

REGIONAL NEWS UNIT, ITANAGAR

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New Delhi has said that it is closely following the developments in West Asia. It has again called for safe and unimpeded navigation and the flow of commerce through the Strait of Hormuz. Briefing media in New Delhi this evening, spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs Randhir Jaiswal said, this is key for ensuring the economic and energy security of people across the world. He said, the Ministry has issued a statement after summoning the Deputy Chief of Mission of Iran. Mr Jaiswal said, New Delhi conveyed Tehran its deepest concerns and that it strongly condemned what had happened. He said, a precious Indian life has been lost and several Indian nationals have been injured. A couple of them are seriously injured. The Spokesperson said, India conveyed its strongest protest to the Iranian side on this matter, stating that these attacks must stop at the earliest.

In a major step towards expanding bilateral trade and investment engagement, the first round of negotiations for the India-Maldives Free Trade Agreement (FTA) concluded successfully. The negotiations were held in virtual mode last week. Commerce and Industry Ministry said, both sides made substantive progress across the negotiating tracks and reached broad convergence on several issues. India is the second-largest trading partner of the Maldives. Bilateral trade between the two countries stood at over 771 million US dollar in 2025-26, compared to 679 million US dollar in 2024-25, registering a growth of 13.54 per cent. The proposed FTA is expected to further strengthen bilateral economic and trade relations by enhancing market access, facilitating investment, promoting greater economic cooperation and contributing to sustainable economic growth in both countries.

Under the aegis of the Sela Brigade, the Indian Army today organised a Flag-Off Ceremony at Sapper, Dirang. The ceremony was graced by Dr. Dilip Kumar, Deputy Commissioner, West Kameng District, Brigadier Rahul Mishra, Commander, 46 Infantry Brigade, Shri Choiki Dondup, ADC Dirang, Panchayat leaders, GB and the parents of the selected students. A total of 25 students from the border villages of Jung and Dirang have secured admission to Woods Park Sainik School, Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh, after successfully clearing the All India Sainik Schools Entrance Examination (AISSEE)-2026. Their achievement follows sustained

coaching, mentoring, and guidance provided by the Indian Army under its outreach initiatives.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Tawang today organised an Input Distribution-cum-ICAR Foundation Day Series Programme at Jang to commemorate the Foundation Day of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) while promoting scientific and sustainable farming practices among local farmers. The programme was attended by 57 farmers from Yuthumbu and Dungse villages of Jang-Thingbu Block, who actively participated in the technical sessions and interacted with the scientists on various aspects of modern agriculture.

The Spearhead Gunners under the aegis of Spearhead Division of the Indian Army successfully conducted a series of community outreach initiatives under Operation Sadbhavana by handing over six portable mobile toilets to beneficiaries across Mottum, Sigar and Mebo. The initiative was carried out in the presence of the Circle Officer, Senior Army officers, representatives of the civil administration, village authorities, school officials and members of the local community. The initiative reflects the continued efforts of the Spearhead Division of the Indian Army to partner with civil administration and local communities in improving the quality of life in remote areas.

The Meteorological Centre Itanagar has forecast yellow alert for fifteen districts in Arunachal Pradesh including Papumpare. These districts are likely to receive thunderstorm with lightning and heavy rain at isolated places.

The Indian women's cricket team scripted history when they registered one of the biggest victories in their Test history against England at Lord's yesterday. India handed a massive defeat to the hosts by 270 runs in the first ever women's test at Lord's yesterday to clinch the one-off test series. Union Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya has congratulated Indian Women's Cricket Team on becoming the first-ever women's team to win a Test match at Lord's.

In the FIFA World Cup, France will take on Spain in the first semi-final at Dallas Stadium in Texas, US, tonight. The match is scheduled to begin at 12:30 AM Indian Standard Time. France will look to book their place in their third consecutive FIFA World Cup final. Meanwhile, Spain will aim to advance into their first World Cup final since lifting the trophy in 2010. France reached the semi-finals after defeating Morocco 2-0 in the

quarter-finals, while Spain advanced with a hard-fought 2-1 victory over Belgium.