REGIONAL NEWS UNIT, ITANAGAR

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that in the last ten years his government has focused on empowering the poor and creating opportunities for them to thrive. In an interview to English daily, Mr Modi said, India has shown the world that true progress is about empowering every citizen and giving them the tools they need to succeed. He said, in the last ten years, 25 crore people have come out of poverty. Mr. Modi said, India's unemployment rate is the lowest in the world. He added that crores of people have used the benefits of Mudra loans to start their business for the first time. He said, his government kept the average inflation at its lowest in one decade. Mr. Modi said, today, his government has built a strong economy that will serve as the base for India's next 25 years.

The stage is set for the fourth phase of polling for the 2024 Lok Sabha elections tomorrow. Voting will be held in 96 Lok Sabha seats spread over nine states and a Union Territory. 25 seats of Andhra Pradesh, 17 seats of Telangana, 13 seats of Uttar Pradesh, 11 seats of Maharashtra, eight seats each of Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal, 5 seats of Bihar, four seats each of Jharkhand and Odisha along with one seat of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir will go to polls. A total of one thousand 717 candidates are in the fray for the fourth phase of Lok Sabha elections. The weather forecast indicates that the Parliamentary Constituencies going for polls are likely to experience normal to below normal temperatures.

Dr. Shankar Prasad Sharma, Nepal's Ambassador to India has arrived in Sikkim today to attend the 38th Board Meeting of the India Nepal Foundation. The meeting, scheduled from 12th to 14th of this month underscores the strengthening ties between Nepal and India.

Dr. M. Beena, Development Commissioner Handlooms, Union Ministry of Textiles visited Arunachal Pradesh on 9th and 10th of this month and attended a review meeting with the state government officials on the on-going Small Cluster Development Programme (SCDP) schemes under the National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP). During the meeting, Dr. Beena assured the

state government to extend support to diversify the handloom products and make them more export-oriented. She also expressed her vision to make Arunachal Pradesh a handloom state, influence its rich cultural heritage and traditional weaving skills. Further, on 9th of this month, Dr. Beena visited the proposed site of the Handloom Park at Poma village and assessed the feasibility of the location to serve as a hub for promoting the local handloom industry and meeting the needs of the surrounding communities. Later next day, she visited the Borum Handloom Cluster.

Mother's Day is being celebrated across the world today. On the occasion, fifty women from Gelemo and Taksing villages in Upper Subansiri district were felicitated by Spear Corps for their selflessness and commitment towards providing unconditional support to the Indian Army. Meanwhile, a medical camp was also organized.

About 227 cases out of 1,478 cases were settled yesterday in the second National Lok Adalat this year conducted at various subordinate courts in the state. The National Lok Adalat was organized by the Arunachal Pradesh State Legal Services Authority (APSLSA) and about 23 benches of District and Session Courts of Bomdila, Khonsa, Tezu, and Yupia and the Courts of Chief Judicial Magistrate of Daporijo, Roing, Pasighat, Changlang, Bomdila, Ziro, Aalo, Yupia, Seppa, and Judicial Magistrate First Class of Yupia, Khonsa, Namsai, Longding, Anini, Palin, Yingkiong, Hawai, Tawang, and Pangin had conducted the proceedings.

The Arunachal Pradesh Women's Welfare Society (APWWS) has appreciated the efforts of the Capital Police in apprehending alleged culprits involved in trafficking and the sexual exploitation of minor girls. Regarding the case, President APWWS Kani Nada Maling has spoken to SP ICR Rohit Rajbir Singh and has extended their support to the police department. Meanwhile, the Society has also appealed to the people to be vigilant against such crimes.

The Indian Space Research Organisation, ISRO successfully tested the new liquid rocket engine manufactured through Additive Manufacturing technology. The test was successfully carried out on

9th of this month at ISRO Propulsion Complex in Mahendragiri in Tamil Nadu.

India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast thunderstorm, lightning and squally winds over Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and most parts of India including Southern and North East region for the next two to three days.