

REGIONAL NEWS UNIT, ITANAGAR

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Legendary singer and Padma Vibhushan awardee Asha Bhosle passed away at 92 in Mumbai today. She was admitted to a private hospital last evening due to a chest infection and exhaustion. Her last rites will be performed tomorrow at 4 PM at Shivaji Park in Mumbai. Asha Bhosle, with a career spanning over eight decades, recorded over 12,500 songs in different languages. She was known for her versatility and sang many memorable melodies, from romantic songs and ghazals to peppy numbers. Asha Tai, as she was fondly called, was the younger sister of the late legendary singer and Bharat Ratna awardee Lata Mangeshkar and a member of the famous Mangeshkar lineage.

Arunachal Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister, Chowna Mein, attended the Conference on 'Transformation of Tribal Lives through Science and Technological Interventions – Preserving Language, Faith and Culture', held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. It was organized by the Department of Science & Technology, Govt of India, on the occasion of Silver Jubilee Celebration of ITITI, Doon Sanskriti School, Dehradun. Mein emphasized that Arunachal Pradesh stands as a unique example where development and tradition coexist in harmony. He highlighted that the State's rich tribal heritage, diverse languages, and deep-rooted spiritual values are not obstacles to progress, but guiding forces for sustainable and inclusive development. On the occasion, Deputy CM was also honoured with the prestigious Brahmaputra Gaurav Samman.

Arunachal Pradesh will begin the House Listing & Housing Census 2026 from 16 April. Self-enumeration will be open till 30 April, followed by home visits in May.

Arunachal Pradesh Literary Society celebrated its 150th literary sitting at the Jawaharlal Nehru State Museum auditorium in Itanagar, today. To commemorate the occasion, APLS felicitated its pioneering founding members- Jomnya Siram, Nani Kojin and Dr Pekba Ringu. The President also acknowledged other founding members, including Mamang Dai, Toni Koyu, RN Koley, and others for their role in strengthening the foundation of the society. The society also honoured noted authors—Subi Taba, Dr Taro Sindik, and Dr Gumpi Nguso, for bringing laurels to the state, including prestigious literary awards in 2025 and 2026. APLS President Yeshe Dorjee Thongchi, noted that the society has been consistently organising literary sittings on the first Sunday of every month

to provide a platform and guidance to both emerging and established writers in the state.

A mass social service drive was conducted yesterday at a black spot along the highway near the Mental Hospital in Midpu, Doimukh. The initiative was organized by Midpu Panchayat under the leadership of GPC Tana Domin Tara. GPMs, members of the Midpu Youth Association, and village elders actively participated. GPC Tara issued a strict warning against littering and illegal dumping of waste and stated anyone found violating the rule will be fined 50,000 rupees with no excuses to be accepted.

Calligraphy & Handwriting Improvement Workshop by NE Unique Calligraphy, in collaboration with the Department of Education, Shi Yomi, is being held at Government Higher Secondary School, Mechukha. The workshop which began yesterday, will continue till 16 April. With 70 enthusiastic students from various schools participating, this first-of-its-kind initiative for government schools in the district has been started on an experimental basis to encourage better handwriting, creativity, and discipline in learning.

The 2nd edition of Siang Volleyball Tournament was organized at Tuting in Upper Siang district by Spearhead Division of Spearcorps from 1st to 11 April. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from the local populace, especially the youth. A total of 8 men and 3 women teams each from various parts of the state participated in the tournament.

Security forces have destroyed 21 illegal bunkers in Ukhrul district of Manipur. Local police today said that they also seized 13 improvised explosive devices, IEDs, from Tengenoual district in a separate operation. Security forces destroyed 14 bunkers in Sikibung village and 7 in Mongkot Chepu. 11 empty cartridge shells were seized. In another operation, security forces seized a cache of arms and ammunition in the Moreh area of the Tengenoual district yesterday.

The delegation led by US Vice President JD Vance and the delegation from Iran have departed from Islamabad after failing to reach an agreement. US vice-president cited shortcomings in peace talks, saying Iran chose not to accept American terms including to not build nuclear weapons. Iran state-run television has reported that its delegation has left Pakistan's capital Islamabad after talks failed. Iran's Foreign Ministry said

the negotiations broke down due to differences over two or three important issues, describing a gap in positions between the two sides.