

## **REGIONAL NEWS UNIT, ITANAGAR**

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The government today announced the setting up of the 8th Pay Commission for the Central government employees and pensioners. An announcement in this regard was made by Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw in New Delhi. He was briefing the media about Cabinet's decision. The Minister said that the term of the 7th Pay Commission is going to end in 2026 and the setting up of the 8th Pay Commission now will give enough time to receive recommendations of the Pay Panel. He said the appointment of the Chairman and two members of the Commission will be made soon.

### **\*Byte: 8th Pay Commission\***

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will share his thoughts with the people of the country and abroad in the 'Mann Ki Baat' programme on Akashvani on 19th January. It will be the 118th episode of the monthly radio programme. People can submit their ideas and suggestions for the programme through the toll-free number 1800-11-7800. People can also share their input online via the Narendra Modi App or the MyGov Open Forum. Suggestions for the upcoming episode will be accepted till the 17th of this month. The programme will be broadcast on the entire network of Akashvani and Doordarshan, the AIR News website and newsonair mobile app. It will also be live-streamed on the YouTube channels of the AIR News, DD News, PMO and Information and Broadcasting Ministry. Akashwani will broadcast the programme in regional languages immediately after the Hindi broadcast.

The Indian Space Research Organisation today scripted history by successfully completing docking of two satellites named Chaser and Target under the SpaDeX mission. Lauding the achievement, Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated scientists at ISRO and the entire space fraternity for the successful demonstration of space docking of satellites. Meanwhile, Union Minister of State for Science and Technology, Dr. Jitendra Singh highlighted that it is an entirely indigenous Bharatiya Docking System. In a recent development today, the Cabinet has approved the establishment of the Third Launch Pad at Satish Dhawan Space Centre of ISRO at Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh at a cost of 3985 Crore rupees. The establishment of Third Launch Pad at Satish Dhawan Space Centre of ISRO will enhance launch capacity and redundancy for Gaganyaan missions.

The Chief Electoral Officer, Arunachal Pradesh presented the Best Electoral Practices State Award for Simultaneous Election, 2024 to the District Election Officers and Superintendents of Police at Nirvachan Bhawan, Itanagar today. The function was attended by Chief Secretary Manish Kumar Gupta as the Chief Guest and Director General of Police, Anand Mohan as the Guest of Honour followed by all the Commissioners, Secretaries, District Election Officers/Deputy Commissioners, State Nodal Officers, and Awardees. On the occasion, the CS gave away the Best Electoral Practices State Award to 12 District Election Officers-cum-DCs and 7 SPs. The Best Electoral Practices State Award comprised of Certificate, Memento, and cash prize of 50,000/- rupees which would be utilized for SVEEP activities.

The State Cabinet has approved the grant of SGST reimbursement concessions for the Tato II Hydroelectric Project (700 MW) and the Kamala Hydroelectric Project (1,720 MW). The decision was taken during the first meeting of the Arunachal Pradesh Cabinet for the year 2025, chaired by Chief Minister Pema Khandu today. The meeting marked a significant step toward strengthening infrastructure, governance, and citizen service delivery across the state. During the meeting, the Cabinet has decided to recommend to the Government of India the proposal to set up a 100-seat Medical College and a 420-bedded hospital at Namsai under the Aspirational District Programme. This project is planned under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model and aims to bridge the gap in healthcare services and medical education in the region. The total project cost is 375 crore rupees. Additionally, some key decisions approved by the State Cabinet includes the policy on the Arunachal Pradesh Policy for Restoration of Terminated Large Hydropower Projects under Special Circumstances, 2025 and the creation of an Electrical Sub-Division at Chambang in Kra Daadi district.

Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein along with MLA Namsai, Chau Zingnu Namchoom released the insightful book 'Orchids of Arunachal Pradesh' in Itanagar today. After the release, DyCM in a social media post informed that the book has been authored by valued Scientists from the Botanical Survey of India, Krishna Chowlu and Sudhansu Shekhar Dash, along with noted Botanist Jambey Tsering. Mein further said that the book showcases Arunachal Pradesh's extraordinary orchid diversity featuring an updated checklist of 657 species and over 810 stunning photographs.

Banderdewa Police has apprehended a suspected drug peddler following a high-speed chase today. Acting on a reliable intelligence about drug trafficking, a special team led by OC Banderdewa PS Kipa Hamak carried out the operation. 10 vials containing suspected heroin, weighing approximately 12.70 grams worth approx 30,000/- rupees were also recovered from the accused identified as 27 year old Nur Jamal of Assam. A case has been registered at Banderdewa PS under the NDPS Act.