

## **REGIONAL ENGLISH NEWS BULLETIN**

**Time:7:50pm**

**Duration: 5 Minutes**

**28.12.2024**

The mortal remains of former Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh were consigned to flames with full State honours at Nigam Bodh Ghat in New Delhi today. Sikh priests and family members of Dr Manmohan Singh recited verses from Gurbani before the last rite. After the ceremonial guard of honour, President Droupadi Murmu, Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Ministers Rajnath Singh, Amit Shah and JP Nadda and Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla paid their last respects to the former Prime Minister at Nigan Bodh Ghat. Besides, several leaders from Congress including Party President Mallikarjun Kharge, Sonia Gandhi, and Rahul Gandhi offered their tributes. Dr Manmohan Singh died on 26th December at AIIMS, New Delhi at the age of 92.

BJP spokesperson Sudhanshu Trivedi has said that the BJP and the NDA government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi is fully committed to giving due respect to former Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh who laid a major foundation for the country's economic development. On the issue of allocating space for a memorial of Dr Manmohan Singh, Trivedi said that yesterday the cabinet decided in its meeting that a memorial will be built in the memory of Dr Singh and this was conveyed to the Congress party. He added that Union Home Minister Amit Shah conveyed to the Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge, that the government has decided to build a memorial and whatever time it takes after the completion of processes like land acquisition, formation of a trust and transfer of land, the work will be done appropriately as soon as possible.

Chief Minister Pema Khandu on Friday informed that the Arunachal Pradesh Freedom of Religion Act (APFRA), 1978 – dormant as of date – will soon have its rules framed and implemented in the state. The APFRA, passed by the first Legislative Assembly of Arunachal Pradesh, envisages prohibiting the conversion of people from one religion to another by force, fraud, or inducement. Speaking at the Silver Jubilee celebration of the Indigenous Faith and Cultural Society of Arunachal Pradesh (IFCSAP) at Itanagar, Khandu revealed that the Act was lying dormant so far, but with a recent directive from the Gauhati High

Court, the state government is bound to frame its rules for implementation. "The process of framing the rules is underway and soon, we will have a proper structured Freedom of Religion Act in place," he said.

Union Minister of Tribal Affairs Jual Oram has said that a sum of Rs 199 crore has been sanctioned for 23 districts, 84 blocks and 329 villages of Arunachal Pradesh under the Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA). He divulged this while gracing the Silver Jubilee celebration of the Indigenous Faith & Cultural Society of Arunachal Pradesh (IFCSAP) at Itanagar on Friday. Talking about the tribal craftsmanship in the state, the Union Minister assured help from the Skill Development Ministry for the same and urged for increasing its marketing.

State Governor Lt General (Retd) KT Parnaik today stressed the need for preserving indigenous scripts, documenting rituals, prayer songs, dances, and oral histories, and archiving them for future generations. Gracing the Silver Jubilee Foundation Day celebration of the Indigenous Faith and Cultural Society of Arunachal Pradesh (IFCSAP) at Itanagar, the Governor suggested the Society to organize workshops, seminars to educate younger generations about their ancestral heritage and emphasize the value of live storytelling to preserve oral histories, folktales, and legends. He further urged the IFCSAP to promote community engagement amongst various tribes of Arunachal Pradesh by involving youth in traditional crafts, music, and rituals, ensuring the continuation of these skills. He also advocated for inter-community exchanges among tribes to foster mutual understanding and appreciation, and suggested organizing regular prayer gatherings and spiritual events rooted in indigenous beliefs.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will share his thoughts with the people of the country and abroad in the 'Mann Ki Baat' programme on Akashvani tomorrow. It will be the 117th episode of the monthly radio programme. It will be broadcast on the entire network of Akashvani and Doordarshan, the AIR News website and the Newsonair mobile app. It will also be live-streamed on YouTube channels of AIR News, DD News, PMO and I&B Ministry. Akashvani will broadcast the programme in regional languages immediately after the Hindi broadcast.

Chief Minister Pema Khandu has released a book on shamanism during an event at IG Park, Itanagar on Friday, in presence of Union Tribal Affairs Minister Jual Oram, State's Indigenous Affairs Minister Mama Natung, and others. The book, titled 'Shamanistic Practices and Narratives of Arunachal Pradesh', features 18 scholarly contributions divided into three thematic sections: rituals, narratives, and contemporary issues. The book delves deeply into the cultural and spiritual significance of shamanism among Arunachal's tribes, including the Apatani, Aka, Adi, Mishmi, Nyishi, Sartang, and Bugun. It highlights the role of shamans as healers, spiritual intermediaries, and custodians of oral traditions while addressing the challenges posed by modernisation, religious conversion, and societal changes.

**That's all, in this news bulletin, Namaskar**