## **REGIONAL NEWS UNIT, ITANAGAR**

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Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar today said that the Northeast is the heart and soul of the country. Addressing a private event in New Delhi, Dhankhar emphasized that the Northeast is not just a geographic region but a vibrant tapestry of cultures, traditions, and natural beauty that embodies the essence of India. He mentioned the region's rich spiritual and natural heritage, and expressed his admiration for its vibrant culture, exquisite cuisine, and the energy of its people. Dhankhar also highlighted the recent recognition of Assamese as one of the classical languages. He said that this designation carries a positive ripple effect, showcasing the rich cultural heritage and diversity of the nation. Speaking about the media, the Vice-President urged them to be ambassadors of the Northeast and to champion the region's potential in tourism and development.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched multiple development projects worth around 23,300 crore rupees from Wasim in Maharashtra today. These projects are related to the agricultural and animal husbandry sectors. Modi also released the 18th installment of the PM-KISAN scheme. Speaking on this occasion, he said over 9.4 crore farmers across the country received direct financial benefits, amounting to more than 20 thousand crore rupees. Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, and Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde were present on this occasion.

Arunachal Pradesh Governor Lt Gen (Retd) KT Parnaik emphasized the need to strengthen security along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) using technology and integrating the local populations with security forces. At a crucial discussion on 'Security Challenges in the North East, with special reference to Arunachal Pradesh' at Raj Bhavan on Friday, the Governor highlighted measures to enhance security along the India-Myanmar border. The discussion focused on reciprocity at strategic and tactical levels to create leverage for resolution and addressed potential fallout in Bangladesh, Nepal, and neighboring countries on the North Eastern states, particularly Arunachal Pradesh.

Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu, in a social media post today said that the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India has declared Namdapha National Park & Tiger Reserve (in Changlang district) and Kamlang Wildlife Sanctuary & Tiger Reserve (in Lohit district) as Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ). Earlier, in February 2024, the Pakke Tiger Reserve was also included in the ESZ. This further paves the way for focussed conservation of endangered wildlife and rare flora found in these Reserves, which is essential for environmental sustainability and maintaining a balanced ecosystem, Khandu said.

The Department of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, in collaboration with the National Institute of Design (NID), Ahmedabad organized a workshop-cum-stakeholders meet to study practice of indigenous handicraft and handloom sector of Arunachal Pradesh at the Civil Secretariat on Friday. The study will also map women artisans and do gap analysis in the sector for bringing in various interventions by the Government in skilling, market development, etc. The meet was also intended to enable the NID team to facilitate collaborative planning and effective resource mapping before embarking on the field study.

The three-day orientation training for BEd teacher-trainees, who have volunteered for the RASA-3 (Read Aloud Sessions for All ) programme, concluded today at Bamboosa Library, Tezu. Attending the valedictory session, Addl Deputy Commissioner, Tezu, Kunal Yadav exhorted the teacher-trainees to be imaginative and conduct sessions in a way to make the classroom teaching interesting and enjoyable. RASA is a unique voluntary imitative by Bamboosa Library and Denning College for Teacher Education, Tezu, conducted jointly with DDSE Tezu from 2022 onwards, to help Govt middle school students of Tezu to improve their loud reading skills, using volunteers from the BEd College.

An awareness workshop on cyber security was conducted at Itanagar on Friday by the Department of IT and Communication, Govt of Arunachal Pradesh, in collaboration with the Intelligence Fusion & Strategic Operations (IFSO) Cyber Crime Unit, Delhi Police Special Cell. A team of cyber security experts, led by Dr Hemant Tiwari, DCP IFSO, conducted insightful sessions covering topics like cyber hygiene, safe use of social media, techniques for safeguarding digital assets, password management, secure communication, awareness of prevalent cyber crimes, vulnerabilities and ways to prevent and mitigate the same.