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Snippet

DCM Praises APU Growth

PASIGHAT, JAN 29: Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein attended the Arunachal Pradesh University (APU) Festival on Thursday, marking a nostalgic return to the campus 53 years after his time as a student in 1972.

Reflecting on the “dream-like” transformation of the institution, he contrasted the hardships of his youth such as navigating hanging bridges with the modern facilities available today.

Highlighting the state’s commitment to education, the DCM envisioned APU becoming one of India’s top state-run universities, aligning with the *Viksit Bharat 2047* mission.

Urging students to move beyond the search for limited government jobs, he emphasized skill development and entrepreneurship as the essential pillars for self-reliance and the state’s future progress.

About the APU Post

The APU Post is a daily tabloid published by the Department of Mass Communication. Beyond covering the highlights of the APUFEST, it provides a professional training ground for students and offers the university community a space for critical expression, social debate, and vibrant academic commentary.

CM Khandu Vows ‘Unlimited Growth’ and ‘Top Priority’ for Arunachal’s First State University



PASIGHAT, JAN 29: Chief Minister Pema Khandu today declared that the Arunachal Pradesh University (APU) is a “top priority” for the state government, pledging to transform the nascent institution into a global center of excellence capable of attracting international scholars.

Addressing a massive gathering at the inaugural ceremony of the third APU Festival here today, following his earlier inauguration of the Academic Block-A, the Chief Minister emphasized that his government is taking the state’s first owned university “very seriously.”

To ensure the institution’s long-term viability, Khandu called for an immediate expansion of the current 100-acre campus, urging local administrators and stakeholders to secure additional land to accommodate future infrastructure and facilitate “unlimited growth.”

Addressing critical resource gaps, the Chief Minister assured the academic community that faculty and staff positions would be increased.

He issued direct instructions to the Commissioner of Education to expedite recruitment files and promised the development of dedicated on-campus

accommodation for teachers and staff.

“We are moving into ‘finishing mode’ for current projects,” Khandu stated, noting that while the university’s legislation was passed in 2012, it only became functional under his government’s recent revival efforts.

He shared a vision of APU growing into a premier hub that could soon host student exchange programs with Japanese universities.

Sharing an emotional retrospective, Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein described his visit as a deeply nostalgic homecoming, returning to the campus 53 years after his student days in 1972. Recalling a time of immense hardship—marked by hanging bridges, minimal facilities, and the daily climb of over 300 steps—Mein remarked that the transformation into a modern campus “feels like a dream.”

Having been present during the historic naming of Arunachal Pradesh, the DCM noted that the university’s growth from a jungle-surrounded site to a well-equipped institution reflects a strong political will to strengthen education. Linking the university’s mission to the vision of *Viksit Bharat 2047*

... (Cont. on P-3)

APUSU Seek CM’s Intervention to Bridge APU Facility Gaps

PASIGHAT, JAN 29: The Arunachal Pradesh University Students’ Union (APUSU) has submitted a memorandum to Chief Minister Pema Khandu today during his visit to the campus for the inauguration of the Arunachal Pradesh University Festival (APUFEST).

The student body sought the Chief Minister’s immediate intervention to address critical infrastructure gaps that they claim are severely hampering academic life and administrative efficiency at the institution.

In the memorandum, the union highlighted the pressing need for essential facilities, including a dedicated APUSU office and a reliable water supply system through the installation of borewells and storage tanks.

To improve the campus environment, the students demanded the laying of



paver flooring around the academic block, noting that the area becomes unhealthy and inconvenient for commuters during the monsoon season.

They also proposed the installation of a monument pillar at the National Highway junction near JNC to improve public awareness of the university’s location.

Beyond basic utilities, the union emphasized the necessity of a Students’

Utility Centre equipped with indoor sports facilities for basketball, volleyball, and badminton. Their list of demands further included an open gym, a well-equipped convention hall for academic events, and the construction of sufficient residential quarters to address the acute shortage of faculty and staff accommodation.

The student leaders pointed out that while similar requests were submitted to the Deputy Chief Minister and Education Minister during previous festivals, no tangible progress has been seen despite past assurances.

Expressing hope in the Chief Minister’s presence at the festival, Lenzing Tapak, President of APUSU, urged the state government to prioritize these approvals to ensure that the university can provide a standard of education and welfare conducive to the state’s growth.

The Digital Pandemic of Deception

The digital landscape of Arunachal Pradesh is currently besieged by a more insidious virus than any physical ailment: the rampant surge of Facebook impersonation and financial fraud. In recent months, high-profile officials, public figures, and common citizens alike have fallen victim to a recurring script. Scammers create carbon-copy profiles, harvest personal photos, and then weaponize the victim's reputation to solicit "urgent" financial help from unsuspecting friends and relatives.

This is not merely a technical glitch or a minor nuisance; it is a profound violation of social trust. The audacity of these digital predators relies on the very fabric of our community- our willingness to help one another in times of need. By exploiting this tribal and communal instinct, scammers are turning our empathy into a liability.

Critically, the silence and slow response from both platform moderators and cyber-crime authorities have emboldened these actors. While Meta's Reporting Tools exist on paper, they often feel like shouting into a void, with automated systems failing to distinguish between a genuine account and a predatory clone. Furthermore, the ease with which these scammers disappear into the anonymity of the web points to a desperate need for more localized, aggressive cyber-surveillance in the state.

However, the responsibility also lies with the user. We must cultivate a culture of "digital skepticism." A friend or relative asking for money via a Facebook message should no longer be met with a bank transfer, but with a phone call. We must realize that in the digital age, a profile picture is not proof of identity.

As we move toward a "Smart" and digital future, we must ask ourselves: what value does connectivity hold if it only serves as a highway for extortion? The authorities must treat these impersonations not as isolated pranks, but as serious criminal incursions. Until then, the burden of vigilance remains on us. Trust, but verify or risk becoming the next victim in this digital pandemic.

"We Must Build India Together"



On the occasion of the release of the book "Viksit Bharat@2047", The APU Post (TAP) sat down with one of its authors, Prof. Prakash Chandra Jena, to discuss the roadmap toward a developed India. In this exclusive exchange, Prof. Jena delves into the role of the youth, the integration of rural landscapes like Arunachal Pradesh, and the power of academic expression.

TAP: What served as the primary catalyst for your latest book, Viksit Bharat@2047?

Prof. Jena: The inspiration is rooted in the Prime Minister's vision to transform India into a developed nation by the centenary of its independence. While there are numerous government missions and schemes currently in motion, this book aims to provide a scholarly framework to help fulfill those national objectives and bridge the gap between policy and public understanding.

TAP: From your perspective, which government initiatives are most pivotal in reaching this 2047 milestone?

Prof. Jena: The focus on entrepreneurship and the establishment of specialized departments for skill development are game-changers. However, for "Viksit Bharat" to become a reality, we must move beyond urban centers. We need to empower rural youth, farmers, and women through targeted programs within a strictly stipulated timeframe.

TAP: Every ambitious journey has its hurdles. What do you see as the primary challenges facing India's development?

Prof. Jena: Meeting the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is a monumental task. To navigate

these challenges, we must strengthen our grassroots programs and focus on three vital sectors: the empowerment of our youth, the upliftment of women- who have historically faced systemic gaps- and the robust support of our farming community.

TAP: Given that India boasts a massive demographic dividend, how central is the role of students in this vision?

Prof. Jena: With over 45% of our population in the youth or adolescent bracket, their role is not just important- it is foundational. To fulfill the national dream, the youth must actively engage in diverse development programs that foster holistic personality growth and civic responsibility.

TAP: In a state like Arunachal Pradesh, how can we ensure that remote and rural areas are not left behind in the development race?

Prof. Jena: We must remember that over 70% of India resides in rural areas. To make India truly "developed," we cannot have a lopsided growth model. We must foster collaboration across various sectors to ensure that rural populations have the tools and standards that mirror urban opportunities.

TAP: How does Viksit Bharat@2047 specifically resonate with the academic community at Arunachal Pradesh University?

Prof. Jena: This book is designed as a resource for more than just faculty; it offers critical insights for students, budding entrepreneurs, and policymakers alike. It is intended to encourage students at the grassroots level to see themselves as active participants in India's developmental narrative.

TAP: Finally, what is your message to aspiring young writers and academics who wish to publish their own work?

Prof. Jena: I believe books are a mirror that reflects your deepest thoughts and inner feelings. Many people possess brilliant ideas but struggle to articulate them. Writing is a unique and creative outlet that allows those divergent ideas to take shape. It is the most powerful source we have for reflecting creative solutions to the world.



GTC Pasighat: An Academic Hub at a Crossroads?

By Dengom Panggeng

The Gramsevak Trainng Centre (GTC) area of Pasighat has long been recognized as the primary residential soul of the town's academic community. Strategically positioned within a one-kilometer radius of prestigious institutions like Jawaharlal Nehru College (JNC), Arunachal Pradesh University (APU), and the College of Agriculture (CAU), it serves as a vital home for students from across the region. However, in recent years, the character of this neighborhood has undergone a jarring transformation. What should ideally be a focused academic environment is increasingly being redefined as a nightlife and drinking zone, raising serious concerns about the future of education in the area.

The shift is visible in the local landscape, where the quietude necessary for study has been replaced by the hum of commercial activity that lasts until 5 a.m. The high concentration of wine shops and roasting outlets has given GTC an atmosphere more reminiscent of a commercial bar district than a student residential zone. This easy access to alcohol and the culture of late-night revelry have begun to take a visible toll on the student population. Reports of falling academic standards, deteriorating mental health, and a rise in alcohol-related road accidents among the youth highlight a growing crisis of discipline and safety.

Serious learners, who come to Pasighat with the sole aim of pursuing higher education, now find their routines disrupted by constant noise and an increasingly unsafe environment. There is a glaring irony in the fact that a locality housing so many students lacks basic academic infrastructure like 24-hour libraries, cyber cafes, and affordable study centers, yet is saturated with outlets that promote distraction. The community feels that the time has come for the administration to re-examine its licensing policies for liquor shops in such sensitive zones and strictly regulate operating hours to restore order.

As Pasighat continues to grow as a premier educational hub for Arunachal Pradesh, the transformation of GTC cannot be ignored. Reclaiming this space requires more than just regulation; it requires a commitment to building a student-friendly ecosystem featuring bookstores, healthy food outlets, and regulated housing. The question remains whether GTC will be allowed to continue as a zone of risk and distraction, or if it will be revitalized into a safe, supportive environment that truly reflects the academic aspirations of its residents.

CM Khandu Vows... (Contd from P-1)

Bharat 2047, he urged students to prioritize skill development and entrepreneurship over limited government roles to become truly self-reliant.

Minister for Law, Sports, and Youth Affairs, Kento Jini, also addressed the gathering, confirming the adoption of the Arunachal Pradesh State Youth Policy 2025. He encouraged students to become job creators by utilizing the DeenDayal Upadhyay Swavalamban Yojana, which offers a 40% investment subsidy for startups in sectors like ecotourism and food processing.

Vice-Chancellor Prof. Tomo Riba provided an extensive report on the university's rapid progress within just two and a half years.

He detailed that major structures like the Innovation Centre and main gate are already functional, while the library, hostels, and auditorium are nearing completion. Academically, APU has grown to 11 departments with PhD programs launched in five, and approval has already been granted for nine new departments, including Anthropology, Political Science, and B.Ed. Prof. Riba also highlighted the university's social responsibility through the adoption of Anganwadi centres and 15 TB patients, celebrating the academic success of five students from the first batch who have already cleared the National Eligibility Test (NET).

To mark the university's growing academic and cultural identity, the dignitaries participated in several landmark launches. The Chief Minister released the book 'Viksit Bharat at 2047', co-authored by Dean APU Prof. P.C. Jena, VC Prof. Tomo Riba, and Prof. R.R. Biswal, while the Deputy Chief Minister officially launched 'The APU Post', a daily tabloid newspaper published by the Department of Mass Communication. Adding a touch of institutional pride,

the event also saw the historic first performance of the University Kul-Geet (Anthem), penned by Vice-Chancellor Prof. Tomo Riba and translated by Dr. Ing Perme.

Earlier, the program commenced with a welcome address by Lenzing Tapak, President, APU Students' Union (APUSU). While welcoming the dignitaries to what he described as a "mini Arunachal," Tapak placed a memorandum before the Chief Minister.

The students' demands included the establishment of dedicated basketball, volleyball, and badminton courts, an open gym, and a student utility centre.

He specifically appealed that these projects be funded through independent grants rather than being deducted from the university's existing grant-in-aid to ensure the institution's core academic funding remains untouched.

The union also demanded the urgent construction of sufficient teacher and staff quarters to ensure a stable academic environment.

The event was attended by a high-level delegation including Chief Secretary Manish Kr. Gupta, and a host of legislators including Jike Toko, Tapi Darang, Ninong Ering, Puinyo Apum, Oken Tayeng, Tojir Kadu, and Oni Panyang. Senior officials in attendance included Sonam Chombay, Commissioner to CM, Amjad Tak Commissioner Education, Dr. Dilip Kumar Chutia, GS to CM, and SP Habung Hailyang. Also present were Gumjum Haider, for SIC, the DC and SP of East Siang, local ZPC, members of Pasighat Municipal Council, and representatives from the Adi Bane Kebang (ABK) and Bogo Bango Kebang. Registrar Narmi Darang, COE, DSW, Dean of Faculty, faculties and staffs, and members of APUSU, local Gaon Burahs (GB) and Ponung teams also attended the function.

When Outrage Expires

By Omem Tayeng

Department of Commerce

We live in a time where global crises arrive faster than our ability to process them. A tragedy occurs, voices rise, protests follow, and social media fills with outrage then slowly attention fades. Within days society moves on, leaving unresolved issues behind.

This pattern has become familiar not because people do not care, but because crises no longer come one at a time. In a world overwhelmed by constant suffering, attention has become a limited resource, and justice often runs out before attention does. What once shocked us now feels disturbingly routine.

The deeper concern is not forgetting, but acceptance. When public focus shifts too quickly, accountability weakens. Crimes lose urgency. Voices demanding justice grow softer, not because they lack truth, but because they are drowned out by the next headline. Moving on

Campus Perspectives

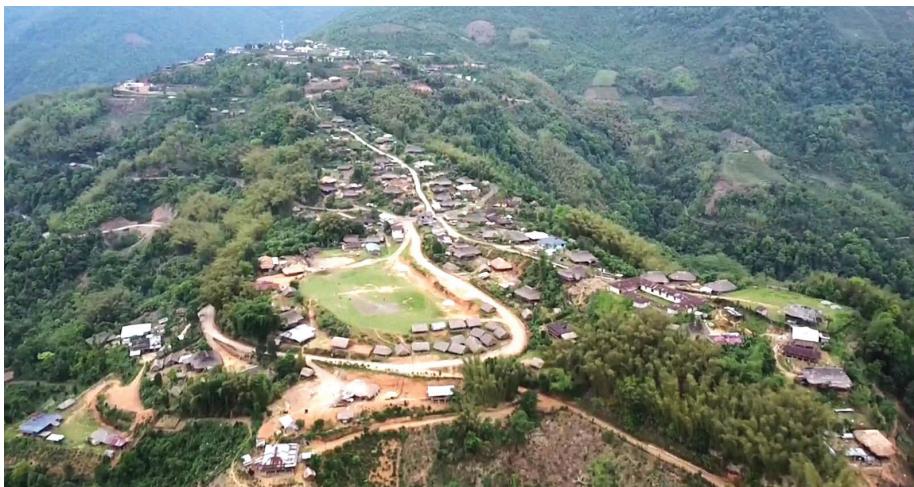
becomes a coping mechanism, but it also becomes a quiet form of surrender.

This creates a dangerous cycle. Issues are acknowledged briefly, emotions peak, and life resumes as usual. Overtime, injustice becomes normalized. The problem is not that society is heartless, but that it is exhausted and exhaustion, when accepted, reshapes our moral limits.

What makes this issue global is its universality. Across cultures and borders, the response is the same: react, express, forget. The speed of information trains us to consume suffering rather than stay with it long enough to demand change.

The challenge today is not finding voices- many exists. The challenge is keeping them alive beyond the moment of outrage. Until society learns to stay with an issue after attention fades, outrage will continue to expire, while the crises themselves remain.

Katan in Digital Darkness: A Crisis Just 57 km from Pasighat



By Kadem Taku & Mingkeng Tamut

Barely an hour's drive from Pasighat, an aspiring "Smart City" and the oldest town in Arunachal Pradesh, lies Katan-an administrative circle in Upper Siang that remains trapped in a state of digital isolation. Despite being surrounded by the scenic beauty of the Yamine River and lush hills, the four major villages of Katan Circle- Sibum, Katan, Jeru, and Pongging- along with neighboring Mopom Circle, exist in a cruel irony of modern development. Although located only 52 to 57 kilometers from a major urban center, thousands of residents here live in complete digital darkness, cut off from the mobile networks and internet facilities that the rest of the country takes for granted.

In an era where governance, education, and livelihoods are inextricably linked to the digital world, this lack of connectivity has devastating consequences for the local youth. For students in Katan, the tools of modern education- online classes, digital textbooks, and scholarship portals remain distant dreams. While their peers in other districts prepare for competitive exams using virtual resources, students here are educationally sidelined. This isolation extends to the economy; without UPI, digital banking, or access to government benefit portals, farmers and small traders are effectively excluded from the national economy, deprived of timely information on everything from market prices to disaster warnings.

The crisis persists despite the presence of established government institutions,

including the Circle Officer's headquarters and departmental offices for PHED and Electricity. In practice, these offices often struggle to function as staff and officers are understandably reluctant to remain at postings where basic communication is non-existent. This has led to a persistent delay in public service delivery, leaving the administrative framework of the region existing more on paper than in practice. The lack of connectivity also stifles the area's immense potential for eco-tourism, as the digital void makes it nearly impossible to promote Katan's natural beauty to the outside world.

The struggle for connectivity has not been silent. For years, youth organizations including the All Sibum Students' Union (ASSU), the Geku Katan Intellectual Youth Forum (GKIYF), and the All Upper Siang District Students' Union (AUSDSU) have led a sustained democratic movement. From meeting the General Manager of BSNL Itanagar and the Secretary of IT to organizing a peaceful foot-march to the district headquarters at Yingkiong, these groups have exhausted every administrative channel. Even with official recommendations from the Deputy Commissioner of Upper Siang to the State Government, the ground reality remains unchanged. If the vision of "Digital India" is to be truly inclusive, regions like Katan must be brought into the light of the 21st century through the urgent installation of mobile towers and stable internet infrastructure.

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