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February 01-15, 2023

# REACH LADAKH BULLETIN



In Conversation with

Faisal Khan Ashoor, Music composer/ Singer

Fornightly Special

Mum on Sixth Schedule demand is a threat for BJP to come back to power in Ladakh?

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## Will Centre take up Sixth Schedule demand for talks?



Magsaysay awardee Sonam Wangchuk along with other people during the last day of the symbolic fast demanding 6th schedule for Ladakh.

Stanzin Dasal & Deachen Spaldon

LEH: The struggle for Union Territory status for Ladakh can be traced back to decades of protests, sacrifices and uncountable discussions. On August 5, 2019, the parliament revoked the special status of Jammu and Kashmir under Article 370 of the Constitution and the erstwhile state of J&K was split into the union territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. This decision brought relief and satisfaction to the people of Ladakh as their long-pending demand after years of struggle has finally been fulfilled. People took to the streets to celebrate the historic moment by singing and dancing.

earlier represented by an MP, MLAs and MLC's for various decision-making processes, have now been reduced to only one MP as the sole representative of the region. Though both the Hill Councils have been kept intact, the major decision power rests with the UT administration headed by the Lieutenant Governor. This has left the people of Ladakh with a sense of disempowerment. Bureaucrats have taken firm control over the region whereas the control should be in the hands of the people of Ladakh as they had made numerous sacrifices and struggled for their freedom.

However, the people of Ladakh soon had to face the reality when a certain learned section of the society made them realise the vulnerable situation of Ladakh without legislature as they no longer had Articles 370 and 35A that gave special protection to the region to fall back on. It was needless to say that people started speculating about living in a UT without a legislature. People raised concern that Leh and Kargil districts, which were

The status of UT was granted with the hope to expedite development in Ladakh. Post-3 years of the formation of UT, it has only raised apprehensions and anxiety among the people. Apprehension among the people regarding the safeguard of land, culture, environment, and jobs is aggravating with each passing day. Thus, the implementation of the 6th schedule of

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## L-G Mathur unfurls the Tricolour on 74th Republic Day

Tribute paid to martyrs at Hall of Fame



Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, RK Mathur inspecting the parade during the 74th Republic Day celebration at the Polo Ground, Leh.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, RK Mathur unfurled the national flag during the 74th Republic Day celebration at the Polo Ground, Leh.

A large number of people also took part in the Republic Day celebrations.

Addressing the gathering, Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, RK Mathur said that with India entering the Amrit Kaal, it is the responsibility of the citizens to take the country on the path of becoming a prosperous and developed nation over the course of the next 25 years.

He emphasised the need to achieve the target of Panch Pran (five pledges) given by the Prime Minister of India. The Panch Pran (pledges) are moving forward with bigger resolves and resolve of a "developed" India; erasing all traces of servitude; taking pride in our legacy; staying united and understanding the duties of citizens. He stated that Ladakh will get the opportunity to showcase its rich culture and her-

itage to the entire world while hosting cultural events during the G20 summit. LG Mathur stated that the 'Lifestyle For Environment (LiFE) movement associated with G20 Summit will encourage the citizens to adopt environmentally-conscious practices, greenery and cleanliness.

LG Mathur appreciated the armed and paramilitary forces, police and medical personnel for their selfless service to the nation. He informed about various initiatives taken by the Administration along with both the Hill Councils and Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) for the overall development of Ladakh in various sectors, viz. infrastructure development, education, health, tourism, primary sector, telecom connectivity, providing potable drinking water through Jal Jeevan Mission, etc. with focus on achieving the mantra of carbon-neutrality. He also informed

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## REACH LADAKH BULLETIN

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President and Members of Malpak Tsogspa Leh express our heartiest Congratulations to His Eminence Thiksey Rinpoche

on being conferred with Padma Shree Award in the field of Spiritualism.

And Congratulations to AIG Sonam Deachen (Suku) Dr Nordan Otzer (Chali)

and

Tsering Namgyal Tsaskan for State awards.

## Fornightly News

### Ambulances older than 15 years to be scrapped



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

**LEH:** Principal/Secretary, Health and Medical Education, Dr. Pawan Kotwal chaired a meeting and discussed the Health Department's Action Plans for the Financial Year 2023-24 and the progress of procurement of Machinery and Equipment under SDP 2022-23 on January 18.

Various physical infrastructures viz doctor's/staff quarters at Skurbuchan, Khatse, Temisgam, and Nyoma, a 30 bedded hospital at Tangtse, CHC building at Padum apart from strengthening of existing hospitals and quarters are being carried out by CPWD and PWD were reviewed.

Dr. Kotwal directed the respective departments to ensure adherence to Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS) norms during

the construction of health infrastructures and stated that all ongoing and upcoming projects must be completed in a stipulated time period.

Dr. Kotwal urged the Health Department to act promptly on scrapping ambulances that are older than 15 years, as per directions received from the GoI. Additionally, he stated that all ASHA workers and ANMs must be equipped with a Hemoglobin meter, blood glucose meter, and a portable spirometer and they must be provided with the required training on the usage of the equipment. Additionally, the installation of height and weight equipment in all government schools shall also be made mandatory.

Further, the Health Department is also constructing Hyperbaric chambers. In this regard, highlighting its potential role, Dr. Kotwal urged the department to expedite the project at the earliest. He stated that this must be achieved to ensure that Ladakh does not witness any casualties due to oxygen-related issues. Further, he added that the 48-hour acclimatization norm must also be strictly enforced.

While discussing the procurement of complex equipment and types of machinery, Dr. Kotwal stressed signing an Annual Maintenance Contract with the vendors of the equipments/machineries to assist in technical glitches which may arise in due course.

Dr. Ifthakhar Ahmed Chowdhary, Additional Secretary, H&ME, Ladakh; Dr. Mutup Dorje, Director Health Service; Dr. Nurzin Angmo, Chief Medical Officer; Nisar Ahmad and Abdul Mutalib, Superintending Engineers, PW (R&B) Leh & Kargil, respectively; Dr. Tsewang Chorol, MS Leh, Konchok Gyalson, DD Planning, CPWD officials and other concerned officials attended the meeting.

### L-G Mathur confers state awards on 26 personalities



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

**LEH:** Investiture ceremony for the state awards for the years 2020 and 2021 was held on January 20 at Sindhu Sanskriti Kendra, Leh.

Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, RK Mathur handed over the awards to all the 26 winners in the fields of bravery, literature, art & craft, social reforms, empowerment, and environment protection, public service, sports, entrepreneurship & progressive farming, and teaching & academics.

The winners received a cash award of Rs 51,000, a medal, and a citation from LG Mathur.

The winners in the field of art included Sculptor Tsering Gurmet from Kungyam; Artist Mohd Hussain Khan from Silmo; Clay sculptor Skarma Tsering from Hemis Shukpachan; Theatre artist Kacho Ahmad Khan from

Minjee; Dorjay Angchuk from Skampari and Rigzin Sangdup from Chuchot Yokma were the winners in the music (surma) category. Dr. Jamyang Gyalson from Matho was given the award in the field of literature while Late Tashi Rabgias from Sakti was awarded the award posthumously in the field of literature. Baqirya Health Care organisation from Kargil was awarded in the social reforms and empowerment protection category while Dr Om Prakash Chaurasia, Director, DIHAR; Sub-Inspector Mohd Baqir from Chanigund; retired cameraman Tsering Namgyal from Leh; Dr. Maheshwar S Kanwar and Head Assistant Chewang Rinchen received awards in the public service category. Municipal Committee, Leh; Public Health Engineering (PHE) sub-division Leh and designated Covid-19 hospitals/Covid testing laboratories were given an award in the public service category.

In the sports category, ice hockey player Rinchen Dolma from Spituk; Athlete Jigmet Dolma from Igoo, and Poomsae taekwondo player Tashi Tundup from Phokar received the award while Sonam Stanzin from Domkhar and Urgain Phuntsog from Gya received the award in the progressive farming category. Jigmet Norboo from Leh was awarded in the entrepreneurship category.

In the teaching and academics category, the winners were Mohd Ali from Pishu and Mohd Mustafa Kamal from Phokar. Assistant Sub-Inspector, Ladakh Police, Nawang Stanzin won the award in the bravery category.

LG Mathur later interacted with the award winners and appreciated their contribution to the Ladakhi society.

Chairman, LAHDC Kargil, Feroz Ahmed Khan; Chairman, LAHDC Leh, Advocate Tashi Gyalson; Executive Councillors and Councillors from LAHDC Leh and Kargil; GoC 14 Corps Lt Gen Anindya Sengupta; Advisor Umang Narula; Principal/Commissioner/Secretaries; officials from religious, political and non-government organisations and government officials were present during the event.

### Will Centre take up Sixth Schedule demand for talks?

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the constitution is the prime demand of the people of Ladakh.

The 6th Schedule of the Indian Constitution protects tribal populations and provides autonomy to the communities through the creation of autonomous development councils that can frame laws on land, public health, agriculture, and others. In September 2019, the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes recommended the inclusion of Ladakh under the Sixth Schedule, noting that the new UT was predominantly tribal (more than 97%) and its distinct cultural heritage needed preservation.

It seems the government is not eager to include Ladakh under the 6th schedule. The changing narratives of MP Ladakh and other local BJP leaders with time are also not helping the cause. The Apex body, Leh and Kargil Democratic Alliance raised four-point agenda, including full-fledged statehood for Ladakh; constitutional safeguards under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution of India to protect the interest of the tribal people of Ladakh; formation

of Public services commission and reservation of jobs for the youth of Ladakh; and creation of two separate Parliamentary constituencies for Leh and Kargil.

"All is not well in Ladakh", said the Magsaysay awardee Sonam Wangchuk while appealing to the Prime Minister to take action against climate change and grant 6th Schedule to Ladakh. In his message, Wangchuk said that he will go on hunger fast at Khardung La Pass, which is 18,000 feet above sea level for 5 days, starting January 26. However, Wangchuk had to change his plans due to the closure of Khardung La pass due to bad weather. He, however, on fast for five days in sub-zero temperatures at HIAL, Phyang for the implementation of Ladakh under the sixth schedule of the Indian constitution. People from different villages, religious organisations, and individuals showed solidarity with him and joined him on a day-long fast. Despite so much disquiet among the people in Ladakh, the ruling government has chosen to stay silent on the issue. The question is: will the government sit and discuss these issues with the local leaders of Ladakh?

### Delegation from Nubra region meets Defence Minister Rajnath Singh



Member Parliament Ladakh, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal with Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh in New Delhi.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

**NEW DELHI:** Delegation from Nubra region led by the Member Parliament Ladakh, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal called on Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh in New Delhi on January 25.

Dy Chairman, Tsering Angchuk, and Councillor Tegar, Rigzen Lundup were present.

The delegation discussed major issues pertaining to the Nubra re-

gion and put forth a few demands to the Union Defence Minister for consideration and immediate intervention from his office. The agendas majorly included, the resumption of civilians to travel in IAF Aircraft, final approval for the transfer of 3-acre land from Thoise Airport for Udaan scheme implementation, issues of local porters working at Siachen glaciers, and the need for a separate district status for the Nubra region.

Raksha Mantri, Rajnath Singh gave a patient hearing to all the issues raised by the delegation and assured them of early redressal.

### 16th CEC Cup championship 2023: ITBP men's and women's team win the match



Deachen Spaldon

**LEH:** Ice hockey matches have always been thrilling sports for players as well as spectators in Ladakh. The adrenaline rush one goes through, is constant throughout the game. A total of 7 women's teams and 15 men's teams participated in the 16th CEC Cup championship 2023.

ITBP teams of men and women categories won the trophy this year.

The championship was organised by the Department of youth services in collaboration with the Ladakh winter sports club.

The fervor and sportsmanship that players showed at the game were spectacular. In an exciting and competitive men's category

final match between ITBP and Ladakh Scouts (red) teams, ITBP emerged victorious. They won the match by a score of 3-0. The closing ceremony was presided over by the Executive councillor, Tashi Namgyal Yakzee as chief guest.

Addressing the closing ceremony, EC Tashi Yakzee mentioned that post-formation of UT, Ladakh is getting various opportunities in sports and representing the region on the national and international levels. Extending the support of the council he said that strengthening sports infrastructure at the grass root level is a must and the council is dedicated to doing so. He further lauded the efforts of the organizing committee in the smooth conduct of the champi-

onship. He also congratulated the participants as well as the winners.

Correspondingly, the women's final match was played between ITBP and Ladakh Women's ice hockey Foundation (LWHF) on 17th January. ITBP team won and took the title of 16th CEC cup ice hockey champions. They scored seven goals against two by LWHF in the captivating game.

Chief guest of the occasion, Deputy Commissioner Leh, Shrikant Balasaheb Suse appreciated the potential of the players and congratulated the winning team. He assured the full support of the administration and council for the promotion of the sport, by providing ice hockey equipment to the players. He further added that the upgradation of the stadium and setting up of the Chilling Plant so that the players can practice throughout the year will start shortly.

Prizes were distributed and players along with officials were felicitated by the guests. The best player in the women's category was awarded to Tashi Dolker (ITBP) and the best goalie to Padma Lundup (Yak Kanji). Additionally, Tsering Angdu (ITBP) was facilitated with the best player and Tsewang Namgyal (Skara) as the best goalie in the men's category.

### L-G Mathur unfurls the Tricolour on 74th Republic Day

...Continued from page 2

about efforts being made to develop the skills of the Ladakhi youth to make them employable and enable them to set up their own ventures/enterprises and also steps being taken to overcome the employment issue through various recruitment drives.

LG Mathur congratulated the sportspersons, entrepreneurs and others from Ladakh for bringing laurels to the region. He urged all the people of Ladakh, PRIs members, Hill Councils and government employees to cooperate for the overall development of Ladakh.

The marching contingents comprised Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), Indo-Tibetan Police Force (ITBF), UT Ladakh Police (men & women), UT Ladakh Police trainees (men & women), National Cadet Corps (NCC) men & women, NCC Kargil men, ex-Servicemen, dog squad of UT La-

dakh Police, Lamdon Model School and Druk Padma Karmo. Three-band parties from Ladakh Scouts Regimental Center, Government Boys Higher Secondary School, Leh and 5th Battalion IR 25 women's band were also part of the contingent.

There were cultural performances from students of different schools of Leh and Kargil and also by cultural troupes from Punjab and Haryana.

Chairman, LAHDC Leh, Advocate Tashi Gyalson; Executive Councillors and Councillors from LAHDC Leh; elected representatives; Advisor Umang Narula; Principal/Commissioner/Secretaries; Deputy Commissioner, Leh; officials from armed and paramilitary forces, police; Head of Departments and district officials were present during the Republic Day celebrations.

Earlier, LG Mathur paid homage to the martyrs at the Hall of Fame.

### Health Department observes Anti-Leprosy Day in Leh

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

**LEH:** District Leprosy Society of Health Department, Leh observed Anti Leprosy Day on January 30 at the Conference Hall of the Office of the Chief Medical Officer, Leh. In India, Anti-Leprosy Day is observed on 30th January coinciding with the death anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

The event also marked the launch of the Sparsh Leprosy Awareness Campaign, a fortnight-long campaign from Jan 30-Feb 13, themed, 'Let's Fight Leprosy and

Make Leprosy a History'. The campaign aims to address the issue of stigma and discrimination associated with leprosy and increase awareness.

Chief guest Chief Medical Officer, Leh, Dr. Nurzin Angmo, shared that Anti-Leprosy Day in India is observed on the martyrdom day of Mahatma Gandhi as Gandhiji worked relentlessly for the upliftment of leprosy patients and to remove the stigma associated with it. She also spoke about early detection, medication, and the disability caused by leprosy and informed

that the central government bears the cost of reconstructive surgery needed in cases of leprosy and also provides allowances to the patients.

Dermatologist, SNM Hospital, Dr. Konchok Dorje and District Immunization Officer, Leh, Dr. Dolma Chuskit also spoke on the occasion.

Auxiliary Nurse Midwives (ANMs), officials and staff of the National Health Mission, UT Ladakh, and the staff of CMO Leh participated in the event.

## Fornightly News

### One-day brainstorming session on winter vegetable cultivation held



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

**LEH:** A one-day brainstorming session on 'winter vegetable cultivation in Ladakh' was organised by DIHAR-DRDO and Agriculture Department, Leh at DIHAR Campus, Leh on January 21.

The objective of the session was to seek feedback on the perfor-

mance of Ladakh Greenhouse on the farmer's field, and the scope for improvement.

The brainstorming session was attended by officers from the Agriculture Department, scientists, and researchers from DIHAR, SKUAST, and CAZRI, and progressive farmers from

different villages of Leh district.

Farmers from different villages displayed their greenhouse produce such as cauliflower, broccoli, red cabbage, chilli, carrot, beetroot, turnip, and leafy vegetables which they have grown in Ladakh Greenhouse.

Agriculture Dept. and DIHAR gave a technical presentation. Also, a technical brochure 'Poly-trench Greenhouse' was released.

Sharing about the Greenhouse, farmers added that they are earning up to Rs 1.5 lakh per greenhouse in one year.

The session was attended by Executive Councillor (Agr), LAHDC Leh, Stanzin Chosphe; Secretary (Agriculture), UT Ladakh, Ravinder Kumar, and Director DIHAR, Dr. OP Chaurasia.

### First meeting of Ladakh Building and Other construction workers' welfare board held



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

**LEH:** Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, RK Mathur chaired the first meeting of the Ladakh Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board (LB&OCWWB) on January 25.

Chairman, LAHDC Kargil, Feroz Ahmed Khan joined virtually, while Chairman, LAHDC Leh, Advocate Tashi Gyalson; Advisor Umang Narula; Welfare Commissioner, Jammu, Omkar Sharma; Commissioner/Secretary, PWD, Ajeet Kumar Sahu; Secretary, Labour, Mehboob Ali Khan; Chief Engineer Himank, Brigadier GS Karki; Deputy Labour Commissioner, Ladakh, Shakeel Ahmed; Chief Engineer Tashi Chombel; Chief Engineer, CPWD, Pradeep Gupta; officials from the Labour Department, Leh & Kargil; representatives from Contractor/Labour Association from Leh and Kargil were present in the meeting.

LG stressed the need to assure that even the non-Border Roads Organisation (BRO) contractors must follow the statutory liability while engaging labourers, make expenditures for the welfare of the labourers and explore technological interventions such as temporary mobile sheds for the labourers. He instructed that an order on Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) with conditions to be fulfilled by the registered labour agencies

while engaging labourers may be issued. He highlighted the need for monitoring the performances of the labour agencies to check if they are providing adequate lodging facilities, etc. to the labourers.

LG Mathur instructed that Panchayati Raj Institutions bodies may be involved in the engagement of local labourers. He stressed the need to keep a check on middlemen involved in engaging migrant labourers from outside Ladakh and ensure that only registered labour agencies are allowed to engage migrant labourers. He emphasised the need to make the process of payment of wages to the labourers transparent.

He emphasised the need to provide protection to labourers and ensure that the labour contractors do not earn disproportionately from the labourers. He instructed that regular certificate courses may be conducted for local labourers during the winter under the labour welfare scheme.

LG Mathur instructed that the registered local labourers may be covered under the labour pension scheme. He also instructed that a leading bank may be considered for opening the bank account for the transaction of the business of the board

based on parameters set by the board. He further instructed that the board may spend the full cess fund every year for the welfare of the labourers.

Administrative and Welfare Expenditure for Financial Year 2022-23 and 2023-24 was approved.

L-G instructed that the cess collection efficiency should be monitored continuously and the migrant labour welfare schemes for the labourers should be prepared and approved. He further instructed that compensation/ex-gratia may be equal for local and non-local labourers in case of the death of the labourer. LG Mathur also instructed that the Labour Department may conduct a pilot for the e-delivery of services with the existing V-Sat-connected vehicles.

The stakeholders/representatives of the contractor/labour association raised issues related to the need for the smoothening of the registration of the labourers, resolving pending liability cases, etc.

Earlier, Deputy Labour Commissioner, Shakeel Ahmed informed the members about the agenda of the meeting, viz. designation of Deputy Labour Commissioner, Ladakh as Secretary of LB&OCWWB and CEO of the Board; finalisation of the draft guidelines of the Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Fund and opening of Bank account for the transaction of business of the board; board approval for the liabilities for FY 2021-22; approval for Administrative and Welfare Expenditure for FY 2022-23 & 2023-24; approval for proposed migrant labour welfare scheme; procurement of all-terrain vehicle with mobile internet facility for inspection of e-delivery of services; transfer of pending fund from JKBOCWWB to UT Ladakh; approval for on-boarding all the active registered workers for disbursement of various benefits for session 2022-23, etc.

### Unique Land Parcel Identification Number launched in Ladakh

L-G distributes property cards to five beneficiaries



L-G Mathur handing over property cards to beneficiaries.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

**LEH:** Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, RK Mathur launched the Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN) in Ladakh on January 20 at Raj Niwas.

Chairman, LAHDC Kargil, Feroz Ahmed Khan; Chairman, LAHDC Leh, Advocate Tashi Gyalson; Secretary, Department of Land Resources, GoI, Ajay Tirkey; Additional Secretary, DoLR, Hukum Singh Meena; Joint Secretary, DoLR, Sonmoni Borah; Advisor Umang Narula; Principal Secretary, Dr Pawan Kotwal; Divisional Commissioner, Saugat Biswas; Deputy Commissioner, Leh, Shrikant Suse; Deputy Commissioner, Kargil, Santosh Sukhdeve; Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Leh, Shabbir Hussain, officials from Survey of India and beneficiaries were present during the event.

Terming ULPIN as a 'game changer' and the next step in SVAMITVA for digitisation and computerisation of land revenue records, LG Mathur stressed the importance of 100 percent coverage of land revenue records in Ladakh and completing the exercise at the earliest. He emphasised the need for the saturation coverage of not only the abadi deh areas but the entire Ladakh by the Administration with the help of both the Hill Councils through its own schemes and funds.

LG Mathur shared the plans to increase the abadi-deh area in Ladakh, including carving out abadi deh areas in Wildlife Sanctuaries and National Park in Ladakh, and stated that the Ad-

ministration along with both the Hill Councils will work with the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) to cover the increased abadi deh areas in Ladakh. He stated that the UPLIN scheme would prove beneficial in numerous ways, including settling and expediting land-related disputes in court and addressing legacy issues such as putting a check on any unwanted change in land revenue records. He also stated that the scheme would also prove beneficial to farmers in availing loans from banks and also using drones to spray insecticides and pesticides on the registered lands of the farmers.

LG Mathur stated that in a hilly UT like Ladakh, the scheme would prove beneficial to collect accurate land records and land areas for hilly land to record the vertical dimension of land. He also stated that the scheme would be a blessing for industrialists and entrepreneurs and help in the overall development of Ladakh.

LG Mathur stressed the need to accurately settle land disputes with the help of computerisation and digitisation of land parcels using this scheme. He expressed his satisfaction to see Ladakh catching up with the rest of the country in the computerisation and digitisation of land parcels.

LG Mathur handed over property cards to five beneficiaries-Phuntsog Spalzung, Padma Gyalson, Tsering Namgyal, Tundup Tashi and Phuntsog Dolma.

Chairman, LAHDC Kargil,

Feroz Ahmed Khan stated that ULPIN is a much-needed scheme in Ladakh as a majority of the people residing in remote areas are unaware of land-related documents and the need to register their lands. Such ignorance, he said, is resulting in land disputes. He said the digitisation of land parcels would enable the farmers to avail loans for development works.

Chairman, LAHDC Leh, Advocate Tashi Gyalson stressed the need for the digitisation of land parcels and remaining updated with the rest of the country. He emphasised the need for a single-window system through which data becomes easily available and accessible. He said the previous practice of capturing land records on papers often resulted in the loss of information due to the wear and tear of papers. He requested for digitisation of land keeping the original/existing land record in mind.

Secretary, DoLR, Ajay Tirkey expressed his happiness to see the digitisation of land revenue records even in new Union Territories such as Ladakh. He congratulated UT Ladakh for taking the lead in the digitisation of land revenue records and stated that Ladakh is moving ahead of other states in the mainland in the digitisation/computerisation of land revenue records. Calling ULPIN a game changer, Secretary, DoLR, Ajay Tirkey highlighted some of the major features of the scheme. He also assured full support to UT Ladakh in the digitisation of land records.

Advisor Umang Narula said the digitisation of land revenue records has become possible only after Ladakh became a Union Territory. Highlighting the importance of digitisation of land revenue records, he said that the farmers are dependent on their livelihood on their land holdings. Therefore, digitisation of the land record of the farmer would enable him to avail loans from banks, he said.

Principal Secretary Dr Pawan Kotwal briefed about the 14-digit ULPIN, its key features and benefits. He said ULPIN would help in the digitisation of land records and also in reaching a conclusive land titling.

DC Leh, Shrikant Suse, informed that 2,237 ULPIN numbers have been generated in Ladakh to date since June 2022.

### 10-day 'Initiative for Holistic Development of Rong' concludes in Liktsky



Guest during the concluding day of 2nd edition of the Initiative for Holistic Development of Rong.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

**LIKTSKY:** 2nd edition of the Initiative for Holistic Development of Rong (I-HDR) concluded on January 25 at Liktsky village.

An initiative of H.E Khamtak Rinpoche, the 10-day long programme was organised by the villagers of Liktsky, Tukla, Phulak with support from the Ladakh Academy of Art, Culture and Languages, Leh.

The event was graced by the presence of H.E Khamtak Rinpoche, and H.E Chechok Rinpoche. The guest of honour

Executive Councillor for Art & Culture, Stanzin Chosphe, Councillor Kungyam, Thinles Nurboo, Chakzod Chemday Monastery, OC 111 RCC BRO Upshi, besides village heads, and a large number of people from the villages of Rong valley and from other parts of Leh attended the closing ceremony.

H.E Khamtak Rinpoche apprised the audience of the objective behind organising the programme which was majorly aimed at strengthening intellectual development, spiritual well-being, and the preserva-

tion of local tradition and culture. He thanked all the supporters and participants for making the programme successful.

In his keynote address, CEC Tashi Gyalson praised the initiative of H.E Khamtak Rinpoche in organising such an exemplary programme for the holistic development of people of all age groups during the winter season. Lauding the efforts of all the collaborators and the participants, he stated that one must take away a bunch of new learnings from such unique workshops and further share the knowledge with their friends and families. He also informed the audience about various initiatives from the Hill Council towards the welfare of the people of Leh district and urged everyone to participate actively in the collective development of Ladakh.

CEC Gyalson assured all possible assistance from the Hill Council towards such initiatives in future.

EC Art & Culture, Stanzin Chosphe and Councillor Kungyam, Thinles Nurboo also addressed the gathering.

Vibrant cultural performances were showcased by the villagers and the students during the closing ceremony.

# Mum on Sixth Schedule demand is a threat for BJP to come back to power in Ladakh?

Nawang Tsering Shakspo



Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP) played a crucial role in getting Union Territory status for Ladakh. The region became a UT on the 5th of October 2019 after the party's thumping victory in the Parliamentary election in May 2019. In August 2019, the BJP Government revoked Article 370 of the Indian Constitution which granted special power to the government of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir to administer the state's affairs and prevent the Central Government from passing laws to redress the grievances of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, including the people of Ladakh. Interestingly, this unique state-level protection can be traced back to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of India, who had empowered Sheikh Abdullah with Article 370 of the constitution and granted Sheikh the position of the Prime Minister of the princely state of Jammu and Kashmir despite opposition from the cabinet leaders such as Sardar Patel, the then-Home Minister of India. These concessions did not stop him from becoming the leader of the secessionist forces of Kashmir who favoured Kashmir's annexation into Pakistan. This act resulted in the dismissal of Sheikh from the post of Prime Minister of Kashmir from the Nehru-led central government and put him behind the bars.

He was replaced by Bakshi Ghulam Mohammed, a loyalist to Delhi, at the post of Prime Minister of Jammu and Kashmir. Cognizant of the needs of Ladakhis, Nehru directed Bakshi to induct Kushok Bakula, the legitimate leader of the people of Ladakhi, into his ministry and set up a Ladakh Affairs Department in the government. Kushok Bakula's induction into the Ministry and the establishment of the Ladakh Affairs Department turned out to be the first steps by the central government to bring Ladakhis into the mainstream of the Indian nation. The people of Ladakh never looked back since then. Under the stewardship of Kushok Bakula, Ladakhis did not hesitate to struggle to demand their legitimate rights from the state and the centre. The situation aggravated because the state government failed to take a worthwhile step to mitigate the socio-economic problems of the landlocked people in the region. Soon after Bakshi's departure, the leaders at the helm of the state administration snatched the portfolio of Ladakh Affairs from him and compelled Kushok Bakula to resign from the State cabinet in 1967, alleging that he 'sat idle without work'. Kushok quit state

politics but continued to work for the people of Ladakh.

In the 1968 Parliamentary elections, Kushok Bakula was elected unopposed to the Parliament from the Ladakh Constituency. Despite being a member of the ruling Congress party, Bakula did not hesitate to lodge complaints against the state government to the Gajendragadkar Commission sent by the central government at his behest as the chairman of the pleading committee. This commission, after a detailed study,



During the protest demonstration jointly organised by Apex body and Kargil Democratic Alliance. Pic credit Deccan Herald/PTI

made several recommendations to both the state and central government for the socio-economic development of the region. However, the recommendations went unheard due to the lackadaisical attitude of the state government.

With restlessness growing among the people of Ladakh against the state government, the demand for the separation of Ladakh from J&K State was set in motion. The demands included granting a NEFA-type administration or making Ladakh a Union Territory. Despite Sheikh again forming the government following the Indira-Sheikh accord for the second time in 1974, the conduct of state administration did not change. Interestingly, the Morarji Desai-led Central Government appointed Kushok Bakula as a member of the newly-coined Minorities Commission in New Delhi in 1989. Again, the Sheikh-led state government, under the pretext of section 370, declined the jurisdiction of the commission and decided not to extend the protocol to the mem-

bers during his visit to the state capital. I remember an instance when Bakula, in his capacity as a member of the Minorities Commission, wrote a letter to Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi alleging that the Central Government was not paying any heed to the demands of Ladakhis and was silent on issues such as granting Scheduled Tribe status.

Interestingly, before the region became a UT headed by a Lieutenant Governor, the whole administration of Ladakh was performed by the two District Magistrate-cum-Commissioners at Kargil and Leh. To manage the administration of a population of less than three lakhs in Leh and Kargil, we now find dozens of IAS and IPS cadre officers and other officers in similar positions. The administration is required to implement welfare schemes for the ethnic tribal people in the changed circumstances. But there are apprehensions among the locals that job opportunities for locals have decreased in the UT.

Currently, the BJP holds sway over Ladakh's politics since the sitting Member of Parliament from Ladakh is from the same party and the Hill Council, Leh is formed by the majority of BJP members. Hill Council, Kargil also has a sizable number of BJP members. The Leh Apex Body and Kargil Democratic Alliance are spearheading the demand for statehood to Ladakh, or else Constitutional Safeguards under the Sixth Schedule; two Lok Sabha and one Rajya Sabha seat for Ladakh and the filling of 10,000 to 12,000 vacancies in the Government Departments.

It is pertinent to mention that soon after the formation of Ladakh as a UT, the National Commission of Scheduled Tribe and Tribal Minister of the Government of India favoured the extension of the 6th Schedule to Ladakh. Recently, a Parliamentary Standing Committee has asked the Home Ministry to consider granting 5th or 6th Schedule status to Ladakh. The committee also directed the government to declare the official language of the UT expeditiously, which, I assume, could be Ladakhi. Under such circumstances, if an amicable solution is not found and the BJP remains unresponsive to issues such as 6th schedule of Statehood to Ladakh and Ladakhi as the official language of the UT Ladakh, a stalemate may dwindle the prospects of the tourist season in the region and also dimish BJP's prospect of returning to power in the coming elections.

The author is the Director of the Centre for Research on Ladakh, Leh. You can mail your feedback and comments to [sntsering@gmail.com](mailto:sntsering@gmail.com).

## Ladakh administration's new eligibility criteria for posts handicap many deserving students



After the disintegration of JK into two union territories, Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh various promises were made to the people of Ladakh in the initial days. One of them was hundred percent employment to the educated youth of the region. Everyone looked satisfied and confident and hoped for a mass job rally very soon. 3 years passed and there was no news about 100 percent of jobs as promised. Students and youths from all over Ladakh came on the road to protest and demanded immediate job recruitment for the youth. Then after a few months, the UT administration announced 800 jobs through the Staff selection commission.

Now the biggest challenge that comes to educated youths is the unnecessary eligibility criteria. The posts where any graduates can apply earlier in J&K state have now eccentric or unknown eligibility. For e.g Junior stenographer post, the SSC for Ladakh has asked an ITI diploma for the posts whereas SSC at its national level simply asks students to get a diploma from a recognized institution. How and why things get changed in Ladakh only, where a student goes and gets an ITI diploma.

DC Kargil in a recent interview with the media person where he has been asked about the eligibility criteria for orderly posts talked about the JK& Ladakh high court order. Indeed the order doesn't allow the graduates to the orderly but if everything is going under the order of the Honourable high court then why did the students having a 1-year diploma from a recognized institution has been excluded high court allows the students having 1-year diploma from a recognized institution. It never asked students to present an ITI di-

ploma.

In the tourism department receptionist posts, the administration has set unnecessary eligibility criteria of a minimum 3-year diploma. We the students know that no university in

subject that deals with aerial differentiation it has two to three papers on ecology and wildlife. Whenever one opens the geography one could find and know about the wildlife, national parks, and sanctuaries in it.



During the peace protest rally on October 18, 2021 regarding job opportunities organised by All Ladakh Unemployed Youth Association with the support of student unions, Apex body and civil society.

India provides such a diploma. There is one year of diploma or degree.

Many of the students have approached the administration and the representatives of both the district but everybody showed them the cold shoulder. Things got worse again when very recently both the district recruitment board advertised some vacancies where the eligibility criteria remain unchanged. Among the posts one is the wildlife forester of the wildlife protection department there are also very annoying and confusing criteria has been set. They have said the candidate must be a bachelor's with two or more of the following subjects, mathematics, physics, chemistry, botany, zoology, and geology. Who will tell the logic behind including geology and excluding geography subjects for the said posts? You all might know geography is the

There are many more errors in the eligibility criteria of both districts. The administration needs to re-consider all rules because all

these are making the students helpless and orphaned. There is resentment and anger among the students of both the district and indeed its Genuine because we people never thought about such rules and procedures prior there was no such procedure in JKSSB.

And it's the bitter truth of Ladakh that even to do a diploma in computers we need to travel to J&K then how is it possible for students to bear such unnecessary eligibility criteria?

The writer is a student of social science. You can mail your feedbacks and comments to [aahil000riyaz@gmail.com](mailto:aahil000riyaz@gmail.com)

## SoulSpeak

Dr. P.P. Wangchuk

### The art of self-disciplining



Someone recently wanted me to write on the art of cultivating discipline. I guess she might have thought that lack of discipline could spoil her career! I wrote, partly, the following advice: First, it is true that without discipline, hard work and intelligence work don't help us much. So, what are those characteristics helpful in cultivating discipline? First, one must understand the definition of 'discipline': One's ways of life that is very well-organised and strictly regulated for a defined purpose.

Discipline is at the very root of any success that is meaningful and good not only for self but for others too. A few points on the cultivation of discipline could be: One has to be determined to follow certain ways of life that is conducive to success. 2- One may need to change one's ways of life so that nothing hinders one's well-planned projects. 3- Read books on the art of self-discipline and follow them consciously and conscientiously. 4- To begin with, be happy even if only one or two ways of discipline could be followed. Things, particularly one's mindset, can't be changed in one swift stroke. It takes time and great persuasion.

To remain happy and to have a smooth progression in the journey of life, it is discipline that comes to one's help. The Dalai Lama says that a disciplined mind leads to happiness and an undisciplined mind leads to suffering. No wonder, we see even very mediocre guys going up the heights of great success via the ladder of discipline.

I don't want to quote any more but there is a compulsion of bringing in American spiritual leader Roy L Smith who says that "discipline is the refining fire by which talent becomes ability." That means that even talent requires disciplinary back-up for full power and play! And it is also true that the world's undisciplined people far outweigh the disciplined ones. If all of us were disciplined, our world would have been many times more peaceful, beautiful and progressive!

Courtesy: WongWorld

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

## Fornightly News

### In Conversation with Faisal Khan Ashoor, Music composer / Singer

Interviewed by Deachen Spaldon & Yangchen Dolma

**Q. Tell us about yourself and your musical journey.**

I come from the border village, 'Turtuk' in Nubra valley. I have always been very passionate about singing and dancing since as a small kid. I did my early education in the village school, pursued higher studies at Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya Leh, and that's when I met my music teacher- Mr. Narendra. He introduced me to the basics of music while pushing and encouraging me to participate in singing competitions. I participated in singing competitions at the district level organised by Cultural Academy and bagged 1st position twice. This small achievement further boost my confidence and encouraged me to keep going on.

While pursuing my graduation from Delhi University, I joined the music society club and simultaneously started uploading small cover music videos on YouTube. Even though the platform was not big as it is today and there was hardly any good internet connection in Ladakh, I was overwhelmed with a large number of positive comments and love for my songs. The fact that so many people showed interest in my music videos, and the love and appreciation for a budding singer like me made me choose music as a career.

During the Losar celebration in Delhi organized by LSWSD in 2019, I had the privilege to interact with His Holiness Drukpa Rinpoche, who praised my talent and promised to support me in all possible ways. It was indeed one of the happiest days of my life. Later, one of the biggest opportunities came knocking at my door when I received a phone call from His holiness's office informing me about the Naropa festival to be held in Leh and asking if I wanted to perform with the famous Bollywood singer 'Nitti Mohan'. As ecstatic as I was I immediately agreed, the performance was a breakthrough in my music journey as many more people started recognizing me and my singing passion. Thus, I finally decided to choose music as my career. Under His Holiness's guidance and support, I also got enrolled at a music institute called True school of music in Mumbai.

At present around 10 farmers are associated with us. Apart from locals, we get an order from South India, and army personnel also. Nima Goos products are available in Chospa Store, Dragon mart and one can order online on Instagram.

**Q. These days many youngsters prefer modern songs over folk songs. What do you think about that?**

I think there should be a balance between both. Being a Ladakhi it is certainly very important to know and understand our culture and get



connected to our roots. I see many new singers interested in singing folk music and helping revive the age-old traditions of Ladakh. Through folk songs, we learn about our traditions and culture. I feel it is not only artists but everyone must focus on learning traditional music and understanding them.

If there is an initiative by the government and all the stakeholders to include learning folk music and making it a part of the curriculum in schools, it will be immensely beneficial for the upcoming generation. Notwithstanding that, we must not neglect the importance of other music genres. If someone is excelling in this particular field they must continue pursuing their passion for it. An egalitarian approach to all music genres is paramount today.

**Q. Share with us the struggles and problems you faced in pursuing this passion.**

Life doesn't always serve choices and success on a platter; I too had to face many challenges and struggles at the beginning of my career. Firstly there was hesitancy about choosing music as a career as it is not considered a job with stable income generation.

Internet connection was a huge problem earlier, so it created barriers to getting more exposure. As I was just at the beginning of my music journey it was extremely hard to get called for shows, while the anxiety of people not liking my songs kept looming over me. I had to travel to Delhi to record the songs as there were no studios in Leh, which was costly and I had to bear the brunt of being financially unstable because of this. Nevertheless, I was determined and very passionate about music which is why these challenges seemed minuscule, and kept continuing on my journey.

**Q. What are your plans?**

To achieve something big in life, you must start with small steps. Although I was very much interested in all music genres I started my journey with Ladakhi and Balti songs. Gradually when I started getting support and love from people and got recognition, I ventured into singing songs from other states and cultures. It began with covering songs from most of the Himalayan region such as Bhutan, Uttrakhand, Lahaul- Spiti, and Nepal. It also allowed me to visit and perform in these regions. As I get more recognition and people got to know me and my music, I got invitations to perform at various festivals in these regions. Being a Ladakhi getting such opportunities has been a big achievement for me.

#### MESSAGE TO THE READERS

“Never let go of opportunities coming your way, it doesn't matter how big or small it is. Believe in yourself, you should be your biggest supporter and have patience with your progress because every great thing takes time. ☺☺

...Continues on page 6

## Fornight Highlights



74th Republic Day was celebrated with enthusiasm and patriotic fervour at Sports Stadium in Zaskar Sub Division.



Chairman/CEC, Tashi Gyalsen flagging off the team from Council Secretariat to India International Science Festival in Bhopal.



74th Republic Day was celebrated with enthusiasm and patriotic fervour at Higher Secondary School Ground, Drass.



Under-14 boys and girls learning Ice skating during the 15-day basic Ice Hockey training camp at Khree Sultan Choo Ice Hockey Stadium.



During the Mamani Annual Ethnic traditional food festival in Kargil district marking the end of winter season.

## Fornightly News

### Review meeting regarding STP, network of sewerage in Kargil town held



During the review meeting of Sewerage Treatment Plant (STP) and network of sewerage in Kargil Town.

#### Reach Ladakh Correspondent

**KARGIL:** A review meeting regarding the Sewerage Treatment Plant (STP) and network of sewerage in Kargil town was chaired by Chairman/CEC, LAHDC, Kargil Feroz Ahmed Khan on January 23.

Detailed discussions were held on different aspects related to implementing Sewerage Treatment Plant and various sewerage networks in Kargil Town.

Dr. Shailender Singh Solanki through Video Conferencing gave a detailed presentation on the comprehensive Sewerage System and STP for Kargil

town. Through the presentation, detailed insights were given on various components of the projects.

CEC was informed about the project, scope of the work, design of STP and sewerage collection network, challenges regarding the project, approach and methodology, work progress, population projection, design approach, STP and PSs proposed, cost estimate, and various other vital components.

It was informed that DPR has been submitted and work is under the tendering stage. Be-

sides, the sewerage network will cater to 1,45,145 souls including the floating population. The STP is designed for 98,982 souls for 15 years. The whole project is framed to continue for 30 years. Further, six zones have been identified for the project.

Khan directed that regarding the identification of new land for the pumping station and STP, the concerned consultancy in collaboration with Revenue Department and Municipal Committee will conduct a final survey so that revenue papers of land are finalized and work starts at the earliest.

Director ULB assured that the survey will be completed within a week and the consultancy team will be sent to Kargil at the earliest.

The CEC further directed the concerned officers to clear all the pendency related to the project. He said it is a vital project for the development of Kargil town and expressed hope that it will resolve the sewerage problems in Kargil town in the future.

### Dr. Nasreen Fatima performs elective lower segment cesarean section at CHC Sankoo



Dr. Nasreen Fatima Gynaecologist, Obstetrician, and her team performing an elective case of lower segment cesarean sections (LSCS) at Community Health Center Sankoo.

#### Reach Ladakh Correspondent

**SANKOO:** Dr. Nasreen Fatima Gynaecologist, Obstetrician, and her team performed an elective case of lower segment cesarean sections (LSCS) at Community Health Center Sankoo on January 23.

CHC Sankoo continues its service to health care since the Operation Theatre was made functional on July 1, 2022.

A team of doctors comprising Dr. Banazeer Khatoon, Consultant

Anesthetist; Dr. Ahmad Ali, Consultant Orthopaedician; Dr. Anwar Hussain, Consultant Paediatrician, District Hospital Kargil, and OT Staff's Including, Mohd Ibrahim, Anesthesia Assistant; Mehmood Hussain, OT Assistant; Zaheer Abass, OT Assistant, Ghulam Mehdi, OT Assistant, and Nasreen Fatima Under Supervision of BMO Sankoo.

Dr. Nasreen said that two loops of cord around the neck and thick meconium as soon as the 3 kg baby girl was delivered and post-operative was uneventful.

Dr. Anwar Hussain Paediatrician Consultant checked the baby and declared it healthy. He also imparted knowledge about handling the newborn baby to staff nurses at CHC Sankoo.

### Menstrual health and hygiene program to be held on February 5 in Kargil

#### Reach Ladakh Correspondent

**KARGIL:** Chairman/CEC, LAHDC, Kargil Feroz Ahmed Khan chaired a meeting with concerned District Officers/Officials and members of Baqriya Health Care and Research Centre (BHC&RC) at the Council Secretariat, Kargil on January 24 regarding Menstrual Health and Hygiene program to be held on February 5.

Detailed discussion on the feasibility and various other aspects to conduct the Menstrual Health and Hygiene program in the district was carried out.

CEC congratulated BHC&RC Kargil for receiving the prestigious State Award in the field of social reform and empowerment protection this year. He hailed BHC&RC's efforts for carrying out various philanthropic works in Kargil with a focus on health



which is benefitting people belonging to economically marginal sections of society.

CEC also appreciated the Menstrual Health and Hygiene program of the BHC&RC in the district which is scheduled to be held on February 05, 2023. He assured all possible assistance from LAHDC Kargil and directed CEO, Deputy CMO, and

District Program Officer ICDS to invite female staff on the scheduled date.

Feroz Khan also requested members of BHC&RC to organize such beneficial programs for rural women folks as well so that maximum women, young and adolescent girls are sensitized about menstrual health and hygiene.

### National Voters' Day observed in Zanskar

#### Reach Ladakh Correspondent

**ZANSKAR:** The 13th National Voters' Day themed, 'Nothing Like Voting, I Vote for Sure' was celebrated in Zanskar Sub Division at Tehsil Office Zanskar on January 25.

Sub Divisional Magistrate, Zanskar/Tehsildar, Zanskar pledged the voters to vote and participate in every election as election is the basic right of every voter to choose their candidate at the grass root level.

SDM Zanskar directed all the employees to ensure the demo-



cratic practice of free, fair and peaceful elections, to vote in every election to sensitize the public about the adult franchise.

Similar functions were also held at every booth of the Sub Division conducted by all departments and the Booth Level Of-

ficers (BLOS) of the respective polling booths.

The theme for this year's NVD is dedicated to voters which conveys individual's feeling and aspiration towards participation in the electoral process through power of their vote.

### SDM Zanskar reviews road conditions, drinking water facilities at Dorjay Zong Nunnery

#### Reach Ladakh Correspondent

**ZANSKAR:** Sub Divisional Magistrate, Zanskar, Sonam Dorjay visited Dorjay Zong Nunnery on January 28 and reviewed the road condition and drinking water issues.

During the visit, he inspected JJM submersible pump and storage tank at Techa Khasar of Yulsum village and stressed concerned engineers to restore supply of drinking water which was frozen due to severe cold and directed them to resolve the drinking water issue of the villagers.



The SDM directed the engineers of PHE to immediately restore drinking water in Nunnery area and provide a reservoir tank for stock of drinking water so that the nuns don't suffer.

He also interacted with the nuns

and assured them to provide drinking water facility and clearance of road whenever there is snowfall in the region. The SDM also appealed the young nuns to help the elders by providing water and other necessities at her residence.

### In Conversation with Faisal Khan Ashoor

...Continued from page 5

I have the ambition to perform at the national level now and it will start with covering more Bollywood songs. Our band is planning to do that and working on it currently. We have also composed two Hindi songs which are to be uploaded in the coming days.

**Q. You talked earlier about people not considering music as a good career option. What do you have to say about it?**

No profession is big or small. Everything depends on individual interests and how far we are willing to invest our time and energy in that. Earlier people were not aware, they take music just for entertainment purposes and not as a career. Choosing a government job was a far better option because of stability and income. The narrative has changed now to some extent today as more parents are encouraging their children to pursue their passion. There is a fair amount of understanding that besides bookish

knowledge, participating in all co-curricular activities will develop one's confidence in life. Not only in music but in whatever field be it art, designing, or dancing, if a child is passionate and interested, it is predominant that parents must support and guide them. Today, these are the fields from which one can earn a good source of income.

**Q. What is your advice to aspiring artists?**

Learning never stops. I still have to gain so much more experience and knowledge in this field. I can tell from the journey so far that, if you truly believe in something and are passionate about it, you need to come out of your comfort zone. Taking the first step is the hardest but you must not hold back. Just take the first step and push yourself toward your dream. There will always be someone to criticize but focus on constructive criticisms. Surrounding yourself with supportive and positive people is necessary.

### District Election Office, Leh, celebrates 13th National Voters' Day



#### Reach Ladakh Correspondent

**LEH:** District Election Office, Leh celebrated the 13th National Voters Day themed, 'Nothing Like Voting, I Vote for Sure', in the presence of District Election Officer/ Deputy Commissioner, Leh, Shrikant Suse at DC Conference Hall on January 25.

Marking the celebration of National Voters Day, DEO Leh/ DC Leh administered the Voters Pledge to the participants.

Eight Booth level Officers from all the Tehsils of Leh district were awarded for their dedication and hard work which includes BLO Stok, Yangchen Dolma; BLO Sumoor, Tashi Yangphel; BLO Turtuk, Jaffar Sadiq; BLO Saspotsey, Kaneez Fatima; BLO Youlchung, Tsetan Dolma; BLO Sakti Ishey Putit; BLO Chumathang, Padma Yangjor, and BLO Chushul, Skarma Lotus Gailson. As youth represents the future

and play an important role in upholding the democratic tradition of free and fair elections, Deputy District Election Officer, Sonam Chosjor felicitated the participants of the Skara and Shey-Thik teams during their match in the ongoing 3rd LG Ice Hockey Championship 2023 at Ice Hockey Rink, NDS Sports Ground, Leh.

Dy DEO Leh distributed Electoral Photo Identity Cards (EPIC) to the newly registered youths during the event.

The newly released song of the Election Commission of India titled 'Main Bharat Hoon-Hum Bharat Ke Matdata Hain' was also screened on the occasion.

National Voters Day was also celebrated at all the tehsils and sub-division levels.

## NOTICE

**I, Service No. 277232H Rank JC Srinivasa Reddy Kuduru, Vill. Vanga Veedu, Teh. Madhira, District Khammam, Telangana state, India, declare that my daughter's name in my Service documents / records 'KUNDURU SUPREETHA REDDY' instead of my daughter's actual and correct name which is 'KUDURU SUPREETHA REDDY'.**



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**Your invaluable contribution for the people of Ladakh is highly appreciated and the award is much deserving.**

**A proud moment for the people of Ladakh.**

**Your achievement makes us our head held high!**

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**75**  
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The Administration of Union Territory of Ladakh  
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Department of Information & Public Relations, Kargil

# ONE-DAY JOURNALIST WORKSHOP

## Guest Speakers:-

**Ms. Meenakshi Kandwal**, Independent Journalist (Former Executive Editor Times Now, Navbharat. Formerly with Aajtak, India TV, ABP)

**Mr. Ramesh Chandra** (IIS), Field Publicity Officer, Central Bureau of Communication, Andhra Pradesh (Former Head, Regional News Unit/Doordarshan, Leh)

**Mr. Sunetro Ghosal**, Editor, Stawa Magazine

**Mr. Zaheer Bagh**, Former Senior Broadcast Journalist, Chief Cameraman, India Today



Being organised by:

Department of Information & Public Relations, Kargil

**Venue:** Hotel The Kargil

**Date:** 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2023

**Time:** 10:30 AM