REGIONAL NEWS UNIT, ITANAGAR

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Chief Minister Pema Khandu yesterday shared his detailed statement addressed to the people of entire Siang belt regarding concerns over Siang Upper Multipurpose Project (SUMP). In his statement, he assured the Adi community that no decision on construction of proposed SUMP will be taken without detailed public consultation and consent, while, mentioning the project is currently only at the pre-feasibility report (PFR) stage. He said, PFR is neither a final approval nor a decision to construct the dam. Khandu invited residents of Siang and Upper Siang districts and members of Adi community to engage with public representatives and government officials.

Emphasizing that disagreement was a democratic right and every voice mattered, he said the government is committed to listen to residents, understand their apprehensions and address them transparently. Khandu also appealed for peace and restraint. Meanwhile, the Siang Upper Multipurpose Project was declared a National Project by Union government on February 7, 2008, following a Union Cabinet decision. It is among 16 National Projects in the country.

Veteran political leader and former 10th MLA Seppa East Assembly Constituency Mepe Dada passed away today at his residence in Itanagar. He was 75 years old. He was born to Hofe Dada (Father) and Feme Gyadi Dada (Mother). He was elected to Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly in 1989 and served as an MLA from 1990 to 1995. He is survived by three daughters and three sons. Chief Minister Pema Khandu extended condolences to the bereaved family. In a social media post, he said, "Late Dada's passing is a great loss to the people of East Kameng."

District Magistrate Capital Complex Itanagar Toko Babu today issued an order that the 12 hour proposed bandh call by Public Right Action Committee (PRAC) tomorrow from 5 am to 5pm as illegal and unlawful. The District Magistrate directed the organizers and all concerned persons to refrain from enforcing, supporting or participating in the proposed bandh and to call off immediately. Any person found violating the order shall be liable for penal action as per the provisions of law.

Meanwhile, PRAC in its list of demands asked for immediate and unconditional release of all individuals detained in connection with Siang Upper Multipurpose Project (SUMP) issue. It also demanded for

proper maintenance, repair and improvement of roads under NH-415, Package-B, immediate construction and operationalization of the Drugs Testing Laboratory (DTL), regular and adequate supply of essential medicines, availability of properly functioning ambulance services and provision of vehicles and adequate fuel for the transportation of deceased persons.

Tawang will celebrate Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav 2026 from 12th to 16th of this month. Regarding it, a coordination meeting was chaired today by Deputy Commissioner Tawang Namgyal Angmo to review preparations and ensure the smooth conduct of the five-day cultural extravaganza. Director, North East Zone Cultural Centre (NEZCC) Alobo Naga briefed the meeting on the day-wise programme and logistical requirements. Altogether 500 artistes, representing all eight Northeastern states and other seven Zonal Cultural Centres under Ministry of Culture, GoI across the country are expected to participate. The district administration is coordinating with all concerned departments to ensure proper arrangements. The festival will also open opportunities for local entrepreneurs, Self-Help Groups (SHGs), artisans and communities.

Superintendent of Police Kamdam Sikom received 'Kendriya Grihmantri Dakshata Padak' conferred by Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India. The medal is given to recognize excellent work, promote high professional standards and boost the morale of concerned official/officer. It is announced on 31st October every year, on the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. Altogether 490 personnel from various States/Union Territories (UTs)/Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs)/Central Police Organisations (CPOs) were awarded with 'Kendriya Grihmantri Dakshata Padak' this year.

The Arunachal Press Club (APC) organised National Press Day Football Tournament-2026 at Mes Que Champions Arena in Naharlagun, as part of its observance of National Press Day. The event aimed to provide a platform for media professionals to come together beyond their professional engagements and strengthen unity and fellowship within the fraternity. APC President Amar Sangno and Arunachal Pradesh Union of Working Journalists (APUWJ) President Dodum Yangfo were also present.