

REACH LADAKH BULLETIN

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Brief News

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Panchayat election scheduled to be held in November

Panchayat elections in Leh district will be conducted in 3 phases. Avny Lavasa, DC, Leh urged the SDMs to submit a practicable proposal by October 15 to ensure proper arrangements and smooth polling in the district. Leh district has 95 Panchayat halqas with 687 Panch constituencies.

1,141 kanals of government land sold illegally in Leh

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Leh witnesses low turnout in municipal elections Leh records 54.2% while Kargil 78.15% voting . **P2**

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Correction and clarification

It is the policy of 'Reach Ladakh Bulletin' to correct significant errors as soon as possible. Please specify the edition, date, news item or the article.

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1,141 kanals of government land sold illegally in Leh

Hill Council, Leh, and Central Tibetan Administration to take action against the defaulters

Rinchen Angmo Chumikchan & Kunzang Chosdol

LEH: A total of 1,141 kanals of land out of 6,810 kanals allotted to Tibetans by the District administration were found sold illegally by Tibetans to the locals. In this regard, a meeting was held between the Hill Council, Leh, and the Central Tibetan Administration, in which issues pertaining to Tibetan residents in Leh district were discussed on August 25.

Sonam Tobgais, Home Minister, Central Tibetan Administration, requested the Hill Council to take up the issue with the enforcement directorate, J&K, and to issue a notice or take action against the Tibetans who have illegally sold their government lease land to locals in Leh.

The Hill Council, Leh, and Central Tibetan Administration have decided to take action against people involved in the illegal selling of government land.

According to CRO office, Leh, a total of 7,500 Tibetans are residing in Leh district. There are 12 Tibetan rehabilitation camps in Leh (Choglamsar, Agling, Shey) and 9 nomadic clusters in Changthang (Chushul, Nyoma, Kuyul, Kharnak, Hanley, Sumdho, Samet, Chumur, Maque and Kashung).

The district administration had allotted 6,810 kanals of land to Tibetans in Shey, Choglamsar and Agling out of which 1,141 kanals were sold illegally by Tibetans to the locals while there are no reports of selling land in the Changthang area.

Abdul Rahim, Tehsildar, Tangtse, and Vilayat Ali, Naib Tehsildar, Nyoma, have informed that there are no clear records of the land allotted in the Changthang area. They have also informed that there were no records of illegal selling of lands in the region.

Earlier, there was a separate officer known as Assistant Commissioner for Tibetan Refugees who looked after the land issues but the office was closed in the 1990s. Later, the responsibility was given to the Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM).



During the meeting held between the Hill Council, Leh, and Central Tibetan Administration on August 25 in Leh.

"Land must be given on lease basis and with legal documents. How the government of India and the state government can give land to the Tibetan without any legal document?", Dhondup Gyalpo, Changthang co-ordinator questions.

He says that lease deeds between the District Collector and CRO office should be signed to prevent land frauds. After that the CRO office will be responsible for any kind of illegal selling of land.

"We are very much hopeful that they will provide us the land on lease and it will be good for both. So, in order to avoid such problems in future in Changthang, we are requesting the local government to provide proper documents to prevent such land frauds. Also, there are many cases of land encroachment in Leh", he said.

In a meeting that was held on 25 August, Dorjap Mutup, Chief Executive Councilor, urged Sonam Tobgais to make a committed effort and initiate ac-

tion to keep a check and stop selling lease-land by the Tibetans to the locals.

"The Tibetan government-in-exile and the CTA in Dharamsala as well as the settlement office in Choglamsar have been warning Tibetans not to sell their lands. We are not authorized to take legal action and it is with the state government. If the state government takes any kind of action against the defaulter, we don't have any objection and it will be a welcome step", says Dhondup Gyalpo.

He says that it is beyond their reach to solve this problem. District administration has done a survey in Leh and from now onwards people can't sell their land. This is one of the initiatives of the government to stop further selling of land illegally.

Gurmet Namgail, Tehsildar, Leh says, "Unlike other states, there is no Tibetan rehabilitation policy in Jammu and Kashmir. Despite this, Tibetan refugees have sold or transferred their lands mostly through

the mode of an affidavit executed by notary public. As such, the area under Tibetan refugees as residential houses and cultivable areas need to be re-measured household wise, and is required to be made on lease/license basis through the Central Tibetan Relief Committee, CTRC, instead of individuals, so that individuals cannot sell it to a third party."

According to the office of the Tehsildar, Leh, no records are available with the office showing lands allotted to Tibetan refugees and of lease/patta agreement executed. The committee has conducted a survey on the basis of Girdawari record and Latha Massavi and on-spot position.

Dhundup Gyalpo says, "In the year 2014, under the Ministry of Home Affairs, there was a policy known as Freedom Fighter and Rehabilitation policy, which was not implemented due to the special status enjoyed by the J&K state. We have been approaching the local administration and the state government. Our CRO had met the Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister several times but it is still not implemented. In places like Dehradun and Karnataka, it has already been implemented.

The Tibetan Rehabilitation Policy, 2014, devised by the Home Ministry, allows Tibetans to officially pursue jobs across sectors including nursing, teaching, chartered accountancy, medicine and engineering. The benefits of the state and central schemes like the Public Distribution System, Indira Gandhi Awas Yojna, etc., were also expected to be extended to Tibetan refugees (subject to availability of food grains).

The local government has been providing equal facilities in health sector. However, there are various state and centre government schemes which are not extended to the Tibetans. "Even if we are not eligible for the state government schemes due to the special status, the Central government schemes should be extended to us," says Dhondup.

...Continues on Page 3

SECMOL celebrates 30 years of success with Satya Pal Malik, Governor



Satya Pal Malik, Governor, J&K while speaking on the occasion.

Kunzang Chosdol

PHE: SECMOL celebrated its three decades of success in improving the system of education and dropout youths on October 11 at SECMOL Campus, Phey.

Satya Pal Malik, Governor, presided over the 30th-anniversary celebration of SECMOL, as chief guest.

Satya Pal Malik appreciated Sonam Wangchuk's effort to demonstrating how civil societies can collaborate with governments and village communities to improve public services like education for lasting impact. Also, creating an environment to keep youths connected with the roots while upholding the values of culture, tradition and moral education.

While talking about the importance of youth for nation building he also talked about the Kashmir problem and said, "We want to kill terrorism, not terror-

ists. The problem of Kashmir can only be solved by dialogue with youths of the valley, which are a nursery for terrorism. We are making an effort to build trust among youth and generating a positive platform for dialogue. We have to create an alternative space to engage them. They are very good at sports especially cricket and football and we are coming up with international stadiums in the valley to promote the talents of youths."

Sonam Wangchuk, Founder, SECMOL highlighted the works and activities of SECMOL. He talked about Operation New Hope, working with communities, government and teachers and introduction of books based on local things and people. These initiative brought changes in the education system and overall development of youths.

Talking about upcoming Himalayan Institute of Alternatives, Ladakh (HIAL) in Phyang, he

said, "Once started not as an NGO but as a Social Enterprise to improve the failure has come a long way. Many lives are transformed through experiential education and become successful not only in Ladakh but at a higher level. So in these years, we witnessed that these students who fail in the academic education can do a lot through experiential education. Keeping that in mind we decide to start a university HIAL which is totally based on providing skill-based education and hands-on experience."

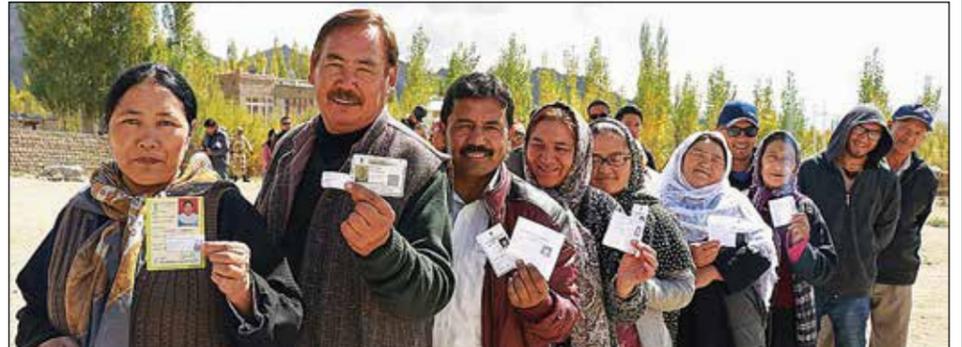
Konchok Norgais, Director, SECMOL briefed about the SECMOL campus. He said, "The campus is run by the students themselves like a small country with their own government. They elect the campus chief through a proper democratic process who then appoints work and academic ministers. The activities of running the schools are divided into 32 departments including, gardening, maintaining solar devices, compost toilet, running the monthly campus newsletter, radio and video news etc and all these are handled by the student as a part of the experiential learning."

Gitanjali, JB Founding Member, and CEO of Himalayan Institute of Alternatives, Ladakh (HIAL) said, "In India, 50 percent pop-

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Leh witnesses low turnout in municipal elections

Leh records 54.2% while Kargil 78.15% voting



Voters standing in queue to cast their vote in Tukcha

Rinchen Angmo Chumikchan

LEH: Leh district, in its first urban local bodies (ULBs) elections, witnessed only 54.2% voting while Kargil district recorded 78.15% voting for the municipal committees. The polling was held on 8 October through Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) and the counting will take place on 20 October.

This is for the first time that the municipal elections were held in the Ladakh region. No civic polls had ever been conducted in Ladakh due to the absence of municipal committees. Till 2013, Leh and Kargil districts had notified area committees which were upgraded to the municipal committees about five years ago.

In Leh district, which has 14,156 voters, only 7,672 casts their votes while in Kargil, the total number of voters was 6,069, out of which 4,745 cast their votes.

In Leh, 29 candidates (19 males and 10 females) were in the fray—13 from BJP, 13 from Congress and 3 Independent candidates; and in Kargil, 37 candidates (5 from BJP, 11 from Congress and 21 Independent candidates) contested the elections. J&K is witnessing civic body elections after a gap of 10 years. The two main regional parties, the NC and the PDP, have boycotted the polls in protest against the Centre's stand on J&K's special status.

SOME FACTS:

The last time polls for the municipal bodies in the

state were held in 2005. Since 2010, the elections for ULBs have not been held in the state.

There are a total of 79 municipal bodies in the state. There are two municipal corporation, six municipal councils and 71 municipal committees across the state.

Classification of municipalities and municipal area:
Municipal Corporation: Comprises big towns/capital cities (Jammu and Srinagar). The head of the Municipal Corporation is the Mayor.

Municipal Council: Comprises medium towns.

Municipal Committee: Comprises small towns and is headed by the Chairman.

LEH	Total	KARGIL	Total
Municipal wards	13	Municipal wards	13
Voters	14,156	Voters	6,069
Votes casted	7,672	Votes casted	4,745
Polling Percentage	54.2%	Polling Percentage	78.15%

Expenditure observers were also appointed to a keep a close watch on election expenses.

The current expenditure limits are ₹ 1.50 lakh for election to the municipal corporations, ₹ 1 lakh for election to the municipal councils, and ₹ 50,000 for election to the municipal committees.

Ladakh Scout Regimental Centre conducts Cycle rally from Leh to Delhi

The team will join Infantry Day on Oct 27, at India Gate



Y K Joshi, Lieutenant General, Core Commander, 14 corps while flagging off the Cycle rally at Hall of Fame, Leh

Kunzang Chosdol

LEH: To commemorate the infantry day on October 27, a cycle rally was conducted from Leh to Delhi by Ladakh Scouts on October 5.

The rally was organised under the aegis of infantry Directorate. The team consists of an officer, junior commissioned officer, and nine soldiers of Ladakh Scouts Regiment. They will cover a distance of 1,345 kilometers from

Hall of Fame, Leh to India Gate, New Delhi.

The rally was flagged off by Y K Joshi, Lieutenant General, Core Commander, 14 corps.

Y K Joshi, Lieutenant General, Core Commander 14 corps said, "To mark the infantry day, all infantry centers have decided to organise a cycle rally. All the respective team of the regimental centre will culminate and join at India gate on Infantry day, Oc-

tober 27 where Chief of Army Staff will flag-in the rally."

He said that the motive of organising this cycle rally was to create a sense of adventure among the troops, to remember the service of ex-servicemen, serving soldiers and to pay homage and tribute to the martyrs.

Rakesh Rawat, Training Battalion Commander, LSRC briefed about the route and places to stay.

He said that the team will stop at major war memorial and pay tribute to the martyrs, interact with the veteran, ex-servicemen and spread awareness about the organisation among the youth thus projecting a positive image of the Indian Army.

Senior officers of the Fire & Fury Corps and a large number of serving officers and Veterans of the regiment were also present.

Start-up India organises 'Boot Camp' at EJM College, Leh

140 ideas will be shortlisted from J&K to accelerate the programme in Srinagar on Oct 18



Dorjay Wangchuk, Executive Manager, JKEDI, Leh explaining about the scheme.

Rigzin Wangmo

LEH: In line with the Prime Minister's Start-up India vision, a boot camp was held under the banner of Startup India J&K Yatra on October 6 at Eliezer Joldan Memorial College.

The camp was organised by Start-up India Team Delhi in association with J&K Government and JKEDI, Leh.

The yatra will be targeting grass root entrepreneurs, aspiring entrepreneurs, and start-up. The aim is to spread awareness about India start-up ecosystem and providing mentorship to the budding entrepreneurs, scouting the best talent within tier 2/3 district of the state and providing them incubation offers from state incubators and various other incentives from the resource partners of Startup India such as legal consultation, advisory services mentorship, etc.

Dorjay Wangchuk, Executive Manager, JKEDI, Leh said, "J&K govt has started Start-up entrepreneurs in 2012 and we have been financing entrepreneur since then. In 2010, two schemes have been launched under Sher-e-Kashmir employment and welfare program for youth such as seed capital funds and youth start-up loan scheme".

He further informed that the govt started these schemes because entrepreneur's biggest challenge was to raise finance. In seed capital fund, first generation entrepreneur is not expected to have money, so, the govt of J&K decided to give 35 percent as seed money to the candidate to establish their own venture and 65 percent is financed by JK Bank.

The schemes are started to solve the problem of unemployment. To avail the benefit, 10+2 and above are eligible. As per data, in Leh till now 284 loans have been sanctioned out of which 210 have established their business."

Jasleen Kaur, Invest India said, "We have so much talent in our country and we can certainly turn it into the start-up destination in the world and for same, the campaign has been initiated and launched. We have already campaigned in 9 states almost 40+ aspiring entrepreneurs are impact and more than 350 entrepreneurs have been granted the platform."

Successful entrepreneurs from Leh such as Dr. Tsumling Dorjey, Digital X-Ray, and Ultrasound 3D and 4D, Sonam Angmo and Stanzin Minglak, Founders, LENA and Stanzin Palmo, Founder, Zil Zom thanked the schemes of JKEDI and JK bank for providing start-up loan to change their ideas into reality and hassle-free process.

They suggested others to choose and start something on their own and to become job providers rather than job seekers.

Startup India J&K Yatra Yatra was flagged off on September 27 from JKEDI Bari Brahmna Campus, Jammu. During which 10 boot camps, as well as 20 stops across the colleges and universities of the state, have been scheduled. The event is scheduled to culminate on October 18. Around 140 good ideas will be shortlisted from across the state who will then attend a 2 days acceleration program in Srinagar on October 18 for incubation offers and incentives by resources partners.

250 Mountain Bike riders take part in 2nd North Quest Challenge, Ladakh 2018

Rigzin Wangmo

LEH: Over 250 Mountain Bike (MTB) riders participated in the 2nd North Quest Challenge Ladakh 2018 on September 30.

Dorjay Motup, Chief Executive Councilor, LAHDC, Leh in presence of other guest flagged off the cycling race under Elite, Amateur and children categories.

Elite riders took six laps of the route which was almost 58 km. Likewise, the Amateur men category had one lap shorter and for women category, it was 3 laps of the route. For children, it was drafted to cover one lap of the route.

Wisdom Evento Sports organised the event supported by several corporate houses under the technical guidance of 'Cycling Federation of India' (CFI).

Harkrat Singh, one of the organisers said, "I am overwhelmed with the turnout. In 2016, the locals did not take part in the MTB as they were very apprehensive about taking part, especially off-road event. Compared to the last event we have witnessed a massive influx of new riders".

He said that it is going to be an annual event during September, as the month gives time to manage traffic and everything and it's the time when CFI holds most of their MTB events. He also informed that it is the highest accredited MTB race in the world. The other high altitude races are not accredited by any national cycling federation.

He later expressed gratitude to LAHDC and other stakeholders for the support in making the event a success.



Champions and organisers of North Quest Challenge Ladakh 2018.

Stany Wangchuk one of the organisers, Wisdom Evento Sports said, "We are doing this for the second time. The first addition was in 2016 out of which the talent hunt was conducted and 5 children were identified. Lekzes Angmo has created a history in J&K by winning a gold medal. She is a national champion and we intend to continue this event in Ladakh every year and bring more cyclists."

Sonam Chuskit said, "I have participated in the year 2016 as well. I am delighted to win the race. We all should participate,

especially the girls, if we have the motivation nothing is difficult in this world to accomplish."

Kiran Kumar Raju said, "This is my first Leh trip and has been amazing to race at this altitude. Definitely, it was difficult but all worked well. I have been into cycling for seven years but took it little more seriously in the last four years."

Cash prize by Wisdom, vouchers by Steadfast nutrition, premium watch from Timex and premium bike from Giant Starkeen were also presented to the different winners and participants.

The winners of the race		
Category	Name	Position
Elite	Kiran Kumar Ragu	First
	Devender Kumar	Second
	Padam Bahadur	Third
Amateur women	Sonam Chuskit	First
	Rinchen Dolma	Second
Amateur men category	Thinles Dorjey	First
	Sachin Kumar Singh	Second
	Changchup Dorjay	Third

1,141 kanals of government land sold illegally in Leh

...Continued from Page 2

Avny Lavasa, DC, Leh, says, "The Tibetan Rehabilitation policy is a policy which comes under the ministry of Home affairs and within that there is a formal mechanism of allotting land to the Tibetans. But in J&K, Article 370 and 35 A prevents allotment of land to refugees because they are non-state subjects. The land given to the Tibetans in Ladakh is not on lease basis because in J&K we cannot give land on lease basis to non-residents. If the problem has not been there, then this rehabilitation policy would have been implemented".

She further said, "We had a detailed discussion in the meeting held in which the representative of the

Tibetan community said that they had formed a committee that would play the role of giving building permission and keep a check on illegal sell and purchase of lands. Legal action will be taken against defaulters."

Also, many Tibetans living in Changthang area have been approaching the CTA office for many years now, asking for land in Leh.

Dhondup says that many refugees have been migrating to Leh city in search of livelihood especially in winter due to harsh weather conditions in the Changthang area. The Hill Council, Leh, has been looking for a land to be allotted to them but finding it difficult to find a suitable land as most of them are already occupied.

SECMOL celebrates 30 years of success with Satya Pal Malik, Governor

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ulations are of youth under 25 years that means we have the resources of mind, heart, and hand. So how talented and skilled our country would become if these youth are given the right kind of education which trains and empower them to design, make and come up with a solution which is ingenious, creative and innovative. HIAL aims to do that in the context of Ladakh and the mountain. It aims to produce the graduates and educated youth who are aware of the context of mountains and are empowered and skilled with the right tools through

experiential education."

Dr. M.S Sumbli, Rector, Kashmir University Satellite Campus, Leh also spoke on the occasion.

A memorandum between Himalayan Institute of Alternatives, Ladakh (HIAL) and Kashmir University and a memorandum between HIAL and J&K Bank for coordinated efforts and financial assistance in the running of the University in Phyang was signed.

Meanwhile, scintillating culture performance was also showcased. A skit of 1988 was presented on the occasion by the same artists.

EXPERT TALK

Are schools safe for children?

By Stanzin Dasal



Paldan Tundup, Zonal Education Officer, Leh: We have 358 government and 44 Private schools in Leh district.

Apart from academics, school safety is also a major concern and needs to be ensured. To ensure safe school building, a team of experts from the PWD department inspects the feasibility and safety measures. After inspection, a building certificate is issued which is submitted to the education department for recognition and further procedure. Likewise, the school also needs to get a fire safety certificate from the fire department. As per the Supreme Court's order, no government and private school would be given affiliation if the building did not have fire safety measures and earthquake resistant structure. The state government directs all existing schools to install fire extinguishing equipment. Also, a guidelines with regard to the safety of school buses are also issued by the Supreme Court in which it is mentioned that the school buses need to painted yellow, 'On School Duty' needs to be mentioned both in the front and back of the vehicle, should have a first aid box, bus should be fitted with speed governor of specified standards, two attendant in the bus, the driver should have at least 5 years of experience and windows should have horizontal grill and so on.

The department does ensure all the safety measure in the schools in terms of transportation, building, food and also disaster management. The fire extinguisher is installed in almost all the schools and in government schools we have given disaster preparedness kit and awareness for a suitable plan of action.

The government orders to constitute a school safety committee at every school level including the VEC, school principal and selected teachers and active students.

Schools	Higher secondary	High School	Middle	Primary	Army
Government	14	32	125	187	-
Private	2	13	17	7	5

Before giving a permission to establish a school we check the environment, staff qualification, toilet, and drinking water facility and safety measures. If we talk about the proper implementation of all norms then we can't say it is 100 percent ensured. There are certain challenges which lead to non-implication.

There are a number of policies, safety norms and orders to ensure every convenience. Department is a mechanism to implement it all at ground level but to make it successful public awareness is a must. School is not just about giving quality education it also holds the responsibility of ensuring child-friendly environment and keeping them safe from any harms. School safety is definitely needed and not only the department and concern stakeholders but parents and public also needs to counter check. During parent-teacher meeting, it is a must to discuss various safety measures in schools along with the academic discussion.

The school safety guidelines and regular monitoring of implementation are carried on as per need.

Solutions:

- Public awareness is must to ensure every possible safety measures in school
- School management needs to be more responsible and take all precautionary measures
- Following the norms is must to avoid any mishap .



Tsering Sandup, EC, Education: School safety needs to be taken very seriously along with academic. But the importance is only felt whenever we witness an incident in the school. Unfortunately, some cases are reported in which the children have suffered. An effective mechanism in both the private and government schools is must to address the safety concerns of students.

There are safety guidelines of the state government as well as the Supreme Court to ensure a safe environment for the school going children. The education department is putting their best to make the rules and regulation applicable. All the government schools are monitored and supervised by the concern Zonal education officers.

In case of private schools, few are affiliated with J&K Board of School Education (JKBOSE) and partly with CBSE. The school registrations are approved only after the fulfillment of all norms and requirement in a prescribed format. The schools have to procure no objection certifi-

cate for Building safety, fire, and emergency, disaster preparedness etc. from the various concerned department.

Most importantly, there is a need to ensure compliance of the school safety guidelines and regular monitoring of implementation. A Safety Audit Committee was formed this year which comprises a member from the education department. The committee is formed to ensure safe schools for children. But, till now the CBSE affiliated private schools are left without much of the interference. Thus, a separate guideline or policy is a must from the Hill Council.

Regarding the unfortunate incident of Lamdon School, Shey in the month of September 2018, explanations from every concern people has been asked. We are looking into the matter at our levels. When such incidents happen people talk about shutting down of the schools which is also a risk. This is because there are a lot many students enrolled in that school and shutting down will ruin all those lives. So there is a need for an alternative solution or well-planned solution before coming into the conclusion. In many of the cases, NGO's provide extra facilities to the children without consulting the department. A direction is issued that without department knowledge, no NGO will carry out any work or campaign in schools.

I have convened a meeting recently with the education department regarding school safety, the direction has been given out to check and monitor every private school also along with the government. A land has been allotted many years back to some private schools who are running in the congested area of the town. But despite land allotment, these schools are still not shifted. We are going to check on these issues as well.

All the norms of the school safety are done more like a paperwork which needs to be changed and we are striving for the same. Despite taking as a formality it needs to be taken seriously with a ground-work. We are working on framing guidelines by the Hill Council to sought issues in the future. Also, there is a need for building the overall capacity of the concerned stakeholders including awareness generation and sensitization in regard to school safety.

Solutions:

- Proper guidelines by the Hill Council needs to be made and implemented
- School safety importance needs to be imparted
- Every work initiated in schools by the NGO's needs departments prior knowledge
- More focus on practical ground check and measures is needed rather than as paperwork.

Police, protestors clash in Leh



Stanzin Dasal

LEH: Police inaction over an eve-teasing case results in clashes between police personnel and protestors on 4 October evening in Leh.

Later, the situation worsens when the protestors started throwing stones at police personnel and government property. Police arrested youths, used tear gas and lathi-charged on the protestors. All those arrested youths under 18 were released free late in the evening. Most of the arrested stone pelters were youths.

The protestors alleged involvement of two cops in an eve-teasing incident that took place on 30 September around 5.45 in the evening at the main market. They further said that police failed to lodge a complaint against the two accused cops.

Rinchen Lhamo, Nominated Councillor for women said that the in-charge officials instead of filing the girl complain seeked SSP and Dy. SP Hq. intervention first. Failing to lodge an FIR at Police station, the girl filed a complaint to the judicial magistrate.

As per sources, the policemen in plain clothes were beaten in the market for the misbehavior. Two youths arrested in charge of beating the accused cops were given bail on 4 October. As per report from the social media, the duo charged with section 307 was felicitated by the LBA at Chowkhang Vihara.

The two boys who stood for the girl are friends and have been working together in a music studio from past few months.

When media asked Sargun Shukla, SSP, Leh on October 3 about the case, she refused to comment saying that the case is under investigation.

Narrating the whole incident during a press conference on October 3, Rinchen Lhamo, Nominated Women Councillor said, "The girl was

walking in the main market in the evening when two people passed obscene comments on her. This leads to heated arguments and ended with scuffle. When she went to file FIR, the police refused to lodge it and arrested the two men who argued with the accused cops for commenting and charged with section 307 of RPC (Attempt to a murder)".

"Later, they came to know that the two people were policemen. It's very sad that the police personnel who are supposed to protect us are indulging in such cases. We are feeling insecure that tomorrow if something happens to a girl no one will come forward to help us", she added.

Leaders of social, religious and political heads showed resentment and addressed to the gathering during the peace protest rally on October 4. All the business establishment units remain shut down.

Chering Dorje, MLC said that it's very shameful and disheartening to see that despite having a woman SSP crime against women is encouraged by shielding the alleged person. He demanded inquiry in the arrest of two men who stood for the woman safety and reason for beating them in the police custody. Also, asked a logical conclusion for everything.

He questioned about the non-implementation of setting up of a women police station when the government has already sanctioned it in the year 2017.

A copy of memorandum undersigned by the women leaders was forwarded to Satya Pal Malik, Governor J&K. The letter reads as, "We request you to initiate a prompt action through an impartial inquiry and take strict disciplinary action against the Deputy Superintendent of Police (Headquarters) Leh and the erring police personnel in the meantime we request you to immediately transfer the Deputy Superintendent of Police from Leh."

The concerned authorities refused to comment on the issue as the case is still under investigation.

PUBLIC NOTICE

A central heating system (CHS) for a hall measuring 12074 894 cubic feet has to be installed at ITBF Leh. All interested dealers are requested to send sealed quotation to ITBF Leh through postal services for the said purpose. Quotation should include the installation charges, GST and other charges applicable and it should be addressed to and quotation should reach ITBF Leh within 10 days from the advertisement notice.

Joint Deputy Director, ITBF, Leh

SoulSpeak

P. P. Wangchuk

We can create our own 'turning point' with strong willpower, persistence



When desperation gives way to hope, one may call it a 'turning point'. The very sense of hope gives one a great thrill and a chance for jubilation. The dictionary meaning of 'turning point' is: "A time when an important change happens, normally a good one."

A turning point may come, apparently, by chance/accident; but by and large, it is the result of one's complete devotion to one's action for a particular goal, thereby coming out of a crisis. That means one can create one's own 'turning point' by going whole hog and determined willpower. As American singer Jimmy Dean says, "I can't change the direction of the wind, but I can adjust my sails to reach my goal."

In other words, life gives us plenty of chances for a turning point, and some of us make the best use of them but many of us miss them. We miss such chances merely because we tend to be carefree and careless. Therefore, we must understand that life is all about great chances and turning points. We need to be ready to grab them and go ahead towards a better and happier tomorrow. A person who awaits opportunities and acts promptly can never be a failure. History is full of such examples; and we need to learn lessons from them.

Also, let us remind ourselves that if we miss the first bus, we have to be determined not to let it happen again when the second bus comes our way. After all, just as day follows night, good days too come after bad ones. That much is sure, and it would do us good if we go along with this kind of mind-set.

Courtesy: Hindustan Times

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

In Conversation with Mohd. Amin Lone, Assistant Director, Fisheries Department, Leh

Interviewed by Kunzang Chosdol

Q. What are the roles of the fisheries department?

Our role is to conserve and protect fish fauna in Ladakh region- prevent illegal fishing and poaching. Measures are being taken to replenish the livestock affected due to the construction of hydropower projects, major irrigation canals, pollution, and the rise in temperatures due to global warming.

Fish culture is being promoted to provide quality fish and to address unemployment issues. Recreational fisheries and angling are also promoted to boost the tourism sector.

Q. Brief us about fish production and its marketing in Leh.

Fish production by the department as well as the private fish farm is gaining pace from the last couple of years. Many private fish farms in Muslim dominated areas of Ladakh region are initiated. They provide fresh and healthy fish to the locals at their doorsteps.

Department has sold more than 9 quintals of trout fish in the last financial year and hopes that more than 10 quintals of fish will be sold in this financial year. Because of the lack of proper fish market in Leh, fishes are sold directly from the farm.

Q. What are the scopes in fish farming?

Ladakh is bestowed with a large number of water bodies with clean fresh and highly oxygenated water which is suitable for trout fish culture. Trout fish is a high-quality boneless fish having great market value. The adoption of trout fish culture by youths will not only solve unemployment issues but will also provide high-quality protein to the local population.

To promote fish culture in the private sector financial assistance to the aspirants are provided. Centrally sponsored scheme like Blue Revolution, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) and other schemes provides financial assistance to promote pisciculture. Fish seed and feed, technical support, equipment, drugs, and market facility are provided free of cost.

From last many years, youth are taking interest in fish culture and coming forward to adopt it as a source of income. More than a dozen such units have come up in Leh and Kargil districts in recent years and many are actively working.



ey and often the livestock suffer huge mortality during this process. Thus, a limited quantity of fish seed is being supplied to the department which is not sufficient to cater to the demand. Fish feed is a special feed which is made of carbohydrates, proteins, fish meal, mineral mix, and cod liver oil. It is prepared in a specialized feed mill in Manasbal, Srinagar. This feed is also supplied in a limited quantity because of the short shelf life. Storage for longer periods during winters affects the fish growth.

Although there is no significant disease seen in fisheries of Ladakh, nonavailability of laboratory facility to investigate diseases may pose threat to fish farming in remote areas. In order to overcome these problems department is constructing a hatchery house in fish farm Chuchot which can help in the production of fish seed locally.

Problems related to the religious sentiment in some areas are also making youth reluctant to adopt fish culture as a profession.

We are striving hard for the installation of a mini-feed mill and laboratory within the district to cater the local demand for feed and disease investigation. Due to the non-availability of funds, this project is pending and hopes to get established in near future.

Q. How many types of fishes are available in Ladakh?

More than 32 species of fishes are available in Ladakh including, Schizothorex species (snow trout, Tibetan trout, and Kinnaur snow trout), Rainbow trout, Brown trout, and some other minor fish species.

Q. Due to the religious perspective, a section of people avoid taking fish. Does it affect the practice of fish farming or do you have some other alternatives to balance the whole system?

Yes, a large section of the population due to Buddhist faith consider taking fish as a sin and they are reluctant to adopt fish farming activities but a large section of people especially in Kargil district takes fisheries related activities.

Respecting the religious sentiment, the department has stopped selling fish from Fish farm, Shey which is being located near Shey Palace. As per the instructions of LAHDC, Leh, the fish farm has been converted into a study-cum-awareness centre. A mini aquarium has been constructed along with a museum. A large number of tourist, visitors, school and college students and locals visit this aquarium and

...Continues on page 6

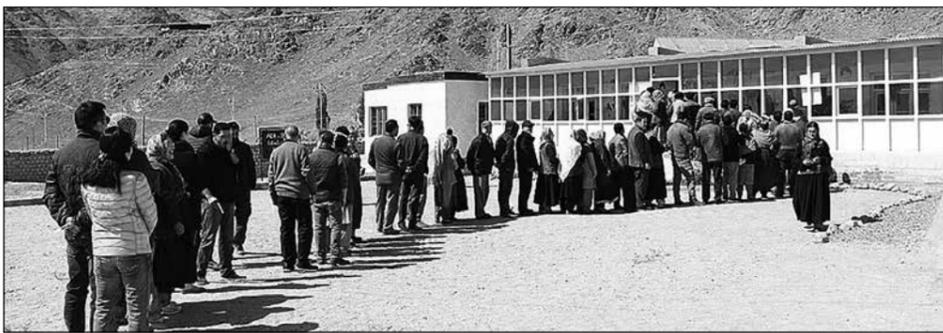
MESSAGE TO THE READERS

“Young generation should come forward and adopt fish culture activities and tourism-related recreational fisheries as their career so that they can earn a better livelihood. There is a great contribution of fisheries in the environment and the ecological balance of our water bodies. So, the youth has to come forward and make their contribution on this front also.”

Q. What are the challenges in fish farming?

There are few challenges which need to be addressed to make fish culture a profitable venture. Presently, the fish seed is being procured from Srinagar as it is not available in Ladakh. Transportation of fish seed is organised in oxygenated tanks which incur a huge sum of mon-

FORTNIGHT HIGHLIGHTS



Municipal Election Voters standing in queue to cast their vote.



Dorjay-Mutup, CEC while flagging-off the cycling-race during NorthQuest-Challenge-2018.



Sonam Wangchuk welcoming Governor, Satya Pal Malik at SECMOL.



Congress delegation meeting Governor, Satya Pal Malik during his visit to Leh on 11 October.



Monks of Stakna monastery during a workshop organised on 150th Birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

KNOW YOUR CULTURE

Pabu, the traditional shoe

Ladakhi traditional shoes called 'Pabu' are designed to be used in a manner that is uniquely adapted to the landscape and weather condition of the region. The traditional shoe is made from woven yak hair or wool and is often decorated with yak leather.

The shoes are originated from Ladakh itself. It is also believed that the air between the laces is scientifically ground to keep warm in the winter and in the summer. Shoe soles are designed to protect footwear from external influences. The top of the Pabu stockings is traditionally made using the Nambu (local textile or worsted wool).

The soles of the 'Pabu' are decorated with yak and horse leather. The backside of the shoe is a piece of cloth that is used to stabilize and support the foot.

The 'Pabu' is made by using every conceivable detail, the cover above the shoes is made of Nambu with flower embroidery. The curved toe of the shoe is designed to give shape to the same and to make it look more elegant. Pabu of kings and queens, noblemen and high-ranking monks were beautifully stitched and well designed.

Ladakhis have long been making and wearing 'Pabu', known as Thikma. Before that, there were other types and design like the Khulu (yak wool) 'Pabu' and 'Lapul Pabu'. Earlier, people of Ladakh used to wear Khulu (yak wool) shoes



and 'Lapul Pabu'. Later, the people of Nubra valley made Thikma Pabu and added more additional design to make it look more beautiful. Also, the people of Sham valley were into making this Pabu and were made with using various colours of Snambu.

With the trend of Thikma Pabu, Khulu (yak wool) and 'Lapul Pabu' lost its grace and people were seen using it very less. The 'Pabu' was worn throughout the year. With time different other shoes were also introduced. Kabsha was among one of that which had zari work imported from Pakistan. Sooner Thikma pabu lost its charm and people were seen wearing other types of shoes.

Now, the 'Thikma Pabu' is entirely used by the traditional dancers.

Courtesy: Padma Angmo Nochung

Workshop on 'Consumer Protection and Consumer Welfare' held in Leh



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: A two-day workshop on 'Consumer Protection and Consumer Welfare' was inaugurated on October 3 at J&K Academy of Art, Culture, and Languages.

The workshop was organised by Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA) J&K Regional branch and Centre for Consumer Studies (CCS), IIPA New Delhi and sponsored by Department of Consumer Affairs GoI in collaboration with Food, Civil Supplies, and Consumer Affairs, (FCS&CA) Leh.

Padmashree awardee Chewang Phuntsog, Former J&K Chief Secretary presided as the chief guest. He talked about the importance of understanding the rights and responsibilities of a consumer.

Quoting the epithet of 'consumer

is the king', he said that this king needs protection from misleading advertisements, fraudulent business practices, sub-standard quality and overpricing of goods and services. He then talked about the eight rights of a consumer and said that the government is responsible for both protection of the interest of the consumer as well as business through forming well-thought policies and framework.

He further added that as a consumer, we also have our own set of responsibilities and concerns regarding society, environment, solidarity, and action.

Talking about the demanding and strenuous job of the police, Sargun Shukla, SSP expressed gladness for involving the department of J&K Police in every aspect of people's lives to help them in safeguarding the life,

dignity, and rights through legal aspects.

She said that the participation of police in the workshop is an endeavour to strengthen the safety of the consumers in a more qualitative manner which is a part of the responsibility entrusted on the department.

Prof. Suresh Misra, Chair Professor, Coordinator and Project Director National Consumer Helpline Centre for Consumer Studies, IIPA, New Delhi gave an introduction about the workshop and a detailed presentation on 'Consumer Protection and Consumer Welfare'.

While, Dr. Sapna Chadah, CCS, IIPA New Delhi spoke on 'Consumer Protection Act, 1986' while Nisar Ahmed Wani, Director, FCS&CA spoke about 'PDS-Expectations of Consumer', and Vishal Ray Faculty J&KEDI spoke about 'Tourism: Rights of Tourists'.

Ruth Mary, Assistant Director, FCS&CA Leh, Lt. Col. (Retd.) Karan Singh, faculty of IIPA New Delhi and state, officers and officials of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Leh and Kargil among numbers of participants were also present.

Over 2,903 patients turn up for mega health camp in Leh



Super specialist doctors from All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) at SNM Hospital.

Rinchen Angmo Chumikchan

LEH: More than 2,903 patients from all over the district turned up for the mega medical camp held at the SNM Hospital from 24 to 29 October.

Jointly organised by Ashoka Mission, Medical Social Service Association and SNM Hospital, the camp had more than 25 super specialist doctors from All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) including endocrinology, urology, neurology, neurosurgeon, ortho, rheumatology, gastroenterology, gynaecology, pulmonary, psychiatrist, medicine, medical oncology, oncology surgery, surgical, ENT, dermatologist and ophtho OPD examining patients.

Scanning and other medical tests were conducted on spot, free of cost. Patients suffering from serious problems were referred to AIIMS super specialty hospitals in Delhi.

During the 5 days health camp 175 operations were done. Besides that, there are 85 referral cases.

Tashi Wangchuk, President, Medical Social Service Association informed that surgeries like hip replacement are very expensive. But here only a limited amount is charged for the equipment from the patients.

He also informed that many individuals and associations contribute money to help the patients.

Operation done during the AIIMS Doctors camp:

S.N.	SURGERY	TOTAL
1.	Knee replacement operation done	19
2.	Hip Replacement	7
3.	Eye Operation	41
4.	Laser	3
5.	Urology	11
6.	Gynae Operation	7
7.	Plastic surgery	21
8.	General Surgery	11
9.	ENT Surgery	8
10.	Endoscopy	46
11.	Colonoscopy	4
Total		175

Apart from that, they are also seeking funding from the Ministry of Health and Family Affairs, Govt of India.

OPD seen during the AIIMS Doctors camp:

S.N.	DEPARTMENT	CASES
1.	Endocrinology	142
2.	Urology	68
3.	Neurology	298
4.	Neuro Surgeon	74
5.	Ortho	352
6.	Rheumatology	115
7.	Gastroenterology	275
8.	Gynae	197
9.	Pulmonary	144
10.	Psychiatrist	45
11.	Medicine	129
12.	Medical Oncology	11
13.	Oncology Surgery	26
14.	Surgical	69
15.	ENT	191
16.	Dermatologist	300
17.	Ophtho OPD	248
Total		2,728

LSRC organises ex-servicemen rally in Leh



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Under the aegis of HQ 14 Corps and HQ Leh Sub Area, an "Ex-Servicemen Rally" was organised on October 6 by Ladakh Scouts Regimental Centre at Rinchen Auditorium.

A large number of veterans and veer naris of the regiment belonging to the Ladakh region were present.

Lt Gen Y K Joshi, AVSM, VrC, SM, GOC 14 Corps assured all veterans and the veer naris for support towards their welfare and improvement in quality of life through proactive involvement in problem resolution.

They rekindled memories and invaluable contribution of the brave veterans and the martyrs in various operations. All were felicitated and given appropriate assistance on the occasion.

The "Awareness & Information Stalls" established by Records Ladakh Scouts, ECHS Leh, and Zila Sainik Welfare Office acquainted them with various welfare schemes launched by the Indian Army.

Also, they provided an opportunity to avail CSD, Dental and medical facilities and rejuvenate their ties with the serving brethren. Various nationalised banks also aware about financial schemes and availing loan facilities.

Mohd. Amin Lone

...Continued from Page 5

get acquainted with the fish fauna of Ladakh region and the state as well.

Q. How important is it to adopt pisciculture as a source of income by unemployed youths?

Considering the unemployment issue in the state, it is very important for youth to come forward and adopt pisciculture also as a source of income.

A number of schemes are available which can help the youth to excel in this sector. Awareness programmes under state and centrally sponsored schemes are organised from time to time in order to attract youth towards these new type of employment opportunity. Adoption of recreational fisheries which includes the establishment of aquariums, supply, and breeding of aquarium fishes and angling can promote high-end tourism in Ladakh and provide employment avenues.

Governor confers awards to MC, Leh in 3 categories



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Municipal Committee, Leh has been awarded in three different categories by the Governor J&K, Satya Pal Malik on 2 October at SKICC, Srinagar.

In the first category MC, Leh was awarded for making Leh the first Open Defecation Free City of the state. Other two categories

were Cleanest City Award during Swachh Survekshan and Best Performance Award in Swachhata Hi Seva, 2018.

Rigzin Spalgon, Administrator MC, Leh on this achievement of the department has expressed gratitude to the entire team of MC Leh and the sanitation workers in particular for their efforts and sincerity in performing their

duty and responsibility.

He has also expressed deep gratitude to the general public of Leh town for extending their cooperation to the department in keeping Leh town neat and clean. He said that with such collective efforts and self-consciousness in ensuring cleanliness, Leh will get more recognition with such awards.



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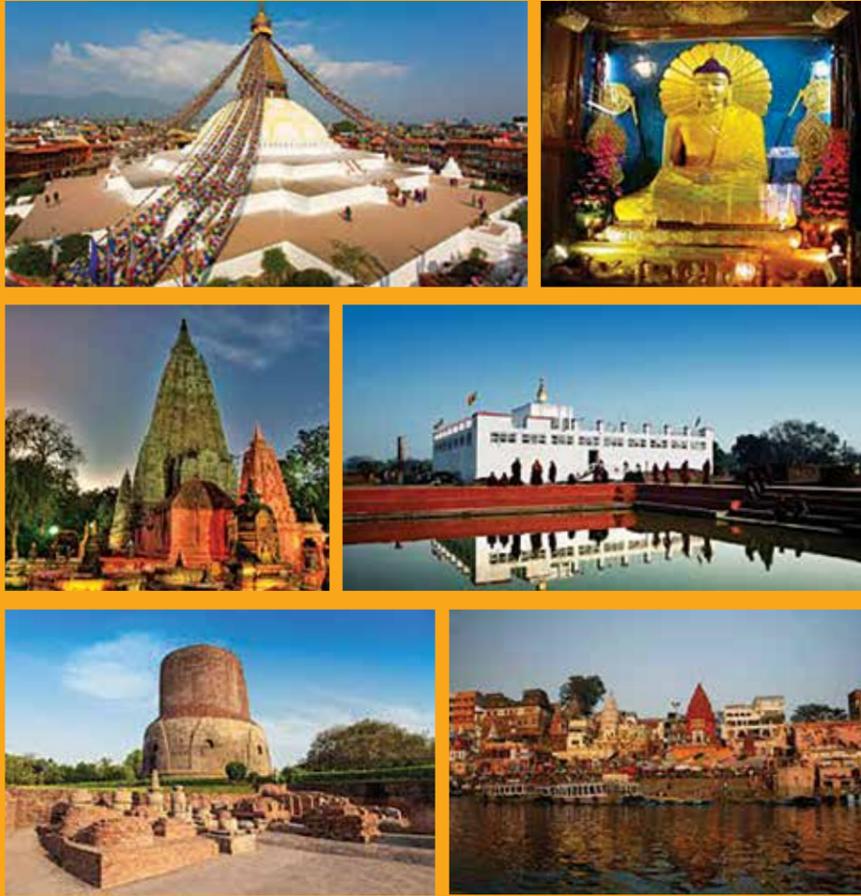


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Programme Details

Number of Days	Tour Cost Per Person
30 Days	₹ 77,777

16th Dec, Day 1: Leh to Delhi and Delhi to Nepal. O/N Kathmandu
 17th Dec, Day 2: Monastery visit. O/N Hotel
 18th Dec, Day 3: Monastery visit. O/N Hotel
 19th Dec, Day 4: Monastery visit. O/N hotel
 20th Dec, Day 5: Full day at leisure and roam around Kathmandu the city of Nepal. O/N Hotel
 21st Dec, Day 6: Kathmandu to Lumbini O/N Lumbini (260 km, 6hrs)
 22nd to 24th Dec, Day 7 to 9: Monastery visit. O/N Hotel
 25th Dec, Day 10: Lumbini to Sravasti. O/N Hotel
 26th to 27th Dec, Day 11 to 12: Monastery visit. O/N Hotel
 28th Dec, Day 13: Sravasti to Kushinagar. (238 Km, 5hrs), O/N Hotel
 29th to 30th Dec, Day 14 to 15: Kushinagar Sightseeing. O/N Hotel
 31st Dec, Day 16: Kushinagar to Sarnath (222 kms, 5hrs). O/N Hotel
 1st to 3th Jan, Day 17 to 19: Sarnath Monastery visit. O/N Hotel
 4th Jan, Day 20: Sarnath to Bodhgaya, 247 Km, 5hrs, 50 min. O/N Hotel
 5th to 10th Jan, Day 21 to 26: Bodhgaya. O/N Hotel or Guest House
 11th Jan, Day 27: Bodhgaya to Delhi by Overnight Train
 12th Jan, Day 28: Arrival Delhi, O/N Guest House
 13th Jan, Day 29: Free day for shopping by own. O/N Guest house
 14th Jan, Day 30: Airport Transfer

INCLUSION

- Accommodation on sharing basis with all meals
- Flight tickets from Leh to Delhi to Kathmandu and Delhi to Leh in Economy Class
- One monk to guide for preaching meditation & guiding at all places.
- Sightseeing in Kathmandu with Monument entrances
- One male and one female tour escort throughout the tour
- All Transportation by Non AC 40 Seater Coach
- Train tickets from Gaya to Delhi in 3 AC Tier
- Ladakhi Cook throughout the tour
- All applicable monument entrances
- Tea and coffee breaks during the tour
- Domestic travel insurance
- Good and Services Tax

EXCLUSION

- Any kind of Personal Expenses or Optional Tours
- Anything not specifically mentioned under the head 'prices included'
- Tips, insurance, Laundry, Phone calls
- Any kind of drinks, (Alcoholic, Mineral, Aerated)
- Cost incidental to any change in the itinerary/ Stay on account of flight cancellation due to bad weather, ill health, roadside and any factors beyond.

For further details please visit
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