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reach-May 16-31, 2024

In Conversation with

Hina Parveen: First Muslim girl to crack J&K Civil Services (Judicial) exam

EXPERT TALK:

Conserving Ladakh's wildlife: Challenges and solutions



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reach—Ladakh **Correction and clarification**

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Owner, Publisher & Printer: Tundup Dorjey

Editor-in-charge: Tsering Dolkar

Reporters: Yangchen Dolma Nenzes Chodon Stanzin Padma

Sales & Marketing: Tsering Morup Contact: +91 9469451102

Designer: Dhondup Tashi

Published at: Reach Ladakh, Skara Yokma, Airport Road, near Councillor Quarter Contact: +91 9858394403 +91 8899418322

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Parties announce their candidate for LS poll

Nenzes Chodon

LEH: The BJP has nominated Advocate Tashi Gyaltson, who currently serves as CEC of LAH-DC, Leh, as their candidate for the upcoming Lok Sabha election from Ladakh constituency. The Congress party took a significantly longer time to announce their candidate. They finally nominated Councillor in LAHDC, Leh for Lower Leh constituency, Tsering Namgyal. His candidature was announced after Congress leaders in Kargil and National Conference (NC), Kargil decided to extend support to independent candidate and District President of NC, Kargil, Haji Hanifa Jan.

Members of Congress party in Leh were disappointed by this move from party members in Kargil. Thus, Congress, Ladakh's state President, Rigzin Jora and other party members, announced the nom- 3rd May, Jamyang Tsering candidate, Haji Hanifa Jan.

for me as Congress party paign. in both districts is equal-

Tsering Namgyal. During campaigning for There are now three can-BJP in Leh, incumbent didates contesting the Lok MP, Jamyang Tsering Sabha election from La-Namgyal stated that the dakh. This includes BJP nomination of Tsering candidate Tashi Gyaltson,

ination of Tsering Namg- Namgyal was warmly welyal for the upcoming Lok comed back by members Sabha election. Jora spoke of BJP party, which ended about the discord between speculation of a rift within Leh and Kargil units of the party. He affirmed his Congress while discussing continued allegiance to the potential candidates. He party and has been particisaid, "It is not surprising pating in the election cam-

ly strong and both have The deadline for withdrawthe right to ask for the al of nomination papers in mandate." Considering Ladakh was 6th May and the performance of Leh several candidates from Congress in the 2019 Lok Kargil District withdrew Sabha elections, which their candidature. This inwas below expectations, it cluded Feroz Ahmed Khan was anticipated that Kar- and Sajjad Hussain who gil would receive the man- extended support to Haji date this time. Aam Admi Hanifa Jan. Consequently, Party and Bahujan Samaj Kargil district now has just Party in Ladakh have ex- one candidate contesting tended their support to the upcoming Lok Sabha election.

Namgyal was a strategy to Congress candidate Tsering divert votes in Ladakh. On Namgyal, and independent

Polling teams on 'Vote from Home' flagged off



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: Deputy Commissioner/ District Election Officer, Shrikant Suse on May 10 flagged off polling teams for the 'Vote from Home' initiative of senior citizens and PwDs of Kargil District from the DC office complex here.

He said that the polling teams will facilitate Vote from Home (VfH) for the

eligible Elderly Voters and Persons with Disabilities conducted in transparent (PwDs) during the upcom- manner with adequate deing Lok Sabha election.

Election Commission of

"The facility has helped in promoting equal opportuni-

ties for all and ensuring that

citizens above 85 years and

no one is left behind in the electoral process," he said. Voting for senior citizens and persons with disabilities from home shall be

ployment of security, micro observer as informed by He further said that the ARO postal ballot-Kargil. India (ECI) has taken a Assistant Returning Officer historic initiative which Postal/CPO Abdul Hadi, is a major step towards Election Naib Tehsildar Za-

promoting inclusive and kir Hussain, besides various accessible elections by election teams for postal extending the Vote from voting were present during Home facility to senior the flag off ceremony.

Commissioner inspects Anganwadi centers in Zanskar

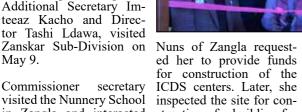
KARGIL: Commission-

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

er Secretary of the Higher Education Department, Padma Angmo, along with Additional Secretary Imteeaz Kacho and Director Tashi Ldawa, visited May 9.

visited the Nunnery School inspected the site for conin Zangla and interacted struction of a building for with students and teachers. Anganwadi centre at the The students shared their Nunnery. learning experiences with the Commissioner/Secre- On May 10, the Commis-

challenges and other issues with teachers and sturegarding the Anganwa- dents. di Centre/School with the teachers and Nuns. The She also inspected the An-



sioner Secretary visited Secpad School Karsha She also discussed the Youlsum and interacted

Zanskar Sub-Division on Nuns of Zangla request- ganwadi Centres at Langed her to provide funds mi Rejing and Sani and for construction of the directed the supervisor and workers to maintain the poshan tracker register and record weight and height measurements.

functioning of Anganwadi

Centres.

The Commissioner/ Secretary also directed the CDPO to issue uniforms for the workers and helpers and review the monthly progress while also making efforts to improve

Three Lok Sabha candidates' nominations rejected



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Returning Officer Santosh Sukhadve chaired and conducted the scrutiny of candidates for the upcoming Lok Sabha election on May 4.

The valid nominated candidates after the scrutiny are Tashi Gyalson from didate.

the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Tsering Namgyal from the Indian National Congress (INC), Mohmad Haneefa, an independent The scrutiny was attended candidate, Kacho Mohammed Feroz, an independent candidate, and Sajjad Hussain, an independent can- Zargar, all the candidates,

A total of eight candidates had filed the nomination papers, out of which five were validly nominated and three were rejected. The two covering candidates of BJP and Congress were rejected, and one nomination was rejected due to a discrepancy in the nomination papers.

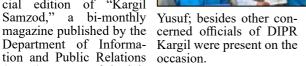
by General Observer BH Talati IAS, Deputy District Election Officer Leh, AG and the party members.

Special edition magazine for elections unveiled

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: Deputy Commissioner/District Election Officer Shrikant Suse (IAS) unveiled the special edition of "Kargil Department of Information and Public Relations occasion. (DIPR), as part of the initiative for the Lok Sabha DEO/DC Kargil comelections at the DC Office mended DIPR Kargil and Chamber on May 7.

Joint Director, Informa- ing the timely publication tion, Ladakh, Imteeaz of the special edition fo-Kacho; Assistant Direc- cusing on the Lok Sabha tor DIPR Kargil, Murtaza elections. Ali, Ex En R&B Division Sadiq Ali; Senior Assis- The DEO/DC said that tant, DIPR Kargil, Mohd the bilingual magazine



its editorial team for their dedicated efforts in ensur-

will serve to educate voters about various aspects related to the Lok Sabha elections.

Joint Director of Information, Ladakh, Imteeaz Kacho expressed gratitude to DC/DEO Kargil for unveiling the election special edition of "Kargil Samzod." He also appreciated the efforts of the DIPR Kargil team in ensuring its timely comple-

Tsering Dorjey Lakrook wins LBA election

Yangchen Dolma

LEH: Tsering Dorjey Lakrook, former Cabinet Minister and Chief Executive Councillor (CEC) of LAHDC, Leh, was elected as the new president of Ladakh Buddhist Association on 5th May.

In the past, the president of LBA has always been elected unopposed. However, for the second time in its history there were two candidates contesting for the presidential election: Tsering Dorjey Lakrook and former CEC of LAHDC, Leh, Rigzin Spalbar.

Lakrook, who is also the vice president of the Leh Apex Body, has played a crucial role in leading the movement for constitutional safeguards in close collaboration Kargil

Democratic Alliance. In the LBA election, he secured 179 votes to win by 33 votes as Rigzin Spalbar received 146

Lakrook expressed gratitude

to the Buddhist community in Ladakh and the General Council Members for electing him as the LBA President. In his speech, he expressed his commitment to uplift the community and address the needs of Ladakh. He vowed to prioritise the welfare of the Buddhist community over the next three years and to ensure that their interests are at the forefront of his agenda. He said, "There are many challenges to the Ladakh region after it became a UT. Leh Apex Body, which is led by veteran leaders, will continue



to work to safeguard the region. It is very important that we continue agitating for constitutional safeguards for Ladakh."

Rigzin Spalbar extended his congratulations to Tsering Dorjet Lakrook and thanked the General Council Members who had voted for him. Sim-

ilarly, President of LBA Youth Wing, Rigzen Dorjey too congratulated Tsering Dorjey Lakrook on being elected as President of LBA.

Expenditure Observer reviews candidates' spending



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Election expenditure observer for Ladakh Parliamentary constituency, Gajendra Singh (IRS), led the initial review of candidates' expenditure records on May 8 at the

Singh carefully reviewed candidates' expenditure registers and provided guidance to agents on

Also, measures were taken by the accounting team to prevent duplicate vehicle entries. Singh also encouraged

vouchers for each expense.

candidates to reach out for assistance from him or the accounting team with any account management challenges.

The meeting was attended by expenditure agents, the proper recording procedures. He stressed the imserver for Leh/Kargil, the portance of daily entries Nodal Officer for expendiand the need for supporting ture, and other officials.

General Observer, DEO attend training programme for micro observers

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: General Observer Harikesh Meena (IAS) and Deputy Commissioner/District Election Officer, Shrikant Suse (IAS), attended a training programme for Micro Observers on May 6.

They also visited various model polling stations in Kargil town and its outskirts to assess the election Micro Observers will be preparations.

Micro Observers, the General Observer emphasised the importance of familiasion, the General Observrising themselves with the er, accompanied by the guidelines and roles out- DC Kargil, visited various lined by the Election Compolling stations, including mission of India. He urged them to perform their du- Goma, High School Poyties on polling day with en, Government Girls utmost sincerity.

ceived detailed training on sess the status of assured their roles, the functioning minimum facilities.

of EVMs, and checklist procedures during the

deployed at all critical polling stations during the During his address to the polling process.

Government High School Higher Secondary School Kargil and Government The Micro Observers re- High School Baroo to asHarikesh Meena (IAS) ent during the meeting.

conducted a detailed assessment of the facilities required for the successful conduct of polling, including the feasibility of rooms, availability of drinking water, construction of ramps, electricity, washrooms, furniture, selfie points, signage, provision of wheelchairs, and other necessary amenities. ACR/Deputy District Election Officer Mohammed Sharif, Headquarters Assistant to DC and Nodal Officer Model Polling Stations Arifa Iqbal, Micro Observers, and other concerned officers were pres-

Zanskar SDM chairs meeting to discuss arrangements for LS polls

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Continuing his visit cials to assess the progress to Nubra Valley to review of election preparedness. election preparations, the Chief Electoral Officer, He expressed satisfaction

conducted review meet-

Yetindra M. Maralkar, vis- with the level of preparedited Naibat Turtuk village ness observed but stressed and Diskit Headquarters of the need for continuous the Nubra Sub-division on vigilance and strict adherence to protocols to ensure free, fair, and transparent During the visit, the CEO elections in Nubra Valley.

ings with concerned offi- The CEO also interacted

with voters and urged for maximum participation in the voting process.

The CEO's visit reaffirms the Election Commission's dedication to conducting elections with integrity and transparency, instilling confidence among voters and stakeholders in the electoral process

SDM Zanskar chairs meeting to discuss arrangements ahead of LS polls

Reach Ladakh Correspondent KARGIL: SDM Zanskar, Romil Singh Donk (IAS), chaired a meeting of all Booth Level Officers (BLOs) to discuss arrangements and other matters related to the Lok Sabha election on May 7.

During the meeting, the Tehsildar/AERO Zanskar, Mohd Hassan, introduced by or before May 8. all BLOs to the SDM and commended the work SDM Zanskar also diachieved by them so far.

The SDM distributed the latest Electoral rolls and ID arrangements of accomcards to BLOs and urged modations for polling perall to ensure the smooth sonnel on polling day at conclusion of the polls in the premises of respective the sub-division and strive polling stations. to conduct elections with the highest standards of integrity and efficiency.

Zanskar highlighted to the nel of Zanskar sub-divi-BLOs the importance of sion, who are likely to updating the ASD details be deployed to Kargil for and ensuring submission to election duty. It was de-



rected the provision of necessary facilities for polling parties along with

Discussions were also held on the issuance of EDC forms on May 9 to Tehsildar/AERO the election duty personthe AERO office shall be deputed to issue the EDC forms, which subsequently must be submitted to the Chief Planning Officer Kargil (Nodal officer EDC) on May 10.

In the end, the Tehsildar/ AERO Zanskar expressed gratitude to the SDM for chairing the meeting and providing invaluable guidance for the seamless execution of the election process. The meeting was also attended by ZEO and BDO and the representatives of PHE and PDD departments.

Poll staff trained to help absentee voters



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Returning Officer/ District Election Officer, Santosh Sukhadeve and Assistant Returning Officer, Sonam Nurboo, conducted a training session for polling teams assisting absentee voters at the DC Conference Hall on May 8.

Santosh Sukhadeve urged the SDMs of the Sub Division to ensure that the entire process was completed on time and in compliance with all guidelines.

Assistant Returning Officer, Sonam Nurboo provided detailed instructions on filling out forms and envelopes for the postal ballot. He also described the various responsibilities of the polling team members.

Moreover, it was informed that 11 zones have been designated for conducting while on polling duty.

postal voting for absentee voters, including Absentee Voters Senior Citizens (AVSC) and Absentee Voters Persons with Disabilities (AVPD). This process is scheduled to commence on May 11 and conclude on May 17. Furthermore, five Postal Voting Centres (PVCs) have been established in Durbuk, Nyoma, Khaltse, Nubra, and Leh for absentee voters on essential services from May 13 to May 15.

District Level Master Trainer, Rigzin Namgyal, delivered a presentation on how to complete forms for absentee voters, the voting process, and ensuring proper sealing and dispatching of the ballot paper. The presentation concluded with a list of dos and don'ts to be followed

Poll staff trained to help absentee



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: District Administration organised a training programme for employees of all departments who have been assigned duties as Polling Officer-2 (P2) and Polling Officer-3 (P3) at the Auditorium Hall on May 9.

The training programme covered essential election procedures, including EVM operation, to ensure preparedness among polling staff for overseeing polling stations and facilitating a fair and efficient voting process.

A total of 680 P2 and P3 officials attended the training, facilitated by District Level Master Trainers and Assembly Level Master

The trainers provided comprehensive instruction on VVPAT/EVM operations, electoral documents, and discussed the duties and precautions to be taken by P2 and P3 officials.

The training was conducted by master trainers Kacho Hassan Khan (Lecturer) and Muhammad Ali (Lecturer).

Second National Lok Adalat held across UT Ladakh

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Ladakh Legal Services Authority, under the stewardship of Justice N. Kotiswar Singh, Chief Justice of the High Court of J&K and Ladakh, and Patron-in-chief of Ladakh Legal Services Authority, organised the 2nd National Lok Adalat throughout the UT of Ladakh on May 12.

The aim was to encourage maximum participation and achieve settlements in cases such as bank recovery cases, cheque bounce cases under the Negotiable Instruments Act (NI Act), and other civil cases.

According to information received from the District Legal Services Authorities, out of the total 469 cases taken up by 9 benches during the day-long National Lok Adalat held at various courts across the

Union Territory of Ladakh, 276 cases were disposed of. Additionally, an amount of Rs 9,916,007 was awarded as compensation or settlement in civil cases, BSNL bills, NI Act cases under section 138, Traffic challan, cheque dishonor, and bank recovery cases.

Spalzes Angmo, Member Secretary of Ladakh Legal Services Authority, expressed her gratitude to all the participants, including judicial officers, chairpersons, Secretaries of District Legal Services Authorities (DLSA) and Tehsil Legal Services Committees (TLSC), advocates, representatives of insurance companies, banks, BSNL office, Labor Office, court staff, and litigants. She commended their approach in settling a large number of cases.

General Observer inspects 3 polling stations

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: General Observer for Ladakh Parliamentary constituency, BH Talati, visited the District Election Office on May 4 to oversee the scrutiny of nomination papers ahead of the upcoming Lok Sabha election.

Accompanied by Expenditure Observer Gajendra Singh, he then headed to Nubra and carefully examined three polling stations: Government Middle School, Rasermo Kharzong; Government Middle School, Khardong; and Government Primary



School, Terith. During his visit, he inquired about the total number of students and registered voters at each location.

He also interacted with the Flying Squad Team and Static Surveillance Team, instructing them to strictly adhere to vehicle registration protocols.

Information official holds meeting with media and printing agencies

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: In preparation for the upcoming general election, Joint Director of Information and State Nodal Officer for Media, Imteeaz Kacho, convened a meeting regarding coverage and printing with media personnel and printing/publication agencies at the conference hall of the District Motor Garages on May 3.

The meeting emphasised the important role that media coverage and diverse perspectives play in shaping the narrative surrounding the upcoming Lok Sabha election.

The Joint Director lauded the efforts of the media fraternity for playing a proactive role in disseminating awareness about the importance of voting in elections. Emphasis was placed on the significance of adhering to the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) and leveraging the Systematic Voters Education and Electoral Participation which needs to be strictly

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: General Ob-

server for Ladakh Par-

liamentary constituency(

Kargil), Harikesh Meena

(IAS) on May 3 visited

ÈVM/VVPAT Warehouse

at Kurbathang to inspect

the preparations for the

upcoming Lok Sabha elec-

He was accompanied by

Kargil/District Election

Officer, Shrikant Suse and

During the visit, the Gen-

eral Observer assessed

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Advisor to the

Lieutenant Governor, Dr.

Pawan Kotwal, chaired

a meeting on May 3 to

review compliance mat-

ters and discuss the mon-

itoring of orders issued

by the National Green

Tribunal (NGT), dated

April 6, 2023, in O.A No.

The meeting was in led

by Brij Mohan, the Mem-

ber Secretary of the La-

dakh Pollution Control

Committee (LPCC), who

provided insight into the

specific directives issued

by the NGT and presented

a detailed status report on

Solid Waste Management

to the chair. The objec-

tive of the meeting was

to streamline Solid Waste

Management in the UT

of Ladakh and establish

606/2018.

SSP Kargil Shreeram.

Commissioner

arrangements



(SVEEP) initiative to enhance awareness about electoral engagement and the fundamental value of voting.

Furthermore, attention was drawn to the vital role of radio broadcasting, particularly in areas where internet access is limited or unavailable.

He also emphasised the importance of ensuring that no political parties gain an unfair advantage, advocating for a level playing field in social media campaigning and maintaining balanced in-Furthermore, terviews. he cautioned the media persons about paid news,

General Observer inspects preparations for Lok

Sabha elections

District Election Officer

and SSP Kargil briefed the

General Observer on the

detailed security measures

implemented in accor-

dance with the norms of

the Election Commission

and CCTV surveillance, Detailed review was done nied him during the visit.

Advisor reviews compliance report of Solid Waste

Management Rules 2016

additional Sewage Treat-

ment Plants to address

gaps in both solid and liq-

Officials from various de-

partments discussed the

implementation status of

Solid Waste Management

Rules to bridge the exist-

ing gaps in Solid and Liq-

uid Waste Management in

the UT of Ladakh, in line

with the directives issued

by the National Green Tri-

bunal concerning the UT

Under the Sewage Treat-

ment Plant (STP) scheme,

Dr. Kotwal decided to al-

locate funds amounting to

Rs. 5 Crore for the Tour-

ism Department for the Fi-

nancial Year 2024-2025,

aiming to assist a hundred

The target is to achieve concerned officials.

of Ladakh.

uid waste management.

of India.

among other factors. The regarding the preparation

monitored. In addition, he informed that the media management team would soon receive their passes to cover the election.

Assistant Director, Information, Dr. Tundup Namgyail highlighted the importance of displaying the name, contact number or email id on every banner, poster or pamphlet printed for any political party, organisation, or individual candidate to ensure full transparency and accountability.

The session was attended by All India Radio/ Doordarshan, Leh, private media personnel, DIPR staff, and printing press agencies.

for the commissioning

of EVMs, as well as the

dispatch and collection of

Dy DEO Kargil, DIO

NIC, Ex EN R and B,

ARTO and Election Naib

Tehsildar also accompa-

full coverage in Kargil by

installing STPs in 29 hotels,

while the remaining 71 ho-

tels will be covered in Leh,

as decided during the re-

view meeting held on April 4, 2024. Dr. Pawan Kotwal

instructed officials to iden-

tify suitable lands in Kargil

for the installation of STPs

to address the gap in Liquid

The meeting was attended

by the Principal Secretary

of the Housing and Urban Development Department,

Ladakh; Member Secretary

of LPCC/APCCF, Ladakh;

Director of Urban Local

Bodies, Ladakh; Deputy

Commissioner of Kargil;

Waste Management.

election materials.

General observer visits polling stations in Nimmo block



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: General Observer for Ladakh Parliamentary constituency, B H Talati (IAS) visited 8 polling stations in Nimoo Block on May 3.

He was accompanied by Naib Tehsildar, Leh, Mohd Hassan, GQ, Ts-ewang Nurboo and FST team, E-6 of Nimoo Block headed by Naib Tehsildar. Basgo, Velayat Ali.

The polling stations that the General Observer visited were Office of Block Development Offi-High School, Nimoo, Middle Government

School Zasa, Government High School, Basgo, Government Primary School, Sumdha Dho, Government Primary School, Sumdha Chung, Yokma House, Ezang and Government Primary School, Chilling.

During the visit, the General Observer inspected the minimum facilities available at the polling stations and interacted with each of the Booth Level Officers regarding the number of electors and encouraged them to ensure maximum voting percentage.

cer, Nimoo, Government He also interacted with the villagers of the different polling stations.

Tourism Secretary stresses on timely project execution

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Secretary of Tourism, Vikram Singh Malik, chaired a meeting on May 3 to assess the department's operations and the progress of various proj-

Malik urged officials to accelerate project implementation and scrutinised departmental expenditures on projects/initiatives under the SDP and State Sector in another session. Detailed expenditure from the previous fiscal year was presented by concerned officials.

Discussions included the upcoming Golden Jubilee of Tourism in Ladakh, initiatives for homestays/ hotels, and the month-wise



and domestic tourist arrivals. Malik emphasised the significance of hospitality and infrastructure development for tourists and instructed officials to adhere strictly to project timelines.

The meeting was attended by Director, Tourism Department; Chief Engineer, CPWD; CEO, Tourism meeting virtually.

Principal, Food Craft Institute Leh; and officials from various departments. Chief Executive Officer, Kargil Tourism Development Authority; officials from CPWD and Tourism Development ty; Executive Engineer, Zanskar Tourism Authority; and a Tourist Officer from Zanskar joined the

Awareness programme on substance abuse held at **Moravian Mission School**



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Department of Information and Public Relations, in collaboration with the Education Department, Health Departorganised an awareness programme on 'Drugs and Substance Abuse' at Moravian Mission School on May 7.

The initiative is part of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, and the Administration of Union Territory of Ladakh's joint efforts to combat the issue of drug menace.

Two short films titled "Echoes of Redemption" "Trapped" and screened, depicting the harsh realities of addicment, and Ladakh Police tion and its adverse effects on individuals, families, and societies.

> Psychiatrist and Drug De-addiction Specialist, Dr. Padma Angmo from SNM Hospital, explained the harmful effects of drug and substance abuse on mental and physical health. Dr. Angmo said that that such habits often lead to school and college dropouts, job loss, and

Dr. Angmo urged students to make right decisions in their life that would help them in realising their dreams and aspirations than to choose one regretful decision.

Head mistress, Moravian Mission School, Rachel Dendol, advised students to focus on their studies without getting distracted from their dreams and to draw inspirations from their alumni achievements.

AE&CO, Stanzin Wangmo also shared her views and urged students to not indulge in bad habits and rather use their potential mental issues.

Programme (VVP), with a total budget of 6636.65 Officials from various de- The meeting was attended partments presented designs for these projects. ies from Planning, Animal Dr. Kotwal stressed the and Sheep Husbandry, importance of incorporat-

ing local designs by local Power Youth Service, and architects and maximising other officials.

Training programme held for presiding officers

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: The District Administration organised a training programme for employees of the Education department who have been assigned duties as Presiding Officers (POs) and Polling Officers-1 (PO-1) for the Lok Sabha election at the Auditorium Hall on May 7.

The training programme covered various aspects of elections, including the operation of EVMs and other electoral procedures, to ensure that polling staff are well-prepared to oversee polling stations and facilitate a fair and efficient voting process on Election

attended the training programme, which was led by the master trainers, Kacho Hassan Khan (Lecturer) and Muhammad Ali (Lec-

Nodal Officer PV, EDC Kargil, Abdul Hadi, emphasised the importance of sincerity among the participants towards their

Nearly 600 Presiding Offi-



vided training on VVPAT/

AG Zargar.

Further, the General Observer, BH Talati and Expenditure Observer, Gajendra Singh (IRS) convened a meeting with the representatives of the contesting candidates to brief them on the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) and address any election-related con-

ister and to contact him or the Assistant Expenditure Observer, present in both Leh and Kargil for any clarification related to maintaining the expenditure register.

ing the expenditure reg-

tosh Sukhadeve, Deputy District Election Officer, AG Zargar, Assistant Expenditure Officer, Leh, Dr Zulfikar Ali and SSP, Leh, Shruti Arora were present during this meeting.



EVM usage and other election-related activities, including necessary documentation. They also discussed the duties and precautions to be observed by Presiding Officers.

> Deputy District Election was present at the event.

> Officer, Kargil, Muhammad Sharief, along with other concerned officials,

Second randomisation of polling in bringing laurels to their personnel held school, families and nation. Later, an interaction session was held where students had the opportunity to ask one- on-one questions with Psychiatrist Dr. Angmo related to drugs and other involvement in illegal ac-



Training for polling officers held

Machines (EVMs), both

statutory and non-statuto-

ry forms, arrangements for

polling day, pre-poll activities, poll day activities,

Election Duty Certificates,

Control Unit-Ballot Unit,

special situations, and pro-

cedures for adjournment

Besides, trainers explained

the roles and duties of the

1st, 2nd, and 3rd polling

officers to ensure that elec-

tions are held in a smooth, free, and fair manner.

The polling officers were also provided hands-on

ing the use of EVMs and

the use of local raw mate-

Dr. Kotwal meticulously reviewed each project and

provided practical solu-

tions to ensure the suc-

cessful implementation of

the Vibrant Village Pro-

by administrative secretar-

Social and Tribal Welfare,

gramme.

rials in all structures.

regard-

demonstration

VVPATs.

Kotwal: Use local resources and

designs in Vibrant Village Pro-

gramme

of polling.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: In preparation for

the upcoming general

election, a training session

for presiding officers and polling officers was conducted on May 3 at Sindhu

The training was led by

District Level Masters

Trainers, Senior Lecturer,

Rigzin Namgyail, Senior

Librarian, Libraries and

Lobzang Gura Susheel and State Level Master Train-

During the session, trainers provided detailed in-

formation on the functioning of Electronic Voting

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: In a recent meeting

held on May 2, Advisor to

Lieutenant Governor, Dr.

Pawan Kotwal, discussed

38 new projects proposed

under the Vibrant Village

er, Dr. Stanzin Rabgais.

Department,

Sanskriti Kendra.

Research

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: The second randomisation of polling personnel for the Lok Sabha election took place at the NIC conference room on May 4 in the presence of Harikesh Meena (IAS), General Observer for the 1-Ladakh Parliamentary Constituency (Kargil) and Shrikant Suse (IAS), District Election Officer/Deputy Commissioner Kargil.

During the process, the polling officials selected in the first randomisation were further randomised into various polling parpoll duty in Kargil district Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Kargil Shreeram R, Additional Deputy Commissioner Suhail Ahmad, Assistant Director DIPR Kargil/Nodal Officer (MCMC) Murtaza Ali, Assistant Returning Officer UTL (Nodal Officer PV, EDC Kargil) Abdul Hadi, Election Naib Te-

during the Lok Sabha elec-

tions scheduled for May

ties to be deployed for

hsildar Zakir Hussain, and District Informatics Officer (Nodal Officer Deployment of PPs and Trainings) Iftikhar Hussain were also present during the session.

General Observer inspects 6 polling stations

Reach Ladakh Correspondent Talati (IAS), inspected six



LEH: In preparation for

polling stations in Leh on

The polling stations visited by the General Observer included DIET Leh, Government Middle School Skara, Housing Colony A (Government High School Housing Colony), Housing Colony B (Community Hall HousWhile assessing the basic facilities at the polling stations, BH Talati also interacted with the respective Booth Level Officers (BLOs).

He also visited the strong room and counting room at Sindhu Sanskriti Kendra to review prepared-

Returning Officer, San-

Director of Health Services, Ladakh; Regional Director of LPCC, UT Ladakh; ness at these locations. He the upcoming Lok Sabha Colony), Housing was accompanied by Reelection, the General Ob-Colony C (Degree Col-Senior Scientific Officer, turning Officer, Santosh The Expenditure Observer server for Ladakh Parlia-Sukhadeve and Deputy lege) and Housing Colony hotels in installing STPs. LPCC, UT Ladakh, and highlighted the key points mentary Constituency,BH D (Degree College). District Election Officer, to follow while maintain-

Expert Talk:

Conserving Ladakh's wildlife: Challenges and solutions

Yangchen Dolma & Nenzes Chodon

Lobzang Vishuddha, founder and chairman of Wildlife Conservation & Bird Club of

In 2013, a group of friends and I, all avid bird watchers albeit amateurs, frequented the Indus belt for birding. During one such outing, a passionate birding enthusiast from Bangalore, a tourist who had expended considerable resources to explore Ladakh's avian diversity, kindled a fervent interest in me. His enthusiasm for bird photography and deep curiosity about our local wildlife inspired me to delve further into birding. Equipped

with binoculars and cameras, we ventured into the field, capturing the breathtaking beauty of Ladakh's avifauna. As locals, documenting the avian species of Ladakh came naturally to us.

Over time, our fascination with Ladakh's wildlife grew, prompting us to ponder about bird identification, local nomenclature, and English classifications. However, our inquiries revealed a stark dearth of individuals well-versed in Ladakh's wildlife among the masses, particularly the youth. Recognizing the need for a platform where wildlife enthusiasts could convene, share knowledge, and learn from each other, the idea of establishing a Bird Club in Ladakh took shape. In 2016, several like-minded local wildlife enthusiasts united to officially register the Wildlife Conservation and Birds Club of Ladakh (WCBCL) as a Trust.

Our primary goal was to increase awareness about Ladakh's diverse wildlife, plant life, and animal life, particularly among young people. Using social media platforms like Facebook, we arranged several photo exhibitions featuring Ladakh's wildlife, notably during the Ladakh Festivals at the Main Market. Furthermore, we launched "Jungwa," Ladakh's only wildlife magazine, with the aim of documenting and promoting wildlife conservation initiatives in the region. Despite limited funding, apart from a couple of one-time training programmes, WCBCL has made notable contributions to wildlife conservation in Ladakh, spearheading various projects and programmes.

However, numerous challenges persist. The foremost among them include: Environmental degradation: Developmental projects encroaching upon wildlife-sensitive regions, parks, reserves, and sanctuaries.

Stray dog menace: The exponential proliferation of free-ranging dogs in Ladakh, with the highest dog-tohuman ratio recorded at 140.8:1000.

Lack of policy attention: A glaring disregard by policymakers and authorities towards wildlife and nature conservation issues, evident in the absence of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Social Impact Assessment (SIA) in planning and policy-making processes.

Despite these challenges, WCBCL has remained steadfast in its commitment to wildlife conservation. We played a pivotal role in advocating for the declaration of the Snow Leopard (Uncia Panthera) as the State Animal and the Black-necked Crane (Grus nigricollis) as the State Bird. However, the implementation of specific conservation projects for these flagship species remains inadequate.

Several wildlife species in Ladakh face grave conservation concerns. Among mammals, the Tibetan Wild Dog (Cuon alpinus), locally known as "Pha-ra," teeters on the brink of extinction, with sporadic sightings raising hopes for their survival. Similarly, the Pallas's Cat (Octocolobus) and Eurasian Lynx (Lynx) confront habitat loss and predation threats from free-ranging dogs.

Regarding avifauna, the Black-necked Crane faces existential threats from infrastructure development and predation by dogs. Efforts such as the proposed Black Necked Crane nest adoption programme aim to mitigate these risks but await adequate support.

Solutions:

Comprehensive environmental assessments: All infrastructure development projects must undergo rigorous Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) processes, particularly those intersecting wildlife habitats.

Stray dog management: Implementing compassionate programmes to curb the stray dog population, ensuring coexistence with wildlife.

Inclusive policymaking: Engaging local environmental stakeholders in policy formulation for wildlife-sensitive areas, integrating community perspectives into conservation strategies.

> Dhawan Kumar Rawat, Wildlife Warden: As the Wildlife Warden overseeing Ladakh's rich biodiversity, I am deeply concerned about the delicate balance between human activities and the preservation of our unique flora and fauna.

Ladakh, located between the Karakoram Range and Zanskar Range in the northern part of the Indian Subcontinent, is characterised by its cold and dry climate. Despite these challenging conditions, it harbors a diverse range of vulnerable and distinct species.

cording to a recent bird survey conducted by the Wildlife Institute of India, Ladakh is home to more than 34 species of mammals, over 10 species of reptiles, and over 1000 vascular plants, many of which hold medicinal value. The survey also recorded a total of 226 bird species, including 96 summer visitors, 83 passage migrants, 40 residents, and 7 winter visitors. In addition, a recent report by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) estimated a snow leopard population of 718 in India, with 477 residing in Ladakh.

Despite its biodiversity, Ladakh's flora and fauna face constant threats from human activities and changing global climate patterns. To address these challenges, the Department of Wildlife Protection was initially formed as part of the J&K Forest Department's Game Preservation Wing in 1979. It implemented the Jammu and Kashmir Wildlife Protection Act of 1978 to conserve Ladakh's unique wildlife population and their habitats.

Following the formation of the Union Territory of Ladakh in 2019, the J&K Wildlife Protection Act, 1978 was repealed, and the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 became applicable. This transition intensified conservation efforts to match the diverse flora and fauna of the region.

The Department's main objective is to ensure the long-term conservation of wildlife populations through various provisions of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, while also reducing human-animal conflicts through awareness programmes, public participation, and mitigation strategies.

An unforeseen threat to wildlife populations in Ladakh is the presence of free-ranging dogs, which particularly target ungulates. Many wildlife species, such as the Tibetan Antelope, Wild Yak, Ladakh Urial, Tibetan Argali, and Tibetan Gazelle, are near-threatened or vulnerable according to the IUCN's International Union for Conservation of Nature status.

...continues on page



MOTHER'S DAY



- Mother's Day is a day dedicated to honouring mothers and their unwavering love. While the exact date varies by country, it's most commonly celebrated on the second Sunday of May, as is the case in many places, including India.
- Mother's Day traditions vary greatly across cultures. In many countries, children present their mothers with
- gifts, flowers, or cards. Some families choose to spend the day together, enjoying a special meal or engaging in • activities their mother enjoys.
- The origins of Mother's Day can be traced back to the 19th century in the United States. Anna Jarvis, a social activist, sought to create a special day to honour her own mother, who had dedicated her life to raising children
- and caring for others.
- While the holiday's commercialization later in its history disappointed Jarvis, the core sentiment of expressing gratitude for mothers remains.
- Mother's Day is a time to celebrate the amazing moms, stepmoms, grandmas, and all the other motherly figures in our lives

SoulSpeak

Dr. P.P. Wangchuk

Courtesy makes you, others feel good



How do you try to be a good and loving person? There could be many ways, but I would go for what strikes my mind first: Courtesy. Courtesy is the art of being polite, considerate and good towards others.

A courteous person is liked by everyone he comes across. His very persona gets quite attractive and everybody coming his way would like to appreciate him. As a result, people respect such courteous

people and, at times, give them positions of responsibility.

Actually, a courteous person sees all the doors around him open. Therefore, success comes quite easily to such persons.

Let us bear in mind that courtesy does not come on its own, and it is an art that has to be perfected with sincere practice with an objective to be polite and good so that everybody, including self, remain happy and hopeful. One has to be very consciously practising this art for one's own good.

Courtesy is giving a smile and saying hello even to a stranger. It is asking the needy whether he/she needs your help. It is showing respect for your elders and love for those younger to you. And, it is assisting a helpless person cross a busy road.

There is one crucial 'element' that is needed for being courteous: Humility. Humility is a highly 'refined' version of politeness. Humility helps you become polite, and politeness helps you become courteous!

Like love and smile, courtesy costs you nothing. But its dividends are high, and you will see its dividends soaring up and up. That is why Thomas Fuller had said: "All doors open to courtesy." That clearly shows that the journey of life becomes easier and joyous when we choose to be courteous.

Be polite even to strangers because you never know that some of them could turn out to be your best friends later in life. And, mind you, your friends too were, at one time, strangers.

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

DIDYOUKNOW





- 1. NFL Super Bowl referees also get Super Bowl rings.
- 2. It's illegal to own only one guinea pig in Switzerland.
- lyrics.
- The letter "Q" doesn't appear in any American state's name.
- Walt Disney currently holds the most Academy Awards at a lifetime
- he average cloud weighs over one million pounds.
- 7. Wearing a necktie could reduce blood flow to your brain by up to
- 7.5 percent.
- 8. Animals can also be allergic to humans.
- 3. Only four countries in the world have national anthems with no 9. Finland has ranked as the happiest country in the world for 7 years straight.
 - 10. Bottlenose dolphins are the only other species to have names for
 - 11. Your brain alone burns around 400 to 500 calories each day.
 - 12. Approximately 10% of people are left-handed.

Courtesy: today.com

In Conversation with

Hina Parveen: First Muslim girl to crack J&K Civil Services (Judicial) exam

Interviewed by Stanzin Padma

Q1. Tell us about yourself?

Julley! My name is Hina Parveen. I completed my schooling up to 10th grade at Moravian Mission School, Leh. After that, I pursued higher studies in Delhi and graduated from James Douglas Tytler School, New Rajendra Place, Delhi. During my 12th grade, I studied in the medical stream, which I continued in as I graduated from Daulat Ram College with a BSc in Life Sciences. Later, circumstances inspired me to transition from the science background to the field of law, leading me towards the course of LLB. Subsequently, I completed my LLB from Law Centre I, Delhi University, in the year 2019.

Q2. What motivated you to pursue a career in law and subsequently, what inspired you to pursue a judicial position?

Honestly, the prime inspiration for me was to serve the nation in any little manner I could contribute. My elder sister is also an advocate, and her influence has tremendously inspired me to enter this field. Living with her, I realised that she is aware of all legal rights and has the ability to help people seeking justice through the law. That intrigued me and gave direction to my desire to serve society and the nation. A peaceful society is the core requirement of a strong nation, so I realised through the judicial system that I would have the opportunity to work towards making society conducive for living.

Q3. How did you prepare for the judicial examination? What challenges did you face during your journey?

I dedicatedly studied for around 4 months at home to prepare for the judicial examination. Although I wanted to take coaching as certain guidance is required, unfortunately, after the demise of my beloved father, I couldn't continue further study in Delhi. My family was not just bereaved of the head of the household, but he was also the sole breadwinner, and all kinds of support, whether financial or otherwise, came from him. However, I remained determined to pursue my dream of becoming a judicial officer and serving the nation. I didn't let the lack of coaching deter me; instead, I persevered by continuing my studies at home, no matter how painful the situation was. I never complained. My family, including my sisters and my mother, supported me greatly during the hardships we faced.

Q4. what are the steps to clear this examination?

The first step is to clear the prelims, which are objective types. Then, we have to clear the subjective type, which includes the writing part. After that, comes the main interview. While the examination is indeed very tough, it took me one



MESSAGE TO THE READERS

I urge everyone to read more and more because reading is the only way to seek knowledge.

year to prepare for it. Ultimately, success depends on the student's dedication and passion.

Q5. How did being the first female from the Muslim community and the fourth female among all communities in UT Ladakh make you feel when the final results were declared?

I am the first female from the Muslim community and the fourth female among all communities in UT Ladakh. Yes, I was definitely overwhelmed with joy and happiness when the final result was declared. It was about the service I desired to deliver more than winning the race. Clearing it on the first attempt was an additional moment of happiness that was blessed through the moments.

Q6. How do you stay current with changes in the law and legal precedent and how would you apply this knowledge to your judicial duties?

As a judicial officer, I understand the importance of staying current with changes in the law and legal precedent. I do this by regularly reviewing updates in legislation and studying landmark judgments from the Hon'ble Supreme Court. Applying this knowledge to my judicial duties involves carefully analysing the facts and circumstances of each case before me and ensuring that my decisions align with established legal principles and precedents set by the Supreme Court.

Q7. Can you briefly explain the opportunities available in the field of law in Ladakh, considering the absence of separate universities dedicated to Law education?

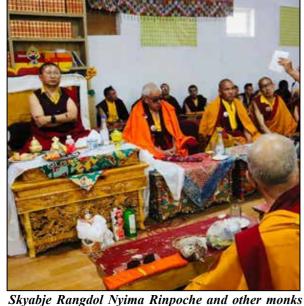
Yes, I am genuinely concerned about the absence of law courses and professors in universities in Ladakh. This absence particularly affects aspirants who cannot afford to pursue their studies outside the region. I hope that in the near future, the government will address this issue and introduce professional law courses in Ladakh University. However, it may take time, given that we are a newly formed Union Territory.

Q8. How challenging was it for you to transition from a science background to law and then succeed in cracking the civil service exam for judiciary?

For me, determination was key. I remained steadfast in my goal and worked diligently towards it. There is a saying that if you truly desire something from

...continues on page 6

Fortnight Highlights



gather in spiritual reverence at Leh's Phodrang to commemorate the anniversary of the late HE Tokdan Rinpoche's Parinirvana on 9th May.



Justice Tashi Rabstan inaugurates Reading Retreat Book Bank-cum-Reading Room in Kargil on 11th



Commissioner/Secretary, UT Ladakh, Padma Angmo visits the Ladakh Skill Center of Hand Embroidery at GDC, Kargil's Sankoo Campus on 11th May.



Commissioner/Secretary, UT Ladakh, Padma Angmo releases the second edition of GDC, Drass' Newsletter, Himbabs during her visit on 11th May.



Deputy Commissioner and District Election Officer, Kargil, Shrikant Balasaheb Suse, IAS flags off 'Vote from Home' initiative on 10th May.



Justice Tashi Rabstan receiving a warm welcome from students during his visit to Munsiff Court Complex in Khaltse on 11th May.



Assistant Returning Officer, Postal Ballot, Sonam Nurboo flags off polling teams for Absentee Voter Senior Citizen (AVSC) and Absentee Voter Person with Disabilities (AVPD) from Sindhu Sanskriti Kendra (SSK) in Leh on 10th May.



District SVEEP icon Stanzin Dorjai Gya speaking to villagers in Markha and Skyu during the voter awareness programme on 9th May.

Chief Electoral Officer unveils election song

Reach Ladakh Correspondent LEH: Chief Electoral Officer Yetindra M. Maralkar unveiled a song created by State SVEEP icon Phunchok Ladakhi, to inspire and involve young and first-time voters to participate fully in the voting process.

The event was attended by CEO UT Ladakh Yetindra M. Maralkar as the chief guest, State SVEEP icon Phunchok Ladakh as the guest of honor, Returning Officer Santosh Sukhadeve, District SVEEP icon Stanzin Gya, and Joint CEO and Assistant CEO of the Election Department Ladakh.

thusiastic from officers, officials



Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Leh, Lamdon School, Leh and Mahabodhi Residential School, Leh.

In his welcome address, Joint CEO UT Ladakh Sonam Chosjor urged participants and the general public to actively participate The event also saw en- in casting their votes on participation May 20th. Returning Officer Santosh Sukhadeve, from different depart- District SVEEP icon Stanments, and students from zin Gya, and a first-time various schools including voter also addressed the Government Boys Higher event, motivating young and first-time voters to cast their votes on election

The event concluded with a vote of thanks from the State SVEEP Nodal Officer Dr. Tsewang Morup. CEO UT Ladakh Yetindra M. Maralkar, State SVEEP Icon Phunchok Ladakhi, and RO/DEO Santosh Sukhadeve emphasised on achieving a 100 percent voter turnout in this election and urged young voters to exercise their franchise judiciously and responsibly.

GDC, Kargil, concludes two-day scientific tour to Leh

Reach Ladakh Correspondent KARGIL: Students from Biotechnology and Botany departments of GDC Kargil concluded the 2-day tour to Leh from 01-05-2024 to 02-05-2024.

During the two day tour, the students visited institutes of national importance like DRDO-DI-HAR, ICAR-CAZRI and SKUAST Leh station.

The students were briefed about best farming practices and crop diversification in Ladakh at DIHAR, by Dr Vinata. Later the students were taken to a field visit at DIHAR where practices like trench farming, micro farming and greenhouse farming were explained.

On the second day of the tant Prof. in Biotechnolo-

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Continuing its ef-

forts to promote voter

awareness, the district

SVEEP Team organised a

voter awareness camp at

Government High School

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: President Droupa-

di Murmu posthumous-

ly conferred the Padma

Bhushan award on the late His Eminence, Chos-

je Togdan Rinpoche, in

recognition of his exem-

plary contributions to

spiritualism. The presti-

gious award was received

by Icham (wife) of H.E.

Chosje Togdan Rinpoche

during the Civil Investi-

ture Ceremony held at the

Hanley on May 6.



tour, the students were taken to ICAR-CAZRI Stakna station and they were explained about farming in arid zones. Eminent scientists like Dr. Maheshwari Singh, Dr.MB Noor and Akash shared their expertise with the students.

On these two days the students were accompanied by Prof. Razia Parveen. Sr. Assistant Prof. in Botany, Prof. Rinchan Angmo, Assistant Prof. in Botany and Prof. Mohd Raza, Assis-

Voters' awareness programme held in Hanley

audience to cast their vote

and cooperate with the

SVEEP team to increase

the voting percentage. He

also performed the recent-

State SVEEP icon, Pun-District SVEEP icon, and villagers participated chok Ladakhi appealed the Stanzin Dorjay Gya said in the programme.

President confers Padma Bhushan award on late His

Eminence, Chosje Togdan Rinpoche

Gyalson, extended heart-

felt congratulations to

the family members and

well-wishers of His Emi-

nence Chosie Togdan Rin-

poche for this prestigious

honor. He emphasised the

significance of this recog-

nition by the Government

of India, highlighting late

International Red Cross Day celebrated at Govt

Boys Hr. Sec. School Baroo

Govf. Boy's Hr. Sec. School Kargil

INTERNATIONAL

RED CROSS

song.

May 9.

LAHDC Leh,

gy, GDC Kargil.

The faculties from participating thanked the principal GDC Kargil Dr. Amina Qari for permission for such tours that helps in building scientific temper among stu-

They further extended their heartfelt thanks to Principal of EJM College Leh Dr. Sameena Iqbal for providing the necessary accommodation for the students during the trip.

that voting isn't just about

making a choice but also

about showing respect for

State Nodal Officer, La-

dakh, Dr. Tsewang Morup

gave detailed information

about SVEEP and spoke about its primary goal

which is to build a truly

participative democracy

ble citizens to register and

BLOs, students, teachers

of High School, Hanlay

forts in promoting peace,

compassion, and the overall

prayers for the swift rein-

carnation of H.E. Chosje

Togdan Rinpoche, envi-

sioning his return to guide

the people of Ladakh once

again in the pursuit of com-

passion, harmony, and en-

conveyed sincere

vote during the elections.

Naib

ly released election theme mathang, Mustak Ahmad,

Rashtrapati Bhawan on Rinpoche's dedicated ef-

Chairman/CEC, upliftment of Ladakhi soci-

lightenment.

y encouraging all eligi-

Tehsildar, Chu-

the Indian constitution.

departments Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: ICDS Kargil has launched the "Poshan Bhi, Padhai Bhi" training programme for Anganwadi workers. The programme was inaugurated at the Academy Hall Kargil on May 7.

The training programme aims to equip workers with comprehensive knowledge and essential skills crucial for nurturing children their formative during years.

Parveen Akhtar, the Child Development Project Officer, spoke about the programme's core motive, emphasising its pivotal role in promoting early stimulation, providing quality play-based early

childhood care and education, and reinforcing understanding of nutrition, including Poshan 2.0 and Saksham Anganwadi initiatives.

a comprehensive approach to child welfare in the region.

Resource persons including Mohd Ayub, State Coordinator; Shama Zahra, Project Assistant, and CDPO Shargole Farida Batool, contributed their expertise to the training sessions, enriching the learning experience for all participants.

Joint Director, Information, reviews functioning of Zanskar



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

tor of Information, Imteeaz Kacho, visited the Tehsil Information Centre Zanskar to review its

Kacho was accompanied Tehsildar, Zanskar Mohammad Hassan. He inspected the newly constructed office building and also took stock of the utility of the old building rooms which are being used for storing PA system equipment and other

Further, he was informed that the TIC staff remains busy in giving coverage to events of various departments of the Sub-Division on a regular basis. He also took stock of the election-related duties as-

Sub-Divisional trate (SDM). He appreciated their sin-

cere efforts towards keeping the TIC functional despite shortage of manurged to look into various service-related, financial and infrastructural issues as well as logistic matters.

He gave assurance for quick and early redressal and advised the staff to give full coverage to SVEEP activities in the Sub-Division and perform their election duties with sincerity.

Regarding urgent election duties, Tehsildar Mohammad Hassan informed that the staff of TIC-Zanskar are very cooperative and are always readily avail-

Two-day PAMS training begins in Kargil



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

Sabha election, a two-day hands-on training cum rehearsal programme on Poll Activity Management System (PAMS) commenced on May 8 for AROs/Zonal Magistrates/ Sector Magistrates/Sector Officers at the Conference Hall, Baroo.

The training programme is organised by the Chief

and skills to effectively carry out their duties during the electoral pro-

Deputy District Election Officer, Muhammad Sharief, along with AROs, Zonal Magistrates, Sector Magistrates, and Sector Officers attended the training programme.,

Nodal Officer, IT Applications/District Informatics Officer, NIC Kargil, Iftikhar Hussain, conducted the training and rehearsal sessions for the trainees.

Education Dept employees trained for election duties



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: The District Administration Kargil organised a training programme for employees of the education department who have been assigned duties as Presiding Officers (POs) and Polling Officer-1 (P1) for the Lok Sabha election. The programme took place at the Auditorium Hall on May

The training covered various aspects of the election Assembly Level Master turers.

process, including operating EVMs and other electoral procedures. The aim was to ensure that polling staff are well-prepared to

oversee polling stations

and facilitate a fair and ef-

ficient voting process on

election day.

Nearly 600 PO and P1 officials attended the training programme provided by District Level Master Trainers (DLMTs) and Muhammad Ali, both Lec-

Trainers (ALMTs) During the event, Nodal Officer PV, EDC Kargil, Abdul Hadi, urged the participants to be diligent in their duties.

The Master Trainers provided training on VVPAT/ EVM and other election-related activities, including handling documents and discussed the duties and precautions to be observed by Presiding Officers.

Deputy District Election Officer, Kargil, Muhammad Sharief, along with other concerned officials, were present at the event. The training was conducted by Master Trainers Kacho Hassan Khan and

Zanskar GDC organised one-day field trip for students

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: To enhance critical thinking, theoretical knowledge and provide practical knowledge among students, the Department of Political Science at GDC Zanskar organised a one-day field trip to Ating village on May for a detailed study of the Panchayati Raj system.

Students enrolled in the Raj Panchayati Skill Course participated in the field trip. Head of the briefed and provided with Political Science Department, Sajjad Hussain, along with Assistant Professor of Political Science, shared their insights about



the functioning of the Pan- the villagers.

chayati Raj system.

Moreover, students were a deep understanding of the opportunities and challenges inherent in grassroots-level governance through interactions with

Students were briefed and provided with a deep understanding of the opportunities and challenges inherent in grassroots-level governance through interactions with the villagers.

GDC, Drass, organises exposure tour for 4th semester students



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: Government Degree College Drass organized a one-day exposure tour for 4th Semester students under the guidance of Dr. Imtiyaz Hussain and Dr. Mohd Ali on 9 May.

The tour commenced with a visit to KVK-1 Kargil, where Dr. Akhone Mehdi addressed the detrimental effects of pesticides in the modern era.

plant extracts such as chenopodium and amaranthus for eco-friendly agricultural practices. Stressing the importance of spreading awareness about sustainable agriculture, Dr. Mehdi highlighted the significance of Button and Dingri Mushrooms, given their easy composting process. Dr. Nasreen played a pivotal role during the tour, passionately advocating for mushroom cultivation as both a practical skill and a sustainable agricultural

practice.

With expertise and enthusiasm, she engaged students in hands-on learning, demonstrating compost techniques preparation designed specifically for mushroom cultivation.

Moreover, Dr. Nasreen showcased sophisticated equipment such as laminar airflow autoclaves and BOD instruments, illustrating the technological advancements that He emphasised the use of enhance mushroom cultivation processes.

> Through her dedication and expertise, she inspired students to not only consider mushroom cultivation as a hobby but also as a potential avenue for eco-friendly agricultural development.

students Subsequently, explored the research field, where Dr. Dolkar explained low tunnelling techniques and the significance of mulching in agriculture.

Later, students proceeded to GDC Kargil, where they engaged in productive exchanges with Kargil students. They visited the Botany and Zoology laboratories, acquainting themselves with various lab instruments under the guidance of Assistant Professor Rinchen Angmo and Dr. Akbar Khan. They also visited the mushroom lab and gained insights into ongoing research.

The tour concluded with an interactive session led by Dr. Syed Ali Shah, who demonstrated 10-minute meditation techniques for mental well-being.

The tour's success was attributed to the support of Principal GDC Drass, Dr. Amjad Ali and the college staff, as well as the collaboration of KVK-1 Kargil and GDC Kargil, for which gratitude was expressed by the tour incharge.

tion of humanitarianism

KARGIL: Kargil witnessed a vibrant celebraand solidarity today at Government Boys Higher Secondary School Baroo, as it observed International Red Cross Day on May

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

SD Nyamgyal, Chief Education Officer Kargil, graced the occasion as the chief guest. He emphasised the importance of compassion and service to humanity in today's world.

Fida Ali, Headmaster of High School Baroo, was the guest of honour. He highlighted the role of education in fostering empathy and global citizenship. Dr. Ghulam from District Hospital Kargil was the special guest. He shed light on the crucial work of healthcare professionals in times of crisis.

Principal Boys Higher Secondary School Baroo, Tsewang Dorjay, along with representatives from UTDRF team Kargil and

volunteers from Indian Red Society Kargil, were present at the event.

The event also saw active participation from students, staff members, and

As the world commemorates the founding principles of the Red Cross movement, this celebration serves as a poignant reminder of the universal values of compassion, solidarity and service to humanity.

In conversation with Hina Parveen: First Muslim girl to crack J&K Civil Services (Judicial) exam

...continues from page 5

the heart, you will find a way to achieve it. To be honest, the transition was not challenging at all. It was about expanding my knowledge base, and acquiring knowledge in different fields is always enriching. It prepares you to face various challenges in life. Acquiring knowledge across various fields has never been a challenge for me; rather, I enjoy it. Despite experiencing the biggest turning point in my life, I never gave up. Instead, I committed myself to studying even harder each day to reach my goal.

Q9. What advice would you give to aspiring youths who want to pursue a career in the field of law? What are the steps involved?

I urge the youth of Ladakh to work in service of the nation. Everyone can contribute in their own way. Law, especially in the judicial field, is not just a profession but a service to the nation. Whether it is through law, entrepreneurship, or any other field, dedication and honesty are paramount in nation-building. Avoid wasting time on social media distractions. Instead, manage your time effectively and utilise the internet to help achieve your dreams and contribute to society and the nation.

The procedure involves completing a 4 to 5-year LLB course in a law college. To become a judge, one must first become an advocate, passing the state's toughest examination, which necessitates a mandatory one-year preparation period.

Parveen Akhtar reiterated the programme's commitment to holistic development, foundational literacy, and numeracy, ensuring

ICDS, Kargil, launches 'Poshan Bhi, Padhai Bhi' programme for

Anganwadi workers

centre



KARGIL: Joint Direcfunctioning on May 11.

signed to the staff by the able round-the-clock.



KARGIL: In preparation for the upcoming Lok

Electoral Officer, UT Ladakh, with the aim of equipping officials with the necessary knowledge

Department of agriculture conducts soil health training at JNV, Kargil

Reach Ladakh Correspondent **KARGIL:** Department of Agriculture organised a one-day orientation-cum-training on 'School Soil Health Programme' at PM Shri School Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Khumbathang on May 13.

Officers from the Agriculture department and resource persons from KVK-1 Kargil conducted comprehensive training sessions for students of JNV School and teaching staff. The training covered topics such as the importance and maintenance of soil health, soil sampling methods, utilisation of the SHC mobile App, significance of soil fertility and productivity and the implementation and success of the Soil Health Card scheme in the district.

School Khumbathang, Kargil, is one of



the schools selected by the Directorate of Agriculture and Farmer Welfare (DA&FW), Government of India, under the School Soil Health Programme at the national level. The school has been assigned targets for collecting soil samples, conducting analysis, and generating Soil Health Cards in the district for the year 2024-25.

During the training, students were also taught the method of soil sample collection from cultivated fields and instructed on the use of mobile apps for geo-tagging, farmer registration, crop selection, test

result entry, and generation of Soil Health Cards for each sample.

The orientation cum training session was attended by Chief Agriculture Officer Kargil, Ashiq Hussain Basharat; Deputy Director CAD Kargil, Mohd Iqbaal; Principal JNV Kargil, Kumar Ashvini Amitabh; Senior Scientist KVK-1, Dr. Nazir Hussain; District Nodal Officer Kargil, Razia Banoo; Assistant Soil Chemist Kargil; Agriculture Extension Officers; Junior Agriculture Extension Officers; and teaching staff of JNV Kargil.

Justice Rabstan inaugurates reading retreat, inspects construction projects in Kargil

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: Justice Tashi Rabstan, the Senior-most judge of the High Court of J&K and Ladakh, and Chairman of the Building & Infrastructure Committee for the Union Territory of Ladakh, inaugurated the Book Bankcum-Reading Room in Kargil on May 11, near the Old District Hospital.

The ceremony was attended by Malik Shabir Ahmad, Principal District and Sessions Judge of Kargil, Shrikant Suse, Commissioner/

DEO of Kargil, Shree Ram R, SSP of Kargil, Fariqa Nazir (CJM of Kargil), Shafiq Mushtaq Lone (Munsiff/JMIC of Sankoo), and other District Officers.

Following the inauguration, Justice Tashi Rabstan inspected the ongoing construction works He also visited the Kasturba at the New District Court Complex Kargil, Munsiff Court Complex Sankoo, and Munsiff Residence Sankoo. He provided expedite the construction

process at these sites for timely completion.

Furthermore, Justice Tashi Rabstan engaged in a thorough discussion with members of the Bar Association of the District Court Kargil, attentively addressing their concerns.

Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) Girls School in Minji, Kargil, where he distributed sports items among the students and assessed necessary instructions to the facilities available to

Voters' awareness campaign held in Nyoma



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: In continuation of their efforts in spreading awareness about electoral participation, district SVEEP Team conducted a voters' awareness campaign in Nyoma village on May 7.

The campaign saw participation from employees, teachers, students, , health workers, and villagers of Nyoma.

The programme commenced with a warm welcome by CDPO Nyoma, Zarina Banoo, to the SVEEP Team, Ladakh SVEEP State Nodal Officer Dr. Tsewang Morup, SVEEP State icon Phunchok Ladakhi, and SVEEP

District icon Stanzin Gya. gramme was cultural performances presented by the students of Higher Secondary School Nyoma. State SVEEP icon Phunchok commenced the programme with the election theme song.

importance of voting in a democratic country, urging people to exercise their voting rights diligently and without fail.

Officer Nodal State SVEEP, Dr. Morup, briefed the gathering about SVEEP's essen-

motivating, engaging, fa-The highlight of the pro- cilitating, educating, empowering, and encouraging voters. He also stressed the importance of Electoral Literacy Clubs, encouraging teachers and students to actively participate in setting up these clubs. Dr. Morup highlighted the significance of these clubs in District SVEEP icon Stan- promoting electoral literazin Gya emphasised the cy and fostering a culture of informed voting.

ZEO Nyoma, Nawang Namgyal, delivered the vote of thanks and expressed gratitude for the successful voter awareness Tsewang campaign, urging the community to actively participate in the upcoming electial components, including tion scheduled for May 20.

NOTICE

I, Yeshi Dorjay S/o Tsering Angchuk R/o Tungri Zanskar UT Ladakh Prop travel agency under name of M/s Skitpo Travel situated at Zanskar. Applying for the transfer Registration Certificate of said Travel agency in the name of STANZIN TSEPHEL who is real sister of deponent. Any objection in this regard may file their report in writing within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice

NOTICE

Whereas, Nawang Tsering S/o Phuntsog Wangyal R/o Taru, UT Ladakh has claimed that his D.O.B has been wrongly entered as 09-11-1954 instead of 02-05-1953 and also his father's name has been wrongly entered as Phonchok Wangail instead of Phuntsog Wangyal in the Driving Licence bearing No. JK-07 2004 0063374. Hence the notice is hereby served through the press to file an objection if any in this office, Assistant Regional Transport Officer (ARTO) Leh Ladakh within 7 days from the date of publication.

NOTICE

Whereas Stanzin Saldon D/o Tashi Gonbo R/o Lamayouru A/p Agling Leh, has lost the Birth Certificate which is issued by Registrar Birth & Death, Municipal Committee Leh, Date of Birth 22, June 2017 and now she has applied for issuance of duplicate Birth Certificate in lieu of lost documents. Hence the notice is hereby served through press to file objection if any in this office of Registrar Birth & Death, Municipal Committee Leh within 7 days from date of publication failing which new Birth Certificate will be issued accordingly.

> Registrar Birth & Death, **Municipal Committee Leh**

NOTICE

I, Shabir Hussain S/o Mohd Abbass R/o Kargil, Ladakh do hereby notify that l have lost my driving license bearing no. JK0720190000230 and I am apply ing for duplicate driving license. Objection if any may be conveyed to Assistant Regional Transport Officer (ARTO) Kargil, Ladakh within 10 days from the date of publication.

Padma Angmo visits GDC Drass, inspects campus and inaugurates facilities



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: Commissioner/Secretary of Higher Education/Technical Education and Social & Tribal Welfare Department, UT Ladakh, Padma Angmo, visited Government Degree College (GDC), Drass, on May 11.

She was accompanied by Additional Secretary of Higher Education, Imteeaz Kacho, Director of College Affairs, Tashi Ldawa, and Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) of Drass, Vishal Atri.

In his welcome speech, Principal of GDC Drass, Dr. Âmjad Ali Abassi, spoke about the achievements, opportunities, and facilities provided by the college. He praised the efforts of Commissioner/ Secretary of Higher Education, Padma Angmo, Additional Secretary of Higher Education, Imteeaz Kacho, PWD, College Administration, and locals for their endeavors in successfully relocating the college campus to its new site and expressed happiness in this regard. Further, he expressed hope that the ongoing construction work would be completed soon.

In her address, Commissioner/Secretary Padma Angmo congratulated the principal, faculty, and students for relocating to the new college campus. She appreciated the role of the principal in achieving this The Commissioner/

Reach Ladakh Correspondent KARGIL: The Depart-

ment of Physical Education and Sports at GDC Zanskar organised its intra-mural sports event

within the college cam-

featured table tennis (men/

sioner/Secretary of High-

er Education & Technical

Four teams of men and

women participated in

both the single and double

categories of table tennis.

All teams displayed ex-

emplary sportsmanship

through intense matches

and friendly competition.

tourna-

inaugurated

wildlife populations from free-ranging dogs.

(men/women)

Education,

the tournament.

lence in both academics and Ladakh Skill Centre and skills right from the (Pickle Making Lab) was While congratulating the interacted with students in college administration and the lab and inquired about students for shifting to the the course. Asserting the new campus, Additional importance of skills, she Secretary of Higher Ed- encouraged students to faucation, Imteeaz Kacho, miliarise themselves with appreciated the efforts skill courses. Commissioner/Secretary of Higher Education, The Commissioner/Sec-Padma Angmo, towards retary also inspected the

especially first-time voters, to cast their votes on the day of polling.

babs' was released by the Commissioner/Secretary, Later, the Commissioner/

port to the college.

Intra-mural sports event concludes in Zanskar

nar hall. The Commissioner/Secretary shed light on various issues, suggested solutions, and assured the students that she would look into the grievances highlighted.

Another interactive meeting regarding academics and service matters was also held with faculty and

Secretary also emphasised Earlier, a ceremonithe need to deliver excel- al plantation was held, inaugurated by the Commissioner/Secretary. She

improvement in the high- Physics, Zoology, Botany, er education sector. On Geology, and Computer the occasion, Kacho also labs and evaluated the faurged the college students, cilities available for the students.

Padma Angmo also inspected ongoing construc-SDM Drass, Vishal Atri, tion projects in the college also expressed happiness campus. She thoroughly over the shifting of the col- examined the quality and edition of the college's considering the harsh clinewsletter (2024) 'Himmatic conditions of Drass.

and a short documentary Secretary also inspected Cultural songs and dances Throngos, Toko Chokiyal, matters, an interaction ses-sion was held in the semi-and height measurements.

lege campus to the new site progress of work in the and hoped that in the near Administrative Block, Acfuture, the college would ademic Block, Boys' and grow and shine in academ- Girls' Hostel buildings, ics. He said the adminis- and staff quarters. She ditration is always available rected the executing agento extend all possible sup- cy to complete the pending work at the earliest and reiterated that every building Meanwhile, the second must be winter-friendly

on the college, about its the Anganwadi centers journey, was also screened. of Drass Sub-Division in were presented by the stu- and Choungdose and directed the supervisors and workers to maintain the To discuss student-related Poshan Tracker register,

SPORTS EVENT of Team Penzila emerged volleyball tournament.

pus on May 13. The event victorious, defeating Zahida Bano of Team Singey women) and volleyball La. In the doubles category, Team Penzila clinched the win against Team Singey La in an exciting Padma Angmo, Commis-

> Lobzang Dorjay of Team Singey La secured victory in the men's singles category by defeating Stanzin Phonchok of Team Omasila. In the doubles category, Stanzin Latsok and Punchok of Team Penzila emerged victorious by defeating Dorjay and Stanzin Olden of Team Oma-

In the women's singles Similarly, in the women's category, Zafina Akhtar

Expert Talk

emerged victorious in the final match against Team Omasila House. In the men's tournament, Team Singey La House claimed victory in the final match by defeating Team Penzila House in an exhilarating contest.

Mustafa Ali, the Director of Physical Education at the college, commended and encouraged students for their enthusiastic participation. He promised that similar activities would continue in the future and extended gratitude to the principal for his support.

Conserving Ladakh's wildlife: Challenges and solutions

...continues from page 4

Studies have shown that the effects of climate change are forcing snow leopards in India to seek higher altitudes. Snow leopards, as important species, play a crucial role in balancing the ecosystem. Warming temperatures lead to snowmelt runoff rather than percolation into pastures, degrading their quality and affecting prey availability

for snow leopards in the long term. Overgrazing exacerbates this issue by reducing resources for wild prey. Furthermore, free-ranging dogs threaten snow leopards and other wildlife in Ladakh. To safeguard wildlife habitats in Ladakh, pasture development is proposed, particularly in the Changthang Cold Desert Wildlife Sanctuary, to increase grazing land for

Tibetan Wild Ass and ungulates. The Department collaborates with organisations like

the Bombay Natural History Society and the Animal Husbandry Department to protect

The Wildlife Department provides economic compensation to individuals who lose livestock to wildlife predators. Measures like chain-linked fencing and corral pens are implemented to mitigate human-wildlife conflicts. Initiatives such as installing solar street lights in protected areas aim to decrease conflict, while homestay packages for households in protected areas promote eco-tourism and raise awareness about the region's diverse flora, fauna, and fragile ecosystem.

The Department conducts field trips for schools to encourage youth participation in wildlife conservation. Events like World Wetland Day and World Wildlife Day raise awareness about conservation efforts. Regular patrolling by field staff, in collaboration with local communities, helps protect Ladakh's fragile biodiversity and monitor illegal activities and encroachments in protected areas.

Kargil DLSA organises 2nd National Lok Adalat

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: Following the Ladakh Legal Services Authority's directive, the District Legal Services Authority Kargil organised the 2nd National Lok Adalat on May 11.

Three benches were set up to address various pending cases, including criminal compoundable matters. cases under section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, MACT cases, bank recovery cases, matrimonial disputes, and other civil cases.

The bench was chaired by Fariqa Nazir, Chief Judicial Magistrate Kargil and Secretary of the District Legal Services Authority Kargil.

A total of 52 cases were referred to the National Lok Adalat, resulting in the disposal of 28 cases. A settlement amount of Rs 300,550 and fines totaling Rs 5,000 were realised from these cases.

SVEEP team conducts voter awareness campaign at Hemya village



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: As part of its ongoing voter awareness campaign, the district SVEEP team conducted a voter awareness programme at Hemya village on May 8.

Naib Tehsildar of Chumathang, Mustaq Ahmad, and the Goba (village head) of Hemya extended a warm welcome to the SVEEP team for their efforts in conducting the voter awareness paign.

The campaign nessed participation from booth-level awareness groups and the villagers.

State SVEEP icon, Phunchok Ladakhi, added a cultural touch to the campaign by singing the recently released elec-

tion theme song. Similarly, District SVEEP icon,

Stanzin Dorjay Gya, emphasised the significance of voting and urged everyone to participate in the electoral process on May

State Nodal Officer SVEEP, Dr. Tsewang Morup, highlighted the meticulous planning of the Election Commission of India, which begins seven months before the election, and urged villagers to cast their precious vote on May 20. He also urged people staying away from the village to return on voting day to cast their vote, emphasising the importance of every vote.

The Goba of Hemya village expressed gratitude to the SVEEP team Ladakh for organising the campaign and urged villagers to turn out in large numbers to vote.

Two-day training programme for medical officers concludes



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: A two-day training for Medical Officers of Leh district held under the National Mental Health Programme (NMHP) concluded on May 7 at the Conference Hall, CMO office Leh.

Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Diskit Dolma and State Immunization Officer, Dr. Igbal Ahmad, stated that the training aimed to equip medical officers with essential knowledge and skills in addressing mental health concerns in the re-

Psychiatrist and Drug De-Addiction Specialist, Dr. Tashi Tundup, spoke on substance use disorders, various substances, their harmful effects, and preventive measures.

MD Psychiatrist, Dr. Sam-

ina Batool, delivered a presentation on Mental Health Disorders, covering topics such as classification, causes, and identification of common mental disorders. Dr. Batool stressed the importance of mental health first aid and provided practical guidance on approaching patients with psychiatric illnesses, including detailed history-taking and prescription writing.

On the second day of the training, Dr. Samina provided an in-depth guide on effectively approaching patients with psychiatric illnesses. She stressed the importance of thorough history-taking, conducting a mental health status examination, and writing precise prescriptions. Besides, she also discussed psychotropic medications accessible at Primary Health Centers and Community Health Centers.

Dr. Samina Batool proposed creating a WhatsApp group of medical officers and psychiatrists to facilitate ongoing support and discussion on pertinent issues faced in the periphery. Psychologist, Marivah Samreen, offered valuable insights into stress management, highlighting the impact of stress on individuals and effective strategies for stress reduction.

NOTICE



I, Zahara Bano D/o Ibrahim Ali & Fatima Bano R/o Bogdang Nubra, UT Lada- kh have lost my class 10th pass certificate duly issued by J & K State Board of School Education Leh through Govt Higher Secondary School Bogdang, un-

der Roll 8116261 and Registra-tion No. E-12NWJRF00257 with Session Annual 2015. Now I have to apply for the issuance of a duplicate pass certificate. Objection if any may be sent to the J&K State Board of School Education



