

REGIONAL NEWS UNIT, ITANAGAR

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Chief Minister Pema Khandu extended warm greetings to the people of the State on the harvest festivals of Makar Sankranti, Lohri, Pongal, and Bihu. He wished that these festivals of gratitude and abundance bring prosperity, good health, and happiness to every household. The Chief Minister called upon the celebration of the spirit of hard work, harmony with nature, and unity in our rich cultural diversity.

Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein inaugurated the Parshuram Kund Guest House, offering modern amenities and comfortable accommodation, improving convenience, safety, and overall experience for devotees and visitors arriving at the sacred pilgrimage site. He also inaugurated the Parshuram Kund Mela and offered prayers to Bhagwan Parshuram at the sacred Parshuram Kund, on the occasion of Makar Sankranti.

Minister for Agriculture, Gabriel D Wangsu, led the Agri-startup Meet cum Startup Fund Disbursement Ceremony at CHF R-ABI, College of Horticulture and Forestry (CAU), Pasighat. He informed that under RKVY incubation system, grant-in-aid was disbursed to 24 selected startups to bolster their entrepreneurial journey in agriculture and allied sectors. A total of 2.75 crore rupees was distributed. Minister Wangsu said it is heartening to see state's youth driving innovation to strengthen the rural economy and the startup ecosystem of the North East.

Ojing Tasing Minister of RD & Panchayati Raj attended an extensive development meeting with the people of Beging Village at the DC's Conference Hall, Boleng, holding in-depth deliberations on pressing local issues, developmental priorities, and the aspirations of the community. He emphasized the importance of participatory governance, transparent decision-making, and coordinated efforts among departments to ensure effective implementation of welfare and infrastructure projects. Furthermore, he reiterated the Government's commitment to inclusive, sustainable, and people-centric development that strengthens grassroots institutions and delivers tangible benefits to every section of society.

Nyamar Karbak, Chairman, IT & E-Governance Council, launched two AI and machine learning courses, the AI Explorer program and AI Job Ready program, for students and youths at Government Higher Secondary School, Kamba, district West Siang. The AI Explorer program is a five-day boot camp for Grades 6-12, while the AI Job Ready program is a 60-hour

advanced course for college students and graduates, offering skills, technologies exposure, and career preparation.

Tawang Brigade organised a special programme at the Tawang War Memorial Commemorating Veterans' Day to honour the selfless service and supreme sacrifices of India's veterans. The event witnessed the participation of a large number of local ex-servicemen and veer Naris reaffirming the enduring bond between the Indian Army and its veterans. During the occasion wreath were laid at the War Memorial, by Brigadier Bhupal Singh, SM, along with the seniormost veteran of Tawang, Koncho Dorjee Lama. In addition, Veterans were felicitated for their exceptional post-retirement contributions to society. An interactive session was also held in which the veterans shared inspiring experiences. In a significant initiative for veteran welfare, a NAMAN Registration Counter was established at the venue to address grievances and concerns of ex-servicemen.

Kameng Healers of the Ball of Fire Division, under Gajraj Corps, inaugurated West Kameng district's first IUI Centre (Intra-uterine Insemination Centre) at Tenga, bringing modern fertility treatment and enhanced reproductive healthcare services to the district. The inauguration also included a refurbished Dental Section, strengthening specialized services. These healthcare upgrades will support civilians and service personnel by delivering improved, timely medical care across West Kameng and adjoining districts.

The Department of SDE, Government of Arunachal Pradesh successfully organized its first Pradhan Mantri-National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme Awareness Workshop-cum-Mobilization Drive at Government ITI Roing, in collaboration with the District Skill Committee. The workshop highlighted the importance of apprenticeship & on-the-job training in enhancing youth employability.

Gyati Kacho, Deputy Director, DSDE, emphasized the collective efforts of the Centre & State towards Viksit Bharat and Viksit Arunachal Pradesh through skill development. The event witnessed active participation from key stakeholders, including Deputy Director, Textiles & Handicrafts, Aparang Pertin, District Skill Committee members, & other officials marking a significant step in strengthening the regional skill ecosystem.

Training cum agro-inputs distribution program is underway by Defence Research Laboratory, DRL (DRDO) Tezpur in convergence with

Arunachal Pradesh State Rural Livelihood Mission (ArSRLM) from January 13 to 15 at different villages of Kurung Kumey district. The training program on demonstration of modern agro-techniques in GAP (Good Agricultural Practices) for large cardamom focuses on sustainable, high-yield cultivation by addressing major gaps like disease resistance, poor post-harvest handling, and climate impact are conducted. More than 120 beneficiaries, mostly women farmers, attended the program. They were also provided with Nano urea, secateurs and special design knives for harvesting Large Cardamom.

Local Farmer Producer Organizations have submitted the GI application for Upper Subansiri Orange to the GI Registry in Chennai. The recognition will help ensure product authenticity, benefit farmers, raise rural incomes, and expand the fruit's market presence.