

REGIONAL NEWS UNIT, ITANAGAR

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The fifth Session of the Eighth Legislative Assembly began at the Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly on Wednesday. This was the first sitting of the Special Session this year and will run for two days. In his address, Governor Lt. General (Retd) K.T. Parnaik, highlighted inclusive development, democratic governance, and infrastructure growth. He also expressed gratitude to the Government of India and Prime Minister Narendra Modi for supporting projects worth over Rs 5,100 crore and launching the GST Bachat Utsav. The Governor noted that the State's GDP has grown 2.6 times over the past decade, with a five-fold increase in State resources. Key initiatives include expansion of Donyi Polo Airport, National Highways, rural roads, and the Vibrant Villages Programme. He declared 2025-26 as the "Year of Human Capital". Three bills were introduced in the first day of the Fifth Session including The Arunachal Pradesh Staff Selection Board (Amendment) Bill 2026, introduced by Chief Minister Pema Khandu, The Arunachal Pradesh Panchayati Raj (Amendment) Bill 2026, introduced by Panchayati Raj Minister Ojing Tasing and The Arunachal Pradesh Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill 2026, introduced by Law Minister, Kento Jini. Earlier before starting, the Assembly observed two-minute silence, paying tribute to former MLAs and leaders who recently passed away.

In the afternoon session, CM Pema Khandu said a new committee has been formed for verification of the irregularities regarding the compensation of Lada-Sarli Frontier Highway. Answering MLA Kumar Waii's queries put forward in the zero hour of the session, Mr Khandu said the committee will submit its report soon and based on that, the rightful owners, whose names were missing from the previous list, will be duly compensated. Similarly, the ones who received overcompensation, will have to pay the state government back. Replying to charges of growing corruption in the state, the CM said the Anti-Corruption Bureau has made 142 arrests since 2016 and no one, irrespective of their stature, will be spared if found guilty of corruption charges.

The last rites of late Chow Chikseng Manpang were performed today at Namsai with full honours. The solemn ceremony included traditional death rites and ceremonial gunshots as a mark of respect for the departed soul. Late Chow Chikseng Manpang of Manfaiseng Village, Namsai District, who was serving as Head Constable (WT) at Roing Police Station, who lost

his life reportedly after being attacked by a tiger at the Mayudia area of Lower Dibang Valley District while returning to Roing after discharging his official duties at Anini. He is survived by his wife, three daughters, and one son. C. R. Khampa, DC Namsai, Sange Thinley, SP Namsai, and Pujom Buchi, Deputy SP, Roing, paid their last respects and expressed their condolences to the bereaved family. Relatives, Locals, Police officials and IRBN officials were also present and paid their tributes.

President Droupadi Murmu has revoked the President rule in Manipur with effect from today. The President's rule was imposed in Manipur on 13th February, last year. The Home Ministry has issued a gazette notification in this regard. Meanwhile, BJP Manipur Legislature Party leader Yumnam Khemchand Singh took oath as the Chief Minister of Manipur. Additionally, Nemcha Kipgen and Losii Dikho were sworn in as the Deputy Chief Ministers of the state.

On the occasion of World Cancer Day today, Mera Yuva Bharat, Papum Pare, under the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India, organised an awareness and outreach programme at the Department of Oncology, Tomo Riba Institute of Health & Medical Sciences, Naharlagun. It aimed to spread awareness about cancer prevention, early detection, and compassionate care. A special interactive awareness session was conducted by Dr. Sam Sering, Radiological Oncologist. As a gesture of solidarity and encouragement, apples were distributed to cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy and palliative care at the Oncology Department.

A One Day Awareness Programme under the PM Vishwakarma Scheme was organised at District Industries Centre Hall, Daporijo, in Upper Subansiri district today. It was organised by the Office of the Branch MSME, Itanagar, in collaboration with the Department of Industries, and Niumhi Foundation. Over 100 artisans, craftsmen, and beneficiaries from across the district participated. On the occasion, participants were exposed about business planning, marketing strategies, branding, packaging, and market linkages. The artisans were also guided on banking support and formalisation of enterprises.

DC, Lower Subansiri District, Oli Perme convened a preparatory meeting at District Secretariat, Ziro to review and plan arrangements for the upcoming 40th Statehood Day celebration. The DC encouraged all members to come forward with innovative ideas and suggestions. In view of the ongoing grass carpeting work at Padi Yubbe Outdoor Stadium, the

General Ground of Dani Kunya Government Higher Secondary School, Ziro, was finalised as the venue for the celebration. Expressing serious concern over the recent and repeated fire incidents in the district, DC directed the Fire Department to set up a dedicated stall.