

REGIONAL NEWS UNIT, ITANAGAR

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The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh, K. T. Parnaik, chaired a review meeting on cleanliness and civic amenities at Lok Bhavan, Itanagar. The meeting, focused on assessing the state of cleanliness and civic facilities in Itanagar. Highlighting the city's visual and environmental appeal, the Governor said that the road from Donyi Polo Airport to the Capital city should be developed as a green corridor that reflects the rich flora and fauna of the state. He advised the Urban Development Department, District Administration and the Itanagar Municipal Corporation to work jointly towards achieving this goal. The meeting was attended by State Chief Secretary, Manish Gupta, senior officials from the Home, Urban Development, Public Works, PHE and Water Supply, and Housing Departments, along with the Mayor of IMC, Likha Nari Tadar.

Chief Minister Pema Khandu launched RAKTA Rice – a premium organic indigenous red rice from Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh. Produced and marketed by Rakta Organic, it is an initiative of Pema Tsewang from Grenchkar village of the Monpa community. Commending the initiative CM Khandu said this effort brings traditional high-altitude farming wisdom to a wider market. Cultivated through zero-chemical, eco-friendly practices in the valleys of Tawang, the rice is naturally rich in antioxidants, iron and essential minerals. More than a food product, it represents preservation of traditional seed varieties and the agricultural heritage of people, the CM said.

Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein inaugurated the 40-bedded Community Health Centre at Mechukha, in the presence of RWD Minister P D Sona. Sharing the news in social media post Mr Sona said the much-needed facility will significantly strengthen healthcare access for the people, reducing the need for long and difficult travel for medical care and ensuring timely treatment closer to home.

Dr. Yasum Litin of Yingkiong, Upper Siang, has created history by becoming first Cardiac Anaesthesia superspecialist from Arunachal and the first woman from Northeast India. She has completed her DM in Cardiac Anaesthesia from Goa Medical College.

Tsering Lamu Shongmu of Kalaktang, West Kameng, has received the Youth Icon Award at the National Environment Youth Parliament-2026 organised by Students for Development in Nagpur.

CBSE Class 10 exams began across Arunachal Pradesh from today, starting with the Mathematics paper. Students in schools statewide are appearing as per the official schedule.

The Itanagar Capital Region may face a serious groundwater crisis if corrective steps are delayed, warns V.N. Pandey, retired SE of Water Resources Dept. He urged regulation of borewell drilling and land cutting, citing fragile, silt-heavy soil and rising iron content. Mr Pandey said Arunachal lacks updated hydrogeological mapping of groundwater reserves. He called for systematic data collection on drilling through DCs and EACs. He also advocated large-scale rainwater harvesting and warns that haphazard earth cutting has altered river courses. Mr Pandey stressed that water security is tied to social and economic stability and urged coordinated action.

Emphasizing the importance of public safety and responsible civic behavior, Nabam Vivek, MLA of Doimukh Assembly Constituency, has appealed to citizens to refrain from walking along or crossing railway tracks. The MLA stated that railway lines are strictly meant for train operations and not for pedestrian movement. The MLA also called upon local leaders, community-based organizations, parents and teachers to spread awareness about railway safety.

A four-day training programme on Disaster Management Plan preparation and sensitization is underway till 19th February at Donyi Polo Mission School for the Hearing and Visually Impaired, Chimpu. It is organised for school authorities, special educators, teachers, caregivers, and parents of children with special needs — including hearing and visually impaired students. The programme aims to enhance preparedness, awareness, and inclusive safety planning to ensure better disaster response and protection for vulnerable students.

A five-day Inter-District Youth Exchange Programme began at Don Bosco Youth Centre, Itanagar, and will continue up to 19 February. It is organized by Mera Yuva Bharat Papumpare, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, as the host district and West Siang as the guest district. 37 selected youth from West Siang districts are participating. Part of the

programme schedule include, local exposure and sightseeing tours, yoga and wellness classes, interaction with local communities, and group discussions, aimed at strengthening confidence, teamwork and mutual understanding among the participants.

Australia were knocked out of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026 after the Zimbabwe vs Ireland Group B match was abandoned without a ball being bowled in Pallekele due to rain. Australia still have a game left against Oman but they have no chance of making it to the next round after two defeats in three matches. Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe, teams that beat Australia, qualified for the Super 8 stage from this group.

That's all, in this News Bulletin, Namaskar