REGIONAL ENGLISH NEWS BULLETIN

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The Election Commission has issued an advisory to Chief Electoral Officers (CEOs) of all the States and Union Territories in view of heat wave. The advisory followed a forecast of above normal temperatures by Indian Meteorological Department in the upcoming heat wave, which may result into stronger and longer spells of heat wave especially during March to June this year. The Commission has shared a copy of Do's and Don'ts issued by National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) regarding minimization of heat wave impact. The commission has asked CEOs to ensure minimum basic facilities including drinking water and shade at the polling stations. Moreover the Election Commission has directed that every polling party should be supplied with Oral Rehydration Salts, ORS for their own use as well as for any voter needing ORS due to heatstroke. There should preferably be a permanent arrangement of a tap facility for drinking water.

The filing of nominations for the first phase of Lok Sabha elections ended today. The elections will be held in 102 Lok Sabha seats in 17 States and four Union Territories in the first phase on April 19. The notification for the second phase of Lok Sabha election will be issued tomorrow. Elections will be held in 89 Lok Sabha seats in 12 States and Union Territories in this phase. Twenty seats of Kerala, 14 seats of Karnataka, 13 seats of Rajasthan, eight seats each of Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra, seven seats of Madhya Pradesh, five seats each in Assam and Bihar, three seats each of West Bengal and Chhattisgarh and one seat each in Manipur, Tripura and Jammu and Kashmir will go to polls in the second phase. Nominations can be filed till 4th April. Voting for this phase will be held on 26th April. The scrutiny of nominations across all states and union territories will be done on 5th of April except for Jammu and Kashmir. In Jammu and Kashmir, the scrutiny will be held on 6th April.

For the three assembly constituencies of Papum Pare district nominations were filed yesterday for the ensuing polls. The candidates who filed papers are Techi Kaso of BJP, Tai Tadap of NPP for Itanagar AC; Tana Hali Tara of BJP, and Nabam Vivek of PPA and Nabam Tado of INC for Doimukh AC and Ratu Techi of BJP for Sagalee AC.

The General Observer and Police Observer for the simultaneous elections to the Lok Sabha and Arunachal Legislative Assembly for Papum Pare district, Amit Dhaka and Om Prakash Tripathy respectively reviewed the election preparedness with the SPs and election nodal officers of the district at DC Conference Hall, Yupia today. All the officers assigned elections duties were asked to work collaboratively to ensure free and fair elections. Terming Itanagar as the focal point for entry of freebies to lure the voters, the General Observer called for intensive checking by the flying squads and Static Surveillance Teams. He also took stock of the voter registration updates, manpower and EVM randomisation process and called for absolute care to avoid any procedural lapses.

Meanwhile, a total of 41,74,000 rupees in cash, in addition to IMFL, arms, and other items have been seized by the enforcement agencies of Papum Pare district since the implementation of the model code of conduct. District Election Officer Jiken Bomjen has urged holders of the arms licenses to deposit their licenses at the nearest police station by the end of this week, adding that "failing to do so will lead to cancellation of license.

Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati successfully transferred a pioneering vaccine technology to Bio-Med Pvt. Ltd, a specializing in leading manufacturing company high-guality vaccines. This technology entails a recombinant vector vaccine designed specifically for combating the classical swine fever virus in pigs and wild boars, filling a significant gap in India's vaccine landscape. In the country the instances of this disease have been frequently observed in Northeastern states as well as in Bihar, Kerala, Punjab, Haryana, and Gujarat, among others. The vaccine 2018-2019 through collaborative efforts work had started in between researchers from the Department of Biosciences and Bioengineering at IIT Guwahati, and Assam Agricultural University in Guwahati.

And Now, the Weather Forecast...

According to the Met Centre, there will be general cloudy sky with a few spells of rain or thundershowers in and around Itanagar and surrounding areas during the next 24 hours. The maximum temperature recorded today was 26 degree Celsius and a minimum of 16.5 degree Celsius.

That's all in this news bulletin, Namaskar