

REACH LADAKH BULLETIN

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April 16-30, 2021



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Hill Council, Leh, approves ₹ 207.42 crore District Plan for 2021-22

Passes resolution on exemption of funds up to ₹ 5 lakh from tendering process



During the two-day General Council Meeting of the 6th LAHDC Leh at Council Secretariat.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Hill Council, Leh approved ₹ 207.42 crores for the District Plan of LAHDC Leh under the Capex Budget of the year 2021-22 on April 9.

The two-day General Council Meeting of the 6th LAHDC Leh was held under the Chairmanship of Advocate Tashi Gyalson, Chairman/CEC, LAHDC, Leh on April 8-9 at Council Secretariat.

The House discussed department-wise allocated budget, which includes Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Wildlife, Tourism, Education, Employment, Power, Health, CAPD, Roads & Buildings, Culture, U&R Development, PHE, NFB, and Labour Welfare department. A sum of ₹195.54 Crores under Major Works, ₹ 9.12 Crores under Machinery & Equipment, and ₹ 2.76 Crores under Motor Vehicles has been allocated for the financial year 2021-22 in the District Plan of LAHDC Leh.

All the Councillors of LAHDC Leh sought answers to their queries during

the question hour to the concerned Executive Councillors (EC) holding different portfolios. They also raised their concerns over several issues.

The House unanimously passed a resolution on the exemption of funds under different schemes up to ₹ 5 Lakh from tendering process.

This year's budget focuses mainly on the completion of the ongoing/spillover works. Only a few new schemes have been considered keeping the urgency of the public demand in mind. Funds for three new departments, including Antiquities, Culture, and Libraries, have been proposed this time. Funds for the clearance of the liabilities of previous works under various schemes have been earmarked. A new scheme- Housing for Poor- has been proposed to construct a Housing Colony for the poor houseless families in Leh town. The Councillor Constituency Development Fund (CCDF) has been fixed at ₹ 60.00Lakhs

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LAHDC, Kargil, approves ₹ 207.43 crore Annual District Plan



General Council Meeting of LAHDC Kargil convened by Feroz Ahmad Khan, Chairman/CEC, LAHDC, Kargil.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: General Council Meeting of LAHDC Kargil was held under the Chairmanship of Feroz Ahmad Khan, Chairman/CEC, LAHDC, Kargil on April 7 at Conference Hall Baroo.

Hill Council, Kargil approved ₹ 207.43crore for the District Plan of LAHDC Kargil under the Capex Budget of the year 2021-22. The budget comprises ₹ 187 crore 86 lakh under Major Works, ₹ 16 crore 35 lakh under Machinery and Equipment, and ₹ 3 crore 22 lakh under Motor Vehicles.

Deputy Commissioner and CEO, LAHDC, Kargil, Santosh Sukhadeve gave a brief presentation of physical and financial achievements registered during the last financial year. He said that out of the amount of ₹232 crore 42 lakh allotted, an amount of ₹181 crore 96 lakh was spent on the implementation of various developmental schemes and welfare programmes in the district which represents 78.29% of the released allocation. He further informed that most of the civil works stand tendered and allotted and work will be kick-started as soon as the

budget is released.

Addressing the meeting, Feroz Ahmed Khan said that the major focus of LAHDC, Kargil will be the completion of works that are nearing completion besides completing all ongoing works in different sectors. He directed all sectoral officers to start the development works in the right earnest besides pacing them up keeping in view the short working season.

Threadbare discussions and deliberations were held on the draft annual plan budget wherein members put forth their suggestions and several important decisions were also taken up regarding the implementation of schemes on the ground.

Resolutions on CAPEX Budget and funds meant for other centrally sponsored schemes to be made non-lapsable and carried over to the next fiscal for effective utilization and completion of works, to bring Special Development Package (SDP) under the purview of the LAHDC, execution of works under

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DC Balasaheb Suse inspects COVID-19 screening point in Upshi



Deputy Commissioner, Leh, Shrikant Balasaheb Suse along with officials during the inspection of COVID-19 screening point, Upshi.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

UPSHI: Deputy Commissioner, Leh, Shrikant Balasaheb Suse inspected the Covid-19 screening point in Upshi on April 10.

Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM), Kharu block; Additional Superintending of Police (ASP), Leh and Block Medical

Officer (BMO), Kharu, and officials from BRO/GREF were also present.

Shrikant Suse took stock of the arrangements for the screening and testing of the passengers arriving in Ladakh from Manali by road. He directed SDM Kharu to establish a quarantine centre

at Upshi with necessary facilities for isolating people who test Covid positive during the Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) at the Upshi screening point.

The SDM was also asked to ensure elaborate arrangements for strict monitoring of all inbound passengers and making adequate arrangements for the boarding and lodging of the staff deployed on duty. ASP Leh was asked to deploy additional manpower for the same purpose.

Representatives from BRO/GREF were instructed to ensure that it is mandatory for labourers engaged by them for various works in Ladakh to bring negative RT PCR reports. They were also asked to sensitize labourers on following COVID guidelines before deploying them to different places.

Government Cluster School, Skagam, raises hope of reviving closed government school



Tenzin Dajon

ZANSKAR: The 4th foundation day of Government Cluster School was celebrated with great enthusiasm on April 10 at Skagam village, Zanskar.

SDM Zanskar, Sonam Dorjay was the chief guest, while, Padma Shree awardee Chultrim Chonjor was the Guest of honour. ZEO Zanskar Tsetan Kunchok was the special guest.

The success story of Government Cluster School Skagam is a new ray of hope to revive government schools in Zanskar. The school was established on April 9, 2018, by merging three least-roll government schools of Skagam, Bakarsey, and Hamling. Today, the school has set a

successful model to impart quality education in the region by raising the student enrollment to 63 from 10 students.

SDM Zanskar appreciated the teachers for their efforts in increasing student enrollment in Government schools. He also stressed the teachers to be punctual and dedicated towards one's duty for further success of the school and students.

He hoped that the cluster school will achieve the best results in the coming years as government schools have well-qualified and experienced teachers.

Head Master Lobzang Tashi applauded the education department and founding members for merging three least-roll schools

as a cluster. He said that the school has achieved great success after adopting it as a cluster school.

Tundup Wangyal, one of the founding members of the school said, "The main purpose of merging the schools was to make the government schools effective so that students from the region could get quality and regular education. We noticed that there were schools in each village but the schools were on the verge of shutting down as there were very few students. Private schools have no say in the region and therefore the possibility of success of cluster schools was high. Therefore we convinced parents and villagers. Later, students from other villages also started joining the schools."

Advisor Junu Tsogspa on behalf of parents and villagers expressed the need for more qualified teachers, computer lab and emphasised the importance of Eklavya Model Residential School at Skagam so that more students can be accommodated from the region.

A colourful cultural programme was also presented by the students, parents, and villagers.

LAHDC, Kargil, approves ₹ 207.43 crore Annual District Plan

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CCDF up to ₹5 lakh based on a resolution passed by the target beneficiaries, round the year availability of Directors in the directorates created for Kargil to ensure effective resolution of public issues besides establishment of proper official and residential infrastructure for these directorates, provision of funds to meet drought emergencies and natural disasters under the un-tied funds were passed.

Other resolutions passed includes framing recruitment rules separately for District Cadre, Divisional Cadre, and UT Cadre and immediate filling up of the vacant posts in different departments through the concerned recruiting agencies. Also, the resolution for the introduction of sustainable and efficient

energy building models towards Carbon Neutral Ladakh by designing and constructing all future Government buildings in the district by passive solar principles and elements of local architecture and building materials was passed.

While urging the officers to effectively implement development schemes on the ground for better results, CEC said that the role of the implementing agencies is of prime importance to ensure completion of public welfare schemes in a time-bound manner and the targets set are achieved in full. He said that utmost care should also be taken to ensure that funds earmarked are properly utilized for the particular scheme and strict adherence of formalities is ensured to meet the requisite quality and quantity parameters.

ALTOA demands amendment in new trekking, tourist routes order

The order states that tourist/trekkers are not allowed to have night stay on all new routes



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: All Ladakh Tour Operator Association raised the need for amendment in the approval of new tourist and trekking routes and re-opening of Man -Merak - Chushul - Tsagala - Tsaga - Loma - Nyoma - Mahe & Chamser - Lungser Peak.

The members of ALTOA met Jamyang Tsering Namgyal MP Ladakh on April 6 and informed that Hanle was open for Tourism and overnight stays, but after the MHA issued a press note on the opening of new tourist and trekking routes in Ladakh on December 18, 2018, everything changed. They stated that the Government has issued this approval letter with an impractical clause that disallowed night

stays.

"Hanle which was earlier open for overnight stays became a day excursion itinerary. This has greatly impacted the employment and economic prospects of the people living in this border region of Ladakh and impacted the tourism potential of Ladakh", said ALTOA President.

The Govt. of India has officially declared four new trekking routes and 5 tourist routes without allowing night stays. The order states that a night stay is not allowed to ensure safety and security. ALTOA questions that how can a person trek from Point A to Point B without staying overnight?

They requested MP Ladakh to

address their concerns with the MHA so that they can amend the order and allow night stays.

ALTOA also informed that the DC office has started giving permits till Merak only. But the road connection from Pangong to Tsomoriri and Tsokar lake is a sought-after road journey by domestic and foreign tourists alike. The Maan -Merak - Chushul - Tsagala - Tsaga - Loma - Nyoma - Mahe was open for Tourism but was closed in 2020 due to the Indo-China standoff.

"Now that the Indo-China standoff has deescalated, we request the Government to open this circuit for the promotion of tourism which will also promote border tourism in the region", ALTOA added.

They further requested to open Chamser & Lungser peaks which were earlier open for domestic & foreign trekkers. Since 2015 the areas have been restricted by the Indian Army & ITBP.

ALTOA said that the early amendment on this issue will boost employment and the economic benefits will reach the far-flung border regions of Ladakh.

Hill Council, Leh, bids farewell to Commissioner-Secretary Rigzin Samphel

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Hill Council, Leh accorded warm farewell to the outgoing Commissioner Secretary, UT Ladakh, Rigzin Samphel (IAS) on April 6 at Grand Dragon Hotel, Leh.

Chairman/Chief Executive Councillor, LAHDC Leh, Advocate Tashi Gyalson appreciated the selfless contribution of the outgoing Commissioner Secretary, especially in laying the foundation for the newly established Union Territory of Ladakh. He highlighted that Rigzin Samphel has been a jewel for Ladakh and has left a lasting impression on the people of Ladakh.

Commissioner Secretary, Rigzin Samphel shared his working experience. He appreciated the coordination between LAHDC, Leh, and the UT Administration during his tenure. He also shared that it was a dream come true for him to work for the people of Ladakh.



He also highlighted that LAHDC is a premier institution and the public representatives of LAHDC have a big responsibility on their shoulders to work for the people of Ladakh. He expressed his hope to see Ladakh prospering in the future.

MP Ladakh, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal expressed his gratitude to Commissioner Secretary Rigzin Samphel and stated that he was an impactful bureaucrat, and the Ladakhi people would never forget his contribution in all the sectors.

Opposition leader, Tsering

Namgyal stated that Commissioner Secretary Rigzin Samphel is truly a son of Ladakh, and the people of Ladakh would never forget his selfless contribution to the betterment of Ladakh.

Dy. Chairman, Tsering Angchuk; DC/CEO LAHDC Leh, Shrikant Balasaheb Suse; Executive Councillor, Tashi Namgyal Yakzee, Ghulam Mehdi Ashoor, and Stanzin Chosphe; Leader of Opposition, Tsering Namgyal, and Councillors of LAHDC Leh expressed their gratitude to Rigzin Samphel, for his valuable contribution for the benefit of the people of Ladakh during his tenure.

UPSC Civil Service Examination to be held in Leh too

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: District Commissioner (DC), Leh, Shrikant Suse reviewed the preparedness for the upcoming Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) Civil Service Examination (CSE) in Leh.

UPSC has allocated a centre at Leh for the first time for the civil service examination to be held on June 27.

Additional Deputy Commission-

er (ADC), Leh, Sonam Chosjor, shared that a total of 465 candidates have opted for Leh as the centre for the UPSC CSE exams 2021.

Eliezer Joldan Memorial (EJM) Degree College and Central Institute of Buddhist Studies (CIBS) are the centers for UPSC CSE. Principal, EJM Degree College, and Director CIBS are the venue supervisors. DC Leh would be the custodian-cum-co-

ordinating supervisor and Deputy Director, Employment, Leh, Rigzin Spalgon and Assistant Secretary, JK BOSE, Leh, Tashi Tundup have been appointed Local Inspecting Officers.

Sonam Chosjor shared that UPSC officials would soon be arriving in Leh to sensitize and train the concerned officials on conducting the UPSC examination in Leh.

L-G Mathur stresses on developing localised textbooks for schools in Ladakh



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

NEW DELHI: Lieutenant Governor, R K Mathur discussed the need to develop localized study materials for schools in Ladakh with Shridar Srivastava, In-charge Director, National Council of Educational Research and

Training on April 3 at Ladakh Bhawan, New Delhi.

As suggested by Dir. NCERT, L-G agreed to send the first group of teams from Ladakh to work in collaboration with NCERT to localize the existing textbooks and to create more local content,

including content development in locally approved languages. He added that independent teams would also work on authentication of the texts created by the first group of teams. The first developments of textbooks may be up to the primary class level.

Shridar Srivastava informed LG about the availability of e-content of NCERT materials through QR Code that can be made available offline to the students. He also suggested utilizing services of community radio and Doordarshan for education dissemination in far-flung areas of Ladakh.

UT Ladakh signs MoU with Solar Energy Corporation of India for 50 MW SPP

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: UT Administration, LAHDC Leh, and Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI Ltd) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on April 6 for setting up a 50 MW solar power project at Taru, Leh.

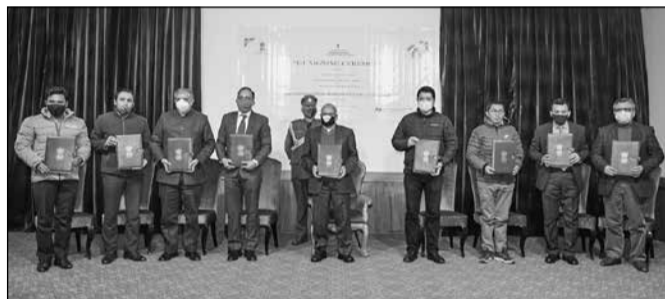
The three parties signed MoU in presence of the Lieutenant Governor Ladakh, R K Mathur. CEC, LAHDC Leh, Advocate Tashi Gyalson; Member of Parliament, Ladakh, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal; CMD SECI, Jatinder Nath Swain; Advisor to LG, Umang Narula; Secretary, PDD & NRE, Ravinder Kumar and Deputy Commissioner Leh, Shrikant Balasaheb Suse were present.

L-G Mathur lauded SECI for taking the initiative of setting up a reasonably large project of 50 MW and contributing to meet the power needs of Ladakh by using clean solar energy. He informed that similar projects are in discussion with SECI which would lead Ladakh closer to attaining the vision of a carbon-neutral state.

He added that these projects would also play a crucial role in contributing to the economic growth of Ladakh.

He also stressed that Ladakh's potential to produce 33GW renewable energy could play a huge role in taking Ladakh on the path of carbon neutrality by reducing and eliminating the dependency on fossil fuels for generating power.

LG Mathur appreciated the participation of LAHDC Leh and MP Ladakh, Jamyang Tsering



During the signing of Memorandum of Understanding for setting up a 50 MW solar power project.

Namgyal for their efforts to help the initiative succeed.

LG Mathur also informed about a pilot project being discussed with SECI to meet the energy requirement for heating and electricity to the Sonam Norboo Memorial Hospital in Leh by using clean hydrogen energy.

Terming the MoU as a historic new start for UT Ladakh, Chief Executive Councillor, LAHDC Leh, Tashi Gyalson shared that the MoU is the result of prolonged deliberations with SECI to make it beneficial for the locals under the guidance of Lieutenant Governor, UT Ladakh. He added that the project was initiated to make Ladakh economically self-reliant by providing new employment opportunities for Ladakhi people.

MP Ladakh, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal, expressed his hope that the tripartite MoU would be a great step towards fulfilling PM Modi's vision to make Ladakh a carbon-neutral region. He shared that this step would help generate employment opportunities for locals and fulfill the aspirations of the people of Ladakh. This MoU is a step towards making Ladakh self-reliant in

the energy/power sector. He also requested the UT Administration and LAHDC to further extend such solar projects to meet the needs of schools and hospitals at all levels.

Secretary, PDD & NRE, Ravinder Kumar shared that Ladakh can produce 33 GW of power, including 26 GW of solar power. He said that Ladakh has surplus power in the summer while there is a power deficit in the winter. He said that the project would reduce the dependency of Ladakh on the Northern Grid.

Speaking during the event, CMD SECI, Jatinder Nath Swain, described the MoU as a significant moment for the organisation. He shared that the MoU with UT Ladakh of 50 MW solar power is designed to produce 16MW power at a constant rate for 14 to 16 hours which would go a long way in securing energy independence for the region. He also highlighted that the MoU would open up avenues and will act as a test-bed for other developers and corporations, both private and public, to invest in Ladakh to tap the enormous potential of renewable energy in the form of solar and wind.

discussions throughout the session. He thanked all the district officers led by DC/CEO LAHDC Leh, Shrikant Balasaheb Suse, for actively participating in the discussion and drafting of the budget for the people of Leh district during the General Council Meeting.

Chairman LAHDC Leh also inaugurated a Councillor Common Room in the Assembly Hall complex of LAHDC Leh during the General Council meeting. The room with library and other necessary facilities would act as a common workstation for the LAHDC Leh Councillors.

One-day farmer awareness programme held at Chemday

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

CHEMDAY: A one-day farmer awareness programme on organic farming was organised by the Department of Agriculture, Leh as a part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav on April 9 at Chemday Community Hall, Kharu block.

Chief Guest of the occasion, Secretary, Agriculture/ Horticulture, UT Ladakh, Ravinder Kumar requested the farmers to adopt organic farming to sell their produce at a higher price. He also urged them to avail benefits of the greenhouses by cultivating varieties of vegetables.

He shared that implementing the Mission Organic Development Initiative (MODI) scheme to turn Ladakh into a certified organic region by 2025 is the major step taken by UT Ladakh.

Secretary Ravinder informed that UT Administration is attempting to reduce the region's dependency on imports during the winter months for vegetables and become self-sufficient. He also highlighted the problems of depleting water resources and requested everyone to follow and adopt water conservation technologies such as mulching, sprinklers, and drip irrigation.



Secretary, Agriculture/ Horticulture, UT Ladakh, Ravinder Kumar addressing the gathering during one-day farmer awareness programme.

Chief Agriculture Officer, Leh, Tashi Tsetan, who is the Mission Director Organic Farming highlighted the achievements and the services provided by the department to the farmers. He urged the farmers to adopt organic farming practices as a sustainable means of livelihood and income generation. He also shared his views on maintaining proper health and hygiene through the consumption of organic produce.

To achieve the goal of promoting organic farming in the Leh district, he sought the cooperation of the farmers and other allied sectors, including Animal and Sheep Husbandry.

He shared that the Agriculture Department in collaboration with the Animal and Sheep Husbandry is making efforts to revive the

Charzi and Barzi practices.

Chairperson, Block Development Council, Kharu, Deachen Dorjay highlighted the grievances including the need to increase the quantity of peas (matar) seeds distributed in the block since Sakti village is the largest producer of peas in Ladakh. He also requested a horticulture office in Kharu block.

Sub-divisional Agricultural Officer (SDAO), Leh, Shakeel-ur-Rehman spoke about the importance of soil nutrients management and water conservation through mulching technology.

Sarpanch, Kunzang Yangdol, officers of the department, and farmers of Chemday and Kharu villages headed by their nambardars were present during the event.

Training on Government Process Reengineering commences



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Training on Government Process Reengineering was commenced for the officers of UT Ladakh in collaboration with the National Institute for Smart Governance (NISG) by the Information Technology Department, Ladakh on April 10.

The department aims to take forward the vision of the Digital India Initiative of Govt. of India and also to ensure faster, efficient, and effective delivery of government services in UT Ladakh.

The training is being organised to enhance the current skill sets of the officers of UT Ladakh through the proposed training programmes conducted by NISG.

The main objective of the programme is to familiarise the participants with a range of concepts, practices, and examples of how government process re-engineering, optimization, and application of ICT in an optimized process environment can be undertaken by government organizations.

The broad areas covered under the programme include Digital India, MMPs, IT Policy, eGovernance evolution, e-governance lifecycle, service quality, developing a vision statement and service prioritization, process maps, collecting data for process mapping, government process analysis, implementation of re-engineered processes and change management.

It will enhance operational efficiency in administration and service delivery, improve citizen focus and experience, minimize process complexity, cost, and service delivery time, increase transparency levels and reduce administrative burden.

The training was attended by Administrative Secretaries, Deputy Commissioner, Kargil, and Head of the Departments, and other senior officers of UT Ladakh.

DDMA Chairman reviews Covid-19 testing and surveillance arrangements

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Chairman, District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA), Leh, Shrikant Balasaheb Suse reviewed various arrangements made for Covid-19 testing and surveillance with the district surveillance staff on April 12 at the DC Conference Hall.

DDMA Chairman directed the officials to strictly enforce the Covid-19 testing and surveillance mechanisms in the wake of the increasing number of Covid-19 cases in Leh district. He exhorted the officers to take strict action against violators and adherence to the Covid-19 safety protocols in all isolation and quarantine centers effectively. He also impressed upon the village surveillance teams to increase their vigilance regarding the Covid-19 cases.

In-charge Covid Surveillance Officer, Leh was asked to prepare a format for the submission of daily reports of surveillance tasks and share them



among the surveillance enforcers.

Balasaheb Suse urged the officials to carry out their duties diligently and cautiously and sensitize the locals about following the Covid Appropriate Behaviour (CAB).

State Surveillance Officer; Incharge Covid Surveillance Officer, Leh; members of the District Covid Surveillance team attended the meeting.

Hill Council, Leh, approves ₹ 207.42 crore District Plan for 2021-22

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for Major works and ₹.10.00lacs for Machinery and Equipment. From this year onwards, a Councillor can identify subsidy-related activities in his/her constituency for an amount of ₹ 30.00 Lakh.

Chairman, Tashi Gyalson in his concluding note, extended his gratitude to all the Councillors for their active participation during the two-day long general council meeting. He appreciated the Opposition Councillors for playing a good role in the House by conducting healthy and constructive

In Conversation with Lobzang Visuddha, Chairman, WCBCL

Interviewed by Tenzin Dajon

Q. Tell us about yourself and how your interest in wildlife developed?

In the year 2011, I met Rajneesh Suvarna, a bird watcher who came to Ladakh to watch bird species of Ladakh. It was a new thing for me to see people coming from different parts of the world to see birds and mammals of Ladakh. That was a turning point in my life and the reason which attracted and forced me to explore the field. I started birding with some of my friends, right with the house sparrow. Gradually, I gained more and more interest to explore and study the different species of birds found in Ladakh. Also, having a Buddhist study as educational background, helped me a lot to be a nature lover.

After getting more and more interest in wildlife, many started approaching me for wildlife guide, especially birding guide. Thus, I realized that there are a need and scope of professional wildlife guides in Ladakh, and to cater the need we (WCBCL) started imparting basic birding guide and nature guide training to many youths of Ladakh. There is still a huge demand for local professional nature guides in Ladakh, with complete and comprehensive knowledge of wildlife.

Q. How many species of birds are found in Ladakh and any new species recorded recently?

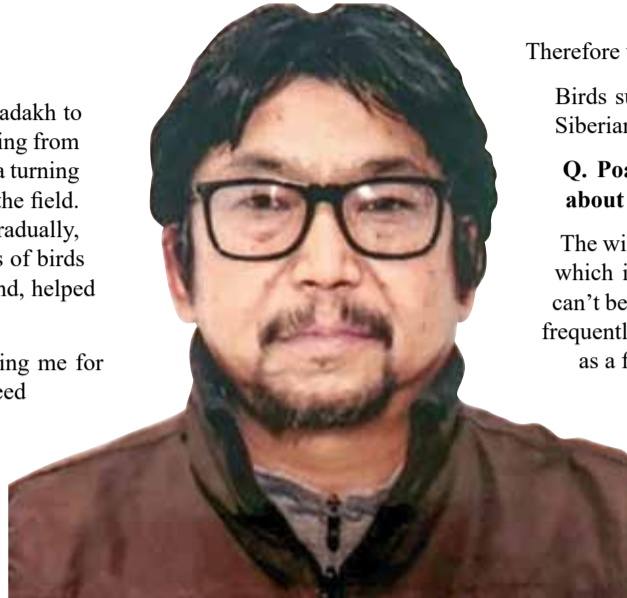
Ladakh has many hotspots like - Suru valley, Shey-Thiksey marshes, Panamik to Turtuk, and high altitude wetlands like- Chushul, Yaya Tso, Tsokar, Puga, Tsomoriri and Hanley basin, etc. There are around 310 bird species recorded in the checklist Birds of Ladakh, to which around 45 new bird species are added by WCBCL members.

Recently recorded birds in the list are -Rook, Rustic Bunting, and Rough Legged Buzzard. Rough-legged Buzzard is a new record for India as well.

Q. What are threats to the migratory birds and can you tell us about the birds that are on the verge of extinction?

This barren and dry-looking land is home, breeding ground, and resting point for many rare migratory birds, including Black-necked Crane. But where there is a development, there is a conflict with nature and wildlife. The migration of birds is a natural process, therefore maintaining balance becomes very necessary.

Drying up of Guphuk lake near Spituk is the best example of a threat to the migratory birds. The lake is a resting point for around 30-40 bird



Therefore we must control the population of long-range/stray/feral dogs.

Birds such as Black Necked Crane, Saker, Cinerous Vultures, Palla's Fish Eagle, Siberian crane are some of the threatened bird species from Ladakh.

Q. Poaching cases in Ladakh are a serious concern. What you have to say about it and the reason behind less conviction?

The wildlife department is understaffed with near around 35-40 manpower strength which is very less as compared to the vast geographical area. Patrolling/policing can't be done all the time and in all the areas. I feel that poaching is happening more frequently because of the lenient law. The existing law states Rs. 25000 maximum as a fine with bailable. There is a need for a strong wildlife act, stricter and more stringent action to create deterrence among the poachers.

People are also not aware of such cases and we must create awareness among the people through radio and social media regarding poaching. So that people could inform the stakeholders on time, whenever such acts come to their notice. Back in those days, Bakula Rinpoche educated people about wildlife when people did not know about wildlife act in Ladakh. He advised people about the importance of wildlife and why we should not kill them; it was effective. Therefore, religious heads could play an important role in wildlife conservation.

Q. What are the challenges and threats faced on wildlife due to increasing tourism?

Unprecedented human developmental activities because of the increasing tourist influx are one of the biggest threats for wildlife. We have seen many people driving off roads disturbing the wildlife habitat, bikers chasing wild asses, feeding the wildlife such as marmots, foxes, etc, polluting the land and water. Tibetan Gazelle once seen in good numbers in the Changthang region is now found in a small part of Hanle village periphery known as Kalak Ter-Ter. The number of species is reduced because of vehicular movement, tourism, and army camps. Similarly, Pallas Cat keeps changing its habitat to avoid human presence. Many birds visit Ladakh for breeding, but many cannot breed due to disturbance and habitat issues. It is said that in Tsokar 15 years back the number of Bar-headed Goose and Ruddy Shelduck used to be more than 1300-1500, which has

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MESSAGE TO THE READERS

“Wildlife is as important as clothes, food and shelter. Our existence depends on them, therefore developmental activities should be carried out keeping the aspiration of the people and ecological sensitivity intact. Peaceful coexistence of humans and wildlife is utmost importance.”

species. Wetlands, where the birds used to get their food in the form of water bugs, aquatic vegetation, invertebrates, seeds,

grains, and small fish and worms, are being encroached at a large scale by doing construction. Feral dogs are also one of the threats to wildlife, they kill around 300-400 small birds and mammals in months if remain loose in the wild.

The World of Juniors



Painted by Stanzin Jigdsal
Class 8th Delhi Public School

SoulSpeak

P.P. Wangchuk

You and the law of incremental success



Most success stories are woven around the step-by-step progression route. Some of us call it incremental progress because every positive action taken adds up to a mass of force that you have built up.

As Albert Einstein had said that every incremental force adds up to a compounding force and then becomes, one day, the “most powerful force.” Therefore, it is important that one should minimise the ‘pause modes’ and get going with whatever little one can do daily. That is because there is no magical shortcut to success. One has to go through the entire labyrinth with sincerity and diligence.

American author Darren Hardy, in his book, ‘The Compound Effect’, gives a beautiful and complete picture on how to achieve one’s goal by taking positive steps on a daily basis. Every new step taken enforces your ‘accumulated force’, and, one day, you get to have a great surprise.

That also explains the claims of those successful people that they had never expected what they have achieved. They fail to understand that their own hard labour over a long period of time has borne ‘so much fruits’ as a way of reward.

Remember that it is the daily change that matters, and you can’t expect a change by the yard. It comes in inches, and, over a period of time, it changes into yards and miles!

One must also remember that no action goes ‘waste’. Every good action taken gives you a surprise dividend, one day, when you would be least expecting.

Let us see what Steve Jobs, former chairman of Apple Inc, had to say about his success: “I have a great love for incremental improvement, and I’ve done that sort of thing in my life”.

But he did not stop there. “If you are not satisfied with your incremental changes”, he had said, “you can go for a more daring and revolutionary move.”

But that too needs a daily, steady change, though in a bolder way.

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

DID YOU KNOW



The name 'India' is derived from the River Indus, the valleys around which were the home of the early settlers. The Aryan worshippers referred to the river Indus as the Sindhu.



The world's first university was established in Takshila in 700 BC. More than 10,500 students from all over the world studied more than 60 subjects. The University of Nalanda built in the 4th century was one of the greatest achievements of ancient India in the field of education.



April 14 is celebrated as Ambedkar Jayanti also known as Bhim Jayanti, the birthday of the champion of Dalit rights, the principal architect of the Indian Constitution Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar. He led a crusade for the upliftment and empowerment of Dalits in the country.



People's Voice

Interviewed by Tenzin Dajon & Tsering Chosdon (Chhozee)



LOBZANG SPALDAN, Ex-President AZSAJ: After bifurcation, like all, I also expected that core issues like unemployment and fund shortages would be solved. But unfortunately, the result is the opposite. It's been two years now, neither they could provide safeguards nor create a recruitment policy in Ladakh. MP

Ladakh promised more than 6000 jobs, which seems to build a castle in the air now. So far UT Administration has done nothing to solve the crisis, instead, they did recruitment through outsourcing.

We are still in confusion as far as a safeguard is a concern, I have been gone through few articles of the Constitution, and therefore in my opinion Sixth Schedule is the best for Ladakh's safeguards. There may be some flaws that can be amended later. It is the job of the ruling party to solve the issue because they have been elected by the people. If they can't solve the crisis then they must resign.

Strengthening of LAHDC is the need of the hour. There should be open debate and discussion among Hill Council, UT Administration, and the expert from Ladakh to get the best solution. In my opinion, both CEC must come together to draft a recruitment policy by forming a committee at the Council level.



TSERING NORDON, Student Activist: The transition period from district to UT Ladakh has not been smooth. There has been turmoil regarding so many issues. The biggest issue that concerns me is the protection of our land, traditions, and culture to have the overall development that we want. This kind of protection does not mean that we want to be disintegrated with India.

Post UT I expected that there would be something substantial, a kind of domicile coming in the form of the 6th schedule. It has almost been a year and a half now. The kind of development we want should be at par with the local needs of the people and the environment. One of the major concerns that we are facing post UT status is unemployment. Before UT status we had a commission for recruitment

How Ladakh is shaping up post-UT?

and all the students used to apply in JKPSC. As of now, we don't have any commission board for recruitment and the jobs are contractual. All the recruitment now is been taken by UPSC and I fear that the students from far-flung areas who are not as privileged and as economically stable like the students in the plains might suffer. There is no equal level playing field.

I think I am still in confusion how I feel post-UT and I am more dissatisfied than satisfied because this is not the UT we asked for. We asked for a UT where we could be ruled by someone who would understand our needs. Being in a democratic India people of Ladakh should be asked what they want. There is much to do about all these issues. Firstly, they should form a commission for recruitment because the youth are frustrated regarding unemployment. Secondly, we need a very strong and vocal apex body for protection. Thirdly, as a woman, I'd like to say that there should be a reservation in LAHDC for women like there is a 33% reservation in the parliament. Last but not the least, there should be a dialogue negotiation between Leh and Kargil. They have always been locking their horns over issues. So, the step forward should be the integration policy for Leh and Kargil.



STANZIN CHOSPHELE, President, Student Union Nubra: We had been demanding UT status for quite a long time and there were great expectations. Subsequently, the expectations that we had and what we got are not satisfactory. Our environment, culture, and jobs are not secured because we have got this status without any

safeguard. The apex body and the student leaders are still soliciting some form of security. I expected that a lot of jobless students would get a chance to apply for the vacancies. But the development is cynically directing more.

Initially, we celebrated the UT status without knowing the consequences but now we all are aware that it is not something we wanted. In 2020 student presidents visited places like Bodoland and Meghalaya to study and research the 6th schedule on the ground where we acknowledged how effective it is.

In the form of education, there are hardly any changes or development. Everybody has an idea about the Khelo India scheme which was introduced post-UT to villages like Nubra. This scheme focuses on excelling in sports so there were inter-village sports competitions. The word 'Khelo' means 'play' but I feel that it is more about playing with the future of the children.

Lieutenant Governor R.K. Mathur stated to be self-dependent and asked not to rely on Government jobs. He emphasized entrepreneurship and also held a Skill Development workshop.

I still have a year to graduate and I might prepare myself to be self-reliant but what about the people who graduated and are done with their Ph.D. in the specific fields? They have been hoping for job recruitments for almost two years now. MP Ladakh informed us about 6000+ job recruitments that might happen for Ladakh and if it does then we would highly appreciate and be grateful to the government. Initiatives like skill development workshops are in a way for the betterment of Ladakh and such strategies are most welcome.

One of the leading issues is that our land and people need a safeguard and it is distressing to see that we are not in safe hands. For now, the only key to shield Ladakh is some kind of a law like Permanent Resident Certificate (PRC) which is null and void after bifurcation but we need something through which we can prove to be the residents of our land.



STANZIN THARDOTH, Former President, LSWS: After bifurcation, the people of Ladakh expected an era of overall development of Ladakh along with safeguard but unfortunately, the ground reality is very different. One and a half years after Union Territory status, unemployment and safeguard have become

burning issues. Ladakh is a region of unique culture, tradition, fragile environment and further 97% population are tribal safeguard becomes a necessity. Although the area of Ladakh is huge but being a

...Continues on Page 6

Cleanliness and hygiene amidst COVID-19



By Tsering Chosdon (Chhozee)

Covid-19 pandemic has grappled the world. Although the world has witnessed many pandemics before, Covid-19 has changed us and our surroundings in every possible way. Most importantly, this

pandemic has taught us to keep ourselves healthy and hygienic more than ever. We have to sanitise and wash our hands, maintain social distance and wear masks to protect ourselves from the coronavirus. Sanitising means keeping ourselves clean and hygienic, which is nothing unusual. Initially, the people were conscious and took measures to fight Covid-19. However, the Covid-19 cases have increased exponentially in Ladakh and across the globe. Does that mean that the people not doing enough to keep themselves and others protected?

The virgin landscapes of Ladakh have witnessed overexploitation by the footfall of the tourists, especially the generation of waste, in the past few decades. We have been blaming the tourists for this problem. However, we saw heaps of waste in 2020 despite the absence of tourists in Ladakh due to the nationwide lockdown.

Even when the administration advised the people to stay indoors, many went out for picnics with friends and families and littered picnic spots near the riverside.

People are throwing garbage openly on unused lands. The spot near Dewachan, Mahabodhi, is one such example. Disposal of waste in landfills is not suitable for a region like Ladakh.

Phunsok Angmo, a thematic expert on solid waste management (SWM), who wrote a detailed strategy plan (DSP) for the EU-Liveable Leh project, is focused on the quantum of waste generated due to Covid-19. According to Phunsok, domestic hazardous waste like gloves, masks, PPE kits, face shields

and sanitiser bottles add to the waste in Ladakh. Bio-medical waste, including face masks, PPE kits, gloves and testing kits (both rapid and RTPC), are also produced. There are numerous challenges in the disposal of waste, and these wastes eventually end up in the landfill at Bomb Garh.

Such methods of disposal of waste impact the sanitation workers and the people.

The Municipal Committee Leh and the urban local body are making efforts to maintain the town's hygiene using traditional and scientific methods. The local administration came across Tesla Blackhole, a plasmic decomposition laser-based technology, in 2018. The machine works without electricity and fuel and turns waste into ash, except glass. The ash is used to fertile the soil and construction of roads. The Blackhole is a sustainable way for waste management.

Anub Tsetan Paljor, a member of the Water and Sanitation (Watsan) team of the EU-Liveable Leh project, said: "The administrative bodies in Leh are serious about the hygiene of Ladakh. With the new surge in Covid-19 cases over the last couple of weeks, it seems like the second wave is hitting. So, everyone is alarmed. The public in Leh is seriously following Covid Appropriate Behaviour such as using a face mask and maintaining social distance. It depends on each individual whether to follow basic hygiene practices like washing hands. This year has taught us a lot about how even the simplest of acts like washing hands can help reduce the chances of contacting Covid-19. People are unable to maintain social distancing. No matter how much we try, we end up going to a restaurant or café or maybe the market these days, where we fail to maintain social distancing. The administration should look into partial lockdown like night curfews of the Covid-19 cases continue to increase."

Anub stressed that there are sections of the population more vulnerable than others to Covid-19. These are the healthcare workers, police personnel



and emergency workers. Then there are sanitation workers who clean, collect and dispose of garbage (solid waste, liquid waste, biohazardous, etc.) of the entire town. Such frontline workers are the most exposed and need all possible means to protect themselves. The cleanliness of Leh town depends upon them.

The absence of dustbins at places like the traffic police chowk at Skalzangling and the Skara-Shenam road compels many people to litter the roadside. The timing of the MC Leh garbage truck is another big challenge.

These are tough times and need the support of each other to live a healthy and hygienic life.

Turtuk celebrates Apricot Blossom Festival

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

TURTUK: Apricot Blossom Festival-Chuli Mentok celebrated with fervor on April 12 at Turtuk village.

The festival was organised by the Tourism Department, Ladakh, in collaboration with the Cultural Academy, Ladakh, as a

part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. The objective of organising the festival is to popularise the apricot blossoming season on the national and international tourist map besides attracting tourists during this time of the year.

EC LAHDC Leh, Ghulam Mehdi appreciated the efforts of the organisers and the UT Adminis-

tration to promote tourism in the region. He said that the Turtuk is known as the largest apricot-producing village in Ladakh and such events would help in popularising Turtuk as a tourist destination.

Local products, including handicraft and pottery items, were also put on display for the visitors.

Post UT status

...Continued from Page 7

fragile land and ecosystem it cannot tolerate a huge population like other cities. Therefore without safeguards, the environment and indigenous population are at threat of vanishing. So unless we protect our culture, land, and jobs then what will we do with this so-called development?

The only good thing that I am noticing after UT status is that the youths of Ladakh are getting more opportunities to represent at the national and international levels.

Safeguard under Sixth Schedule, and empowerment of LAHDC is must strengthen the voice of the people.

In conversation with Lobzang Visuddha

...Continued from Page 7

reduced to around 400 now. Humans are disturbing and reducing wildlife habitats and pushing them into very limited areas.

There has been always a tussle between wildlife and tourism. Regulating the number of tourists at a time and proper guiding can be an effective solution. There is an immense need for promoting responsible tourism because it is affecting the wildlife and ecology of Ladakh.

Q. Sanctuary and the national park have restricted the pace of development activities. What is your take on that?

The demarcation of sanctuaries and national parks

in Ladakh was carried out at a higher level without the engagement of the local population, during the rationalization of the boundaries. For example, the maximum area of Karakoram Sanctuary is considered roughly 15,000 sq km, and the minimum area is considered somewhat 6000 sq. km, look at the difference. We don't know where it starts and where it ends.

Therefore, proper demarcation is needed to smoothly pursue developmental activities without harming wildlife habitats. For example, Tsokar which is recently declared as the 42nd Ramsar site in India has a proper demarcated boundary, which includes only the part of the lake, not the settlement area. Conservation along with development is a must for peaceful co-existence.

Secretary, Animal Husbandry, convenes meeting with National Dairy Development Board



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Secretary, Animal / Sheep Husbandry and Fisheries Department, Ravinder Kumar convened a meeting with the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) on April 9 at Secretariat.

Detailed discussion on the benchmark report for Leh and Kargil, exploring the possibility of collaboration with Mother Dairy for milk procurement operations and milk supply to the

army was held. The meeting also discussed on developing marketing operations in the region and preparation of DPR for Kargil district.

Secretary, Ravinder informed that they have already completed the documentation process and will register the societies soon.

Talking about the sampling, the officials from NDDB informed that the sample was taken from 50 villages and is above 20%. Out of 78,000 litres of produc-

tion estimation around 65% of production is from the Kargil district. Also, the officials from NDDB stressed for a dairy development initiative in Kargil as well. Secretary informed that the department is planning to have a dairy development initiative in Kargil also.

The officials from Animal Husbandry, Leh requested them to consider the seasonal variation in the production of milk as well. Also, requested them to address the issues related to health, feeding, area-specific mineral block so that milk production will increase. They also requested good quality minerals and cattle feed.

Director, Animal/Sheep Husbandry and Fisheries Department; Animal Husbandry Officer Leh/Kargil and Deputy Registrar, Cooperative Department Leh and Kargil were present.

NOTICE

No. 9927535F K rank HAV Tsewang Nurboo, S/o Rigzin Dorjay R/o Village Zanskar Shamuling, District Kargil U.T Ladakh has claimed that his daughter namely Stanzin Tsespal gender has been wrongly entered as Male instead of Female in the Army record of, **Unit 3rd Ladakh Scouts C/o 56 APO** and produced an affidavit duly verified by Notary public Leh to this office for making necessary correction.

Hence the notice is hereby served through press to file objection if any in this office, **Unit 3rd Ladakh Scouts C/o 56 APO** within 7 days from date of publication failing which necessary correction will be made.

NOTICE

We the following persons, propose to register a Non-profitable NGO under the name and Style as '**Zhunu Tsogspa Kharlatse' Leh UT Ladakh** with the Registrar of Societies UT Ladakh under Society Registration Act 1860.

List of Executive members of the Society:

S.No	Name	Parentage/Spouse	Residence	Designation
1	Nawang Namgyal	Sonam Morup	Khaltse	President
2	Rigzin Angmo	Tsewang Tundup	-do-	Vice-President
3	Dorjay Gyalsen	Tsewang Nurboo	-do-	Vice-President
4	Nawang Namgyal	Phunchok Dorjay	-do-	General Secretary
5	Tsering Angchok	Nawang Gigmet	-do-	Joint Secretary
6	Rigzin Dawa	Rigzen Namgyal	-do-	Treasurer
7	Gonbo Dorjay	Murup Tsephal	-do-	Treasurer
8	Sonam Dazes	Sonam Murup	-do-	Treasurer
9	Jigmet Dorjay	Phunchok Dorjay	-do-	Executive Member
10	Konchok Rinchen	Rigzen Gurmet	-do-	-do-
11	Tsetan Angchok	Rigzen Namgyal	-do-	-do-

Objection if any, in this regard may kindly be submitted to General Manager Industries, Leh UT Ladakh within a period of 21 days from the publication of the Notice.

President
'Zhunu Tsogspa Kharlatse' Leh UT Ladakh

NOTICE

We the following persons, propose to register a Non-profitable NGO under the name and Style as '**Cha- Khung Thundel Tsogspa Kungyam' Leh UT Ladakh** with the Registrar of Societies UT Ladakh under Society Registration Act 1860.

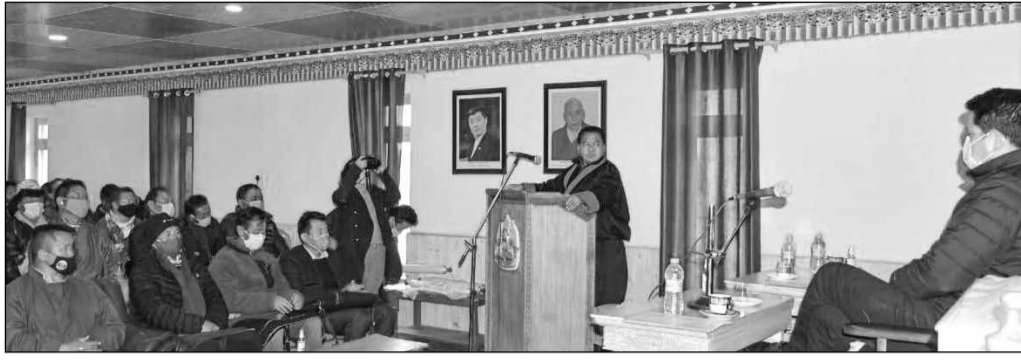
List of Executive members of the Society:

S.No	Name	Parentage/Spouse	Residence	Designation
1	Sonam Dorjay	Sonam Stobgais	Kungyam	President
2	Jigmat Skalzang	Tsering Namgail	Kungyam	Vice-President
3	Stanzin Angmo	Nawang Lungtok	Kungyam	Secretary
4	Phuntsog Dorjay	Gombo Tsering	Kungyam	Joint Secretary
5	Tsering Angmo	Maypam Gombo	Kungyam	Cashier
6	Tsering Gurmet	Sonam Angchuk	Kungyam	Advisor
7	Kunzang Dorjay	Neema Gurmat	Kungyam	Culture Member

Objection if any, in this regard may kindly be submitted to General Manager Industries, Leh UT Ladakh within a period of 21 days from the publication of the Notice.

President
'Cha- Khung Thundel Tsogspa Kungyam' Leh UT Ladakh

CRO discusses Tibetan refugee taxi drivers' issues with Hill Council, Leh



Chief Representative Officer (CRO), Sonamling Settlement, Leh, Tsetan addressing the gathering at CRO office Choglamsar.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

CHOGLAMSAR: Chief Representative Officer (CRO), Sonamling Settlement, Leh, Tsetan Wangchuk raised several issues faced by the Tibetans residing in Leh with CEC, Hill Council, Leh, Tashi Gyalson on April 6 at CRO office Choglamsar.

Sonam Topgyal Khorlatsang, Home Minister, CTA, Dharamsala; President ALTA, Dorjay Angchuk; Tibetan Taxi Driver

Union led by Karma Tsering Tashi were also present.

CRO apprised CEC of problems faced by the Tibetan taxi drivers in Leh, especially in purchasing taxis. He further requested CEC Gyalson to implement a rehabilitation policy for the Tibetans residing in Leh for their benefit.

President, ALTA, Dorjay Angchuk shared his experience and assured to discuss and resolve all the genuine problems faced by

Tibetan taxi drivers very soon.

CEC Gyalson assured to assist and informed the officials that he would take up their concerns with the higher authorities for early redressal of the genuine issues faced by the Tibetan refugees in Leh.

Minister of Home, CTA, Sonam Topgyal expressed his gratitude on behalf of CTA to the Hill Council Leh for extending their help in uplifting and supporting the Tibetan community in Ladakh.

Changthang border area representatives raise concerns over border region

CEC, Hill Council, Leh, Tashi Gyalson, convenes meeting with army officials

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: CEC, Hill Council, Leh, Tashi Gyalson discussed various issues faced by the people residing in Changthang border areas with the officials of the Indian Army on April 6 at the Council Secretariat.

Concerned councilors, BDC Chairpersons, and village representatives of the border regions put forth their grievances such as restrictions imposed by the army on local people to move on their traditional grazing lands in the Changthang region. They also raised issues such as objections to developmental activities in the border regions.

The representatives of the border region sought immediate interventions from both parties so that developmental activities do not suffer in the border regions.

Reacting to restrictions on traditional grazing lands in the Changthang region, Army officials requested locals to cooperate with the Army until the border situation is back to normal.



CEC, Hill Council, Leh, Tashi Gyalson, Councillors, BDC Chairpersons, and village representatives of the border regions with officials of the Indian Army at Council Secretariat.

The Army also assured to assist them in carrying out necessary developmental activities in the border villages.

Taking stock of grievances and issues of border regions, Army assured to take the matter with their higher authorities to address it at the earliest.

CEC Gyalson appreciated the officials of the Indian Army and locals for guarding the border areas. He expressed hope to resolve the grievances by a collective effort of the local Council and the Indian Army.

DC/CEO LAHDC Leh, Shrikant Balasaheb Suse; Executive Councillors, Tashi Namgyal Yakzee and Ghulam Mehdi Ashoor; Major General Akash Kaushik, Colonel Ajay Londhe, Major Pratik Singh Rao and Captain Mayank Bisht from the Indian Army, Councillor Chushul, Konchok Stanzin; Councillor, Nyoma, Ishey Spalzang; Councillor Korzok, Karma Namdak; Nominated Councillor, Ven Konchok Tsephel; BDC Chairpersons of Nyoma, Rupsho, Durbuk; Nam-bardar/Sarpanch of Demjok and Tsaga took part in the meeting.

One month skill development training programme on mushroom cultivation concludes



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Krishi Vigyan Kendra, SKUAST-K Leh felicitated students for completing one month Skill Development Training Programme on "Mushroom Grower" for the rural youth of the Ladakh region on April 12.

The programme was sponsored by the Agriculture Skill Council of India under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana. The month-long training programme was attended by 26 students of

the district.

Ravinder Kumar, IAS Administrative Secretary to LG Ladakh visited different demonstration units of KVK-Leh. He congratulated the students for completing a one-month skill development course and assured all sorts of help in setting up their income-generating units.

Dr. F. D. Sheikh, Programme Coordinator, KVK-Leh spoke on the need for such skill development programs in generating

employment opportunities. He talked of the various skill development programs conducted by KVK-Leh and their potential in making youth employment generators rather than job seekers.

Dr. Vikas Gupta, Course Instructor had a detailed discussion on the various aspects of the one-month skill development programme and that how more and more youths are venturing into this enterprise and have set up their units. Dr. Dorjey Namgyal, Associate Director, Research and Extension, HMAARI, SKUAST-K asked students to utilize the knowledge gained to become successful entrepreneurs.

Three publications of KVK-Leh titled Breeding management in Changthangi sheep of Ladakh, Silage feeding and activities and mandates of KVK-Leh were also released.

UT administration organises webinar with research institutes working in Ladakh

Advisor Narula wants utilisation of available research outputs in policymaking

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: UT Administration of Ladakh organised a webinar of research-based organisations to develop an institutional set-up for applied research that would address various developmental issues and challenges of UT Ladakh on April 6.

Advisor Ladakh, Umang Narula chaired the meeting and addressed the participants. He stated that the Administration is keen to know about the ongoing research work of various organisations and institutes that could be beneficial for Ladakh. He further stated that the UT administration would like all available and relevant research findings in different areas to be utilized in formulating development plans and policies by the administration.

The participating institutes and organisations informed the meeting about the large number of research projects concerning Ladakh being undertaken by them and the data and outputs available with them.

Various models of institutional setup followed in other States and UTs were discussed and deliberated upon to utilize the results of applied research on a real-time basis in decision making particularly in the areas of climate change, high altitude agriculture, and water and disaster management.

Chief Conservator of Forest, Preet Pal Singh; Secretary, Padma Angmo; Secretary, Ravinder Kumar, Rita Khanna, Advisor, MoEF & CC, Director, DIHAR, O.P Chourasia; Dr. Shubrat Sharma, Sci-



entist F, GB Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment Regional Centre, Leh and representatives of various research institutes participated in the webinar.

The participating organisations and institutes included the Department of Science and Technology Government of India, Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun, Uttarakhand, Indian Institute of Remote Sensing (IIRS), Dehradun, National Remote Sensing Centre, Hyderabad, Space Application Centre, Ahmedabad, Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bangalore, Himalayan Forest Research Institute (HFRI), National Institute of Sowa Rigpa, Leh, National Institute of Hydrology, Roorkee and the University of Ladakh.

The Advisor thanked all the participants and stated that their suggestions and feedback would help UT Ladakh to have a more integrated approach and help the UT Administration to utilize the research outputs for achieving tangible results.

Secretary, Agriculture/Horticulture Department, discusses Ladakh Green House Project

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Ravinder Kumar, Secretary, Agriculture/Horticulture Department UT Ladakh convened a meeting on April 2 to discuss the Ladakh Green House Project and its tendering process for effective and timely implementation in UT Ladakh.

He asked the officers to flout the tenders block-wise and asked to complete the project this year. He further informed that at the district level, block-wise tendering will be done as per the terms and conditions.

For tendering process, he asked DC, Leh, to form a committee that will comprise members from different departments. Also, he asked to form a mon-

itoring committee that will monitor & inspect the project.

Ravinder Kumar also informed that these greenhouses will be set up in all major areas and the dependency for airlifting food to Ladakh will be substantially reduced once the produce starts coming before winters.

Keeping in view the heavy snowfall in Kargil, the Chief Agriculture Officer, Kargil requested the Secretary to change the design of the greenhouse as per the requirement of the area. Director, DIHAR was asked to send a team to Kargil to decide on the design. The officers were asked to ensure the quality of greenhouses and to complete it before July 2021.

NOTICE

I, Stanzin Spalzes D/o Tsewang Nurboo R/o Stok, Leh UT Ladakh Prop of The Royal Orchid applying for registration with the Assistant Director Tourism Office, Leh. Any objection in this regards may file their report in writing within seven days from date of publication of this notice.

NOTICE

I, Skalzang Namgyal S/o Skarma Tsumtim R/o Housing Colony, Leh, Ladakh do hereby notify that I have lost my driving license bearing no. JK10-0610 and I am applying for duplicate driving license. Objection if any may be conveyed to Assistant Regional Transport Officer (ARTO) Leh, Ladakh within 10 days from the date of publication.

FASHIONISTA

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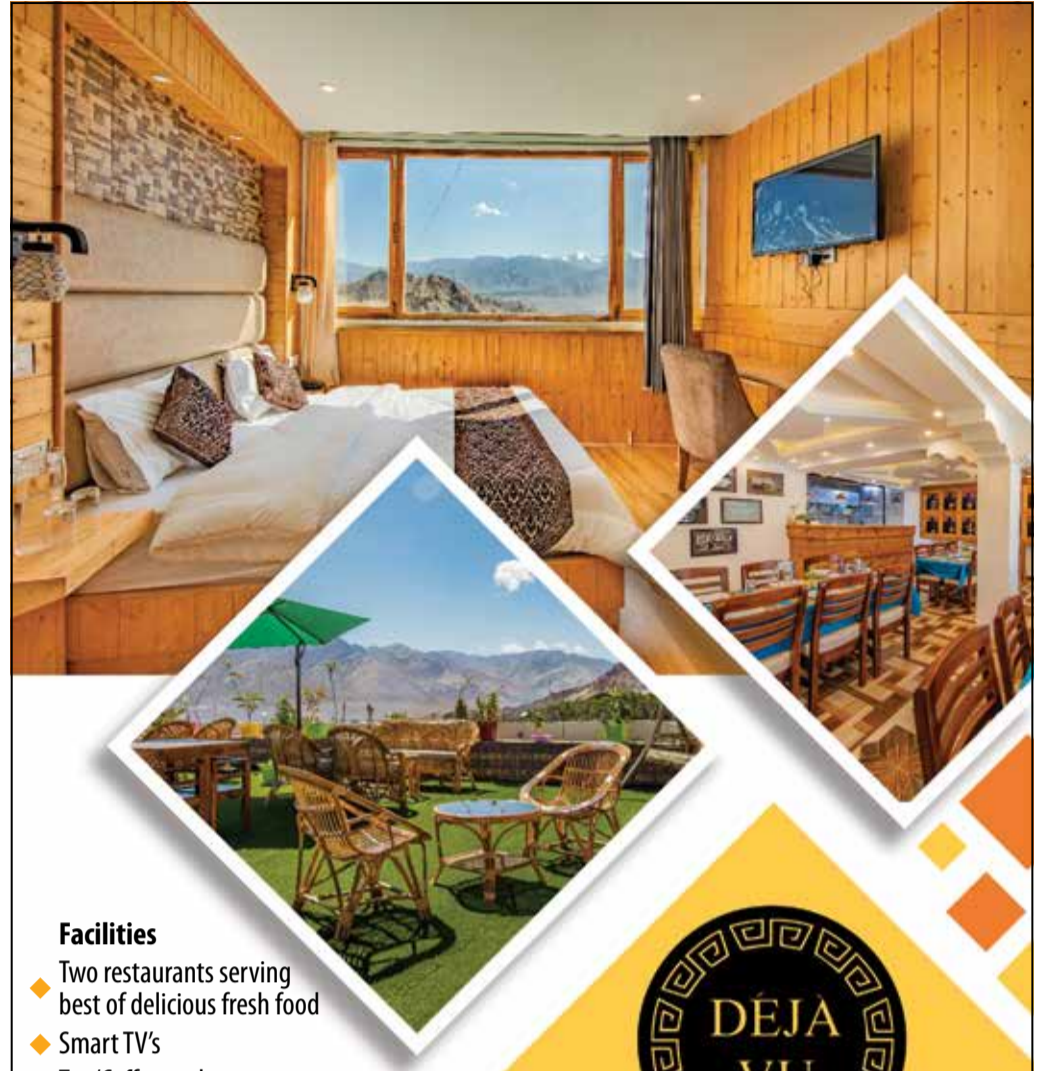


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Housing & Urban Development Department
Union Territory of Ladakh

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