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November 01-15, 2023

REACH LADAKH BULLETIN



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Muslims in Leh express their solidarity with Gaza



Public during a peaceful protest showing support for the people of Gaza.

Yangchen Dolma

LEH: Muslim Coordination Committee Leh organised a peaceful protest at the Main Market on October 27 to show support for the people of Gaza who are facing a prolonged conflict resulting in significant loss of life

Imam of Jama Masjid Leh, Maulana Mohd Omar Nadvi stressed the immediate need to bring peace back to Gaza and Palestine. He also highlighted the hardships faced by the Palestinian people and kids.

Sheikh Nazir Ahmed Sharifi urged the international community to condemn Israel and show unwavering support for the Palestinian people.

Ashraf Ali Barcha, President, Anjuman

Imamia Leh, provided a historical perspective on the Israel-Palastine conflict. He also highlighted the history of Zionist tactics that led to the formation of the illegal state of Israel, which has disrupted the peace in West Asia.

"This is a grave injustice happening to the people mostly the children and kids of Palestine and Gaza, we should all stand against it and show our solidarity it's not about Muslims it's about humanity", he added.

Dr. Abdul Qayum, President, Anjuman Moin ul Islam emphasized the paramount importance of gaining a profound understanding of the underlying truth behind the ongoing crisis. Israel is using its

superpower to attack Gaza's hospitals, and children, and causing severe damage. We should not support any form of injustice based on religion or background. We should stand with the innocent one.

He said, "I request the Indian government to support Palestine, provide aid as soon as possible, and call for an immediate ceasefire to end this war." Qari Mohd Amin of Jama Masjid Leh offered a heartfelt prayer for world peace, with a special focus on Gaza.

The event was conducted by Adv Mohd Raman Khan, who thanked all participants and urged the Government of India to stand in solidarity with the Palestinian people during this challenging time.

1000 years commemoration of Nyarma Institute at Thiksey

Calls for effort by every Ladakhi to preserve centuries-old heritage



Ven. Thupstan Paldan sharing valuable insights into the historical significance of the Institute.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

THIKSEY: A function was organised to commemorate the millennial anniversary of Nyarma, a revered and ancient institute cum university, remnants of which still endure in the village of Thiksey on October 28.

The function was jointly organised by Ladakh Academy of Art, Culture and Languages Leh, International Institute for Culture & Ethics (IICE), and Thiksey Monastery with support from the people of Thiksey village.

The closing session was graced by the presence of CEC, LAHDC Leh, Tashi Gyalson as the chief guest along with MP Ladakh, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal as the guest of honor. Dy Chairman, LAHDC, Tsering Angchuk; VP LBA, Chering Dorjey Lakrook, and Councillor Thiksey, LAHDC, Stanzin Chosfail were the special guests during the occasion.

Other guests including eminent scholar Ven. Thupstan Paldan, Director Shesrap Skyadtsal Ling Learning Centre Thiskey, Geshe Jamyang Tashi, Ven Venerable monks and nuns, Director IICE, Tashi Namgyal; village representatives led by Sarpanch Thiksey participants from various places and people

of Thiksey village attended the event.

All the officials explored the entire architectural remains of the age-old Nyarma Institute guided by eminent scholar Ven. Thupstan Paldan who shared valuable insights into the historical significance of the Institute, established in the 11th Century A.D. by the renowned philosopher Lotsava Rinchen Zangpo. He also highlighted the world-famous Kashmiri Gandhara art style used at the institute, especially inside the major sections including that of Nalanda Master Atisha Dipamkara. He also mentioned Nyarma as a uniform centre of philosophical studies back in the late 11th century bringing together scholars from diverse backgrounds.

CEC Tashi Gyalson, Leh, congratulated all the participants on the commemoration of the millennial anniversary of the historic Nyarma Institute. He lauded the efforts of the organisers for successfully organising the event. He stated that it is the collective responsibility of every citizen of Ladakh to preserve the age-old heritage and cultural traditions, terming few such are on the verge of extinction. He appreciated the Hill Council, Leh for the initia-

tives in allocating a separate budget in its annual plan with a ceiling of ₹ 2 lakh on the disbursement of every Panchayats of Leh district for the preservation and renovation of ancient heritage sites. He also spoke of several deliberations being made on the preservation of the architectural remains of the Institute and assured continued assistance from the Hill Council, Leh in protecting important historical sites including the Nyarma Institute at Thiksey.

MP Ladakh, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal in his address highlighted the contributions of Lotsava Rinchen Zangpo in establishing various learning centres and historically significant monasteries in Ladakh and the trans-Himalayan region, including the Nyarma Institute at Thiksey and the globally renowned Alchi monastery. He referred to Nyarma as the 'Nalanda of the Himalayas' emphasising its role as the 1st University in Ladakh to continue the legacy of the historic Nalanda tradition of Philosophy dating back in the 11th century A.D. He also emphasised the vital role of youths in learning the legacy of the significance in the context of the history of Ladakh. Highlighting the history of the Institute and urged everyone especially youths to explore and study in preserving the rich cultural

and traditional heritage of Ladakh.

Dy Chairman Tsering Angchuk also mentioned the significance of Nyarma Institute in reflecting the rich cultural heritage of Ladakh. He stressed the need to encourage youths to explore and learn about the history of Ladakh especially at the school level. He appreciated the organisers for conducting such an important event commemorating 1000 years of the Institute.

VP, LBA Chering Dorjey Lakrook stressed upon the importance of Nyarma as a centre of learning in ancient times and the need to revive the age-old traditions along with the preservation of these historical sites within Ladakh.

Councillor Thiksey expressed his gratitude to all the stakeholders involved in successfully organising the much-needed function at the Institute. He also thanked all the dignitaries for their gracious presence and valuable support till date.

Culture Officer, LAACL Leh, Dr. Thupstan Nurboo presented an overview on the commemoration of the 1000 years of Nyarma Institute.

The book "Legacy of Nyarma" was launched by the dignitaries during the event.

Buddhist Pilgrimage Tour

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Fortnightly News

Delegates from Bhutan visit Chowkhang Vihara



Nenzes Chodon

LEH: Ladakh Buddhists Association Leh welcomed His Eminence Tsoq gi Lobon Khenchen Khando La and 12 other delegates from Bhutan on October 17 at Chowkhang Vihara.

General Secretary LBA spoke on the relationship between Ladakh and Bhutan as both regions share historical and cultural links. Stakna monastery was founded by a great Yogi/master from Bhutan Chos gi nyonzin pa. Immediately after that, King Singay Namgyal became the King of Ladakh and declared Drukpa Kargyut a state school in Ladakh. He said that it helped strengthen the relationship between Bhutan and Ladakh.

Addressing the gathering, His Eminence Tsoq gi Lobon Khenchen Khando La mentioned that they were prestigiously welcomed by LBA and shall stay in Leh for the next 4-5 days as pilgrims. He stated that the beauty of Ladakh is quite similar to that of Bhutan nature and even the way people greet each other. Both the places surrounded by mountains and people as well look alike. Even the culture and traditions of both matches but most importantly have a strong bond. Buddhism being the major religion in both places makes the two connected from roots. Bhutan and Ladakh became even closer during the 17th and 18th centuries when

one of King Singay Namgyal sons Stanzin Namgyal was schooled and studied in Bhutan and became a monk. Later he became the eighth spiritual leader (khenpo) in Bhutan hence it proves how both regions are historically connected. He concluded stating that it is the duty of every Buddhist individual to let the words of Buddha spread all over the world.

Acting president of LBA, Chhering Dorje welcomed the guests with a traditional white scarf (khataks). He further introduced LBA and the roles of LBA towards the people of Ladakh, especially Buddhist population.

He stated that the visit of high-power delegations from Bhutan will further strengthen the relationship and these kinds of interactions and visits shall take place more in the future. Pilgrims from Ladakh especially during winters visit Bhutan therefore he requested an exemption of entry fee to Bhutan and requested to consider and pursue his words towards higher authorities. He said that Ladakhi visitors are seen as pilgrims rather than mere tourists.

Tributes paid to martyrs on Police Commemoration Day

Nenzes Chodon

LEH: Rich tribute was paid to the brave policemen who laid down their lives in the line of duty while observing Police Commemoration Day on October 21 at Police Line, Choglamsar.



on duty.

On October 21, 1959, twenty Indian soldiers were attacked by the heavily armed Chinese troops in Hot Spring Ladakh and 10 valiant Policemen were martyred while defending the integrity of our motherland seven others were also imprisoned and later managed to escape from Chinese troops. On November 28, 1959, the Chinese troops handed over the dead bodies of martyred Policemen to India and their cremation was held with honour at the Hot springs located near Tsoqtsalu, an extreme Indo-China Border in Eastern Ladakh. Since then October 21, celebrated as Police Commemoration Day in remembrance of the martyrs of police personnel all over India who attained martyrdom while

are trying to strengthen our police, by increasing the number, modernizing it, and trying to increase our footprint so that whenever any challenge comes we rise up to the occasion and protect not our internal security, law, and order but would also support our main strike force that is Army whenever required".

Advisor Dr. Pawan Kotwal addressed the audience with a brief history of the event and how challenging it was in the year 1959, in the month of October, at a height of around 16000 ft to cross the Martsimik La, going down reaching the hot spring and establishing a police post.

He said that since 1962 this day is celebrated as Police Commemoration Day, Police Flag Day and from the 21st onwards for another 10 days Rashtra Ekta Diwas/sapta is celebrated.

He stated, "In Ladakh, we

are trying to strengthen our police, by increasing the number, modernizing it, and trying to increase our footprint so that whenever any challenge comes we rise up to the occasion and protect not our internal security, law, and order but would also support our main strike force that is Army whenever required".

ADGP, Ladakh Police Dr. S.D Singh Jamwal recited the names of 188 brave officers and men of 2022-23 who laid down their lives in the line of duty.

A blood donation camp was also set up with a blood bank team from SNM Hospital Leh.

11th District Level Committee meeting held

Outlines progress made under Narco Coordination Centre mechanism



During the 11th meeting of the District Level Committee under the Narco Coordination Centre (NCORD) Mechanism at the DC mini conference hall.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Deputy Commissioner, Leh, Santosh Sukhdev chaired the 11th meeting of the District Level Committee under the Narco Coordination Centre (NCORD) Mechanism at the DC mini conference hall on October 27.

Committee members presented the Action Taken Report, outlining the progress made in addressing the concerns of the NCORD mechanism.

DC Leh directed the members to organise awareness campaigns and inter-school sports competitions in schools in the month of November,

following the conclusion of exams, with the assistance of the YATO club and students. He also directed the Assistant Controller of Drugs, Leh, to conduct random checks on shops and ensure that chemist shops do not sell scheduled H1 drugs without prescriptions. Chemist shops must install CCTV cameras in their establishments. He stressed the need for intensified awareness campaigns in schools to ensure strict actions against shopkeepers violating the COPTA Act, 2003.

Psychiatrist, SNM Hospital, Leh, Dr. Padma Angmo informed that

and has 10 counsellors to counsel individuals. The Information Department, is directed to prepare Information Education & Communication (IEC) materials on drugs.

Senior Superintendent of Police, Leh, PD Nitya, added that there are approximately 15 drug-related cases in Leh and apprised the members about recent trends in Ladakh.

Various topics were addressed during the meeting, including the exchange of intelligence and information concerning drug trafficking trends. Significantly, a strong emphasis was put on promoting anti-drug abuse awareness, particularly in educational institutions such as schools and colleges, which were previously not covered.

Furthermore, the supervision of drug de-addiction and rehabilitation centres in the district also came into discussion, as the committee explored ways to enhance their effectiveness.

The meeting was attended by various officials, including Nilza Angmo, District Social Welfare Officer, Leh; Dr. Padma Angmo, Psychiatrist, SNM Hospital, Leh; CEO, Leh; Assistant Controller Drugs, Leh; Excise and Taxation Officer, Leh; Inspector Mohd Sultan, I.C Narcotic Cell District Police, Leh; a representative from ITBP Leh, and Sha-keel-Ur-Rehman, SDAO, Leh.

Stanzin Padma

LEH: Central Institute of Buddhist Studies celebrated its 64th Foundation Day on 23 October at Arya Nagarjuna Auditorium, CIBS, Leh.

Chief Guest of the occasion, Tashi Gyalsen, CEC Chief Executive Councillor, LAHDC, Leh paid his heartfelt tribute to the founder of the institute Kushok Bakula Rinpoche who started this institute with only 10 students and now it has flourished on a wide scale. He stated that CIBS is a premier institute where Buddhist philosophy is taught and in the coming days, it has the potential to become a prestigious central Buddhist institute at the national level.

He informed that under Sa-

CIBS celebrates its 64th Foundation Day



Vice Chancellor Prof. Rajesh Ranjan welcoming CEC, Tashi Gyaltson during the 64th Foundation day celebration of CIBS.

maghara Shiksha Yojana, 246 posts for Bhoti Teacher in Ladakh have been advertised on a contractual basis. He also emphasised the persistent efforts and contribution of MP Ladakh in strengthening Bhoti language, especially through the introduction of the Private Member Bill in the Parliament last year to

include the Bhoti language in the 8th schedule of the Indian Constitution.

MP, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal stated that the government has approved to enhance the stipend of CIBS students from class first to Ph.D. level. Further, he also addressed that under the second finance

meeting held on 16 October, the government has approved providing a science laboratory and smart class at Leh senior secondary school and a school at Duzing Photang, Padum, Zanskar.

Further, he gave an estimated cost discussed in a meeting with the government which includes, 5 crores for expanding high secondary school, 15 crores for the construction of residential quarters for employees, and 13 crores for the construction of residential quarters for the vice chancellor, finance officer, examination controller etc. Hence, excluding scholarships, the total expenditure is 40 crores.

Vice Chancellor Prof. Rajesh Ranjan presented

an overview of the institution and its progress reports and further informed the gathering of various developmental signs of progress made so far at the Deemed-to-be university to date.

Prize distribution sessions for students and staff were also held on the occasion.

Ven. Konchok Tsepal, nominated councillor; Ven. Tsering Wangdus, President, All Ladakh Gonpa Association; C Phuntsog, IAS, Former Chief secretary of the erstwhile J&K state and Ex-Vice Chancellor, University of Ladakh, Leh; Dr Tsering Phuntsog, General Secretary and Tsering Palden, Director of School Education also spoke on the occasion.

Leh celebrates 2nd Ladakh Literature Day

Dr. Lobzang Tsewang honoured with Ladakh Literature Award 2023



Professor Dr. Lobzang Tsewang receiving the 2nd Ladakh Literature Award for his scholarly dedication in the fields of philosophy, literature, and translation.

Stanzin Padma

LEH: Commemorating the 97th birth anniversary of legendary historian and eminent scholar Late Tashi Rabgais, the 2nd edition of Ladakh Literature Day was celebrated on October 17 at Hotel Zen Ladakh.

The day was organised by LAHDC Leh and Ladakh Academy of Arts Culture and Language (LAACL) Leh.

Professor Dr. Lobzang Tsewang was conferred with the Ladakh Literature Award for the year

2023 for his scholarly dedication in the fields of philosophy, literature, and translation.

The chief guest of the occasion, MP Ladakh, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal, stated that all Ladakhi are so fortunate to be born in such a place which consist of different tribes and culture and are living unitedly with peace and harmony. Further, he also mentioned that Ladakh Literature Day is celebrated in order to preserve the rich heritage and culture of Ladakh.

Commissioner/Secretary, Mehboob Ali Khan stressed the initiatives of the UT Administration in the preservation and pro-

He emphasised the much-needed role of the youths in carrying forward the rich legacy and preservation of the literary culture and tradition of Ladakh. He also mentioned that the learning of the Bhoti language will get a boost with the sanctioning of 240 plus Bhoti teacher posts under SAMAGRA SHIKSHA by the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India.

The Ladakh Academy of Arts Culture and Language (LAACL) Leh released books on the rich folk songs covering the whole region of Ladakh along with the creation of its digital repository accessible by QR code and biography on the Lama Tsultim Nyima.

Commissioner/Secretary, Mehboob Ali Khan stressed the initiatives of the UT Administration in the preservation and pro-

motion of the language and culture of Ladakh with the observation of necessary Literature festivals in both the districts and the construction of a much-awaited Cultural Centre in the region as an asset for the cultural experts and the benefit of Cultural Academy and the involved stakeholders.

He lauded the effort of the Cultural Academy in the successful documentation and compilation of the folk songs before such rich oral traditions were lost.

Executive Councillor for Culture, Stanzin Chospheal stated that their focus is to provide platforms for all the young authors in upcoming times and music instruments will be provided on subsidy. He highlighted the initiative of the Hill Council Leh under which authors will be provided financial assistance for publishing their books and every Pan-

chayat Halqas has been receiving up to ₹ 2 lakh for the preservation of ancient heritage sites.

Presenting the keynote address on 'Ladakhi Literature and its Current Scenario', Venerable Thupstan Palden spoke about the artistic traditional system of learning and declared that all should preserve this precious language for the future society. Dr. Tsering Dolker spoke about the 'Role of Ladakhi Youth in Promoting Bhoti Language and Literature'.

Prizes and certificates were awarded to the winners of the School Level Essay Writing Competition in Bhoti. A poetic symposium was also held as part of the Ladakh Literature Day 2023. A new musical instrument named 'Koyangs' created by music expert Ralam Angchuk was also launched by the dignitaries on the occasion.

Kargil Council members meet L-G, discuss various issues

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: The newly elected executive councillors of 5th LAHDC Kargil led by Chief Executive Councillor, Mohd Jaffer Akhoun met Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Brigadier (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd), at Raj Niwas on October 28.

Advisor, Dr Pawan Kotwal; Executive Councillors Syed Mujtaba Musavi, Punchok Tashi, Mohammad Feroz, and Zakir Hussain; Principal Secretary, Sanjeev Khirwar; Secretary, Ravinder Kumar; Secretary, Yetindra Maralkar and Secretary, Michael D'Souza were present in the meeting.

Mohd Jaffer Akhoun expressed gratitude to the UT Administration for conducting the LAHDC Kargil elections in a free and fair manner and sought support from the Administration in



CEC and Executive councillors of 5th LAHDC Kargil during their meeting with Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Brigadier (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd), at Raj Niwas.

the smooth functioning of the new Hill Council of Kargil.

CEC raised the issue faced by the Hill Council in running Model Schools in Kargil districts due to the order of the detachment of teachers issued by the Department of School Education. He stated that the studies of students would be affected by the shifting of posts and requested that

Further, he requested the LG to operate the AN-32

Kargil Courier Service as was to be done during the previous years for the benefit of the people of Kargil, especially patients. He also requested for the resumption of the helicopter service in Zanskar in the winter months for the convenience of patients and students and to relocate a certain portion of the 220 kV Drass-Padum Transmission Line or underground cabling may be used as an alternative in areas passing through agricultural fields of the people of Ladakh and in avalanche-prone areas.

He raised several other issues, viz. making Government Degree College at Drass a full-fledged college for the benefit of students; hiring a consultant to explore potential tourist destinations in Kargil district to promote Kargil as a tourist destination in Ladakh; operating civil

Further, he requested the LG to operate the AN-32

flights in Kargil and the need to post a Tehsildar for Zanskar sub-division, etc.

The L-G congratulated the newly elected Councillors/Executive Councillors and the people of Kargil as the LAHDC Kargil elections were held at the right time in a free and fair manner. He sought cooperation from the newly elected Councillors/Executive Councillors to work for the welfare and benefit of the people of Ladakh. He assured to provide all possible support for the smooth functioning of both Hill Councils.

He assured to investigate the issues flagged by CEC, Kargil, and other Executive Councillors. He stated that the welfare of students, casualty evacuation in emergencies, and the overall development of Ladakh are his top priorities.

Govt. High School, Anlay Khaldo gets solar-powered room heating system

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Deputy Chairman/EC Education, LAHDC Leh, Tsering Angchuk inaugurated the 'Solar-Powered Room Heating System' at Govt. High School, Anlay Khaldo on October 29.

'Let's Spread Warmth' is a CSR project funded by Giesecke & Devrient MS India Pvt. Ltd., conceptualized by Royal Bikers and implemented by Noora Aman Foundation, J&K at GHS Anlay Khaldo.

Councillor Nyoma, LAHDC Leh, Ishey Spalzag; Chief Education Officer Leh, S.D Namgail; Commander 70 Brigade, Brig. Shailendra Bisht; Chakzod Anlay Monastery, Chairman Noora Aman Foundation, Farooq Ahmad Sheikh; Manish & Rajendra from Royal Bikers, and Abdullah from AB Enterprise were present. Sarpanch, school headmaster-led students, and a large number of villagers



were also present.

Dy Chairman Angchuk expressed his gratitude to the foundations for the noble gesture of equipping the school with solar-powered heating systems. They also highlighted major initiatives undertaken by the Hill Council, Leh in ensuring quality education and strengthening the school education system at the grass root level. He also assured all possible assistance in future for such collaborative initiatives.

Councillor Ishey also thanked the foundations for the initiative and emphasised that the students would largely benefit

from it. He also highlighted major plans, especially under the Vibrant Villages Programme aimed at strengthening border villages including Anlay and assured the villagers of timely ensuring all planned developmental works.

Officials from the foundations expressed their happiness over the implementation of the much-awaited project at Govt. High School, Anlay Khaldo. They extended their gratitude to the stakeholders involved in making the project a reality and further thanked the supporters for their roles in implementing the project at the school.

UT Foundation Day: Students to showcase culture of Ladakh in states



Students during the Full dress rehearsal at Indoor Stadium, NDS ground.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: To celebrate UT Foundation Day, students of Ladakh to perform at Raj Bhawan's of various states and UT's showcasing Ladakh's art and culture on October 31.

Full dress rehearsal of students was held at Indoor Stadium, NDS ground on 27 October 2023.

Administrative Secretary Tourism and Culture, Kachho Mehboob Ali Khan, addressed the students and stated to showcase rich tradition and culture of Ladakh in different states and be confident.

Stanzin Chospheal, Executive Councillor Agriculture expressed his views

by stating the students that they have got a great opportunity to represent UT Ladakh in different Raj Bhawan's and also to grasp new experiences.

The officials also flagged-off the students along with their teachers to north eastern states.

Deputy Chairman, Tsering Angchuk highlighted the student's capability to learn new instruments like "Koyang" including junglu and dance in a mere days.

The officials urged the students to exhibit their best talents, and present Ladakh with pride and excellence. They also commended the trainers for their exceptional guidance and training to the students.

Other dignitaries including Executive Councillor Minority/Forest, Ghulam Mehdi; Secretary Cultural Academy, Tsewang Paljor were also present.

Fortnightly News

ADC discusses Ayushman Bharat saturation in Leh district

Programme has successfully covered 16,832 households

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: ADC Leh, Sonam Chosjor chaired a meeting to discuss the Ayushman Bharat saturation in the Leh district at the VC room on October 23.

Chief Medical Officer, Leh, Dr. Diskit Dolma provided insights into the current status of Ayushman Bharat coverage. She emphasized that the target for completion stands at November 30, emphasizing the urgency of the situation.

State Program Manager, State Health Agency for UT Ladakh, Shabir Husain shared that out of the target of 104,121 Golden cards, 59,023 have already been distributed. Moreover, the program has successfully covered 16,832 households out of the intended 25,909. The main challenge cited was the lack of Aadhar card linkage with phone numbers.

ADC Leh issued directives



ADC Leh, Sonam Chosjor.

to address these concerns effectively. He urged all BMOs to collaborate with SDMs to create a calendar for camps promptly and submit it to the DC office at the earliest. He emphasized the need for maximum community participation and urged officers to expedite camp schedules for planning at the block and subdivision levels.

BMO Khatse was directed to prioritize hard-to-reach areas, such as Phoksar and Singey Lalok, to ensure timely completion. Similar action was recommended for Nyoma and Tangste, with SDM

Nyoma advised to coordinate with BMOs to reach areas with network issues. In response to limited network connectivity in some regions, the demand for a Common Service Centre (CHC) vehicle was raised. ADC Leh also encouraged collaboration between the ICDS workers with ANMs to mobilize villagers effectively.

The meeting was attended by Programme Officer ICDS Leh, Chief Medical Officer, Leh, all SDMs of District Leh, District Programme Officer, NHM Leh, and District Coordinator of PMJAY Leh.

Additional Economic Advisor, I&B Ministry, visits Leh



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Additional Economic Advisor, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MOIB) Dr Ashwani Kumar visited Leh on October 25, as part of the ongoing Clean India Special Campaign 3.0.

Accompanied by Deputy Director General, Prasar Bharati Ladakh, R. K. Jarandal, he also visited the office complexes of Doordarshan, All India

Radio and Central Bureau of Communication and took stock of the various measures undertaken to maintain and promote cleanliness in and around the complexes.

Speaking to the media, he said that the Special Campaign 3.0 aims at reducing waste, condemned goods and scrap materials in all offices of the Ministry across the country

in an attempt to promote cleanliness. He said that though the official dates of the campaign are from October 2 to 31, the mission and message of cleanliness continue to inspire us beyond these dates. The campaign will go on throughout the year and the focus of the Ministry will be on getting rid of scrap materials and maintaining cleanliness in outdoor areas.

The advisor expressed satisfaction at the efforts of the various media units of the MOIB in Leh and urged them to continue working with zeal and fervour to enforce the idea of Swachata Hi Seva in letter and spirit. He said that the units have worked well in coordination with each other and urged them to improve upon their performance by conducting special campaigns on cleanliness.

Khelo India State Centre of Excellence to be set up in Ladakh



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: The Sports Authority of India (SAI) has approved the proposal of the Department of Youth Services & Sports, UT Ladakh, for the establishment of Khelo India State Centre of Excellence (KISCE) in the Sports viz, Athletics, Boxing and Archery discipline on October 17.

The newly constructed open stadium at Spitik, Leh has been identified as the venue for the establishment of the Excellence Centre after a Technical Evaluation by

an expert committee. The Centre shall have all the required technical manpower like a High-Performance Director, Head coaches, Assistant coach, Physiologist, Nutritionist, Masseur, Sports Injury Management team, Yoga instructor, Physiotherapist, conditioning experts, and Sports Science equipment. The total cost of funding sanctioned is ₹3.139 crores for the 2023-24 financial year and ₹ 1.195 crores for the subsequent years.

A MoU between SAI &

Department of Youth Services and Sports is to be signed soon along with an Advertisement for the various posts and procurement of sports items. Moreover, the establishment of KISCE, for the first time is the latest approach towards the development of Sports and shall serve as a platform for the young emerging talents to excel in the field of Sports.

A selection trial is to be conducted for enrolling in the KISCE. Apart from the KISCE, Khelo India Centre for ice hockey, archery, athletics, table tennis, and football has already been sanctioned and functional at various centres across Ladakh.

Secretary, Youth Services and Sports Ravinder Kumar congratulated all the sports persons and youth of Ladakh for the development.

Awareness on adopting principle of Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle held



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Ladakh Ecological Development Group (LE-DeG) in collaboration with the Municipal Committee (MC) Leh under the Bermen Overseas Research and Development Association (BORDA) project organised an on-site demonstration cum workshop to raise awareness about the adoption of the principles of Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle (3R) in waste management on October 27.

The focus was also on min-

imizing the waste through Reduce, Reuse & Recycle The 3R facility, inaugurated by President, Municipal Committee Leh, Dr. Ishey Namgail, and Executive Director of LE-DeG, Eshy Tundup marks a crucial milestone in sustainable waste management.

Executive Officer, Municipal Committee Leh, Stanzin Rabgyas stressed creating awareness among the general public through stakeholders to adopt the Principles of RRR's waste management - REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE, and refurbish old items for reuse at RRR centre, Leh and the general public shall be provided incentives through waste recycling product to support and build a circular econ-

omy to make Leh Garbage free city.

Rabgyas also emphasized that the primary objective of the workshop is to create awareness among people about how to use the 3R center and the importance of segregated waste. He further discussed plans for an awareness campaign on 3Rs targeting Self Help Groups (SHGs). Various stakeholders, including ward members, Goba Leh, Merchant Association, Hotel Association, Guest Houses, and other interested parties were present. It represents a commendable effort to promote sustainable waste management practices and foster a culture of responsible resource utilization in Leh.

National seminar on Himalayan Medicinal prospects begins



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Three days national seminar on Himalayan Medicinal Plants was inaugurated at Eliezer Jordan Memorial College Leh on October 26.

Professor S. K. Mehta, Vice Chancellor of the University of Ladakh, shared his vision for promoting research opportunities among faculty and students. He underscored the untapped potential of Ladakh's medicinal plants and acknowledged the valuable contributions of DRDO and Sowa Rigpa in preserving Ladakh's

rare medicinal plant species. Professor Mehta also highlighted the University of Ladakh's commitment toward fostering learning and research opportunities, exemplified by their recent MoU signing with the Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (IICT), Chennai.

Padma Angmo, Commissioner Secretary HED, emphasised the significance of Ladakh's unique and diverse plant resources. She stressed the need to conserve the region's rich medicinal plants for the benefit of future gen-

erations, highlighting the importance of local awareness about these plants. She applauded the initiative taken by EJM College and suggested inviting students of Higher Secondary Schools to some of the sessions over the next two days.

Dr. Motup Dorjey, Director, Health & Medical Education and CEO of the State Medicinal Plant Board, UT Ladakh elaborated on the board's efforts in promoting and supporting the initiatives for preserving the natural habitat of endangered Himalayan medicinal plants. He also highlighted government-sponsored schemes that could benefit institutions and farmers alike, emphasizing Ladakh's status as a hotspot for medicinal plants.

Dr. Om Prakash Vidyarthi, IFS Retd, Former Principal Chief Conservator of Forest, J&K, popularly called the "forest man of J&K,"

shared interesting anecdotes about his introduction to the diverse species of medicinal plants in Changthang, Nubra, Leh, and Kargil. He stressed the importance of investing in the local habitat and the indigenous flora and fauna of Ladakh.

Dr. Sameena Iqbal, Principal of EJM College Leh, underscored the significance of hosting a national seminar on Himalayan Medicinal Plants at EJM College. She emphasized the pivotal role such an event plays in enhancing the research capabilities of both faculty and students.

Dr. Konchok Dorjey, Assistant Professor of Botany and the Organizing Secretary of the seminar, shed light on the pressing need for extensive research, particularly concerning Ladakh's traditional medicinal plants,

which face the threat of extinction.

The seminar aims to provide a platform for emerging researchers and conservationists to engage in thoughtful discussions on the crucial aspects of Himalayan medicinal plant resources. The seminar also aims to raise awareness about the delicate ecosystem of Ladakh and explore strategies for its preservation. Over the course of the next two-day National Seminar, various sessions and expert speakers will delve into critical issues, conservation efforts, challenges, and the preservation of medicinal plants in Ladakh. A field trip is also scheduled on 28th of October.

The event, organized by the Department of Botany, is supported by the Ministry of Ayush, Government of India.

MLAs from Haryana conducts study tour in Ladakh



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: A group of Member of Legislative Assembly (MLAs) from Haryana Vidhan Sabha was on an official study tour to the Union Territory of Ladakh. The purpose of the tour was to engage with the Rural Development Department (RDD) officers in Ladakh and discuss matters related to local governance and development.

Chaired by the MLA, Ram Kumar Kashyap the meeting was conducted on October 18 to foster dialogue and collaboration between the visiting delegation and the officials in Ladakh. Leading the pro-

ceedings was Amit Sharma, Secretary of RDD in Ladakh, ensuring that the meeting ran smoothly and productively.

The meeting saw the participation of key figures including Secretary to Speaker, Vishu Dev, and members of the MLA delegation, Ram Kumar Gautam and Surender Panwar. Special invitee, MLA Ram Niwas, was also present to contribute to the discussions.

Secretary RDD, Amit Sharma emphasized several significant points, including the need to promote self-help groups in

villages, support for local handicrafts and Ayurvedic products, and the prospect of establishing an ISRO (Indian Space Research Organization) Centre in Ladakh. He further disclosed plans for a sky observatory in Hanley and highlighted the untapped potential of solar energy, which could be harnessed and even exported from Ladakh.

Additionally, he shed light on the abundant mineral resources in Ladakh, indicating the administration's commitment to focus on their development in the future.

Director of RDD, Ladakh, Tahir Hussain, provided a comprehensive overview of the financial and physical progress of developmental projects within different blocks and panchayats.

The meeting was attended by the District Panchayat Officer, Leh, along with Block Development Officers and Panchayat Inspectors from various blocks.

Ladakh Science Foundation proposes establishment of "Ladakh Science City"

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Founder, Ladakh Science Foundation Tsering Tashi proposes the establishment of the visionary "Ladakh Science City" project to Administrative Secretary of Information Technology, Union Territory of Ladakh, Amit Sharma on October 26.

The initiative is designed to catalyze scientific, technological, and educational advancements throughout the region.

Administrative Secretary of Information Technology, Union Territory of Ladakh, Amit Sharma warmly appreciated the commendable efforts of Tsering Tashi. He expressed his commitment to extending all possible assistance to the Ladakh Science Foundation in their ambitious endeavor to establish the "Ladakh Science City." He recognized the immense potential and positive impact that this visionary project could have on the Union Territory of



Ladakh.

The Ladakh Science City project aligns with our aspirations for the region's development and progress, and we are fully committed to supporting its realization, the Secretary stated. The proposal for the Ladakh Science City, aimed at fostering scientific innovation and knowledge in the region, received an enthusiastic endorsement from the Secretary. He recognized the immense potential and positive impact that this visionary project could have on the Union Territory of Ladakh.

The proposal aspires to be a hub of innovation and scientific exploration, cementing its place on the

global map of progress and knowledge. The Ladakh Science City project aims to create a world-class center that will encompass various parts of Ladakh, thereby fostering a culture of scientific inquiry, research, and learning.

Tsering Tashi expressed his enthusiasm for this transformative project, stated "Ladakh has been a land of untapped potential in the field of science and technology.

Amit Sharma welcomed the proposal and expressed his commitment to the vision, saying, "The Ladakh Science City has the potential to transform Ladakh into a hub for scientific and technological excellence.

MP Ladakh lays foundation, inaugurates several projects in Leh



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Member of Parliament, Ladakh, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal undertook a comprehensive visit to various development projects in the Leh region on October 25.

MP Ladakh laid the foundation stone for the PMGSY Road from L034 to Taru Farka and T01 to Taru. He also established an open gym at Phyang and an integrated chain link fence to protect the Village Spring Water at Takey, Phyang. He inaugurated compound walling for the rTsangda project in Phey and Phyang laid the foundation for the Segregation Project and unveiled an Open Gym at Arath Community Hall, the All-Weather Public Convenience/Sanitary Complex at Spitik Market, and a compound wall for the Segregation Centre in Spitik.

Further, he laid the foundation for the Community

Hall in Agling Spitik and inaugurated an Open Gym at the Amusement Park in Choglamsar. He also laid the foundation stone of PMGSY Roads from T02 to Saboo, Kilibuk Thiksay to Stakmo, and Ranbirpur to Nang, along with a Crematorium in Saboo village.

Chief Engineer of PMGSY, District Youth Services and Sports Officer, and the Executive Engineer REW, Leh; Secretary/BDO of the Block Development Council, Leh, BJP District President, Leh, and Mandal Presidents from Nimoo, Phyang, and Thiksay were present. Besides, Sarpanchs, Naib Sarpanchs, and representatives from various Gram Panchayats, including Farka, Phey, Taru, Phyang, Spitik, Choklamsar, Saboo, Stakmo, and Nang, were also present, showcasing the collective effort to drive development and progress in the Ladakh region.

District Police, Leh seizes illegal liquor, two held



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: In an effort to combat the illegal sale of liquor in the district, District Police, Leh arrested two people and recovered illicit liquor from their possession on October 26.

On receiving information, Police Post Choglamsar conducted a raid at a rented house near CIBS School, Choglamsar. The team seized 165 cans of Kingfisher beer (500ml) and 41 bottles of Rum (750ml).

The illegal liquor was confiscated from the possession of two individuals: Laxmi Gahatraj Sunar, wife of Santosh Sunar, hailing from Hetanda, Ward No. 03, District Makawanpur, Nepal, and June BK Nagar Koto, wife of Sunder Nagar Koto, residing in Gokarnaskar, Ward No. 08, Shiva Pori, Kathmandu, Nepal.

The case FIR No 186/2023, under Section 48(a) of the Excise Act has been registered at Police Station Leh.

Product development programme for specially-abled persons conclude

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Product Development Program for specially-abled individuals at People's Action Group of Inclusion & Rights (PAGIR), Leh concluded on October 23.

The empowering initiative aimed to equip specially-abled individuals with creative skills in product design and provide them with the knowledge and expertise to craft high-quality market-ready products, including bags, diary covers, toys, and more, utilizing the available resources.

Commissioner Secretary of Technical Education &



Skill Development/Social & Tribal Welfare Department, UT Ladakh Padma Angmo addressed the vital components of hand-crafted products, including color coordination, branding, design thinking, and an unwavering dedication to quality. She underscored the paramount importance of quality and the continuous pursuit of excellence in all aspects of product development.

Furthermore, she expressed her appreciation for the commitment of the specially-abled trainees. She extended her heartfelt congratulations to the trainees for successfully completing the training, and acknowledging the hard work and dedication of the designer Neeji Bansal and the trainer Jameel.

Director of the Social &

Tribal Welfare Department, UT Ladakh, Tashi Dolma, emphasized the program's significance and the UT administration's and departments unwavering commitment to empowering and improving the lives of specially-abled individuals in Ladakh.

President of PAGIR Tsewang Dorje commended the designer, trainer, and trainees for their role in refining and tailoring the ideas proposed. He highlighted the importance of experiences and mentorship from experts in honing the trainees' practical skills and knowledge.

Designer Neeji Bansal shared her experiences with the trainees, emphasizing the mutual learning and collaboration that enriched the training experience, fostering a culture of continuous improvement and growth for all participants.

Senior Accounts Officer of Technical Education & Skill Development, Stanzin Donsal; President PAGIR, Tsewang Dorje; OSD of the Technical Education & Skill Development, Abied Hussain; and the trainees, along with PAGIR staff, were also present during the valedictory of the training program.

Expert Talk:

Combating Cybercrime in Ladakh

By Yangchen Dolma



Sub-Inspector Mohd. Ali, Cyber crime, Leh: The rise of cybercrime in the digital era is a menace that knows no borders. Cybercrime, a catch-all term for unlawful activities conducted through computers and the internet, threatens our cherished community in ways we could not have fathomed a few years ago.

In recent times, Ladakh has been grappling with an alarming surge in cybercrime cases. Incidents of bank impersonation, identity theft, online scams, and fraud have become an unfortunate reality. These criminals, often hailing from outside Ladakh, use deceitful tactics such as posing as bank representatives or customer care agents for telecommunication companies. They manipulate apps and loan platforms to ensnare their victims. The heart-wrenching part is that it's not just tech-savvy individuals who fall prey to these digital traps; even our elderly residents, who embody the wisdom and trust that Ladakh is known for, are not spared.

The Ladakh police, aware of this growing threat, are doing their utmost to combat cybercrime. We investigate each case with diligence, gather critical details, and reach out to the relevant authorities, including banks and online platforms, to retrieve stolen information or funds. When it's a matter of a hacked social media account, we promptly advise the victim to contact us, and if it's a Facebook account, we collaborate with the Facebook team for assistance. This is an ongoing battle that requires unwavering commitment.

The fact that many of the culprits operate from distant shores, often outside of India, presents an intricate challenge. But this should not deter us from our mission. Our resolve to protect our people is steadfast.

Ladakh is unique in many ways, not least in the unity of its community. When locals are involved in fraudulent activities, we can identify them, thanks to the vigilance of our neighbors. But most often, these cybercriminals are outsiders, some from other parts of India, and even abroad. We must rally against this common threat, for the safety of our community. The Ladakh police, together with the army, schools, and banks, have undertaken the critical task of spreading awareness about cybercrime. Awareness is the first line of defense against these invisible adversaries, and it's an effort that can't stop.

We live in a world where trust and innocence are virtues, but cybercriminals exploit these very qualities. They take advantage of our faith in one another, and it's a lesson learned the hard way. We must educate ourselves and our loved ones about the many forms of fraud and how to spot them. Caution is our best shield, and we must double-check before sharing personal or financial information.

The fight against cybercrime is a collective endeavor. It's a mission that requires the engagement of every resident of Ladakh and beyond. By staying informed, vigilant, and by adopting the practices that safeguard our digital world, we can overcome this challenge.

To my fellow Ladakhis and all who cherish the tranquility of our land, I urge you to be proactive, stay aware, and report any suspicious activities to the authorities. Together, we can fortify our digital frontiers and preserve the trust and innocence that define us.

Solution:

- *Never open links without verifying their authenticity. Trust only in links from trusted and authenticated sources.*
- *In the realm of the internet, social media is a common hunting ground for scammers. We must be vigilant and cautious while using these platforms.*
- *Always double-check the website's URL and ensure it matches the official site.*
- *When it comes to online transactions, it's paramount to validate the legitimacy of the payment platform.*



Anil Tandon Chief Manager, SBI Leh: In recent times, Leh has been grappling with a rising threat: cybercrime. It's an issue that's causing concern and, understandably, there have been numerous cases and complaints reported. However, it's essential to recognize that, in many instances, taking preventive measures is within our hands. The key to defending ourselves in the digital realm lies in understanding the risks and practicing caution.

When it comes to financial fraud, it's crucial to understand that customer bank accounts and information are well-protected. No one can withdraw money without the customer's approval. However, personal information security is our shared responsibility. We must be vigilant and protect our sensitive data.

Online payment methods, such as credit or debit cards, are highly secure. When you register your card with any company, your mobile number and email are linked to it. Whenever a transaction is initiated, you will receive an OTP (One-Time Password) on your registered mobile number or email. The transaction can only proceed once you approve the OTP notification.

If a customer mistakenly transfers money to someone else's account, it's vital to act swiftly. Inform your own bank immediately. The concerned bank will then contact the receiving bank, and if the money is still within the recipient's account, both banks can send a request to retrieve the funds. If the funds have already been withdrawn, it may take time to recover them, but providing evidence that the funds have indeed been transferred is crucial.

When it comes to investing in the stock market, there are regulations in place to protect investors. However, Bitcoin operates differently as it is not regulated by any central authority. If a customer chooses to invest in Bitcoin, they assume the associated risks themselves, and banks may not be able to intervene.

On the other hand, if a customer's card is lost or subject to fraud, it's essential to block the card immediately and inform the bank within three days. Acting swiftly increases the chances of recovering the money.

In Leh, we are taking a proactive approach to promote awareness about cybercrime. We actively engage with schools, conducting sessions to educate students about online safety and the risks associated with cybercrime. Our aim is to empower them with knowledge and equip them with the necessary skills to protect themselves in the digital world. Additionally, we organize meetings and workshops where we bring together community members and stakeholders to discuss cybercrime prevention strategies. To combat cybercrime, it is essential to follow the guidelines provided by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). One crucial guideline is to never share your OTP with anyone.

In Leh, we have observed cases where individuals have unknowingly shared their OTP, leading to unauthorized access to their accounts and financial losses. Scammers often use tactics like posing as courier service providers to trick individuals into revealing their OTP. Moreover, there is a significant amount of fraud occurring through app installations. It is vital not to install apps without proper knowledge and verification.

In Ladakh, we firmly believe in the importance of continuous efforts to combat cybercrime and ensure the safety of our community. By raising awareness and educating individuals, we can collectively build a safer digital environment.

Solutions:

- *Everyone should maintain as much financial awareness as possible and be cautious when sharing personal information.*
- *It's important to verify the authenticity of customer care numbers and contact information before making any calls or sharing personal details.*
- *Be cautious of scammers posing as courier service providers or other legitimate entities.*
- *Avoid installing apps without proper knowledge and verification.*

WORLD THRIFT DAY

WORLD SAVING DAY

World Thrift Day also known as World Savings Day celebrated worldwide on 31st October every year to promote the habit of savings. However it is celebrated on 30th October. The day highlights the importance of savings in the life of every individual. Savings imply setting aside a portion of our regular income for future use. It also helps in conserving resources by preventing wastage. It raises awareness about the importance of savings for individuals globally. Thrift means wise and careful use of resources or money without any wastage.

This global event has gained prominence over the years as it emphasizes the role of savings in both individual financial well-being and the economic growth of nations. The significance of World Thrift Day grew significantly after the Second World War, as people recognized the need to manage their resources more effectively. Today, this day is celebrated worldwide with active participation from businesses and financial institutions.

The history of World Thrift Day dates back to the aftermath of the First World War when there was a pressing need to encourage people to save money, especially after the financial losses incurred during the war. The World Society of Savings Banks took the initiative to establish World Savings Day, which initially fell on October 31, 1924. It was the brainchild of an Italian professor, Filippo Ravizza, who named it "International Savings Day."

'Thrift' signifies the wise and careful use of resources, and savings banks play a pivotal role in promoting a culture of saving and investing in countries.

Courtesy pratidintime.com

SoulSpeak

Dr. P.P. Wangchuk

The realm beyond happiness



You are born to remain happy and progressive, but the problem is that most of us remain unhappy, most of the time. That is because we do not understand ourselves, our own energies and power that could put us up on the path of happiness.

Happiness is nothing but the outcome of our own actions, of body and mind. We are in constant struggle to do something or the other, and, in the process, we are left with the wrong thing done, with or without our realisation. That is why some people, particularly in the philosophical world, describe happiness as an outcome of your 'wisdomic' deeds. The purpose of this write-up is to explore the philosophy of happiness in life.

Is living a good life good enough? And, is there something higher and greater than happiness in one's life?

You will agree that happiness is the foundation to build all the great things, including the very mission of life, not just to exist but to help others live happily and purposefully. In other words, most philosophers have asserted that the purpose of being happy is not just to live but to 'live well'. The inquiry into the philosophy of happiness was first started by Democritus, in ancient Greece, and he expounded that happiness does not result from favourable fate or good luck or any other external circumstances.

He called happiness a 'case of mind', thereby giving a subjective view of what happiness is. A more interesting view of happiness was enunciated by Socrates and later by his student, Plato. Their thoughts on happiness were to "secure enjoyment of what is good and beautiful."

Whatever one might say, one thing is sure: One can't go to a higher realm in life or thereafter (if there is a possibility!) without being happy and without exercising the power of being happy in order to realise the greater objectives of life. You are happy and you enjoy life, but you need to have a sense of exercising the state of your being happy into meaningful and valued objectives.

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

DID YOU KNOW



- People who eat just two servings of red meat per week may have an increased risk of developing type 2 diabetes compared to people who eat fewer servings. Researchers also found that replacing red meat with healthy plant-based protein sources, such as nuts and legumes, or modest amounts of dairy foods, are associated with reduced risk of type 2 diabetes.
- Mary Kom won the World Amateur Boxing Championship six times and qualifies her as the only woman to win in the competition six times.
- The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is long-running conflicts in world history, characterised by intense violence and uncompromising nationalism. Since the late 19th century, the disputed territory in the Middle East has been the scene of frequent clashes and desperate attempts by both sides to forge their own nation-state.

- 'Roopkand', the skeleton lake in Uttarkhand, India is still a mystery. The lake has been a subject of speculation for anthropologists and scientists since many human bones founded scattered many years ago.
- The combined weight of ants on the planet is higher than all the human beings. The world has over 7 billion people, and 100 trillion ants.
- A glass bottle can take up to 1 million years to decompose. Glass takes a very, very long time to break down. It can take a glass bottle more than a million years to decompose in the environment, possibly even more if it's in a landfill. This means that glass manufactured and used 5000 years ago may still be present in the environment. Because its life cycle is so long, and because glass does not leach any chemicals, it is better to repurpose and

reuse it over and over again before recycling it.

- Seventy-eight percent of marine mammals are at risk of accidental deaths, such as getting caught in fishing nets, choking on plastic, Plastic bags and other plastic garbage that ends up in the ocean kill over 1,000,000 sea animals every year.
- The Statue of Unity is the world's tallest statue at 182 metres (597 ft). It is located between the Satpura and the Vindhya mountain ranges near Kevadia town in Gujarat. Over 3,000 workers, including 300 engineers from Larsen & Toubro (L&T), built the statue within three-and-a-half years.
- India's First Semi-High-Speed Regional Rail Service 'Namo Bharat', the nation's first semi-high-speed regional rail service, formerly identified as RapidX is poised to embark on a groundbreaking initiative to enhance regional connectivity.

Fortnightly News

**In Conversation with
Pema Chosdon, First Model from Ladakh and Social Entrepreneur**

Interviewed by Yangchen Dolma

Q. Tell us about yourself. How did you become interested in Modeling?

I am Pema Chosdon from Zanskar. I consider myself a social activist and a model, a unique fusion of two distinct worlds. My journey into the modeling world, however, was far from conventional. I began my career with medical studies in Bangalore, with modeling being the furthest thing from my mind. It was the encouragement of friends during my college days that sparked my interest in modeling. The journey officially began when the prestigious brand Zara noticed me, marking the inception of my modeling career. The brand Zara noticed me, and that's when my modeling journey began. Since then I collaborated with several renowned brands, including Zara Academy, Flipkart, Myntra, Lifestyle, Tanishq Jewellery, Air Asia, and Rahul Mishra.

Q. Share with us about the NGO Pema Care.

Beyond the glitz and glamour of the fashion world, my heart lies in my community, particularly in the remote region of Zanskar. Pema Care is not just a healthcare initiative; it is a testament to my unwavering commitment to giving back to my community in Zanskar. The idea for Pema Care took root during my school days, nurturing my vision of establishing a comprehensive medical center in Zanskar. Since my school days, I've had this vision of having a medical center with various healthcare services in Zanskar.

Initially, the plan was to establish a hospital, but with the presence of government hospitals in Kargil and future plans for one in Zanskar, I decided to create a wellness center instead. Given Zanskar's colder climate compared to Leh, Pema Care offers vital services such as physiotherapy and eye care, catering especially to the elderly. My medical studies in Bangalore have been the foundation upon which Pema Care was built, providing essential healthcare services to the people of Zanskar.

Q. Do you think that the profession of modeling is not as easy way as masses assume.

Modeling is often perceived as a profession where beauty reigns supreme. It's a common misconception that modeling is solely about physical appearance. However, I believe we have beautiful features, but being a model requires more than just looks; height and confidence are pivotal. Moreover, deep knowledge of current events and an understanding of the world are equally important. It's not just about looks; you can't achieve everything in life based solely on looks.

Q. Share with us about the challenges you faced when you first chose a modeling career and how you overcame them?

Modeling comes with challenges; it is all about resilience and determination. I have always worked with agencies, so I haven't faced safety issues. However, for those who want to freelance and are not being taken on board by agencies, I understand that it can be tough. I have



experienced self-doubt along the way. However due to self-doubt, I missed opportunities. However, I consider this self-doubt a valuable lesson as I learned to accept and love myself, ultimately boosting my confidence and determination.

Q. What scope and potential do you see in the modeling industry? What is your advice to young people of Ladakh who want to pursue a modeling career?

The modeling industry is a realm of boundless opportunities and potential. The industry is brimming with opportunities, even for freelancers. In the Ladakh region, there is a wealth of untapped potential for budding models. There is a substantial scope for modeling in Ladakh, with agencies and modeling industries frequently visiting for photoshoots. Local talent is often tapped into, reducing the need to bring large teams and supplies from outside.

I have taken steps to reach out to aspiring models in Leh, offering guidance and support through test shoots. Ladakh's film and modeling industry is on the rise, presenting numerous opportunities for young talent.

Q. Did your parents support you in pursuing this career? As not many people in Ladakh are aware of modeling how important do you consider parental support in pursuing a career?

Family support is a cornerstone of success, and I am no exception. My parents played a pivotal role in my journey, if there is no support from parents in life, it can be challenging to achieve anything. My journey would have been considerably more challenging without my parents' support. While they may not fully understand my work, they have been supportive and proud of my achievements, such as my recent participation in the Umling La show. Their unwavering belief in my abilities has been a driving force in my success. My uncle has also been a pillar of support in our family. The modeling profession is unpredictable, and a support system is very crucial as one navigates through this dynamic field.

The universal truth is that having a strong support system, especially from parents, can make all the difference in one's pursuit of a dream.

Q. Are there any jobs/ projects you wanted to do or are in process?

I always aspired to be the first representative of Ladakh at Miss India, but due to my self-doubt and the age limit of 25, I missed that opportunity. I went to Mumbai for the auditions and got selected, but at that time, I was in Zanskar for a project. I got a call but couldn't make it in the end. However, I plan to organize a Miss Ladakh pageant for 2024 with the goal of preparing a candidate to try for Miss India in Mumbai. I have discussed this collaboration with the Miss India organizers and the UT government. They expressed readiness to support the initiative.

MESSAGE TO THE READERS

“I want to tell everyone that we are all unique in our own ways and lives. Whatever we choose to do, we all strive for success in our own careers. So, just be yourself and don't try to imitate anyone else. Being true to oneself and taking pride in one's individuality is the key to fulfillment and success in life.”

Fortnight Highlights



The subsidized Indian Air Force IL service for Ladakhi civilian passengers has resumed, commencing on October 26. In the inaugural flight, the Indian Air Force airlifted four civilian passengers to Chandigarh under the Air Maintenance Service of UT Ladakh.



Sheep Husbandry Department Nyoma organised a Mobile Veterinary Health Camp at Thangra grazing area of Mudh village. A total of 80 cases for various diseases and ailments were treated.



“Juniperus Semiglobosa” (Juniper Tree/ Ladakhi-Shukpa) declared as the State Tree of the Union Territory of Ladakh.



Executive Councillor for Handicraft, Handloom, and Industries, LAHDC Leh, Ghulam Mehd Ashoor visited Brand Ladakh Emporium at Kharak Singh Marg in New Delhi.



Hill council, Leh organised a high tea in honor of the delegates from the Central Monastic Council of Bhutan in Leh. Discussions held around strengthening various socio-cultural and religious ties between Ladakh and Bhutan.



Deputy Chairman, LAHDC Leh, Tsering Angchuk in the presence of Deputy Commissioner Leh, Santosh Sukhadeve inaugurated the advanced medical equipment, such as Digital X-Ray and Ultra Sound Machine along with Digital X-Ray Room at the Sub-District Hospital, Diskit, Nubra.



Chairman/CEC, LAHDC Leh, Tashi Gyalson visited Ladakh Buddhist Vihara in New Delhi to oversee the ongoing first phase of the renovation work funded under the Hill Council Leh's budget.



Chairman/CEC, LAHDC Leh, Tashi Gyalson along with DC/CEO LAHDC Leh, Santosh Sukhadeve reviewed the progress of the 30 Cr worth Leh Bhavan project to be constructed at Dwarka, New Delhi. The meeting was attended by the Executive Engineer and Assistant Executive Engineer of CPWD Delhi.

Fortnightly News

Kargil CEC visits Thasgam-Thuina constituency

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Dr Mohd Jaffer Akhon, Chairman/Chief Executive Councillor, LAHDC, Kargil visited Thasgam-Thuina constituency on October 25.

Superintendent Engineer, PHE/I&FC, SE, PWD, ACD, Kargil, Subdivision Magistrate, Sankoo, Chief Education Officer, Assistant Director Tourism, Executive Engineer SVD, Sankoo, Executive Engineer, PHE, Executive Engineer, PMGSY beside other officers accompanied the CEC during the tour.

CEC held a series of interactions and meetings with key stakeholders, including PRI members and villagers of Kamutul, Thuvina, Gontabcha, Brakoo, Humree, Straqburik, Lalung Thasgam and Stiangkung. Further he said that the aim of the visit was to connect with the local population and understand their needs, aspirations, and concerns.

During the visit the villagers evaluated about the issues in front of CEC such as infrastructure development, roads, healthcare, education, construction of lift irrigation, drinking water scarcity, upgradation of High Schools into Higher



Secondary, development of schools into model school, repairing and maintaining of irrigation canals, promotion of tourism, land compensations and several other issues were discussed in depth.

The CEC assured them to solve their genuine demands in a phased manner. He highlighted the importance of participatory governance and said, "I am committed to work hand in hand with the people of Kargil to address their most pressing challenges and to harness the region's potential."

He expressed his satisfaction with the progress made so far and encouraged all departments to maintain their momentum to complete the projects within the stipulated time-frame.

CEC instructed I&FC De-

partment to resolve the issues of irrigation canals in these villages as a priority. He directed the concerned officials to speed up the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) works in these villages and instructed for its completion at the earliest. He also directed the Tourism Department to expedite Home stays in villages to boost the economy of the locals.

Subsequently, he chaired a meeting at Conference Hall, Sankoo, with the elected Councillors of Sankoo and Lankerchey, PRI members and district officers.

The issues of JJM, lift irrigation, PMGSY road compensation, shortage of doctors at CHC Sankoo and urged to outsource plumbers for the convenience of the people were also appraised by the councillors.

Executive Councillors of 5th LAHDC Kargil take oath

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: Executive Councillors of the 5th Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC), Kargil took oath on October 22 at Conference Hall, Baroo, Kargil.

Principal District and Sessions Judge, Kargil, Iqbal Ahmed Masoodi, administered oath of secrecy to Agha Syed Mujtaba Musavi, Er. Punchok Tashi, Kacho Mohammad Feroz, and Zakir Hussain were made part of the executive council of 5th LAHDC Kargil through an order issued on 21st October by Chairman/Chief Execu-



tive Councillor Dr. Mohd Jaffer Akhon.

Chairman/CEC, LAHDC, Kargil, Dr Mohd Jaffer Akhon, Deputy Commissioner/CEO, LAHDC, Kargil Shrikant Suse, Special Judicial Mobile Magistrate Kargil, Shafiq

Mushtaq Lone, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Kargil, Ghulam Mohi-ud-Din Wani, Dy SP Headquarter Kargil, Manzoor Ahmad, Councillors from different constituencies, other district officers and officials were present on the occasion.

Court of Judicial Magistrate Sankoo convicts man in theft case of 2019

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: The Court of Judicial Magistrate 1st Class Sankoo presided over by Shafiq Mushtaq Lone convicted a man namely Ghulam Ali, S/o Ghulam Mohammad, R/o Goma Kargil in a theft case of 2019.

After hearing the Assistant Public Prosecutor and defense counsel, the Court came to the conclusion that the accused has been found guilty for criminal trespass

and stealing of batteries installed at KREDA under section 457 & 380 IPC.

The convict is sentenced to undergo simple imprisonment for a term of One year for commission of offence under section 457 IPC and to undergo simple imprisonment for a term of One year for the commission of offence under section 380 IPC.

The Court also imposed

fine to the tune of Rs 20,000 against the convict for the commission of supra mentioned offences to be paid to the concerned department i.e. KREDA.

The sentence of imprisonment shall run concurrently. In case the convict failed to deposit the fine amount, he shall further undergo simple imprisonment for 20 days in addition to sentence proposed against him.

5th LAHDC, Kargil convenes meeting with district officers



During the introductory and interactive meeting of the newly formed Hill Council, Kargil with the district officers.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: Chairman/CEC, LAHDC, Kargil, Dr Mohd Jaffer Akhon chaired an introductory and interactive meeting with the district officers and all sectorial heads on October 23.

The meeting was aimed at introducing the newly elected Councillors to the district officers.

CEC said that the district

Akhon presented a presentation about the present LAHDC's vision for Kargil's development.

DC/CEO, LAHDC, Kargil Shrikant Suse congratulated the newly elected CEC for resuming the chair and said that the District Administration will extend all support to accomplish the vision of LAHDC for public welfare.

He said that all officers in the administration are capable and will work in close coordination with the LAHDC. He congratulated the newly elected Executive Councillors and Councillors.

During the meeting, the Executive Councillors, Councillors, and District Officers gave their brief introduction.

Introductory meeting of new Kargil LAHDC held

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: Chairman/CEC, LAHDC, Kargil, Dr Mohammad Jaffer Akhon chaired the first introductory meeting with newly elected Executive Councillors and Councillors of LAHDC Kargil at Council Secretariat Kargil On October 22.

Executive Councillor, Agha Syed Mujtaba; Executive Councillor, Er. Punchok Tashi; Executive Councillor, Zakir Hussain; Executive Councillor, Kacho Mohammad Feroz, and Councillors from different constituencies of the district attended the meeting.

CEC Akhon expressed his gratitude to all the Councillors for their coordination and support in setting up the new council to administer the district.



Chairman/CEC, LAHDC, Kargil, Dr Mohammad Jaffer Akhon chairing the first introductory meeting with newly elected Executive Councillors and Councillors of LAHDC Kargil at Council Secretariat Kargil.

He hoped for adequacy and transparency from all newly elected Executive Councillors and Councillors to provide efficient, responsive, and accountable governance for the holistic development of the district.

CEC said there is a need for coordination among all elected members to steady

fast the developmental progress in Kargil and take it to new heights. Akhon also emphasized on inclusive development of all the masses without discrimination of religion, region, affiliation, and race.

Accordingly, newly elected Executive Councillors and Councillors assured their support and coordination with CEC.

DC, Leh, assesses saturation status of Centrally Sponsored Schemes



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Deputy Commissioner, Leh, Santosh Sukhdev assessed the saturation status of Centrally Sponsored Schemes within the vibrant villages of the region on October 25.

Various heads of departments (HODs) provided insights and updated on the coverage status of these schemes at a village wise level. This comprehensive discussion aimed to ensure that these centrally sponsored initiatives are reaching the intended beneficiaries effectively.

During the meeting, Deputy Commissioner emphasized the need for transparency and timely updates. He urged all officers to

submit their updated lists of coverage status to the DC's office by the end of the day so that the data can help in monitoring the progress of the schemes and ensuring their successful implementation.

Additionally, reviewing the saturation status, he instructed all the departments to organize monthly events and directed banks to organize events focused on financial literacy.

DC directed the officers from various departments to submit the updated list of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) that are currently functional in Leh as this will serve as a reference for future planning and implementation.

Wildlife Division Kargil observes International Snow Leopard Day



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: Wildlife Division Kargil in collaboration with the Department of Zoology, Government Degree College, Kargil observed International Snow Leopard Day on October 23.

ADC Kargil, Ghulam Mohi-ud-Din Wani was the chief guest, while incharge Principal GDC, Kargil and faculty members were also present.

Wildlife Warden Kargil, Raza Ali Abidi said that the day was aimed to show the importance of snow leopard conservation and raise awareness about this incredible animal.

He emphasized the importance of taking measures to take conservation measures, as well as consolidating efforts in terms of an environmental collaboration of different organizations to achieve goals of conservation. He also thanked the students for the participation in the programme.

HoD Zoology, Dr Akbar Khan gave a detailed presentation on snow leopard and how conservation activities are carried out in the snow leopard range areas of the world and in context to Ladakh.

Later, a short documentary was screened to the audience. The teaching faculty and the students participated in the event. Earlier, a painting competition was held and certificates were given to participants and position holders.

During the programme, signature pledge was taken by the participants to conserve and save snow leopard.

The Wildlife Department also conducted a training workshop for the women folks in Drass. They were trained in making different types of handicraft items including felted toys. The programme was conducted in collaboration with Himalayan Brown Bear Trust, Snow Leopard Trust and Wildlife Department.

Tar village celebrates International Snow Leopard Day



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

TAR: Celebrating International Snow Leopard Day, villagers of Tar village came together to save the incredible creatures and live in harmony with them.

Councillor, Khaltse, Lobzang Sherab; HIAL Founder, Sonam Wangchuk; Snow Leopard Conservancy, Director, Dr. Tsewang Namgyal and Wildlife Tour Operators Association President, Lobzang Visuddha, and their teams were also present.

International Snow Leopard Day is celebrated with the aim of protecting the endangered snow leopards and their homes. During the program focus was made on wildlife protection and the idea of "Vocal for Local." Tar village takes pride in using food grown in the village itself,

scoring their pivotal role in molding a more radiant and promising future for one and all.

Snow Leopard Conservancy India Director, Tsewang Namgyal talked about how special snow leopards are and why it's important to protect them. He said events like this one help people understand why.

Wildlife Tour Operator Association, President, Lobzang Visuddha praised Tar village for leading the way in wildlife protection and encouraged other communities to do the same.

In addition, he made a contribution of Rs 10,000 towards the welfare of the village. Imran, from the Wildlife Tour Operator Association, suggested ways to preserve the village traditions and presented a wonderful film he directed.

Inauguration of farm stays, upgraded by Omaju Travels, featuring locally-sourced materials, including furniture and lamps was held. This initiative not only ensures a unique and authentic experience for visitors but also actively involves the local community in preserving their natural heritage.

not bringing a single thing from outside. This helps them reduce their impact on the environment and supports local farming.

Lobzang Sherab assured the villagers that the government would support their efforts for a better community. He also pledged to revive the local school in the near future, recognizing its importance. The villagers welcomed this announcement with gratitude and hope for a brighter future.

Sonam Wangchuk, Founder of HIAL bestowed his admiration upon the villagers for their unwavering dedication and wholeheartedly pledged his support to fortify their continued endeavors. He eloquently emphasized the profound influence of local initiatives, under-

Workshop on Juvenile Justice Act & Child Protection Scheme for functionaries of Mission Vatsalya held

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Three-day training on recent amendments in the Juvenile Justice Act & Child Protection Scheme for functionaries of Mission Vatsalya, UT Ladakh, and Saksham Anganwadi-Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi was inaugurated by Commissioner Secretary Padma Angmo on October 18.



Dignitaries during the three-day training on recent amendments in the Juvenile Justice Act & Child Protection Scheme for functionaries of Mission Vatsalya, UT Ladakh.

The training was organized by the Department of Social and Tribal Welfare, UT Ladakh. A team of professionals from National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD) Regional Centre, Mohali is conducting the workshop.

K. Sunita Seshadri, Deputy Director, NIPCCD, Regional Centre, Mohali spoke of the importance of early childcare in the age group of 3 to 6 years and the need to change the perceptions linked with Anganwadi Centre's and providing only nutrition.

She stated that with the aim of changing this perception, Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi program was introduced under Mission Poshan 2.0 and stressed on

the role of the community in making it successful.

She also stressed the need to develop a thematic curriculum specific to Ladakh and stated that NIPCCD will assist the Department to achieve the desired curriculum for the preschoolers of Ladakh. Further, she also stated that Anganwadi Centre's will also start issuing assessment cards, which will further enhance the credibility of the centers.

She also highlighted Fine-tuning usage of the Poshan Tracker, minutely studying Micro-nutrient deficiency in children of Ladakh and focus on Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) specifically under Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi. Asst. Director, NIPCCD,

Sunil Kumar spoke on the need for regular capacity-building workshops for the functionaries to stay updated with the amendments in the Juvenile Justice Act from time to time.

Commissioner Secretary Padma Angmo expressed her satisfaction about the various trainings being conducted for the functionaries of the Social & Tribal Welfare Department and urged the participants to make the most of such training conducted by a group of highly qualified professionals from the field. She urged Director Tashi Dolma to set a target to develop a local curriculum and highlighted the importance of introducing life skills as part of early education in the age groups 3 to 6 years of age.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: The Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC), Leh, Sonam Nurboo reviewed Centrally Sponsored Schemes, Special Development Packages, State Sector/District Capex of the Agriculture and Horticulture Department in Leh at VC room on October 21. The objective of the meeting was to assess the progress, challenges, and future prospects of various schemes and packages designed to boost the agricultural and horticultural sectors in the region.

ADDC, Leh, Sonam Nurboo reviewed the execution of Centrally Sponsored Schemes and Special Development Packages, which have been instru-

mental in providing financial support and technical assistance to local farmers and horticulturists.

He sought updates from the concerned officers regarding both completed and ongoing Centrally Sponsored Schemes across various villages in the region.

ADDC Leh, Sonam Nurboo, issued directions urging the responsible officers to disseminate comprehensive information about these schemes to the public to ensure that the local population is well-informed and, consequently, better positioned to benefit from these schemes.

The meeting also saw de-

liberations on the Action Plan for 2023 within the framework of the Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA).

ADDC directed the officers to execute various schemes in a timely and efficient manner. He said that these initiatives are designed to enhance agricultural practices and increase crop yields, thus contributing to the economic well-being of the local population.

Furthermore, he emphasized the promotion of Self Help Groups (SHGs) for mushroom cultivation to empower local farmers and promote self-sufficiency in the horticultural domain.

Another significant point on the agenda was the PKUY organic certification. He directed the officers to provide awareness training to hoteliers on the benefits of using organic produce. He added that from this initiative local farmers benefit from the expanded market for organic produce while the hospitality sector offers healthier and more sustainable options to consumers.

In terms of soil health, Chief Agriculture Officer Thinles Dawa provided valuable information, noting that 80% of the soil health cards have already been distributed, and soil testing has been carried

out in the laboratory. Discussing the horticulture sector, the ADC directed officers to explore new areas that have not yet reached their full horticultural potential. He emphasized the need for training programs to educate local stakeholders on the scope and development opportunities.

The meeting was attended by the Chief Agriculture Officer, Leh, Thinles Dawa; District Horticulture Officer, Leh, Kunzang Dolma; District Agriculture Officer, Leh, Tashi Dolma; Research Assistant Agriculture, Leh, Mansor Ahmed and Agriculture Extension Officer, Leh, Ghulam Mohd.

Fortnightly News

Ladakh Scouts lift 3rd L-G Horse Polo Cup



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

DRASS: Ladakh Scouts won the 3rd LG Horse Polo Cup by defeating D'Meadows Drass by 4-0 on October 24.

The polo match was organised by DYSSO Kargil and Chairman/CEC, LAHDC, Kargil, Dr. Mohd Jaffer Akhooon attended the concluding ceremony at Goshan Stadium Drass.

CEC emphasized the significance of Polo as a her-

itage sport and expressed his satisfaction with the substantial developments that have taken place in the game in Drass over the past decade.

He on behalf of Lieutenant Governor Ladakh and LAHDC Kargil, congratulated all participating teams of Leh and Kargil for participating in the event.

Akhooon also conveyed his

best wishes to the organizers and the relevant department for the successful execution of the tournament. He assured that the present LAHDC would prioritize the development of the tourism and sports sectors. Prior to this, various cultural troupes from Drass and students of GDC Drass showcased vibrant cultural performances. The dignitaries also presented felicitations to the winning, runner-up, and participating teams.

The tournament began on October 20 and saw active participation of numerous teams from Leh and Kargil. Notably, for the first time, girl teams also took part in the tournament and were duly acknowledged and honored by the dignitaries.

Friends Club Chiktan lift Kargil Hero's Cup 2023



LAHDC Kargil.

Shrikant Balsaheb Suse; Councillor Bhimbhat, Abdul Wahid, Councillor Chuliskambo, Councillor Chiktan constituency, Kachho Liyaqat Khan, members of civil society, players, and sports enthusiasts were present.

CEC congratulated the winner and runners-up teams for displaying remarkable sportsman spirit and their splendid performance in the final match and making it memorable. He said that winning and losing are part of the game but maintaining the sports spirit is the major purpose. Dr Jaffer added that these sports events are more than just games as it keep

people fit and away from negative influences. Pertaining to the improvement of infrastructure and other logistics of the stadium, CEC Jaffer assured to address the matter of lavatory and dressing rooms for the players. He said that sports infrastructure will be the priority aim of

Furthermore, he added that the Hill Council in coordination with District Administration Kargil will resolve all the matters pertaining to sports infrastructure and promotion.

Deputy Commissioner Kargil congratulated

the winner and runner-up teams and appreciated the efforts of sports persons and organizers. He assured all possible support from district administration for further improving the playground.

The winning team was rewarded with a trophy and cash prize of ₹1,50,000 while the runners-up team was given a trophy and cash prize of ₹1,00,000.

Mussa Mohd from Friends Chiktan was declared man of the match for his phenomenal display of cricketer skills throughout the tournament. Meanwhile, the dignitaries also felicitated the winner and runners-up teams with medals.

Meri Maati Mera Desh: L-G flags off 34 samples of soil collected in Amrit Kalash to Delhi

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Brigadier (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd), attended the celebration of the UT-level event of Meri Maati Mera Desh, at DC Conference Hall on October 27.



L-G also flagged off the 34 samples of soil collected in Amrit Kalash from different blocks and municipal wards of Ladakh for the culminating event of the campaign in Delhi.

Speaking on the occasion, LG appreciated the visionary initiatives and welfare schemes introduced by the Government of India led by the Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, such as One Rank One Pension for the benefit of defence personnel and martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the nation. He stated that the flagging off of the samples of soils collected in the Amrit Kalash to Delhi shows the significant contribution made by even a small region like Ladakh in the overall development of the country. He also stated that the Amrit Vatika to be built near the National War Memorial by fusing the soil and saplings arriving in Amrit Kalash from all parts of the country will be the result of the contribution and participation of around 140 crores people of India.

Highlighting the Green Energy Corridor (GEC) Phase-II project recently approved by the Central government for the development of the Inter-State Transmission System (ISTS) to facilitate a 13GW Renewable Energy Project in the region, the HLG stated that the Government of India is committed to the overall development of Ladakh. He stated that the UT Administration along with both Hill Councils and PRIs is committed to providing employment opportunities for the youth of Ladakh by fast-tracking the preparation of Recruitment Rules for gazetted posts to be notified by UPSC and by encouraging entrepreneurs to come up with their own start-ups. He sought co-operation and goodwill of the people of Ladakh so that UT Administration can achieve its goals at the earliest.

L-G appealed to the elected representatives and government officials to rise above politics and

religion and work for the holistic development of Ladakh so that its citizens can be emotionally, mentally and spiritually happy.

Commissioner Secretary, Tourism and Culture, Mehboob Ali Khan informed the LG that numerous events were organised by the UT Administration as a part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations. He also informed that Meri Maati Mera Deshi is the culminating event of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. He further informed that various Shilapalaksams dedicated to freedom fighters and security forces were built in various parts of Ladakh.

He informed that soil samples were collected from 34 blocks/municipal wards of Ladakh which will be taken to Delhi by a team of 40 people from the region.

District Panchayat Officer, Leh, Junaid Amin gave a detailed presentation on all events held in Ladakh under Meri Maati Mera Desh programme.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: Friends Club Chiktan won the Kargil Hero's Cup Cricket Tournament-2023 by beating Skarchan Latoo by two wickets on October 22.

Kargil Hero's Cup Cricket Tournament-2023 was organised by the Human Upliftment Organization Ladakh at Khree Sultan Cho Sports Stadium, Bimathang. 90 teams from different parts of the district participated in the tournament.

Chairman/CEC, LAHDC, Kargil, Dr Mohammed Jaffer Akhooon attended the concluding ceremony. Deputy Commissioner/CEO, LAHDC, Kargil,

Meeting held on detachment of teaching, non-teaching staff in Kargil



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: Chairman/Chief Executive Councillor, LAHDC, Kargil, Dr Mohd Jaffer Akhooon conducted a meeting with the regard to detachment of teaching and non-teaching employees of Education Department Kargil on October 26.

CEC stressed upon the Director School Education UT Ladakh to resolve the issue of attached teaching/non-teaching staff of the

Director School Education and his team for initiatives taken in this regard.

The winter coaching class for the regular students of class 10th and 12th came under discussion. During the winter, the Government Schools must remain open for class 10th and 12th by the direction of Director School Education UT Ladakh.

The Director School Education also highlighted the proposal for day school and hostel facilities by engaging the subject-specific teacher/lecturers from the concerned High/Higher Secondary Schools, unanimously agreed upon the improvement and achievement of good result in the CBSE Examination 2023-24, to be held in March 2024.

Director School Education highlighted through power point presentation of school wise academic performance of the academic year 2023-24. CEC appreciated

Ibex Salapi win 9th CEC Cup Archery tournament



Executive Councillor, LAHDC, Kargil, Er. Punchok Tashi with the archers during the 9th CEC Cup Archery Tournament.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

ZANSKAR: Ibex Salapi with 153 points lifted the 9th CEC Cup Archery Tournament on October 29 at sports stadium, Padum.

Out of 40 registered teams, a total of 37 teams competed in the championship. The Dorjay Lotus of Babalachen Bakarchey with 45 points won the title of

individual highest scorer.

Executive Councillor, LAHDC, Kargil, Er. Punchok Tashi and Padma Shri awardee, Chulim Chonjor attended the concluding day of the tournament.

The EC congratulated the winner, runner-up, and other participants for taking part in the tournament and stated that such events will boost communal harmony and sportsmanship.

Team Kanishika Sani with 141 points and Archer Crew Padum with 132 points scored 2nd and 3rd positions respectively.

9-day Usha Silai School capacity building program concludes

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: Nine-day Usha Silai School capacity building program organised by Ladakhi Craft and Design Skill Centre, Government Degree College Kargil in collaboration with Usha International Ltd. concluded on October 27.

Kaneez Fatima, Rector Kargil Campus, University of Ladakh congratulated the entire team of Skill Center GDC Kargil and Usha International Ltd. for conducting the training program for the empowerment of women folk of Kargil.

She stressed on greater and active participation of women in such programs to be able to contribute for self as well as community empowerment.

Shaista Ayub, State Manager Usha International Ltd. while briefing about the training program said that over the course

of nine days around 10 women have been trained in stitching, machine repairing and soft skills.

Dr Javed Naqi, Nodal Officer Skills appreciated the sponsor, trainers and participants for their invaluable contributions to the success of the capacity building programme. He said that higher education institutions with the support of LSDM will continue more such skill development initiatives in future to foster a stronger and more self-reliant Ladakh.

Later, training participation certificates were also distributed among the trainees. The event was also attended by Parveen Fatima, Convener Skill Courses, GDC Kargil, Shahar Bano Instructor ITI Kargil and Rafia Master Trainer Usha Silai School Program.

Principal Secretary Sanjeev Khirwar commits to celebrate Khadi Mohotsav

The celebration aims to promote rich heritage, cultural significance of Khadi and village industries across the nation

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: The Principal Secretary of the Union Territory of Ladakh, Sanjeev Khirwar, along with other dignitaries, pledged their support to the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME), Government of India, in celebrating the Khadi Mohotsav from October 2, 2023, to October 31, 2023.

A month-long celebration aims to promote the rich heritage and cultural significance of Khadi and village industries across the nation. Khadi, a symbol



of self-sustainability and empowerment, has been an integral part of India's history and continues to play a vital role in fostering rural development and livelihoods.

Principal Secretary Sanjeev Khirwar, expressed his commitment to supporting Khadi and village industries in the Union Territory of Ladakh, high-

lighting the importance of promoting indigenous products and rural entrepreneurship.

The participation of such esteemed officials in the pledge event signifies the significance of this initiative in the region and highlights UT Ladakh's dedication to the cause of Khadi and village industries, he added.

Protest rally against killings in Gaza held in Sankoo



Mansoor Hosain Beigh

SANKOO: Baseej-E-Fatimaya of Anjuman-E-Sahib Zaman Sankoo, Kargil organised a protest in solidarity with Palestinians against Israel's looming invasion of Gaza on October 24.

Hundreds of protesters shouted anti-US and anti-Israeli slogans and called for a "Free Palestine".

During the protest rally,

protesters criticized the American government for supporting Israeli brutalities. They said that Israel is killing innocent Palestinians including minors, teenagers, and women.

They appealed to the international community to play a role in the restoration of peace in Palestine and also expressed grave concerns over the increase in casualties and arrests of innocent citizens.

₹12, 800 in fine collected under COTPA in Leh



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: As a part of Tobacco control effort in Leh town and to ensure COTPA 2003 compliance, an enforcement drive was carried out by the Enforcement squad in Leh city on October 25.

An amount of ₹ 12, 800/- was collected as fine from

violators of section 6b and section 4 of COTPA.

It is also being notified to shopkeepers that selling tobacco products within 100 yards of educational institutions is a punishable offense under section 6 of COTPA.

10-day residential rock climbing course held



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: 10-day Residential Rock Climbing Course organised by University of Ladakh in collaboration with Ladakh Mountaineering and adventure club for the students of University of Ladakh concluded on October 27 at the Shey Rock climbing site.

Dy Chairman/EC Education & Sports, LAHDC Leh, Tsering Anghuk presided over the concluding ceremony. Vice Chancellor, University of Ladakh, Prof. S K Mehta; Dean Students Welfare, University of Ladakh, Dr. Jigmat Dachen; Acting President LMAC, Rigzen Dolkar; senior members of the LMAC, and the faculty members of the University of Ladakh were present.

Twenty-four students of the University of Ladakh, Leh Campus participated in the 10-day residential rock Climbing Course.

They have imparted detailed training covering various aspects of rock climbing, including safety measures, equipment usage, knot tying, rappelling, and climbing techniques by the qualified instructors of LMAC Leh.

An MoU was signed between University of Ladakh and the Ladakh Mountaineering & Adventure Club to strengthen the collaborative approach for conducting similar courses in the future. This collaborative initiative between the University of Ladakh and the Ladakh Mountaineering and Adventure Club aimed to promote adventure sports and outdoor activities in the region and offer a platform for the students to learn and excel in the field of rock climbing.

The event concluded with a certificate distribution ceremony at the end.

NOTICE
An application has been received from Jigmet Wangchuk S/o Tsering Wangchuk R/o Shey , Leh, Ladakh owner of vehicle no. LA02-9539 for issuance of duplicate Registration Certificate, Fitness certificate and Permit of the above said vehicle in lieu of the lost documents. Now, it is therefore notified for the general public information that objection if any shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport Officer ARTO within a period of 7 days from date of publication of this notice.

NOTICE
It is for the information of the general public that M/S Rashid Ahmad Govt. Contractor with card no. A-53, Mir Manzil, Chuchot Yokma Leh UT Ladakh proprietor Rashid Ahmad S/o Late Mohd Amir R/o Leh-Ladakh intent to include Jibran Ahmad S/o Rashid Ahmad R/o Leh UT Ladakh as firm partner in his firm M/S Rashid Ahmad Govt. Contractor. Now objection if any may be report to Chief Engineer PW (R&B) UT Ladakh within 14 days from the date of the publication of this notice.

NOTICE
I, PARVEEN SULTANA KAZI ALIA MALOTI BEGUM CHAUDHURY, spouse of JC-829905M Nb Sub (GD) Samsur Rahman Kazi resident of Vill- Bhalrab Nagar, Post- Krishnapur, Teh- Silchar, Dist- Cachar, State- Assam, PIN-788025 have changed my name from PARVEEN SULTANA KAZI ALIA MALOTI BEGUM CHAUDHURY to PARVEEN SULTANA KAZI and Date of Birth from 10 JAN 1985 to JUN 1985 vide Affidavit dated 25 October 2023 before Notary Public Leh.

NOTICE
Service No 10020819 Rank ASI/GD Rigzin Dorjee Unit 38 BN SSB TAWANG(AP) has claimed that his daughter namely Rigzin Angmo's Date of Birth 11-04-2001 has been wrongly entered as 11-04-2000 instead of 11-04-2001 in the service document of, Unit 38 BN SSB TAWANG(AP) and produced an affidavit duly verified by Notary public Leh with Certificate No. IN-LA05664705268607V to this office for making necessary correction. Hence the notice is hereby served through press to file objection if any in this office, Unit 38 BN SSB TAWANG(AP) within 7 days from date of publication failing which necessary correction will be made.

NOTICE
I, Phuntsog Nurboo S/o Sonam Dorjay R/O Phey, Leh, UT Ladakh lost my contractor card bearing Certificate no. PMGSY/CEE-524. Now, I want to apply for a duplicate card, Objection if any may be report to the Superintending Engineer PMGSY Circle Ladakh within 7 days from the date of the publication of this notice.

NOTICE
I, Tsering Angmo D/o Phunstog Rigzin R/o Temisgam , Leh UT Ladakh do hereby notify that my father's name has been wrongly recorded as Phuntsog Rigzin instead of correct and actual name Phunstog Rigzin in my ST Certificate duly issued by Khatse Tehsil Office, Leh UT Ladakh with Registration No. 253/ ST/ K/ 2016 and Dated on 27-09-2016. Now, I'm applying for changes in my ST Certificate and objection, if any may be conveyed to Khatse Tehsil Office, Leh UT Ladakh within 07 days from the date of publication.

Advertisement

HONDA

SP125

BEYOND ADVANCED

ADVANCED TRACTION WITH WIDER TYRE

ADVANCED DISPLAY

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