

REGIONAL NEWS UNIT, ITANAGAR

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Prime Minister Modi announced that India and Italy had decided to upgrade their bilateral relationship to a Special Strategic Partnership. During a joint press statement after the delegation-level talks with his Italian counterpart in Rome, the Prime Minister said the India-Italy Joint Strategic Action Plan 2025-2029 provides a practical and futuristic framework for bilateral ties. Mr Modi said both sides held extensive discussions on enhancing cooperation and are working on establishing an India-Italy Innovation Centre. He said the India-Italy Defence Industrial Roadmap has paved the way for co-development and co-production of military hardware. The Prime Minister added that both countries will also work together in shipping, port modernisation, logistics, and the blue economy.

Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has stressed the need for heightened vigilance and foolproof security arrangements to ensure a safe, secure and fair conduct of the upcoming NEET-UG Re-Examination. Mr Pradhan said this while chairing a high-level review meeting with Central Security and Intelligence Agencies in New Delhi today. During the meeting, serious concerns were also raised over the growing spread of misinformation related to competitive examinations through anonymous online groups. Taking cognizance of the issue, Mr Pradhan directed a focused crackdown on such networks, including proactive identification, blocking and takedown of channels spreading fake information.

Union Minister of State and renowned actor Suresh Gopi visited the Film and Television Institute of India, Itanagar campus yesterday. The purpose of the visit was to access the infrastructural gaps and pending works at the institute, which would subsequently be taken up with the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India. During the inspection, the Union Minister held a detailed discussion with officials of the Central Public Works Department and the proprietor of M/S Kenge Construction regarding the status of the ongoing projects. He minutely reviewed all the buildings and facilities of the institute and took stock of the progress and challenges affecting timely completion of the infrastructure. The Union Minister was accompanied by Education Minister, P. D. Sona, Deputy Commissioner Lobsang Tsering and Director of Information and Public Relations Gijum Tali and other dignitaries.

A three-day National Workshop on "Strategic Solutions for Rapid Development of Oil Palm in the Northeast" is currently under way at Pasighat College of Horticulture and Forestry. The workshop aims on strategic approaches for rapid expansion of oil palm cultivation in the Northeastern Hill regions and formulation of a 'roadmap' for achieving self-reliance in vegetable oil production following the central govt's Atmanirbhar Bharat mission. The workshop is jointly organized by the CHF, Society for Promotion of Oil Palm Research and Development ICAR-IIOPR, Central govt's Agriculture & Farmers Welfare department and oil palm processing companies.

A DDR-cum-DLMC review meeting was held today at the DC's Conference Hall, Pasighat, to review district performance, departmental progress, and major issues requiring policy intervention at the State level. During the meeting, detailed discussions were held on district overview, human resource status, administrative infrastructure, monthly departmental reviews, achievements, coordination issues, and implementation of flagship Central and State-sponsored schemes. Departments also highlighted key challenges and requirements needing immediate intervention from the State Government. One of the major concerns raised during the review meeting was the shortage of manpower in various departments under Group-C category posts. MLAs Ninong Ering, Tapi Darang, Oken Tayeng along with Heads of Departments and officers from various departments were present during the meeting.

The Arunachal Pradesh Literary Society has decided to confer the Luminous Lummer Dai Literary Award 2026 to Tony Koyu in recognition of his outstanding contribution to literature and language development in Arunachal Pradesh. Mr. Koyu is the creator of Tani Lipi, the first indigenous script developed for the Tani tribes of Arunachal Pradesh. He is also the recipient of several prestigious honours, including the Bharat Jyoti Award, Sanskar Bharati Award, Penguin Publication Award, and many others.

Lohit Youth Libraries today celebrated 19th Foundation Day at Bamboosa Library, Tezu. Speaking on the 19 years of growth of the Lohit Youth Library Movement, senior volunteer Banika Kri highlighted its principle, "If readers can't go to books, books must go to the readers". She also gratefully recalled and thanked the generous patronage of book

lovers. She added that the library movement has opened a path for many of the volunteers to grow personally and professionally.

The Indian Army's Spearhead Division under Spear Corps successfully concluded the second edition of the Siang Futsal Tournament at the Tuting Sports Complex. The tournament, which had commenced on 8th May, witnessed an active participation of 12 men's teams and three women's teams from nearby villages and educational institutions. Organized with the objective of promoting physical fitness, healthy competition and constructive youth engagement, the Siang Futsal Tournament served as an important platform to foster social harmony and strengthen community relations in the border region.

That is all in this News Bulletin, Namaskar.