

REGIONAL NEWS UNIT, ITANAGAR

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The Under-23 Tri-Nation Championship 2026 was inaugurated by Chief Minister Pema Khandu at the Golden Jubilee Outdoor Stadium, Yupia, yesterday. The inaugural ceremony was graced by India's football icon and former captain Sunil Chetry, along with Sports Minister Kento Jini. Addressing the gathering, the Chief Minister announced that a much-needed world-class football stadium at Itanagar has been sanctioned under the Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North East Region at an estimated cost of Rupees 200 crore. He stated that construction work is set to commence within this year. Speaking on the occasion, football icon Sunil Chetry encouraged the youth to take sports seriously and strive for excellence. The opening match of the tournament was won by Tajikistan against Bhutan by 1:0. The next match is scheduled for March 28, featuring India against Bhutan at 7:00 PM.

The Government has said that all oil refineries in the country are operating at high capacity, with adequate crude inventories in place. The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas stated that sufficient stocks of petrol and diesel are also being maintained, with all retail outlets operating normally across the country and adequate stocks available at all petrol pumps. With the Strait of Hormuz remaining closed, The Ministry stated that the Government has taken a series of measures to maintain an uninterrupted supply of petroleum products and LPG across the country. It also noted that delivery of domestic LPG cylinders is normal throughout the country, with no reported dry-out at LPG distributorships.

India defeated Pakistan 3-0 in the Group B fixture of the SAFF U-20 Championship at the National Football Stadium in Male, Maldives, today. Vishal Yadav found the back of the net in the opening minutes of the first half, and scored the first goal. The match's second goal was scored by Arunachal's Omang Dodum, doubling India's lead to 2-0. Omang Dodum later sealed the victory with a penalty in the 88th minute after Prashan Jajo was fouled inside the box. Pakistan, already beaten by Bangladesh, crashed out after their second consecutive loss. India and Bangladesh have now progressed to the semifinals, with their upcoming clash on March 28, set to decide the Group B topper.

Winter sports training and the Open National Ski Mountaineering Championship is going to be held in Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh, from 5th to 14th April. The championship will be held on 15th April. International

Ski Mountaineering Federation, Skimo India Federation, and Department of Youth Affairs, Arunachal Pradesh are collaborating to organize this event, marking a significant advancement for adventure sports in the region.

The North East India Tourism Confederation and the Association of Buddhist Tour Operators have entered into a MoU to foster collaboration in the field of travel and tourism, with particular emphasis on the promotion of Buddhist pilgrimage tourism across the Northeast region. The MoU was formally signed yesterday by Tsering Wange, President, NEITC, and Dr. Kaulesh Kumar, Advisor (Tourism), Government of India, and Secretary General ABTO.

The 3rd edition Bharat Lok Sangeet – Arunachal Pradesh Utsav, at Siang festival ground near Raneghat in Pasighat, was organized by the Department of Tourism, from 25 to 26 March. The festival witnessed performances from folk artists of Arunachal tribes including Adi, Puroik, Lisu, Olo and Bugun, along with the Garba dance from Gujarat, Veerabhadra Kunitha from Karnataka, and a closing performance by Dr Delong Padung & Band.

Lower Siang district joined the nation in celebrating the 150th anniversary of Vande Mataram-the National Song of India phase 3, today. A programme was organised at the Freedom Fighters' commemorative High Mast National Flag Podium built in honour of the Freedom Fighter Lt. Moje Riba at, Dipa village, Lower Siang district. During the program, Augusti Jamoh DACO-cum-DIPRO highlighted the historical significance of Vande Mataram and its pivotal role in inspiring India's freedom movement. He emphasised the importance of fostering patriotism, unity, and a deeper understanding of the nation's rich cultural heritage. The gathering paid homage to freedom fighter Moje Riba.

The Pasighat College of Horticulture and Forestry organized a day-long state-level workshop on "Bio-intensive Integrated Pest Management for Organic Horticulture in Arunachal Pradesh" on Wednesday. The workshop focused on promoting eco-friendly pest management practices and advancing organic horticulture in the state. About 230 attendees, including 200 tribal farmers hailed from central and eastern Arunachal districts participated in the workshop.

The Pasighat Municipal Council yesterday launched the Standard Operating Procedures for No garbage Zones along both sides of the

National Highway passing through Pasighat township area and along main market and major sector Roads. The programme has been launched under the aegis of "Denam Aanam Abhiyan"(Swachh Pasighat Abhiyan) cleanliness initiative.