intensify IEC activities on rabies and also initiate rabies vaccination drive in the area.

However, no rabies cases have been reported from the Doimukh block so far.

ZPM Sangdupota Hina Camdir Tok, while assuring assis-

tance to the District Surveillance Team in carrying out awareness activities at the grass root level, also urged the PRI members to contribute some per cent of the Panchayat funds under the disposal of the ZPMs for such public welfare activities.

District Surveillance Officer, Dr. Rina Ronya, while speaking about the National Rabies Control Program (NRCP) informed that the objectives of the NRCP include providing rabies vaccine and immunoglobulin through free national drug initiatives, conducting training on appropriate animal bite management, prevention and control of rabies, surveillance, and intersectoral coordination, enhancing the surveillance of animal bites and reporting them.

She further informed that IECs on rabies are being conducted in the health melas organized under the Ayushman Bhav campaign across the district.

Highlighting the schedule of the Anti-rabies vaccination, she informed that "the vaccine consists of 4 doses viz. on day 0 - after 3 days - after 7 days and 14 to 28 days, day 0 is the day the 1 dose of the vaccine is administered."

Dr. Ronya, while speaking about 'bite management' and rabies 'post exposure prophylaxes (PEP)' added that, "After a potential rabid animal bite, the wound should be thoroughly washed with soap and water for 15 minutes, rabies vaccination administered and, if indicated, the rabies immunoglobulin or monoclonal antibodies should be administered."

DVO Dr. Monya Kato Jini, informed that 839 numbers of pet animals have been vaccinated under the mass free vaccination campaign since 18th September, 2023 after a rabies case was reported from the Jullang area. She fur-

ther informed that Rapid response teams for different areas have been formed and contact details of the veterinarians shared for guidance and assistance on any dog bites and doubtful cases.

Epidemiologist, Ili Angu presented the data on zoonotic diseases of the district. He informed that "10 cases of scrub typhus have been reported from Sagalee block, out of which six cases are from Leporiang and four cases from Sagalee. The district surveillance unit and the health department are monitoring the situation", he further informed.

The meeting was attended by Dr. Komlin Perme, DMO, Maze Peil, DAO, ZPM Balijan Tem Piku and ZPM Kimin Bamang Yayu.

## World Tourism Day 2023 observed

### TAWANG, September 28:

Arunachal Pradesh also joined the rest of the nation to observe the World Tourism Day 2023 throughout the state.

To commemorate the day at Tawang, various programmes were organized by the Department of Tourism at the premises of Giant Buddha Statue, Tawang based on the theme "Tourism and Green Investment".

It highlights the need for more and better targeted investments for people, for planet and for prosperity.

Tsering Dekey, District Tourism Officer, in his speech highlighted on the objective of organizing such programmes to create awareness about the importance of sustainable development of tourism, formation of Yuva Tourism Club in the district and their involvement in various activities to promote tourism.

The programme included showcasing of rich cultural programmes from various cultural troupes, theipi competition (one of the traditional games and sports) among Yuva Tourism Club members, promotion of local products prepared by the Self Help Group, felicitation of tourists and sharing of their experiences in Tawang followed by prize and certificate distribution for all tourism stakeholder who had undergone 2(two) days training conducted by the Department of Tourism on Destination Management through Upskilling and Responsible Practices, Basic Bakery Training and Refresher course in Hotel and Restaurant Management.

The programme was attended by tourism stakeholders, Yuva Tourism Club members along with faculties of Tours & Travels and IT of Govt. Higher Secondary School, WASV cultural troupe, Wong and Tso Pema Self Help Groups and tourists as special guests from Gujarat, Goa, Jharkhand, Rajasthan and Bodh Gaya (Bihar).

At AALO: The World Tourism Day was observed in Raaks View Resort, Rana Ghat, Aalo with the theme "Tourism and Green Investment".

Attending as chief guest, MLA Kento Jini encouraged the local unemployed youth and public to focus on tourism sector which is viable for sustainable development, adding West Siang can become a tourist hot spot if we explore properly, covering all the areas. He also urged the department to give more emphasis on tourism sector.

Earlier, Deputy Commissioner, Penga Tato inaugurated the celebration and flag off the local cuisine cooking competition. He urged the public and participants to be discipline and friendly to the tourists. Everybody cannot get white coloured job so, tourism is only the

sector where one can make his/her sustainable development, the DC added.

DTO, T.K Kopak welcomed the participants and highlighted on the importance of World Tourism Day(WTO).

During the day, local food cooking competition, Hipe Dwnam(Boating, rafting competition) and white-water rafting were the major events.

MLA Jini also gave away the prizes to the winners of the competition. Among others, the programme was attended by Army Lt. Colonel Nitesh Kotwal, Admin officers, HoDs and local people.

At GOBUK: Joining the rest of the world, the Department of Tourism, Upper Siang District, Yingkiang also observed World Tourism Day, 2023 with theme 'Eco-friendly tourism and Green Investment' at Gobuk Village on September 27, 2023.

Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Alo Libang along with Deputy Commissioner Hage Lailang, ABK President T.Libang, ZPC Lungeng Litin, Dy.SP Tasso Kato, HoDs, PRI leaders, tourism entrepreneur, youths, NGO Greenhub and villagers of Gobuk village enthusiastically participated in celebration of the day.

Addressing the gatherings, the Minister asserted that Upper Siang has huge potential for eco-tourism development and said that the district is not only blessed with natural beauty, but has rich historical importance too which needs to explore and documented properly to attract tourist in the district.

Pointing out multiple advantages of sustainable tourism, Libang opined that 'if our tourism potentials are tapped properly, one day it will become great source of livelihood and way of life for local denizens in future', he, however said that, 'for doing all this, first we need to cre-

ate tourist friendly atmosphere by changing the mindset and behaviors as tourist expects good hospitality and quality of service from the service providers.' He further advised the people to protect and preserve the beautiful species of flora and fauna found in the district. Quoting 'shot by camera, not by gun', he appealed the people to shun hunting and preserve it for future generations.

DC Lailang, in his speech, said that district administration is always looking forward to explore tourism potential of the district and working on to change the tourist circuit route to cover the whole district under tourism map.

Speaking on the occasion, Dy.SP Kato appreciated the Gobuk village for assisting the district police in drug free campaign and appealed the villagers to keep on supporting the campaign.

ABK President T. Libang also spoke and advised the people to practice organic cultivation and avoid the use of chemicals in farming. ZPC L. Litin, Youth Wild Life Conservators Sitek and Boli and many others also spoke on the occasion.

Resource persons, young self-employed youth and MD Upper Siang News 24X7 Shan Jijong spoke on role of social media on tourism marketing, while Smti Anjali Libang on sensitization on Homestay operations respectively. Presentation of a short video on 'Gorgeous Gobuk' by the Green Hub NGO and skit play by the children of Govt Primary School on wild life protection, exhibition of local products, artefacts and wildlife photography by Rupir Boli were part of the celebration.

Earlier, District Tourism Officer, Tater Mize highlighted the importance of World Tourism Day and the effort to showcase the tourism potential of district in Upper Siang Tourism brochure.

# NEWS IN PICTURE



**Chief Minister Pema Khandu attending the opening day of the 3-day Banggo Solung celebrations at Mebo in East Siang district on September 7, 2023.**



**Union Minister of Earth Sciences Kiren Rijiju called on the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) at Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on 16th September 2023.**



**Arunachal Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein attending the 'BA:NÉ SOLUNG GÍ:DÍ 2023' celebration in Roing, Lower Dibang Valley on September 12, 2023.**



**The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) review the organization and functioning of Rajya Sainik Board, State Unit at Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on September 5, 2023.**



**Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein inaugurating a reading hall in District Library, Namsai on September 12, 2023.**



**Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) launching the State-level 'Ayushman Bhava' campaign from Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on September 13, 2023**