

# REACH LADAKH BULLETIN

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## Brief News

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Reach Ladakh's show 'The Reality' Episode # 3 will be releasing on 5th October (Saturday) in between 5:00 - 6:00pm on 'Reach Ladakh' Youtube channel.



Guest: Ashish Kothari, Environmentalist

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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. You can contact at 9858394403 or email at editor@reachladakh.com. All communication must carry the full postal address and telephone numbers.

### REACH LADAKH BULLETIN

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## EDWIN Ladakh held in Leh

Launches first edition of Reach Ladakh travel and business magazine



Dignitaries launching the Reach Ladakh Travel and Business Magazine in Leh

### Stanzin Dasal

LEH: Aiming to promote responsible and sustainable tourism in Ladakh, Educational Destination Workshop International (EDWIN) held on September 21 at Grand Dragon Hotel.

The familiarisation and the educational trip was organised by Overland Escape in collaboration with Global Panorama Showcase (GPS).

First edition of Reach Ladakh travel and business magazine was also launched.

B2B session was carried out between tour operators and travel agents from different parts of India to understand the tourism potential of Ladakh. The focus was made on promoting quality tourism and to educate the agents about the destination by briefing them the tourist spots.

Tsering Angmo, AD Tourism talked about the various potential of tourism in Ladakh. She requested all the tour opera-

tors and travel agents to promote quality tourism in Ladakh.

Tundup Dorjay, Founder, Overland Escape said, "It's an immense pleasure to conduct EDWIN, the familiarization and the educational trip in Ladakh for the second year. This kind of event is very important in places like Ladakh where the maximum of tourist visits without proper information. Thus, the effort is to make the visitors aware about the region and promote tourism at new heights."

Tsetan Angchuk, President All Ladakh Tour Operator Association talked about the increasing influx of tourism every year. He stressed on the need to promote quality tourism rather than mass tourism considering the fragile ecosystem of the region.

Ghulam Mustafa, MD, The Grand Dragon Hotel and Tsewang Yangjor, President, Hotel Association Leh also spoke on the occasion

## JKAACL Leh celebrates its Golden Jubilee

Eminent historian Tashi Rabgyas released K-sar Saga



Tashi Rabgyas, eminent scholar of Ladakh with Tsewang Paljor, Special Officer for Culture-GI Culture Academy Leh during its golden jubilee celebration.

### Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Completing fifty (50) years, J&K Academy of Arts, Culture and Languages (JKAACL) Leh celebrated golden jubilee with a grand function at its office complex September 25.

Tashi Rabgyas, eminent scholar of Ladakh was the chief guest on the occasion while Secretary JKAACL Srinagar Munir-ul-Islam, former Cultural Officers of the Academy Leh Scholar and writer Nawang Tsering Shakspo and Sangeet Natak Academy awardee Mipham Otsal were guests of honour.

The speech of Tashi Rabgyas was read out by eminent scholar and writer Dr Jamyang Gyaltsan.

He appreciated the tremendous contribu-

tions rendered by JKAACL Leh towards the preservation and promotion of the heritage of Ladakh since day one. Wishing for more glorious years for the academy, he said, "Completing 50 glorious years added more feathers to its work."

Munir-ul-Islam, Secretary JKAACL Srinagar congratulated and appreciated the department for its resourceful journey. He urged people to preserve the unique and rich cultural heritage of Ladakh.

"While it would be a great loss for J&K State to part with such a natural and culturally rich heritage place of Ladakh from its territory, on the other hand it is beneficial to the people of Ladakh to find platform at larger level where it is again

...Continues on Page 2

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## Zanskar demands separate district status



Members of the Bharatiya Janta Party, Zanskar during the press conference in Leh.

### Stanzin Dasal

LEH: Demanding district status to Zanskar sub-division and early completion of Nimoo-Padum Darcha road, a delegation of Bharatiya Janta Party, Zanskar convened a press conference on September 21 in Leh.

Stanzin Lakpa, Regional Coordinator, BJP Zanskar expressed his gratitude to the Modi government for declaring Ladakh as a Union Territory. Along with the historic move, he also seeks the attention of the government on the long pending demand of separate district status to the Zanskar region.

Zanskar, 240 km away from the headquarters in Kargil faces lots of problem due to the remoteness of the region and lack of facilities. The region remains cut off from its main headquarter in winters.

Being deprived of the basic facilities such as education, health, connectivity, communication the region has been demanding district status for a long time.

Stanzin Lakpa said, "Zanskar is one of the oldest Tehsil of Ladakh regions of J&K pre-1953 along with Leh and Kargil. Both were given full-fledged district status while Zanskar remained as a subject of exploitation and politically neglected region for all these years".

With the changing political scenario in Ladakh, he requested the Governor and the Modi Government to consider the demand for the overall development of the region.

Talking about the early completion of Nimoo Padum Darcha road he said that it's been 17 years since the work on this project was executed.

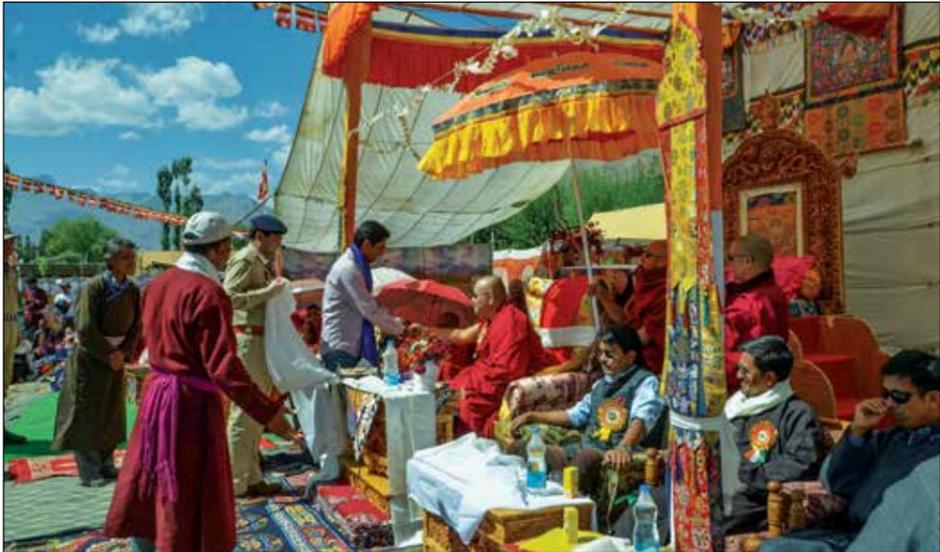
He said, "We are happy that the road between Zanskar and Darcha has been roughly connected this year but the work progress between Nimoo and Padum is in deplorable pace. First, they have set the deadline in 2007 and then in 2014, 2021 and now they have set the deadline in 2024. In April 2019, I visited and saw the work being carried out between Leh and Zanskar. At Bakula cave, the widening of the road is being done which is still going on at the same place very recently also".

He alleged the slumber attitude and lack of coordination among the officials of the executing agency as one of the main reason behind the delay of the work.

He appealed coordination of the officials and early completion of the road which is very important for the whole Ladakh region.

A copy of the memorandum was also submitted to the Governor J&K Satya Pal Malik and MP Ladakh, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal.

## Syabje Ling Rinpoche inaugurates Lhakang Tashizgang monastery in Wakha



His Eminence Yongzin Ling Rinpoche during the consecration of Lhakang Tashizgang monastery in Wakha.

### Reach Ladakh Correspondent

WAKHA: Praying for world peace and communal harmony, His Eminence Yongzin Ling Rinpoche consecrated Lhakang Tashizgang monastery on September 15 in Wakha.

The monastery was built at a cost of ₹2 crores 20 lacs in 5 years. The money was raised through donations from devotees of entire Ladakh and Kullu, Manali, Khunnu and others.

Highlighting the principle of Buddhist philosophy, His Eminence Syabje Ling Rinpoche urged devotees to imbibe the true ethics of Buddhism and to act upon them to lead a happy and healthy life.

His Eminence also stressed people to work for the strengthening of the values of secular amity besides to lead a life of virtue and compassion.

Feroz Ahmad Khan, CEC, Kargil, Leh extended a warm welcome to His Eminence in Kargil for grac-

ing the inaugural ceremony of the festival.

He lauded the commitment and dedication of the committee members and other stakeholders for ensuring completion of the monastery.

Highlighting the significance of Ladakh as an example of communal harmony and mutual co-existence, Feroz Ahmad appealed people to work towards strengthening these age-old ancestral traditions to pass them on to the next generation in their true essence.

Colourful cultural programmes were also presented by the villagers of Wakha, Mulbekh, Bodh Kharboo, Sapi and adjoining villages as well as the artists of J&K Cultural Academy.

Er Phunsog Tashi, EC Zanskar Affairs; Muhammad Ali Chandan, EC Health; Baseer ul Haq Choudhary, DC, Kargil; Dr Vinod Kumar, Superintendent of Police Kargil; Eminent head lamas of various monasteries; religious head and many other were present.

## UT Ladakh will bridge Leh, Kargil people, says Haji Anayat



During the reception of Haji Anayat Ali and Tsering Gyalpo at BJP office Leh.

### Stanzin Dasal

LEH: After joining BJP in August 2019, a warm welcome was given to Haji Anayat Ali, Chairman, J&K Legislative Council, Tsering Gyalpo, Former SSP and other members on September 21 at BJP Office.

Haji Anayat said that the recent political development in the region has left the regional parties with no role to perform. Talking about the Union Territory status for Ladakh, he said, "Kargil people were not in favour of UT, the demand was strived and asked by the people of Leh. But

now since we have got the UT, it becomes important for each one of us to accept and work together for the needed changes and mechanism to make things in a better way".

"Views and opinions of the people are changing and they are gradually accepting it. I feel that the Union Territory status for Ladakh will strengthen the bond between Leh and Kargil districts," he added.

Chering Dorjay, Former minister said that with the joining of Haji Anayat in BJP, not only the party will be stronger but will bridge

the gap between Leh and Kargil. He said that the Haji Anayat's leadership and broad-mindedness will bring more development and a stronger relationship between the people.

Tsering Gyalpo, Former SSP assured all support from the Changthang region especially in the upcoming Hill Council election next year. He said that the Changthang region will sweep the votes in favour of BJP.

Sat Sharma, Former Minister and other BJP leaders and party workers were also present during the occasion.

## BJP candidate wins Martselang constituency by-election



### Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: BJP candidate Stanzin Chosphelel won Martselang constituency by-election by a margin of 427 votes. The result was declared by

Returning Officer for Martselang constituency of Hill Council, Leh on September 23.

Stanzin Chosphelel got 1,300 votes; Congress candidate Tashi

Norboo Jayo got 316 votes and Rinchen Gurmet, Independent candidate secured 873 votes. 11 votes voted in favour of NOTA and 41 votes got rejected.

In this by-election, 2,552 of the total electorate of 4,293 of 8 villages including Stok, Matho, Stakna, Martselang, Changa, Chomoling, Shang and Chokdo falling under Martselang constituency have exercised their voting rights on 19 September.

The counting of the vote took place at Counting centre Tisuru under the supervision of Chief Election Authority, Hill Council, Leh Sachin Kumar Vaishya.

## JKAACL Leh celebrates its Golden Jubilee

...Continued from Page 1

also very crucial to be extra conscious of homogenization, a global threat to the cultural heritage," he added.

Nawang Tsering Shaksपो, scholar and writer and Mipham Otsal, Sangeet Natak Academy awardee both shared their journey. Nawang Tsering Shaksपो appealed not to lose the identity of being Ladakhi and all must consciously take crucial steps to keep the rich culture of Ladakh intact.

Sharing similar views of other experts NSD alumnus Mipham Otsal also appeals to include 'Theatre in Education' as part of the school curriculum.

Earlier, Tsewang Paljor, Special Officer for Culture-G1 Culture Academy Leh spoke about valuable contributions of the Academy and also appreciated the contributors in the form of writers, poets, artists, artisans, performers and singers of all art forms for being part of the Academy.

Taking cognizance of rapidly, effortlessly creeping homogenization into our lives, pointing towards auspicious objects of 'dangyas', 'gorza', and 'nayopa-rtses', Paljor elaborated about their symbolic importance and wished for a healthy, wealthy

and happy lives of the people of Ladakh in particular and the world in general.

Tashi Rabgyas released a special publication of K-sar saga and JKAACL Leh's annual publications of 'Sheraza'.

Ex-employees of the Academy were also facilitated with 'khatags'. Ven. Monks of Hemis monastery presented a part of their 'Chhams' rehearsals.

Similarly, performance of Achi-lhamo, short-play and folk dances of both Leh and Kargil districts were part of the inaugural function. Various art forms of agricultural tools, sowarigpa, astrology, fortune teller, porter, manuscript, leather-worker and others were on display.

Traditional 'Manepa' performance, seminar on contributions of JKAACL Leh in the field of preservation and up-gradation of cultural heritage, language, poetic heritage, and importance of basic ethics of culture in 21st century; artists meet; film screening; musical concert and theatre performance by Theatre Group of Kargil were the main attractions.

Vote of thanks was given by Nazir Hussain, SOCA G1 Kargil.

## Awareness programme on child rights and protection held in Nubra



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

NUBRA: Awareness campaign on Juvenile Justice Act, Child Rights and Protection, Protection of Children from Sexual Offence (POCSO), Act 2012 and school safety was held from September 16 to 18 in different schools of Nubra valley.

The three-day campaign was organised by Tehsil Legal Service Authority, Nubra in collaboration with the Department of

Child Protection Services, Leh.

Students of government higher secondary school Turtuk, Bogdang, Sumoor, Diskit and government high school Panamik and Lamdon middle school, Diskit were made aware about child rights and protection.

Chairperson and Member Child Welfare Committee, Member Juvenile Justice Board, Protection Officer, Social Worker District Child Protection Unit and Para

Legal Volunteers were the resource person.

Along with the campaign, Inspection Committee of the Department of Child Protection Services took stock of the standards of childcare in Samstanling monastic hostel, KGBV Sumoor, Lamdon school hostel, Tribal hostel Diskit and higher secondary school hostel, Diskit.

They appealed the school authority to ensure a safe and protected environment for children in the childcare institutions.

Students, teachers and principals of all the schools appreciated the team for making them aware of such legislation that exclusively deals with children.

They further stressed for such awareness programme in future too and ensured every possible support.

## Advisory Committee discusses assets liabilities with Hill Council, District Officers



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Members of Advisory Committee on their visit to Leh convened a meeting with all the district officers of Leh at DC Office Conference hall, Leh on September 26.

The meeting was chaired by Sanjay Mitra, IAS Retd accompanied by Arun Goyal, IAS Retd and Giriraj Prasad Gupta, ICAS Retd. Div Com Ladakh Saugat Biswas, DC, Leh Sachin Kumar, SSP Leh Sargun Shukla, ADDC, Leh Moses Kunzang and all the district officers attended the meeting.

Mitra asked for department wise requirement of assets from J&K state and present liabilities. He directed the HODs to do a detailed study of department's assets at directorate level and submit the list of their requirements as per availability to DC, Leh at the earliest. He gave full assurance to consider

their issues and address them accordingly.

Some of the major issues highlighted include the shift of school board from J&K Board to C.B.S.E Board, extension of board examination from October to March, to increase diet charges in residential schools.

SSP projected the need for mobile BB Bunker, water tanker, traffic signals, toeing vehicle and solar run street lights. DFO Leh pressed on the need to forest land in Ladakh, CMO projected the need of MRI machine, Nursing College and more specialized doctors.

Others issues discussed were the requirement of office infrastructure, shortage of manpower, vehicle and late release of state funds raised by various officers.

Earlier on September 21, a meeting was held Leh at Council Secretariat where Gyal P Wangyal, CEC; Jamyang Tsering Namgyal, MP Ladakh and Tsering Dorjey Lakrook, Former MLC strongly demanded a due share of assets from J&K State to the UT Ladakh including land and buildings from New Delhi, Chandigarh and Mumbai. They also said that land and buildings purchased and build by LAHDC, Leh at Jammu and Srinagar must remain with UT Ladakh. Proper distribution of moveable assets including the helicopter, SRTC Buses, Security vehicles including bulletproof vehicles, Garages vehicles were also discussed at length.

## Consultative committee demands to strengthen Hill Council in UT Ladakh

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Suggestions and feedbacks from the Councillors of LAHDC, Leh on the ongoing deliberations on UT Ladakh were taken during a consultative committee meeting on September 19 at Council Secretariat.

The meeting was chaired by Gyal P. Wangyal, CEC, LAHDC, Leh also the chairman of the Consultative Committee constituted by Hill Council, Leh.

Tsering Angchuk, Secretary, Consultative Committee also the councillor of Diskit constituency gave a detail powerpoint presentation on the compiled suggestions and feedback received from different stakeholders for UT Ladakh.

Tsering Sandup, Deputy Chairman and Puntsog Dorjey, Councillor Phyang who recently visit-



During the consultative committee meeting at Council Secretariat.

ed Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Pondicherry also shared their observations in the meeting.

After detail discussion on all the aspects of UT Ladakh, the Councillors in one voice felt the need to strengthen Hill Council under UT Ladakh.

They strongly suggested that the role of LAHDC Leh, it's functioning and powers must be integrated with amendments in

the Act of Hill Council when it merges into UT Ladakh. And to project the demands, the meeting suggested for engaging constitutional and political experts.

The meeting also decided that headed by Executive Councillors as per their portfolio will identify potential sectors with roadmap enabling Council with ready documents to demand funds for important sectors from GoI.

## Ladakh Div Com chairs civil-military liaison meet



Saugat Biswas, Divisional Commissioner Ladakh chairing the civil-military liaison meet

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: A review meeting for land and other security-related issues of both Leh and Kargil district with Army (14 Corps) was convened by Saugat Biswas, Divisional Commissioner Ladakh on September 18.

Sachin Kumar Vaishya, DC, Leh, Brig Rakesh Manocha, Col Rahul Oberoi, Col Savit Sharma, Defence Estate Officer Irfan Hafiz, Tashi Dolma, ADC to Div Com, Suresh Kumar Chib, ASP, Tehsildar Leh, ARTO, Leh attended the meeting. Baseer ul Haq Choudhary, DC Kargil, SP Kargil and other concern officers were present through video conferencing.

Saugat Biswas directed Deputy Commissioners to expedite the pending mutations for lands which are in lawful possession of the Army. He urged the Army authorities and the Defence Estates Officer to do a regular follow-up of pending land issues with the district administrations.

DCs were asked to ease the process of granting NOCs to the Army for construction purposes in Army land. Also, he urged Brig. Rakesh Minocha to relax norms in favour of the civilians as much as possible while arbitrating with the civilians in matters of land and constructions.

Baseer ul Haq Choudhary was asked to resolve the lower Khurbathang dispute in coordination with the GOC 8 Mountain Div, Kargil in a time-bound manner and reclaim the land from the Army at an earliest for civilian usage.

Saugat Biswas directed the DCs to expedite and resolve the maximum number of cases before the formal setup of Ladakh as UT.

Both Army and District Administration urged to have district-level civil-military liaison meet every month. He asked the Defense Estates Officer to resolve all the cases in consultation with the Deputy Commissioners wherever Ex-State Forces property is to be

formally transferred to the Army.

Army highlighted the increase in the usage of Thuraya radio sets (satellite phones) by tourists and also non-registration of overseas tourists sometimes.

Saugat Biswas directed Tourism department to register all rented accommodations in the districts and share the information with the Superintendents of Police. The SPs were asked to reconcile data of resthouses/homestays/hotels with the tourism department and ensure all overseas tourists are registered on the FRO on arrival.

Awareness on prohibiting the use of satellite phones will be carried out by the tourism and police department.

Brigadier Manocha also assured that every effort will be made by the Army to ease out civilian day to day activities in the border areas. Also, proactive measures will be taken to ease restrictions coming in the way of developmental activities of the government.

## Smart classroom worth ₹1.50 lakh inaugurated at Phay School

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

PHAY: A Smart Classroom worth ₹1.50 lakh was launched at Middle School Phay on September 21. The fund was provided by Chhering Dorjey, Former MLC from the MLC fund.

Chhering Dorjey said that people in villages never demand money to improve the education sector when it comes to utilization of MLC, MP or CCD funds. They are least concerned about the school conditions and facilities required; it's never a priority of elders to ensure a good education quality to their children. He informed that considering the importance of the education sector without any demand from the public he sanctioned money from his MLC fund for thirty smart classes one for each councillor.

He said that under UT Ladakh there would be adequate funds and a good percentage of it needs to be diverted to the education sector and such smart class can be installed in every classroom of all government schools. He urged the teachers to use the smart class as a tool to enhance their teaching skills and to provide the students with practical knowledge of the lesson they learn.

Acknowledging the good enrollment of Nepali student in government schools, Dorjey said that we are the host country and it is the responsibility of local government and education depart-



Chhering Dorjey alongwith Tashi Dolma and Stanzin Konchok inaugurating the smart classroom.

ment to provide these children with good quality education.

He urged the village people to strengthen government schools and make them accountable rather than sending their kids to far off private schools.

Stanzin Konchok, EC Education informed that along with the team of education department certain decision has been taken that will be implemented soon in bringing required changes and improvement in the education system of Leh. The decision includes strengthening of primary schools, from 3rd standard onwards question papers and marking to be done from outside and making Saturdays back free day in government schools from the next academic session. He stressed on the need to increase enrollment, improve infrastructure and provides better facilities in government schools. He urged every Councillor to spend 30-40% of their CD fund in the

education sector.

Tashi Dolma, Joint Director Education Ladakh said that smart classes should be used as a teaching aid but it can never replace a teacher. She urged the teachers to take maximum benefit in bringing clarity of content through smart class but to ensure their presence as a facilitator. She also informed about new designed furniture provided to government schools and all the 28 identified schools will have smart class in the next few days at a total cost of ₹ 42 lakh.

Rinchen Dolma, Head Mistress and village Tsering Motup, Nambardar expressed gratitude to MLC and Education Department to provide them with a smart class. Nambardar also thanked Chhering Dorjey for his contributions in the construction of classrooms and wooden flooring in the school. He further demanded a science teacher and a hall for the smart class.

## EXPERT TALK

## What's next after UT status for Ladakh?

By Stanzin Dasal



**Tsering Samphel, Former President District Congress Committee, Leh:** With the declaration of UT status for Ladakh there are many concerns related to land, identity, job, and culture. The utmost need of the hour is to get Ladakh under the sixth schedule of the Indian constitution which protects the tribal population in many aspects. Ladakh being a 98% tribal population fulfills the criteria to be under the sixth schedule and we are very positive and hopeful with the Government of India for due consideration.

Recently, a study group comprising people from all walks of life from both Leh and Kargil district visited few tribal states (Assam, Meghalaya, Sikkim) and two Union Territories (Andaman and Nicobar Island, Puducherry) organised by the Himalayan Institute for Alternative Learning (HIAL). The aim was to study and understand the mechanisms, policies, laws and necessary amendments.

Ladakh needs a land protection mechanism which is very important. The rising concern for land ownership is genuine because we have an example of Tripura state. 20 years back Tripura has 80% of the tribal population but now only 20% are left with a chief minister of Bengal origin. We need the power to make our laws in terms of land by inserting a 'land transfer' paragraph in the 6th schedule. Most of the land in Ladakh is barren that doesn't mean we will just sit and say that nothing is possible on those lands. We are living in a technological era where water, connectivity, and other facilities can be easily made available. Thus, the protection of it is a must. Many experts said that declaration of most of the land under forest, wildlife sanctuaries, and the national park will be the best way to keep it safe because under such Acts and law no one can do any activities on these lands.

Mining activity in Ladakh is another big concern because of the region potential in various natural resources and minerals such as high-grade Uranium. Before any plans for extraction, there is a need to study more about the place which faced severe consequences after

extraction of Uranium. There is a need for strict law for mining and extraction of other resources and also need to understand the pros and cons before exploring all the avenues.

Ladakh being a tourist potential area many of us have fear of getting our business doomed with the opening of big hotels and resort by the non-local investors. This can be curbed if we have the power of making law by limiting the number of rooms in a new hotel. E.g. Hotels with more than 40 rooms will not be allowed to establish. This will be a solution because I don't feel big luxurious hotels and resorts will invest in just limited rooms. Similarly, we can make such mechanisms in other sectors also.

The declaration of schedule 6 will be a bonus point in safeguarding the old cultural and community-driven initiatives like Churpon system and many other. The fear we always had that all those systems are eroded will be revived and promoted by making a law.

The sixth schedule provides District Council and Regional Councils with certain legislative and judicial powers. Given which, many of our insecurities and concerns can be taken care off.

Feedbacks, suggestion and needed information are given by a different section of the society after all the brainstorming and discussion. Now the responsibility lies on the Hill Council to work upon it and let the voices heard to the concerned people.

**Solutions:**

- The collaborative effort is a must for region betterment and development
- Active working is a must before October 31



**Dr. Eshey Namgyal, President, Municipal Committee Leh:** Union Territory status has given us a new identity which is very crucial because all those years we faced many problems and issue being under J&K. Today when we are free from the Kashmir dominance there is a mixed reaction among the people towards it. There is a concern among the people over the job, land ownership, mining, and business. To study that and find a mechanism different association and study group has come up with suggestion and feedback which is presented to the Consultative Committee headed by LAHDC. The important demands for a better UT will be presented to the government before October 31. Out of the end number of points, the first and the foremost thing is to make Ladakh under Schedule 6 which is declared as 'Trib-

al Areas'. 98 percent population of the Ladakh region are tribal's, therefore, we can be declared as tribal area because of which many of the concerns and rising issues can be solved.

Many think that Ladakh has so much area nearly 60,000 sq km which can be used for many things. However, they failed to understand that a major chunk of land is covered with rugged mountain and only limited land is left for cultivation and habitation. With the declaration of the tribal area, land protection of both the state and private land will be covered more or less.

Ladakh UT has been granted keeping the Hill Council intact which gives the privilege to elect our representatives. With this, we need to recommend for the empowerment of Hill Council same as Bodoland Territorial Council which is very beneficial and important.

Bodoland Territorial Council being under Assam state, the government has transferred 40 subjects under Bodoland. The Council can make law on 40 different subjects; can prepare the annual confidential report of all the employees from higher-ups till bottom, transfer the power of all the employees' lies under the Council, can send recommendations of an employee who comes on deputation to Assam Government and many more. Such empowerment is needed for further strengthening of the Hill Councils.

The sixth schedule is constitutionally empowered and necessary implementation can be done by adding or deleting paragraphs. It is not mandatory to follow what has been made in the Schedule sixth of the constitution, there is provision for needed changes in it.

If the tribal area is not declared, I feel that we need to make our social laws at all level very strict which is very successful among the nomadic people and other section of the society.

Strengthening at the grass-root level, the revival of old tradition and custom such as Churpon system and all are very important in safeguarding the land, culture, and identity. This can be one way to be away from the influence of big investment. Secondly, the geographical and climatic condition of Ladakh is one good factor which makes many of the outsiders think before residing here.

There is a need for adequate awareness and cooperation among the people and the active participation of all the leaders to make UT Ladakh a better one.

**Solutions:**

- Awareness among the people is also important to avoid rumours.
- Participation of every section of the society in giving feedbacks, suggestion, and information is a must.

## IN FOCUS

## Where does India stand on plastic waste?

G. Ananthkrishnan

**What is the protocol that needs to be in place before a ban on single-use plastic items comes into force?**

The story so far: On August 15, in his Independence Day address, Prime Minister Narendra Modi called for a movement to eliminate single-use plastic in India, beginning on Gandhi Jayanti (October 2). Individuals and organisations should now actively remove plastic waste from their surroundings and municipal bodies must arrange to collect these articles. Start-ups and industries should think of newer ways of recycling. The government is reported to be working on a ban on certain plastic items of common use such as carry bags, cutlery and plates under the Environment (Protection) Act, and this may be announced on October 2, well ahead of the earlier deadline of 2022.

**Where does India stand on plastic waste?**

In spite of the notification of the Plastic Waste Management (PWM) Rules, 2016, and amendments made two years later, most cities and towns are not prepared to implement its provisions. Even the biggest Municipal Corporations shouldering a staggering waste burden have failed to implement segregation of waste: collecting recyclable plastic, non-recyclable plastic and other waste separately for processing by material recovery facilities. This is a growing crisis amid criticism of under-reporting of the true extent of plastic waste. Per capita consumption of plastic is projected to go up from 11 kg in 2014-15 to 20 kg by 2022 (Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry data); about 43% is single-use packaging with poor rates of recovery.

An amendment to the PWM Rules in 2018,

by which a six-month deadline was fixed for producers to arrange for recovery of waste in partnership with State Urban Development departments, has made little progress. Neither is plastic marked with numerical symbols (such as 1 for PET, 4 for Low Density Polyethylene, 5 for Polypropylene and so on) to facilitate recycling using the correct industrial process.

Recycling reduces the volume of non-recyclables that must be disposed of using methods such as co-processing in cement kilns, plasma pyrolysis or land-filling. In April this year, the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) issued notice to 52 companies asking them to file their plan to fulfil their EPR (extended producer responsibility) obligation.

**Are alternatives such as compostable or biodegradable plastics viable?**

Although compostable, biodegradable or even edible plastics made from various materials such as bagasse (the residue after extracting juice from sugarcane), corn starch, and grain flour are promoted as alternatives, these currently have limitations of scale and cost.

Some biodegradable packaging materials require specific microorganisms to be broken down, while compostable cups and plates made of polylactic acid, a popular resource derived from biomass such as corn starch, require industrial composters. On the other hand, articles made through a different process involving potato and corn starch have done better in normal conditions, going by the experience in Britain. Seaweed is also emerging as a choice to make edible containers.

In India, though, in the absence of robust testing and certification to verify claims made by producers, spurious biodegradable and compostable plastics are entering the

marketplace. In January this year, the CPCB said that 12 companies were marketing carry bags and products marked 'compostable' without any certification, and asked the respective State Pollution Control Boards to take action on these units.

A ban on single-use plastic items would have to therefore lay down a comprehensive mechanism to certify the materials marketed as alternatives, and the specific process required to biodegrade or compost them. A movement against plastic waste would have to prioritise the reduction of single-use plastic such as multi-layer packaging, bread bags, food wrap, and protective packaging. Consumers often have no choice in the matter. Other parts of the campaign must focus on tested biodegradable and compostable alternatives for plates, cutlery and cups, rigorous segregation of waste and scaled up recycling. City municipal authorities play a key role here.

**What can the packaging industry do?**

Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar sent a message to the industry at the global flexible packaging conference in Mumbai recently that it must take its extended producer responsibility requirement under the law seriously. The Secretaries of the Environment and Petroleum Ministries said at the event that plastic waste was a key concern, and industry should look at innovation and new materials in the days ahead, besides facilitating collection and recycling with the help of city administrations.

Packaging is projected to grow into a \$72.6 billion industry in India by 2020 from about \$31 billion in 2015, with a proportionate rise in waste volumes. The pressure on producers to streamline the collection, recycling and processing of all forms of plastic is bound to grow.

Courtesy: The Hindu

## SoulSpeak

P.P. Wangchuk

## Let's try to explore the better side



The opposite of 'right' is not always 'wrong', it can be 'left' as well, says author Amish Tripathi, who has a knack of finding out a ray of hope even in darkness.

What does that tell us? It tells us that most of us, most of the time, tend to take a negative view of things, and would lose no time to declare 'wrong' as the opposite to 'right'. I do not know whether it is in our nature to see only the negative aspects, ignoring the brighter side of things. Let us remind ourselves that nothing can be bad unless there is something called 'good'.

Now, when we talk of 'left' as the opposite of 'right', we can go on for several meanings of 'left': Left as in 'left hand'; left as in 'he has left'; left as in 'left parties'; and of course, as in 'left-over food'. If one works out with a little more patience, there could be several more such examples, but since our purpose here is not to go for 'examples', it is better to immediately go to the point.

And the point is that we need to train ourselves on getting the right meaning out of so many other meanings. Only then we will be able to live well and do good in life. A well-trained mind, I suppose, automatically gets to the best of the lot of the possibilities and carries on with the 'assigned work.'

There is a lovely quote by Saint Augustine that says: "Right is right even if no one is doing it; and wrong is wrong even if everyone is doing it." That strengthens my point that most of us tend to do the wrong thing, and yet we think we are doing the right thing. We need to come out of this illusion, and that is possible only by looking within and training our minds to be able to differentiate between the right and the wrong.

Courtesy: WongWorld

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

## In Conversation with Tundup Gyaltson, Constable, Jammu & Kashmir Police

Interviewed by Tsering Dolker

**Q. Congratulations on receiving District Award for your sincerity and dedication. How do you feel about it?**

This is for the first time I am being honoured for my sincerity and dedication towards my job. I am overwhelmed and feel happy to receive this district award. It will motivate me for the rest of my life to work diligently and with more honesty. And I am sure that this will also inspire many others like me to work hard.

I want to take this opportunity to thank my mentor, Sargun Shukla, Superintendent of Police and Suraj Singh Dy. SP for recognizing my work.

**Q. What inspired you to work hard and with sincerity?**

I am working with J&K Police from the past nine years. From the first day of my joining as a constable, I have set my mind to work with full enthusiasm and dedication. The punctual nature of mine has always been a plus point while performing my duty. Besides, wearing this khaki uniform reminds me every day about my duties and responsibilities.

I never expected any awards all I know is to render service for the public wholeheartedly. I never step back from any of the tasks my officers have asked me to do whether it's a rescue work in times of emergency or a regular duty. Also, I chose to live in a staff quarter so that I will be available whenever my officer needs me for any task.

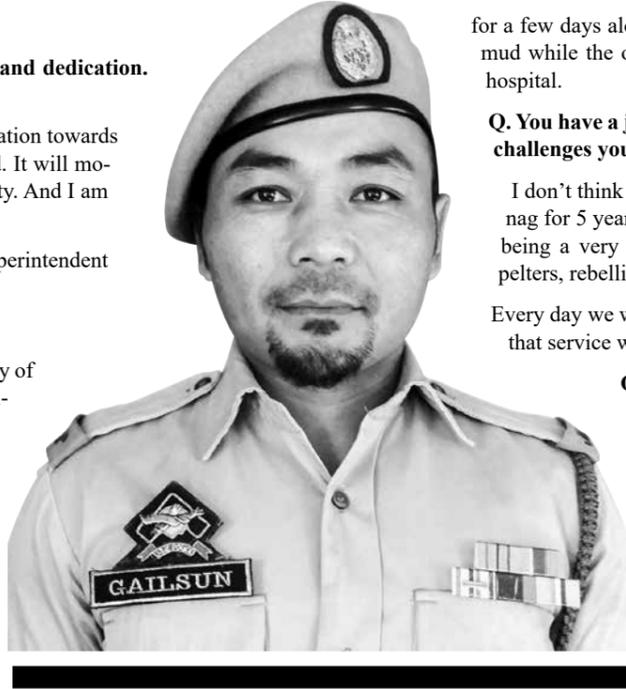
**Q. What are your roles and responsibilities?**

Unlike other officials, there are not much bigger responsibilities for me as a constable. I have not been posted at a police station till now and it's been three years since I am serving at Police line. I believe that with my good effort one day I will serve at a better designation also.

Talking about the department as a whole, it is a guardian of law and order. There are many responsibilities such as maintaining public order and safety, enforcing the law, preventing, detecting and investigating criminal activities.

**Q. Do you want to share some of your experience related to any public service?**

I was one among the member of the rescue team during the Khardong-La avalanche incident in January 2019 when a group of people



### MESSAGE TO THE READERS

“A policeman is a friend and a guide to the law-abiding citizen. Peoples' cooperation with the police will enhance the development and helps in maintaining peace and harmony in our society.”

were buried under the snow. I served as an in charge wet canteen and my role is to serve hot tea and beverage for those who were rescuing bodies under the debris where the temperature was -20 degree Celsius. The rescue work lasted for 3-4 days.

Apart from that during 2010 flash flood in Leh, I went to rescue people

for a few days along with my team. On the first night, we rescued few children out of the mud while the other days went digging out the corpse and aiding injured people to the hospital.

**Q. You have a job which needs 24 hours of hard-work and surveillance, what are the challenges you face?**

I don't think I have faced much of challenges in Leh, but when I was posted at Anantnag for 5 years, it was a fearful experience for me as well as my companions. Srinagar being a very sensitive place, we have encountered many experiences such as stone pelters, rebellion and agitations of militancy.

Every day we were not sure whether we will come back safely or not, but by making out that service with success I feel proud and happy too.

**Q. What are the most common cases in our society you have encountered?**

Since I have never been posted to any police station till now I have fewer experiences of cases and issues. Serving at District Police Line we deal mostly with emergencies, rescue and some government assignments.

As per my general observation, illegal selling of alcohol by some people is one factor leading to many road accidents, brawl among people and many untoward incidents. This also leads to a bad impact on our youths and causes domestic violence. Also, as the number of outsiders has increased in Ladakh our society is changing with some crime cases and also our moral value is being deteriorated with the pace of modernization.

**Q. How important is it to felicitate and honour people for their dedication and hardwork?**

Disapproval and criticism often get very easily to someone who leaves many of the people helplessness, low confidence and limited thoughts. But appreciating them with awards and recognition can motivate ones to work even harder, makes them feel better about themselves and urging them to go on with new vigor.

I hope such awards shall push forward people to work for a good cause and honesty in future as well. Highlighting such people also plays a big role. I am very thankful to Reach Ladakh for giving me this special place in your newspaper. This will encourage many others to work with a selfless attitude and a clear conscience.

## Fortnight Highlights



KVK Kargil organises mela cum method demonstration on water conservation under Jal Shakti Abhiyan on September 15.



The North Quest Challenge, the world's highest accredited MTB XCM race, kicked off with a total participant of 80 riders including 37 in elite category and 43 in the amateur category in Stage 1 starting from Spituk-Choglamsar road near Hotel Dewachan on September 21.



District Legal Service Authority (DLSA), Leh in collaboration with district administration Leh conducted awareness programme to highlight the aims and objectives of DLSA, besides spreading awareness about some of the alarming environmental issues faced by people in the district.



Mumtaz Hussain EC and Sonam Gyurmet, Assistant Director Handicrafts inaugurating the 5-day Handicraft Exhibition held in Leh.



Jamyang Tsering Namgyal, MP Ladakh chairing the inaugural session of Swachh Sarvekshan, 2020 workshop as the chief guest on the occasion at Grand Dragon Hotel, Leh.

## New Medical Colleges director, J&K, visits Leh

Aims to prepare preliminary survey report for proposed Medical College for Leh district

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Discussion on the basic requirements including land for the proposed Medical College in Leh was held during a meeting with Dr. Yashpal Sharma Director New Medical Colleges, J&K and Gyal P Wangyal, CEC Hill Council, Leh on September 19 at Council Secretariat.

Dr. Yashpal Sharma was in Leh to prepare preliminary survey report for the proposed Medical College for Leh district. He has more than twenty-six years of varied experience especially in the field of Hospital administration and also has many research publications in the field of Health & Hospital Administration.

Welcoming Dr. Yashpal and R&B Architect, Gyal P Wangyal apprised them about the land already identified for medical college at Sindhu Ghat Shey. He requested them to design the college as per the climate and traditional requirements of Ladakh.

He further assured every possible help in survey procedures.

Dr. Yashpal said that based on the survey and in line with IPHS norms, the Government of India will sanction Medical College for Leh. He suggest-



Dr. Yashpal Sharma, Director New Medical Colleges, J&K, Gyal P Wangyal, CEC, LAHDC, Leh along with concerned officials during a meeting on proposed Medical College in Leh.

ed the Council to start working on all the requirements needed for the medical college in advance.

Sharing his experience, Dr. Yashpal said that after completion of college building the biggest challenge for us is to find complete faculty members. He urged Hill Council to start identifying and convince faculty members from today onwards.

Tsering Sandup, Deputy Chairman; Phuntsog Stanzin and Konchok Stanzin, Executive Councillors; Dr. Motup, CMO, Leh and Dr. Samphel, Medical Superintendent, SNM, Hospital, Leh were also present.

## Meeting for skill development and entrepreneurship programme held in Leh



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: A director-level delegation from Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship GoI are on a study tour of Ladakh to ascertain apprenticeship, skilling and other employment potentials and opportunities in Ladakh.

A meeting was held with the Sanjay Kumar Director Projects, DGT, Ministry of Skill Development GoI and Gyal P Wangyal, CEC, Leh on September 18 at Council Secretariat.

Tsering Sandup, Deputy Chairman and Phuntsog Stanzin, Executive Councilor for Agriculture were also present.

Gyal P Wangyal urged upon the delegation to visit every nook

and corner of Ladakh so that they can fully understand the real need and potential of Ladakh. He requested them to device a comprehensive skill development and entrepreneurship programme for youths of Ladakh.

He stressed on changing the mindset of Ladakhi youths by conducting workshop and awareness programmes at large scale so that they can go into trades like plumber and electrician etc.

Gyal P Wangyal urged the delegation to identify new courses/skills in ITI Leh and hoped that gradually new ITI centers will be opened at sub-divisional levels in UT Ladakh.

Tsering Sandup stressed on bringing all the skill and entrepreneur-

ship training institutes of Leh under one roof to ensure maximum benefit to the unemployed youths.

He said Food Craft Institute Leh could be used to start new courses of Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship GoI.

Phuntsog Stanzin also briefed the delegation about the immense potential of agro-based trades and business in Ladakh.

Sanjay Kumar informed about the potentials of Ladakh including solar energy and a course on solar technician in ITI Leh will be introduced soon.

The delegation said that in Ladakh there is immense potential in various sectors and one of the advantages is that the skilled hands could be absorbed in Ladakh itself.

Dr. Poonam Sinha Director NIS-BUD; V.K Saksena Deputy Director DGT; Sohmesh Anand Incharge PM Yuva; Parveen Manikpuri Consultant Apprenticeship and Abid Hussain, Superintendent ITI, Leh were present.

## IN THE COURT OF CHIEF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE, KARGIL

Present: Mr. Mansoor Ahmad Lone (KCS-J)  
IN THE CASE OF: Mohd Aslam Mir S/o Hassan Mir  
R/o Thasgam District Kargil.  
.....Complainant.

Versus

Tsering Murup. Proprietor M/s Seven Star Engineering  
works A-23 Industrial Estate, Opp Civil Airport Leh.

.....Accused.

IN THE MATTER OF: Complaint under section 138 & 142 N.I Act.

### Proclamation of accused.

- Whereas above titled complaint is pending disposal before this court and is fixed for hearing on 11-10-2019.
- Whereas number of Notices and Warrants have been issued against the accused and same have been received by this court un-executed and the accused has failed to appear before this court.
- Whereas through medium of this proclamation accused is informed to appear before this court in person or through Counsel/authorized agent.
- Take notice that in case of default of your appearance on the day before mentioned the complaint will be heard and determined in your absence in accordance with law.

Given under my hand and seal of this court today on 17th day of September, 2019.

Chief Judicial Magistrate  
Kargil

No:77/cjm/kgl Dated:18/9/2019

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Where as application has been received from one Deldan Zangpo S/o Sonam Wangchuk R/o Khaltse owner of the Vehicle No JK10-6829 applying for the cancellation of hire and purchase agreement with Sate Bank of India Choglamsar, Leh Ladakh. Now it is therefore notified for general public information that objection if any to the proposed cancellation hire purchased agreement shall be filed in writing in the Office of Assistant Regional Transport Officer Leh within a period of 10 days from the application of this notice board.

No:- 957-58/ARTO-Leh

Date:- 20-09-2019

## PUBLIC NOTICE

No 588344F rank Sub Tashi Angchok EX Service Man Ladakh Scouts Leh has claimed that his son namely Tashi Tsewang Date of Birth has been wrongly entered as 14-11-1996 instead of actual and correct Date of Birth which is 04-05-1997 in the Army record of, Record Office Ladakh Scouts and produced an affidavit duly verified by Notary public Leh to this office for making necessary correction. Hence the notice is hereby served through press to file objection if any in this office, Zila Sainik Welfare Office Leh Ladakh within 7 days from date of publication failing which necessary correction will be made.

## BPCL starts its first fuel station in Ladakh



The fuel station is situated adjacent to Magnetic Hill and is part of the 2.5-acre complex in which company's mini POL depot shall be constructed.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited, India's second-largest Oil Marketing Company started its first Fuel Station (Retail Outlet/RO) in Ladakh on September 14.

This fuel station is situated adjacent to Magnetic Hill and is part of the 2.5-acre complex in which company's mini POL depot shall be constructed. The Letter of Intent to operate this RO was given in November 2017 to the Government's Cooperative Department through the then Minister for Ladakh Affairs Chering Dorje Lakrook for region's development.

All the fixed investment of this

'Ladakh Cooperative Fuels' has been done by the company and working capital shall be invested by the operator's M/S Bami Duniya Cooperative Consumer Society Ltd. of Leh.

During the opening of this Retail Outlet, all the trustees and managing committee members of the society were present in their traditional attire.

Surjeet Mahalik, BPCL's head of the Northern Region before setting the fuel station in action interacted with the Deputy Registrar and other staff of the Cooperative Department in the presence of Mohit Bhatia, BPCL's head for Punjab, Chandigarh and J&K. They also had an interac-

tion session with Chering Dorje, Ex-Minister for Ladakh Affairs, who had been instrumental in getting the land for this project through CEC, Hill Council, Leh.

Rajesh Sharma, Territory Manager of BPCL for J&K said that getting company's breakthrough in Ladakh region was his fifth and final big vision focus area, accomplishment of many new new Retail Outlets in the pipeline in the twin districts of Leh and Kargil was part of the focus area. In his interaction with the Divisional Commissioner Ladakh Saugat Biswas on September 14, he briefed the plans of the company towards development of Ladakh region and assured him of doing some CSR activities in line with BPCL's earlier extension of Rs. 10 Lac towards the construction of community toilets under its CSR initiative in 2017.

Harender Gupta, Thinles Norboo & Sameer Qayoom from BPCL and Sultan Tak- Dy. Registrar and Skarma Tashi-Assistant Registrar of Cooperative Department J&K Govt. along with prominent citizens of Leh were present on the occasion.



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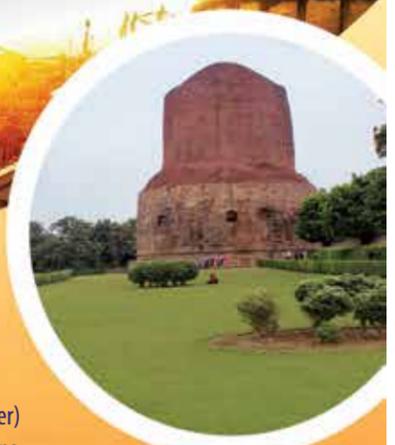
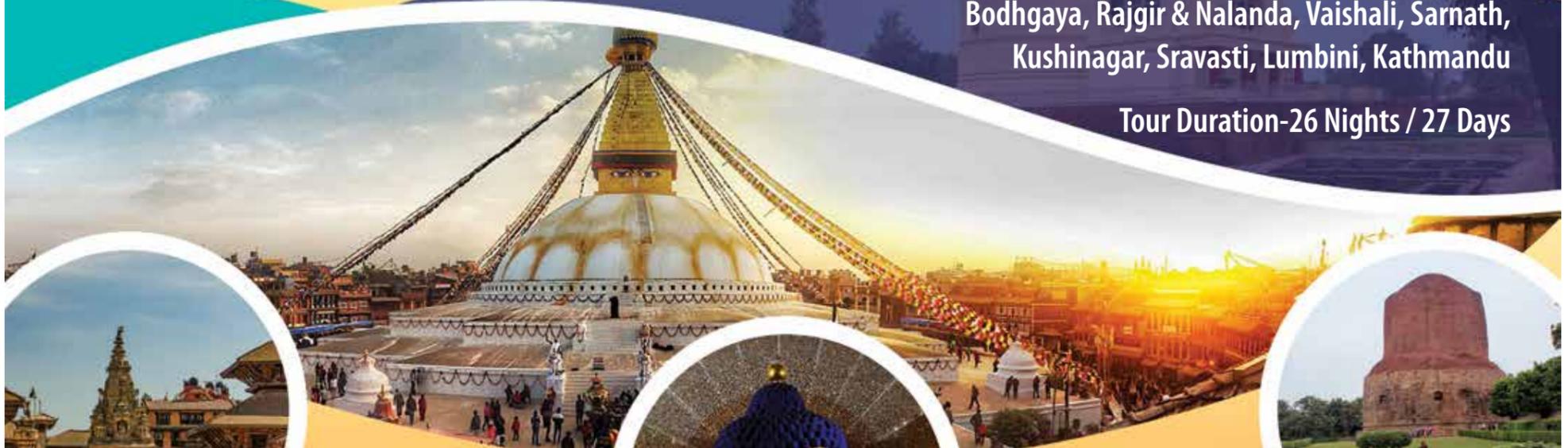


  
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