REGIONAL NEWS UNIT, ITANAGAR

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The second part of the budget session of Parliament will begin tomorrow. The second phase of the session, which will continue till 4th April, will have 20 sittings. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman is scheduled to table the budget for Manipur tomorrow. The state has been under the president's rule since the resignation of Chief Minister N. Biren Singh last month. Our correspondent reports that during the session, discussion and voting on Demands for Grants for the year 2025-26 and related Appropriation Bill will be taken up. Besides financial business, several legislations, including the Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill, the Coastal Shipping Bill - 2024, the Immigration and Foreigners Bill - 2025, and the Railways (Amendment) Bill, will be taken up for discussion and passage during the second leg of the session.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has shared an article written by Minister of State for Women and Child Development, Savitri Thakur, on the role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in empowering women. In a social media post, Mr Modi said apart from being extremely useful for women, AI is also helpful in creating new opportunities. Additionally, Ms Thakur said that AI can create new opportunities for women and also enable them to play a decisive role in society.

Chief Minister Pema Khandu has urged upon the leaders of the Arunachal Pradesh Students' Union to retro-spect and bring-in reforms to cleanse its election process from 'corruption'. Speaking at the inaugural session of the Inter-Tribe Festival - 2025, organized by AAPSU yesterday, the Chief Minister termed 'corruption' as one of the major hurdles in functioning of a government as well as any organization. He informed that, the erstwhile Special Investigation Cell (SIC) has been upgraded to Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB), giving it more leverage to deal with corruption in the state government. The Chief Minister also called for intro-spection by AAPSU leaders on their future beyond AAPSU. On the occasion, the Chief Minister paid rich tributes to all former AAPSU leaders, especially the founding President and Secretary; he recollected that AAPSU was formed in 1972 with a sole objective to resolve the Chakma-Hajong refugee issue.

The first National Lok Adalat of the year was conducted successfully in various Subordinate Courts of Arunachal Pradesh,

yesterday. 21 benches constituted in the District & Sessions Court conducted this year's 1st National Lok Adalat. Organised by Arunachal Pradesh State Legal Services Authority, Itanagar, over 265 Cases were disposed-off out of total 1,776 taken-up cases (both Pre-litigation and Pending stage) in a single day. The Lok Adalat is conducted in a single sitting to ease the burden of the pending cases and to reduce the burden of the courts.

Two dedicated junior volunteers from Bamboosa Library, Tezu represented Lohit district in the "Festival of Nurturing Young Minds" at Shillong from March 5 to 7 last. The duo was among the 300 students selected from 4 states for the festival. The festival was organized by North Eastern Regional Institute of Education (NERIE), a unit of NCERT.

The Rajiv Gandhi University celebrated International Women's Day by honouring women's achievements and empowerment at the varsity's campus yesterday. The event featured an insightful session titled "Women Achievers – A Conversation," moderated by Moji Riba, where distinguished panellists shared insights on success, challenges, and societal changes needed for women's progress. On the occasion, a video message from renowned Arunachalee women across various fields was also presented.

The Arunachal Pradesh Literary Society conducted its 141st monthly literary sitting in the office of APLS today. The literary session was dedicated to celebrate International Women Day. Addressing the gathering, President, APLS, Y.D. Thongchi, emphasized to initiate more creative writings to the student community. At the end of the Literary Sitting, the society has decided to celebrate "World Poetry Day" in collaboration with the Literary Activities Club, Department of English (RGU) at RGU complex on 21st March next.

A free health camp was organized at the Ananda-moi Kali-Bari (AKB) campus, High-Region, Pasighat yesterday. Addressing the gathering, General Secretary, AKB, Birmangal Singh informed that altogether 124 persons were treated by experienced doctors and health officials. He explained how free health check-up camp is helpful to people as it provides free medical check-up and medical advice and referral for specialized treatment.