

REACH LADAKH BULLETIN

VOL. 8 ISSUE 12 PAGES 8

July 1-15, 2020



In Conversation with

Tsewang Nurbu

5

Fortnightly Special

Fortnight highlights

5

facebook Find us on FACEBOOK: Reach Ladakh

twitter Follow us on twitter: ReachLadakhBulletin

Visit our website: www.reachladakh.com

Brief News

Tribute paid to soldiers martyred in Galwan valley

LEH: Wreath-laying ceremony of soldiers who lost their lives in Galwan valley face-off was performed on June 17 in Leh. The violent face-off between the Indian and Chinese troops at the LAC in Galwan's valley was reported on June 15 and 16 night.

L-G Ladakh, R. K. Mathur said that their sacrifice will not go waste; rather it will strengthen the resolve of Ladakhis and the entire country to protect our borders.

Human-wildlife conflict on the rise in Ladakh

More cases reported this year than last year, says Chief wildlife warden



Wildlife department carrying out dental check-up of the rescued snow leopard.

Stanzin Dasal

LEH: Conflict between humans and wildlife has been on the rise in the past few months. The wildlife department received around nine cases of conflict involving snow leopards. A snow leopard and its cub are reportedly at the rescue center of the department in Skara.

According to the wildlife officials, the snow leopard and two of its cub were found trapped in a corral in Likir village in the last week of March. The snow leopard and the cubs were rescued by the wildlife officials and released into the wild. However, one of the cubs was reportedly found trapped ten days later. The cub was again released after three days' efforts and unified with the mother.

When the same incident happened for the third time, the wildlife department decided to check the health of the snow leopard. Consequently, the wildlife department tracked and caught the snow

leopard and one of its cubs. However, they were unable to track down the other cub.

The snow leopard and the cub were reportedly brought to the rescue centre following which their medical check-up was conducted. During the veterinary check-up, the medical staff found that the snow leopard was malnourished and severely dehydrated. It also had issues with the teeth and a weak pelvic girdle or worms.

Mohammed Sajid Sultan, Chief wildlife warden, UT Ladakh, said, "We took care of both the mother and the cub diligently for almost two months and released them with a radio collar attached to them to track their behaviour and movement. Both the snow leopards were found trapped yet again. Also, we discovered that the mother was weak."

...Continues on Page 3

Govt. lacks clarity on LAC issue, need to speak in unified voice: Jora



Members of the Congress party while paying tribute to the soldiers, who were martyred during the violent faceoff with the Chinese troops in Galwan valley.

Stanzin Dasal

LEH: Ladakh Territorial Congress Committee, President, Nawang Rigzin Jora in a brief address on June 26 said that the government needs to speak in one voice regarding the LAC issue.

Reiterating the Prime Minister address after the all-party meeting held in New Delhi on June 19, Jora said "On one hand the Prime Minister Narendra Modi clarifies that no one has entered inside India's territory and not even an inch of land is under Chinese. While the Defence and External Affairs minister speaks just the opposite. The statement of the officials within the same government contradicts each other".

"We all know that the story of Chinese incursion is true but the denial of the government at the topmost level is not very satisfying. We want the government to take people of the nation under confidence and take a concrete step on LAC standoff."

He further added that whatever decision

or action the government will take to solve the LAC issue by taking the nation into confidence, the congress party will welcome and support it.

"Congress party is firmly committed to stand for the Nation safety, security and integrity", he added.

Emphasis was made on the need to make the nomads of the border areas move freely with their livestock to ancestral pasture or grazing lands. Nomads of the border areas who are dependent on livestock rearing are finding it hard to access their pasture lands. The authorities barred their accessibility and many have lost their lands. Also, he stressed the importance of infrastructural development in the border areas.

Earlier, Members of the District Congress Committee, Leh and Ladakh Territorial Congress Committee paid rich tribute to the twenty Indian army soldiers, who were martyred during the violent faceoff with the Chinese troops in Galwan valley.

DISCLAIMER

Reach Ladakh does not take responsibility for the contents of the Advertisements Display/classified published in this newspaper. The paper does not endorse the same. Readers are requested to verify the contents on their own before acting there upon.

Courtesy Tsetan Angmo



Correction and clarification

It is the policy of 'Reach Ladakh Bulletin' to correct significant errors as soon as possible. Please specify the edition, date, news item or the article.

You can contact at 9858394403 or email at editor@reachladakh.com.

All communication must carry the full postal address and telephone numbers.

REACH LADAKH BULLETIN

Owner, Publisher & Printer: Tundup Dorje

Editor: Stanzin Dasal

Sales & Marketing: Tsering Morup

Layout: Raul Chhokkun

Published at: Reach Ladakh, Skara Yokma, Airport Road, near Councillor Quarter Contact: 9858394403

Printed at: Archana advertising Pvt Ltd. C-78 Okhla Industrial Area Phase I. New Delhi, India 110020

For more online videos subscribe to our YouTube channel 'Reach Ladakh' NOW!



Get the latest news and updates from Ladakh. Don't forget to like, subscribe and click the notification bell.

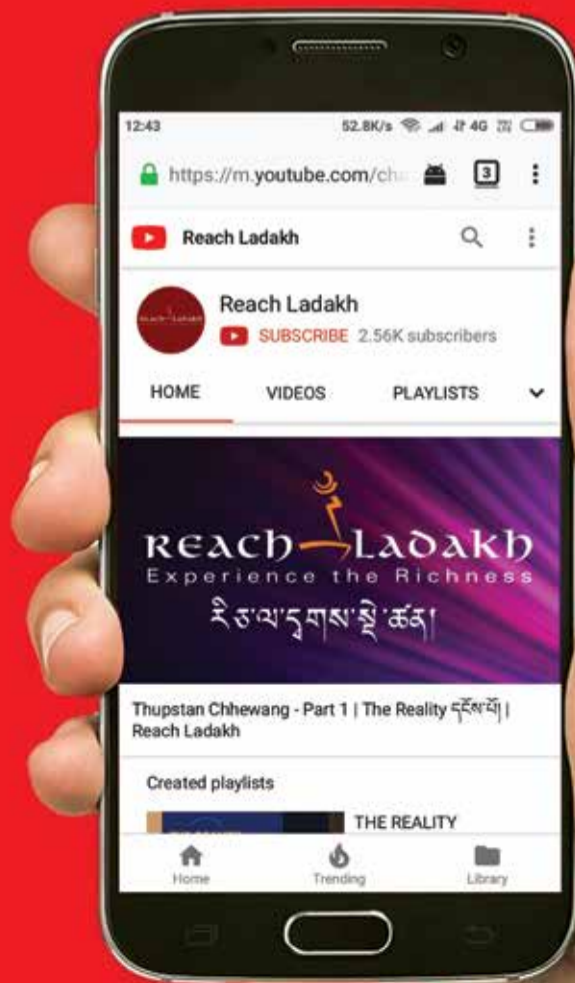


Follow us on: Website: www.reachladakh.com

Facebook: Reach Ladakh

Instagram: reachladakh99

Twitter: ReachLadakhBulletin



After his viral audio clip, former Congress Councillor Zakir Hussain charged with 'sedition'



Members of Bhartiya Janata Party, Leh protesting and burning the effigy of Zakir Hussain outside the party office in Leh.

Stanzin Dasal

LEH: Two people including Councillor, Zakir Hussain was booked under Section 124A, 153A, 153B, 505, and 188 of IPC for spreading false information and incriminating contents. The case was registered under FIR no. 34/2020 at Police station, Kargil on June 19.

The alleged councillor was caught having a telephonic conversation with a friend in which he is heard making a controversial statement related to India-China face-off, which went viral on social media.

Condemning the views expressed, the councillor was suspended from Hill Council, Kargil during an Executive Council meeting convened by CEC, Feroz Ahmed Kargil on June 20. Hill Council Kargil said that it was extremely unfortunate that many are generalizing the views expressed by the said Councillor, maligning the image of the entire Kargil. It was an act of one individual who is being dealt with as per the law of the land.

They further reiterated the unflinching loyalty of the people

of Kargil towards the nation and also emphasized the fact that the people of Kargil need no certificate from any section of media to prove their patriotism.

Zakir Hussain, Councillor of Shakar constituency was a member of a Congress party. Ladakh Territorial Congress Committee, President, Nawang Rigzin Jora suspended the councillor from the post of the spokesperson of Ladakh Territorial Congress Committee and also expelled him from the party.

Jamyang Tsering Namgyal, MP Ladakh expressed strong resentment and alleged congress party for planning a conspiracy to divide the nation. He said that the telephonic conversation of Councillor with a man is questionable and proper investigation should be carried out regarding the matter.

Meanwhile, District Congress Committee, Leh also condemned the viral audio clip. Tsering Namgyal, President, DCC, Leh said that the words used in the conversation is highly objectionable and also hurts the sentiments of people from Ladakh

who are patriotic and dedicated to the nation.

However, an apology letter in the name of Zakir Hussain also came in the public domain, which reads as "An audio clip which is a conversation between me and a friend (who I don't consider a friend anymore) is being circulated on various groups. As it is very obvious from the tone of the conversation that whatever is being exchanged between the two of us is being said in a very casual and a non-serious manner".

It further reads as "I didn't realize it earlier but after having listened to the clip a hundred times I am convinced that it was bait to make me say all those things so that he could use it against me. As a Ladakhi and as an Indian, I have always been proud of my country and our people and I can assure that I will never do such a thing that would bring harm to the motherland".

Anguished over the leaked audio clip, Bhartiya Janata Party Leh protested and burned the effigy of Zakir Hussain outside the party office in Leh.

Stories from Ladakh



By Richa Maheshwari & Athulya Pillai

Back when I was a child, we had a tape recorder at home. I would rewind songs over and over again to write down the lyrics and try to sing along. In our village, we did not have any platform for singers, so on Republic Day and Independence Day, when all the villagers would gather together to celebrate, I would make sure that I had an opportunity to sing. I had that desire within me.

We speak Balti at home, so I only learned Ladakhi when I joined Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya Leh after the 6th standard. Children from different castes and faiths from all around Ladakh were studying in this school. We got to know each other and the atmosphere was such that the barriers that are often created by these differences dissipated. I used to sing a lot in school.

After I joined Delhi University, my seniors encouraged me to participate in everything. At the end of the first year, I started to post covers of old Balti, Ladakhi, and Hindi songs on YouTube.

Around that time, our Rinpoche said that he will produce my first music album. Making a whole album was such a big opportunity for me. The music video, which was made with the help of friends and on an incredibly small budget, went viral.

People living around the world wrote to say how wonderful it was to experience Balti songs in a beautiful way despite being far from home. I even got messages from across the border. They said that although we have been separated for years, listening to my music made them feel like the distance between us had reduced. That made me feel nice because music is universal. It goes beyond any boundaries.

When I started out, there was no internet in Ladakh. But when I went back home, a small boy came up to me in the market and asked me if I was the boy who fell off from his bicycle after seeing a girl. He had seen my music video! I realized that Ladakhi students went back home and shared my work with family and friends. It made me realize that if you work hard, is persistent, and does something with the right intention; it will find its way to people.

I had never imagined that a Ladakhi artist would find so many acceptance. To get so much love from other places, to have people wanting to take selfies with me, these are big things for me. When I started out, many people told me to not sing Ladakhi songs because they thought that the audience would be limited. But when I sing Ladakhi songs in Tibetan communities, Nepali communities, they sing along with me. Like when we sing Despacito. Music has no language.

Storyteller: Faisal Khan Ashoor, Turtuk

Follow storiesfromladakh on Instagram for more such stories.

Leh celebrates 6th International Yoga day



Officials performing yoga at their residence on 6th International yoga day.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: The 6th International Yoga day, themed 'Yoga at home and Yoga with family' was celebrat-

ed with full enthusiasm on June 21.

R K Mathur performed several

yoga asanas at Raj Niwas.

He said that Yoga is the most valuable gift of our ancient tradition and practicing yoga will benefit physical, mental, and spiritual health. He stressed to inculcate the habit of practicing yoga in our daily life.

Yoga enhances personal endurance and it can help in fighting pandemic like COVID-19, he added.

All other officials and leaders including Gyal P Wangyal, CEC, Hill Council, Leh; Executive Councillors; MP, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal, Advisor to LG, Umang Narula; Divisional Commissioner, Saugat Biswas; DC, Leh, Sachin Kumar, district officers, and people performed yoga at their home with families.

The day was also observed at homes with families at all the Sub-divisions of Changthang, Nubra, and Khalitse under the supervision of SDMs.

MP meets Army Chief Gen MM Naravane



MP Ladakh with Chief of Army Staff, GOC-in-C Northern Command, and 14 Corps Commander in Leh.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: In the wake of the current situation at the LAC border, Member of Parliament, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal met Chief of the Army Staff General Manoj Mukund Naravane in Leh on June 23.

GOC in chief, Northern Com-

mand, Lt Gen Y K Joshi and 14 Corps Commander, Lt Gen Harinder Singh was also present during the meeting.

Reaffirming the bravery of the Indian Army, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal expressed his gratitude on behalf of the people of Ladakh on the Indian Army's befitting

response to the Chinese army in the Galwan valley stand-off. He said that "we shall never forget the supreme sacrifice made by our brave soldiers".

He asserted that while people of Ladakh are of peace-loving nature but any threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity will be fought back with equal force. He also added that the people of Ladakh will always stand with the Indian Army.

Discussion on various issues such as civil-military relations, need for the establishment of a dedicated Corp for eastern Ladakh, raising of battalions in Ladakh Scout, development of border infrastructure, free movement of local civilians/nomads within our territory and carrying out of developmental works were carried out.

Advisor visits Nubra Sub-Division

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

NUBRA: Advisor Umang Narula visited Nubra Sub-Division and reviewed the functioning of various departments on June 28.

Sub Divisional Magistrate, Nubra, Sonam Norboo welcomed the Advisor and gave a detailed presentation on the developmental activities and overall functioning of the departments.

Umang Narula reviewed developmental works and various beneficiary oriented schemes being implemented in the sub-division.

He asked the Health Department to submit a proposal for the establishment of I.C.U. at Sub-District Hospital, Diskit, list of required medical equipment like ventilators, oxygen piped beds, CT Scan facilities, etc. He also issued instructions for the establishment of separate COVID Care Centres for the symptomatic and asymptomatic cases.

While reviewing the status of ongoing work of roads and bridges in Nubra Sub Division under various schemes, he was



Umang Narula while interacting with the health functionaries in Nubra valley.

informed that 12 km of roads will be blacktopped this financial year.

During the review of the Forest Department, Umang Narula issued an instruction to plan for extensive large scale Sea Buckthorn plantation under CAMPA, adopting silvicultural practices to reap maximum fruits from this plant which has a huge potential in Ladakh.

The departments were asked to ensure 100% coverage of eligible beneficiaries under various beneficiary oriented schemes. The departments were asked to conduct special drives for identification and inclusion of left out beneficiaries under various

schemes.

Later, Umang Narula visited designated COVID Hospital at TRC Nubra, took stock of the facilities put in place at the hospital, and interacted with the health functionaries. It was informed that all the admitted patients are cured and presently there are no COVID cases in Nubra.

He issued various instructions for augmenting facilities at the COVID hospital and asked the Health Department to submit proposals in this regard. SDM Nubra was asked to organize awareness camps in the villages regarding the precautionary measures to contain the spread of the virus.

EC, Education, conducts meeting on development of Bhoti textbook



EC Education, Konchok Stanzin meeting with Bhoti teachers of Govt. /private schools of Leh district.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: A meeting with Bhoti teachers of Govt. /private schools of Leh district was convened by Konchok Stanzin EC Education, Hill Council, Leh on June 27 at Lotsava Hall, Ladakh Cultural Academy, Leh.

Konchok Stanzin stated that the purpose of the meeting is to amend/alter the Bhoti textbook published by Phethup Khamtsan Educational Society Leh (2014) and to suggest some modifications in the present textbook

published by J&K Board.

Discussion on textbooks published by different institutions and organizations and the adoption of Bhoti textbooks in schools of the district was carried out.

Teachers gave their inputs and shared experiences related to the textbook of Pethup Khamtsan and J&K Board. They suggested colorful printing, contents made according to the class, simple wording with grammar, adding story, history, and science in textbooks to make the Bhoti

subject interesting and attractive for students.

Other major issues such as making Bhoti as UT Ladakh's the official language, creation of Bhoti teacher post, promotion and transfer of Bhoti teachers, the introduction of Bhoti subjects in KV, and JNV schools, revised textbooks, and quality printing textbooks were raised by the teachers during the meeting.

Konchok Stanzin said that all the issues raised by the teachers in the meeting will be taken-up with higher-level authorities and proposed to raise all the issues with UT Administration. He further assured to solve all the genuine demands on priority.

Chief Education Officer, Leh, Tsetan Dorjay; Representative of Pehub Khamtsan Educational Society, Leh, Geshe Thupstan Phuntsok, and Bhoti teachers of govt. /private schools of the district were also present during the meeting.

Human-wildlife conflict on the rise in Ladakh

...Continued from page 1

The snow leopard is currently being treated and taken care of by the wildlife department at the rescue centre.

Sajid Sultan added, "We want the cub to learn survival and hunting skills from its mother. We are waiting for the cub to wean off from its mother and survive of its own in the wild. The mother snow leopard has to be kept in captivity as she is old, weak, and unable to hunt."

However, the department is finding it hard to keep the injured and abandoned animals at the rescue centre due to space constraints despite an increase in the number of poaching cases. Feeding fresh

meat to these animals is also a big challenge for the wildlife department due to the unavailability of meat in winter and early spring.

Therefore, these wild animals are brought back into good health and returned to the wild.

Sajid Sultan shared one of the reasons behind the human-wildlife conflict. "Snow leopards come down in the winter months to hunt for food. Their mating months are February and March during which they don't eat much. Tired and starved, they venture into human settlements and kill livestock for food."

The wildlife department also shared that the human-wildlife conflict is reported to be more this year than the previous year.

Use of plastic banned in government offices, other institutions

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Commissioner Secretary, Finance/GAD department, Ladakh, Rigzin Samphel issued an order regarding a ban on the use of plastic water bottles and other plastic made objects in Government offices and other institutions on June 23.

The order reads as all Government offices/ Boards/ Corporations/ Autonomous bodies/ units/ Educational Institutions/Universities in the Union Territory of Ladakh shall dispense with the use of plastic water bottles in their respective offices and make alternate arrangements for safe drinking water that does not generate plastic waste.

Initiatives and steps are taken to ensure a total ban on the use of plastic bottles, plastic folders and similar plastic made objects by the end of July 2020 in all government offices. Alternative eco-friendly measures are implemented and substitutes made of biodegradable materials be used for all purposes.

Only multi-use water bottles/dispensers/containers will be allowed in Government offices and water bottles of alternative materials like Glass, Steel, Aluminum, etc shall be used.



Educational institutions shall also make efforts in propagating the message of zero litterings of plastic bottles, effective plastic waste management and behavioral change towards dispensing with the use of plastic made products in the student community

The DDOs/Treasury officers shall not entertain/ process bills that reflect expenditure on the use of aforesaid plastic made articles in government offices. Directions in this regard shall also circulate by the head of the departments to all line department/subordinate offices for strict compliance.

The target and the timeline for the phased ban shall be 100% of plastic bottles by 15th July 2020 and 100% of plastic files, folders, etc. by 31st July 2020.

The aforesaid instructions asso-

ciated with dispensing the use of plastic/non-biodegradable products aim towards realization of the long-term goal of "Carbon Neutral Ladakh".

Therefore all the concerned Deputy Commissioners/Directors and Head of the Departments/Organizations/ Boards/Unit and Educational Institutions in Union Territory of Ladakh will take stringent measures ensuring conformity of the above order in letter and spirit.

The implementation of the aforesaid instructions shall be reviewed by the Administration Secretary, General Administration Department/Forest, Ecology and Environment Department on 15th July 2020, for assessment of the steps taken and feedback on the constraints in the implementation of the same.

Divisional Commissioner reviews preparedness for winter stocking



Saugat Biswas, Divisional Commissioner Ladakh chairing the winter stocking meeting.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Meeting of the various departments regarding winter stocking was convened by Saugat Biswas, Divisional Commissioner, Ladakh on June 20.

He sought details from the departments about their current position of stocking, their action plan, and invited requests for the intervention of the administration thereof.

Briefing about the position of the departments of the district, Deputy Commissioner, Kargil

Baseer-ul-Haq Chaudhary gave a detailed account of the issues and requirements of the departments. He stated that efforts will be directed to rejuvenate and strengthen the Cooperative Department, early stocking of fire-woods, procurement of medicines on time with equal attention to the stock the requirement of fodders and medicines for animals, and other issues.

Discussion with various departments of Medical, Forest, Food,

Animal & Sheep Husbandry, Oil Companies, Power as well as private Merchant Association was carried out.

Saugat Biswas directed the departments to float tenders well in time to avoid any delay in ordering as well as the procurement of goods before the closure of the highways. He gave directions to the relevant departments to put up a proposal for construction of FCI godown at Zaskar & Kargil, fair-price shops, granary stores in far-flung areas of Ladakh for the convenience of the general public of the villages where they have to use ponies for commuting and the supply of essential commodities. He also asked them to work on the enhancement of the storage capacity of existing stores.

Medical and all other departments were instructed to float tendering and complete the

procurement of essential medicines, well on time.

He further requested both the DCs that the Power Develop-

ment Departments should complete the paperwork in a week to put in place a stocking facility of diesel at Nubra and Zaskar for DG sets. The department was also instructed to work on the installation of storage tanks in these places. Cooperative Departments were instructed to plan the procurement of fertilizers well in time and directed that tenders for the same be floated as early as possible.

Deputy Commissioner, Leh, Sachin Kumar was requested to enquire about the completion of the Cooperative Cold Storage facility at Agling as early as possible to make it functional for this winter. He was also told to look into the functionality of the new private cold storages in Leh. Additional Registrar Cooperatives, Ladakh was instructed to work out on the modalities for Cold Storage in Kargil and Zaskar with appropriate capacity.

The Merchant Associations, IOCL, and HPCL also submitted their issues and suggestions.

L-G discusses economic development agendas with CII



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Lieutenant Governor R K Mathur discussed eight-point agenda to drive the economic growth of Ladakh during a meeting with (CII), Delhi through video conference on June 23.

The eight-point agenda for growth highlighted Connectivity and Infrastructure, Leveraging Tourism Potential, Harnessing Solar Energy, Agriculture, and Animal Husbandry, Education and Skill Development, Focus on Innovation Based Industries, Delivery of Affordable Healthcare and Sustainable Development.

Nikhil Sawhney, Chairman CII, Northern region said that the formation of the Union Territory is expected to open many avenues for Ladakh's growth and development.

He said, "To accelerate the pace of growth and development in the coming years, which CII feels is achievable, Ladakh has to work in a mission mode and address the challenges which are acting as bottlenecks in its growth."

R K Mathur said that with CII's expertise in economy, knowledge of new thoughts and initiatives can be introduced into Ladakh.

Talking about Connectivity and Infrastructure, he suggested CII speak of the Zojila pass issue at the national level and stressed that the Zojila pass should be a national agenda.

"What the Indian Air Force has been doing for Ladakh is phenomenal. However, 12-month road connectivity would have avoided the problem of a herculean airlift which our forces have been doing since 1947", he said.

Speaking about the dent caused in the tourism sector due to the Pulwama attacks last year and the COVID-19 pandemic this year, he said that the economy of Ladakh has been badly affected as tourism contributes almost 50 % to Ladakh's economy. He stressed on the CII come up with initiatives to enable the tourism industry to handle such outside

influences in the long run.

Talking about non-conventional energy, LG Mathur said that the PM had called for a Carbon-free Ladakh. This must involve the development of hydel and non-conventional energy sectors.

He stated that the Solar Energy Corporation had floated tenders for 5000 MW and 14 MW of solar energy. Despite a repeated extension of the tender; the industry has not been coming forward. He suggested the CII come up with ideas to make sure that the sector gets a kick start.

Addressing the issue of the contractors as put forward by Nawang Thinles, CII, Ladakh, LG Mathur said that the CII can help the local administration to encourage registration of the MSME units. He said that since the region has an army presence that requires maintenance, spares, etc, and if Ladakh can develop these industries, it can be beneficial for everyone.

He further suggested a joint CII and Army conference to identify specific inputs and encourage the development of new entrepreneurial ventures. Also, CII to organise a joint CII-Iceland-UT conference to develop tourism and geothermal energy in Ladakh.

CII assured Lieutenant Governor of looking into all of the suggestions for the economic growth of Ladakh.

Divisional Commissioner assesses disaster preparedness in Ladakh

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: To assess the preparedness of different departments of both the district in handling the natural calamities, a review meeting was convened by Saugat Biswas, Divisional Commissioner/Secretary, Disaster Management, Ladakh on June 26.

Saugat Biswas stressed on the fact of building the infrastructure of each department/entity of Ladakh to empower themselves fully for meeting the various disasters that may strike Ladakh.

He directed various departments to ensure the availability of all equipment and machines in Ladakh and proper placement. The direction was also given for proper maintenance of all the equipment for its application at any given point of time. Also, he asked for proper planning to ensure the de-silting of canals and nallahs for the free flow of water before any emergency.

IGP Ladakh, Satish Khandare suggested decentralized deployment of stocks of SDRF equipment in places nearby police stations, to ensure proper stocking of the machines and equipment. Stress was also given for enhancement of manpower and their training by NDRF for proper hands-on expertise.

Saugat Biswas instructed both the District Magistrates for a decentralized plan for placement



Divisional Commissioner, Saugat Biswas along with official reviewing the disaster preparedness in Ladakh.

of equipment and earmarking of accessible locations for their placement. He then requested the Army/ VIJAYAK/HIMANK to share disaster mapping in road clearance.

The Mechanical Division was instructed to provide a list of required machinery keeping the variant nature of disaster in the form of flash-flood and mud flood, full of mud, sand & stone debris.

Observing the larger number of requirements of machinery and plant equipment by I&FC, Saugat Biswas gave directions to submit a proposal for the requirement of tentage/ manpower/plant equipment/ dozer and others as per the requirements of the department.

Regarding facilitating clean drinking water, the PHE department was directed to identify sites of probable water blockage to provide clean water through water-tankers during the time of

emergency.

The Medical Departments of both the districts were instructed to prepare a list of buildings that can be converted into temporary hospitals in the time of a disaster. Relocation plan of equipment and manpower up to PHC level must also be intimated, he added.

The department demanded helipads and 4-wheeler vehicle for an ambulance.

A power-point presentation titled, 'Past Experiences - future preparedness' was also presented which gave a re-look at the flash-floods/ Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF)/ Landslide Lake Outburst Flood (LLOF) in Ladakh, their impact, losses, failures for future preparedness. It also highlighted various workshops and awareness camps conducted by SDRF/Civil Defense/ Home Guard in the affected areas to aware people about dos and donts during an emergency.

Narula reviews work under languishing projects

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: A review meeting on the progress and status of languishing projects was convened by Advisor, Umang Narula on June 23.

Commissioner Secretary, Rigzin Samphel; Deputy Commissioner Leh, Sachin Kumar Vaishya; District Superintending Engineer Leh, PK Sharma, and Deputy Director Planning, Tsering Angdus were present. Deputy Commissioner Kargil, Baseer-ul-Haq Choudhary, and District Superintending Engineer, Kargil, Vaid Prakash participated through vid-



Advisor Umang Narula reviewing the progress of languishing projects.

eo conference.

DC, Kargil informed that 110 works are sanctioned under the scheme out of which 99 works are under execution. While, DC,

Leh informed that 77 works are sanctioned under the scheme and 72 works are under execution.

Umang Narula instructed Administrative Secretaries to mon-

itor and expedite the execution of these works. He asked them to review the progress of the work at regular intervals. Also, he asked them to ensure all requisite approvals and sanctions be completed by 30th June 2020.

Both the DC's were asked to review the work done liabilities and to ensure that these are processed on time for payments. Also, to identify important projects that can be taken up under the scheme and prioritize the execution of works of helipads under the scheme to improve connectivity to far-flung areas.

Kargil celebrates 6th International Yoga Day



CEC, Hill Council, Kargil, Feroz Ahmed Khan performing yoga at his residence on 6th International Yoga day.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: The 6th International Yoga Day was celebrated with enthusiasm across Kargil district on June 21.

Because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic situation, all the officials, heads of polit-

ical and social organizations, and elected representatives performed yoga at their respective homes with families.

Feroz Ahmed Khan, CEC Kargil highlighted the importance of yoga as a form of exercise in maintaining physical and mental

fitness and to bring harmony between mind and body. He urged people to make it an integral part of their lives.

While highlighting the importance of yoga during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic situation Mubarak Shah Nagvi, EC Works said that it helps in boosting the immunity of the human body to fight with different ailments and people should make it a habit to practice yoga.

Muhammad Ali Chandan, EC Health urged youngsters as well as the elderly people to practice yoga regularly which has a lot of health benefits associated with it including physical and psychological well being.

Baseer ul Haq Choudhary, DC

Kargil said that International Yoga Day is an ideal occasion to reiterate our commitment towards the safeguard and promotion of the intrinsic values of the Indian civilization.

He said that Yoga is the best all-round physical exercise to bring positive changes in the physical and mental development of individuals and need of the hour is to promote yoga among both the younger generation and families.

A video yoga contest was also held among the school children of the district wherein 9 entries were received by the District Administration. A certificate of merit and cash prize of ₹ 3000, 2000, 1500, and 1000 was presented to the top 4 winners.

SoulSpeak

P.P. Wangchuk

Hi, what are you here for?



I wonder quite often, as many of you do, on this issue: What am I here for? And, every time I get lost into thinking over the issue, I get a different reason for my being here. When I look back and 'review' such thoughts, I find that all the 'reasons for being here' are not only valid but also important for a meaningful and purposeful life.

I am sure, if I ask some of you as to what are you here for, many of you may have a quick answer: To be a good human being, loving, caring and helping. Of course, some of you may come out with many other qualities of head and heart but let me tell you that all other human qualities are nothing but derivatives of the three prime qualities of loving, caring and helping.

With these three qualities at your 'command', you tend to do everything that is right, or seem to be right, to have a good and purposeful life.

The point is that you are here with a precious life and a definite mission. Life is successful if one fulfils one's mission that makes living a shade better for all of us, including all sentient beings. It is not that you are here only to 'Khao, pio, esh karo'. Well, there is nothing wrong with the 'Khao-pio-esh-karo' concept, but that alone does not make one's life a fulfilled one.

That is why American author Tony Robbins says that "to have an extraordinary quality of life, you need two skills: The science of achievement and the art of fulfillment."

So, you may ask: What is then the fulfilling thing? When you say life's 'mission accomplished', you mean that you have done certain things that have helped not only you and your family but humanity at large. And that, by and large, is the answer for what are you here for?

Courtesy: WongWorld

The writer is a New Delhi-based Editor-at-large, columnist and professional speaker

In Conversation with Tsewang Nurbu, Agriculture student

Interviewed by Stanzin Dasal

Q. You aspire to become an agro-entrepreneur. Brief us about yourself and how farming interests you?

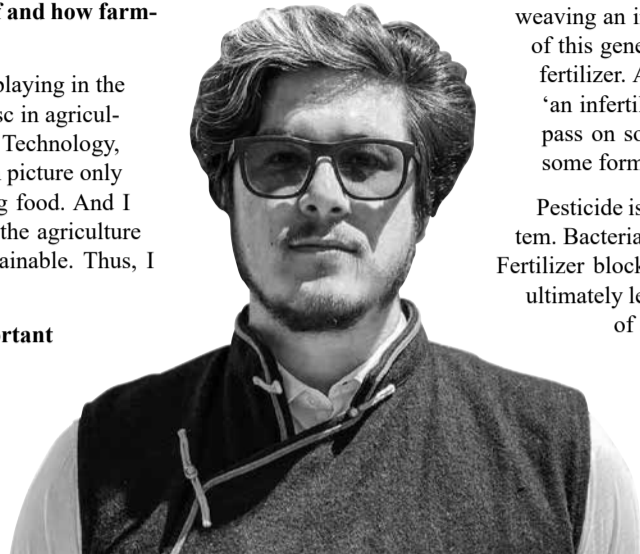
Farming has always been a part of my life since I was a child. I grew up playing in the fields and had an opportunity to discover what agriculture is. I pursued Bsc in agricultural sciences from Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology, Jammu. As agriculture student, when we talk about a sustainable job I can picture only 'agriculture', as I believe people and animals will never stop consuming food. And I always wanted to devote my life to something which is sustainable and the agriculture sector is the one which is both economically and environmentally sustainable. Thus, I choose to become a 'farmer/ agro-entrepreneur'.

Q. Tell us about your initiative of growing Quinoa plant. How important and advantageous is the plant for the region?

It was in 2015 when my cousin asked me about the plant Quinoa I was embarrassed to admit that I am not aware of it despite being an agriculture student. Out of curiosity, I started to explore and learn about it. I researched the plant during the initial days and decided to carry out a field trial in Ladakh, to check whether it's feasible or not? I realized that this magical crop has immense unexplored potential and is well suited for Ladakh's topography and climate. And this is how the plant Quinoa or Chenopodium quinoa became one of the finest and most satisfying experiences of my life.

Quinoa is rich in proteins, fibres, vitamins and minerals, and low on carbohydrates. It is ideal to add more nutrients to our diet along with traditional crops such as wheat, barley, and buckwheat, which have high carbohydrate content. The leafy portions of the plant are rich in iron, which helps prevent anaemia and is an important aspect to treat diseases like scurvy. A soup made from the seeds is known to help prevent tuberculosis. We can use quinoa as a substitute for high carbohydrate crops such as wheat and rice. Quinoa has been globally recognized in the fitness and health sectors for its nutritional properties especially its high protein, fibre, and ash content with comparatively less carbohydrates. This makes it ideal for weight-loss and muscle gain.

In Ladakh, we can use quinoa as a substitute for rice and oatmeal. Quinoa also blends well with healthy bread. Similarly, it can also be added to the soup to increase its nutritional value. The green leaves of the plant can be served as a nutritional salad. Quinoa seeds can also be mixed in local Ladakhi Kulchas (cookies) to make it even more deli-



MESSAGE TO THE READERS

“ Synthetic chemicals do not feed us, but the soil, the water, the sun, the seed, and the farmers do! ”

cious and nutritious. In summers, it can also be added to smoothies to create new tastes and flavours. In addition, farmers can use the other by-products from the plant as fodder for their livestock.

Q. What do you believe is the biggest challenge that farmers of Ladakh are facing today?

The old traditional method of farming was sustainable as there was no use of chemicals such as fertilizer and pesticide which includes herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, molluscicides, and rodenticides. With time, we are witnessing a change in the agriculture method and it's disheartening to see the presence of such toxic chemicals in our soil.

I believe that 'Soil is a living system, with billions of soil organisms

weaving an intricate soil food web to create, maintain, and renew soil fertility'. People of this generation see soil as a dead matter, an empty container for pouring synthetic fertilizer. As said by Sir Albert Howard, the 'father' of modern sustainable farming, 'an infertile soil, that is, one lacking sufficient microbial, fungus, and other life will pass on some form of deficiency to the plant, and such plant, in turn, will pass on some form of deficiency to animals and man'.

Pesticide is non-specific, as only 1% is sprayed on target, rest remains into our ecosystem. Bacteria and earthworms do not survive after the application of chemical fertilizer. Fertilizer blocks the soil capillaries, which supply nutrients and water to plants, which ultimately leads to a reduction in productivity in terms of both yield and nutrition. Lack of awareness is the biggest challenge.

Q. What are the scopes in the agriculture sector and how is it to engage young educated youths in this sector?

There is a misconception that people choose farming only because they are illiterate and many youths see the agriculture sector outdated, unprofitable, and require a lot of hard work. We don't have to limit our-self to only 'farming' when we discuss agriculture sector, there is much more than this, like marketing, transportation, agriculture-clinics, agriculture consultancy, supply of different seeds and other inputs, processing, and packaging units, and many more.

The image of agriculture sector needs to be improved to engage educated youth in this sector. Primary and high school education could include modules on farming, from growing to marketing crops. This could help young people to see agriculture as a potential career. Also, innovative financing for agriculture and small businesses is needed. For example, the provision of soft loans to youth who come up with innovative proposals in agriculture or micro-franchising.

Q. What plans and initiative are needed for sustainable development in Ladakh?

For sustainable development, the adoption of a traditional agriculture system or the organic method is a must. Diversify farming systems, which makes greater use of the biological and genetic potential of plant and animal species. The system will also help in recycling nutrients, by using plants that fix their own nitrogen and helps in achieving a balance between pests and predators, which will reduce reliance on the pesticide. Development of agroforestry is also necessary, which not only helps to maintain soil fertility but to earn more.

Fortnight Highlights



Lieutenant Governor, R. K. Mathur handing over five two-wheeler Scooters along with helmets to be used for Dak purposes in the LG Office, Ladakh Secretariat and DC Office.



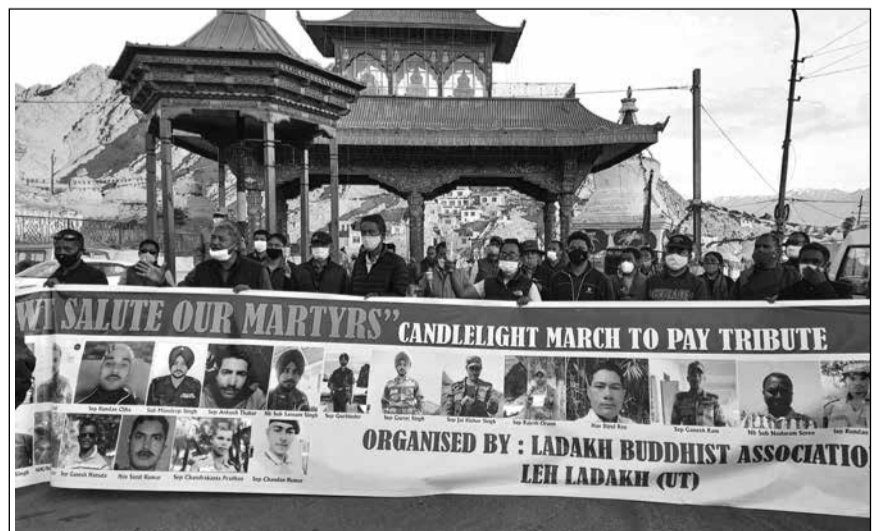
Rescue Operation/ Disaster Management Training Programme organised to the traffic police personnel at Traffic Police Office, Leh for effective mitigation and timely administering of First Aid during disaster like situations and emergencies.



Army chief General MM Naravane interacting with the injured soldiers at Military Hospital, Leh.



Chairman/CEC LAHDC, Leh Gyal P Wangyal along with Deputy Chairman Tsering Sangdup visited Kharyok, Manikhang and Skynoks area of Lower Leh to take stock of the on-going works.



Ladakh Buddhist Association organises candle light march to pay tribute to the 20 soldiers, who were martyred during the violent faceoff with the Chinese troops in Galwan valley.

CEC Wangyal visits Sakti constituency



Gyal P Wangyal, CEC, Hill Council Leh while interacting with the people of Sakti constituency.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

SAKTI: Gyal P Wangyal, CEC, Hill Council visited Sakti constituency and reviewed the ongoing developmental projects on June 23.

He visited Taknak, Hamil, Sharnos, Kangkar, Tagar, Tukchu, Nala, Pue, Chemday Monastery, Yoknos, and Kharu villages of Sakti constituency.

Gyal P Wangyal said that the main objective of his visit is to know public grievances, review the ongoing developmental activities, and to spread the message of COVID-19 precautionary measures to contain the deadly novel Coronavirus in the Chem-Sak belt.

Sarpanch and village representatives submitted a copy of memorandum which includes strengthening of the mobile network to give good access of students for online studies amid COVID19 pandemic, connect Youlsa link road to the main road, release fund of 2016-17 liabilities under MGNREGA, and other demand including up-gradation of MAC, complete house to house survey under Jal Jeevan Mission, replacement of wooden electric poles, etc.

At Tagar, Sarpanch and Nambardar demanded the installation of a mobile tower to improve connectivity where students

don't have access to the internet for online studies, installation of transformers, ice hockey stadium, and early completion of pyong ling-doo circular road.

Regarding mobile towers, Gyal P Wangyal assured to start all paperwork and to complete all the ongoing developmental projects at earliest. He stated that the link road from the market to Lardong will be completed in phase manner and the remaining circular road fund will be kept under SDP. He further requested representatives to identify land for the Ice hockey stadium and Tagar yokma community hall.

Also, he requested people to follow the precautionary measure to contain novel coronavirus.

At Hamil, Sarpanch Sakti and village Nambardar requested the construction of link road from Zarok to Dyang Labrang, Pharka yokma to Hamil, motorable bridge at Tiza, culvert at various location, construction of a new road towards Tsampuk, construction of new separate water tank, installation of hand-pump at Panchayat Ghar & Community hall and replace of a wooden electric pole.

Gyal P Wangyal assured to fulfill all their important demands at the earliest in a phased manner. Concerned officers and engineers were requested to immedi-

ately initiate necessary measures to fulfill people's demand

At Peu, Tukchu, Nala and Gamath and Yoknos mohalla, Sarpanch and Nambardar requested replacement of wooden electric pole, regular supply of drinking water, repair Nala Community hall, blacktopping of Nala-Tukchu road, repair of Sakti-Agyam road, early completion of Patang-Situk road, construction of community hall at Gamath, shifting of the transformer, construction of community hall at Yoknos, shifting of electric HT line, ground leveling, set up of PHC health centre, release funds of 2016-17 liabilities under MGNREGA and construction of culvert at a various location among others.

At Chemday Gonpa, monks headed by Monastery manager requested funds for new construction of public gathering hall and construction of footpath towards the monastery, repairing of Chemday Gonpa road and widening of parking place.

Talking about the water lifting facility already installed at Gonpa, venerable monks requested to replace lifting motor and also demand water supply connections to 'Tashaks' to which CEC gave directions for few central points for easy access to water for the monks. He further gave on-spot directions to the concerned Executive Engineer to look in the matter seriously and assured of redress of the issues in phase manner.

Nambardar Kharu expressed thanks to the CEC and his team for visiting and hearing the grievances of the people of his constituency. Sarpanch and village further demanded construction of community hall at Kharu market, flood protection bund at Sakti nallah from Sakti to Kharu; chain-link fencing for cattle pastureland.

CEC, Kargil, discusses COVID-19 relaxations, restrictions to be imposed after June 30

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: Feroz Ahmed Khan, CEC, Kargil reviewed the status of ongoing lockdown measures and to take further decisions on the continuation of restrictions and relaxations after June 30 in Kargil.

EC Health, Muhammad Ali Chandan; District Magistrate, Baseer ul Haq Choudhary heads of religious organizations, concerned officers of the Administration, doctors, and representatives of Merchants' Association were present in the meeting held on June 29.

Chief Medical Officer, Kargil informed about the details of active positive cases, total patients cured and those in administrative and home isolation and quarantine besides the number of inbound passengers screened at the screening centers so far. He said that 22,505 inbound passengers have been screened so far while 16,592 persons are under home quarantine till now. Out of 701 active cases diagnosed so far, 432 patients have been cured and discharged. There has been no single case of mortality in the district so far with 99% cases reported asymptomatic and the rate of recovery has gone up to 65%.

Meanwhile, the representatives of religious organizations and the members of Merchants' Association put forth their suggestions and recommendations in



CEC, Kargil Feroz Ahmed Khan convening meeting on COVID-19 restriction and relaxation with the officials and stakeholders.

terms of relaxations and restrictions post-June 30, 2020. They urged the authorities to consider relaxations to promote economic activities in the district considering the short working season and other seasonal limitations.

Feroz Ahmed Khan said that the decision concerning continuance and modification of lockdown restrictions and relaxations post-June 30, 2020 will be taken in the best interest of the people. He said that the objective of the lockdown measures would be focused on maintaining a proper balance between economic activities and people's safety amid the COVID-19 pandemic situation.

Talking about the educational institution, he said that there is no plan to open schools and colleges in the district. Online as well as offline video classes are being run to cater to the educational requirements of the student community. He said that the matter about the mass promotion of classes 1st to 9th will be jointly taken up by the LAHDCs of Leh and Kargil with the UT Ad-

ministration Ladakh.

He said that relaxations in terms of resumption of religious gatherings would be taken in a phased manner subject to the ground situation which unfolds in the days to come.

Baseer ul Haq Choudhary said that relaxations during the post-June 30, 2020 period would be given in a controlled and regulated manner, ensuring the safety of people's lives in the times of the Coronavirus pandemic and to carry out economic activities in a regulated manner.

He said that there is no restriction on the engagement of laborers from outside the district for carrying out construction activities provided they follow the 14 days mandatory home quarantine measures in letter and spirit and remain confined to the worksite.

Baseer ul Haq Choudhary said that the containment of COVID-19 in the district has only been made possible due to the coordinated efforts of the various stakeholders.

IGP reviews traffic scenario in Ladakh

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Inspector General of Police, UT Ladakh, Satish Khandare discussed traffic scenarios in Kargil and Leh district on June 29.

SP Traffic Ladakh, Mohd Rafi Giri gave a detailed briefing on the traffic scenario of Leh and Kargil.

Inspector-General of Police Ladakh stressed upon the officers of traffic wing to give their best efforts to streamline the traffic system in Ladakh since Ladakh is a famous tourist destination and a large number of tourists visits the place every year. Sev-



eral proposals and plans were also discussed for the improvement of the traffic system.

He further asked the traffic police officers to gear up for mass awareness campaigns among the general public to instill a sense of responsible driving and traffic discipline among the commut-

ers. He also directed the officials to identify parking places both at Leh and Kargil.

AIG Personnel PHQ, Stanzin Nurboo; AIG Provisions PHQ, Sonam Dechan, and other officers of the Police Headquarters and District Police were present.

EC Chandan discusses installation of Jio towers in Shargole, Chiktan blocks



Muhammad Ali Chandan, EC, Hill Council, Kargil during a meeting with the team of Jio Telecom Company.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: Muhammad Ali Chandan, EC, Hill Council, Kargil discussed the pace of installation of mobile tower work in Chiktan and Shargole constituencies during a meeting with the team of Jio telecom company on June 25.

Former Executive Councilor and Councilor, Hagnis Mohsin Ali were also present in the meeting Team of Jio Telecom Company

and Executive Councilor decided to visit Shargole constituency shortly to select the site for installation of sanctioned towers in the area.

Muhammad Ali Chandan said that he along with the Jio team will also work on identifying the sites for sanction and installation of towers in the leftover villages in Shargole block.

Jio team informed that a tower for Hagnis village is about to be

sanctioned during the next phase and for a tower at Kukshow, the team is conducting its visit within 2 to 3 days to undertake the site selection.

Both the EC and Councilor Hagnis expressed gratitude to Member Parliament, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal for the sanction of a sufficient number of Jio towers in the district. They hoped that the leftover villages will also be included in the future plan.

TENDER NOTICE

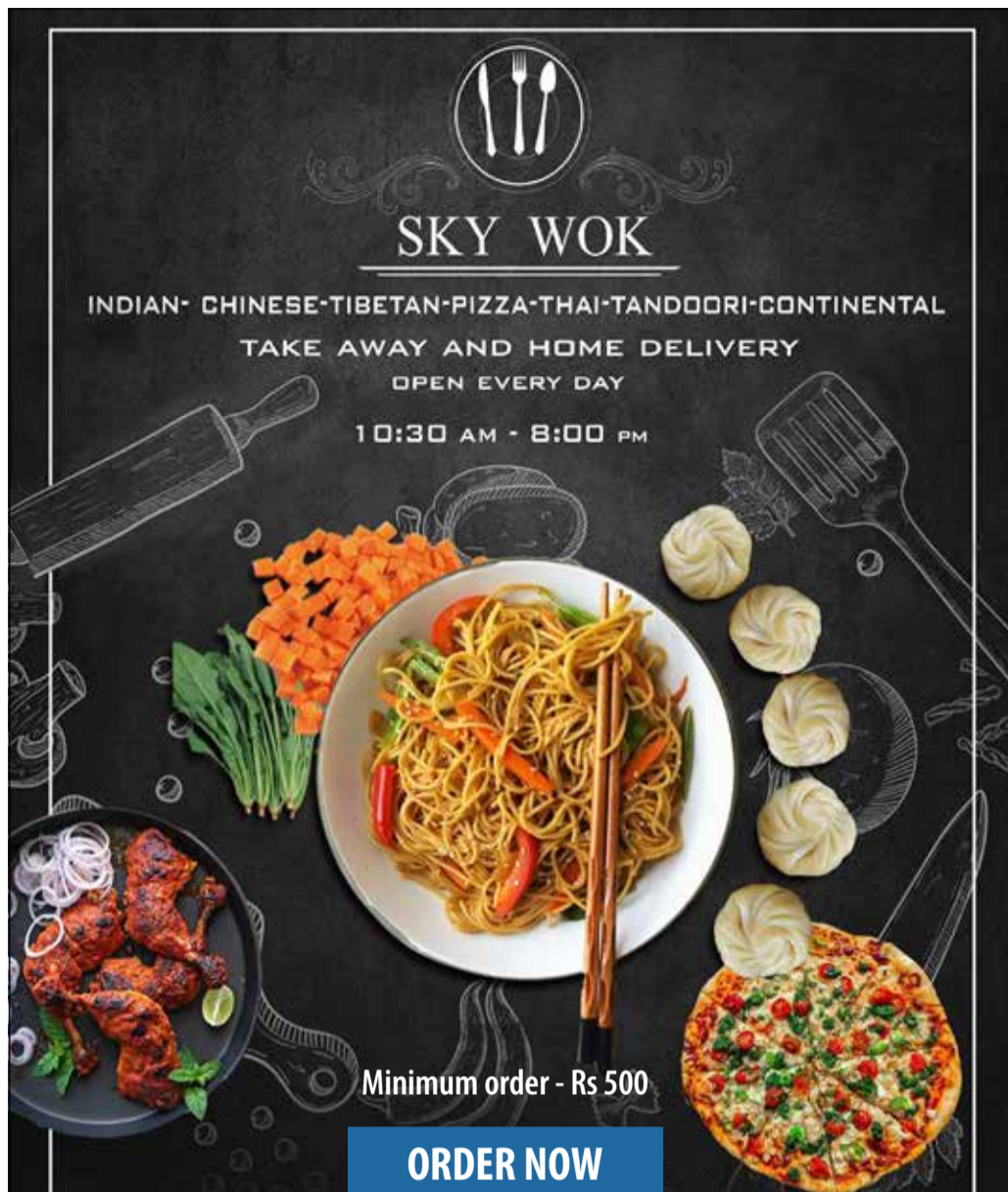
Indian Institute of Astrophysics

Sealed tenders are invited for the renovation of Hanle House at Indian Astronomical Observatory, Hanle, Leh Ladakh Tender Notice No. 35/IIA/CIVIL/IAO-HANLE/2020-21 Dated: 19.06.2020

Detail tender document can be downloaded from Institute's website www.iap.res.in/tenders.htm. Last date of receipt of bid is 20-7-2020 at 1500 hours.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I Tsewang Gyatso S/o Ranjung Dorjay R/ o Korzok, Leh Ladakh has lost my contractor card bearing number "A-478". Now I want to apply for the duplicate card, objection if any may be report to the District Superintending Engineer PWD circle with 7 days from date of the publication of this notice.



SKY WOK
 INDIAN· CHINESE·TIBETAN·PIZZA·THAI·TANDOORI·CONTINENTAL
 TAKE AWAY AND HOME DELIVERY
 OPEN EVERY DAY
 10:30 AM - 8:00 PM

Minimum order - Rs 500

ORDER NOW

Order online at www.gortsa.com or by phone or whatsapp
 8491947039 / 8491947040 / 8491947041
 8491947043 / 8491947044 / 9858394405

We deliver in Leh, Choglamsar, Saboo, Spituk, Spituk Pharka, Palam and Stok.

Handmade Cotton Face Mask

Reusable cotton face mask with adjustable free size strings made by ALTOA in collaboration with PAGIR.

Unlike surgical ones this mask can be washed and reused with minimum impact on the environment and waste.




“Wear a mask” to help fight the Covid19 pandemic.

All profits to benefit PAGIR. Sponsor free masks for frontline workers including Ladakh Police and shopkeepers.

ORDER NOW

One mask ₹ 70
 Set of three ₹ 200

Order online at www.gortsa.com or by phone or whatsapp

8491947039 / 8491947040 / 8491947041
 8491947043 / 8491947044 / 9858394405

Service available in Leh City, Phey, Phyang, Spituk, Saboo, Shey, Thiksey, Stakna, Chushot, Matho, Stok and Spituk Farka. We will deliver Nubra, Sham and Changthang if there is BULK DELIVERY



District Administration Leh
 Union Territory of Ladakh

LAHDC LEH

in collaboration with Ladakh Cooperative Society, FCS & CA Dept., Merchant Association Leh and Overland Escape

Priority delivery for people in home quarantine



Fruits and Vegetables 	Groceries 	Medicine 
Beverages 	Restaurant food 	Stationery 

For orders visit www.gortsa.com or call on
 8491947039 / 8491947040 / 8491947041
 8491947043 / 8491947044 / 9858394405

Service available in Leh City, Phey, Phyang, Spituk, Saboo, Shey, Thiksey, Stakna, Chushot, Matho, Stok and Spituk Farka. We will deliver Nubra, Sham and Changthang if there is BULK DELIVERY

Twitter: @DC_Leh_Official, Facebook: District Administration Leh
 24X7 Control Room : 01982 - 257416, www.leh.nic.in



འོ་ལྷང་ལེ་རྒྱ་འེམ་གཤེན།
OVERLAND ESCAPE
 Adventure With Care for Nature...

AIRFARE AT THE BEST PRICE!

We offer the best possible payable airfare covering both domestic and international destinations.

For booking contact:
 Overland Escape
 Fort Road Office: Raku Complex, Fort Road, Leh Ladakh, 194101 India
 Phone Number: 01982-252108 / 257858,
 Mobile: 8491947052 / 9858394201
 Email: urgain.dolker@overlandescape.com

Members:
  

Recognised by:




GORTSA
AT YOUR DOORSTEP

ORDER NOW!

Priority delivery for people
in home quarantine



Grocery & Staples



Personal care



Home & Kitchen



Biscuits, Snacks & Chocolates



Beverages



Bakery



Household items



Electronics



Fruits & Vegetables



Veg & non-Veg frozen food



Restaurant food



Chemist



Stationery



Buy used



Order online at
www.gortsa.com
or by phone or whatsapp

8491947039

8491947040

8491947041

8491947043

8491947044

9858394405

Service available in Leh City, Phey, Phyang, Spituk, Saboo, Shey, Thiksey, Stakna, Chushot, Matho, Stok and Spituk Farka. We will deliver Nubra, Sham and Changthang if there is BULK DELIVERY

