REGIONAL NEWS UNIT, ITANAGAR

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Senior BJP leader and Chief Minister Pema Khandu said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the North East - earlier known for underdevelopment, neglect, inaccessibility and extremism - has witnessed a "complete transformation" since the Modi-led BJP government came to power in 2014. Khandu said this while addressing an election campaign rally at Raga in Kamle district on Friday. Seeking people's support for party candidates for Arunachal West parliamentary seat Kiren Rijiju and Raga Assembly constituency's Rotom Tebin, Khandu reminded the people that creation of Kamle district, under the BJP rule, has catalysed prosperity. He called upon the locals to exercise their adult franchise "for growth, peace and all-round inclusive development".

Inspector General of Police, PHQ Itanagar, Take Ringu emphasized the necessity of readiness to manage any situation, suggesting the utilization of Gaon Burahs' services for smooth and peaceful conduct of elections. He highlighted the significance of elections as a celebration of democracy, underlining citizens' right to choose their representatives as per the Indian Constitution. The IGP was interacting with GBs and administrative officers from Tawang and Kyidphel (Kitpi) circles at the Tawang Deputy Commissioner's office today. The IGP proposed the formation of committees by Gaon Burahs at the village level, involving PRI members, to support election officials and maintain peace while thwarting any disruptive elements. Acknowledging the inconvenience being caused by vehicle by SST/FSTs, at nakas IGP appealed for citizens' checks cooperation, emphasizing the collective responsibility to ensure free and fair elections.

General Observer Dilip Routray has expressed hope that the Lok Sabha and Assembly elections in East Siang district would be transparent and peaceful. Commending the District Election Officer Tayi Taggu's hard work, Routray said that election preparations in all three Assembly constituencies in the district and Arunachal East parliamentary constituency are appreciable. The General Observer informed that he is closely monitoring all developments, and that the concerned officers are updating him on a regular basis. Sharing his contact number, Routray assured that any election-related issue will be taken very seriously, and added that he will always be available to attend calls from common public and political parties' grievances to address promptly.

Casting of postal ballots by election duty officials of Likabali for both Assembly and Parliamentary elections will be held from April 11 to 13 at Govt. Secondary School, Likabali in Lower Siang district. Returning Officer of Likabali Assembly Constituency Mokar Riba informed that the voters of other constituencies who are engaged in election duty and had applied for postal ballot can exercise their franchise on April 11, and the voters from home constituency of Likabali can cast their ballots on April 12 and 13 from 9 am to 5 pm. The voters have been asked to bring their EPIC (Voter ID) or any other identity proof document and produce it before the RO for casting their votes.

Six-time world boxing champion and Olympic bronze medallist MC Mary Kom has joined the Mopin festivities at Aalo in West Siang district on Friday. In her speech, Kom exhorted the youth to take every obstacle and challenge of life as an opportunity for selftransformation. "I have crossed every hurdle of life and challenged every steps of life," she said in a bid to encourage the youth to rise in life. The former parliamentarian also appealed to the Galo community people to be united and urged the youth to be hard working in every sphere of life.

A Naib Subedar of Indian Army has made the supreme sacrifice in line of duty in the operational area of the Dibang Sector of Arunachal Pradesh. The Indian Army, in a post on X on Friday, expressed deepest condolences over the demise of Naib Subedar Giriraj Prasad Yadav. However, the exact cause of his death was not immediately known. "General Manoj Pande, Chief of the Army Staff, and all ranks of Indian Army salute the supreme sacrifice of Naib Subedar Giriraj Prasad Yadav who laid down his life in the line of duty in Dibang Sector and offer deepest condolences to the bereaved family", the Army said in the post.