

REACH LADAKH BULLETIN



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Two-day annual Hemis festival celebrates with religious fervor

Silk brocade of Gyalsras Rinpoche was unfurled and displayed for the blessings



Stanzin Dasal

HEMIS: The two-day annual festival 'Hemis Tsechu' was observed with much of enthusiasm on July 9 and 10 at Hemis monastery, Leh. Silk brocade of Gyalsras Rinpoche was unfurled and displayed for the blessings.

Thousands of spectators amidst religious festivity mood thronged at the Ladakh's biggest Hemis monastery to witness the mask dances performed by the monks to bring peace, prosperity and harmony in the society.

Stating the auspicious day as the great festival of Guru Padmasambhava, His Eminence Thukrsas Rinpoche said, "Hemis festival marks the celebration of the birth anniversary of Guru Padmasambhava and is observed every year with religious fervor at Hemis monastery."

His Eminence said, "We are blessed to have His Eminence Thiksey Khanpo Rinpoche as the chief guest of the Hemis festival along with many other dignitaries. It gives an immense pleasure to celebrate this year annual festival together praying for peace, harmony and prosperity to all sentient beings."

On the first day, the 13 black hat dancers

performed the first sacred dance. Evoking the wrathful energy of Hayagriya, the black hat dancers cut off all evil influences to allow the festival to unfurl in the most beneficial and successful way. Followed by Sixteen brass mask dance, the eight manifestations of Guru Padmasambhava perform the dance displaying the principles that the guru spontaneously demonstrated as per different circumstances.

Other mask dance, including , the Twelve Zhing Kyong, the protectors of the truth, Serkyem, four goma (gatekeepers) for the welfare of all sentient beings, the four lords of the graveyards, five Chemchog Heruka (fierce of Guru Padmasambhava) the five Tshog len (Dakinis), the ten great king were also performed.

On the last day, His Eminence Thuksey Rinpoche performed the mask dance. The monks assemble and worship Gyalpo Pehar (Dharmapala), the protector of Hemis. Sacred mask dance of the 13 black hat dancers, eleven Acharyas, Maning (The protector Mahakala as Maning), Serkyem, Mahe Dongchanthe buffalo face and with the dance of Hashang and Hatuk the festival came to an end.

Ladakh remembers Colonel Chewang Rinchen on his 25th death anniversary



Sonam Angmo

LEH: Remembering Lt. Colonel Chewang Rinchen on his 25th death anniversary, a wreath-laying ceremony was organised by Ladakh Scouts Regiment Centre (LSRC) at his Memorial Park on June 30.

Colonel Chewang Rinchen MVC & bar, SM was a fearless and highly decorated officer in the Indian Army. He was born in Sumur Village on November 11, 1931. He is known as the 'Lion of Ladakh' for his extraordinary acts of courage in defending the Leh and Partapur sector in face of attacks by adversaries. He participated in wars in 1948 (Indo-Pak), 1962 (India-China), and 1971 (Bangladesh war for liberation), and was awarded the Maha Vir Chakra, the second-highest gallantry award in the country twice, besides a Sewa Medal for being part of the various operation. He is one of only six armed forces per-

sonnel to have been twice awarded the Maha Vir Chakra.

Sharing the valour of her father, Dr. Angmo, eldest daughter of Col Chhewang Rinchen said, "At the age of 17 years, Chewang Rinchen, who was still in school enrolled himself in Ladakh Guards and received basic training. He then trained another 28 local youths and formed Nubra Guards. Leading the band 'Nubra Guard' he hold back the Pakistan invaders."

"A book titled 'Lion of Ladakh' is yet to be released; it aims to narrate the story of Col Chhewang Rinchen's valour to inspire others. The book seeks to keep him and his contribution alive", she added.

Army officers, other dignitaries, family members, relatives, and friends of Col Chhewang Rinchen also attended and remembered him on his 25th death anniversary.

Ladakh celebrates 87th birth anniversary of His Holiness Dalai Lama



During the celebration of the 87th birth anniversary of His Holiness Dalai Lama at Jevetsal, Choglamsar.

Stanzin Dasal

CHOGLAMSAR: Wishing healthy and long life to His Holiness Dalai Lama, Ladakh Buddhist Association in collaboration with All Ladakh Gonpa Association and Chief Representative Office of the Sonamling Tibetan Settlement Ladakh celebrated the 87th birth anniversary of His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama on July 6 at Jivetsal.

Umang Narula, Advisor to the Lieutenant Governor of UT Ladakh was the chief guest.

Thupstan Chhewang, President, LBA wished His Holiness healthy long life for the benefit of all sentient beings. He said that it gives immense pleasure to celebrate His Holiness birthday together in such a grand way for the first time since the covid-19 pandemic began.

He also expressed his gratitude to the Tibetan people residing in Ladakh for keeping alive the tradition of celebrating His Holiness birthday and organizing a similar celebration in Norbulinga.

Advisor Umang Narula said, "In the present time of materialistic, development and prosperity, people are drifting away from mental peace. Spiritual masters like Dalai Lama have been active-

ly engaged in advocating world peace and spreading the message of love and compassion. He is an inspiration to live a compassionate and harmonious life".

He said that while celebrating the birth anniversary of His Holiness people must reiterate and try to practice the message of universal peace, compassion, and communal harmony.

CRO, Dhondup Tashi, and Dhondup Tsering, President, Tibetan Local assembly read out the statement of Si-kyong, CTA, and Tibetan Parliament in Exile respectively.

Acharya Stanzin Wangdak, President, LGA; Deputy Chairman, Tsering Angchuk and Satish Khandare, ADGP, Ladakh Police also spoke on the occasion.

Cultural programs of Tibetan and Ladakhi were also showcased.

HH the 14th Dalai Lama was born on 6 July 1935, to a farming family, in a hamlet located in Taktser, Amdo, northeastern Tibet. At the age of two, then named Lhamo Dhondup, was recognized as the reincarnation of the previous 13th Dalai Lama, Thubten Gyatso. The Dalai Lamas are believed to be manifestations of Avalokiteshvara or Chenrezig, the Bodhisattva of Compassion, and the patron saint of Tibet.

1st CEC Polo Cup tournament begins at Shagaran, Chuchot

Army Red Polo team beats Indus Polo Club in the inaugural match



Stanzin Dasal

CHUCHOT: First Chief Executive Councillor Polo Cup was inaugurated by CEC, LAHDC, Leh, Tashi Gyalson on July 11 at Shagaran, Chuchot Gongma. The inaugural match was played between the Army Red Polo Team and the Indus Polo Club Chuchot. Army Red won the match.

The six days long polo festival was organised by the Department of Youth Services and Sports, LAHDC, Leh in collaboration with Indus Chuchot Polo Club, Leh. A total of 5 teams namely, Indus Chuchot Polo Club; Army Red Polo Team; Kundrik Polo Team; Turtuk Polo Team; and Animal husbandry Polo Team will be participating in the tournament. The final match will be played on 16 June.

Addressing the gathering, Tashi Gyalson, CEC, Hill Council, Leh appreciated the efforts of Councillor Chuchot, Mirza Hussain for following up con-

stantly to organize this polo festival.

"Polo festival has been initiated to revive the age-old traditions and to maintain communal harmony in the region and it has been made possible because of the enthusiasm of organisers and supporters", he added.

He further informed that the Hill Council, Leh is taking every possible step to revive traditional Polo in the region and also welcomed feedback and suggestions from the stakeholders for further development of the game in the district.

Traditional cultural performances were performed and stalls with local handicrafts and traditional Ladakhi cuisine were showcased during the event.

Secretary Youth, Services and Sports, Ravinder Kumar appreciated the initiative of Indus Chuchot Polo Club for the initiative of conducting a polo festival which is a crucial step for promoting

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Dragon Super Mart focus on local products; engages local entrepreneurs



Ghulam Mohiuddin along with Chief Agriculture officer interacting with local entrepreneurs during the store visit at Dragon super mart.

Stanzin Dasal

LEH: Dragon Super Mart invited potential local entrepreneurs and Self Help groups to display and sale of locally processed food and cosmetic products at the mart.

Around 17 local food and cosmetic entrepreneurs displayed their products and interacted with the officers of concerned departments on July 7 at Dragon Super Mart.

Briefing about the initiative, Ghulam Mohiuddin said, "Dragon Super Mart as a retailer is experienced and focuses to provide employment opportunities, especially to rural youths and farmers by encouraging them to utilize

agriculture and allied products and to introduce them in the global market".

"Ladakh has great potential for apricot, seabuckthorn, apple, vegetables, etc. but due to lack of knowledge, infrastructure, and market opportunities, large quantities of these cash crops are wasted every year. Dragon Supermart is trying to provide a market platform to the local entrepreneur to expand their brands and businesses", he added.

Officers of the Agriculture and Horticulture Department applauded Dragon Mart for the initiative and its effort to provide a market to the local farmers of Ladakh. They said the place to sell fruits and vegetables has al-

ways been an issue and because of this, the high-value products of Ladakh go unnoticed. The officers also spoke about various government schemes available to promote the agriculture and horticulture sector in Ladakh.

Assistant Commissioner, Food Safety (Drug and Food Control) Organisation, UT Ladakh, Tamchos Gyurmet briefed about the importance of safety and quality of the product. He informed all the participants to register online and avail FSSAI license which is mandatory for all food service operators/food businesses.

FSSAI License ensures that your food is verified chemically and hence is safe to consume, he added.

Also, the Industries and Commerce department spoke about Micro Food Processing Enterprises launched by PM Modi under Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan which focuses on supporting groups engaged in Agri-food processing such as Farmer Product Organisation, Self-help group, and others. Various schemes available to start the business were also highlighted.

The participants appreciated the initiative and were briefed about their products.

Indus River proposed for UNESCO World Heritage site list

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: A conference on the proposal to declare the mighty Indus River as a UNESCO World Heritage site was held on July 13 in Leh.

Chairman National Monuments Authority, Tarun Vijay; MP Ladakh, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal; Secretary Tourism Ladakh, K. Mehboob Ali Khan; Former CECs of LAHDC Leh, Head of Religious Organisations, and various scholars from different cultural backgrounds attended the conference.

While addressing the gathering, CEC Gyalsong stated, "Indus river is the lifeline of the people of Ladakh in all walks. Declaring it a world heritage site would be a welcoming step but that should not lead to restricting the habitats from performing their routine way of life. Ladakh has experienced major limitations from similar cases with the identification of major human habitat areas as 'Wildlife Protected' areas and



During the conference on the proposal to declare the mighty Indus River as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

living religious sites as protected heritage sites in the past time. Such decisions have led to serious consequences with a public outcry in recent times leading to hindrances in performing basic developmental activities in the region. We need people-friendly policies and decisions which would help in preserving the actual essence of nature as well as the fragile ecological system of Ladakh."

He mentioned that Ladakh has huge potential in the agriculture and horticulture sectors along

the banks of the Indus. While speaking about the consequences due to global warming, he stressed keeping the rivers clean and free from pollution.

CEC Gyalsong appreciated Chairman NMA, Tarun Vijay for initiating such a campaign and is very hopeful that he will deliberate on all aspects while moving forward with such a campaign. He also said that Tarun Vijay is a sympathizer of Ladakh and has tremendously contributed to political and social affairs at large.

Social, Emotional and Ethical learning curriculum for govt. schools of Leh district

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Social-Emotional and Ethical (SEE) learning curriculum for the govt. schools of Leh district was launched on July 6 at District Institute of Education and Training (DIET), Leh.

The programme has been organised by the Samagra Shiksha Leh in collaboration with the office of the Chief Education Officer, Leh and DIET Leh. It also has the support of Emory University, Max India Foundation and the International Institute for Culture and Ethics. Deputy Chairman/EC Education, LAHDC Leh, Tsering Angchuk and MP Ladakh, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal were present at the ceremonial function.

SEE facilitators introduced the gathering with the concept of Social Emotional and Ethical learning curriculum with a presentation highlighting a compre-

hensive framework to explore compassion, ethical engagement and compassionate qualities in the educational setups.

Deputy Chairman, Tsering Angchuk stated, "I personally feel fortunate to attend the launch of SEE learning programme on the auspicious occasion of the 87th Birth anniversary of His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama. His Holiness is a universal ambassador with a vision to promote secular ethics with compassion. We need to foster and inculcate this vision through the curriculum in developing ethical and emotional values of the students and teachers in the schools of Ladakh. It shouldn't be restricted to schools only, but should be practised at homes as well."

MP Ladakh highlighted the need for overcoming social challenges, especially among the young generation. He appreciated the organisers and the Education

Department, LAHDC Leh for taking this initiative of introducing the SEE learning curriculum, especially in the government-run schools of Leh.

He further added, "It is our moral responsibility to be a part of this initiative and to promote SEE learning at large. We need to establish a very good and healthy environment in our schools based on sharing of wisdom and knowledge which would further extend its radius to society at large. A secular spiritual revolution is the need of the hour and this kind of initiative would definitely help in overcoming social challenges."

CEO Leh and Principal DIET expressed their gratitude to the dignitaries and the guests for attending the launch ceremony and informed them that the said programme would be implemented smoothly in all the educational setups across the district soon.

Ladakh Price Monitoring and Resource Unit conducts introductory workshop



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: The newly Ladakh Price Monitoring and Resource Unit (LPMRU) under the aegis of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA), GOI conducted an introductory workshop/training session with the newly appointed Ladakh Price Monitoring Unit Project team on July 12.

The training session focused on the Central Sector Scheme of NPPA named Consumer Awareness, Publicity and Price Moni-

toring (CAPP) of drugs in UT Ladakh. The workshop was conducted by I/C Drugs Controller (Controlling Authority), Drugs and Food Control Organisation, UT Ladakh.

The team consist of Project Coordinator, Field Investigator and Office Assistant and they were briefed about conducting surveys regarding availability, affordability and violations in the prices of drugs under the scheme.

They were instructed to reach out to the masses and the various stakeholders by making extensive publicity and conducting awareness campaigns, workshops, seminars so that the public are made aware about the prices of the drugs, the important things to notice while purchasing drugs, the availability of drugs covered under the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM) in the market and various health institutions.

1st CEC Polo Cup tournament begins at Shagaran, Chuchot

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Polo sports.

He said that Polo is a traditional game and has cultural importance that's why effort is made to promote the game as traditional only because polo played in Ladakh is different from the rest of the world. He said that in the coming days it can be integrated with the tourism sector as the game has the potential to boost tourism in Ladakh.

Ravinder Kumar also spoke about the infrastruc-

tural development and inform about the plans and initiatives. He assured all support to promote and develop the polo game.

Councillor, Chuchot, Mirza Hussain expressed gratitude to the CEC Hill Council, Leh, UT administration, and concerned departments for all the help and support.

Executive Councillors, Councillors, District officers, and many other dignitaries were present during the inaugural day.

Justice Tashi Rabstan discusses selection of President, Members of State Commission, and District Commissions under Consumer Protection Act, 2019

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Justice Tashi Rabstan, Judge, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh also the Chairperson, Selection Committee for the selection of President and Members of the State Commission and District Commissions, UT Ladakh under Consumer Protection Act, 2019 chaired a meeting on July 9 regarding the selection of President and Members of the State Commission and District Commissions under Consumer Protection Act, 2019.

The committee held detailed deliberations on the modalities regarding the selection of Presidents and Members of 'The State Commission & the District Commissions'. It was decided that the Department of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Af-

fairs, Ladakh shall issue a notice/advertisement calling for application from eligible candidates separately for the Presidents and Members of State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (State Commission) for UT Ladakh and District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commissions (District Commissions) for Leh and Kargil districts. The notice/advertisement should be published in leading national and state newspapers (both Hindi and English) which have maximum readership besides also publicizing the same through media along with the relevant websites of UT Ladakh for information of all willing candidates. It was further decided that the time for receipt of applications from interested candidates may be kept as 40 days. The Department of Food, Civil Supplies and Con-

sumer Affairs, Ladakh will devise a feasible mechanism for submission of forms online and offline and deposition of fees online as well as offline mode so that all candidates can easily fill up the requisite forms for the posts of President and Members of State and District Commissions from anywhere in the country.

Principal Secretary, Ladakh, Dr. Pawan Kotwal; Secretary, Food, Civil Supplies, and Consumer Affairs Department, UT Ladakh, K. Mehboob Ali Khan; Director, Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Department, Tsering Motup; Assistant Director (HQ) office of Director, Food, Civil Supplies, and Consumer Affairs, Ladakh, Ruth Mary, and OSD to Secretary FCS&CA, Ladakh Muhammad Ali Tak attended the meeting.

People's Voice

By Sonam Angmo



THINLES NORBOO, Co-founder, Ladakh Basket: The tourism sector in Ladakh is growing very unstable. Before 2009, the situation of tourism was better as tourists used to come for trekking, mountaineering, camping, and to see Ladakh's culture and tradition which benefits many, a helper, homestay owners, guide, and small villagers. But now the situation has changed, tourism is growing rapidly and is benefiting only a few sections of society. Famous tourist destinations such as Pangong Lake and Khardongla pass are facing a big threat because of mass tourism, lack of waste management, and disposal facilities. Ladakh is not prepared to tackle the amount of waste and sewage that is being generated due to the increased numbers of tourists in the recent years

Climate change is also becoming a matter of concern. We can see that the glaciers are melting very fast, the sea level is increasing, and the groundwater level is decreasing. All these issues are becoming a matter of concern and we need to bring more alternatives for a better future. The uncontrolled measures and absence of management have massively contributed to the destruction of the fragile ecosystem. The tourism industry being the major economic source for the people, the focus is needed to make it sustainable which is to emphasize our culture, food, economy, climate, and environment. It is important to make tourists familiar with our food, culture, and tradition. The hotels and restaurants can serve Ladakhi meals as well. Ladakhi people should get more opportunities in the tourism sector.

With such changes and initiatives, we can promote responsible tourism because Ladakh needs more responsible Tourism who is aware of the fragile environment and respect it. The Government needs to come up with a strict tourism policy in Ladakh before it's too late. Bhutan is a very good example, they care about their environment and culture because of which they have made very strict policies for the tourist.

The administration has the power to solve the tourism structure. There is a need for a strict tourism policy for a better Ladakh and to

Need for sustainable tourism in Ladakh

assure a better experience for the tourist as well. The host can also be aware of the tourist to the fragile environment and encourage them to be responsible. We Ladakhi are responsible for our own home and it's our prime responsibility to preserve and promote for better tomorrow.



RIGZIN DOLKAR, Student: Tourism is one of the leading industries and it has a high potential for employment generation. Tourism boosts the economy, creates thousands of job opportunities, and results in infrastructure development. In tourism, people get engaged in transport, hotels, trading, catering services, and other activities. The sector also provides seasonal part-time job opportunities to many unemployed youths. Today, most of the local people's livelihood is dependent directly upon tourism.

Since 1974, Ladakh had been open for tourism and it became one of the major contributors to the Ladakh economy. In Ladakh, the tourist has rapidly increased because of its beautiful landscape, mountains, culture, environment, and nature. Ladakh is a cold desert that gets its fresh water supply from the melting of the glaciers during the summer. Due to climate change and global warming, the glaciers are shrinking, and so is the supply of fresh water from these glaciers in Ladakh. In the coming years, this limited water supply in the region will not be enough to support the heavy demands of tourism and the needs of the local people. People are witnessing the changes in rainfall patterns, temperature rise, fast receding glaciers, and growing water scarcity, thus we need to protect our land.

The government needs to focus on the tourism sector and seek guidelines and structuralize the sector. As it says, "It's better late than never", we must protect our motherland and bring some major changes.

There should be a Tourism course for students because the scope of tourism is much more than what we have explored yet, we need to improve the functioning of the tourism sector. The sustainability of tourism is essential for everyone's sake. Youth can write different articles on

Ladakh in all aspects which allows the tourist to know more about Ladakh and the need to protect the land. We are responsible for our land.



TASHI TUNDUP, Member, ALTOA: Sustainable tourism means tourism that is economically viable but does not destroy the resources on which the future of tourism will depend, notably the physical environment and the social fabric of the host community. Tourism in Ladakh is not growing in the way it should be. Today we have more quantitative than qualitative tourism in Ladakh. The tour operators and agents are facing a shortage of taxis, and accommodation for the tourist during the peak season. In short, they are unable to provide good services which are indirectly impacting the image of Ladakh also. Mass tourism is affecting our culture and heritage. There is a tourist who comes to Ladakh to know the culture, they have separate organizations and there is other for whom Ladakh is a weekend destination. It's high time, we need to focus more on the tourism sector and bring some positive changes because we are not thinking about the future all of us are just thinking about today. Nobody is taking direct responsibility for tourism; everything has become a last-minute decision. We, local people, are facing a lot of problems and if it stays the same for another five years, it will become hard for the locals to survive as well. We need to bring change and let tourism function in the right direction for which we all are responsible.

There is a scope in tourism that the youths can explore. E.g. the bike rental businesses, many youths have shown their interest in this. There are other opportunities as well, the youths need to come, find opportunities and gain experience.

Government should bring restrictions and limitations on tourism. Ladakh is very fragile, the resources are limited that's why we need to focus on bringing tourists who are more responsible. Also, we need a good tourism department that plans for long-term sustainable tourism industry. The quality of tourism needs to be improved so that every corner and section of Ladakh benefits and to make the industry sustainable.



Malala Day

On July 12, 2013, Malala Yousafzai, a sixteen-year-old Pakistani girl engaged in the promotion of women's education, delivered an impassioned speech at the United Nations (UN) headquarters on the need for gender equality in education. The address saw several rounds of standing ovations for the teenager and the day, July 12, which is also her birthday, was soon declared by the UN as Malala Day in honour of the young activist.

Malala began advocating for women's rights in education since 2008. Alongside, she was also critical of the Taliban menace in the



region that has for decades been against women's education. In October 2012, Malala was attacked by Taliban gunmen and was in a critical condition. Soon after, she was sent to the United Kingdom to recover.

Despite the attack by Taliban, an undeterred Malala soon returned to the public arena, more fierce in her views than before, and continued her advocacy for gender rights. Based out of Birmingham, she founded the 'Malala Fund', which is a non-profit organisation that helps young girls go to school.

DID YOU KNOW



Neil Armstrong

- In 2014, at the age of 17, Malala Yousafzai became the youngest-ever recipient of the Nobel Peace prize in recognition of her efforts for children's rights which had begun even before she was shot. In 2012, she was awarded the first-ever National Youth Peace Prize by the Pakistan government. The UN has declared her as "the most famous teenager in the world" in its Decade in Review report in late 2019.

- The Pangong Lake located in Ladakh is the highest saltwater lake that even freezes in winter. Part of it is in China. This lake changes its color based on the position of the sun.

- The city of Varanasi in the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh is not only regarded as the spiritual capital of India, but also one of the oldest cities in the world. With the population of over 1 million people, Varanasi dates back to 11BC.

- In 2005, Neil Armstrong once threatened legal action to his former barber who had earned \$3,000 for selling a lock of the astronaut's hair. The barber took no heed of the threat and went on to make over \$38,000 in 2016 by selling both the hair and the barber's comb and scissors.

SoulSpeak

P.P. Wangchuk

The wonders of 'good morning' wish



The 'Good Morning' message that goes to and fro is a wonderful way to begin your day. I, for one, can't feel like doing anything else to herald the day. It is not only wishing but also a symbolic gesture of being grateful that you have got one more fine morning to live with your friends and relatives. It is a 'mantra' that peeps you up and reminds you about your good friends and relatives who have made your life richer and

enjoyable.

True, all of us do not go for the daily 'good morning' gesture. My stand is that you do your 'duty' and don't bother much whether others are responding or not. After all, one does not know the compulsions at the other end, and, therefore, to assume that the other guy is ignoring you or disregarding you may not be correct. There are many such people who don't respond regularly but they do love you and regard you. It is this that makes me keep saying 'good morning' irrespective of a response or not. Any given day, I send such greetings to a couple of dozens of friends and relatives. On an average, 80 pc of them do respond with beautiful messages. In fact, some of them send several lovely messages every day. That keeps us close all the more.

The advantages of daily wishes are many. Besides making it a tool to remember your friends and relatives, and wishing them all the best, it spreads a positive wave at the sender's side as well as on the other side.

A 'good morning' message represents a bagful of love, respect, good wishes and several other virtues. One thing I have noticed all these years is that friends take more interest in showing such gestures than relatives. I don't know whether I am correct to say that relatives are not as 'open-hearted' as your friends are. I have thought over this 'puzzle' quite seriously but could think of any other valid reason. Maybe, a relative takes everything for granted!

Courtesy: WongWorld

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

In Conversation with Stanzin Donsal, Flying Officer

Interviewed by Stanzin Dasal

Q. Brief us about yourself. How flying interest you.

I am born in Tashak pa family in Choglamsar village. I studied till 6th grade from Ladakh Public School in Leh and after that joined Sainik School Nagrota. After finishing my class 12th I prepared and opt for National Defence Academy and studied 3years and joined Air Force wing. I did my flying training from Air Force Academy, Dundigal, and Hyderabad.

I always wanted to become a pilot but was clueless about how to pursue it. In Sainik School we are taught "One aim one goal NDA" where we are motivated, nurtured and prepared to join the Armed Forces. After joining NDA I realized that I can become a pilot. I was nervous when I applied for Air Force because many were dropped because of medical and other issues; fortunately I cleared the entire test and got selected. I chose to fly fighter because it's a very respectful and challenging job.

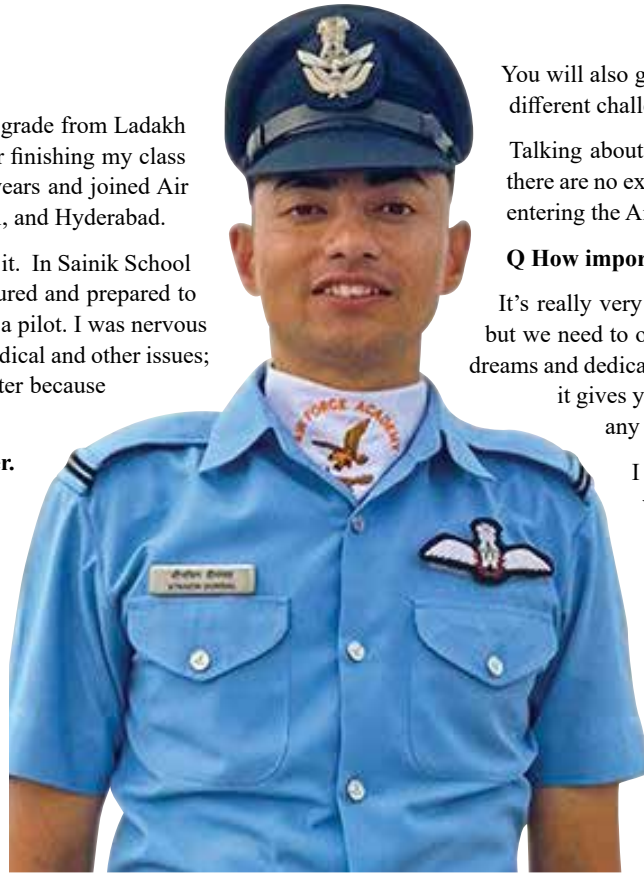
Q. What are the challenges you faced while pursuing the flying career.

Limited exposure is the challenges that almost every Ladakhi student faces. Since I joined Sainik School, Nagrota at a young age, I got an opportunity to interact with students from different parts of the country which was a plus point for me. Clearing NDA examination, extensive interviews by the Services Selection Board covering general aptitude, psychological testing, team skills as well as physical and social skills, along with medical tests were bit difficult for me.

The initial one month was hard during my flying training because it's a new subject but gradually with time I learned, got used to it and started enjoying it.

Q. What should one pursue or prepare, who aspire to be a pilot?

Interest and hardwork is a key to pursue anything in life. For those who wanted to become an Air Force pilot, National Defence Academy is the best option. After 12th, you can clear NDA exam directly where you'll get trained for three years and can join Air force academy. Also, if you have completed your B.tech then you can apply for AFCAT examination. Air Force Common Admission Test commonly known as AFCAT is an entrance examination conducted by Indian Air Force to select eligible and desirable candidates for multiple posts in Flying and Ground Duty (Technical and Non-Technical). Mathematics and Physics is an essential subject.



You will also get three options to choose such as Fighter, Transport or helicopter. Each has different challenges and learning.

Talking about the expenses, there is lot of expenses in the civil airlines but in Air force there are no expenses. At NDA, we don't get any salary and we don't pay any money. After entering the Air force academy, we get a stipend along with doing the training.

Q How important is it to have aim in life and also parents support to pursue it?

It's really very necessary for one to have an aim in life. It can get difficult with big aims but we need to overcome our challenges and keep moving towards the success. If you have dreams and dedication then everything can be possible. Family support is very crucial because it gives you an encouragement and motivation to work hard and strength to overcome any challenges. Even if u fails, u gets strength to rise up and do even better.

I am very fortunate and express gratitude to my parents who have always been very supportive and believed in my dream. Once I asked my mom about what should I do in my future and she said that I can become whatever I wish to be.

Q. What is your future plan?

So far I don't have any plans as I have one more year of training at Air Force School Bidar Karnataka. The training will be done on the Hawk aircraft. During the training performance and personality traits are evaluated by the flying instructor and based on which further opportunities will be given. There are other opportunities to fly supersonic jets such as MiG-21s, Sukhoi etc. I wanted to fly Rafale.

Q. What advice you will give to the youths of Ladakh.

Exposure is very important because in Ladakh it is very limited. Since Ladakh is a Union Territory, people are well aware of the region and the question of where is Ladakh, whether people stay there or not is not being asked now. So we are in the mainstream and competing with the rest other students of the country. We all should have an aim in life to study and work on it. Without aim we will be like sailing in a ship without radar. An aim in life boosts us to work hard and achieve it. It doesn't matter which field you are in, the only thing matter is to work with passion and dedication.

MESSAGE TO THE READERS

“Set your aim in life to be successful. There will be challenges in whatever you do; you should work without fear and dedication as there is nothing that can stop us.”

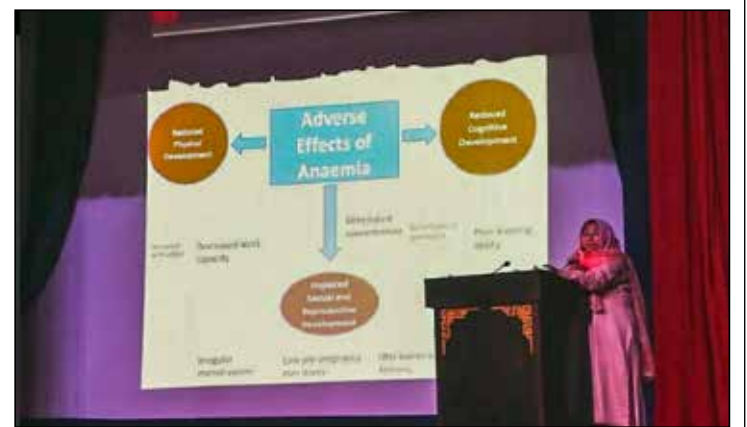
Fortnight Highlights



Students of Govt. Model Degree College Zaskar, as part of a weeklong biological-cum-exposure tour, today visited Council Secretariat, LAHDC, Kargil where they interacted with Chairman and Chief Executive Councilor (CEC), LAHDC, Kargil Feroz Ahmed Khan and Executive Councilor Tourism and Zaskar Affairs Er Punchok Tashi.



A meeting on the promotion of mountaineering/trekking activities in Ladakh was chaired by Secretary, Tourism, Kacho Mehboob Ali Khan. It was informed that Ladakh has 120 peaks open for mountaineering and trekking (5508 to 7135mtr), and considering the potential, the Tourism Department is keen on promoting mountaineering and trekking activities in the UT.



Health Department Kargil organised a one-day orientation program for Supervisors, ANMS, HLVs, AWWS on National Iron Plus Initiative (NIPi) program at Auditorium Hall, Kargil.



Chairman/CEC, LAHDC Leh, Adv. Tashi Gyalsen along with President LBA, Thupstan Chhewang and President LGA, Ven. Stanzin Wangtak visited Lingshed village on June 10 to oversee the progress of preparations for the upcoming Yarchos Chenmo which would commence in first week of August.



Deputy Chairman, LAHDC Leh, Tsering Angchuk visited the under construction 220/33 KV (GIS) Diskit Sub-station of the Northern Grid and took stock of the ongoing work progress.

Advisor Narula discusses measures for Ex-Servicemen's welfare



Advisor Ladakh, Umang Narula convening a meeting with the officers of the Resettlement Directorate for Ex-Servicemen.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Advisor Ladakh, Umang Narula discussed various issues related to the strengthening of measures to protect the legitimate interests of Ex-Servicemen with the officers of the Resettlement Directorate for Ex-Servicemen on July 2 at Conference Hall, UT Secretariat.

Major General Sharad Kapur, YSM, SM, Director General Resettlement; Colonel G.P. Singh, Director Resettlement, Zone (North); Colonel (Retd) Sonam Wangchuk, MVC, Zila Sainik Welfare Officer, Leh; Tashi Dolma, Additional Secretary, Home Department, Ladakh, and others were present in the meeting.

Director-General Resettlement briefed the Advisor about specific schemes being implemented for the welfare and betterment of the Ex-Servicemen fraternity by the Union Government viz. Resettlement Training to the Ex-Servicemen, Financial Assistance for Ex-Servicemen in Penury, Financial Assistance for Education of Children of Ex-Servicemen/Widows, Financial Assistance to 100% Disabled child of Ex-Servicemen, Financial Assistance for the marriage of Ex-Servicemen daughters, Prime Minister's Scholarship Scheme to the children of Ex-Servicemen, etc.

Advisor Narula mentioned the steps related to the welfare and resettlement of Ex-Servicemen taken by UT Ladakh, which includes Horizontal reservation to the extent of 6% jobs for Ex-servicemen as per Ladakh Reservation Rules, the constitution of the Rajya Sainik Board for Ladakh, recruitment of Subordinate staff in the Sainik Welfare Department as per extant rules and placement of an Officer as in-charge Zila Sainik Welfare Officer, Leh.

He also reviewed all the functions and plans of the Sainik Welfare office and assured that UT Administration is committed to providing all possible facilities for the welfare and resettlement of ex-servicemen from Ladakh.

Kargil is all set to host Incredible India Kargil International Marathon & Kargil Ladakh Tourism Festival

Marathon scheduled to be held on July 24, Kargil festival on July 23 and 24

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: CEC, Kargil, Feroz Ahmad Khan reviewed the arrangements for Incredible India Kargil International Marathon and Kargil Ladakh Tourism Festival with the concerned officers on July 6 at Conference Hall Baroo.

CEC reviewed and discussed all the arrangements for the Incredible India Kargil International Marathon scheduled on July 24 and Kargil Ladakh Tourism Festival scheduled on July 23 and 24.

Regarding Incredible India Kargil International Marathon, the discussion was held on transportation facilities for runners for sightseeing, installation of stage and arrangements for providing furniture and furnishing, public announcement, drinking water facility and snacks, medical facilities, the permission of doo stoppage of traffic movements and security arrangements.

It was informed that the registration for local runners for the marathon will be available in offline mode and only physically fit candidates will be allowed to apply. CEC directed the concerned officers to make arrangements for the stay of runners coming from outside and make arrangements for their transportation. Also, directed the health



department to ensure first aid for the runners across all spots and to ensure ambulances in case of any emergency.

Regional Director Tourism, North-East Region Govt. of India informed the meeting that they have made all the arrangements and have done 150 registrations so far. He added that the participants in this year's marathon include celebrity runners.

AD Tourism informed the meeting that the marathon will be held in three different categories including 21 kilometers, 10 kilometers, and 5 kilometers and will start and ends at Khree Sultan Cho Sports Stadium.

Regarding Kargil Ladakh Tourism Festival, all the arrangements including reservation of venue Khree Sultan Cho Sports Stadium, installation of the exhibition and food stalls, uninterrupted power supply at the

venue, veterinary care for Polo Horses, sanitation at the venue, drinking water facility, medical facilities, security arrangements, boarding and lodging of VIPs, media persons, artists, players and arrangements for furniture were discussed.

CEC said that private players in Kargil have played a pivotal role in the promotion of Kargil Tourism adding that efforts should be made to the promotion of tourism in the district.

CEC Khan said promoting tourism is a coordinated effort of all the departments and LAHDC Kargil is committed to promoting tourism to create employment opportunities for local youth.

A committee of officers was also constituted which would be headed by ACD Kargil and will look after all the arrangements for both the events.

Registration for Indian Army Recruitment under AGNEEPATH commences for Ladakh

CEC appeals Ladakhi youths to register

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: The online registration for recruitment into the Indian Army has commenced with effect from 5th July 2022. As informed by the Army Recruiting Office, Srinagar, the recruitment rally will be conducted from September 17 to 30 at Haiderbeig, Pattan, UT of J&K.

The recruitment rally will be for recruitment as AGNIVEERS under the newly announced AG-

NIPATH Scheme.

All eligible unmarried male candidates born between 01 Oct 1999 to 01 Apr 2005 (both dates inclusive) with requisite educational qualifications from UT of Ladakh belonging to Leh and Kargil districts can apply for enrolment under categories of Agniveer General Duty, Agniveer Technical, Agniveer Clerk/Store Keeper Technical and Agniveer Tradesmen.

Registration is open online at the website www.joinindianarmy.nic.in with effect from 5th July 2022 to 3rd August 2022. Candidates are advised to register online at the earliest.

Chairman/CEC appeals youths of Leh, Ladakh to take this opportunity in serving the armed forces through the special scheme announced by the Govt. of India.



THE ADMINISTRATION OF UNION TERRITORY OF LADAKH
LADAKH AUTONOMOUS HILL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL LAHDC, LEH
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT GOVT. INDUSTRIAL TRAINING INSTITUTE LEH LADAKH.
Email id: itiladakh@gmail.com Phone no.01982-252428

Address: Airport Road, Leh, Phone No.01982-252428 Email Id itiladakh@gmail.com

Admission Notice

In pursuance to the Director, Skill Development Department, J&K Srinagar's Admission Notification issued vide No.DSD/401/Trgs/2022/843-48 Dated:-08-07-2022, Online Applications are invited from the desirous candidates for seeking admission in Govt. ITI Leh for the Academic Session 2022-23-24 in various trades Engineering, Non Engineering Trades having duration of two years/one year being run under NCVT scheme and commencing from September 2022, for which the forms can be uploaded from 9th of July 2022.

Candidates having minimum age of 14 years as on 1st June 2022, with no upper age bar can apply. The desirous candidates have to fill up the admission forms online available at ITI admission link (<http://itiadmissions.jkdsd.in>) present on the official website of Directorate of Skill Development (erstwhile Technical Education) J&K i.e. www.jkdsd.in.

The last date for applying online is upto 23rd of July 2022 The details pertaining to trade functioning in Govt. ITI Leh for which admission is to be made for the Session 2022-23-24 is available in the portal and the same is detailed as under;

S.N O	Trade	Intake Capacity	Duration	Entry Qualification	Whether NCVT/SCVT	No of Units	Scheme Normal/PPP Mode
01	Stenographer Secretarial Assistant (English)	24	01 Year	10 th	NCVT	1	Normal
02	Sewing Technology	20	01 Year	8 th	NCVT	1	Normal
03	Computer Operator & Programming Assistant	24	01 Year	10 th	NCVT	1	Normal (WW)
04	Floriculture & Landscaping	24	01 Year	10 th	NCVT	1	Normal
05	Electronic Mechanic	24	02 Years	10 th	NCVT	1	Normal
06	Plumber	24	01 Year	8 th	NCVT	1	Normal
07	Computer Hardware & Network Maintenance	24	01 Year	10 th	NCVT	1	PPP
08	Welder	20	01 Year	8 th	NCVT	1	PPP

The candidates have to fill up the complete details which include basic details of the student like Name, Parentage etc. and Qualification details online in the portal and have to upload the soft copy of the following documents online only:

1. Marks Certificate of Qualifying Examination.
2. Date of Birth Certificate.
3. Category Certificate/SC/ST/Ex-Serviceman/Physically Handicapped/EWS) if any.
4. Aadhaar Card.

The candidates after finalizing the profile and application online will be required to deposit the print out of the system generated application in this office along with self-attested photo copies of above mentioned required documents.

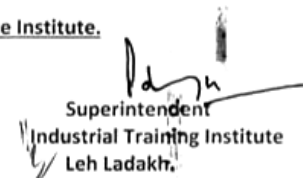
The candidates has to pay a fee of Rs.100/- (One hundred) per three trades in which he/she seeking admission against cash receipt from Govt-ITI Leh.

The detailed guidelines for filling the application forms by the candidates is also available on ITI admission portal. In case of any technical issues kindly mail on help me itcell.jkdsd@gmail.com

Important Note:

1. Selection will be made purely on the basis of academic merit obtained by the applicants in their qualifying examination (both for free and self-financing seats separately)
2. On successful completion of training in trades running under NCVT/SCVT scheme, Certificate will be awarded by National/State Council for Vocational Training
3. Candidate who have already undergone training in any of the trades in any ITI can apply for admissions in another trade after two years of completion of previous training course, however, for the ensuing academic session, their admission can be considered in any trade having poor response.

Hostel facilities for Boys and Girls are available in the Institute.


Superintendent
Industrial Training Institute
Leh Ladakh.

No:-ITI-L/674-gf/Adm.

Dated: 09/07/2022.

CAZRI RRS, Leh organizes need assessment meeting with farmers in Hemis



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

HEMIS: A team from CAZRI Regional Research Station-Leh convened a meeting with the farming community of Hemis village lying within the Martselang Panchayat halka of Leh, under the TSP scheme on July 2.

The team was led by Dr. R.K. Goyal, Principal Scientist & Head included Dr. Mahesh K. Gaur; Principal Scientist, Er. Changchuk Lamo; Scientist, Stanzin Landol, STA, and Mohd. Raza, STO. Stanzin Chospel, Executive Councillor (Agriculture) and Nambardar, Stanzin Wangldan, and other Panchayat members with around 20 farmers attended the interaction meeting.

The team conducted a need assessment-based interaction with

the farmers. The meeting aimed to know and identify various issues related to agricultural practices and better utilization of available water resources.

Dr. R.K. Goyal, gave details of the scheme and seek cooperation from the farmers in making this intervention a successful one.

EC, Stanzin Chospel put forward his expectation from the team and urged the villagers to express their opinion and problems faced by them in agriculture practices and the kind of scientific interventions needed from the CAZRI team.

Changchuk Lamo explained the TSP scheme operated by the CAZRI RRS, Leh and discussed the agri-pastoral scenario, land use pattern, crop rotation, water utilization, etc. in the village. There-

after, Dr. Gaur initiated an open house discussion in participatory mode to understand the issues and their possible resolution at the village level or upscaling their skills through training or such programs. Dr. Noor Mohamed discussed the need for agroforestry and nursery plantation.

The farmers of the village also briefed the CAZRI RRS team about the existing agricultural and livestock practices. The farmers also shared their problems related to the agricultural practices like the decline in crop productivity, soil salinity, issues related to the existing seed varieties, fruit-drop, etc. It was informed by the farmers that existing production is mainly for sustenance only so improved varieties of seeds and horticultural saplings need to be introduced for better production. They were keen on introducing new short-duration crop varieties and other fodder crops. The farmer was very happy and assured to work together with the CAZRI RRS for the overall agricultural development of the village. It was further noted that the farmers are willing to adopt new practices of agriculture to bring prosperity comprehensively.

Tourism Department to promote mountaineering/trekking activities in Ladakh

Sonom Angmo

LEH: A meeting on the promotion of mountaineering/trekking activities in Ladakh was chaired by Secretary, Tourism, Kacho Mehboob Ali Khan on June 30.

Secretary, Kacho Mehboob Ali Khan informed that Ladakh has 120 peaks open for mountaineering and trekking (5508 to 7135m-tr), and considering the potential, the Tourism Department is keen on promoting mountaineering and trekking activities in the UT. It was deliberated that initially few peaks can be identified for mountaineering and trekking classified as per categorization based on altitude and other relevant parameters as per established standards. To carry out the operations professionally, safely and in an environment-friendly manner, necessary regulations/SOPs are required to be framed in consultation with Indian Mountaineering Foundation and other stakeholders.

Discussion was also held on the formation of a special cell for rescue and weather forecast to reduce untoward incidents



during mountaineering/trekking and other adventure sports.

The Secretary emphasized that appropriate training is required to be provided to volunteers and mountain guides to build their capacity and enable them to become certified guides and professionals in collaboration with ITBP, Army, Ladakh Police, and other stakeholders.

The meeting also deliberated upon the need to identify villages and households near the identified peaks for capacity building and infrastructure development, which would generate employment for the local populace, and at the same time, they can provide emergency services in case

of requirement of such services. Identified households could be provided with effective and adequate training in first aid to assist mountaineers/trekkers during any kind of emergency.

The Secretary stated that further meeting with the stakeholders is required for proper planning and development of mountaineering/trekking for tourists/visitors.

The meeting was attended by Commandant, ITBP Ladakh, Uma Kant; Superintendent of Police, UT Disaster Response Force, Kameshwar Puri; Col. S.K. Sahu, Headquarters 14 Corps; and Director, Tourism, Ladakh, Kunzes Angmo.

5th Ladakh college students conference concludes at CIBS

Sonom Angmo

CHOGLAMSAR: The Ladakh students Welfare Association, Varanasi in collaboration with the Students Welfare Committee of Central Institution of Buddhist Studies, Choglamsar, UT Ladakh conducted three days conference with the students to raise awareness about the culture and language of Ladakh at Nagarjuna Hall, Central Institution of Buddhist Studies from June 27 to 29.

All Ladakhi College Students Conference was first started in 2017 by the Ladakh Student's Welfare Association, Varanasi in collaboration with the Students' Welfare Committee of Central Institution of Buddhist Studies, Choglamsar, UT-Ladakh with the purpose to prevent culture and language of Ladakh.

Chairman/CEC, LAHDC Leh, Adv. Tashi Gyalson presided over the concluding function on June 27. MP Ladakh, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal, and Executive Councillor for Art and Culture, LAHDC Leh, Stanzin Chospel were the guest of honor. Administrative Officer, CIBS, Dean of the University, and various other guests attended the event.

CEC Tashi Gyalson appreciated the organisers for their efforts in conducting the 3-day conference cum seminar themed, 'Importance of restoration and preservation of culture and language



of Ladakh'. He highlighted various initiatives being carried out by the Hill Council, Leh for the promotion and preservation of the traditional art, culture, and language of Ladakh.

He also expressed his gratitude to MP Ladakh for moving a private member bill in the parliament for the inclusion of Bhoti language in the 8th schedule of the Indian constitution.

CEC Gyalson further sought a detailed compiled report with feedback of the participants from the seminar and assured that the Hill Council would examine and study the report to ensure assistance towards more such programs in the future.

MP Ladakh, JTN expressed his gratitude to the Hill Council Leh led by CEC Gyalson for the historic announcement of observing 1st April as the 'Bhoti Language Day' in Leh Ladakh. He added that talks are in progress with the Union Government to observe

Bhoti Language day at the national level as well.

MP JTN stressed the need for sharing of knowledge and further requested all the students to share every bit of learnings from the conference with their friends and family members. EC Chospel spoke about the importance of preserving heritage sites, traditional practices, and the cultural identity of Ladakhis. He highlighted the steps being taken by the Art and Culture Department of LAHDC, Leh towards the promotion and preservation of Culture and Language and also assured to initiate more of such initiatives in the future as well.

Students from various educational institutions took part in the conference and also shared their experiences and learning from the conference during the closing function. Certificates were also distributed to the participants at the hands of the dignitaries in the end.

First Intramural Table Tennis tournament held at Degree college, Nubra



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

NUBRA: The first-ever Intramural table tennis tournament was organised by the sports committee of Government Degree College, Nubra on July 12.

A total of 12 students, including six girls and six boys, participated in the tournament in which ten matches were played.

Director, Physical Education, and Sports, Dr. Tsering Spalzum who is also the convener of the Sports Committee, emphasized the need to take active participation in sports. She also urged the students to make physical activities a part of their daily routine.

Principal, GDC Nubra, Dr. Tsewang Motup appreciated the Sports Committee for organising the tournament and encouraged the students to participate in such programs in the future as well. Further, he deliberated upon the significance of inculcating sporting spirit and the scopes sports offers at different levels like national and international for students. He also counseled the students to enjoy the process of sports rather than taking sport as a competition between two teams or persons.

Stanzin Tashi, 3rd semester won in the boys' category and Stanzin Yangdol, 5th semester won in the girls' category. Similarly, Rigzin Wangdus,

5th semester, and Bilques Bano, 5th semester were the runner-up in their respective categories.

Both the teaching as well as the non-teaching staff of the college were part of the event. The event concluded with prize distribution and certificates to the students.

NOTICE

Whereas Patma Gaisto F/o Thenlay Nurbo R/o Skuru Nubra, Leh district, UT Ladakh has claimed that his son namely Thenlay Nurbo name has been wrongly entered as Thenlay Nurbu instead of Thenlay Nurbo as well as his Father's name Patma Gaisto has been wrongly entered as Padma Gyatso instead of Patma Gaisto in his son's school record of Govt. Middle school, Skuru, Nubra, Leh-Ladakh.

Whereas the Father of the candidate has produced an Affidavit duly attested by Notary Public Leh to this Office for making necessary correction in the school record.

Hence, notice is hereby served through press to file objection if any in this regard report to Govt. Middle school, Skuru, Nubra, Leh-Ladakh office within 7 days from the date of issue of this notice.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE UNION TERRITORY OF LADAKH
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR FOR EXCISE RANGE LEH-KARGIL

Public Notice

It is for information of the general public of the locality of Old Road, Leh, that Mr. Tsering Angchuk S/o Tsewang Dorje, Leh has applied for liquor license i.e. Retail vend of foreign liquor in hotel (LAEL-3) at M/s Chospa Hotel Old Road, Leh,

Objection, if any may be filed in the office of Excise & Taxation Officer, Excise Range Leh-Kargil within a period of sixty days from the issuance of this notice.

No objections shall be entertained after the expiry period of this Notice.

Excise Range Leh-Kargil

Dated: 06/07/2022
No: E1/2022/999 34/22



Session 2022-23

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