

REACH LADAKH BULLETIN

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Brief News

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Leh to get new 66/11 KV substation

LEH: Foundation stone of 66/11 KV 1x 6.3 MVA new substations at Lungmar-Gangles was laid on September 8 by Hirdesh Kumar, Commissioner Secretary, Power Development Department.

The substation will play a vital role in feeding Leh town and will further improve the power sector in the main Leh town and its hamlets.

Inquiring in detail about the feeding area of the substation, Hirdesh Kumar urged to complete the works within the time frame.

Sachin Kumar Vaishya, DC, Leh, Director Planning PDD, Director of Finance PDD, Chief Engineer Project Wing, Chief Engineer Generation, PDD/PDC, General Manager, Power Corporation of India, Secretary Technical JK PDD, CPM, REC Jammu and engineers of PDD and PDC were present.

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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8th Ladakh Marathon concludes with enthusiasm



Tsering Dolker

LEH: The 8th edition of Ladakh Marathon, 2019 with nearly 5,500 participation from different parts of India and 26 foreign countries concluded on September 8.

The marathon was held under different categories including the toughest and the highest 72-km Ultra Khardongla Challenge, 42-km Full and 21-km Half marathon and 7-km long Run for Fun.

The highest marathon in the world, 'Ladakh marathon' is certified by the Association of International Marathons and Distance (AIMS). Organised by a local tour operator Rimo Expedition, the marathon is supported by Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC), Leh, J&K Police, Indian Army and The Grand Dragon Hotel Ladakh.

Chewang Motup Goba, Founder, Rimo Expedition congratulated all the winners and participants of the marathon. He appreciated the enthusiasm of runners from different parts of the world to take part in the highest marathon.

In Khardongla challenge, Ladakh Scout Regimental Centre bagged all three titles. Covering a distance of a 72 km long run from Khardong village to Leh city in 06:53:34, Shabir Hussain got the first position followed by Stanzin Norboo in 06:53:39 and Rigzin Norboo in 06:54:31.

The full marathon was flagged off by Gyal P Wangyal, CEC LAHDC Leh and Moses Kunzang, Additional District Development Commissioner. While half marathon and Run for Fun was flagged off by Dilbagh Singh, DGP J&K Police

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Shia Muslims observe Muharram- ul -Haram in Leh

Over 600 youths register their names for blood donation



Shia Muslim beating their chest and reciting lamentation during the mourning procession.

Stanzin Dasal

LEH: Commemorating the supreme sacrifice of Imam Hussain (A.S) and his companion for mankind in the battle of Karbala, Muharram-ul-Haram observed with solemnity on September 10 in Leh.

Thousands of Shia Muslim beating their chest and reciting lamentation joined the mourning procession. Also, following the teaching of Hazrat Imam Hussain to serve mankind, Alamdar Health Service, Leh organised a blood donation camp at the main market.

Alamdar Health service has been organising the blood donation camp every year. They started the blood donation camp in the year 2000 with the help of Health department Leh. On September 10, 2019, over 600 youths registered their name for the blood donation.

Tauseef Hussain, Chairman, Alamdar Health Service informed that this year nearly 70 youths have donated blood to the needy. He said that the health service has successfully conducted the blood donation camp from 19 years and over 1500 youths have donated blood till now.

He urged the administration to address the demand for office space so they can carry out the work more effectively and efficiently.

Sachin Kumar Vaishya, DC, Leh applauded the communal harmony and bonding of the people in the district. He said that the cordial relationship among the people of different faiths in the district is a very strong factor to work effectively and efficiently.

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Four days of Ladakh Festival, a cultural extravaganza, celebrated



Artist of Nubra valley dressed in traditional attire performing folk dance during the inaugural day of Ladakh Festival

Stanzin Dasal

LEH: The four-day cultural extravaganza 'Ladakh Festival' brought people from different parts of the Ladakh region showcasing the rich cultural heritage from September 1 to 4 in Leh.

The festival organised by J&K Tourism department and Hill Council, Leh was inaugurated by Satya Pal Malik, Governor, J&K. B R Subramaniam, Chief Secretary, J&K were also present. On the concluding day, Prahlad Singh Patel, Minister of State, Tourism, GoI, (Independent Charge) was the chief guest.

Cultural troupes from different parts of Ladakh dressed in traditional attire and school children took part in the cultural procession.

Apart from the natural landscape beauty of the region, Governor Satya Pal Malik talked about the hospitality simplicity and positivity of the people who are living with the age-old culture and heritage. He also highlighted the teachings of Buddha and Buddhism philosophy.

Talking about the grant of UT status for Ladakh, he said that the decision is made for the overall development of the Ladakh region.

He informed that the region under the centre government directly will be benefitted in terms of employment, salaries, status, posting and other things. He also talked about protecting the culture, heritage and identity of the people in the new UT Ladakh.

He further assured that even after the retirement of the Governor himself and the B R Subramaniam will remain as a permanent ambassador of Ladakh to support and work for the people of Ladakh.

Welcoming the tourists from different corners of the world, Satya Pal Malik urged them to visit Ladakh again for a longer period and enjoy the most beautiful place.

Prahlad Singh Patel, said, "Ladakh has the simplicity, beauty and rich cultural heritage what is needed is the tourism flourishing."

He asked people of Ladakh to do the best in limited season of the region for which he promised every support including sufficient funds.

Also, he praised PM Modi for fulfilling Ladakhis wish for granting UT status thereby respecting the sentiments of people of Leh and Kargil.

Welcoming everyone to the four-day-long festival, Sachin Kumar Vaishya, DC Leh said that the festival is celebrated every year to revive, preserve and promote the age-old culture and heritage. He said that the festival further boosts the tourism industry of Ladakh.

The festival provides an opportunity to explore and witness the different traditional dance and songs, traditional sports like archery and polo, handicrafts, local cuisine, mask dance, photo exhibition on birds and mammals of Ladakh, demonstration of contemporary sculpture and many more.

Gyal P Wangyal, CEC Hill Council, Leh welcomed everyone on the festival who came to witness the rich culture and tradition of Ladakh.

Highlighting various issues faced by the people of Ladakh, he apprised the Governor about the problem of inadequate power supply during winters in Leh due to temporary arrangement made at Alistang to Zenakot stretch of Srinagar-Leh transmission line.

He informed that the transmission line tower got fallen near Zoji-la, which is also affecting regular feeding and evacuation of power.

He urged the Governor to consider the matter on priority and ensure the proper functioning of the said transmission line before winter sets in.

He further demanded Governor's intervention for the establishment of Medical College at Leh and adequate share in the proposed 50,000 jobs to unemployed youth in J&K.

Jamyang Tsering Namgyal, MP Ladakh expressed gratitude to all the officials of the state and centre who made UT Ladakh. Also, he hoped that the protection of culture, identity, land and job security will be also be considered by the centre government in favour of Ladakhis.

Scintillating cultural performances of Changthang, Nubra and other parts of the region were also performed.

8th Ladakh Marathon concludes with enthusiasm

...Continued from Page 1

and Lt Gen. Y.K Joshi, AVSM, VrC & SM, Leh respectively.

In Full marathon (42km) male category, Shabir Hussain bagged first position while Jigmet Nurboo and Manzoor Hussain secured second and third position respectively. In the female category, Jigmet

Dolma secured first position for the three consecutive years, while Tsetan Dolker got second position and Namgyal Lhamo won third position.

All the winners and the participants of the marathon were felicitated.

Sachin Kumar Vaishya, DC, Leh and Avny Lavasa, Former Deputy Commissioner Leh along with district officers also took part in the Half Marathon.

Div Com Ladakh, Aamir Khan discusses water conservation measures



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Film shooting in Leh and Kargil districts with proactive involvement of locals was discussed by Saugat Biswas, Divisional Commissioner, Ladakh with Aamir Khan, Bollywood star on September 13.

Saugat Biswas urged Aamir Khan to explore possibilities of shooting high budgeted film in the picturesque locales of both the districts of Ladakh. Also, he requested him to identify talents from the region and give them an opportunity in acting and other jobs in the film industry.

Aamir Khan informed that they are planning to shoot in the region in the coming year in which various stakeholders from the region will benefit substantially. He assured to explore various possibilities proactively.

Tsering Sandup, Deputy Chairman, LAHDC Leh talked about many tourism potential far flung places which needs to be explored through film industry. Meanwhile, he also highlighted the concern of ecological preservation along with economic development.

Aamir Khan informed about the extensive work being carried out by Paani Foundation, an NGO run by him along with his wife Kiran Rao. The organisation works in the field of watershed management and has covered 75 talukas in Maharashtra. Over 4000 villages of the state are involved in the watershed management. They have also instituted Satyamev Jayate Water Cup, which is awarded every year to the best performing village in the field of watershed management.

It was decided that a team of officers and elected representatives from Ladakh will be sent to Maharashtra to attend workshops with the Paani Foundation. The team will study the ground level implementations of this successful voluntary civic action programme.

Irfan Hafiz, Defense Estate Officer Ladakh, Tashi Dolma, Additional Commissioner to Div. Com. Ladakh, Dr. Zahida Bano, Chief Executive Officer LDA and Rigzin Lundup, Councillor Tegar were also present.

Former CEC Dorjay Motup cremated with honour

Stanzin Dasal

LEH: The last rites of Dorjay Motup, Former Chairman / Chief Executive Councilor, Hill Council, Leh was performed at his native village Liktsey on September 9.

All the prominent leaders across all political parties, relative, friends and families attended the funeral ceremony.

Dorjay Motup passed away on September 1 after battling stomach cancer for a long time.

Expressing grief and sorrow over the sudden demise of Dorjay Motup, Former CEC and Councillor Kungyuh constituency, Hill Council, Leh lead by Gyal P Wangyal, CEC paid rich tribute to the departed soul on September 2 at Council Secretariat.

Remembering Late Dorjay Motup, Gyal P Wangyal said, "He was a good, humble and honest leader of Ladakh who was loved and appreciated by everyone. Being from



Gyal P Wangyal, CEC, LAHDC, Leh and Konchok Stanzin, EC, Education lends shoulder to the Former CEC Dorjay Motup body for last rites

a very humble background he always extended a helping hand to the poor and needy people."

He described him as a remarkable leader, who served the society after joining Hill Council from the year 2005 at a different post with utmost diligence and compassion.

"The dedication and willingness to work for the betterment of poor people were always there. He was not just a colleague but a very good friend of mine. We have lost a good honest leader and his absence will be felt by

everyone", he added.

Jamyang Tsering Namgyal said that the demise of Dorjay Motup, Ladakh lost a good honest and humble leader. He reiterated the work of the deceased in different fields.

Phuntsog Wangdan, Councillor Lower Leh and Tsering Nurboo, Councillor Nimoo also offered their condolences. They termed him one among the leader who takes the whole councillors whether opposition and ruling as one while serving as CEC.

Meeting held to discuss child-related issues in Leh

94% Corporal punishments, 39% Child labour and 44% substance abuse recorded in Leh

Tsering Dolker

LEH: A meeting to discuss child-related issues in Ladakh was convened by Save the Children in collaboration with Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) on August 31 in Leh.

The discussion was held between the concerned stakeholders of child protection and media fraternity.

Mohd. Sharif Bhat, General Manager, Save the Children talked about various child-related issues being faced in Leh district. He explained about the District Need Assessment (DNA).

He informed that according to Save the Children primary study and analysis, 94% of Corporal punishments, 39% Child labour and 44% of substance abuse were recorded in Leh.

Various children related issues such as corporal punishment, child abuse, substance abuse, child labour, disability, bullying, discrimination, STDs and HIV/



Stakeholders of child protection and media personnel's during the meeting at Indus Valley Hotel, Leh

AIDS were discussed. Emphasis was laid on spreading awareness on adolescence issues, child rights and moral education.

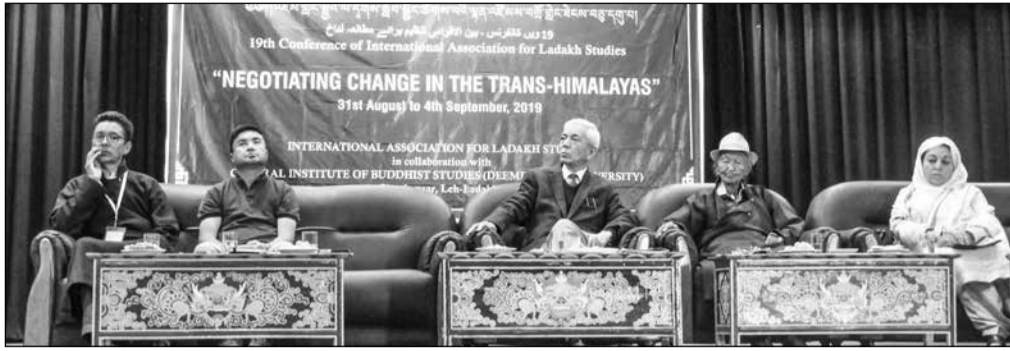
Mohd. Sharif Bhat stresses on the necessity of peace education, parenting skills, various campaign and inspection in different schools and hostels.

Sarla Chhewang, Member, Child Welfare Committee (CWC), briefed about the role of CWC.

She informed that CWC monitored nearly 26 schools around Leh and conducted awareness programs on sexual abuse, corporal punishment, substance abuse and many others. Also, she said that CWC along with other departments of District Inspection Committee inspected residential schools and hostels.

During the meeting, emphasize was made on working with coordination among all the stakeholders.

19th International Association for Ladakh Studies conference held in Leh



left to right Dr. Sonam Wangchuk, President IALS, Moses Kunzang ADDC, Leh, C.Phuntsog, VC Ladakh University, Tashi Rabgais, Scholar and Kaniz Fatima, Former Secretary Education Department.

Stanzin Dasal

CHOGLAMSAR: The inaugural ceremony of the 19th International Association for Ladakh Studies (IALS) conference themed 'Negotiating Change in the Trans-Himalayas' was held at Nagarjuna auditorium, CIBS, Choglamsar, Leh on August 31.

C. Phuntsog, Vice-Chancellor, Ladakh University inaugurated the five-day international conference which will be concluded on September 4.

Addressing the gathering, C Phuntsog said, "Ladakh is a separate field of study in all aspects such as anthropologically, historically, geographically, culturally and linguistically as well".

"Ladakh is already a famous tourist destination area and there is no need for introducing the region to the outside world. But the challenge now is to get the right direction to the future cause of development to obviate the adverse consequences of tourism

socio-culture life of the region", he added.

He stressed on the importance of regaining the moral and cultural wealth along with monetary development to get peace and happiness among the people for which Ladakh is known for.

Talking about different papers to be presented in the 19th IALS conference, C Phuntsog urged IALS to devote more sessions in highlighting different problems and issues that the region is more likely to confront in the future.

The keynote speaker of the occasion, Kaniz Fatima, Former Secretary Education Department and a senior member of IALS said that the conference has given a common platform to scholars, researchers, academician, and students to exchange the ideas and thoughts. Also, it gives more opportunities to know and learn more about Ladakh.

She said that IALS has given energy, enthusiasm and inspiration

to many people from different parts of the world to know more about the culture, history, geography, economy and many other aspects. With this, it further adds to work for the development and sustainability of the region.

The patron of the IALS and a renowned scholar of Ladakh, Tashi Rabgais also reiterated the founding of the IALS and its importance.

International Association for Ladakh Studies was formed under the initiative of Henry Osmaton in the early 1980s.

Dr. Sonam Wangchuk, President expressed the happiness over the growth of IALS with over 300 members with maximum participation of youths.

Moses Kunzang, Additional Deputy Development Commissioner, Prof Geshe Konchok Wangdus; Director CIBS, paper presenters from different parts of the world and many other dignitaries were present.

Prahlad Singh Patel attends meeting of Culture and Tourism sector in Leh

Assures to consider all the demands and look for possible ways to address



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Hill Council Leh put forth important demands under Culture and Tourism sectors for both Leh and Kargil during a meeting with Prahlad Singh Patel, MOS, Culture, and Tourism, (GoI) on September 4 at Council Secretariat.

Gyal P Wangyal welcomed Prahlad Singh Patel and the entire team on three days visit to Leh. He expressed gratitude to the Minister for sparing his valuable time and interacting with all the stakeholders.

Tsering Sandup, Deputy Chairman, LAHDC, Leh gave a presentation on the demands of Hill Council, Leh including demands of Kargil district.

Under Culture and Tourism sectors various demands including cultural museum in Leh, Cultural Centre equipped with a library, auditorium, conference hall, film theatre, art gallery, art studios, science centre, observatory cum planetarium, renovation/restoration of heritage sites of cultural and tourist's interest and celebration of festivals in both Leh and Kargil were put forth.

Also, in the tourism sector demand for an Amphitheatre, Rock Art site development, wayside tourist care centre, Mountaineering Institute, and skill development was highlighted.

Tsering Sandup also requested to grant funds to celebrate La-

dakh Festival at a grand scale, completion of Trans Himalayan Centre, small museums in different regions to promote silk route, nomadic and Aryan cultures, consider Heli tourism and projects under Swadesh Darshan.

Prahlad Singh Patel informed about newly launched Tourist Facilitator Programme (TFP) by the centre government. He said that the aim of this online programme is to promote tourism with the involvement of local youth providing them with online certified basic course and advance courses in Heritage and Adventure tourism and spoken languages.

He urged Hill Council to encourage the local youth with a qualification of 10+2 to apply for these courses for which the registration has already started.

The Administrative officers of Leh and Kargil were asked to submit drafts and proposal of the demands at the earliest possible.

Prahlad Singh suggested starting a tourist care centre on one route initially to see the usage and success provided with all kind of facilities within one premise. Also, he assured to reconsider Swadesh Darshan and urged the officers to review the projects and submit proposals on a priority basis.

He also mentioned about introducing B&B services in Ladakh with the aim to promote homestay and also to take up the

matter of Heli tourism involving private investors.

The minister informed about adopting Heritage scheme and urged Hill Council and Administration to plan long term, sustainable and locally viable projects. He assured to consider all the demands and look for possible ways to address it under his capacity.

Saugat Biswas, Divisional Commissioner Ladakh, appraised the Minister about the concept of demand made for the tourist care centre. He said that the idea is to have such centre after every 80 km on the tourist route with toilet, café, oxygen bar, waste collection, water refill, first aid facility, souvenirs shop and information counter.

He also requested to consider tariff subsidy on heli services in Leh considering the difficult geographic terrain and easy made evacuation process for tourists during emergencies.

Baseer ul Haq Chaudhary, DC Kargil represented demands of Kargil district including exploring tourism promotion in Kargil, to provide training under TFP to local candidates outside Kargil who are mostly out of Kargil for higher studies, restoration of Shagkar Chikten Fort, provide processing and marketing for apricots grown in bulk in Kargil, to promote organic produce of Batalik and Balti Heritage street in Kargil.

PM Modi's 'Plastic Free' drive launched in Leh



Tsering Dolker

SHEY: Marking the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi this year, a logo of plastic free initiative lead by Prime Minister Narendra Modi was launched on September 5 at Druk Padma Karpo School.

The programme was organised by Team Bharat and Youth of India.

Anoop Kaipalli, National coordinator Bharat Niti spoke about the principles of Mahatma Gandhi and growing power of Indian economy.

He also discussed about importance of nature and stressed on banning the use of plastic.

He further appreciated Druk Padma School for making plastic and chewing-gum free campus.

Dr. Nandita Pathak, Brand Ambassador of Swachh Bharat Mission GoI, Dr. Bharat Pathak, Vice Chairman, Mahatma Gandhi Rural Development Education Council, Hyderabad, Tashi Gyaltsan, BJP state secretary and Stanzin Kunzang, Principal Druk Padma Karpo School, teachers and students of the school were present.

Shia Muslims observe Muharram- ul -Haram in Leh

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Regarding the demand for office space for Alamdar Health service, he said that he will discuss and look into the matter.

Sheikh Zain ul Abidin, Majlis e ulama said that Imam Hussein stood for the truth and humanity and we must understand the value and practice in everyday life. He said that good deed and action are the core principle of all religion.

"By donating blood you are keeping the humanity alive and such a noble practice spreads the message of Imam Hussain rightly", he added.

PT Kunzang, President LBA also appreciated the work of Alamdar Health Service and endorse their demand for an office space.

Imam Hussein, the grandson of Prophet Muhammad and other 72 of his companions were martyred at Karbala in 680 AD after fighting for justice against armies of Yazid.

SNM hospital, Leh to get first MRI machine

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, Leh and Airports Authority of India signed an MOU on September 6 to install an MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) machine at Sonam Norbu Memorial Hospital, Leh.

The MRI machine is sponsored by Airports Authority of India under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). An amount of ₹ 12.78 crore will be spent on the installation of the machine including creation of infrastructure to house the equipment.

Sachin Kumar Vaishya, DC, Leh and Sonam Norbu, Airport Director (Nodal Officer of Airports Authority of India) signed the MOU.

Under this MOU, Airports Authority of India also sponsored 2 Digital X-ray machines and 2 Ultrasound machines worth ₹2.04 crore for the Health Department Leh.

Moses Kunzang, Additional District Development Commissioner, Leh; Dr. Motup Dorje CMO, Leh; Dr. Tsering Samphel, Medical Superintendent, SNM, Hospital and officers of administration and



Airports Authority of India were also present on the occasion.

It will be the first-ever MRI machine in Leh for the civilian populace of the district is likely to commission around mid next summer. The MRI machine uses as an extreme method of disease detection throughout the body and is most often used after other testing fails to provide sufficient information to authenticate the patient's diagnosis.

Earlier, Airports Authority of India under its CSR programme also sponsored ₹49 lakh for the development of Milk Pasteurization Plant Leh and ₹60 lakh for Project Tsangda in Nubra region.

EXPERT TALK

Organic Farming

By Tsering Dolker



Tashi Tsetan, Chief Agriculture Officer: The role of agriculture department is to provide good quality seeds, training, guidance, awareness and many other farming-related things among farmers. The seeds qualities are tested at research institute such as Defense Institute of High Altitude Research (DIHAR), Sher-e Kashmir University of Agricultural Science and Technology (SKUAST) and Central Arid Zone Research Institute (CAZRI).

Vegetables like cauliflower, cabbage, onion, potato, turnips, radish, carrots, pulses and many more are grown. Also, 28 new varieties such as eggplant, capsicum, chillies, watermelon, etc. have been successfully introduced. Among all, kidney beans can be very profitable in Ladakh; it grows perfectly in a cool and dry atmosphere. Kidney beans produce nitrogen compounds that help the plant to grow and when the plant dies, the fixed nitrogen is released, which helps in soil fertilization which acts very important to the next plant. Thus, Kidney beans are the natural one which doesn't need any chemical fertilizer to grow.

Due to the traditional farming system and remoteness, Ladakh was organic by default but in order to boost the quantity of the production, chemical fertilizer, and pesticides are used extensively in many regions.

In order to make the district fully organic, a resolution of Mission Organic Development Initiative of Ladakh (MODI) was passed in January 2019. The aim is to transform agriculture into a sustainable and enable the farmers to reap the benefits of vibrant market opportunities. For the successful implementation of the initiative, a team from Leh had an exposure tour to Sikkim (the organic state) to get the idea and knowledge from their experts.

To certify Leh as Organic Farming district by 2025, an action plan is made accordingly. We have categorised the mission into three phases:

In the first phase, starting from 2019, 34 villages are identified where chemical fertilizer and pesticides have not been used during the last years. The second phase will start in 2023, villages where the use of chemical fertilizer and pesticides is low will be identified. The third phase, in 2025 will include villages nearby Leh where the use of chemical fertilizer is high.

To make the organic fertilizer available, we are encouraging cattle herding, sheep and goat rearing. According to the plan, the government will provide free cattle, sheep, and goats to the interested locals, from which a quantitative amount of bio-waste as manure can produce which will be useful for the agriculture sector. Purchase of alternative certified organic bio-pesticides will also be made available to farmers.

Due to the shift of farming method, there can be less production rate initially but will improve slowly with the pace of time. The price of the certified organic products will be good.

Benefits of Mission Organic Development Initiative

Safe environment: Use of chemical fertilizer leaves the soil infertile, whereas pesticides not only kill the harmful insects and bacteria but also kill those insects which naturally act as crop defender. The harmful sprays and pesticides also distress our environment. So, the organic mode of cultivation will revive the environment, provides fresh air and water.

Doubling the farmers' income by production of organic farm produce and facilitating value addition to organic produce.

Less import of toxic farm produce into Ladakh and revive traditional farming system.

Reduction in health ailments caused by chemical substances.

Solutions:

- Revival of livestock rearing and farm-based activities
- Provision of incentives to the interested people in cattle rearing
- Collaborative effort of everyone is must
- Adopt organic farming



Stanzin Phuntsog, Executive Councillor, Agriculture, Hill Council, Leh: The main aim of Mission Organic Development Initiative of Ladakh is to reduce health issues caused because of the use of chemicals in farm products such as fruits and vegetables. Excessive use of pesticides and chemicals to speed up certain fruits and vegetables to ripe can cause many health issues like cancer.

On the subject of Mission Organic Development Initiative we bought up a resolution in the council meeting. After an exposure tour to Sikkim for a better understanding and implementation of mission organic. Experts of Sikkim believe that organic atmosphere not only increase life span of people but also revives birds population and increases tourism. Similarly, mission organic initiative in Ladakh will be a blessing for us.

The Central government has promised ₹200 crore budget for the Mission Organic Development Initiative project in Leh. The project will be carried out in three phases aiming to declare Ladakh an organic district by 2025. The first phase, starting from 2019, is to register and certify

around 30 villages which practice organic farming. In second phase, villages where there are lesser use of chemical fertilizer and pesticides will be considered and in a third phase, we will include village in and around Leh where the use of chemical fertilizer and pesticides is high.

Sudden ban of chemical use can reduce the production which might take few years to revive but for a self-sufficient organic district, we need to slow down the import of manure and fertilizers from other states.

Actions

We have already reduced 25% chemical fertilizer and introduced few bio-fertilizers. Also, we are expecting to reduce it further by 50% in the coming two years. Organic pesticides such as neem oil and many more can be the alternate use of harmful chemical pesticides.

Training for composting of manure and animal waste is being done locally because we were importing manures from outside states. Our plan is to encourage the local market for manure and fertilizer, providing an incentive to those interested in cattle herding, sheep and goat rearing.

Market

The biggest market for agricultural products in Ladakh is army supply. Farmers are selling good amount of production to the army and this year the sale has also increased. Apart from it, we have opened a new vegetable market at the bus stand Leh and planning to open more such local market and corporations so that the farmers can take good advantage from it. Horticulture products like sea-buckthorn juice and dried apricot can be exported to other regions to expand our market.

Other organic products like kidney beans, lentils etc department will directly purchase raw products from the farmers. The sorting packaging and marketing of the product will be taken care of by the department. This will boost the assignment of the mission organic in the initial days.

During winter, though we cannot produce all the products of daily needs but efforts on the greenhouse of Poly-carbonate sheet will replace the plastics greenhouse to get some green leafy vegetables.

There are many other schemes by the government of India to promote organic model of farming and rejuvenate agriculture field, such as Param Paragat Krishi Vikas Yojna, National Mission for sustainable agriculture and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna.

Solutions:

- The incentive will be provided for those interested in cattle herding, sheep and goat rearing to produce qualitative manure
- For storage, the capacity of 1000 MT cold store barn at Agling, with atmospheric control especially for winter season
- Introduction of bio-fertilizer and organic pesticides
- Farmers and local people cooperation is a must

Mini-conclave of J & K Investors' Summit, 2019, held in Leh

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: To promote industrialization and attract investments in the state, Government of J&K organised Global Investors' Summit, 2019 'Invest Jammu & Kashmir' on September 5.

Young local entrepreneurs, members of ALTOA, Trade Association, representatives from NGOs and senior business men took part in the conclave.

Gyal Wangyal, CEC expressed that with the scrapping of Article 370, the restricted industrial growth and development will touch new heights. He said that abrogation of Article 370 was an important step particularly for the people engaged in large and small scale industrial businesses in the state.

He added that trade is vital for growth, development and jobs. He urged CII and Navin Choudhary in particular to organise a mega conclave in Ladakh to ensure maximum participation of young entrepreneurs from Leh and Kargil.

He also stressed on the need to find the right mix of policies that optimizes trade's contribution to the social and economic development of UT of J&K and Ladakh.

He further added that such conclave will provide opportunity to showcase the strengths and potential of the region, besides giving first hand information about business friendly policies of the government, assess infrastructure, natural resources, raw material, availability of skilled and unskilled manpower, to identify new business avenues in state and to develop networking between local and outside business communities.

He highlighted the potential of white kernel apricot, Pashmina etc as the most promising business ventures in Leh.



Navin Choudhary, Principal Secretary, Industries & Commerce, J&K Govt said that J&K has been deprived of industrial and economic development. He asserted that political development must facilitate economic development and improved industrial and service sector will help people of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh realize their dream.

He stressed on the possibilities to explore potential of tourism and service sectors in Leh and said that power could be the biggest revenue generation sector for Ladakh.

On the demand of CEC, he gave full assurance to provide the funds to around 70 young entrepreneurs in Leh under JKEDI that was pending in next 10 days. He also assured to consider reducing the premium charged by SITCO in Ladakh.

He further stressed on the need to draft master plan of Leh and Kargil and to have their own policies in tourism, industrial and service sectors considering the local requirement and

geographic and environmental feasibility.

He instructed both the DC's of Leh and Kargil to conduct a full day seminar in next 10 days of young entrepreneurs and other stakeholders to debate on the kind of investors required from outside in the districts and submit the detail list of suggestions and requirements to him at the earliest possible.

Sachin Kumar, DC, Leh said that cultural attitude, lack of infrastructure, skill gaps and remoteness from the market is the current obstacle for business creation in Ladakh. Keeping in mind with the numbers of opportunities he agreed with the 8 points agenda for growth being published by CII and expressed hopes to reduce the obstacles so that industry can thrive in this remote region of Ladakh.

Baseer ul Haq Choudhary, DC, Kargil, Mehmood, Director Industries, Commerce and Tourism, J&K and Nawang Thinles, Zonal Chairman, CII Ladakh Zonal Council also spoke on the occasion.

SoulSpeak

P.P. Wangchuk

Love for animals in our own interest



I had promised recently that I would turn a dog into a god! It is so simple. When turned around, the word 'dog' becomes 'god'! Therefore, doesn't that call for love and compassion for animals, seeing in them the image of god? I wrote this to a FB friend when he was all praise for his pet, and said: "Man's true friend."

I was lost in thoughts, and wondered why we human beings, even though gifted with high intelligence, have no love and care towards animals that too have the right to life.

In a way, most of the animals are better and more useful than most of us are. There are no 'extremist' animals, they mind their own business. Mankind's living and survival will get a big jolt if they were not to be there!

On an average, 150 million animals are killed for food around the world every day. In the US alone, 25 million farm animals are slaughtered every day. And 10 % of the animals reared for food die because of stress.

These shocking figures on animal killings should wake us up into becoming more sensible people. When the world is facing a severe climate crisis, one definite way is to stop killing animals and move towards plant-based food. The mother earth, when taken care of, can feed us like any other kind and compassionate mother on this planet.

There are some rays of hope when one gets to understand that more and more people across the globe are turning vegetarian for three reasons: Good health, compassion towards animals because they too have right to life as much as we do. And, thirdly, an effort towards stopping climate change. The last decade has also seen a kind of 'vegan movement' that respects all kinds of animals and forbids animal products for food or their use in any other way.

Therefore, the need of the day for our own selfish interest and survival is to be compassionate towards all kinds of animals. We can be happy only if the rest of the sentient beings are allowed to remain happy.

Courtesy: WongWorld

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

In Conversation with Stanzin Deachen, Anganwadi worker

Interviewed by Stanzin Dasal

Q. First of all congratulation on receiving the district award for the outstanding performance. What does it mean to receive this district award?

It is indeed very encouraging not just for me but for everyone who is working in different fields. I express my gratitude to my seniors who have put trust in me and encouraged me all this time. I started the work in Anganwadi centre in the year 2011 and all these years I have worked sincerely and with dedication.

The award is an honour which pushes me to work better and with more enthusiasm. Also, it has increased the expectation and trust. Recognition for the hard work and dedication has broken the stereotype thinking of receiving the award only when you do extraordinary or something big at a higher post. Today, many people who are working at smaller post are also encouraged.

Q. Brief us about the role and responsibilities of Anganwadi workers?

Anganwadi is a government-sponsored scheme for child and mother care development. It caters children of 0-6 age group from morning 10 am till 2 pm. The focal point of Anganwadi worker is the implementation of all health, nutrition and early learning initiatives under the Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS). The basic components under which Anganwadi workers perform their duty are:

1. **Supplementary Nutrition:** Children registered with the Anganwadi centre are provided supplementary nutrition according to the prescribed menu and scale. Also, the dry ration is distributed to the pregnant, lactating mother and adolescents.
2. **Non Formal Pre School Education:** Under this, children (3-6 years) are groomed and shaped for formal education in schools. We focus on various aspects such as psychological, physical and social development of the child.
3. **Nutrition and Health Education:** Under this, information is imparted on taking care of one's own health and nutrition needs.
4. **Immunization:** The beneficiaries are informed about vaccination and its importance. Also, they help health department officials during the vaccination day.
5. **Referral Service:** In case of medical complication detected during health checkup or in case beneficiaries fall sick at the centre, the patients are referred to the health centers.
6. **Health Checkup:** Periodically, health check-up of the pregnant,



care makes a child ready to join the school. As these days because of the nuclear family trend and working parents, Anganwadi centre acts as a second home for the children.

There is a need for more awareness among the people regarding the centre because people still have limited their thought as 'Thukpay school', a school where children are just served Thukpa. Many just emphasise the child to hold a pencil and start writing, the physical activities are considered useless. I really want to let people know that the centre works for the overall development of the child which is very crucial.

Q. Is there any kind of challenges you face?

The centre is running well and there are no such major challenges we are facing in terms of infrastructure, food, equipments etc. Only the limited salary and delay of payment is a concern.

Q. Brief us about the training to Anganwadi worker. How important is training?

Anganwadi workers being an important frontline worker for the mother and childcare development, necessary training and skills are imparted. Sometimes, experts or resource person are called to train the workers about functioning of centre and regarding childcare and development through various activities.

Training is necessary time to time in order to upgrade new skills and knowledge. More informed and equipped we are, better the work we will be performing. I personally feel that in a year one training is important for successful delivery of services.

Q. Have you ever faced discouragement because of the physical problem you have?

Since I have a problem in my legs many are not encouraging and supportive all the time. When I first joined as an Anganwadi worker there were people who asked me various question such as will you be able to do it? There are many responsibilities in this job and I did doubt myself initially. Later, when I started working, things were not as difficult as it seems and talked about. Today, I love my job and I am happy with myself.

Many a times when we have a problem, we give up without even trying which is so not done. There will be difficulties in the beginning but it's all about learning and moving on.

MESSAGE TO THE READERS

“ I would like to request people to take the advantage from different schemes of Government and enroll your children to the nearest ICDS centre for the overall development of the child. ”

nursing mother and child is done. The weight, height, body mass of the child is recorded.

Being an Anganwadi worker, my job is to run the centre effectively and efficiently.

Q. How important do you feel about the Anganwadi centre? Are people well aware of the centre?

Anganwadi centre definitely plays a very important role in a child's life. The centre besides providing meals looks after the children which help in psychological, physical and social development. Thus, all this

Ladakh delegation on Exposure Tour to Tribal Areas



The Puducherry delegation with D.r Kiran Bedi, Lieutenant Governor of Puducherry at Raj Niwas.



The Assam delegation with Justice T. Vaiphei, Chairperson Assam Human Rights Commission and Former Chief Justice High Court of Tripura at Guwahati.



The Sikkim delegation with her excellency Princess of Sikkim



The Andaman and Nicobar Island delegation with Chief Secretary Chetan. B. Sanghi, Andaman



The Meghalaya delegation with P.N. Syiem, Chairman, KHADC and Paul Lyngdoh Executive Member, Khasi Hill Autonomous Development Council.

Meeting held to boost tourism, industries sectors in Kargil



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: To boost tourism and industry sector in Kargil district Navin Kumar Choudhary, Principal Secretary, Tourism and Industries convened a meeting on September 6, at Tourist Facilitation Centre.

Navin Kumar Choudhary said that Government is endeavoring to boost Tourism and Industry sector in Kargil district and concrete measures are underway for the same which includes the creation of tourism infrastructure, publicity campaigns, and provision of incentives to entrepreneurs for the development of industries.

He assured to address the genuine concerns of hoteliers and owners of industrial units.

Baseer ul Haq Choudhary, DC Kargil was directed to organise

workshops for people associated with tourism, trade, and industry to understand their needs and developmental requirements which would be projected during the J&K Investors Summit.

Also, he assured to send a team from the Indian Institute of Hotel Management to conduct training and skill development classes for the local youths in the hotel industry. The training will be held annually for a batch of 40-50 candidates.

Navin Choudhary informed that the incentives for hoteliers are now available through the Industries department. He directed the concerned officers to clear all pending incentive cases within the stipulated time frame.

To impart awareness about Industries schemes for young entrepreneurs and hoteliers, he di-

rected the concerned officers to organise an orientation program within a week's time.

Also, to project the tourism potential of Kargil at the national and international level a fame tour of renowned travel journalists, photographers and travel writers will be organised to various tourist destinations in the district in near future, he added.

He also instructed the concerned officers to outsource all assets of Kargil Development Agency (KDA) for 15 years. Also, asked them to prepare a list of assets and submit the proposal for necessary approval in a week's time.

Principal Secretary also asked the Director Tourism Kashmir to prepare a wildlife tourism brochure for Kargil.

Various issues including operationalization of air services to Kargil, promotion of brown bear sightseeing in areas like Drass and Sankoo by holding roadshows, brochures, and films, institution of young entrepreneur awards, conservation, listing and cataloging of artifacts and several other related issues also came up for a thorough discussion during the meeting.

Vegetable-cum-Flower expo held in Leh



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Varieties of vegetables, fruits and flowers grown by local farmers was exhibited during the Vegetables-cum-Flowers Expo, 2019 on September 6 at Indoor Stadium, Leh.

Gyal P Wangyal, CEC, LAHDC, Leh inaugurated the exhibition.

Gyal P Wangyal said that agriculture has always been the priority sector of Hill Council and the project of making Leh district organic by 2025 is an important mission of Hill Council. He said that with the organic products and proper marketing the income of the farmers will increase manifold.

Talking about the Buckwheat production which has a high demand and price in the national and international market, he stressed on the need to increase the cultivation of buckwheat for commercial purposes. Also, he stressed on the need to develop mushroom production in Leh and create more awareness among the public at all levels.

Remembering Former CEC, Late Dr. Sonam Dawa initiative to grow Juniper using scientific technolo-

gy, Gyal informed that Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla is working on it with their laboratory set up in Leh.

He further urged parents to encourage and support their children in advance farming providing them with modern equipments to make field works interesting for them. He also instructed Agriculture Department to provide adequate seeds to the farmers and to work on providing them with alternative manure in place of chemical fertilizers.

Satya Prakash Negi, IFS Conservator of Forest, HFRI, Shimla talked about their success with 70% germination of Juniper seeds in Himachal with the use of seed technology and artificial regeneration technique.

He said that they are using similar technique with local species of Juniper in Leh and once the result is positive they in collaboration with Forest Division, Leh will introduce it for the public. Also, he highlighted the potential of medicinal plants in Ladakh and informed about a project taken up with Sowa Rigpa to research on medicinal plants in Leh.

Tashi Tsetan, Chief Agriculture Officer highlighted the schemes, technological and other agro facilities given to farmers and the achievements of the department.

He apprised about the profitable production of high yielding peas and rajma with vacuum pack and the need to promote florist and mushroom production.

Talking about the Mission Organic 2025, he informed about that it will start with around 25 identified villages in the first phase.

First 'Mobile Science Exhibition' flagged off in Leh



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: First Mobile Science Exhibition was flagged off by Prahlaad Singh Patel, Minister of State for Tourism and Culture (Independent Charge) GoI on September 5 from Leh Palace.

The Mobile Science Exhibition or Museo-Bus will organise exhibitions for the students throughout the year. The first exhibition was started at Boys Higher Secondary School.

In the initial one month, the programme shall be conducted for the students of Leh and surrounding areas. It will further extend its coverage up to sub-divisional headquarters ensuring participation of rural students.

Prahlaad Singh Patel informed that there were only 23 such Mobile Science Exhibition Vans for the entire country since 1965. Today with the visionary approach of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, 25 Mobile Science Exhibition are being dedicated to the Nation today in one go.

Mobile Science Exhibition objective is to create a scientific awareness in the society, inculcate a spirit of enquiry and inspire youngsters to pursue a career in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

He said that it is for the first time a national movement is launched from Leh and now India will have 48 such Mobile Science

Exhibition in different states with one functional in Leh.

Talking about India's ranking in tourism at a global level, he informed that India has achieved a significant position from 65th in 2013 to 34th this year.

Making a mention of the nationwide campaign of Swachh Bharat and its success started by Narendra Modi, he further added that PM has started another such campaign to free India from single-use plastic.

He stressed on the need for Ladakhi to hold their commitment to stop single-use plastic before emerging into Ladakh UT. He urged Hill Council, public and stakeholders in tourism sector to take necessary steps from the first day with adequate facilities like waste segregation at the commonplace and its proper disposal to get certified as the cleanest region in the country in the next 6 months.

Before Ladakh UT come into force, he stressed upon Ladakhis to set their developmental agendas and other goals on priority.



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SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tenders are invited from reputed/ registered construction firm the construction of greenhouse at KVK, SKUAST-K Nyoma. The tender document regarding the works/item (Annexure 1) and the terms and conditions can be had from office of KVK Nyoma. The tenders/quotation will be opened on 24 September 2019 at 11.00 PM in presence of the tenderers who may wish to remain present. The tender should be accompanied by CDR @ 2% of the total cost quoted by the firm. The Purchase Committee of KVK, SKUAST-K Nyoma reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason thereof.

Terms and Conditions

1. Tenders found deficiency in any of the following will be summarily rejected.
 - Registration (attested copy) of construction / supplier firm.
 - Tax Clearance certificate from concerned department.
2. The tenders should reach the office of the undersigned by or before 23/9/2019 up to 4:30 PM.
3. The firm must possess TIN/PAN/GST number.
4. Payments will be released only after completion and verification by the verifying committee.
5. The tender document should be accompanied by CDR @2% of the total cost quoted
6. Construction work will be executed at Nidder farm of KVK within one month after issue of allotment of work
7. For item in Annexure-I, tender should be in the name of Programme Coordinator, KVK Nyoma.

Annexure-I

Sr No.	Name of item	Qty.	Specifications	Tentative cost (including tax/gst)
	Greenhouse (Two in One)	1	Inner greenhouse: Size 50x18 ft., 3 side wall of 2 feet width (filled with saw dust 0.5 ft), Back wall height 7 ft, with mud plaster, Iron window, iron door, roof of wooden planks with width 3 ft, two roof ventilators, angle iron structure of half moon shape, rigidex polythene 150gsm Outer greenhouse: Movable on rails, Size 52x20 ft, solid angle iron structure to support movement, complete cover of rigidex polythene 150 gsm, North side height 8 ft, half moon shape ending on southern direction	2,20000/-

No:-AU/KVKN/19(acctt)/432-433
Date: 04-09-2019

(Sd)-
Programme Coordinator
KVK (SKUAST-K), Nyoma-Ladakh

NOTICE

402 Lt AD Regt (Comp), Leh invites the application for the opening of wet canteen at the unit location. Interested candidates can contact on: **8278281605, 8814026496.**

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