REGIONAL NEWS UNIT, ITANAGAR

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Election Commissioner of India Dr. S. S. Sandhu attended a review meeting in Tawang district on Monday. He was accompanied by State Chief Electoral Officer P. K. Sain and Deputy CEO Shania Mize. During the meeting, Dr. Sandhu emphasized on the Commission's commitment to ensure smooth, inclusive and transparent elections. District Election Officer Tawang Namgyal Angmo highlighted about Tawang and its continuous preparations and electoral exercises. The Dy. CEO Shania Mize and CEO P. K. Sain outlined the state-level progress, achievements, and ongoing initiatives aimed at strengthening electoral processes. Later, the Election Commissioner visited several polling stations to assess facilities in polling stations firsthand. He is scheduled to travel tomorrow to inspect polling stations located in remote interior areas near the international border.

The National Press Day was celebrated at Banquet Hall in Itanagar yesterday. On the occasion, State Law and Legislative minister Kento Jini, speaking as chief guest, said a free press is "a responsibility, not a privilege", stressing that Indian democracy derives its strength from an independent and ethical media. He reminded journalists that verification, investigation and accuracy must remain the bedrock of reporting. Journalism, he added, should expose corruption, safeguard transparency and act as the constitutional fourth pillar of democracy.

The V. Ravindran Excellence in Journalism Awards were awarded to journalists Marina Dai in Human Interest and Liyum Ete in Politics and Governance categories. Similarly, the Taro Chatung Excellence in Journalism Awards were awarded to DDK Itanagar in Human Interest section for its documentary 'New Dawn–New Voices', journalists Khyoda Yapi and Akom Tanju Don in Politics and Governance; and Yomge Chisi and Akom Tanju Don in Investigative reporting categories on National Press Day celebration at Banquet Hall in Itanagar yesterday.

The Arunachal Press Club (APC) yesterday felicitated two recipients with the 'Unsung Hero' citation during the National Press Day celebration at State Banquet Hall in Itanagar, honouring a young anti-drug crusader from East Siang and a Wancho village from Longding district for their exemplary grassroots contributions. The award was conferred to Gumin Mize of Sibut village in East Siang district and the villagers of Kamhua Noknu, represented by teachers Jatwang Wangsa and Banwang Losu,

recognizing their sustained public service work carried out largely without institutional support or visibility.

The Department of Women and Child Development (WCD), Papum Pare district organized a sensitization-cum-awareness camp on 'Domestic Violence Act, Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (POSH) Act' and 'Adoption Regulations under Mission Vatsalaya' at Balijan today. Speaking on the occasion, Addl. Deputy Commissioner, Balijan, Takar Rava urged the participants to utilise the opportunity to understand the legal provisions aimed at safeguarding women and children. He also urged the department to conduct similar awareness programmes for PRI members. Meanwhile, over 50 police personnel, government officers and officials, gaon burahs, and local residents were present in the camp.

The State Department of Information & Public Relations announced the commencement of the 7th Arunachal Literature Festival (ALF) scheduled to be held from 20th to 22nd of this month at Dorjee Khandu Convention Centre in Itanagar. The ALF will launch its official website — www.litfest.arunachal.gov.in. The festival will also host Japanese author Mami Yamada, 2023 SAARC Literature Award recipient Bhutanese author Kunzang Choden and Ms. Maria Gil Burman, Director of Instituto Cervantes, Embassy of Spain among others.

Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein yesterday attended 63rd Commemoration of Battle of Walong in Anjaw district. He visited Helmet Top War Memorial and paid floral tribute to the martyred soldiers of 1962 Battle of Walong. He also inaugurated a High Flag Post with the National Tricolour. He said, the government is committed to develop Walong into a major historical and tourism destination by initiating annual Sunrise Festival, a War Memorial Museum, and improving digital and road connectivity. He also met veteran war hero of Walong Honorary Captain (Retd.) Karnail Singh. He also inaugurated a new tourist infrastructure at Bara Kundun under Kibithoo Circle.

To commemorate the 150th Birth Anniversary of the Iron Man of India Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the Sardar Patel @150 Padyatra was observed by MY Bharat, Itanagar along with the state government today at Itanagar. On the occasion, the Padyatra was organized and jointly flagged off by Rajya Sabha MP Nabam Rebia, MLA & Advisor to Youth Affairs & Sports Minister Chau Zingu Namchoom and Mayor IMC Tame Phassang from Dera Natung Government College (DNGC), which concluded at Tennis Court near IG Park.

Additional Director General of Police (ADG) Vivek Kishore visited Anini yesterday to review the district's law & order situation and assess its preparedness for the upcoming elections Dibang Valley district. During a review meeting held at the SP Office, the ADG examined security arrangements, force deployment plans, communication systems, and overall readiness. The ADG appreciated the progress made in implementing the new criminal laws in training, documentation, and field-level compliance. Meanwhile, Dibang Valley Police has reaffirmed its commitment to ensure free, fair, and peaceful elections in the district.

That's all, in this News Bulletin, Namaskar