

## **REGIONAL NEWS UNIT, ITANAGAR**

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A total of 65.68 per cent of voter turnout was recorded in the third phase of Lok Sabha Election. Among them, there were nearly 66.89 per cent of males, 64.41 per cent of females, and 25.2 per cent of third person gender. According to Election Commission, the female voter turnout was highest in Assam with female voter turnout of 85.34 per cent followed by West Bengal with 83.01 per cent. Uttar Pradesh recorded the lowest female voter turnout of 56.01 per cent followed by Gujarat with 56.56 per cent. In case of third gender voters, Goa recorded the highest voter turnout of 75 per cent. In this phase, 93 Lok Sabha seats of ten States and one Union Territory went to polls.

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar expressed optimism about the potential of the India-EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations and the collaboration within the Trade and Technology Council (TTC), highlighting the increasing depth of economic interaction between the two entities. Addressing at the EU National Day celebrations in the capital, he underscored India's significant regard for the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEEC), which was established last year, and expressed eagerness to advance its progress.

South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Secretary General Md. Golam Sarwar has arrived in New Delhi on his first official visit to India. In a social media post, External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said that it is an opportunity to further strengthen cooperation in South Asia. Mr. Sarwar is on a five-day visit to India during which he is scheduled to have a series of meetings.

A review meeting on completed and on-going projects of State's Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) and Pradhan Mantri Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (PM-USA) was held at Rajiv Gandhi University, Rono Hills in Doimukh. During the meeting, Additional Secretary Education, Union Ministry of Education (MoE) S K Barnwal urged the State government and RUSA functionaries to avail the central schemes for strengthening the education sector. He prioritized on post creation for the sanction of manpower for Engineering Colleges. He further suggested that all the Higher & Technical Educational institutions to be brought under the free SAMARTH portal. Furthermore, he directed to finalize pending Direct

Premium Remittance System (DPRS) for PM-USHA projects and approved within June this year.

International Nurses Day was celebrated, today, at the New Academic Building, Tomo Riba Institute of Health and Medical Science (TRIHMS) in Naharlagun. The theme for this year's celebration is "The Economic Power of Care". On this occasion, 16 Nursing Officers, MTS, and Sanitary Workers were awarded with appreciation letters for their selfless and outstanding work during their services.

The Pan Arunachal voluntary blood donation programme was organized, today, by Galo Youth Organization (GYO) under aegis of Galo Welfare Society (GWS), observing the 5<sup>th</sup> death anniversary of Late Dr. Minge Loyi at Rama Krishna Hospital in Itanagar. Further, more than 100 units of blood were collected.

Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd. to conduct two Pilot Projects under the Drone Didi Yojana. Launched earlier this year, the scheme aims to train 15,000 women to operate drones for agricultural purposes such as fertilising the crop, monitoring crop growth and planting seeds, thereby creating new livelihood opportunities for women through imparting skills in new technology areas.

The State Bank of India, Itanagar branch under its corporate social responsibility, has donated an ambulance to TRIHMS, Naharlagun, on Friday, to enhance health care accessibility and potentially save lives in the community.

Arunachal Football Association along with Northeast United FC will host the Blue Cubs Football Tournament for under 7, 9 and 11 years old in both boys' and girls' categories from 8<sup>th</sup> June this year at Rajiv Gandhi Stadium in Naharlagun. The 7<sup>th</sup> Edition of Joint Military Exercise between India & France will be conducted from 13<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> of this month in Umroi, Meghalaya. The aim of the exercise is to enhance joint military capability of both sides to undertake Multi Domain Operations in a Sub-Conventional scenario.

Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong has praised the contribution of foreign talents to the country's progress. He said Singapore has one of the biggest pools of talented graduates from the Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT) and the Indian Institutes of Management (IIM). Prime Minister Lee highlighted the quality of IIT-

IIM alumni as he stressed the need for Singapore to continue bringing in foreign talent to meet manpower demands.