

REGIONAL NEWS UNIT, ITANAGAR

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed gratitude to Slovak Prime Minister Robert Fico for Slovakia's support in advancing negotiations on the India-EU Free Trade Agreement, saying both sides would work towards its early implementation to benefit industries, startups and traders in both countries. Addressing the joint press address along with the Slovak Prime Minister in Bratislava today, Prime Minister Modi said the successful conclusion of the FTA would mark a significant milestone in India-EU economic relations and open new opportunities for bilateral economic engagement between India and Slovakia. Highlighting the growing role of technology in the partnership, the Prime Minister said digital technology will be a key pillar of future cooperation between the two countries. He noted that a Memorandum of Understanding signed on digital technology would unlock new possibilities in digital public infrastructure and innovation-led collaboration.

Chief Minister Pema Khandu, today, inaugurated the Arunachal Pradesh Bamboo & Cane Technology Centre at Gungu near Itanagar and described bamboo as one of the State's greatest natural strengths capable of driving sustainable economic growth, entrepreneurship, employment generation, and environmental conservation. Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister said the newly inaugurated centre would play a pivotal role in transforming vast bamboo resources of Arunachal Pradesh into value-added products while creating livelihood opportunities for local youth, artisans, self-help groups and entrepreneurs. The Chief Minister appreciated the efforts of the Arunachal Pradesh Bamboo Resources and Development Agency, the Forest Department and all the stakeholders involved in establishing the technology centre. He said the facility would serve as a hub for innovation, skill development, value addition and commercialization of bamboo-based products.

MLA Namsai, Chau Zingnu Namchoom, today, visited the site for the establishment of the Industrial Park for Food Processing Industries at Namsai and reviewed the progress of the ongoing works. In a social media post, the MLA said that the ambitious project reflects the visionary leadership of Chief Minister Pema Khandu and the dedicated efforts of the Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein towards accelerating industrial growth, generating employment opportunities, and strengthening the value chain for farmers and entrepreneurs. He added that the park will emerge as a

key driver of economic development and self-reliance in Arunachal Pradesh.

The 4th Sub-Junior State Ranking Badminton Tournament 2026 commenced today at the Khelo India Indoor Badminton Stadium, Itanagar. The tournament is being organized by the Capital Complex Badminton Association (CCBA) under the aegis of the Arunachal State Badminton Association (ASBA). The championship has attracted participation from 21 districts across Arunachal Pradesh, with a total of 174 players competing in eleven events. Altogether, 287 entries have been received, and 276 matches are scheduled to be played during the tournament. The tournament will continue until Wednesday.

Two artists from Arunachal Pradesh, Rumi Taki and Domin Karbak have been honoured by Sangeet Natak Akademi. In response to the news, Chief Minister Pema Khandu has congratulated both artists on the achievement. In a social media post, Khandu informed that Rumi Taki has received the Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar for her outstanding contribution to Folk Theatre and Traditional Folk Dance, meanwhile, Domin Karbak has received the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for his exemplary contribution towards the preservation, promotion, and enrichment of the cultural heritage and indigenous traditions of Arunachal Pradesh.

The Special Intensive Revision (SIR), Phase-III, exercise officially commenced in Tawang district today, with Booth Level Officers (BLOs) starting door-to-door visits to ensure an accurate, inclusive, and updated electoral roll. The BLOs conducted meetings with village elders and Booth Level Agents (BLAs) representing various political parties.

The Finishing Course Programme 2026 commenced today at Government ITI, Pangin, with the objective of equipping trainees with essential skills for employment and entrepreneurship. The Finishing Course Programme, scheduled from 15th to 19th June 2026, covers diverse topics including government schemes, digital literacy, resume writing and interview preparation, labour and employment benefits and higher education opportunities. The programme is being organized by the Department of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, as part of its commitment to building skilled and industry – ready youth.

The Met Centre Itanagar has forecast yellow alert for all the districts in Arunachal Pradesh except for Tawang, Shi Yomi, Dibang Valley and Anjaw district. These 21 districts with yellow alert warning are very likely to receive thunderstorm with lightning and heavy rain at isolated places.