REGIONAL NEWS UNIT, ITANAGAR

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External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar emphasized the critical importance of peace and stability in border areas as a foundation for fostering better relations between India and China. Addressing the Rajya Sabha today on recent developments in India's relations with China, Dr Jaishankar noted that discussions between the two countries in the coming days will focus on deescalation and effective border management. Dr Jaishankar lauded the role of armed forces saying that despite logistical challenges and the Covid situation, India was able to counter-deploy rapidly and effectively. The Minister highlighted the government's focus on strengthening border infrastructure and said significant progress has been made in developing roads, airfields, and other logistical facilities in Ladakh. These enhancements have bolstered the armed forces' capacity for effective counter-deployment, reflecting the government's resolve to safeguard national borders.

The Lok Sabha has taken up the Railways (Amendment) Bill, 2024 for consideration and passing. Moving the Bill, Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw today said, the Bill is intended to bring more efficiency to the Railways sector. Vaishnaw said, 10 years before the Budget of Railways was around 29 thousand crore rupees and now it is two lakh 52 thousand crore rupees. He further said 44 thousand kilometres of railway network were electrified in the past 10 years.

Governor KT Parnaik has conveyed his warm greetings to the people of the State in general and to Ramo, Pailibo and Bokar brethren of Adi Community in particular on the festive occasion of Podi Barbi. He expressed his hope that the festival will usher in happiness, good harvest and prosperity in the society. In his message, the Governor said that festivals serve as vital carriers of this heritage, preserving and promoting our cultural treasures. These timeless traditions, handed down through generations, are a testament to the wisdom and legacy of our ancestors.

Alliance Air is operating two flights per week, Mondays and Wednesdays from Guwahati to Ziro from today onwards. Chief Minister Pema Khandu in a social media post today said, the new flight by Alliance Air under UDAN scheme will strengthen regional connectivity, promote tourism and provide a huge boost to the development of Ziro Valley. Chief Minister Pema Khandu in a social

media post said, the new flight will strengthen regional connectivity, promote tourism and provide a huge boost to the development of Ziro Valley.

Minister for Agriculture and Horticulture Gabriel D Wangsu chaired a review meeting on the state's Agriculture and Horticulture Policy in New Delhi yesterday. The meeting held in collaboration with senior officials and experts from Ernst & Young LLP focused on refining the policy to address the state's unique challenges and opportunities. In his address, Wangsu spoke on the necessity of prioritizing skill development to empower farmers and youth. The framework also focused on capacity building, branding, marketing and introducing a 'Hortipreneur' program to encourage entrepreneurship among farmers.

Minister Transport and RD, Ojing Tasing joined the 24th All Arunachal Pradesh Public Transport Foundation Day celebration at Gidi Notko in Pasighat yesterday. Addressing the gathering, Tasing lauded their invaluable contribution in the transportation services of the state serving as lifeline for people and goods and other services and the overall socio-economic growth of the state and the nation as a whole. The District Road Safety Committee conducted a Road safety awareness and display on traffic safety to all the AAPPTF members and distributed pamphlets.

The Orientation Module for Women and Children began today at the Ane's Home in the Women Police Station Itanagar. The orientation program themed "End to Violation of Women and Children Rights", is in being organized in collaboration with the State Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj and the Capital Police. Ane's Home has been chosen both as the venue and facilitator for this critical initiative. The inaugural event saw enthusiastic participation from school-going children, Panchayati Raj leaders, and members of Self-Help Groups from the Papum Pare region. This initiative aligns with the Supreme Court's directives on addressing societal evils such as child marriage and child abuse.

With the spirit of inclusion and empowerment, Deepak Nabam Living Home observed the International Day of Persons with Disabilities in Itanagar yesterday. Attending the event, Mayor Itanagar Municipal Corporation Tamme Phassang emphasized the importance of building an inclusive society. He called for collective action to dismantle barriers both physical and societal that hinder the full participation of persons with disabilities in all aspects of life. He highlighted the government's ongoing initiatives to improve

accessibility in public spaces, enhance educational and employment opportunities for persons with disabilities, and strengthen support systems. The Mayor also pledged to accelerate the implementation of inclusive policies, calling upon local leaders, Ministers, MLAs, businesses, and organizations to play their part in fostering inclusivity.