

REGIONAL ENGLISH NEWS BULLETIN

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The notification for the first phase of Lok Sabha elections will be issued tomorrow. Elections will be held in 102 Lok Sabha seats in 17 States and Four Union Territories in this phase. Thirty-nine seats of Tamil Nadu, 12 seats of Rajasthan, eight seats of Uttar Pradesh, six seats of Madhya Pradesh, five seats each in Uttarakhand, Assam and Maharashtra, four seats of Bihar, three seats of West Bengal, two seats each in Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya and one seat each in Chhattisgarh, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Jammu and Kashmir, Lakshadweep and Puducherry will go to polls in the first phase. Nominations can be filed till the 27th of March. Voting will be held on 19th of next Month. The Lok Sabha elections are scheduled to be conducted in seven phases in the country, while the counting will take place on 4th June

The Supreme Court today refused to stay implementation of the Citizenship Amendment Act, CAA. The apex court also gave the Government three weeks to respond to 237 petitions challenging the law that was notified last week. The matter was heard by Chief Justice DY Chandrachud, Justice JB Pardiwala, and Justice Manoj Misra. The next hearing in this case has been set for 9th April next.

The Indian Air Force today felicitated 19 prominent sportspersons including Cricketer Pulkit Narang, and athletes Mohammad Nurhasan and Himanshu for their outstanding performance at national and international sporting events. Indian Air Force Chief VR Chaudhari felicitated these sportspersons who are associated with IAF at the function in New Delhi. Addressing the gathering on the occasion, the Chief of Air Staff lauded IAF air warriors for their stellar achievements in sports. Sergeant Pulkit Narang was honoured for representing India at the International forum in 2022 and 2023 and Sergeant Mohd Nurhasan and LAC Himanshu were felicitated for clinching gold in National Open Athletics Championship 2023.

The National Commission for Women (NCW) and the Railway Protection Force has signed a MoU in New Delhi today to prevent and combat human trafficking. Speaking on the occasion, Chairperson of NCW Rekha Sharma said, Railway Protection Force personnel deployed at Railway stations are playing a crucial role in the crime against women and children. She informed that 70 per cent of cases of human trafficking are related to Women and Girl children.

Arunachal Pradesh Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Pawan Kumar Sain said that all the arrangements for conducting elections in the state are completed and are in place. He said this during a press briefing in Itanagar yesterday on the preparation on the simultaneous Lok Sabha and assembly polls in Arunachal Pradesh. Arunachal Pradesh is going to poll on April 19 next month, in a single phase. The state has 2226 polling stations, out of which 588 booths have been identified as critical and 443 as vulnerable. Mr. Sain said that there are 68 polling stations where polling personnel will require 2 to 3 days of foot march to reach. This time the state will have 153 polling stations managed by women, 3 by PwDs and 49 by youths. The CEO also informed that help of chopper sorties will also be taken to reach some areas like Vijaynagar along Indo-Myanmar border and 6 other places in the state. Mr. Sain said webcasting will be done in 750 polling stations, while offline recording facility would availbale in 342 polling stations. He said the state election machinery has so far seized over Rs 3.88 crore cash from various districts and recovered 378 unlicensed arms since February 1, this year.

India has started the process of building a major ropeway project right next to the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Arunachal Pradesh. The 5.2-km-long ropeway project, to be built at a cost of Rs 522 crore, will be from the world-famous Tawang Monastery to PT Tso Lake and will be developed within the next three years. The new ropeway would mean the ride from the Tawang Monastery to the lake would take just five minutes and is expected to propel tourism in the region and enable tourists to explore the beautiful areas of Arunachal Pradesh.

According to Air Quality Report 2023 conducted by Swiss organisation IQAir, New Delhi has been ranked the world's most polluted capital city for the fourth consecutive year since 2018. The report estimated that more than one billion people in India experience PM2.5 concentrations exceeding the World Health Organisation's recommended annual guideline level of 5 micrograms per cubic metre.

Four schools from Arunachal Pradesh - Him International School, Papum Pare, Kendriya Vidyalaya (KV), Pasighat, Vivekananda Kendra Vidyalaya Itanagar, and KV No. II, Itanagar have qualified for the State-level round of Fit India Quiz 2023. The FIQ is India's biggest quiz on sports and fitness taking place across 28 States and eight Union territories of India with a total cash award of Rs 3.25 crore.

That's all in this news bulletin, Namaskar