

## **REGIONAL NEWS UNIT, ITANAGAR**

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi has congratulated Major Abhilasha Barak on being conferred the UN Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award. In a social media post, the Prime Minister said that the honour is a recognition of Major Barak's exemplary service and also of India's longstanding contribution to United Nations peacekeeping efforts. Mr Modi said that Major Barak's achievement is also an inspiration to countless young Indians, especially the nation's daughters, who aspire to serve the nation and humanity. Major Barak is serving as an Engagement Team Commander and Gender Focal Point within the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

India- Indonesia Joint Commission meeting concluded in New Delhi today. External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar and his Indonesian counterpart Sugiono co-chaired the meeting. In a social media post, Dr Jaishankar said the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between both nations has witnessed strong growth in recent years. He said the substantive discussions were held on political, defence and security, maritime and shipping, trade, fintech, health, pharmaceuticals, fertiliser, critical minerals, as well as tourism, education and cultural cooperation. Both leaders also exchanged perspectives on regional developments, advancing our multilateral coordination and deepening India-ASEAN ties. Earlier, in his opening remarks, Dr Jaishankar said that the joint commission between both nations is convening after a gap of four years, and it is essential to acknowledge that significant advancements in bilateral relations have been made during this time. He said, India-Indonesia celebrated the 75 years of establishment of bilateral ties last year.

The National Testing Agency (NTA) has refuted the claims circulating on social media and messaging platforms regarding an alleged leak, advance access, or sale of the NEET (UG) 2026 re-examination question paper. In a social media post, the agency said that such content is the work of organised cheating rackets that prey on the anxiety of students and their families. The agency asserted that the integrity of the examination process remains fully intact and that all necessary safeguards are in place to ensure a fair and secure examination for candidates. NTA said it is actively identifying and reporting the offending channels, accounts, and content to the concerned platforms and to cyber-crime

authorities for immediate take down and action. The agency has advised candidates and parents not to engage with, pay, or forward any such message and not to fall prey to the fraudulent solicitations. The agency has also urged all aspirants to ignore the rumours and to rely solely on official communication issued by NTA through its verified website and channels.

The Indian Army's Spearhead Division of Spear Corps successfully organized a youth empowerment initiative under Project NAVBHARAT at Likabali yesterday. The event aimed to motivate and inspire the local community, especially the youth, to become responsible citizens contributing towards a Viksit Bharat. More than 250 students along with teachers from Likabali and the neighbouring Silapathar region participated enthusiastically in the programme. The primary objective of the initiative was to foster national integration and instill a deep sense of patriotism among the younger generation. Throughout the day, participants engaged in a series of motivational activities, including specialized lectures and documentary screenings showcasing the rigorous training, discipline, bravery, and sacrifices of Indian Army personnel.

The Arunachal Pradesh State Legal Services Authority in collaboration with Roots Arts and Culture Thrust today conducted Street Play at various places in the Itanagar Capital Region. The Street Play engaged the audience through impactful performance by local artists dissecting various issues relating to Domestic Violence, Drug Abuse, Prisoners Right, Elderly Abuse and Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act. The initiative is taken under the aegis of National Legal Services Authority to disseminate right information and create awareness on redressal of legal grievances to the weaker section of the society by providing free legal services.

The Arunachal Cycling Association celebrated World Bicycle Day 2026 with a mega cycling event in Itanagar today. The programme was graced by Sports Minister Kento Jini, alongside Advisor Mutchu Mithi and other prominent dignitaries. Speaking on the occasion, Arunachal Cycling Association Secretary Taka Tamut highlighted that the event aims to promote a healthy lifestyle, youth engagement in adventure sports, and environmental sustainability. He urged the community to adopt eco-friendly transportation to build a healthier, greener, and more connected Arunachal Pradesh.

Lekang MLA, Likha Soni, yesterday acknowledged and felicitated 11 successful candidates of the Tamin Welfare Society who qualified in various prestigious competitive examinations, including APES, PGT and JEE. Attending the felicitation programme at Naharlagun as the Chief Guest, Soni congratulated the successful candidates for their remarkable achievements and encouraged them to continue striving for excellence in their future endeavours for the welfare and development of society. Meanwhile, the MLA also appreciated the Tamin clan and families of the successful candidates for their unwavering support and commitment towards providing quality education to their children.