

# REACH LADAKH BULLETIN

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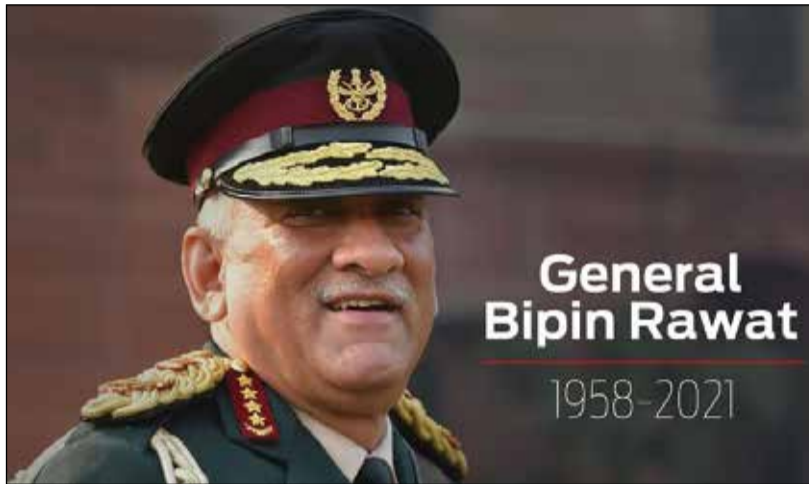
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## Tributes pour in for General Bipin Rawat



### Tenzin Dajon

LEH: Condolence messages poured in from people from all walks of life in Ladakh expressing grief over the demise of first Chief of Defence Staff of India, General Bipin Rawat, his wife and other 11-armed forces personnel in a tragic helicopter crash on December 8 in the state of Tamil Nadu.

CEC, Hill Council, Leh said, "The unfortunate death of General Rawat is very bad news for Ladakh as he had a special affection towards the people of Ladakh. I got opportunity to meet him twice and shared many plans regarding Ladakh. Demise of General Rawat is a great loss for the region."

Ladakh Buddhist Association called a condolence meeting of its executive members along with Women and Youth wing on December 9. BJP Leh also paid homage to the

departed souls at Hall of Fame. CEC, Tashi Gyalson and EC Stanzin Chosphel attended the event. District Congress Committee, Leh also held a condolence meeting at party office on December 8.

DCC President Rigzin Namgial and its executive members mourned the unfortunate and untimely demise of the country's first CDS, his wife and 11 other brave hearts. LBA Zaskar also held a prayer at Duzin Photang

General Rawat was born in Uttarakhand on March 16, 1958 and took the charge of India's first CDS on December 31, 2019 after serving as the army chief for a full three-year term. Ladakh being a border state, the demise of the country's first CDS, General Bipin Rawat left the region with tears. Each block and tehsil in Ladakh expressed heartfelt condolences over the death of country's top general.

## Ladakh observes complete bandh over statehood demand

BJP not in favor of statehood, stands firm on the constitutional safeguard for Ladakh on the line of the sixth schedule: MP Ladakh



The closed shops of Leh market during the complete shutdown of Ladakh Over statehood demand.

### Stanzin Dasal & Tenzin Dajon

LEH: Ladakh observed a complete shutdown for one day on December 14 to press their statehood demand and safeguard on the line of the sixth schedule of the Indian constitution.

The strike was jointly called by the People's Movement for the 6th Schedule for Ladakh (Apex Body) and Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA). All the commercial and business establishments in both Leh and Kargil, which includes Merchant Association, Tour and Travel Association, Transport Association, Taxi Operators, Tour operators, Hotel and Guest House Association, Tempo Travellers Operators, Mazda Union, 407 and 207 Union, Biker association, Bus Operator Union, and Truck Operators supported the strike call.

In an attempt to sabotage the strike call, on December 12 night, a forged letterhead and signature of the Apex Body Chairman stating that the strike call has been postponed was circulated on social media. A complaint has been lodged in the Police Station, Leh by the Apex body regarding the forged letter and signature on December 13. The case is registered under FIR no. 274 under Section 419, 468, 471 IPC/ 66 IT Act.

Chering Dorje Lakruk, Apex Body member said, "Few people have tried to create confusion among the people by circulating the fake letter. We strongly condemn it and those who are in this act are enemies of Ladakh. If they have issues then they should come forward and keep their point instead of misleading

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## Kungfu Nuns win UNESCO's Martial Art Education Prize 2021



### Reach Ladakh Correspondent

NEW DELHI: Kungfu Nuns won UNESCO's Martial Arts Education Prize 2021 for their heroic acts of service and championing gender equality across the Himalayas. The nuns empower young girls to defend themselves, build confidence, and take on leadership roles in their communities.

The award has been launched by UNESCO ICM (International Centre of Martial Arts for Youth Development and Engagement), to collect and promote good practices of martial arts education (MA Edu.)

Kung Fu Nuns hail from the Drukpa Lineage of Indian Buddhism and began learning Kung Fu to build strength and confidence. They use skills to serve others through unimaginable acts of bravery - from their recent 2,500 km "Bicycle Yatra for Peace" from Kathmandu, Nepal to

Ladakh, India to speak out against human trafficking, to their refusal to evacuate after the 2015 Nepal earthquake to deliver critical aid to neglected regions. Adept in both weaponry and hand-to-hand combat, they have begun a self-defense training initiative for young girls in the Himalayas, where violence against women is rarely reported. With over 700 Drukpa nuns in the ranks, there is a long waiting list of women and girls who want to join them, the Kung Fu Nuns have transformed the way the Himalayans view not only nuns but women. Their efforts

were honored with several prestigious international awards. The nuns are a recipient of the Atlantic Council's prestigious Unsung Heroes Award 2020 and the Asia Society's Game Changer Award 2019. They were also finalists for the Vaclav Havel Human Rights Prize for their humanitarianism in the Himalayas.



## Secretary, Animal and Sheep Husbandry informs initiatives taken in Changthang region



Secretary, Animal, Sheep Husbandry, Ravinder Kumar and Director, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries Department, Dr. Mohd Raza during the press conference at Secretariat.

### Tenzin Dajon

LEH: Secretary, Animal, Sheep Husbandry, Ravinder Kumar highlighted various initiatives taken to improve the nomad's life in the Changthang region during a press conference convened at Secretariat on December 8.

Director, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries Department, Dr. Mohd Raza was also present.

Secretary, Ravinder Kumar stressed the development of pastureland to sustain and increase the population of sheep and goats in the Changthang region. He informed that that pilot projects have been started for pasture land development on the department lands in Rongo, Nyoma, Nider and Tsaga. In Khar-nak and Konga, the department is working along with the local community towards pasture land development which will start next season.

Long-term sustainable policy for the development of pasturelands is being developed with the help of Dr. Rawat, Ex-director of Wildlife Institute of India. In ad-

dition irrigation and fodder are being developed at Mudh, Khar-nak, Rongo, and Chumur with KVK, he added.

Ravinder Kumar also informed that last year the department supplied 1300 quintals of pelleted feed and 350 quintal fodder. This year the department has procured 3200 pelleted feed and 500 quintals fodder, which is more than twice in comparison to last year.

"We have prepared ourselves to face any sort of emergency in winter. A fodder bank is being established at Nyoma and Tangtse with CPWD to cope with any shortage. For the first time, sheep and goats in the Changthang region have been vaccinated for Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) to reduce their mortality. Two vaccination vans and four mobile clinics have been started for vaccination and treatment purposes", he informed.

Ravinder Kumar informed, "For the first time the department is trying AI for pashmina goat so that we could do selective breeding and we have trained our staff for this. A fund was allocated to

Changthang Pashmina Grower Society so that they could increase their cattle. A separate process is going on for GI tagging for the fiber of Ladakh Pashmina."

It was further informed that 1000 unit nomadic kits have been issued, which includes tents and torch etc, as per demand by the people to ease their movement. 100 portable community toilets have been issued, 300 insulated houses are being constructed at winter locations. Two nomadic museums are being constructed to connect nomadic life with tourism, which will help tourists to know the nomad's life and locals will get income.

Addressing the media questions he said that the issues with pasture land with the army will be solved at SDM and DC level with a joint meeting with concerned army units as per direction. The process to compensate the nomads in case of conflict with a wild animal is making smoother. He assured support in case of reporting, inspection, verification, and post mortem in such cases.

tration will wake up from deep slumber and soon address our issues, he added.

In a telephonic interview, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal said, "The statehood demand for Ladakh is not reasonable at this point of time when the newly established UT is still under process. Statehood for Ladakh is not an actual demand of every Ladakhi. LBA Nubra, Zaskar, and Kargil have strongly rejected the statehood demand. But BJP stands firm on the constitutional safeguard for Ladakh on the line of the sixth schedule."

The MP also raised amendment of LAHDC, Act 1997 on the line of the sixth schedule of the Indian constitution streamlining the proper role and responsibilities of the Central Government, Lieutenant Governor, UT administration, PRI, and the LAHDC, Leh, and Kargil in the ongoing parliament session.

The BJP led government at the centre is being accused of not taking the demand of the Ladakh seriously. The central government hasn't followed up on the meeting of Apex and KDA leaders with the Union Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai in Leh on August 29 this year. He had assured that a high-level committee would be formed soon to take the dialogue process further. The delay of the scheduled dialogue process with MoS Home regarding safeguard for Ladakh compelled to observe the strike.

## Ladakh observes complete bandh over statehood demand

...Continued from page 1

the people."

Chairman KDA, Asgar Ali Karbalai said, "All limits have been crossed by circulating the wrong message on the forged letterhead of Apex body. But the successful strike observed is a tight slap on the face of such people who are trying to run anti-Ladakh movement."

Both Apex and KDA joined hands on August this year to demand statehood for Ladakh. Constitutional safeguards on the line of Sixth Schedule of the Indian Constitution, separate Lok Sabha seats for Leh and Kargil district along with a Rajya Sabha seat for Ladakh, and immediate recruitment against 10,000- 12,000 vacancies in the UT Ladakh.

Dr. Qayum, President, Anjuman-Moin-ul-Islam stated that the call is for the larger interest of the people of Ladakh. He said that its time to set aside individual concerns and ideologies and work towards the betterment of Ladakh.

Asgar Ali Karbalai stated that the shutdown observed by the people of Ladakh has proved their concerns. He said that the strike sends a very strong message to the Government of India that the people of Ladakh are very serious about their issues and are not ready to step back.

"Hope the GOI, Home Ministry, and UT Adminis-

## MIMC donates 22 oxygen concentrators to Health department, Leh

### Tenzin Dajon

LEH: Mahabodhi International Meditation Centre in collaboration with the Mahakaruna Foundation Delhi and Canada donated 22 oxygen concentrators to the health department, Leh on December 3.

DC Leh, Srikant Balasaheb Suse; Director Health and CMO, Leh were also present. The machines are to be distributed in remote areas of Ladakh in various Medical Sub centres.

Dr. Pawan Kotwal thanked MIMC for donating the oxygen concentrators to the health department. He said it will further help the department to ensure enough stock of it and people with lungs problem will be benefitted a lot. He also thanked MIMC for providing the facility of Mahabodhi Karuna Hospital premises for the COVID patients.

Pawan Kotwal said, "In Ladakh, we do not have private hospitals and are dependent upon government infrastructure, that too up to district level only. Therefore,



During the handing over of the oxygen concentrators by the Mahabodhi International Meditation Centre in collaboration with the Mahakaruna Foundation Delhi to the health department, Leh.

Mahabodhi Karuna Hospital and Heart Foundation Hospital at least should be given help in terms of machinery and whatever way possible so that they could act as an alternate place where people can visit and seek treatment."

Bikkhu Sanghasena said, "We organised a prayer which was participated by around 700 monks, nuns, including people from Ladakh before the lockdown and donated covid relief items (rations) and PPE kits to different parts of Ladakh. We have covered a few thousand families in last two years and

focus was given to border areas and remote villages".

He informed that MIMC started a campaign called vaccine of compassion, under which they have donated 31 advanced life-saving ambulances to India, including one for Ladakh with the help of supporters from Thailand.

Sanghasena also informed about Maha Karuna Foundation, dedicated to spreading compassion globally, and the Global Doctor Association to invite doctors around the world to join the foundation and contribute wherever they can, not only in Ladakh.

## Social Welfare Department, Leh, observes International Day of Persons with Disabilities

Distributes Unique Disability Identity Card (UDID) to beneficiaries



The Secretary, Social & Tribal Welfare, Padma Angmo handing over the Unique Disability Identity Card (UDID).

### Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: The International Day of Persons, themed 'Leadership & participation of persons with disabilities towards an inclusive, accessible & sustainable post-COVID-19 world' was observed on December 3.

Secretary, Social & Tribal Welfare, Padma Angmo said that on the occasion of the International Day for Persons with Disabilities, the UT Administration is ready with the Draft 'Right of persons with Disabilities Rules' which will be put in the public domain for inviting feedback and suggestions from the stakeholders before it is finalized.

She further added that the Administration of UT Ladakh is

committed to providing an accessible Build-Up environment for persons with disabilities as mandated by the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, and steps are being taken in this direction.

Shrikant Balasaheb Suse, Deputy Commissioner, Leh, while responding to queries said that consultation will be held with the stakeholders for audit of public spaces in a phased manner so that public spaces and public buildings are made accessible for persons with disabilities as per the notified guidelines of the Government of India.

The Secretary and Deputy Commissioner, Leh distributed Unique Disability Identity Card

(UDID) to beneficiaries on the occasion. The Unique Disability Identity Card will be the single document of identification of the persons with disabilities and help them availing various government benefits and schemes.

Balasaheb Suse said that all persons with disabilities in the district shall be identified so that they are covered under the pension scheme and given UDID cards. He asked the District Social Welfare Officer to identify all such people and provide the details to the Health Department so that Disability Certificate and UDID can be given to them in a time-bound manner.

CMO, Leh, Dr. Motup Dorje said that once the beneficiaries are identified by the Social Welfare Department, camps shall be held at block level for ensuring 100% coverage of the targeted beneficiaries of Leh so that they can be covered under the scheme and be granted UDID.

Secretary, Padma Angmo said that the Health Department of Kargil should also organise camps to cover all eligible people so that they are given UDID within this financial year.

## 333 cases disposed of in National Lok Adalat

### Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: A total of 333 out of 438 cases were disposed of during the National Lok Adalat at District Court Complex in Leh on December 11. The settlement amount stood at Rs 29,40,762.

Two benches were constituted

to dispose of the cases. Bench 1 comprised Principal District & Sessions Judge Leh, Deepak Sethi, and Advocate Gombo Stobgyal. Similarly, Bench No 2 comprised Chief Judicial Magistrate (CJM), Leh, Spalzes Angmo and Secretary, Bar Association Leh, Deachen Angmo.

Both benches of National Lok Adalat disposed of Motor Accident Claim Tribunal (MACT) cases, bank cases, matrimonial cases, criminal compoundable cases, civil cases, labour disputes, electricity matters, cases under MC Act, and traffic challans.

## Advisor Ladakh reviews progress to eliminate single-use plastic in Ladakh



### Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Advisor Ladakh and Chairman, UT Level Special Task Force, Umang Narula reviewed the progress made for the preparation of a comprehensive plan for the elimination of Single-Use Plastic in Ladakh.

Advisor Narula directed all the concerned departments to prepare an integrated and holistic action plan within the prescribed deadlines in the thematic format circulated by the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change.

Ladakh Pollution Control Committee was asked to spread awareness about recent amendments made in the Plastic Waste Management Rules, by widely publicizing it. Advisor was appraised by the Regional Wildlife Warden, UT Ladakh that earlier, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change had amended the Plastic Waste Manage-

ment Rules 2016, which will prohibit identified Single-Use Plastic items that have 'low utility and high littering potential' such as polystyrene, and expanded polystyrene from 1st, July 2022. The items included earbuds with plastic sticks, plastic sticks for balloons, plastic flags, candy sticks, ice-cream sticks, polystyrene (thermocool) for decoration, plates, cups, glasses, cutlery such as forks, spoons, knives, straw, trays, wrappings, or packing films around sweet boxes, invitation cards and cigarette packets, plastic, or PVC banners less than 100 microns and stirrers.

Further, he was appraised that up till now 101.1 kg of prohibited plastic has been seized from various violators. He was also informed that the permitted thickness of the plastic bags of 50 microns has been increased to 75 microns and any non-woven plastic carry bag is to be no less than 60 Gram per Square Meter with effect from the 30th September 2021.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, Forest, Ecology & Environment; Administrative Secretary, Housing & UDD/Commissioner Secretary, School Education; Administrative Secretary, Rural Development & Panchayati Raj/ Industries & Commerce; Administrative Secretary, Information/ Higher Education; Administrative Secretary, Science & Technology/ Youth Service & Sports; Regional Wildlife Warden and District Officer, Pollution Control Board.

## PDD signs Power Purchase Agreement with SECI for 50 MWdc Solar Project in Leh

### Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: The Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) for buying power from SECI for the 50MWdc Solar project with battery storage was signed between Chief Engineer, Power Development Department, UT Ladakh, Ghulam Ahmad Mir and Senior Manager (Projects), SECI, Debajyoti Bordoloi in the presence of Administrative Secretary, UT Ladakh, Ravinder Kumar on December 9.

The 50MWdc Solar project is being developed with CFA under PMDP-2015, at Taru, Leh. It was informed that the power from this project will be bought by PDD Ladakh at Rs 2.22/unit as mandated vide MNRE Sanction Order Dated:08.11.2021.



During the signing of the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) for buying power from SECI for the 50MWdc Solar project.

Administrative Secretary, Ravinder Kumar said that this is a very prestigious project for Leh which will help in improving Leh's Power scenario in the coming days and would meet all the power requirements of the people of Leh, Ladakh. He further added that the MoU for

this project was already signed between LAHDC Leh, UT Administration, and SECI on April 6, 2021.

SECI expressed gratitude to the UT Administration for this historic PPA signing ceremony and all the support provided to date related to this project.

## Ladakh MP raises road connectivity issues in Parliament



### Reach Ladakh Correspondent

NEW DELHI: Member of Parliament, Ladakh, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal posed questions to the Minister of Road Transport and Highways on the issue of road connectivity in Ladakh in the ongoing Parliament session.

MP Ladakh sought answers to the queries related to road connectivity, the initiatives taken by the Central Government to develop the aging narrow road infrastructure in UT Ladakh which render its road transport system inefficient, specific efforts taken keeping in mind the geo-climatic conditions and the steps taken to meet the challenges of developing a long-lasting and low-maintenance road to border areas.

In response, the Minister of Road Transport and

Highways shared that to make roads capable of taking increased traffic several roads and tunnels in the UT are being upgraded from existing CI-9/CI-5 to NHDL/NHSL specifications, such as Sumdo-Photoksar-Yalchung, Wangle-Fangi La-Sumdo, Leh-Chalunka, Hanuthang-Handen Broke, Turtuk-Zingpal, Khaltse-Batalik, Kargil-Dumgil, Shyok-Agham-Khalsar, Nimmu-Padam-Darcha and Kargil-Zanskar among others.

The Minister also informed that the Border Road Organisation (BRO) has undertaken many new initiatives to speed up road construction. BRO has taken in hand execution of surfacing works with cementations base/sub-base in eastern Ladakh and has also constructed a 1400 ft span Permanent Bridge using micro piling in substructure at an altitude of 14500 ft in record 17 working months. In addition, Geo-Web and Geo-Cell are being used extensively for surfacing and permanent works.

Regarding the steps taken by the Govt. to meet the challenges of developing long-lasting and low-maintenance roads to border areas of Ladakh, it was informed that interlocking blocks are being used in mountain passes to provide a good riding surface in all weather. Also, tunnels like Tanglangla, Shinkula, Lachungla are being planned to further improve the connectivity in the region for which DPRs are in progress.

## UT administration frames 'Ladakh Rights of Persons with Disabilities Rules, 2021'

Invites suggestions and feedback from the public

### Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: The administration of the Union Territory of Ladakh has come up with a draft of 'Ladakh Rights of Persons with Disabilities Rules'.

Drafted by the Social & Tribal Welfare Department, the draft of the Rules is placed in the public domain at <https://ladakh.nic.in/document-category/government-orders/> for feedback. The objections and suggestions which may be received before the expiry of the 30 days, will be considered by the Adminis-

tration of Union territory of Ladakh.

The draft Rules have been framed in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of Section 101 of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (49 of 2016).

The draft rules provide for the constitution of a Committee for Research on Disability, UT level Advisory Body, District level Committee on disability, UT Fund for Persons with Disabilities, and a Governing Body to manage the fund besides ap-

pointment of Commissioner for Disability and a Public Prosecutor as mandated by the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.

Secretary, Social & Tribal Welfare, Ladakh, Padma Angmo had announced on December 3, the International Day for Persons with Disabilities, that the UT Ladakh is ready with the draft of the 'Ladakh Rights of Persons with Disabilities Rules' and will be sharing it on a public domain for comments and suggestions from the people.

## Divisional Commissioner, Ladakh reviews road preparedness over Zojila



Divisional Commissioner, Ladakh Saugat Biswas chairing a meeting with the concerned officers for ensuring smooth traffic movement on the Srinagar-Leh Highway.

### Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Divisional Commissioner, Ladakh Saugat Biswas chaired a meeting with the concerned officers for ensuring smooth traffic movement on the Srinagar-Leh Highway.

He reviewed the arrangements for ensuring the safety of the vehicles and passengers traveling on the Zojila road. The state of preparedness was also briefed by the project Beacon, project Vijayak, administration of district Ganderbal and Kargil.

The BRO, district administrations of Kargil and Ganderbal, the Traffic Police are all set to ensure smooth flow of traffic on the Srinagar-Leh Highway passing through Zojila till the closure of the Zojilla pass.

Deputy Commissioner Kargil, Santosh Sukhdev assured of the deployment of recovery vehicles, earthmovers, tippers, etc at strategic points on the highway. The District Police, Ganderbal,

and Army Authorities from 8 Mountain Division presented the existing gaps in communication between the various agencies involved in smooth traffic flow. During the meeting, such gaps regarding the timing of road maintenance, movement of army convoys, and civilian vehicles were ironed out, ensuring better coordination for the movement of traffic. He also assured that the positioning of two recovery vans has already been done and two more will be positioned shortly to recover vehicles in distress and prevent road blockages.

Chief Engineer Beacon, Brigadier Jaggi apprised of the proactive measures taken to improve the road management compared to the previous years. He informed that five detachments have been placed from Gumri to Drass and are working in synergy with the civil administration.

SP Kargil, Inayat Ali informed that detachments of the police have been deployed at Sonam-

arg as well as Gumri along with the detachment of BRO. The Divisional Commissioner further directed for close coordination with the District Administration, SSPs, Traffic Police, BRO, and Army, to move in sync with civilian traffic, according to SOP.

The Divisional Commissioner asked the SP Kargil to release a public advisory to instruct the public to travel with snow chains in their vehicles in December. District Administration Ganderbal assured of providing emergency accommodation at Sonamarg for stranded people in case of an emergency road closure. He also instructed to prioritize the movement of essential commodities which are often stuck at Sonamarg, causing huge inconvenience to the public.

Divisional Commissioner thanked the officials for their hard work in keeping the roads functioning despite the odds and asked them to follow suit this year as well, strictly adhere to the deadline to accomplish the mission on time.

## CEC discusses plans for beautification of roads from Spituk to main market Leh

### Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Chairman/CEC, LAHDC Leh, Adv. Tashi Gyalsen reviewed and discuss plans for the beautification of roads from Spituk to main market Leh with different stakeholders and authorities associated with the project on December 14

Representatives from the NHID-CL, RO Ladakh apprised the Chairman with their proposed design and plans for the beau-

tification project. They highlighted major components associated which include ethnic streetscapes, topographical features, management of traffic, developing required infrastructure, etc.

While reviewing the plans, CEC Tashi Gyalsen instructed the officials to constitute a committee for conducting a joint survey and to discuss major issues in consultation with the local

stakeholders. He also suggested incorporating major concerns in line with the proposed ongoing projects within the town. He further directed the executing agencies to jointly explore the possibilities and actual alignments of the roads so that there could be more visibility and possibilities in terms of feasibility to discuss during the next course of meetings with the concerned stakeholders.



## People's Voice

By Tenzin Dajon



**PUNCHOK TASHI, Executive Councillor, LAHDC, Kargil:** Earlier Ladakh was one district, then in 1979, Kargil became a separate district. People of Zaskar wanted to remain under district Leh instead of the newly formed district but due to connectivity reasons, Zaskar was kept under district Kargil. Since then the

people of Zaskar are demanding separate districts for various genuine reasons. Till date, each leader of the region has kept the demand alive. Under the erstwhile state of J&K, our demand did not get due attention because many other regions in the state were demanding district status. Before the 2019 Lok Sabha election, there was a notion that BJP will come back in power again and national leaders like Kiran Rijju, Ram Madhav, and Ashok Kaul visited Zaskar and promised to grant district status for Zaskar. Thus, Zaskar supported BJP in the election. Despite being an Executive Councillor on the mandate of the National Conference, I supported BJP. Days and years are gone and so far no progress is seen on the ground.

At our level, we are following it and reminding the demand of Zaskar on every platform. Lieutenant Governor said, "It is a political issue, not an administrative issue. It will be granted by Home Ministry, not UT Administration."

District status for Zaskar is the topmost point highlighted in the election manifesto because of which many people assume that all other sectors including education, infrastructure, and social welfare are being neglected. I will say this is not true because till date Zaskar got its due share from Hill Council, Kargil, and developmental activities are carried out at their own pace.

In 2020, Stanzin Lakpa was appointed as the District President of BJP Zaskar, though Zaskar is not a district so far. On asking by media, he had said, "Within two months we are going to give a formal order." I have asked MP on the public forum about the status of the district during his recent visit to Zaskar. He assured that within his tenure he will fulfill it. The question is that already three years have gone by and request him not to make excuse in 2024 for more time.

The district status demand of the people of Zaskar has not faded

## Demand of district status for Zaskar

away; it is very much alive in every soul of Zaskar.

We the people of Zaskar have given the responsibility to one person and it is his commitment. If the BJP government can abrogate Article 370 and 35A, then giving Zaskar a district status is not a big deal. I am very optimistic that soon they will declare Zaskar a district and if they fail to fulfill the demand before 2024, then there will be a huge agitation against BJP in Zaskar because they will be breaking the trust and faith of the people.



**STANZIN LAKPA, Councillor, LAHDC Kargil:** Administration of Zaskar is being remote-controlled from Kargil, which is 240km away from the region's headquarter. No one can question our demand, as the issues faced by us are well known to the whole of Ladakh.

Zaskar is a vast region with an area of 7000 sq. km, which has many scattered hamlets therefore the district status demand becomes genuine. BJP is not delaying the process, we have committed that within a set time frame Zaskar will be a district. As a representative from Zaskar, I could see that the process is going on a normal process, we have taken up the issue with the central leadership time and again and we have been getting due concentration. So there is no confusion, though it may take some time. Getting commitment from such leaders at the centre itself is a big deal because we never get such commitment neither from the Kargil administration nor from the erstwhile state of J&K.

Earlier governments did not commit it at all, be it National Conference in the state or Congress at the centre. But in 2019 we got a commitment that Zaskar will get district status, which is our decades-long demand.

On September 6, 2019, a team of delegations proposed to make Zaskar a district at organization level. Later on February 1, 2020, we announced Zaskar a district at organisation level, after deliberating with JP Nadda and other cabinet ministers. The step was taken to give assurance to the public, not to make them fool. If we can wait for 70 years to get district status, then why not two years more. Each

thing is in the process and people need to understand that to date 10 MLAs have represented our region, but they never committed to fulfilling our demand. When Satya Pal Malik was the governor of the erstwhile state, then we sent all the necessary recommendations on 17 October 2019 to the Home ministry through him. Later on 31st October, Ladakh become UT and again we have sent the same recommendation through LG R.K. Mathur.

Granting Zaskar a district status is not just in our election manifesto, we do work on it as a top priority as well. My humble request to all people of Zaskar, don't get confused, have trust in the people who are working on the ground.



**TENZIN TSETUP, President AZSAJ:** There is a coordination committee to keep the demand of district status for Zaskar alive, but unfortunately it often goes to hibernation. President of LBA Zaskar is its head and the committee has become weak due to the inactive and impartial attitude of the former

ZBA president. Now we have a new ZBA president and whatever he will initiate people will cooperate with him. Though the committee did a meeting this summer and decided to choose spokespersons to communicate with the people. Even members were briefed to organise monthly discussions on the issue, but somehow it could not happen. Therefore reviving CC has become very important to mobilize the people and to have a systematic dialogue with the government. At the student level, we did a protest for a month on the ground and later did a campaign on social media in Jammu last year. Only then did MP raise the issue in the parliament after two years, which clears that reminder is necessary.

Being student president I decided to organise a mass agitation this summer, but COVID protocols came in between. People are also quite optimistic that before 2024 the demand will get fulfilled which is why there is peace on the ground, without much agitation and protest. But if BJP fails to fulfill its commitment then it will be difficult for the survival of BJP in Zaskar.



### National Energy Conservation Day

Every year on the 14th of December, Indians around the country commemorate National Energy Conservation Day. In 2001, the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) of India implemented the Energy Conservation Act. The Bureau of Energy Efficiency is a constitutional entity within the Government of India that assists in the creation of energy-saving policies and programmes.

National Energy Conservation Day is observed to raise awareness about the significance of energy and the need of saving or conserving energy by using less energy. The most precise method of ener-



gy conservation is to utilize less energy by minimizing energy waste. To store energy for future use, it is critical to use it effectively. To have a greater impact on the energy conservation strategy, energy conservation should be ingrained in every human being's behavior.

Bureau of Energy Efficiency is an agency established in March 2002 operating under the jurisdiction of the Government of India after the formulation of the Energy Conservation Act in India in 2001. BEE forms policies pertaining to energy conservation and works to aware the general public around the same issue.

## DID YOU KNOW



is so good that the police have dogs in their team to sniff out clues!

- Space junk is any human-made object orbiting Earth that no longer serves a useful purpose. Scientists estimate there are about 5, 00,000 pieces of space junk today, which includes fragments of rockets and satellites.

- Vijay Diwas is celebrated on December 16 every year to honour the victory of Indian armed forces over Pakistan in the 1971 war. India won the war against Pakistan after fighting for 13 days. The chief of the Pakistani forces, General Amir Abdullah Khan Niazi surrendered to the joint forces of Indian Army and Bangladesh's Mukti Bahini, along with 93,000 Pakistani troops. It was also the biggest-ever military surrender after World War II.

- A polar bear's hair is not white - it is colourless. Each thick strand of hair is hollow and reflects the light, making the polar bear white. Beneath this transparent fur, the skin is black, to soak up any warmth from the sun and keep the body as warm as possible.

- An eagle's eyes are at least four times sharper than a human's.

- Dogs have a really great sense of smell. Scientists believe that their sense of smell is between 10,000 and 1, 00,000 better than humans. Their sense of smell



## SoulSpeak

P.P. Wangchuk

### Accept and welcome the aging process



Aging is a graceful and an inevitable natural process. Most of the countries have an age barrier (60) beyond which one is called a senior citizen. Aging can be a beautiful phenomenon if one understands the natural way of life and its seamless stages.

Some of the good characteristics of an aged person are: Kind, loving, careful, wiser, cool and composed, balanced and, above all, serene.

Therefore, since one can't stop the aging process even if one wants to, it is always better to welcome it and enjoy the better aspects of the process. That is why it is said that life begins at 60. The 'facts' behind this lovely proverb are: that around 60, one retires from service or active life, and, in a way, gets free of all kinds of responsibilities, social and economic. If taken in the true spirit of life, one gets a new phase of life in which one starts getting and enjoying the joys of freedom for a free run of life. One gets, in a way, the freedom to pursue one's hobbies and interests that had to be neglected for decades because of various responsibilities.

As they say, you are as old as you think you are. This proverb is so powerful and lovely that one side of the walls of my drawing room has these words placed prominently so that none can escape this reminder!

My point is that while one cannot stop aging but one can definitely stop the speed and the manner of aging. You need to go for a 'youngish' lifestyle, and stop acting old. Your mind has to be driven to a state that accepts only positive thoughts. Be enthusiastic about the good things of life like going around and visiting places, having good talk and good food with friends. The passion and zest for life have to be strengthened all the more so that nothing seems bleak and negative.

*Courtesy: WongWorld*

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



# In Conversation with Kunzes Dolma, India Ambassador, Women in Geo-thermal

Interviewed by Stanzin Dasal

**Q. Brief us about your role and background.**

The energy sector got introduced to me after working on a project named Ladakh renewable energy initiative introduced by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy. With this, my interest in the energy sector grew. I am the first woman from India to receive a fellowship for six months of training as well as an MSc Fellowship at United Nation University Geothermal Training Program (UNU-GTP). I pursued MSc in Sustainable Energy Engineering at Reykjavik University, Iceland. Received the US WING award for Courage.WING (Women in Geothermal) is a global network that aims to promote the education, professional development, and advancement of women in the geothermal community.

In the year 2010, I worked as a Senior Project Engineer in charge of Solar Passive Architecture, Geothermal, and Solar Greenhouses with Ladakh Renewable Energy Development Agency (LREDA) and in 2018 worked as a geothermal consultant for Ladakh Ecological Development Group (LEDeG). Also, I worked on the preliminary assessment of 3MW pilot project of Geothermal at Chumathang site with the Defence Institute of High Altitude Research (DIHAR) and spearheaded the development of the Puga geothermal site with Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) in 2018 which further progressed to the signing of an MoU for the same in 2021.

Presently, I am pursuing my Doctoral scholar from Reykjavik University, Iceland, and working as an India Ambassador for Women in Geothermal and also as an Energy Advisor, LAHDC, Leh.

**Q. Tell us about the current situation in Ladakh's renewable energy sector, how it is developing and what we can expect in the future.**

Ladakh is blessed with renewable energy resources and there is an immense scope and potential. The solar, wind, hydro, and geothermal energy scope is high in the region and is yet to be explored. We are using solar and hydro energy for power generation and other uses. The Union Territory of Ladakh is coming up with big solar projects and is also exploring other potential sectors. The plan of making Ladakh Carbon neutral is very welcoming and to make it work exploring renewable energy sources becomes equally important.

To take one step towards carbon neutral we have to replace the consumption of fossil fuels for heating systems in the winter months.



one of the potential sectors in Ladakh. I feel the rooftop solar project can be an exemplary one because we have good potential. Roofs of the house can be used to install small solar plants so that one can meet its own power need. This project can also become a source of income for many. There is a need for more schemes and plans to make use of renewable resources.

**Q. India's maiden Geothermal Field Development Project is said to be established in Ladakh. Brief us about the project and how much beneficial it can be?**

Geothermal energy is the heat emanating from the earth's interior which is limitless, unlike solar and wind. There are three kinds of it, Ground source heat pump, Hydro-thermal, and Enhanced geothermal system. Geothermal energy is used to produce electricity, heat buildings and greenhouses, and for other purposes. The energy is clean, renewable, sustainable, carbon-free, continuous, uninterrupted, and environment-friendly. Geothermal Puga and Chumathang in Eastern Ladakh happen to be the most promising geothermal fields in India. The Geothermal Field Development Project to be established in Puga will be the first of its kind in India and ONGC has planned this field development in Ladakh in three phases. Phase-I involves exploratory-cum-production drilling of wells up to 500 metres depth and setting up of a Pilot Plant of up to 1 MW power capacity. Phase-II would involve deeper and lateral exploration of the geothermal reservoir by drilling an optimal number of wells and setting up a higher capacity Demo Plant and preparing a Detailed Project Report. Phase-III would involve the commercial development of the geothermal plant.

The Geothermal Field Development Project in its first phase will help in electrifying villages in and around Puga. It will also boost the tourism sector as the water from hot springs can be used as spas, for heating buildings, and agricultural uses.

**Q. What are the challenges or drawbacks of the Geothermal Field Development Project? What needs to be taken care of?**

The exploration costs for geothermal energy are high and the challenge is to bring down costs. More research and exploration are needed for the effective and efficient use of resources. Since it is renewable resources there is not so much harm to the environment but yet certain things are there which need to be taken care of. The in-

...Continues on Page 6

MESSAGE TO THE READERS

“Ladakh is rich in Renewable energy and there is immense scope and potential, thus people need to be more aware and should be responsible for any kind of activities done on this part.”

There is a need for plans to make use of renewable energy, stressing on building with proper insulation, passive solar houses, etc. The proper use of solar energy for heating purposes can reduce one-third of energy consumption.

Likewise, new sources of renewable energy like green hydrogen are being explored, and also concentrated solar electricity production is

Fortnight Highlights



BJP Ladakh organised a candle march as a tribute to first CDS of India, General Bipin Rawat, his wife and other officers who died in an Indian Air Force (IAF) chopper crash near Coonoor in Tamil Nadu. The candle march began at Leh Gate and culminated at Leh Market.



Chairman, DDMA, Leh and the concerned officials discussed the state of preparedness of Covid Care Centres, quarantine centres, medical equipment, medicines, manpower, etc due to the surge in Covid-19 positive cases in Ladakh.



Tehsil Legal Service Authority (TLSA) Drass in collaboration with Government Degree College Drass organized day-long live legal proceedings students of semester for 4th and 6th.



Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) of UT of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, Hirdesh Kumar conducted a field visit for the verification of electoral forms as a part of the ongoing Special Summary Revision of the Photo Electoral Roll-2022 in Ladakh.



Chairman/CEC, LAHDC Leh, Tashi Gyalson reviewed and discussed the physical/financial progress as well as the excess/surrender of funds under the Public Works sector; District CAPEX Budget for the financial year 2021-22.



## Secretary, Rural Development Department visits Sodh Block

Inspects ongoing developmental works under RDD, reviews NRLM



Secretary, Rural Development Department interacting with the Self Help Group (SHG) members at Yourbaltak.

### Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: Secretary Rural Development Department, Saugat Biswas visited Sodh Block and other areas of Kargil and inspected various ongoing developmental works under RDD on December 12.

ADC, Tsering Motup; ACD, Ghulam Mohammad; District Panchayat Officer, Padma Angmo; Deputy District Election Officer, Nargis Banoo; Executive Engineer, Gulzar Hussain Munshi; Tehsildar Kargil, Saleem Wazir besides other officers accompanied the Secretary during the visit.

To ensure judicious use of the land available near the segregation plant at Ringmospang for construction of secondary shed and other related purposes, Saugat Biswas directed ADC Kargil to merge the land under MC Kargil with the segregation plant.

He also directed the Executive Engineer to ensure blacktopping of road, tiling of the floor of segregation plant besides construction of separate washrooms for men and women workers, at the earliest.

While reiterating the commitment of LG Ladakh regarding Carbon Neutral, Divisional Commissioner directed Executive Engineer REM to maximize the utilization of solar heating double glaze glasses at the under-construction building of rural complex cum conventional hall at Kurbathang. He also directed ACD to explore the usage of solar heating in all library buildings across the district. The Executive Engineer was asked to coordinate with the construction agency to procure the remaining construction material before the closure of the Zojila pass.

The secretary also inspected the ongoing construction work at

Civil Helipad Kurbathang. He informed that the UT administration has a special focus on air connectivity of the Ladakh region to provide uninterrupted air services during winters for people. The concerned officers were asked to develop more space for the construction of hangers (Parking space for helicopters), construction of terminals with proper facilities of scanning, frisking, lounge, VIP lounge, waiting room, and separate ways for arrival and departure for passengers.

While interacting with the Self Help Group (SHG) members at Yourbaltak, the Secretary assured that UT Administration is committed to providing proper packaging and marketing solutions to sell local products at national and international markets. He directed ACD Kargil to identify locations on Srinagar-Leh National Highway to construct shops to showcase their products for tourists.

Saugat Biswas who is also Roll Observer for UT Ladakh, later visited Tumail, Apati, and Poyen for house-to-house sample verification of electoral forms as a part of the ongoing Special Summary Revision of the photo electoral roll 2022 in Ladakh. He also corrected various forms filled by the voters related to electoral forms such as form 6 for new enrolment names, form 7 for deletion and duplicacy, and form 8 for correction of particulars in electoral rolls.

## First meeting of Cricket association of Ladakh held

### Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: The first meeting of executives and members from Leh and Kargil was called by President, Dr. Skalzang Dorje on December 8 after the official registration of Cricket association of Ladakh – CAL in Union Territory of Ladakh.

The meeting was attended by the President, executives and members of respective District Cricket associations.

The meeting focussed on agendas and grievances relating to the district bodies and the overall upliftment of Cricket in Ladakh. The respective presidents presented their pertaining issues related to the two districts in which both the district presidents highlighted the problems and inconveniences caused by Ladakh being still governed by Jammu & Kashmir Cricket Association.

Dr. Skalzang assured full com-



mitment of CAL to getting affiliated to BCCI soon.

Discussion was also held on expansion of CAL executives to Sub division level, from which it will create a road map to identify neglected talents from remote villages of Ladakh as well. Various committees required to a state cricket body was also discussed and deliberated which further boosted in formation of a Ladakh Cricket Team soon.

Dr. Skalzang believes in building up of cricket stadiums in both

the districts with time and adequate funding from BCCI. He also appreciates the efforts of the Hon'ble Chairman of both the districts and Secretary, Sports & youth Services, UT Ladakh for their support with land allotments and other funds for future cricket projects in both the districts.

The meeting concluded with discussions on resolving various issues and insecurities pertaining the particular districts which was appreciated by all present in the meeting.

## Joint Chief Election Officer J&K, Ladakh visit Kargil for Special Summary Revision



Joint Chief Election Officer for the Union Territories (UTs) of J&K and Ladakh Anil Salgotra during his visit to Kargil.

### Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: Joint Chief Election Officer for the Union Territories (UTs) of J&K and Ladakh Anil Salgotra visited Kargil and checked the forms filled during Special Summary Revision of Electoral Roll 2021 on December 7.

The joint CEO visited various villages and polling centers of Shakar Chiktan sub-division including Chulichan, Kukarchey, Gyunkmaspang, and Ningros Hagnis polling stations. Deputy District Election Officer, Nargis Banoo, Tehsildar, and AERO

Shakar Chiktan, Kacho Asgar Ali besides concerned officials of District Election Department Kargil also accompanied the Joint CEO during the tour.

Anil Salgotra did a ground assessment of summary revision works of the electoral roll in Shakar Chiktan sub-division, where he also interacted with Booth Level Officers (BLO's) and concerned officers.

During the visit at different polling centers, the Joint CEO took an assessment of the electoral forms wherein he approved the satisfactorily filled forms while as disapproved forms that didn't fall on the pre-requisites of the documentation process.

He directed the BLO's to work with precision related to documentation of electoral rolls and also directed them to use the Garuda Application, of the Election Commission of India (ECI), for online registration. The application was launched for digital mapping of all polling stations, to ensure faster, smarter, transparent, and timely completion of election work.

Earlier, the Joint CEO was received at Heniskote by Deputy Chief Election Officer Kargil Nargis Banoo besides other concerned officers and concerned officials of District Election Department Kargil.

## CEC, Leh, flags off batch of local youths for educational training program in Bengaluru

### Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: First batch of youths from Leh district flagged off for an educational tour and residential life skill cum vocational training to the institute of Sri-Sri Rural Development Programme Trust, Bengaluru on December 11.

The program has been organized by the Hill Council and District Administration Leh under the banner of the 'Youth Support Scheme'. The participants will complete the program in 2 months.

Chairman/CEC, LAHDC Leh, Tashi Gyalsong stated that the objective of conducting the training is to

provide a platform for the youths to train themselves in various technical fields which would further help them in practicing and train local youths as well. He also stated that such steps would help reduce the issues of unemployment among local youths.

He further added that the Hill Council, Leh is working collectively with such institutes for conducting similar programs in the future.

Executive Councillor for Agriculture, Stanzin Chosphel, ADC Leh, Sonam Chosjor, Councillor Khal-tse, Lobzang Sherab were also present during the occasion.

## In conversation with Kunzes Dolma

...Continued from Page 5

Q. What words of encouragement do you have for women wanting to enter the energy sector, and for any women currently in the industry?

In the Energy sector, women's participation is very less as compared to men. The sector is mostly male-dominated one not just in India but globally also. At present Women in Geothermal (WING) India is focussing on mentoring future geothermal enthusiasts and bringing professionals involved in geothermal on a single platform. There is immense opportunity in the energy sector because it is wide and can enter through any field.

Q. What words of encouragement do you have for women wanting to enter the energy sector, and for any women currently in the industry?

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## 11 Ladakhi students to participate in National level Kala Utsav-2021



Participants of the UT level Kala Utsav-2021.

### Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: The Department of School Education, Ladakh organised the UT level Kala Utsav-2021 competition in both Leh and Kargil district through online and offline mode on December 8.

The jury from both districts assessed the performances of

the district finalist through live streaming as well as live performances. The selected students performed vocal music- traditional folk, instrumental music- traditional folk, dance- folk, visual arts (2D), visual arts (3D), and indigenous toys and games. The selected candidates/finalists would participate in the National

level Kala Utsav-2021 through live streaming which would be held in January 2022.

Speaking on the occasion, Director, School Education, UT Ladakh, Dr. Safdar Ali emphasized the importance of arts in the personality development of a child.

Kala Utsav is an initiative of the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education (MOE), Government of India, launched in 2015 to promote arts in education by nurturing and showcasing the artistic talent of school students at the secondary level in the country.

The finalists selected for representing UT Ladakh in the National level Kala Utsav-2021 are:

Student name	Class	School	Art form/Category
Changchup Dorje	10th	Govt. High School Chumathang, Leh	Folk Dance
Rinchen Dolker	12th	Govt. Higher Secondary School Chushot Shamma, Leh	Folk Dance
Norboo Zangpo	11th	Govt. Higher Secondary School Diskit, Nubra	Folk Song
Rigzen Angmo	12th	Lamdon Model Senior Secondary School, Leh	Folk Song
Tsering Kunsal	12th	Lamdon Model Senior Secondary School, Leh	Traditional Instrument
Mustafa Ali	9th	Govt. Higher Secondary School Trespone, Kargil	Visual Art (2d)
Kaneez Fatima	10th	Govt. High School Baroo, Kargil	Visual Art (2d)
Sonam Stanzin	9th	Govt. High School Liker, Leh	Visual Art (3-D)
Zarifa Banoo	11th	Ashrm Hr. Sec. School, Sankoo	Visual Art (3-D)
Shujat Ali	11th	Army Goodwill School Harka Bahadur, Kargil	Indigenous toy/Games
Saira Bano	11th	Govt. Higher Secondary School, Diskit	Indigenous toy/Games

## International Anti-Corruption Day: Youth Action Committee, Kargil organises one-day conference



CEC, Hill Council, Kargil, Feroz Ahmed Khan during the daylong conference organised by Youth Action Committee Kargil.

### Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: Observing International Anti-Corruption Day 2021, Youth Action Committee Kargil organized a day-long conference themed, 'How to stop the menace of corruption' on December 9 at Conference Hall Baroo.

CEC, Hill Council, Kargil, Feroz Ahmed Khan congratulated members of Youth Action Committee Kargil for organizing the conference to impart awareness among masses against corruption, which is a real hindrance to the growth and progress in any society. He urged people to ex-

ercise the rights provided by the Constitution of India and raise their voices against corruption.

He said that the only way forward to stop the menace of corruption is collective efforts by all stakeholders and to make the government responsible for development and progress. He emphasized that people should come forward to report complaints against any sort of inappropriate use of public funds and further stressed to avoid unnecessary generalizations.

LAHDC Kargil is fully committed to delivering fair governance

to the people of Kargil and the commitment would not be compromised at any level, he added.

Additional SP Iftikhar Ahmed Choudhary while interacting with the audience briefed about the menace of corruption in society and further said that religious institutions have to play a vital role to impart awareness against corruption. He urged religious clerks to spread awareness among the general public during their sermons and through religious platforms.

Iftikhar Ahmed said that self-inspection is needed before pointing fingers at others.

Principal Government Degree College, Zanskar, Nasser Shabani said that at the school level, lessons about integrity should be taught to students, to build a positive mindset at the beginning of their growth and development.

Earlier, student representatives from various religious and civil society organizations delivered lectures on the topic and highlighted the ill effects of corruption.

## CEC, Leh, discusses plans for establishing Dark Sky Reserve at Hanley

### Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: CEC, Hill Council, Leh, Tashi Gyalson reviewed and discussed the plans for establishing a Dark Sky Reserve at Hanley village in the Changthang region with the concerned officers on November 30.

Dorje Angchuk, Engineer in charge at IAO Hanley also an honorary member of the International Astronomical Union shared his views on the potential of promoting Astro-tourism, including light management, energy efficiency, and ecological integrity, and uplifting the local economy of the region.

Tashi Gyalson expressed his gratitude to the UT Administration led by LG Ladakh for taking a keen interest in establishing a dark-sky reserve at Hanley vil-



Concerned officers and stakeholders discussing the plans for establishing a Dark Sky Reserve at Hanley village in the Changthang region.

lage. He stressed the need for formulating a comprehensive plan for the project in consultation with all the stakeholders, including the local community. He further added that the said project should be executed at an international standard to promote sustainable Astro-tourism in the region.

Principal Secretary, UT Ladakh, Dr. Pawan Kotwal stated that this

project should be implemented while keeping the restoration of the natural habitat of the ecosystem in mind. He added that the UT Administration would ensure assistance for the execution of the project. He requested the public representatives to sensitize the local community on economical management, roles, and responsibilities for establishing the Dark Sky Reserve at Hanley.

## Advisor Ladakh emphasises convergence initiatives to address malnutrition in children and women under POSHAN Abhiyan

### Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Advisor Ladakh, Umang Narula chaired a meeting with Administrative Secretaries of all Departments for planning convergence initiatives to address malnutrition in children, pregnant women and lactating mothers under POSHAN Abhiyan on December 2.

At the outset, Secretary, Social and Tribal Welfare Department, UT Ladakh, Padma Angmo gave a presentation on Poshan Abhiyan and detailed out the aspects that require convergence with other Departments at the grass-root level like the Departments of Health, Agriculture, Horticulture, Rural Development, School Education, Food & Civil Supplies, Forest and Public Health Engineering for addressing malnourishment among children.

The importance of holding Poshan Panchayat, regular meetings of Village Health and Nutrition Committee, setting up of Poshan Vatikas in villages and Poshan Assembly in schools was discussed at length. Secretary Padma also briefed about the proposed Swasth Bacha Spardha, planned by the Ministry of Women & Child Development.

Advisor Ladakh, while review-



ing the presentation reiterated that the Prime Minister has given a call for 'Kuposhit Mukh Bharat' and directed all Departments to ensure that malnourishment among children in Ladakh is eradicated. He directed for regular meetings of the Village Health, Sanitation and Nutrition Committee (VHSNC) which is set up under NRHM, and said that the Village Health and Nutrition Day should be celebrated in the villages on a quarterly basis with the active participation of all stakeholders. He also highlighted the need to encourage an active Poshan Panchayat in each village.

Talking about the Poshan Vatikas, Advisor Ladakh asked the officials from Leh to identify schools to set up a few Green House-Poshan Vatikas on a pilot basis in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture. He also directed that small vegetable

gardens should be set up in all Anganwadi Centres using funding from the School Education Department, PHE, MGNREGA and Agriculture department schemes and utilising greywater discharge.

While discussing the issue about Anganwadi Centers in Kargil operating out of rented accommodation, he directed the Department of Social Welfare and School Education Department, Kargil to look into the matter for shifting of Anganwadi Centers to Schools.

He also directed sustained tracking of identified malnourished children under the ICDS programme so that they are referred to Hospitals if their growth progress is not found to be satisfactory. He further directed regular check-ups of such children by doctors through periodic health camps at a block level.

## State Eligibility Test for Ladakh to be held on May 15, 2022

### Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: The State Eligibility Test will be held on May 15, 2022 (Sunday), for determining the eligibility of candidates for Assistant Professor in University and colleges of UT of Ladakh (LASET) along with the SET for the UT of Jammu and Kashmir.

The University of Jammu which is the nodal agency will conduct SET in 38 subjects at three Centers in Jammu, Srinagar and Leh. The application and other details are available on the website <http://www.jammuuniversity.ac.in/>

The Higher Education Depart-

ment of UT of Ladakh had taken up the matter regarding conduct of SET with the UGC and the Department of Higher Education, J&K after which it was decided that the University of Jammu shall be the nodal agency to conduct the SET for Ladakh for the year 2021-22.

## One-day workshop on Digital Payment held in Leh



During the one-day workshop on Digital Payment in Leh.

### Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: To promote the Digital India Mission, the Finance Department, UT Ladakh in coordination with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) conducted the first-ever one-day workshop on Digital Payments on December 9 in Leh.

Chairman/CEC, LAHDC Leh, Tashi Gyalson stated that the COVID-19 pandemic has made us realize the importance of shifting towards cashless/digital transactions in our day-to-day lives. He added that this step will not only ease our lives, but it will help us grow faster with the rest

of the world in terms of digitalization.

He further added that the rural sector of the Union Territory of Ladakh needs to get more educated on this system so that the entire UT of Ladakh can actively get involved.

## NOTICE

Hotel Zen Ladakh R/o Sheldan, Leh has applied for vanity/ Choice No. LA 02-1000 for the newly purchased car. Vehicle type: Mercedes Benz. Chassis No. : 25398062039189. Engine No.: 26492030428753

If anyone wants to bid for the aforesaid Bid No. LA 02-1000, he/she shall apply in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport Officer within a period of 7 days of the publication of this notice in newspaper, after which no claim shall be entertained and said Bid no. will be given to the said application on first come first serve basis.

No. ARTO/L/ UT/2021-22-322

Date: 11-12-2021

Assistant Regional Transport Office

## NOTICE

No 9931358K Rank Sepoy Parashuram Maurya/S/o Ram Das Maurya R/o UP P/AT LSRC C/o 56APO has claimed that his first name Parashuram has been wrongly spelled as Parshuram Maurya instead of Parashuram Maurya in the Army record of, LSRC C/o 56APO and produced an affidavit duly verified by Notary public Leh with Certificate No. IN-LA0243098848615T to this office for making necessary correction. Hence the notice is hereby served through press to file objection if any in this office, LSRC C/o 56APO within 7 days from date of publication failing which necessary correction will be made.

## NOTICE

I, Chamba Skalzang, S/o Phunchok Joldan R/o Choglamsar, Leh -Ladakh has claimed that his Date of Birth has been wrongly entered as 02-07-1985 in the driving license bearing no. JK1020130010692 instead of my correct Date of Birth 28-03-1982 as per his Adhaar Card. An affidavit duly verified by Notary public Leh with Certificate No. INLA02412649152303T produced for making necessary correction. Hence the notice is hereby served through press to file objection if any in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport Officer within a period of 7 days of the publication of this notice in newspaper.



# Stay Healthy with our Probiotic Caspian Sea Yogurt!

First time Launched in India at Leh Ladakh

Greek Yogurt and kefir yogurt you can find everywhere in INDIA .  
But this Caspian Sea yogurt is only with us , made in Ladakh !!



Caspian sea yogurt is **totally different** from normal yogurt or curd.

This Yogurt's special good Bacteria is originated from region near Caspian sea, and became **very famous in Japan** for those who care about their health condition.

Unique and **slimy** ,sticky Texture, **Creamy** taste, you've never ever experienced this kind yogurt before.

Not only it's taste and texture, Caspian Sea Probiotic Yogurt has so much good effect to your body, Result of experiment shows that Caspian sea yogurt 's good bacteria **improves Skin Problem, allergies, blood sugar Level, Insulin level** , and etc.

Please try this Healthy Creamy and tasty probiotic yogurt.



To know about Caspian sea yogurt , you can **just Google CASPIAN SEA YOGURT.**

Or **Check our FACEBOOK page** for more detail (Movie of unique texture of Caspian sea yogurt is also available at our page)



**Blueberry 90g=50Rs**

**Plain 200g=50Rs**

**Apricot 90g=40Rs**

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