

REGIONAL NEWS UNIT, ITANAGAR

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The Ministry of Culture, Government of India, today organised a special Workshop on Script and Manuscript Preservation during the ongoing 20th Session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage- ICH 20COM, in New Delhi. Attending the workshop, Arunachal Pradesh delegation comprising Mamta Riba, Secretary (Art & Culture & Civil Aviation), Lt Col T.C. Tayum, OSD (Research) & Nodal Officer, Gyan Bharatam Mission, and Shri Manyu, Assistant Director, Department of Art & Culture, presented extensive field documentation carried out in Tawang, West Kameng, Shi-Yomi, Upper Siang, and Namsai districts, revealing discovery of rare manuscripts and traditional scripts, and underscored the urgent risks and need for preservation. Responding to the presentation, Vivek Aggarwal, Secretary, Ministry of Culture announced that a Central Expert Team will soon visit all five district to begin scientific documentation. He also informed that a Dedicated Manuscript and Digitisation Support Cell for Arunachal Pradesh will be established at the Ministry to ensure coordinated and long-term assistance to the State.

President Droupadi Murmu has conferred the National Handicrafts Awards for 2023 and 2024 in New Delhi today. These prestigious national accolades celebrate exceptional artistic mastery and underscore the Government's commitment to preserving and promoting India's rich and diverse handicraft heritage. A total of 12 artisans received the Shilp Guru Awards for 2023 and 2024, while 36 craftsmen got the National Awards for both years. Three artisans from Manipur were conferred the National Handicraft Award by the Ministry of Textiles. They are Laishram Memicha, Yengkhom Ongbi Indira Devi and A. Bimola Devi.

The Department of Information Technology and Communication, Government of Arunachal Pradesh in collaboration with Rancho Labs and supported by IIT Delhi is going to organize- AI Job-Ready Program for College students and graduates from the second week of January Next Year. This program will equip young learners with essential skills in Artificial Intelligence, Data Analysis, Python programming, and job-readiness, helping them pursue high-growth careers in the tech sector. Sharing the news in a social media post Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein called it a valuable step toward preparing Arunachal's students for the opportunities of tomorrow.

The bandh call in Itanagar Capital Region, today, remained mostly peaceful. Shops remained shut and few vehicles were seen on the roads, while emergency services continued during the 12-hour bandh called by APIYO, IYFA and ANYO. No incidents of violence were reported. Home Minister Mama Natung, currently in East Kameng for panchayat election campaigns, said his office is open for dialogue but bandhs are not a solution. He said the govt is ready for talks and urged that no one should take the law into their own hands. The bandh was called by APIYO, IYFA and ANYO to press demands for the demolition of alleged illegal religious structures, identification and deportation of alleged illegal immigrants, and a ban on weekly markets.

Under NABARD's JIVA Project, a capacity-building training on Oyster Mushroom cultivation was conducted at Mahadevpur III, Namsai. Implemented through NOSAAP, the initiative promotes agroecology & natural farming among tribal communities under NABARD's Tribal Development Program. JIVA, meaning life in Sanskrit, supports sustainable farming, ecological balance, and soil health. As part of the program, SHGs received paddy straw cutting machines, mushroom spawn, spawn bags, and water sprayers to strengthen village-level mushroom cultivation support systems.

Union Aviation Minister Ram Mohan Naidu today said the disruption caused by IndiGo's recent operational failures is now rapidly stabilising and reiterated that the government is fully determined to build a robust airline system. Addressing the Lok Sabha on the ongoing IndiGo crisis, the Minister stated that IndiGo is being held fully accountable. He further added that the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has issued notices to the airline, and based on its report, strict and appropriate action will be taken. He added that no airline, however large, will be permitted to cause such hardship to passengers through planning failures and non-compliance. He informed the House that over 750 crore rupees have already been refunded, and re-bookings have been completed without extra charges.

Dibang Valley Deputy Commissioner and District Election Officer of Anini, Bekir Nyorak, conducted an inspection of the strong room and counting center located at Sinewru Hall, Anini. The purpose of this inspection was to assess the preparedness for the upcoming Panchayat Election 2025 within the district. He thoroughly examined all aspects of the security infrastructure and various facilities implemented at the counting center and strong room.

Pakke Kessang district police conducted an awareness program at Government Higher Secondary School, Pakke Kessang, where over 150 students and teachers from four schools participated, gaining valuable insights into safety, rights, and responsible behaviour. Participants were educated on the NDPS Act, POCSO Act, IT Act, JJ Act and MV Act through audio-visual presentations, helping them understand crucial legal provisions that protect children and promote safer communities.