

REACH LADAKH BULLETIN

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Brief News

District Tuberculosis Forum to spread awareness for better detection, treatment

LEH: District Tuberculosis Forum was convened under the chairmanship of Chief Medical Officer Leh, Dr. Motup Dorjey on August 24 at District TB office Leh.

The forum deliberated on various aspects such as to increase the awareness about TB in the society, the importance of community participation, inter-sectoral coordination, efforts to reduce stigma and discrimination associated with TB, and political and administrative commitments, among others.

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Courtesy Tsetan Angmo



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Veteran BJP, Congress leaders demand inclusion of Ladakh under 6th Schedule

It's time for us to stand united and fight for safeguards, says Thiksey Rinpoche

Stanzin Dasal

LEH: The wind of change is finally blowing in Ladakh after the region became a union territory as veteran political leaders have come together on a common platform to demand constitutional safeguard for Ladakh under Sixth Schedule of the Indian Constitution.

A joint press conference was convened by Thiksey Rinpoche, former MP Rajya Sabha; Thupstan Chhewang, former MP Ladakh, Chering Dorjay and Nawang Rigzin Jora, former ministers of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir, on August 29 at Thiksey.

The leaders expressed their gratitude to the Union Government, especially Prime Minister Narendra Modi, for its bold and historic decision to abrogate Article 370 of the Indian Constitution and granting the status of union territory to Ladakh.

Highlighting the movements of the people of Ladakh to get UT status for the region, the veteran leaders said they were motivated by the desire to regain the self-respect through a system of self-governance to preserve and perpetuate the unique social, cultural, environmental and linguistic heritage for the greater good of the local population and the country as a whole. The demand, according to them, was intended for achieving greater cooperation between the people of Ladakh and the Union Government. They stressed that the conventional approach adopted by the Union Government while granting UT status to Ladakh



Left to right: Nawang Rigzin Jora, Thiksey Rinpoche, Thupstan Chhewang, and Chering Dorjay during the joint press conference at Thiksey.

does not match the struggle of people of Ladakh for the political empowerment of the region based on their aspirations to protect their unique identity.

The leaders also highlighted the growing concerns and fears of the people of Ladakh, and strongly raised the need to carry out a few corrections in the present dispensation. They emphasised on the need to take two important steps without any delay, including a legislative assembly for Ladakh, and empowering both the Hill Councils at Leh and Kargil districts to make necessary legislation and rules for areas under their jurisdiction with elected representatives having the final say with the least bureaucratic interference. Secondly, Ladakh should be included under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution

for which the region is qualified as 95 per cent of the population is tribal. They said that only such Constitutional safeguards would help to achieve the real purpose of becoming a Union Territory.

Thiksey Rinpoche said that Ladakh needs constitutional safeguard under the Sixth Schedule to protect its unique identity, land, culture, job and the environment. His Eminence said that safeguard is needed for both the present and future generation.

"People of Ladakh are well aware of the need to include the region under the Sixth schedule and so far no one has come out and raised voice. There is no point in talking within ourselves, as we have to stand and put our demand strongly. Time has come for us to stand united and raise our voice", Thiksey Rinpoche added.

Thupstan Chhewang informed that the decision to stand and strive for the sixth schedule for Ladakh has been initiated after several meetings and deliberations. He said that the demand has the support of different religious organisations and political parties.

Talking about the domicile law, he said, "It is imperative to inform the government about the aspirations of people before the announcement of the Domicile law for Ladakh, because once it is announced it will be difficult to reconsider it. Domicile law for Ladakh that is similar to J&K is questionable."

Nawang Rigzin Jora and Chering Dorjay also expressed their opinions and stressed on demanding the sixth schedule for Ladakh in a unified manner leaving aside all the differences.

Leh observes 31st Martyrs Day



Former, MP Thupstan Chhewang lighting the butter lamp during the observation of 31st Martyr's day at Memorial park, Skyatsags.

Stanzin Dasal

LEH: Tribute was paid to the martyrs of the 1981 and 1989 agitation during the observation of 31st Martyrs day on August 27 at Memorial Park.

Amidst COVID-19 pandemic, the commemoration ceremony was organised by Ladakh Buddhist Association was made symbolic starting with prayers and a short address by President LBA.

P T Kunzang, President, LBA remembered the sacrifices of the martyrs who laid down their lives demanding Union Territory and Scheduled Tribe status for Ladakh during the 1981 and 1989

agitation. He said that it is because of their sacrifices we got Hill Council and Schedule Tribe certificate, the benefit of which is being availed by the people of Ladakh at all levels.

Nawang Rinchen of Sankar village, Tsering Stobdan of Durbuk, and Tsewang Dorjey of Saboo laid down their lives during the 1989 agitation for Union Territory demand. While Ven. Lobzang Tsondus of the Likir monastery and Tashi Angchuk of Saspol village sacrifice their lives during 1981 agitation, launched to demand the Scheduled Tribe status for

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Youm-e-Ashura observed with solemnity in Ladakh



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Commemorating the supreme sacrifice of Imam Hussain (A.S) and his companion for mankind in the battle of Karbala, Youm-e-Ashura was observed with solemnity on August 30.

Shia Muslims beating their chest and reciting lamentation joined the mourning procession with strict adherence to COVID-19 SOPs put in place by the Administration.

The procession started from Jama Masjid Chutey-Rantak and passing through Leh main market, culminated at Immam Bargha Leh.

Addressing the mourners, Imam Jama Masjid, Leh, Sheikh Abdul Qasim Muttahari spoke about the religious importance of the day. He stressed on promoting unity and harmony in the world and appealed people to pray for early eradication of COVID-19 pandemic from the world.

District Administration Leh made all the

necessary arrangements to ensure strict implementation of measures such as sanitization of places, maintaining social distancing, wearing face masks, and other required measures.

While in Kargil, only 2 processions were taken out this year with a limited number of mourners.

The processions under the banner of Anjuman e Jamiat ul Ulema Isna Ashariya, Kargil (AJUIAK)/ Islamia School Kargil, and Imam Khomeini Memorial Trust (IKMT) after passing through the Main Bazar Kargil culminated at Qatilgah and Hussaini Park Kargil.

Special prayers were also held to free humanity from the deadly COVID-19 pandemic.

Muharram as always is observed with mourning by the Shia Community around the world in remembrance of the sacrifice of Imam Hussain (a.s) and his companions at Karbala.

Ladakh Traffic Police spreads road safety awareness



Ladakh Traffic cops distributing pamphlets to the motorists at Petrol pump chowk.

Stanzin Dasal

LEH: Ladakh Traffic Police distributed pamphlets among the commuters to make them aware of the traffic rules, regulation and new Motor vehicle Amendment Act, 2019 and increased fines.

SP Traffic Ladakh, Mohd Rafi Giri along with DYSP Traffic, Regzin Sandup and DTIs of Leh carried out the awareness drive on August 18 at Petrol Pump Chowk. The awareness campaign will continue for next one week.

The main aim of the campaign is to aware people about the traffic laws and rules to strictly follow

them. Also, the commuters were advised to follow the COVID-19 standard SOPs issued by District Magistrate, Leh and to use face masks to contain the spread of COVID-19.

M R Giri said that the initiative is carried out to make the people aware of the traffic rules and regulation to make smooth traffic system in Ladakh.

“We have to distribute around 5000 pamphlets among the commuters of both Leh and Kargil. The pamphlets have the information of the region, Do’s and Don’ts for the motorist/ pedestrians, new motor Vehicle Amendment Act 2019 and increased

fines and also the important phone numbers in case of any emergency help”, he added.

The new MV Act has enhanced the penalties for not following the traffic and road safety rules. For not wearing a helmet, the fine has increased from ₹100 to ₹1,000, plus a three-month disqualification of license; ₹5,000 for driving without a valid license; ₹1,000 for not wearing a seatbelt. For speeding or racing, the fine has increased from ₹500 to ₹5,000 and for drunken driving from ₹2,000 to ₹10,000. Imprisonment for severe crimes is also included in the Act such as, ₹25,000-fine and three years’ imprisonment if the owner/guardian allows a juvenile to drive a motor vehicle. The juvenile would be tried under Juvenile Justice Act, 2000 and the registration of motor vehicle will be cancelled for a period of 12 months. Using cell phone while driving, ₹ 1000-5000 fine/six to twelve months imprisonment. Also, the vehicle will be seized if driving without RC.

Solid waste management plant starts processing waste in Leh

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Solid Waste Management Plant with a capacity to collect and treat 30 ton per day (TPD) wastes starts processing on August 28 in Leh. The plant received 6.50 tons of garbage collected by MC Leh.

The Solid Waste Management Plant will be run by 100 Kwp Solar Power Plant installed by LREDA.

Gyal P Wangyal, CEC, Hill Council, Leh, and Deputy Chairman, Tsering Sandup inspected the plant on August 27.

Manish Pathak Managing Director and Paras Arora CEO of 3Rmanagement Private Ltd. and other engineers of 3RM briefed CEC and Dy. Chairman about the entire process of waste management at the plant. The engineers of 3RM demonstrated the process of waste segregation unit, shredders, mixer, heater, curing, storage, recycle, landfill, and packing of waste resources to the visiting team.



Gyal P Wangyal, CEC, Hill Council, Leh inspecting the Solid Waste Management Plant.

It was briefed that at present Glass Shredder, High-Density Polyethylene (HDPE) Shredder and Bailer machine components are installed at the plant site and are in running position while as Low-Density Polyethylene (LDPE) Shredder, Paper Shredder Pulp and Briquetting machines are yet to be installed at the plant which is expected to be delivered in mid-September 2020.

Gyal P Wangyal directed Executive Officer, Municipal Committee, Leh A.G. Zargar to ensure the supply of garbage in full capacity at the plant on a daily ba-

sis. He said that after assessing the daily garbage management capacity and efficiency of this new plant for the next about 15 days, Hill Council will decide its inauguration date.

Meanwhile, CEC and Dy. Chairman inspected the Blackhole machine at Bombguard which is being set up there to burn up the garbage.

Looking at the rising environmental issue in the wake of huge accumulation of garbage at Bombguard, the black hole machine will be functional at the earliest.

Leh observes 31st Martyrs day

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residents of Ladakh.

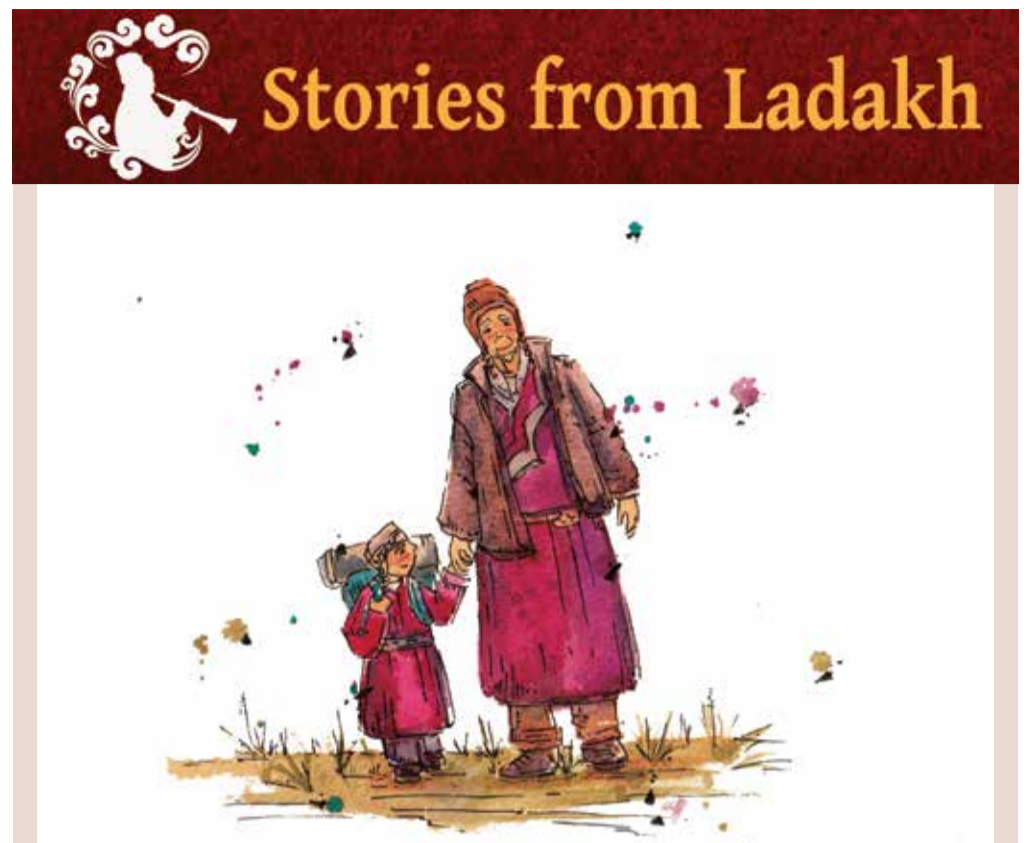
Talking about the declaration of Union Territory status for Ladakh by the Union Government on August 5, PT Kunzang expressed gratitude to the government and the supreme sacrifices made by the people of Ladakh during the UT demand movement.

“There is a rising concern among the people of Ladakh for land, job, environment, culture, and identity which is an issue. Future of Ladakh is bleak, we all need to strive for a constitutional safeguard for Ladakh and I hope that in the coming day’s government will reconsider our demand”, he added.

He stressed on empowering the Hill Council and the importance of studying and brainstorming about the needed safeguards for Ladakh by all the stakeholders.

When asked about LBA stand about the domicile law for Ladakh, PT Kunzang said, “We will not accept the domicile law if it is against the interest of the people of Ladakh. We will protest and demand a constitutional safeguard.”

Former, MP Thupstan Chhewang; CEC, Hill Council, Leh, Gyal P Wangyal; Territorial Congress Committee UT Ladakh President, Nawang Rigzin Jora; Councillors, political party leaders, family members of Nawang Dorjay Stobdan and many others also paid tribute to the heroes of Ladakh.



By Richa Maheshwari & Athulya Pillai

I was in a few different schools, but I kept getting kicked out. I was just roaming around and hanging out. And then, my grandfather was like, let’s go somewhere. I went with him and we ended up at the SECMOL office. There was some kind of selection process happening and my grandfather insisted me to participate. We didn’t tell the selection committee that I had never attended 10th standard. That I had actually dropped out of school in 9th standard. That’s how I got into SECMOL.

When I got to the campus to start classes, I was like, shit! I have to spend another year or so in the hostel. I thought that I was going to just another school. Like all the other schools that I had been kicked out of repeatedly. So, I started to look for a place to escape. The first couple of weeks, I would go up to the hills and devise a plan for leaving. But the route was so long, and my bags were so heavy. Also, the environment at SECMOL was so different.

There were no designations like teachers and students. We were all equal. Everything was a mutual exchange. They considered me a person and not someone who fails all the time. They were like, you are good at this so go and do it. They gave me responsibility and thought me capable of living up to it. I slowly began to like it there. I started to realize that I have interests and that there are things I am talented at. Those books aren’t the only important things. This was life changing.

We worked hard. I was elected as the class coordinator. That gave me such a good feeling within myself. Later, I went on education campaigns to different villages, motivating people to take more responsibility for their own schools. I even worked as tour guide for the school’s sustainable travel company, Around Ladakh with students. Eventually, I worked for the school and became Campus Manager. It’s interesting how I got in, and how many years I ended up spending there.

I am an entrepreneur now. I have a couple of small businesses and they are doing well. I run a place called Ladakh Fine Foods, which is an organic food production unit. I make local products that I sell in Ladakh and supply outside as well. I also make the Himalayan Rocket Stove, a sustainable and ecofriendly heating stove. Everything, whatever I am doing now and all the things I have learnt, that’s SECMOL.

Storyteller: Chozang Namgial, Likir

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L-G Mathur reviews preparedness, action to handle COVID-19 situation



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: With the surge in COVID-19 cases in Ladakh, Lieutenant Governor, R K Mathur reviewed the preparedness and steps to handle the situation in the coming days on August 22.

Stating that a balance must be maintained between the prevailing COVID pandemic and economic activities, Mathur stated that Ladakh must be prepared for any situation.

He directed the Health Secretary to proactively procure a suffi-

cient amount of all essentials items related to COVID-19 on an urgent basis. Also, stressed on requesting the Health Ministry to send in a team of doctors to acquaint the local medical staff of the latest protocols, particularly for treatment policies.

Health Secretary was asked to expedite the setting up of a COVID testing lab in Kargil.

The medical department was directed to conduct extensive tests, ensure prompt results, and increase the capacity of beds in the hospitals. He further stressed on augmenting oxygen supply,

particularly at all sub-divisional Health Centres, especially the areas difficult to access during the winters where oxygen concentrators may also be provided.

R K Mathur stated that the general public has a major part to play in the mitigation of the current situation. He appealed to all citizens to work hand in hand with the administration and adhere to the SOPs given by the UT Administration.

He also directed the district administration to strictly enforce the SOPs

Advisor Narula reviews implementation of Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Advisor Umang Narula reviewed the implementation of Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan on August 25.

He was informed about the action taken by the departments under various components of Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan.

Commissioner Secretary, Rigzin Samphel stated that e- Sanjeevani Tele- Consultation Services has started in Community Health Centre Zanskar, Primary Health Centre Tangtse and Nyoma. Besides, proposals for starting these services at other health centers of remote areas are under consideration.

The Advisor asked the department to put in place a reporting framework to assess the number of teleconsultation being availed by the patients. It was informed that isolation wards and ICU beds are also proposed to be established under the scheme.

Under MGNREGA, 6.61 lakh man-days have been generated till date and durable assets such as ponds, footpaths, and minor irrigation khuls are being created. It was also informed that to boost the production of trout,



Advisor Umang Narula convening the review meeting of Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan.

private trout rearing units, trout feed mills, and mini hatchery units are planned under the Pradhan Mantri Sampada Yojana.

The meeting was informed that the banks under Emergency Credit Line to Businesses/MSMEs have sanctioned 990 cases and disbursed an amount of ₹28.18 crore to the Businesses/MSMEs affected due to COVID 19, to enable them to meet operational requirements and restart the business.

The Advisor reviewed in detail the various components of Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan viz. providing concessional credit under PM KISAN, technology-driven online education, Manodarpan, Insurance Cover to Health Workers, Emergency Credit Line to Businesses/MS-

MEs and One Nation One Ration Card.

He asked the departments to adhere to the timelines in the implementation of the various components of the scheme.

The meeting was attended by Commissioner Secretary, Ajeet Kumar Sahu; Divisional Commissioner, Saugat Biswas; Secretary Ravinder Kumar, Director Rural Development, Tahir Hussain; Director Urban Local Bodies, Moses Kunzang; Director Tourism, Kunzes Angmo, and Additional Deputy Commissioner Leh, Dr. Zahida Bano. Additional Deputy Commissioner Kargil, Tsering Mutup, and Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Kargil, Shabir Hussain joined through video conference.

Senior Congress leader resigns from party

Rigzin Spalbar decides to work to get 6th schedule for Ladakh

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: Senior Congress leader/ Former CEC, Hill Council Leh, Rigzin Spalbar resigned from the party on August 30 to strive for including Ladakh under the Sixth Schedule.

He appreciated and welcomes the coming together of senior leaders from Leh Ladakh under the leadership of Ven. Thiksey Rinpoche and Thupstan Chhewang Former MP's on a common apolitical platform to demand Constitutional Safeguard for Ladakh under the 6th Schedule.

"I am extremely happy, as I've been time and again since November 2019 writing and pleading to various members of



civil society, socio-political and religious leaders/organisations to jointly assume responsibility, on an apolitical basis to come together and collectively work towards ensuring safeguards for the region under the 6th Schedule", he added.

He said that the Constitutional Safeguards such as the Sixth

Schedule of the Constitution allows not only for the region to maintain its distinctiveness as a tribal area but also those values that are required to sustain Ladakh into the future. Moreover, Sixth Schedule also provides the necessary framework through which legitimacy is given to the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Councils to make laws to ensure the preservation and safeguard of its land, culture, and economic aspects, especially relevant in a UT without Legislature.

He further resolved to fully support the decision of senior leaders of Leh Ladakh and volunteer to strengthen the movement under their leadership.

Gyal P Wangyal meets Chief Engineers of Northern Railway

Discuss ongoing survey of Bilaspur-Manali-Leh rail line

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Gyal P Wangyal, CEC, Hill Council, Leh convened a meeting with the Chief Engineers of Northern Railway regarding the ongoing survey of Bilaspur-Manali-Leh Rail Line on August 26 at Council Secretariat.

Construction and Survey Northern Railway, Harpal Singh; Chief Engineer East Central Railway, Alok Kumar along with Deputy Chief Engineer Northern Railway were present.

Gyal P Wangyal welcomed the engineers and said that laying of a railway line for Ladakh will be historic for Ladakhi people. He hoped that under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister



Gyal P Wangyal, CEC, Hill Council, Leh with Chief Engineers of Northern Railway at Council Secretariat.

Narendra Modi, the dream of this lifeline shall become reality within the shortest possible time.

Till the Bilaspur-Leh railway

line is completed, he urged the Chief Engineer to initiate works on an internal railway circuit within Leh connecting Upshi to Phey along the Indus River.

L-G Mathur releases ₹245-cr package for Changthang region

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

NYOMA: Lieutenant Governor, R K Mathur announced ₹245 crore package for Changthang region which includes ₹ 129.50 crore under Changthang package, ₹91.97 crore under Special Development Package and ₹ 23.536 crore under BADP on August 28.

R K Mathur congratulated people of Changthang for the stimulus package designed to cater to the core needs of the pastoral and agro-pastoral communities of Changthang. The financial package will be covering critical infrastructural development, housing, health, education, employment opportunity, telecommunication, energy, sports, livestock essentials, etc.

He thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah, and the central government for extending generous support and concern for the development of Ladakh through such financial packages. He also complimented and appreciated the collective efforts put in by Hill Council, Leh headed by CEC, Gyal P Wangyal, MP Jamyang Tsering Namgyal, UT Administration, and elected village representatives of Changthang in making the dream of this ₹ 245 crore package a reality.

Mathur asserted that be it UT Administration, Hill Council, or village level representatives everyone has a crucial role to ensure effective implementation on the ground. He emphasized on maintaining a close relationship between the administration and the public through public representatives.

He further stressed working together to pave the way for prog-



Lieutenant Governor R K Mathur during his visit to Changthang region.

ress and urged people for cooperation and participation in the development of the Changthang region.

Highlighting the broad objectives of UT Administration, he said, "Our aim is to provide a better life to the people of Changthang and specifically a modern nomadic lifestyle for the nomads."

He raised the possibility of increasing the existing ₹15 crore Pashmina industry to a whopping ₹100 crore industry in the future considering its high potential. He stated that Ladakh's Pashmina shall become world-recognized, assisted with GI tag, technological, and other support. Also, he stressed on producing khadi yarn given its high market value and easy processing without any use of heavy machinery.

Mathur further stressed on making 100% fodder procurement through local society cutting on the dependency for its supply from outside Ladakh. He said that it will generate employment avenues for locals and ensure the

concentration of income within the region.

Talking about the provision of a medical facility at the doorstep, he said that mobile medical units with specialized doctors will be regulated. He informed that in Changthang 3 new doctors have already joined and one more shall join in the near future.

A cheque of ₹3 crore revolving fund in favor of All Pashmina Grower Cooperative Society Changthang was also handed over. R K Mathur informed that efforts are being made to give an additional ₹.5 crore credit facility through the bank. The Administration also dedicated a Veterinary Mobile Ambulance, satellite phone, solar water heaters, etc.

CEC, Gyal P Wangyal; E C, Animal/Sheep Husbandry, Konchok Stanzin; MP Ladakh, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal; Commissioner Secretary, Rigzin Samphel; Additional Secretary Ravinder Kumar; DC, Leh Sachin Kumar Vaishya; Councilors from Changthang, BDC Chairpersons, village representatives, and others were present on the occasion.

CEC reviews ongoing, new projects of tourism sector



Gyal P Wangyal, CEC, Hill Council, Leh convening the meeting regarding tourism sector at Council Secretariat.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Gyal P Wangyal, CEC, Hill Council, Leh reviewed physical and financial progress of all the ongoing and new projects under state and Capex budget in the tourism sector in Leh district on August 20 at Council Secretariat.

Director Tourism, Kunzes Angmo; CEO LDA, Sonam Chosjor; Superintendent Engineer, Tourism, Tashi Chombel; AD Tourism Leh, Jigmet Namgial and Executive Engineer, LDA Abass Mutalib.

Director Tourism and CEO LDA briefed about the status and progress of all the major projects

under Swadesh Darshan, Pilgrim Tourism, and other tourist infrastructure facilities and amenities like Eco-Cultural Park, cafeteria cum toilets blocks on highways, etc in Leh district.

Sonam Chosjor informed that under the conservation of heritage sites and preservation of rock art in Leh district, ₹1 crore each is stands sanctioned for both projects. He said that for the preparation of DPR for the same, architects are deployed at all sites, and with the approval of "Accord of Administrative Approval" (AAA), the tenders will float.

AD Tourism informed that three new trekking routes have been

identified in Leh and DPR for improvement of the same trekking routes is under process. Also, he informed about the ₹85 lakh project at South Pulu with cafeteria cum toilets facilities to make Khardong -La top free from pollution. Other projects reviewed were local toilets at various tourist locations and repair and renovation of tourist Bungalows.

Gyal P Wangyal directed Director Tourism Ladakh, concerned HODs and Engineers to expedite works with the target to achieve maximum expenditure so that Leh district could provide better infrastructure facilities to the tourists visiting Ladakh next year.

Mushroom: Potential farming business in Ladakh



By Sonam Angmo

Mushrooms not just important from nutritional or medicinal point of view but its cultivation also adds additional income and employment to the farmers. Ladakh have a large number of vegetarian people and mushrooms can be one of the main sources of nutrition for them.

The cases of diabetic and anaemic patients are increasing, high cholesterol and coronary health problems are today's main concerns. Mushrooms being a source of high nutrition, including it in regular diet can improve their health and immunity.

Mushrooms are wonderful!

Did you know that there are around 38,000 mushroom varieties? Though all are not edible (poisonous), about 100 of them are edible. Now mushrooms are being cultivated commercially. Mostly cultivated are the White Button mushrooms (*Agaricus bisporus*), Oyster mushrooms (*Pleurotus spp.*), Paddy Straw mushrooms (*Volvariella volvacea*), Shitake (*Lentinula edodes*) and Milky mushrooms (*Calocybe indica*).

Mushroom cultivation is an effective 'bioconversion wastes and woods into potential valuable resources' which is very important contribution to promote sustainable agriculture.

Usually mushrooms are considered to be of low nutritional value and more of epicurean delicacy but that is quite incorrect. As per Chang (1972), mineral salt content in mushrooms is superior to that of meat and fish and twice that of vegetables. While protein content is twice to that of potatoes and asparagus, four times that of tomatoes and carrots, and six times that of oranges. The carbohydrate rate is low and folic acid content is high so it is mainly recommended to the diabetic and anaemic persons. Mushrooms are low in fat content but linoleic acid is in abundant so this can be included in the diets of people having high cholesterol and coronary health problems. Giacomini (1955, 1957) affirms sterols content in most of the mushrooms are high especially Ergosterol (pro-vitamin of VitD2) which plays a vital role in human nutrition, which when gets exposed to UV light causes a chemical reaction that produces Vitamin D2.

My journey of cultivating mushrooms

Mushrooms are so wonderful that my curiosity urged me to do a SWOT Analysis on mushroom cultivation in Ladakh. My analysis gave me more clarity and confidence about why, how and from where



Mushroom cellar constructed on trial basis using local resources.

to start my journey.

I chose Oyster mushroom (*Dhingri*) for my first experiment because its cultivation was already being done in Leh by Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Stakna and few other farmers. Also, its procedure is short and easy and even its spawn (mushroom seeds) is available here at KVK and Agriculture department, Leh. I took a one month training on "Mushroom Cultivation and Spawn Production" at KVK Leh in order to revive what I have learned during my graduation. The training really helped me boost my excitement and passion towards mushroom cultivation.

More about mushrooms

Mushrooms love moisture and heat but not light, which is the main challenge to maintain in the region like Ladakh (Cold and Arid). I constructed a small mushroom trial cellar using leftover materials already available at home such as 'pakbu' (local bricks) and 'tal'u' (willow branches). With the help of one mason and my family, the cellar was built keeping in mind the technique used by KVK Stakna i.e. mushroom cellar just behind a greenhouse to maintain required moisture and temperature.

Cultivation method of Oyster mushroom is very simple. I have used the following materials and procedures:

Materials	Quantity
Straw (I used Barley Straw)	10kg
Spawn	1kg
Formalin	125ml
Bavistin	7.5gm
Water	90lt

Procedure

Substrate preparation: Oyster mushroom can be cultivated on a large number of agro wastes such as cereal straw, sugarcane bagasse, sawdust, dried grasses, discarded newspapers, etc. I have used Barley straw as it is the most common agro waste in Ladakh. Substrate (Barley straw) can be sterilised either by using chemical method (Bavistin and Formalin) or boiling method to eliminate the competitor fungi.

In the chemical method, the straw is soaked in the water with Bavistin and Formalin. It is then kept overnight (10-12hrs) in airtight condition. While in boiling method, sterilisation can be done just by boiling the straw in water for 10-15 minutes. Then in both the methods, the straw is spread on a clean surface so that excess water is drained out. When the straw is left with around 60-70% moisture (few drops should come out when pressed in palm), it is ready for spawning.

Spawning and Inoculation: Spawn is basically the mushroom seed prepared in lab. The method of mixing of spawn with the substrate is known as spawning. This can be done by different methods such as layer spawning and broadcasting. I have found layer spawning more effective than broadcasting in case of oyster mushroom. First small cuts are made on the corners of a polybag for aeration and drainage of excess water. Then spawning is done by placing one layer of straw and one layer of spawn, up to 3-4 layers in the polybag. The bags are closed tightly and around 10-15 holes are made on the bag. Then the bags are kept in the cellar for spawn run.

Crop Management: Oyster mushroom required optimum temperature (22°C to 26°C) and relative humidity (80-85%) for its mycelia growth (Mycelium is the vegetative part of fungus). When the mycelium fully colonise the substrate, it forms a thick mycelial mat which is called spawn run. This indicates its readiness for fruiting. It takes around 20-25 days for complete spawn run if optimum temperature and humidity is maintained. I have observed that even at lower temperature and

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DC, Leh, flags off Fit India Freedom run



Deputy Commissioner Leh, Sachin Kumar Vaishya flagging off one-day Fit India Freedom Run at Main market, Leh

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

Department Leh.

LEH: Deputy Commissioner Leh, Sachin Kumar Vaishya flagged off one-day Fit India Freedom Run on August 29.

The run was organised by District Youth Services & Sports

ADC, Leh, Dr Zahida Bano; Director Tourism, Ladakh Kunzes Angmo; and other District Officers of Leh, along with Everest climbers, Tsering Angmo and Rigzin Dolkar; Athletes like Tsetan Dolkar and other winners of Ladakh Marathon

who represented Ladakh in various marathons of the country also participated in the run.

Fit India Freedom Run is an initiative of Fit India Movement organised from 15th August – 2 October to keep countrymen fit and helps to get freedom from obesity, laziness, stress, anxiety, diseases and others.

The concept of this Freedom Run is that one can run/walk along a route of one's choice at a time that suits him the best. The day is also celebrated as National Sports Day every year to honour the hockey legend, Major Dhyan Chand. The Government of India has decided to celebrate his birthday i.e. August 29, as the National Sports Day since 2012.

It is pertinent to mention that Major Dhyan Chand, the greatest hockey player of India won three Olympic gold medals. At the Berlin Olympic Games in 1936, Dhyan Chand was appointed as the captain of the Indian Hockey team. He had scored more than 400 international goals in his international career from 1926 to 1948. He was awarded Padma Bhushan, the third-highest civilian honour in the year 1956 by the Government of India. Major Dhyan Chand Singh came to be known as 'Wizard of Hockey', worldwide. He was born on August 29, 1905, at Allahabad (now Prayagraj) in Uttar Pradesh. He joined the Indian army as a soldier in 1922.

Kargil Urban Local Body wins 'Best City in Citizen Feedback' award



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: Kargil Urban Local Body was awarded with 'North

Zone - Best City in Citizen Feedback' with a population of 25,000 in Swachh Sarvekshan 2020 on

August 20.

The online award ceremony to announce the winners of the City Sanitation Ranking Survey Swachh Sarvekshan 2020 was organised by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. Hardeep Singh, Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs was the chief guest of the online event.

Moses Kunzang, Mission Director, Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) Ladakh participated in the online event from Ladakh. Executive Officer, Municipal Committee, Kargil, Shafqat Ali

Khan; Nodal Officer SBM Ladakh Stanzin Yougzing; SBM In-charge Kargil, Jafar Ali, and Data Operator SBM,

Mohd Abbas were also present.

In the past year, Ladakh has won awards in various categories. Leh won the 'Cleanest City of North Zone with less than 2 lakh population' in the year 2016. Also, the district won three state-level awards of '1st ODF city in J&K State' in 2018, Best Performance in Swachhta Hi Seva 2018, and Cleanest City Award in Swachh Sarvekshan.

SoulSpeak

P.P. Wangchuk

The books that moved me a lot



I don't have a precise count of the number of books I have read so far. The other day I was lost in pondering over this issue, but could not come out with a 'nearly-correct' number. However, a very rough, conservative figure could be 1000.

Let me admit that I am far from being a voracious reader. I take months to finish reading books that are bulky like *War and Peace* by Leo Tolstoy, *Crime and Punishment* by Fyodor Dostoyevsky, *Shanta Ram* by Gregory David Robert, to give a few examples.

Crime and Punishment by Fyodor Dostoyevsky, *Shanta Ram* by Gregory David Robert, to give a few examples.

Let me also tell you about some of the books that moved me and made a difference in my ways of life. Most of Shakespeare's books, *The Discovery of India* by Jawaharlal Nehru, *My Experiments with Truth* by Mahatma Gandhi, *Train to Pakistan* by Khushwant Singh, *A House for Mr Biswas* by V S Naipaul, *A Passage to England* by Nirad C Chaudhuri, *Gitanjali* by Rabindranath Tagore, *Midnight's Children* by Salman Rushdie, *Small is Beautiful* by E F Shoemaker, *The God of Small Things* by Arundhati Roy, *Siddhartha* by Hermann Hesse, *Critique of Pure Reason* by Immanuel Kant, *The City of Joy* by Dominique Lapiere, and *Oliver Twist* and other novels by Charles Dickens.

If my memory serves me right, *Train to Pakistan* and *The Discovery of India* were the first books that I had read in my life. And I liked them so much that I read them again and again. Even today, during my free moments, I make it a point to have a quick glance through these books.

My interest in *Train to Pakistan* has several reasons. Khushwant Singh was my first Editor at Hindustan Times, and I used to read everything that he wrote. Here was a man who was so open and had no inhibition of any sort, both in his writings as well as in his social life. And, I think, that is why he became hugely famous as a writer. Let us remind ourselves that one of the key 'secrets' of famous writers has been their willingness to bare their souls so 'brutally and honestly'.

And, *The Discovery of India* attracts me because of its being a 'reflection' of real India – its history, culture, philosophy, civilisation and, above all, its simple, honest and hardworking people. It is a complete mirror to the idea of India of the past that we are so proud of.

Books, indeed, are the real agents of the dynamics of life.

Courtesy: WongWorld

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

In Conversation with Yangchen Dolkar, Pilot, Air India

Interviewed by Stanzin Dasal

Q. Tell us about yourself. What drew you to become a pilot?

I studied in Moravian Mission School, Leh till 5th grade thereafter joined Sacred Heart Convent, Dalhousie till class 10th. I passed my Higher Secondary from Delhi Public School, R K Puram, Delhi.

Since I was a child I dreamt of becoming a Doctor. By the time I passed out of school my elder brother who is presently working as a Commander on B777 joined Air India. I got so inspired by him because I use to watch him in his uniform leaving for flights. I was in complete awe and mesmerized by the whole thing. That's when I decided to become a pilot. Without my brother, I think I never would have started a career in aviation.

Presently, I am working as a Commander on the Airbus 320 family with Air India.

Q Share us your aviation journey and the first flying experience

I started my commercial pilot ground training in Mumbai in the year 2006. After clearing my Directorate General Civil Aviation (DGCA) papers and airforce medical, I went to Minnesota, USA for flying training. I was trained on Cessna 172 which is a single-engine propeller plane. During my initial days, I realized that I was meant for flying and blessed to have a very good instructor who encouraged and boost my confidence to learn all the skills.

I got my Solo at an unusually low 8hrs, got my Student Pilot License, and subsequently Private Pilot License. I completed my Instrument Rating (IR). Later on, I flew multi-engine propeller aircraft. I got my American Commercial Pilot License. After obtaining the Indian Commercial Pilot License I gave entrance examination for Air India in 2008. I got through and joined as a trainee Pilot in February 2008.

The first flying experience was incredible. When I first sat on the seat in the cockpit for the first time I felt so surreal. Apart from the excitement, aviation comes with a lot of challenges. We have the responsibility of flying a multi-million dollar flight and the lives of so many people at stake. We have to be competent which is constantly checked and evaluated in a simulator. We are subjected to much possible failure and within a short period, we have to rectify and multi-task. We have absolutely no margin for an error. There is a separate department called flight safety which monitors continuously our flight path through flight data recorder and cockpit voice recorder.



MESSAGE TO THE READERS

“All professions are equally important. We must let our children pursue their passion and give wings to their dreams. Let our future generation shine.”

Q. What it's like working in a male-dominated environment? Being a lady pilot, do you ever have to put an extra effort?

Aviation is a male-dominated sector but fortunately, India has the highest number of women pilots which is very encouraging. Initially, during my training days, I used to think that it will be hard being a woman but things are completely different. We are told, “Once you sit on the seat it doesn't matter whether you are men or women. We have to show our potential and prove ourselves.” There is no gender discrimination and everyone is treated equally. Also, we didn't get any special treatment for being a woman, you get praised and scolded equally as men.

Q. Do you feel that progress and change are needed for women in our society?

As compared to rest other parts of the country, women of Ladakh are very lucky to be born in a place where there is no gender discrimination. Girls are equally encouraged in our society and it is a matter of pride that women of Ladakh are doing great in every field. Even as a homemaker they have their say and grip on the whole family. I just feel that women have to believe in one, encourage each other, and stay determined to overcome all the challenges.

Q. Brief us about various scopes in aviation and how one can pursue a pilot as a career path.

To pursue a pilot as a career path, Maths and Physics are must-have subjects in class 12th. Also, we have to be medically fit and most importantly passing the aptitude test. Once you have the determination, willpower, and hard work there is nothing that can stop you to achieve what you dreamt of.

Also, to all other women aspiring to be pilots, engineers or to work in another capacity in aviation, I wanted to say that we don't need extra qualities to walk along with men. If we know what we want and willing to work hard we can overcome any obstacles.

Q. Brief us about the importance of career guidance or counselling.

Back in the time focus was given solely in getting a government job. Things are different now with so many new career options such as entrepreneurs, designers, architects, etc. Discovering and working hard on our talent and passion is the key to success. I feel that career counseling is very important to steer us in the right direction. It also gives us the opportunity to explore various other fields.

Meeting of Committee for Review of Educational Boards for Schools in Kargil convened



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: EC, Tourism, and Zanskar Affairs, Phuntsog Tashi also Chairman of the Committee for Review of Educational Boards for Schools in Kargil district convened a meeting on August 24.

The committee members emphasized that schools in the Union Territory of Ladakh should be affiliated to a board that can fulfill the realistic needs of the students in every respect according to the natural conditions of the region which affects the academic session.

It was stated that there is a provision in the State Reorganization Bill, 2019 for continuing with the same board i.e; JKBOSE, but since the erstwhile state has been bifurcated into two Union Territories, it would be difficult to manage the administrative affairs of the board. Hence, the committee stated that an alternative plan should be placed in for the future.

The committee members also discussed the tough criteria laid

down by the CBSE for affiliation. Most of the schools cannot fulfill those criteria in real terms. One of the members said that the CBSE norms cannot be affordable for implementation. However, it was suggested that certain aspects from CBSE which may suit the purpose for the establishment of a new board in Ladakh can be adopted.

The establishment of a new territorial board in the form of Ladakh Board of School Education was proposed. However, the exit points for the students presently studying under JKBOSE should remain the same.

It was also suggested that equal representation from both the districts must be ensured during the constitution of the new Ladakh Board of School Educational to make the process more inclusive in the larger interest.

Members of the committee stressed that in case of switching over to a new board, due consideration should be given towards

the inclusion of all stakeholders in the process. Local aspirations and values should be given due space in subjects like Social studies and Literature subjects to make the students aware of the local culture and ethos.

It was also advocated that the curriculum for the new board should be framed according to the time affected by the climatic conditions of the region. Emphasis was also made on the need for constitution of a consultative committee for preparation of road map/proposal

Members of the committee include Former Executive Councillor and Councillor Choskore, Nassir Hussain Munshi; Principal DIET Kargil, Muhammad Ali Bhutto; District Education Planning Officer (DEPO) Kargil, Haji Muhammad Amin; OSD to Director School Education Ladakh and Educationist, Gulzar Hussain Danish besides Educationists Nassiruddin Khafee; Kacho Hassan Khan and Tsering Nurbo.

L-G Mathur convenes departmental review meeting

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Lieutenant Governor, R K Mathur reviewed various administrative departments on August 26 at Raj Niwas

Advisor to LG, Umang Narula; Commissioner Secretary, GAD, A K Sahu; Commissioner Secretary, Rigzin Samphel; Divisional Commissioner Ladakh Saugat Biswas and concerned Head of the Departments attended the meetings.

Regarding School education, R K Mathur stressed strengthening the government schools and ensuring complete coverage of students especially at the border and remote villages in imparting classes on a daily basis by use of technology. He desired to focus on giving maximum benefit to the students by providing required materials, syllabus content, and taking feedbacks.

Civil work plans and conduct of final exams were also discussed during the meeting.

L-G instructed Social Welfare Department to strengthen Anganwadi centres and provide direct benefit transfer to the maximum beneficiaries.

Pertaining to Hospitality and Protocol, he directed the concerned officers to ensure setting up of an office of UT Ladakh in Chandigarh before the onset of the winters. He also asked to consult the two Councils on



L-G Mathur convening departmental review meeting at Raj Niwas.

the early establishment of two Council Bhavans in Delhi.

SE, Mechanical was asked to ensure procurement of snow clearance machinery before winter this year and to provide adequate central heating system during winters and stand by oxygen plants in the districts of Leh and Kargil.

Discussing PHE Department, he directed prompt due payments to the contractors, clearing off existing liabilities in any head, avoid creating liabilities in the future, and expediting allotment of contracts. The department was directed to work out plans to ensure drinking water through tanker supply (where required) in winters. Also, to address the issues related to the Igoo-Phey canal to increase its utility and also to develop innovative multiple technology-based irrigation systems in tandem with the existing local practices.

Rural Development Department was asked to strengthen the elect-

ed representative bodies through capacity building and other training. He directed the Department for immediate fulfillment of the requirements of BDCs and Panchayats, execute works under MGNREGA through convergence and to promote rural areas livelihood schemes focusing the lean winter period.

Agriculture Department was directed to achieve the set annual targets under MODI and greenhouse projects by March 2021 and to start mapping a new pilot project for the next season targeting high return and value addition aspects.

Transport Department was directed to constitute a Road Safety Council, fix high-security number plates, plan proposal to introduce e-buses, e-rickshaw, e-cycles in the main town of Leh and Kargil to decongest traffic, improve public transport system and to address the issues on the introduction of the new vehicle models in Ladakh.

EC Chandan discusses measures to boost Agriculture sector in Kargil district



Agriculture sector meeting convened by EC Agriculture, Muhammad Ali Chandan with the senior scientists and scientists of Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Kargil.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: EC Agriculture, Muhammad Ali Chandan convened a meeting with the senior scientists and scientists of Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Kargil and Zanskar on August 25.

Discussion was held on various

measures to boost the agriculture sector of Kargil district

Muhammad Ali Chandan asked the scientists about the measures being taken up by both the KVKs towards farmer's awareness and extension of technical knowledge and inputs for aug-

mentation of the agriculture sector in the district.

Senior Scientists gave detailed presentations about the ongoing activities of the KVKs and suggested some major issues to be taken up in the future for the upliftment of the Agriculture sector for the betterment of farmers.

He directed the scientists to organize awareness camps at the village level to enlighten the general public about various Government schemes so that the farmers will be benefitted.

He also expressed his consent to conduct a meeting with the officers of Agriculture and allied departments and scientists of both the KVKs in the 2nd week of September 2020.

Balti poet Imdad Hussain Imdad passes away

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: Balti poet and former Publication Assistant, Ladakh Academy of Art, Culture and Languages Kargil, Imdad Hussain Imdad passed away on August 27.

Writers, poets, and intellectuals of Kargil and Leh paid rich tributes to the deceased soul and expressed immense grief. They said that the death of Imdad Hussain is a great loss to Balti language and literature.



Recalling his literary contributions the writers, poets, and intellectuals stated that the deceased has rendered notable services as

a poet for promotion and preservation of the vernacular languages and literature and his contributions will be remembered in all times to come.

Ladakh Academy of Art, Culture and Languages, Kargil and Leh, literary and cultural organizations as well as poets and writers of Balti, Shina Dardi and Purgi languages expressed their sympathies with the bereaved family in this hour of grief and prayed for peace to the departed soul.

Mushroom: Potential farming business in Ladakh

...Continued from page 4

humidity spawn run occurs but takes longer time than at optimum level.

During the fruiting period sufficient ventilation is needed for air circulation along with optimum temperature and humidity. Pinhead formation takes place after full spawn run occurs which later turns into the fruiting bodies. The fruiting bodies are ready to harvest in 7-10 days after pinhead formation. They are harvested while the edges of the mushroom are still curled down.

After harvesting, Oyster mushroom can be stored for 2-3 days at normal room temperature without deterioration. They can also be sundried and stored for 4-6 months successfully without losing its original properties. For Ladakhi people this can be a nutritious diet especially during winter months. Although optimum temperature and humidity is needed for maximum production, but growing it in cooler climate like Ladakh there is less chances of contamination compared to the hotter climate.

Value addition of mushroom seems essential due to its short shelf life, especially when it is marketed to longer distances. Mushrooms continue to grow, respire and mature after harvesting which causes opening of veil, loss of weight and later leads to browning and microbial spoilage. This is a loss from both quality and economic point of view. Such losses can be reduced by harvesting and marketing the mushrooms without delay. Another option is to prepare various value-added mushroom products like mushroom pickle, powder, toast, snack, ketchup, candy, etc. Though, I haven't tried anything yet but that's one of my main objectives for coming years.

Mushroom growers in Ladakh have wonderful future because there is a high demand of mushroom while the production is quite low here. Even if we exclude the demands of tourists and army, demands of local people are quite high.

(The writer is an agripreneur based in Leh-Ladakh. She is a student of Agricultural Science holding Master Degree in Agri-Biotechnology. You can send your views and comment at sonamangmoликir@gmail.com)

PUBLIC NOTICE

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Chairperson BDC Nyoma meets L-G



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Nyoma block development council (BDC) chairperson, Urgain Chodon met R K Mathur, Lieutenant Governor with various issues of Nyoma block on

August 26 at Raj Niwas.

A copy of memorandum highlighting various demands including the new bridge at Loma Band, road from Dungti to Demchok, fencing provision for the nomads

of Nyoma to protect their pasture lands, open the region for tourism, provision to construct houses for the homeless, need of polycarbonate greenhouse and reservation for border people in job and issuance of Actual Line of Control certificate to the people of Nyoma block.

R K Mathur assured to look into the matters.

Photo Caption: Nyoma block development council (BDC) chairperson, Urgain Chodon with R K Mathur, Lieutenant Governor at Raj Niwas.

Scientific Advisory Committee meeting of KVK Nyoma held

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: Scientific Advisory Committee meeting of Krishi Vigyan Kendra Nyoma (Leh-II) headed by Vice-Chancellor SKUAST-K, Prof Nazir Ahmad convened through video conferencing on August 27.

Last year's progress report/action taken and action plan for the

upcoming year of KVK Nyoma was discussed in detail. The participants gave their inputs and valuable suggestions regarding animal husbandry, vegetable cultivation, food preservation, fodder cultivation among others.

EC Agriculture, Phuntsog Stanzin; Director Extension SKUAST-K, Prof. Mushtak Ahmad; head of the departments,

representatives of line departments of Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, CAZRI-RRS Leh, HMAARI-SKUAST-K Leh, KVK Leh & Kargil and scientific staff of KVK Nyoma were also present.

The programme was presented by Programme Coordinator KVK, Nyoma, Dr. Jigmet Yangchan.

Commissioner Secretary, EC Chandan explore tourism scopes in Shargole Block

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: Commissioner Secretary, Tourism Rigzin Samphel along with Executive Councillor, Muhammad Ali Chandan explored the possibilities for promotion and augmentation of the tourism sector in Shargole Block on August 20.

They visited tourism and heritage potential sites in the area including, Shargole Gompa, Serjing Shagaran, Karamba Khar, Serdang Rgaldanchey Gompa, Rgyal Gompa, Wakha Khar, Graveyard of Babur Khan (Wakha Cho) and other locations. Also, they visited the proposed site for the construction of the airport at Wakha, the construction site of Primary Health Center (PHC), Shargole, and discussed the work progress under various schemes.



Commissioner Secretary, Rigzin Samphel during his visit to Shargole block, Kargil district.

Muhammad Ali Chandan discussed the urgent need of helipad to promote the Tourism Sector in Shargole Block with the Commissioner Secretary.

Rigzin Samphel assured that the Tourism Department, UT Ladakh will make all possible efforts to promote and uplift the tourism sector in the area. He urged the EC to submit a detailed proposal to the

UT Administration regarding the construction of a helipad and other major projects for the upliftment of tourism sector in Shargole Block so that the proposals could be approved and necessary funds are released accordingly.

Various public delegations also met the EC and the Commissioner Secretary and put forth their grievances and demands.

IGP meets CEC, Kargil; discuss various issues



Inspector General of Police, Ladakh, S S Khandare with Feroz Ahmad Khan, CEC, Hill Council, Kargil, and SSP Dr. Vinod Kumar.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: Inspector General of Police, Ladakh, S S Khandare discussed various issues with Feroz Ahmad Khan, CEC, Hill Council, Kargil on August 23 at Council Secretariat

Discussion was held on recruitment of Police personnel in UT Ladakh, creation of Police Sub Division, up-gradation of Police Stations, creation and establish-

ment of Police Training School with sports facilities, the temporary establishment of IGP Office at Kargil, construction of Police Residential Quarters at Kargil and other related issues.

SSP Kargil, Dr. Vinod Kumar, and other concerned officers also attended the meeting.

Satish Khandare assured CEC Kargil that active consideration

would be given to all these issues and steps for fulfillment would be taken up in a phased manner.

He informed that 800 vacant posts in Ladakh Police will be filled up once the Government notifies the Domicile Law. Besides, the IGP Office in Kargil will be set up in a temporary building until a permanent infrastructure is established.

He also said that the Police Public School Kargil will be established as a model school with hostel facilities for both boys and girl students.

Meanwhile, Feroz Ahmed Khan expressed gratitude to the IGP Ladakh for exemplary cooperation with the District Administration Kargil ensuring deployment of adequate manpower during this COVID-19 pandemic.



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