

AUS 6th convocation

We are past you being tomorrow, be job providers, not seekers: Tedir



By Pradeep Kumar
NAMSAL, Apr 08: The Arunachal University of Studies (AUS) conferred PG (270), UG (340), MPhil (4), PhD (6), DSc (1) degrees, including 46 gold medalists during its 6th convocation ceremony here on Friday. The ceremony begun with a procession by would be degree holders, including AUS founders & top faculty members led by chief guest state Education Minister Taba Tedir, to the tune of local drums.

AUS, set up by World Education Mission (WEM) in May 2012 with state Govt approval, has largest infrastructures in the state now, including class rooms, laboratories, library, 82 flats for faculty members and offering over 55 courses to 4,500 students by 204 teachers & 120 non-teaching staff. It would complete 10 years in May next as an emerging university.

Informing that Arunachal's present literary rate stood at 83% and pass out percentage during COVID-19 period (2020-21 session) was 95% against 40 to 50 % in the past, Tedir termed it as a gift of COVID-19. This led to shortage of seats in higher educational institutions for which Pema Khandu Govt had to increase 1,000 seats to meet the need, he informed.

Numerous schools at the door steps of students were opened under Right to Education Act, 2009. However, on realizing 'O' enrolment or poor education quality, Pema Khandu Govt under 5-year and 10-year policy of Mission

Sikshya closed down 400 schools, he said and urged parents, students & school managing committee to play vital role with the state Govt to improve quality of education. The year 2021 was declared 'Year of Education' by the state Govt, he said.

The students used to get promoted from CI-I to CI-X without quality education for which internal examination was introduced in 2021 to detain those who fail. Similarly, pre-board examination for CI-V and CI-VIII was revived to detail those who, said Tedir, who visited AUS for second time.

There are 21 private colleges, 7 private universities, including four functional, one law college & one central varsity (RGU) to offer quality education while competitive spirit rules the state now. Even poor but brilliant students are cracking APSSB & APPSC examinations to get jobs, an initiative of Pema Khandu Govt, he said.

Terming those receive degrees as chief guests and their parents guests of honour of the event, he advised all passed out students to refrain from drug abuse which lead to *narka* (hell), while *swarga* (heaven) awaits for them who study with commitment and discipline with 'sky is the limit' spirit to become job providers in vast agri-horti and other sectors of the state instead of job seekers to win laurels for India, Arunachal & AUS in particular, Tedir said to the thunderous applause of the gathering.

The event saw conferring of D.

Litt. (Honoris Causa) on former state chief information commissioner-cum-educationist Dr Joram Begi; professorship on state's library promoter Satyanrayan Mundayar aka Uncle Musha, a Padma Shri awardee, and D.Sc (Honoris Causa) on Prof Anil Kumer Singh former ICAR director -cum-vice president of National Academy of Agriculture Scientists.

In reciprocation, Dr Begi, who



was guest of honour, recalled that when he took over as higher education director in 1979, there was only JN College in the state. But, he was instrumental in setting up 52 higher educational institutions beginning with DNGC and 9 institutions of varsity status. While many were in pipeline then, there are 62 higher educational institutions including AUS now.

"State's gross enrolment ratio (GER, 18-23 years) was 5 during my initial days against 10 of national. However, when I superannuated, the GER rose to 29.7% against 26.3% of national as per MoHRD data of 1018-19, indicating the state has been doing very well," he said.

Stressing on the New Education Policy, he said that parents always prefer private institutions, like Ox-

ford. Though Oxford had decided to confer DLitt (Honoris Causa) on UK's longest PM Margaret Alva, but it was denied by the managing board. Dr Begi also urged AUS to be responsible and transparent.

"The honour to a grassroots



level worker is recognition to library movement in the state initiated by me as book lover youth had played a vital role after post-independence period. Thus, the youth have a major role to play in this state. Moreover, more books/reading materials should be printed for better understanding and this in a decade could make Arunachal a 100% literate and reading society," Mundayar said.

Arunachal being a biodiversity



hotspot offer ample scopes, Prof Singh told the students and advised them to be proud of being AUS alumni.

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DNGC botany department visits MDC

Training on e-office