

## **REGIONAL NEWS UNIT, ITANAGAR**

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The Lok Sabha today took-up the Bills of Lading Bill, 2024 for consideration and passing. It seeks to replace the Indian Bills of Lading Act, 1856 which provides a legal framework for issuance of bills of lading. A bill of lading refers to a document issued by a freight carrier to a shipper. It contains details including the type, quantity, condition, and destination of goods being carried. Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal, moved the bill in the House. He said the Bill is very important for the shipping sector, particularly to enhance trading and commercial activities. In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha, Minister of State for Labour and Employment Minister, Sushri Shobha Karandlaje, said that over 30 crore 68 lakh unorganised workers have been registered on e-Shram Portal. The portal was launched in 2021 for creation of a comprehensive National Database of Unorganised Workers. He also informed that of the total registered workers, more than 53 per cent are women.

Chief Minister Pema Khandu today announced the winners of the Jan Bhagidari Scheme for their insightful contributions in shaping the Arunachal Budget-2025. Khandu in a social media informed; Mejir Nabam has been recognized for her suggestions on Skill Development and Employment Generation. Moryum Ngupok for her inputs on Quality, Affordable, and Inclusive Education for All and Sonam Tsetan for his ideas on promoting a Clean and Green Environment. On the occasion, the CM launched the Arunachal Budget website to enhance transparency and accessibility and has encouraged everyone to visit <http://arunachalbudget.in> to explore key highlights and insights.

Arunachal Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister and Minister in-charge of Finance Chowna Mein, today, presented the annual budget of 39,842.23 crore rupees for the fiscal year 2025-26, reflecting a deficit of 966.65 crore rupees. This budget marks 11.16 per cent increase over the previous financial year's allocation. Overall, the budget focuses on infrastructure development, health, education, and human resource enhancement to ensure inclusive growth and address the aspirations of the people of the state. Key allocations in the budget include: 369 crore rupees allocated for health sector, 3,000 Crore rupees for education, 1,112

crore rupees for agriculture and allied sector, and 462 crore rupees for mission Antyodaya, 106 crore rupees for skill development and 60 crore for indigenous affairs. In line with the Union Budget, this year's Budget is based on the principles of a Viksit Arunachal where the government envisions Zero-Poverty 100% quality school education, access to high-quality, affordable, and comprehensive healthcare; 100% skilled labour with meaningful employment, more than 70% women in economic activities; and farmers making our State the fruit bowl of India, Mein said.

Arunachal Pradesh's first woman IAS officer, Indra Mallo, has been empanelled as Additional-Secretary-Equivalent in the Central Government, marking a historic milestone in her distinguished career. In response to the news, Chief Minister Pema Khandu in a social media post today, congratulated Indra Mallo on her empanelment as Additional Secretary in the Government of India. The CM said that her achievements bring immense pride to the state and motivates aspiring civil servants. A 1999 batch IAS officer of the Maharashtra Cadre, Indra Mallo's journey of perseverance and dedication stands as an inspiration for women in governance and public service.

Deputy Director of Health Services-cum-State Programme Officer, Dr. K.T. Mulung has said the state has not reported any malaria-related deaths for the last eight years, highlighting the success of on-going prevention and control initiatives. He said this while addressing the 3-days State Review Meeting on Malaria at Naharlagun today. During the meeting, the Deputy Director presented an overview of the state's malaria elimination efforts, emphasizing that the Annual Parasite Index remains below 1, reflecting effective control measures. He informed that Arunachal Pradesh has been recognized with a "Certificate of Appreciation" by Government of India in the year 2022 for being one of the best performing state in malaria elimination. Two additional districts were declared malaria-free between 2022 and 2024, bringing the total number of malaria-free districts to 16, he added.

The five-day woodcarving workshop on Exploring Traditional Wood Carvings of Arunachal Pradesh: The Role of Art in Morung, Funeral Rituals, and Festivities of Tirap and Longding Districts concluded at Rajiv Gandhi University on Friday. Organised by the Department of Fine Arts and Music, the workshop was conducted under the guidance of resource person Manwang Lowang from the Tirap district.

Shri Lowang is an alumnus of Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan  
- India's premier institute for fine arts.