

REACH LADAKH BULLETIN

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Brief News

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Porters died in Siachen avalanche cremated

LHARGYAB: Bodies of the two porters, Jigmat Namgail and Stanzin Gurmat was cremated with full respect on November 23 at their native village Lhargyab, Nubra.

The two porters lost their lives in an avalanche hit at Siachen on November 18.

Gyal P Wangyal, CEC; Tsering Sandup, Deputy Chairman; Councilors of Nubra region and many other officials paid the last farewell.

Leh celebrates Constitution day with fervor



70th Constitution day celebration at Sindhu Sanskriti hall, Leh

Stanzin Dasal

LEH: Reading the Preamble of the constitution and focusing on the fundamental duties, Leh celebrated 70th Constitution Day also known as 'Samvidhan Divas' with great enthusiasm on November 26.

In a video message, Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, R. K. Mathur said that the constitution determines the country's development and for which the government and public have to play their role. He talked about the importance of public cooperation and support to the government in implementing developmental schemes.

RK Mathur stressed the importance of understanding and following the fundamental duties along with the rights bestowed by the constitution of India.

Gyal P Wangyal, CEC, LAHDC, Leh acknowledged the contribution of the framers of the Constitution headed by Dr. B.R Ambedkar who is also known as the Father of the Constitution of India.

He said that the day makes everyone especially the young generation to understand the importance of the Indian constitution, respect and follow it with utmost dedication.

The Constitution of India was formally adopted by the Constituent Assembly on 26 November 1949, which came into effect on January 26, 1950. This year the government of India emphasised on fundamental duties more than the rights enshrined in the Constitution of India.

...Continues on Page 2

District police Leh cracks jewellery theft case



Inspector Sonam Wangchuk, SHO and SI Rigzin Gurmet addressing the press conference at Police Station, Leh.

Stanzin Dasal

LEH: One man arrested in charge of a jewellery theft case on November 26 in Leh.

The case FIR no. 15/19 under section 454 (lurking house-trespass or house-breaking in order to commit offence punishable with imprisonment), and 380 (theft in dwelling house, etc) of Indian Penal Code (IPC) was registered at police station Leh.

The man has been identified as Mohd. Bilal Sheikh, a resident of Hari Singh Street near Hanuman Mandir, Srinagar, and works as a scrap collector.

Addressing a press conference, Inspector Sonam Wangchuk, SHO said, "We received a written complaint from Nilza Angmo resident of Sankar, Leh on November 25, stating that a thief has

entered the house, breaking the window-pane in the day time and have stolen gold and silver jewellery".

"A team of police raided different suspected areas and interrogated few suspected people during which the accused Mohd. Bilal Sheikh confessed to his involvement in committing the offence. The case has been solved within 24 hours", he added.

Subsequently, on his disclosure stolen jewellery worth Rs 4,95,000 approx were recovered from a rented room at the old bus stand. The stolen jewellery was recovered, seized and sealed in presence of Executive magistrate.

Inspector Sonam Wangchuk appealed the public to be more vigilant and inform police if any suspicious people or things are seen around.

THE REALITY

Reach Ladakh's show 'The Reality' Episode #5 will be releasing on December 7 (Saturday) TIMING: 4:00-5:00PM on our YouTube channel Reach Ladakh. Guest: Sonam Wangchuk, Founder SECMOL



Stay tuned and subscribe to our channel.

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.

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Press Club Leh organises debate on Sixth Schedule for Ladakh



During the debate/discussion on the demand of the sixth schedule for Ladakh by Press Club Leh at Lotsava Auditorium, Cultural Academy.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: A debate/discussion on the demand of the sixth schedule for Ladakh was organised by Press Club Leh at Lotsava Auditorium, Cultural Academy, Leh on November 28.

Morup Stanzin President, Press Club Leh said that the debate cum discussion program on the sixth schedule was necessary because there was many confusion and insecurities among the people of Ladakh on UT status without any safeguard.

Sonam Wangchuk, Founder

SECMOL; Tsering Samphel, Former Member, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes; Shaffi Lassu, President, Bar Association; religious and political heads expressed their views and opinions regarding the sixth schedule.

Talking about the action plan Sonam Wangchuk expressed the need to putting the demand before the government in a good way rather than protesting.

Dorjey Angchuk, President BJP said that the Union Territory for Ladakh is better than other UTs

of our country since both the Hill Council of Kargil and Leh are kept intact. Also, the union government has promised to strengthen the councils more in the future which will protect our land, culture, and environment.

The opposition party expressed the importance of the demand because of the growing insecurities in UT Ladakh without legislature.

All the religious heads extended their support in raising the demand for the sixth schedule for Ladakh.

L-G R.K Mathur inaugurates plantation drive, 'Children as Change Makers for Climate'

Nearly 5000 indigenous plants have been planted

Tsering Dolker

LEH: Commemorating the Indian and Universal Children's day, Himalayan Institute of Alternatives Ladakh (HIAL), along with Leh Phudho Society, Municipal Committee Leh and Save the Himalayas Foundation with the support of Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) celebrates 'Children as Change Makers for Climate' on November 18 at Ganges Valley.

The event was initiated for a community plantation of wild rose (siya), sea-buckthorn and Juniper which could solve the water problem.

R.K Mathur, Lt Governor of UT Ladakh who was the chief guest of the occasion expressed contentment of being in Ladakh and attending the plantation drive.

Quoting Mahatma Gandhi, R.K Mathur said, "World has enough for everyone's needs, but not everyone's greed". He further said that if tradition and modernity worked together in the interest of the ecology then we have the solutions for every problem. He further cautioned on judicious use of water.

Sonam Wangchuk, Director HIAL/SECMOL explained the two major concerns of the region which are excess of water (flood)



Participants from different schools and people during the plantation drive.

and shortage of water during the spring season for irrigation. Providing with the solution he explained that the artificial glaciers and canals could curb the water shortages while indigenous plantation such as wild rose, juniper and sea-buck thorns at the higher side of the valley will reduce the chances of the flood by absorbing the water and hold the soil also.

He also said that each valley of Ladakh has the potential to mitigate the natural disaster like floods and drought. He informed that around 5000 indigenous plants were planted on the same day. Sending message across the world he said, "Please live sim-

ply, so we may simply live."

His Eminence Skyabje Drukpa Palga Rinpoche advised the students to protect the environment and to live with harmony.

Gyal.P Wangyal, CEC appreciated HIAL and supporting team for the initiative and said that the concept of harnessing modern technology to avoid water problem is a great step towards the future of UT Ladakh.

Dr. Eshey Namgyal, President MC Leh; Ven. Sanga Sena, Director/Founder MIMC, Prof. Farooq Khan, Rector Leh campus KU, Military and Paramilitary personnel and children from various schools were present.

Universal Child Rights Day observed in Leh

LNP and Civil Society Alliance Leh discuss issues pertaining to children



Konchok Stanzin EC Education along with stakeholders during the meeting

Tsering Dolker

LEH: On the occasion of Universal Child Rights Day, Leh Nutrition Project and Civil Society Alliance, Leh organized a meeting to discuss issues pertaining to children in the district on November 20 at LNP office hall.

Konchok Stanzin, EC Education said such meetings are very important and should organize in future also where the collaboration of all departments will be effective to make plans to eradicate child issues. He assured all possible support to the stakeholders involved in the implementation of the Juvenile Justice Act in the district.

Chotak Gyatso, Programme Manager, LNP informed that Leh Nutrition Project is the first NGO which is working on child rights since 1978. Started with a supplementary project during Indus Valley flood, and further

worked on Rural, Health and education also.

He also mentioned the prevailing child-related issues through the study of District Need Assessment (DNA), which are corporal punishment, substance abuse, disability, child labour, sexual abuse, bullying, lack of awareness on adolescence issues, stress-related issues, discrimination, STDs and HIV/AIDS, moral education and many more.

Konchok Paldan, Chairperson Child Welfare Committee Leh said that the Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) scheme has been started in 2017 in Ladakh which consists of three units; District Child Protection Unit, Juvenile Justice Board and Child Welfare Committee.

He explained that the District Child Protection Unit works administratively while the two are

the statutory bodies. Konchok further briefed about ICPS since 2018 till now and said, "JJB got 7 cases of theft, accident and attempt to suicide and CWC got 33 cases out of which 10 are still pending". He said that the maximum cases are of corporal punishment and sexual abuse.

Konchok further said that under the District Child Protection Unit a counselling for mentally disturbed children, sponsorship scheme and many more are provided. He also informed that 30 schools and 38 hostels have been inspected and awareness was given. Besides, that awareness through radio programme was done but with meagre funding.

P.T Kunzang, President, Civil Society Alliance said many incidents related to child are increasing in our society. Keeping the importance of socio-religious organization in such issues, he said that the Civil Society Alliance was formed in which we have members from different religion to create awareness and guidance.

P.T Kunzang also requested EC for implementation of any work or project after the resolution passed as there will be no funding problem in UT Ladakh.

Konchok Angmo, Principal DIET Leh, Sarla Chhewang member CWC, head of religious organizations, Child Protection Service units and LNP employees were present.

Leh celebrates Constitution day with fervor

...Continued from Page 1

Saugat Biswas, Divisional Commissioner Ladakh reiterated the last speech of the Chairman of the Indian Constitution Drafting Committee, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar addressed on 25th November 1949 in the constituent assembly.

He stressed on the need to go ahead with the vision of stalwarts of freedom strugglers of our country and to work hard on achieving it.

Students from different schools spoke about the importance of celebrating Constitution Day, the relevance of the Indian Constitution & fundamental duties and the role of Bharat Ratna Dr. B.R. Ambedkar in drafting the constitution of India. A quiz competition on the constitution of India was also conducted.

Meanwhile, the day was also celebrated by the Hill Council Leh and District Legal Service Authority.

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The Nepali Ekta Samaj Bharat Leh wishes and congratulates the people of Ladakh on being granted the 'Union Territory' status. We believe that the decision to bifurcate the state of J&K by the government of India will not only benefit people of Ladakh but will also ensure safety and security of the Nepalese working/living in Ladakh region.



Amchi Sabha expresses gratitude to Govt for approving NISR for Ladakh



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: A press conference was called by Dr. Padma Gurmat, President Ladakh Amchi Sabha in view of the recent approval by Union Cabinet to establish a National Institute of Sowa Rigpa in Leh on November 22 at Press Club Leh Office.

On behalf of Ladakh Amchi Sabha and Amchis pan India, Dr. Gurmat expressed gratitude to the Government of India headed by Narendra Modi Prime Minister of India for the response to their long-pending demand of

establishment of NISR in Leh.

Dr. Gurmat briefed about the institute which has been approved as an autonomous organization under the Ministry of AYUSH and projected at a cost of ₹47.25 Crores. He also briefed about the institute's organisational structure, post creation and its functioning.

He informed that the Institute would be of great significance in developing Traditional Buddhist Medicinal System not only in Ladakh but across the country and in the Asian countries too

where it is being practised. He added that the institute would facilitate education and research-based development related to Sowa Rigpa and will prove to be a centre of scientific-based studies of unique herbs and medicinal plants grown in Ladakh.

Dr. Gurmat further informed that the project proposal is estimated at the cost of ₹17 Crores to Hill Council, Leh to be considered under UT Ladakh. He explained that the project includes Sowa-Rigpa dispensary at all block headquarters in Leh and Kargil, construction of wellness centre near vital spring water, provision for 20 indoor patients of Amchi clinic within SNM Hospital Leh and protection and promotion of medicinal plants through herbal gardens.

Dr. Gurmat also stressed on the sustainable collection mechanism of medicinal plants and herbs grown in Ladakh to avoid its exploitation and extinction expecting the scope of commercialization of Sowa Rigpa in the region.

EC Education meets heads of all private schools

Discusses issues and problems related to regulation of private schools in Leh



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Aiming to find better mechanisms of regulating private schools in the new system of UT Ladakh, Konchok Stanzin, EC Education convened a meeting with all the heads of the private school on November 23.

Officers of the education department, Leh headed by Tashi Dolma, Joint Director School Education UT Ladakh were also present to discuss the issues and problems related to the regulation of private schools.

Konchok Stanzin informed that Hill Council, Leh is working on drafting an education policy for Ladakh ensuring inclusivity and participatory for all.

Discussion on agendas like fee structure in private schools, school bus regulations/fees, uniform issues, academic qualification of teachers, provision of free education to weaker section under 25% reservation and admis-

sion criteria, issues of stationary books, diet charges, charge of fee during vacations, teachers training, Bhoti textbook was carried out.

It was decided that no private school will enhance school fees for the next academic session. Schools were directed to submit their fees hike proposal to the Chief Education Office, Leh with justification for further examination. If any private school has hiked the new session fee they were directed to return the increased fee immediately. Regarding the issue of school uniform, a clear cut instruction was given to inform the parents a year in advance about it.

Also, an expert committee will be formed to implement uniform and textbook in all the government and private schools. A common teacher's training will be given for all government/private teachers by the Education Department in future.

Private schools were also directed to ensure basic requirements like bus conductors, insurance of the bus and first aid box in school buses and not to charge bus fee during the winter vacation.

Tashi Dolma said that every school must adhere to the verdict of the Supreme Court of India under the right to education act that only B.Ed /D. Ed teachers are eligible for the post of teacher.

Strict directions were given to private schools to stop selling stationery and uniforms within the school premises, follow school building norms with proper toilet facilities for boys and girls, clean drinking water facilities, teacher's welfare and enroll children with special needs if they are willing to take admission.

It was conveyed to all the school heads that no school can deny a child with special needs in their schools as per norms.

Kargil celebrates 70th Constitution Day with great patriotism

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: The 70th anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution of India was celebrated with great patriotic fervor and zeal on November 26 in Kargil.

District officers, eminent citizens, youths and students read out the Preamble of the Constitution of India and the Fundamental Duties at Auditorium Hall Kargil. The function was organised by the Information Department and Nehru Yuva Kendra under the supervision of District Administration Kargil.

Films on the making of the Indian Constitution titled 'Samvidhan- Making of the Indian Constitution' highlighting the history of how the Constitution of India came, the significance of the Constitution Day, the contribution of the makers of the Constitution and Fundamental Duties of Indian Citizens were screened.

Senior Advocate Haji Ghulam Murtaza and Assistant Professor, Tsewang Gyaltsen spoke on the Constitution Day, Principles and



Values Enshrined in our Constitution, Ideals, and Principles inherent in our Constitution and the spirit behind Fundamental Duties.

Terming the Constitution as living machinery and vehicle of life and a holy book, the speakers stressed upon the need to renew our commitment to uphold and practice the principles and values enshrined in our Constitution. They stressed upon to uphold and protect the sovereignty, unity, and integrity of India and ideals and institutions included in the constitution.

A pledge ceremony and aware-

ness rally were also organised by the Department of Youth Services and Sports Kargil.

Meanwhile, all government offices in the district read out the Preamble to the Constitution followed by a pledge to uphold the fundamental duties.

The campaign on the Constitution of India and fundamental duties also began today across the district to aware people of the Constitution with particular focus on the fundamental duties listed in the Constitution. The campaign will culminate on April 14, 2020, on Dr. B R Ambedkar's birth anniversary.

Four women boxers of Ladakh all set for national championship



Team of women boxers during their meeting with Saugat Biswas, Divisional Commissioner Ladakh.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: A team of four senior women boxers representing UT Ladakh will be participating in the 4th Elite Women Open National

Boxing Championship.

The championship will be held from December 2 to 8 in Kannur, Kerala.

The team accompanied by team manager Deachen Dolkar and coach Zia Ul Hassan met Saugat Biswas, Divisional Commissioner Ladakh on November 27.

Saugat Biswas interacting with the players asked about their past experiences and wished them good luck for the championship. He expressed hope that the team will bring laurels to UT Ladakh.

Organised by District Youth Services and Sports Department UT Ladakh, these state-level players will play under different categories. Stanzin Youthog will play in 64 kg category, Stanzin Dechan in 60 kg, Stanzin Angmo in 51 kg and Farina Iliyas in 69 kg.

First syndicate meeting of University of Ladakh held



During the first syndicate meeting of the University of Ladakh in Leh.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: The first syndicate meeting of the University of Ladakh under the chairmanship of Vice Chancellor, C. Phuntsog was held on November 26.

C. Phuntsog informed about the steps taken towards establishment of the University.

While speaking about the re-organization of Jammu & Kashmir, he said that it is expected that the Union Territory Administration of Ladakh would ensure

adequate hand-holding in this formidable task of establishing a new university with a limited catchment area.

All the agendas were discussed in detail and the members put forth valuable suggestions.

Rigzin Samphel, Commissioner Secretary to Government, Finance and Higher Education in his capacity as Financial Advisor and Educational Advisor of the University, Dr. Nawang Tsering, Kacho Asfandyar Khan, Dr. D.S Pathania, Professor Ab, Hamid

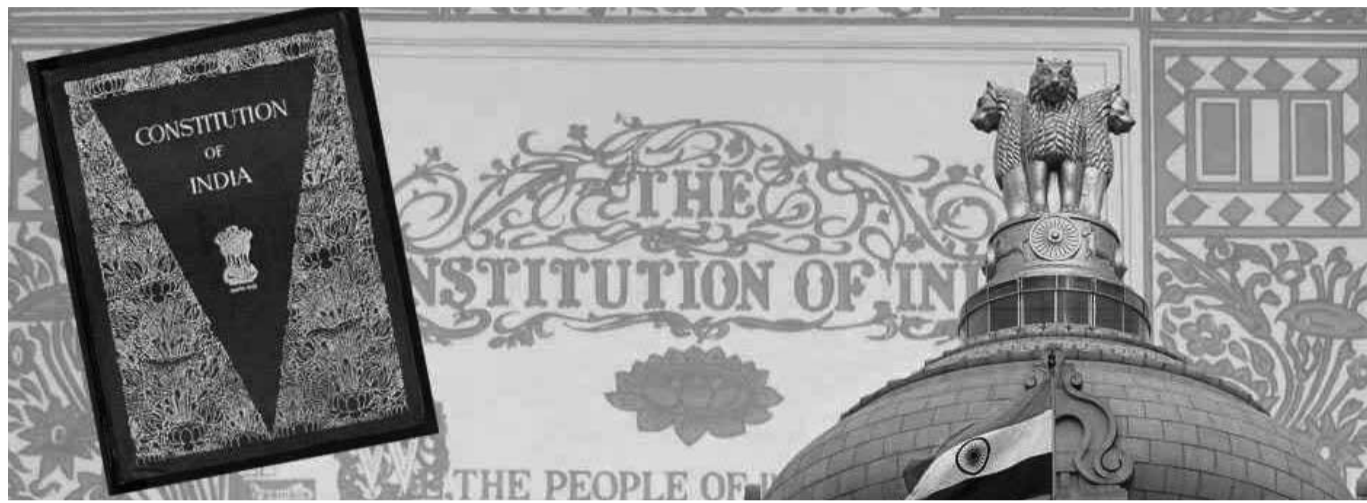
Sheikh, Dr. Jatinder Khajuria, Professor Mohammad Yousuf Peerzada, Prof L.K Mangotra, Deskong Namgail, and Principals of all six constituent degree colleges of the University were present.

The meeting was also attended by Professor Shafi Sumbli, Rector, Satellite Campus of University of Kashmir, Kargil and Professor Farooq Ahmad Khan, Rector, Satellite Campus of University of Kashmir, Leh as special invitees.

Sixth Schedule for Ladakh

What do they say about it?

By Stanzin Dasal



JAMYANG TSERING NAMGYAL, MP Ladakh: Ladakh does need support and protection because of our population, fragile ecosystem, harsh climatic condition, and strategically important place. I have submitted a letter and sought intervention from the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Ministry of Minority Affairs to declare Ladakh as a tribal area under Article 244 of the Indian constitution. Also, the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) recommends Ladakh to include under the 6th schedule of the Indian constitution. The follow up of all these letters and recommendation is going on. I didn't disagree with the demand of the Sixth schedule for Ladakh but being the MP of the region it is my responsibility to let people know about the pros and cons. There is no compulsion and nothing is stopping me to raise the voice, I am a Ladakhi first and will do what is best for the region.

Regarding the demand of the people to raise the issue in the parliament, I want to clarify that the Indian parliament has its own procedures. Proper notice for the demand has to be submitted prior to the session within a stipulated time. The notice is examined and after the approval of the speaker, it is raised in the parliament. We can't just go and speak out in the parliament.

Ladakh under the sixth schedule during this winter parliament session till December 13 is not possible but it is also not true that we will never get it. I am trying to get the bill passed through the government rather than presenting a private member bill which has very less chances to get approved. To get the bill passed through the government there is a lot other work that needs time. People of Ladakh need to understand that the Government also needs time to fulfill the demand because there are lot many work and procedures to follow.



RIGZIN SPALBAR, FORMER CEC, LAHDC, Leh: While UT Ladakh gave the immense potential to realize our aspiration, it has also exposed us to the perils of unsustainable development. Constitutional safeguard such as the sixth schedule for Ladakh is the one solution that will not only maintain the distinctiveness of the region as a tribal area but all those values which are required to sustain Ladakh. Also, it is not necessary that the 6th schedule has to be accepted as it is; it can be amended as per the need of the region. Such safeguard is important for a better future with sustainable development. UT Ladakh without any safeguard is a threat and we all should understand and strive unitedly for the 6th schedule. I don't think it is very difficult for the government to grant the 6th schedule when they can grant UT status for Ladakh.

proval of the Governor/Lt.Governor, allotment, use, and occupation of the land other than that of reserved forests, management of unreserved forests, use of any canal or watercourse of agricultural purpose, regulation of shifting cultivation, the establishment of village and town committees, marriage and divorce, and social customs. The executive powers are already there in the LAHDC Act 1995/97. The Council is also empowered to set up various types of courts for the suits between tribals. It is also competent to control trading and money lending by non-tribals. It also enjoys the power to discuss the estimates of revenue and expenditure of the district budget. The same will also enable the Council to legislate upon the more vital issues of eco-system, tourism, job security, education, health, etc.

In nutshell, the sixth schedule has all the provisions of constitutional safeguards; so both the councils of Leh and Kargil deserve to be empowered, as Ladakh has been grant UT status without Legislature.

The empowerment of the Hill Council shall enable to act as Mini-legislature of the region. Having and acting under a legislative body will further pave the way for future course of action and same might help to raise our demand for full-fledged statehood with the passing experiences. In fact, the geo-political significance of the region has prompted the government to boost the centripetal forces of Ladakh. But the same needs to be supplemented by fulfilling the basic aspirations of the people who are the main stakeholders of the region. Thus, the constitutional guarantees to the people will obviously help the government to see a lasting peace in the region; and also to safeguard the larger national interests as the region is bounded by two international borders of China and Pakistan.

TSERING SAMPHEL, Former Member, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes: Now that we have got Union Territory without a legislature, there is a growing concern among the people regarding land, job, environment, etc. These are the vital issues for which the demand for the sixth schedule is a must as it has the provision of constitutional safeguards. We all need to strive for the demand and there is no doubt behind it but the bigger responsibilities lie upon the ruling government.

Under the sixth schedule, the needed amendments can be made and we can study and refer to other tribal areas such as Bodoland, Tripura based on which we can ask for the changes needed in terms of our own region.

RIGZIN DORJAY, President, SOUL: 6th schedule of the Indian constitution confers much needed administrative power to the autonomous government of the tribal areas to make laws, receive grants-in-aid from the Consolidated Fund of India to meet the costs of schemes for education, health care, development, and regulatory powers to state genuine control. As far as education is concerned the students of Ladakh had the privilege to appear for the Public Service Commission (PSC) and other state-level examinations in the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir. Now with the abrogation of Article 370, people of Ladakh especially the youth are in a dilemma for we seem to conclude our future hanging in balance on a loose rope.

Being a student I fear that in the coming days, from the primary level teachers to the office bearers people from other states will be working and we are bound to become servants, helpless, powerless and lost from all sides if Schedule VI is not given to Ladakh. The growing unemployment issue is already there and I doubt that without any job

reservation and safeguards it is going to be worse. The educational rights and reservations under schedule VI shall empower and confer the youth with numerous opportunities. I appeal all the leaders, youths and people of Ladakh to raise voice and demand constitutional safeguards.

There is a growing rumour among the people on this issue which needs to be avoided because such talks are creating more chaos in the society. We all should look for the better cause of Ladakh rather than politicizing the issue. The home minister of India cleared for the empowerment of Hill Council and every decision from the government will be taken for the betterment of the whole region



DORJAY ANGCHUK, President, Bhartiya Janta Party, Leh: There is a need to do more research on the demand of the sixth schedule for Ladakh because what we have in other tribal areas is not relevant in terms of Ladakh.

The rich culture and tradition of Ladakh which has been inherited from our ancestors is in threat if we are left with UT without any safeguards. The demand for the sixth schedule is genuine and is a must to protect our interest and identity. Leaders of Ladakh need to speak up on the issue and people must understand the importance of safeguard. It seems the political parties whether ruling and opposition are hiding away and people who roar at pologround on small issues are no way to be seen. Also, I don't think MP Ladakh would raise this issue in parliament as he clearly mentioned earlier that there is "no need of six schedule for Ladakh". The opposition is dead for now and dictatorship has begun. People are confused and divided, leaders are scared and lost. I urge the political leaders, religious leaders, individual leaders to guide the innocent people of Ladakh for a safe and secure UT Ladakh.



STANZIN NURBOO, Student: The rich culture and tradition of Ladakh which has been inherited from our ancestors is in threat if we are left with UT without any safeguards. The demand for the sixth schedule is genuine and is a must to protect our interest and identity. Leaders of Ladakh need to speak up on the issue and people must understand the importance of safeguard. It seems the political parties whether ruling and opposition are hiding away and people who roar at pologround on small issues are no way to be seen. Also, I don't think MP Ladakh would raise this issue in parliament as he clearly mentioned earlier that there is "no need of six schedule for Ladakh". The opposition is dead for now and dictatorship has begun. People are confused and divided, leaders are scared and lost. I urge the political leaders, religious leaders, individual leaders to guide the innocent people of Ladakh for a safe and secure UT Ladakh.

Who says you can't do anything? Each one of us has a unique quality that differentiates us from the rest, and that can help us achieve our goal quite easily. But, unfortunately, most of us waste our lives without realising that crucial fact. What a pity!

SoulSpeak

P.P. Wangchuk

Learn to exploit your unique quality



If you try to understand yourself seriously, and look within, you will find that you have many likes and dislikes. And, among the 'likes', it is quite likely that some of them are of greater liking and interest to you. Talk to your conscious as well as the subconscious mind and find out what is it that you will be most interested in. It is here that you will get to know and understand your unique quality to promote your objectives.

Having done that, all that you have to do is to take up the most crucial role of cultivating your interest, and put in your 100% energy so that your will-power becomes strong and unstoppable.

What happens in life is that we don't really live; we just pass time. That is why Roman philosopher Lucius Seneca says that "the part of life we really live is small. For, all the rest of the existence is not life, but merely time."

It is here that one must remind one's self that exploring and exploiting one's unique quality is the surest way to lead a good and fulfilling life, and not by time-pass, consciously or unconsciously. And, one must also remember that only a conscious and consistent effort can enable us to find our real strength to make the impossible possible. There comes a moment in none's life when it becomes absolutely clear that if not now, it won't ever be!

Excuse me for repeating the cliché: "Fortune favours the brave." One who dares becomes dear to everyone, and that makes him have a sense of joy and responsibility to come out with his/her unique quality to be used for the good of all.

Courtesy: WongWorld

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

In Conversation with Tsering Gurmat, Sculptor

Interviewed by Tsering Dolker

Q. Tell us about yourself.

I have been interested in painting from childhood and after my schooling, I went to Jammu and pursued Bachelor in Fine Arts from Jammu University and Master in Fine Arts from Banaras Hindu University.

I participated in many exposure camps and workshops. In collaboration with ice stupa Ladakh, I went for an exposure tour to Ice Hotel, Sweden in 2017. In 2018, I have participated snow sculpture competition in Harbin China. I worked at Ratiksha Creative Solution, Varoda as a sculptor and as an assistant sculptor with many artists in Delhi. In Leh, I work as a freelance sculptor.

Q. When did you first start creating art? What is your specialization?

While pursuing my bachelor's course in Fine arts, I found that there are different types of arts apart from paintings. Sculpting in particular interested me. I have worked under Ravinder Jamwal at Durb Satya studio in Jammu and Raghav Kaneria, one of the renowned artists. Raghav Kaneria appreciated my talent and suggested me to work on stone carving as stones are abundant in Ladakh. I have learned all types of sculptural works and my specialization is in stone carving and focus is to create art out of the rock which is the main medium on which I work. Besides that, I work on other different mediums such as wood, metal, fiberglass, etc. Also, I am working on ice sculpture as a new medium and good in clay modeling, metal fabrication, photography, calligraphy, wood carving, and installation.

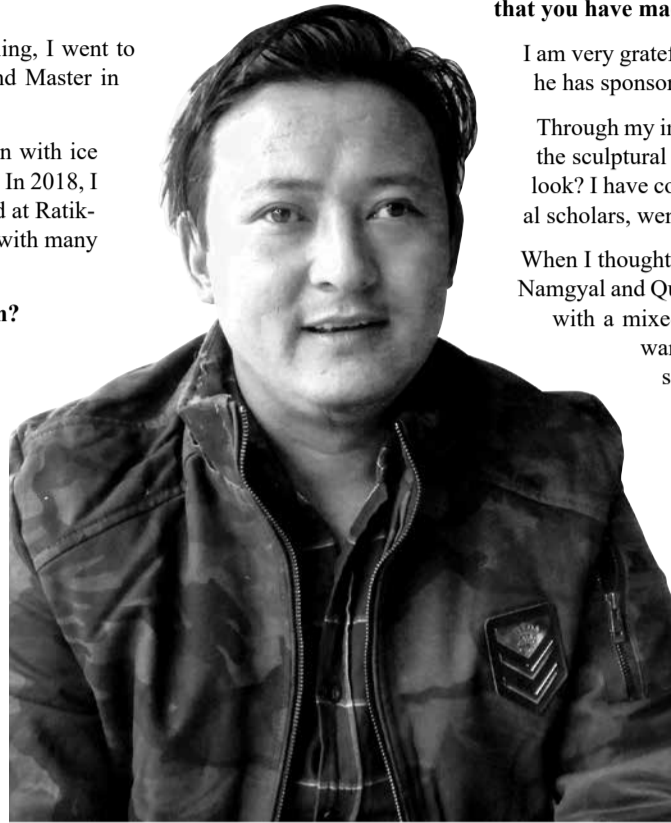
Q. What is the inspiration source for your works?

My teacher Ravinder Jamwal used to tell me, "Work like a labour and think like a scientist" which inspires me all the time. In this field as a sculptural artist we need to work as a labour and before that we need to create and compose it with pure ideas.

Q. What is your most valuable piece of art?

As an artist, we put ideas and theme to a particular art, when it completes we move on to search for another theme for our next work, which means each piece of art has its value. However, I made a stone carved stupa in Nurla and an ice-stupa which were highly appreciated by masses.

Q. Could you brief about the sculpture of King Singge Namgyal



that you have made? What were the challenges?

I am very grateful to His Holiness Gyalwang Drukpa for considering me for this work, as he has sponsored for the sculpture.

Through my imagination, I sketched King Singge Namgyal and when I was assigned for the sculptural work, I did a lot of research on how exactly our 17th-century king might look? I have collected information from various books, from local as well as international scholars, went to different monasteries but found a different portrait of the king.

When I thought about the facial appearance of the king, he was the son of King Jamyang Namgyal and Queen Gyal Khatoon, I preferred few experts for suggestions and concluded with a mixed-blood feature. After all these, I decided not to visualize the king as a warrior but going for a royal procession will describe its uniqueness. It took six months for research and from August 2018 I started to work on this 14 feet sculpture.

Talking about the challenges, different perceptions and ideas from many experts and scholars made it a little hard for me to decide during the initial days, but when it got completed they appreciated my work. Secondly, the statue was made of bronze and the casting of metal was a whole new process. But I feel fortunate for getting this opportunity and faced all those hardships.

Q. What has been your biggest achievement so far?

I believe that all the pieces I have sculpted so far, including the stone stupas, ice-stupas, paintings, etc are all my achievements. All the works will forever remain as a positive gesture of hard-work throughout my life. I have some collections in Fertility (Stone) at Rinchen Zangpo Art Gallery and Friendship Tree at LAMO Centre.

Q. What are the scope and opportunities for artists in Ladakh?

With a good basic in any work and with one's dedication, I feel there is a great scope in every field. Till now there are very few people in our region in this field, but I believe we have set an inspiration to the coming generation to indulge in such rare works. There are many possibilities in this field.

I was told by many people that you have chosen a wrong career, many have suggested to me for government jobs but I think if we have the basic knowledge in our interested field and start shaping that with hard work, we can achieve anything.

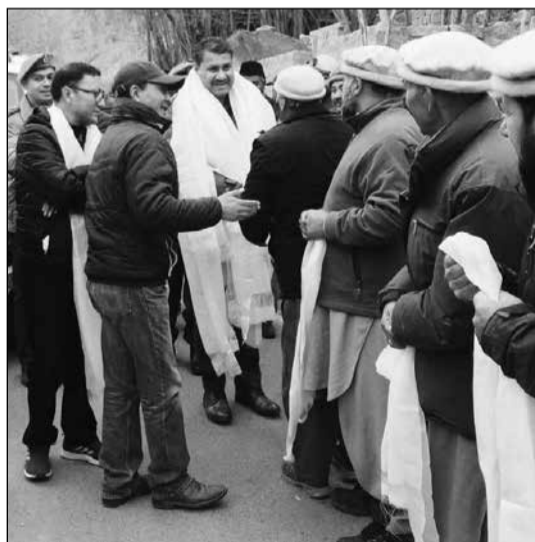
MESSAGE TO THE READERS

“ I would like to appeal to all the parents to encourage and support the interest and talent of children. Let them choose such artwork from the basic if they like it. ”

Fortnight Highlights



District Legal Service Authority in collaboration with Bar Association Leh celebrated the 70th Constitution Day at Jhal-dZom Skit Tsal (Ahata-e-Waqar) in Leh.



Inspector General of Police UT Ladakh, S.S Khandare during his two day visits to Nubra Sub-division.



Sonam Wangchuk, Founder SECMOL while inaugurating the live streaming of All India Radio, Leh.



Rigzin Samphel, Commissioner Secretary Ladakh, Phuntsog Stanzin, EC Agriculture along with the officials of the agriculture and horticulture department during a meeting on the various prospect of an action plan to make Leh an organic district.



Tribute paid to the four soldiers and 2 porters who were killed in Siachen avalanche.

EC, Works, inaugurates girls' hostel at Panikhar



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: Aga Syed Abbass Razvi, Executive Councilor for Works and Acting Chairman and Chief Executive Councilor, LAHDC Kargil, inaugurated a girls' hostel at Panikhar under SAMAGRA Secondary Wing scheme on November 19.

The hostel building which has been constructed at a cost of ₹346 lacs provides boarding and

lodging facilities to around 100 KGBV pass outs, who are educationally backward and BPL category girl students of Tai Suru and area spread over villages from Beama to Purtikchey.

Aga Syed congratulated the locals for the kind of hostel they got for the first time in the area. While reviewing the facilities at the hostel, he instructed the concerned officers to provide them

with best possible boarding, lodging, recreational and other necessary facilities.

He also directed the hostel warden for proper maintenance and upkeep of the hostel building in order to ensure its optimum utilization.

Aga Syed assured the locals that the Hill Council is fully committed to provide best educational facilities to the students especially those residing in remote and far off areas and also concrete measures are being taken in this regard.

While taking serious note over the supply of sub-standard items in the hostel, Aga Syed on the spot directed the concerned officers to constitute a joint committee to inquire into the matter and submit a report in due course of time.

Hill Council, Leh plans Pashmina promotion and development



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Assessment of future strategies for Pashmina production, processing and value addition was convened by Konchok Stanzin, Executive Councillor on November 25 at Council Secretariat.

Dr. Tundup Namgyal, District Sheep Husbandry Officer Leh

briefed about the future promotional plans of the Department. He said that the procurement process of new Pashmina De-hairing Machine is almost completed and funds are also available with the department to meet the cost of machine.

Certain decisions including hiring of a textile consultant to

guide in running the Pashmina garment fabrication plant in Leh, preparation of DPR for installation of additional machines to make final and finished products in Leh itself was taken. Also, a 100 kg of Pashmina shall be processed and spun during winter months on trial basis to evaluate its quality and future prospective of value addition. It was further decided to conduct awareness camps for Pashmina Goat Breeders to make them aware about maintaining the purity of raw Pashmina and setting up of a channel mechanism to ascertain the important data.

Gurmet Dorje, Councillor Korzok; Dorjay Stanzin, Chairman, All Changthang Pashmina Growers Cooperative Society was also present during the meeting.

Umang Narula convenes meeting for better air cargo service



Umang Narula, Advisor to Lieutenant Governor meeting with department of civil aviation in Leh.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Umang Narula, Advisor to Lieutenant Governor discussed the difficulty faced in ferrying cargo by various Airlines to Leh on November 26.

The meeting was attended by AOC Leh, Director Airport Authority of India, Leh and Managers of Air India, Spice Jet, Go-Air & Vistara Airlines.

Umang Narula instructed the Department of Civil Aviation to resolve the issue of low cargo carrying capacity with im-

mediate mid-term and long term provisions. Also, he asked the Department of Civil Aviation to have a meeting with Indian Oil Corporation, Indian Air Force and Commercial Airlines while preparing a road map for resolving the current issue.

He further directed the managers of the Airlines to make a plan for special cargo service to Ladakh and increase their cargo capacity.

Rigzin Samphel, Commissioner Secretary Civil Aviation briefed Umang Narula about the pres-

ent issue of the low tonnage of cargo being carried by the various commercial airlines. In view of the proposed project of the Department of Cooperatives of Ladakh to import vegetables during peak winters, the role of commercial airlines has become critical.

Various representatives of the commercial airlines put forward the details of their individual company with respect to the number of flights & proposed tonnage capacity.

Meeting called to discuss non-availability of onions in Leh

CEC: Ensure availability of onions within next two days by fixing a reasonable rate

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: To review the non-availability of onion in Leh market, Gyal P Wangyal, CEC, Hill Council, Leh called a meeting of Dr. Zaida Bano, ADC Leh; Sherap Gyalsen, AD FCS&CA, Leh and concerned officials at Council Secretariat on November 20.

CEC Wangyal directed them to ensure availability of onion in the market within the next two days by fixing a reasonable rate. He directed officers to ensure strict monitoring and checking of the markets during the winter season to avoid any inconvenience to the people.



Wangyal also directed ADC Leh to convene a meeting of Animal Husbandry and Cooperative departments to review their plans in providing essential commodities in winter months.

Regarding providing of festival

ration quota especially sugar and kerosene oil during Losar and Eid festivals, he directed ADC, Leh and AD FCS&CA, Leh to prepare a proposal and move the file through Commissioner Secretary to LG Ladakh at the earliest.

Divisional Commissioner, Ladakh, reviews winter stocking



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: To discuss the winter stocking and preparedness of essential commodities in both Leh and Kargil districts, a meeting was convened by Saugat Biswas, Divisional Commissioner Ladakh on November 21.

Saugat Biswas directed Director CA&PD to ensure immediate distribution of kerosene oil to the left out beneficiaries in Leh district. He asked him to take up the timely matter for the supply of adequate kerosene oil in both districts with the Senior GM of IOCL.

Assistant Directors, CA&PD of Leh and Kargil and informed about the complete storage of LPG cylinders.

DFO assured full stocking of firewood in both Leh and Kargil districts for the winter months.

Saugat Biswas also enquired stocking of essential edible commodities and chemical fertilizers with Cooperative Department.

He directed Deputy Registrar Cooperatives to submit a detail list of commodities acquired by the department along with the quantity and required tonnage for vegetable requirement in winters for both Leh and Kargil districts.

Saugat also enquired about the stocking position of feed, fodder, animal medicines and eggs with the department of Animal Husbandry.

He informed about the decision taken by R K Mathur, L-G UT Ladakh, to double the electricity supply from 4 hours to 8 hours during winter months in remote villages of Ladakh.

Saugat directed the Director

FCS&CA, Ladakh and Indian Oil Corporation Limited to ensure adequate stocking of newly introduced winter-grade diesel considering its need to run the DG sets to generate required power supply in winters.

He also asked Sachin Kumar Vaishya, DC Leh and Baseer-ul-Haq Choudhary, DC Kargil to follow up with the supply of coal and ensure its required availability in time.

P.P Singh, Chief Conservator of Forest; GA Mir, Chief Engineer PDD; Dr. Mohd Raza, Director A/SHD Ladakh and concern district officers and representatives of FCI, IOCL and HPCL were present. Anil Koul, Director FCS&CA, Ladakh and concern district officers of Kargil also joined the meeting through video conferencing.



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From 2 to 27 January, 2020

Includes

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- Flight tickets from Leh to Delhi to Patna, Kathmandu to Delhi & Delhi to Leh
- All transport by Non-AC 30 seater coach
- Monk guide, 1 male & 1 female tour escort
- Cook and helper throughout the tour
- Tea, Coffee, Snacks and entrances
- Travel insurance, GST

Day 01 Leh to Delhi/Patna by Flight & Patna to Bodhgaya by Bus. Arrive Bodhgaya by evening. (140 Km, 5 hrs)

Day 02: Bodhgaya Monasteries Visit

Day 03: Monasteries Visit (Rajgir & Nalanda)

Day 04: Monasteries Visit (Vaishali)

Day 05: Monasteries Visit and late evening after dinner drive to Sarnath (263 Kms, 8 hrs.)

Day 06: Arrive Sarnath by Morning, rest till afternoon, after lunch proceed for Monasteries Visit

Day 07: Sarnath Monasteries

Day 08: Sarnath Monasteries

Day 09: Monasteries visit and late evening after dinner drive to Kushinagar (O/N) (222 Kms, 6 hrs.)

Day 10: Arrive Kushinagar by Morning, rest till afternoon, after lunch proceed for Monasteries Visit

Day 11: Monasteries Visit and late evening after dinner drive to Sravasti (238 kms, 6 Hrs)

Day 12: Arrive Sravasti by Morning, rest till afternoon, after lunch proceed for Monasteries Visit

Day 13: Monasteries visit and late evening after dinner drive to Lumbini (166 Kms, 5 Hrs 30 Min)

Day 14: Arrive Lumbini by Morning, rest till afternoon, after lunch proceed for Monasteries Visit

Day 15: Monasteries Visit and late evening after dinner drive to Kathmandu (294 kms, 9 Hrs)

Day 16: Arrive Kathmandu by Morning, rest till afternoon, after lunch proceed for Monasteries Visit

Day 17: Monasteries Visit

Day 18: Monasteries Visit

Day 19: Monasteries Visit

Day 20: Monasteries Visit

Day 21: Freeday for Shopping

Day 22: Freeday for Shopping

Day 23: Kathmandu to Delhi

Day 24: Freeday for Shopping

Day 25: Freeday for Shopping

Day 26: Delhi to Leh

Overland Escape
Skara Yokma, Leh Ladakh. Contact person: Mr Kunga Namgyal
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