

REGIONAL NEWS UNIT, ITANAGAR

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Government today said that the country has the capacity to refine 26 crore tonnes of crude oil and urged citizens to stop believing in rumours and avoid panic buying. Addressing an inter-ministerial briefing on recent developments in West Asia held in New Delhi today, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Sujata Sharma clarified that there has been no increase in the rates of petrol and diesel amid rumours of a petrol-diesel price hike. Earlier, the Government has debunked news reports and social media posts claiming that LPG refill booking timelines have been revised for Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana connections to 45 Days. It added that the existing refill booking timelines remain unchanged and continue to be 25 days in urban areas, and 45 days in rural areas, irrespective of connection type. The Government has further reiterated that adequate LPG stocks are available in the country, emphasizing that there is no cause for concern. Meanwhile, Bharat Petroleum and Hindustan Petroleum have said that there is no shortage of fuel across the nation.

The Government of Arunachal Pradesh has issued an official notice proposing a significant expansion of the Itanagar Municipal Corporation territorial jurisdiction. The move aims to enhance urban governance, facilitate planned development, and ensure better civic administration across the capital region. Chimpu, Jullang, Borum and Lekhi to improve urban governance and civic administration. Residents in the affected zones—ranging from the NH-415 Corridor to the Dikrong Bridge stretch—have 30 days to submit written claims or objections. Submissions must state clear grounds and be addressed to the Commissioner, IMC.

Under-23 Tri-Nation Football Championship 2026 began today, at the Golden Jubilee Outdoor Stadium, Yupia in Arunachal Pradesh and will continue till 31st March. Under-23 teams of India, Tajikistan, and Bhutan are participating in this much-anticipated Championship. Indian football maestro and Padma Shri Awardee, Sunil Chetri attended the inaugural ceremony.

Arunachal's Omang Dodum has been selected in the Indian Men's U-20 Football Team for the ongoing SAFF U-20 Championship 2026 in Maldives. The Indian team will face Pakistan on 26 March and Bangladesh on March 28 in Group B. The final will be held on April 3rd.

The Press Information Bureau, Itanagar, organised a Varta- a Media Outreach Programme, on the theme "Role of Media in Times of Artificial Intelligence" at Pasighat today, in collaboration with the Pasighat Press Club. Utsav Parmar, Joint Director, Central Bureau of Communication, Regional Office Itanagar, underscored the importance of balancing Artificial Intelligence with Natural Intelligence (NI). He stated that the role of media extends beyond mere dissemination of news to ensuring clarity, accuracy, and context in information. Resource person, Manish Awana, Assistant Professor at Rashtriya Raksha University, stressed the critical need for media professionals to verify and fact-check AI-generated content, pointing that AI models have limited data representation from the North Eastern region.

Banderdewa Circle Officer, Taba Milka, today visited the affected areas under Pichola, Tani Hapa, and Gorubanda Panchayat segments following the severe hailstorm and heavy downpour that occurred on the evening of 24th March. More than 20 houses were affected by the calamity. To ensure proper assessment and relief measures, a team comprising the Panchayat Inspector, Gram Panchayat Chairperson, and Gaon Burah has been constituted. The team has been tasked with identifying all affected families and submitting a detailed report along with photographs to the Office of the CO, Banderdewa within two days.

Job is Well Co. Ltd, a Tokyo-based educational and employment services company, visited Arunachal Pradesh University today. They discussed how introducing Japanese language teaching at APU would equip students with professional skills while opening pathways to secure, well-supported employment opportunities in Japan. University's Registrar Narmi Darang responded positively to the discussion, however, advised, that any such initiative would require formal approval from the state government and the Education Department. Both parties agreed to maintain communication as the proposal is taken forward through official channels.

The first edition of the Khelo India Tribal Games is underway at Raipur in Chhattisgarh. The games will continue till the 3rd of April, featuring events in seven sports disciplines. Arunachal Pradesh contingent comprising 77 athletes, 7 coaches, and one Chief de Mission, is participating in the Tribal Games.

A total of 17 households, represented through Panchayati Raj members of Riga Village, in Siang District have formally extended their consent to the Government of Arunachal Pradesh and NHPC for

undertaking Preliminary Feasibility Report studies and related activities for the proposed SUMP project within the village jurisdiction.