May 01-15, 2024

In Conversation with Dr. Padma Deskit, first woman surgeon of Ladakh

PEOPLE VOICE:

Key Expectations From Lok Sabha Polls



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of Election on 26th April. The election will take place in the ififth phase with nominations

the nominations of candidates

Jamyang Tsering Namgyal also interacted with the me-

dia on his return. In response

to a question, he expressed

members of the party were

Adv. Tashi Gyalson but stated

worker in Ladakh and dashed

unhappiness.



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made by different parties. Shop no. 30, First floor, Taru Namgyal complex, Leh In this regard, BJP has nomi-Contact: 9622968086 or 9419304234 Email: Councillor, LAHDC, Leh, Adv jkcommunicationleh@gmail.com Tashi Gyalson as its candidate. The supporters of incumbent Member of Parliament and

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Election campaigning starts in Ladakh

Speculations of a rift in BJP surface

: Nenzes Chodon **LEH:** Voting is scheduled for 20th May in Ladakh for its parliamentary Lok Sabha seat. Returning Officer/District Election Officer, Leh, Santosh Sukhadeve issued the Notice

closing on 3rd May. The peo- with his ple of Ladakh are watching next step. with his well-wishers on the

He said, "As a Member of Parliament for five years, I have In this regard, BJP has nominated current Chief Executive made impactful speeches in the Parliament, toured every single village in the constituency, ensured harmony among every community, facilitated BJP leader, Jamyang Tsering
Namgyal responded to this
nomination by expressing their

BJP leader, Jamyang Tsering
developmental activities, implemented every Government
of India scheme in the region, worked to strengthen the Hill Councils, and contributed in Hill Council elections. I think I On 25th April, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal returned to Leh have performed diligently. As a where his supporters organised a grand reception to welcome him at KBR Airport, Leh. loyal party worker, I can accept the decision of the party but my supporters are very disappointed and unwilling to accept it."

On the same day (25th May), BJP, Ladakh launched its Lok his disappointment that some Sabha election campaign in Leh. Adv Tashi Gyalson too not present to receive him. addressed the media He said, He added that he had worked "The campaign launch had been planned well in advance tirelessly to ensure that the party reached its current po-sition. He questioned why he was ignored and added that his meet their representatives and supporters are also wondering spiritual leaders. It has been a about it. He congratulated the busy day for the members of newly-nominated candidate BJP Party as there were many events taking place throughout that the decision made by BJP the day including the launch of has hurt the sentiments of party the campaign, formal reception for the incumbent MP and the their hopes. He explained that programme at the BJP Office. a collective decision will be The reception at the airport was made after holding a meeting organised on the direction of

the party state president."

The events of the day have led observers to speculate on a rift within BJP Party in Ladakh. When asked about it, Tashi Gyalson denied there was any rift and said it was baseless speculation. BJP State President, Phuntsok Stanzin added that some members were not able to attend the reception as it was a busy day that had numerous programmes.

Jamyang Tsering Namgyal visited Zanskar recently where in 2019 the public had extended their support to him. He said he respects the sentiments of his supporters and assured them that he would think of fighting the election independently if the situation was handled satisfactorily. He is expected to make announce a decision

District Congress President, Leh, Rigzen Namgyal refused to comment on the internal issues of BJP Party. He said, "Any leader or politician who does not work for the public has to face consequences. Their downfall is inevitable.

While BJP has already nominated its candidate for the upcoming election, other parties, especially Congress and National Conference are yet to declare their candidates

Leh celebrates 35th birth anniversary of Panchen Lama



Khensur Rinpoche Lobzang Tsetan cuts the ceremonial cake.

Yagchen Dolma

LEH: His Holiness the 11th

ed the function.

The celebration began with prayers, the offering of a Mandala, the lighting of a holy lamp, and a ceremonial cake-cutting.

Kachen Lobzang Tsultim and Lopon Naris Chakzot He said that the United Nations, with the support of numerous states, organisations, spoke on the life of the 11th and private individuals, continue to call for the 11th Panchen Lama. Kachen Lobzang Tsultim shared, "Gedhun Choeyki Nyima was born on April 25, 1989, in Lhari, Tibet, and was rec-Panchen Lama's release. LGA President Ven Tsering Wangdus said, "The abducognised and announced as the 11th Panchen Lama by tion of the Panchen Lama the 14th Dalai Lama on May by the Chinese government is not just a massive loss for 14, 1995. Three days later, on May 17, 1995, the 6-year-Buddhists in the Himalayas, old Panchen Lama was kidbut it's also a loss for the entire global community. Unnapped by the Chinese govfortunately, not many people ernment, selecting another boy in his place. Gedhun are aware of his situation. In-Choeyki Nyima remains terestingly, even the United forcibly detained by the States has started question-

Chinese government, along

with his family, in an undis-

closed location since 1995.

He was for years considered

the world's youngest polit-

ical prisoner. His Khenpo,

Chadrel Rinpoche, and an-

other Gelugpa monk, Jampa

Chungla were also arrested."

As part of the celebration, a debate competition was held between eight different government and private schools of Leh, themed "Ladakhi Cultural Heritage Debate Competition 2024.

ing China about the Panchen

Panchen Lama, Tenzin Gendun Choeki Nyima's 35th birth anniversary was celebrated at Lamdon School here on April 25. Organised by the Panchen Wisdom Trust, the event witnessed the presence of esteemed guests and participants from various schools.

Khensur Rinpoche Lobzang Tsetan graced the occasion as the chief guest. LGA President Ven. Tsering Wangdus, President of LBA Women Wing Yangchan Dolma, Dr. Tsering Dolker, teachers and students from different schools attend-

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Correction and clarification

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ADGP urges caution on cyber security during Zangskar sub-division visit



ADGP SD Singh Jamwal addresses students and the general public in Zanskar sub division.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: Additional Director General of Police, Union Territory of Ladakh, SD Singh Jamwal accompanied by SSP Deachen Police Headquarter UT Ladakh visited Zanskar Sub Division on April 21.

SSP Kargil, Shree Raam R, SDM Zanskar Romil Singh Donk, Dy. SP DAR Kargil Stanzin Dorjay, Tehsildar Zanskar Mohd Hassan, Station House Officer Zanskar presented a warm welcome to the visitors at Zangla village. A traditional reception was also presented by the Pres-

ident ZBA, ZGA, ZMA, laws. Lambardar Association, ZBYA to the visitors.

ADGP, SSP Kargil SSP PHQ UT Ladakh, SDM Zanskar and all other dignitaries expressed women empowerment, cyber fraud laws and

During the address, the ADGP emphasised the importance for students to use their mobile devices cautiously in today's landscape of fraud and cybercrime. They urged awareness of mobile and internet functionalities.

Women Police Station, SIT Team cybercrime SHO Inspector Ladol informed the gathering about crimes against women, children and domestic violence and punishment under new

Sub Inspector Tsering Dolkar enlightened both students and the general public about cyber fraud laws, including recent updates. Furthermore, she provided gratitude for organising valuable guidance to safethe awareness camp on guard their belongings from potential scams and frauds.

new laws (BNS, BNSS, The UT DRF team also BSA) at tourist Dak Bun- demonstrated how to save galow Padum organised the life and other essentials by District Police Kargil, during and disaster situation Ladakh, in which large like earthquake, fire and numbers of students and other accidents. SSP Kargil general public participat- and President Zanskar Buddhist Association also spoke at the awareness camp.

Lok Sabha polls: Chief Electoral Officer reviews security deployment in Ladakh

Reach Ladakh Correspondent LEH: Chief Electoral Officer Yetindra M. Maralkar held a review meeting on April 23 at the CEO Conference Hall, CEO Office, Karzoo, to assess the deployment of security personnel for the ongoing Lok Sabha polls.

by key officials, including the Election Commission State Police Nodal Officer of India (ECI), such as S. J. Mehmood, IPS, DIG transportation, accommo-Ladakh, State CAPF Coor- dation, and basic necessidinator Vijay Deswal, DIG ties like food, water, and ITBP, SSP Leh Shruti Aro- electricity. Emphasising ra, IPS, State Nodal Offi- the need for timely arcer Transport RTO Ladakh rangements to ensure the Mohd Nazir Sheikh, and comfort of security forc-Mujeeb Reman, Addl. SP Kargil (via VC).



Maralkar assessed preparedness for various ar-The meeting was attended rangements mandated by es during election duties, Maralkar requested pro-

posals from both district SSPs regarding additional requirements like Air Ambulance and Oxygen Cylinders, along with assistance from Health/ Medical departments.

Furthermore, Maralkar reviewed the requirement of security forces from outside Ladakh to facilitate smooth conduct of the elections within the

He added that cleanliness

must be ensured. He further

Kargil DC inspects model polling stations ahead of LS elections



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: Deputy Commissioner Kargil/District Election Officer, Shrikant Suse visited various model and critical polling stations in and around Kargil town and its peripheries to assess the preparations of Lok Sabha elections-2024 on April 20.

During the visit, the District Election Officer visited various polling stations including Government High School Goma Kargil, High School Poyen, Indoor Stadium, Government Middle School and High School Baroo, Government High School Minjee, Higher Secondary School Trespone and High School Saliskote.

DEO Shrikant took a detailed assessment of as-

feasibility of rooms, availramps, electricity, washnecessary facilities.

sured minimum facilities

required for the successful

He added that necessary done at the earliest by the the tour. concerned departments.

Nodal Officers to monitor

directed to remove obstruction on entry and exit points wherever required.

The DEO asserted to provide necessary facilities to the general voters and asked to ensure facilities for old age and specially-abled voters during the poll day.

conduct of polling on the poll day.

PO Wages and ACD Kargil, Padma Angmo, Chief Officer/Nodal Education He enquired about the Officer AMF, S.D Namgyal, Assistant SP Nitin Yadav, ability of drinking water, Headquarter Assistant to construction of walking DC and Nodal Officer Model PSs Arifa Iqbal, Exen. rooms, furniture , selfie PHE Div. Kargil, Exen. point, signages, provision PDD (M&RE), Kargil, Disof wheelchair and other trict Social Welfare Officer (Nodal Officer, PwDs), Kargil, besides concerned officers accompanied the Deparrangements should be uty Commissioner during

Later in the afternoon The Deputy Commission- during meeting at DC office er directed the concerned under chairmanship of DEO Kargil, detailed discussions the infrastructure needs held on arrangements to be and submit daily progress made by concerned departments for assured minimum facilities at polling stations.

Ensure optimum awareness, use of healthcare system: Dr Dorje



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Dr Motup Dorje, Mission Director, National Health Mission, Ladakh, along with a team of healthcare professionals, conducted a comprehensive visit to various health facilities in Kargil on April 26. The purpose of the visit was to ensure optimal functioning of healthcare services and address the needs of the local population.

Accompanied by officials including Dr. Liyaqat, CMO Kargil, Dr. Iqbal SIO, Dr. Iqbal SSO, Dr. Rinchan Consultant RCH, lance services. and others, Dr. Dorje mebar and Itchoo.

Their assessments cov- tre within a week. ered various operational lance services.

importance of accurate record-keeping and urged healthcare personnel to strive for excellence in service delivery. He also stressed the need to raise awareness about emergency services, particularly the availability of 108 ambu-

ticulously inspected sev- Interacting with patients eral health facilities across and attendants at CHC San-Sankoo Block, including koo, Dr. Dorje addressed CHC Sankoo and AAM specific needs at each fa-SCs in Thasgam, Barsoo, cility visited. At AAM Sub Shargandi, Taikat, Pang- center Itchoo, he highlighted the importance of identifying land for a Health Cen-

aspects such as register Dr. Motup Dorje has directmaintenance, tele-consul- ed Block Medical Officers tation services and ambu- to regularly visit health facilities within their respective blocks to oversee During the visit, Dr. progress reports and health Dorje emphasised the center programmes.

Election 2024: Leh DEO calls for voter inclusivity, digital efficiency



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: In view of the upcoming Lok Sabha elections 2024, District Election Officer/ Deputy Commissioner, Leh, Santosh Sukhadeve organised a training for Booth Level Officers (BLOs) of district Leh at Sindhu Sanskrit Kendra (SSK), Leh on April 17.

DC Leh talked about the im-

portance of BLOs and how it plays a pivotal role in steering the entire process on the ground. He added that BLO are the forefront of the election machinery, who interact with eligible citizens and facilitate their registration and also educate them on how to avail optional home voting facility.

various roles of BLOs which includes publicity regarding the postal ballot, distribution of form 12-D to the essential category voters and to ensure that the receipt of such forms till 5 days from the date of notification of elections which the sector officers will supervise. He further informed that the voter assistance booth is set up at every polling station having a team of BLOs with the objective to facilitate the voters.

He lauded them for doing their job fairly so far and expected the same amount of dedication in the future. As the theme of this year election is 'no voter to be left be-

He spoke about the hind', he brought into attention the low voter turnout in Leh district and wants to ensure maximum participation which is why absentee voters are targeted. Absentee voters are defined as a person who

are employed in essen-

tial services and also

includes electors belonging to the class of senior citizen (AVSC) who is defined as any elector under 85 years of age or person with disability (AVPD) who is defined as persons having benchmark disability certificate (not less than 40% of a specified disability) and covid 19 suspect/affected (AVCO) who are any elector hospitalised be-

cause of covid 19 at the time of elections.

Additionally, he informed that as the process has been made digital now, it is easier to ensure smooth functioning of the election, so it is important not to miss a single house during house-to-house verification.

He concluded by stressing that the election period is vital and there shouldn't be any scope for mistakes. He added that observers from national and international might be coming to cover the election so ensure that there is no margin for error as there could be grave consequences

Election officials starts voters' awareness camps in remote areas



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: The District Election Officer Leh, Santosh Sukhadeve and District SVEEP Nodal Officer, Tajamul Ara led a successful SVEEP(Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation) awareness camp in the remote areas of Trans Singey La on April 19 and 20.

The aim of the camp was

to enhance voter aware- Election Officer undertook ness and ensure greater a thorough review of the participation ahead of the arrangements at the pollupcoming Lok Sabha elec-

The awareness campaign The review ensured that covered villages includ- all necessary infrastrucing Lingshed, Youlchung, ture and facilities are in Nerak, Photoksar, Wanla, place to facilitate smooth and Hanupata in the Leh and hassle-free voting for district. The camp saw ac- the residents during the tive participation from lo- elections.

rights and responsibilities in the electoral process. Moreover, the District

The events focussed on

empowering citizens with

knowledge about their

cal communities.

ing stations in the aforementioned areas.

Election training conducted for Leh and Kharu sub-division employees

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: In view of the forthcoming Lok Sabha Election, the District Election Office conducted general training for the employees of 30 departments of Leh and Kharu Sub division at Sindhu Sanskriti Kendra, Leh, on April 20.

The training was conducted by District Level Master Trainers, Senior Lecturer, Education Department, Rigzin Namgail and Senior Librarian, Libraries and Research Department, Lobzang Tsewang.



Through the presentation the trainers gave detailed information about the duties of each of the personnel of the polling team. Additionally, they also talked about the pre poll activities, poll day activities and the procedure to be followed during the adjournment of poll.

It was also informed by the trainers that a detailed training about the functioning and operation of EVM and VVPAT will be given soon for the polling

Election training held for sub-division Khaltse and Likir employees

Yangchen Dolma

LEH: In view of the forthcoming General Election to Lok Sabha 2024, training to the general employees of Sub Division Khaltse and Likir was conducted in SDM Conference Hall Khaltse on April 20.

The training was conducted as per the direction of District Election Office, It was informed that the

District Level Master shift was attended by the Trainer, Ghulam Nabi and employees of the educa-Tashi Wangdan gave a pre-tion department of Sub Disentation about the role of vision Khaltse and Likir. the employees in the elec- The evening shift was at-



plained details about the election process through a PPT presentation.

training was divided into two shifts. The morning tended by the employees of all other departments of Sub Division Khaltse and

Sub Divisional Magistrate Likir / Tehsildar Saspol, Sajjad Hussain, Naib Tehsildar Khaltse, Mohd Yousuf, all HODs and officials of Sub Division Khaltse and Likir participated in the training.

gling to breathe. People

in Ladakh still enjoy the

luxury of good air quali-

ty. However, if we neglect

Call to protect the Earth to protect ourselves hi and Punjab are strug-

next five generations will



LEH: The Fire and Fury Corps AD Brigade organised a programme cele-brating the World Earth Day on April 22 at Sangam here. The outcome of the programme was a call to be responsible enough to protect the Earth so that we could live happily.

Teachers and students from various schools of Leh participated in the event. The programme began with a tree-planting initiative by school children, followed by a skit and speech competition.

Col Prashant Thakur, SM, spoke about the global importance of environmental issues. He highlighted the need for present and future generations to tackle ecological challenges, citing air quality issues in Delhi

our environmental responsibilities, the water and air quality may make survival incredibly difficult for fuand Punjab as examples ture generations. of current struggles that could worsen if not addressed.

Nilza Angmo, a student from DPS School, Leh, said that organising such "I believe that the environ- events was important, ment and Earth are argu- particularly for school ably the most sought-after children to understand the topics in the world today. important role the environ-For those interested in ment plays in our lives. global affairs, there is a climate conference held Tsering Norbo of Lamdon every year where world Model School thanked the leaders participate. All Fire and Fury Corps for

countries want to contrib- giving the school children ute to save the world from an opportunity to particienvironmental impacts. pate in the event and talk So, I consider this topic about protecting the envery relevant and cru- vironment. He said, "It is cial. The message that the important to discuss the young generation should environment because our take home is not only actions today may have about how they will face consequences in the fuit, but also about how the ture."

face it. If we look at the The event concluded with trouble with the air quality the distribution of prizes to index today, people in Del- winners and participants.

J&K Chief Secretary chairs meeting on Ladakh-J&K pending mat-

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

JAMMU: The Chief Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory chaired a meeting at the Secretariat, Jammu on April 18th to address pending issues related to the apportionment of assets, liabilities, and manpower between the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

The Advisor to UT Ladakh, Dr Pawan Kotwal, joined the meeting to review and deliberate on these significant matters. Comprehensive discussions were held during the meeting, focussing on various critical aspects including the apportionment of employees, deployment of officers to fill essential vacancies, transfer of posts from corporations, and the completion of ongoing projects managed by J&K agencies in Ladakh.

Additionally, the meeting focussed on the transfer of valuable cultural assets such as art, artifacts, and archival records, along with the transfer of assets belonging to the J&K Sports Council that have been apportioned to UT Ladakh.

One of the key agenda items addressed during the meeting was the inclusion of employees apportioned to UT Ladakh in the seniority lists of the respective departments of UT Jammu and Kashmir, effective until 15th November 2021. This step is crucial in ensuring equitable treatment

and representation for all employees across UT Ladakh and UT J&K.

Furthermore, discussions also revolved around the allocation of land for the construction of Kargil Saria at Sonamarg, highlighting the commitment to infrastructure development and regional growth.

The meeting highlighted the importance of cooperation and collaboration between the two Union Territories to effectively resolve pending issues and streamline administrative processes.

The Chief Secretary of J&K UT and Advisor to UT Ladakh expressed confidence regarding the outcomes of the meeting and pledged continued efforts towards the smooth transition and effective functioning of both Union Territories.

Dr Pawan Kotwal stated that the rigorous effort signifies a significant step forward in the ongoing administrative consolidation and integration process.

Administrative Secretaries, UT Ladakh: Deputy Commissioner, Leh; Chief Engineers; Directors; Dep uty Secretaries; Under Secretaries; officials, UT of Ladakh Administration attended the meeting virtually from the Civil Secretariat, Ladakh, while Deputy Commissioner, Kargil, and officials joined the meeting from DC Office, Kargil.

Education department employees trained in Leh on election process

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

forthcoming general election 2024, training for the education department employees was organised at SSK, Leh, on April 20.

The training session was provided by Senior Lecturer in the Education Department, Rigzin Namgyal and the Senior Librarian, Libraries and Research Department, Lobzang Gura Susheel.

The training began by giving an overview of the duties that included an in-depth knowledge of the laws, regulations and guidelines set by the Election Commission of India. The training also covered the proper understanding of EVM/VVPAT and instructions on how to apply for postal ballot EDC if required.

The training covered the roles and responsibilities of the polling staff, including the presiding officer who has overall control of the polling station.

The duties of the three polling officers at a polling station are as follows: The first polling officer will verify the identity of voters and mark their left-hand finger with indelible ink.

The second polling officer is delayed.

LEH: In view of the will maintain the register of voters by issuing them a voter slip through Form 17B. Lastly, the third polling officer will be responsible for operating and managing the control unit of the Electronic Voting Machine (EVM).

> During the training, it was emphasised that polling stations must be approved by the ECI. It was informed that any polling that takes place at a location that is not approved by the ECI will be deemed invalid. Along with the electoral roll, an Absent, Shifted, and Dead (ASD) list will be provided on poll day, and the training also covered activities that will be carried out on that day.

> During the training session, there was a briefing on how to conduct a mock poll, which is scheduled to start 90 minutes before the actual poll. The training covered topics such as the sealing of the control unit, setting up of the EVM and VVPAT, and special situations that may arise during the voting process, such as voting by blind or infirm voters.

In the end, it was emphasised that the poll should close at the appointed time, even if the start of the poll Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: Directorate of

Information and Public

Relations, Union Territo-

ry of Ladakh organised a

workshop on cyber securi-

ty at Auditorium Hall, Kar-

While addressing the audience, SSP Kargil, Ram

R highlighted various cy-

ber-related crimes such as

investment fraud, crypto

currency fraud and ponzi-

ty to create fake accounts,

to combat cyber fraud.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: The Department of

Information and Public

Relations, Leh organised

a capacity-building work-

shop for the journalists at

the Bharat Hotel on April

The programme was di-

vided into three sessions.

The first session covered

opics such as writing for

the media, convergence tactics, the role of social

media and digital PR. The

second session focused on

the role of media in ensur-

ing free and transparent

elections. The third ses-

sion discussed emerging

During the first session,

the guest speaker and vet-

eran journalist Soumitra

Bose highlighted the La-

dakh media and praised

them for their strong in-

tent and willingness to

improve their expertise.

He also shared his per-

spective on the difference

trends in cybercrime.

gil, on April 18.

Meeting held to discuss voting facilities for absentee voters in Leh

Reach Ladakh Correspondent LEH: The Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) of Leh, Sonam Nurboo, convened

a meeting with all the Assistant Electoral Registration Officers (AEROs) on April 22 at the DC Office, Leh, regarding the provision of voting facilities to Absentee Voters through postal ballots. The primary objective of

the meeting was to col-lect Form 12-D from all the Booth Level Officers (BLOs) and submit it to the Returning Officer prompt-

Absentee voters consist of two categories: senior citizens (AVSC), defined as any elector under 85 years of age, and persons with disabilities (AVPD), defined as individuals hold-



certificate (not less than 40% of a specified disabil-

It was also clarified that if a person chooses not to avail the home voting facility, they have the option of visiting the polling station to cast their vote.

Furthermore, it was emphasised that Form 12-D should be submitted to essential category voters and to ensure that the receipt of such forms is within 5 ing a benchmark disability days from the date of the election notification.

The meeting stressed that absentee voters must meet all the specified criteria, including age requirements and providing essential medical certifi-

The attendees of the meeting included Tehsildar Leh, Dorjay Gailson; Tehsildar Kharu, Sonam Dorjay; Tehsildar Durbuk, Mohd Ismail; and Naib Tehsildar Kharu, Abdul Rehman.

Director RD&PRD reviews progress of schemes

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: Director Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, Syed Sajad Qadri, reviewed the monthly physical and financial progress under SDP, State Sector, and discussed the implementation of centrally sponsored schemes such as NRLM, SBM, MGNREGA, RGSA and IWMP on April 24.

Director Qadri emphasised



earmarked funds and the timely completion of the physical works.

The meeting was attended the efficient utilisation of by Assistant Commission-

er Development, District Panchayat Officer, BDOs, Accounts Officer, Directorate of RDD, and relevant and relevant depart-

Dr Kotwal chairs Ladakh Skill Development Mission's Governing Council meeting

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: The 4th Governing Council Meeting of the Ladakh Skill Development Mission (LSDM) was chaired by Dr. Pawan Kotwal, Advisor to Ladakh and Chairperson of the Governing Council LSDM, on April 23. The meeting took place at the conference hall, ground floor, Civil Secretariat Leh.

Abied Hussain, Officer on Special Duty to the Commissioner/Secretary of the Technical Department, de- training programs for ITI livered a comprehensive passouts/ ongoing trainpresentation highlighting ees in premier institutes the activities undertaken by LSDM during the fiscal year 2023-2024.

The meeting agenda included the utilisation of funds for the fiscal year 2023-24, LSDM's achievements, and the approval and finalisation of the action plan for the fiscal year 2024-25.

LSDM during 2023-24 of Usha Silai Training



were discussed, includthe establishment and functioning of Skill Laboratories in six degree colleges across UT Ladakh, conducting skill of the country (outside UT Ladakh), training for specially-abled persons, and Train the Trainer (TOT) programmes for ITI trainers outside Ladakh in different trades.

Additionally, collaborations with Usha International Limited and the Directorate of Social and Tribal Welfare Ladakh re-Key accomplishments of sulted in the establishment

Centers at 13 Anganwadi centers, aimed at promoting livelihood opportunities for rural women.

implementation of centrally sponsored schemes such as PM Vishwakarma and PMKVY 4.0 was also highlighted, with successful training and certification of candidates in various trades and courses and ongoing training under the schemes.

Dr. Kotwal emphasised the importance of traditional crafts and stressed training in technical courses such as solar technician, homestay management, spinning, and E-ve-

Dr Kotwal: Infrastructure must make villages 'vibrant' in true sense



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Infrastructure developments in villages must be done in a manner that they become vibrant in the true sense. This was stated by the Advisor to the Lt. Governor, Dr Pawan Kotwal, at a meeting at the Civil Secretariat, Leh, on April 22, to address the submission of 41 new works, withdrawal of 20 proposed works, and responses to queries on 13 works under the Vibrant Village Programme (VVP).

The discussion focused on ensuring successful implementation on the ground.

The meeting was initiated by Deputy Commissioner Santosh Sukhdeve, who highlighted the roadmaps and action plans in a comprehensive presentation, unveiling several projects

covered under the VVP.

tance of infrastructure and sustainable development, Dr. Kotwal urged the officials to ensure the achievement of set goals in the designated villages so that they could become truly 'vibrant.' He emphasised that infrastructural developments must meet The meeting was attendinternational standards to attract more visitors to these villages.

Dr Kotwal stressed the construction of infrastructure such as community buildings using local traditional technology and seeking technical inputs from local architects to make them solar passive, winter-friendly, and usable throughout the year. He also emphasised the need for a plan for hand-

(Detailed Project Report).

Highlighting the impor- Dr. Kotwal directed to all concerned officials to work on developing attractive designs for their respective infrastructural proposals and projects. The officers were further directed to submit their designs by May 1, 2024.

ed by Administrative Secretary, School Education; Administrative Secretary, Health & Medical Education; Administrative Secretary, Animal/Sheep Husbandry; Administrative Secretary, Social and Tribal Welfare; Administrative Secretary, Public Works Department (Roads & Buildings) Irrigation & Flood Control; Administrative Secretary, Power / Youth Services; Administrative Secretary, Food, ing over and managing/ Civil Supplies & Consumoperating the infrastruc- er Affairs; and the Deputy ture as part of the DPR Commissioner.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent LEH: Director, Social and Tribal Welfare, UT Ladakh, Tashi Dolma visited the Office of the Child Development Project Officer, ICDS Project Nubra at Diskit, Nubra and also inspected the ICDS Anganwadi Centres

During the visit, Director Tashi Dolma enquired about the smooth functionality of the centres and directed the ICDS Supervisors along with

at Partapur, Nubra ac-

companied by Incharge

CDPO Nubra, Sonam

Tsephel on April 22.

Helpers (AWHS) to ensure that details of beneficiary children are updated on Poshan Tracker timely. She also directed them to routinely conduct home Similarly, Director Social and Tribal Welfare, Tashi

At the Partapur III ICDS centre, Director Tashi Dolma inspected the newly constructed prefabricated unit and specified the need for a separate kitchen and store room. She directed the CDPO to propose requisite requirements of furniture at all the Anganwadi Centres.

the Anganwadi Workers At the CDPO Office, she (AWWs) and Anganwadi interacted with the supervisors and the staff and urged them to work with sincerity and dedication for the welfare of the public.

> Dolma inspected the old building of the Lamdon Model School, Diskit along with the Principal, Lamdon School; Zonal Education Officer, Nubra and Incharge CDPO to explore the possibility of operationalising the proposed Eklavya Model Residential School at Nubra until the dedicated EMRS building is established.

Workshop on cyber security in Ladakh held



type schemes and urged the they will be for first-time audience to exercise cauvoters in particular. The tion. He said that identity SVEEP selfie points and theft has now begun to afbanners were displayed fect government servants. prominently in and outside Scamsters use their identithe auditorium.

he said. People then end Resource persons from the up becoming victims when Police, banking sector and scamsters use blackmaillegal field were invited for ing tactics through various the workshop in order to means. ATM frauds have explain the nuances of cyalso become rampant these ber frauds in a simple and days, he added. Further, he lucid manner. They threw outlined the measures un- ample light on their given dertaken by Ladakh Police topics from different perspectives.

The Nodal Officer of Sub-Inspector Tsering Dol-SVEEP, Ghulam Rasool kar from the Cyber Crime Lal also addressed the au- Unit of Ladakh Police dience and gave an outline gave an elaborate Power of the activities related to Point Presentation (PPT) voter education and elec- and extensively threw light toral literacy. Further, he on various types of cyber informed the gathering frauds and enlightened the about various apps of the audience about how to take Election Commission of precautionary measures. India and about how useful She also informed the au-

DIPR Leh holds capacity building workshop for

journalists

department and working

for newspapers or social

media. He noted that they

require different skills and

The speaker emphasised

the significance of media

convergence and the role

also touched upon the im-

how it can be effectively

convergence tactics. The

speaker highlighted that

the primary objective of

creating a story should

be to gain more coverage

and visibility among a

In the second session,

Assistant Director of the

Information Department

Leh, Dr Tundup Namgyal

emphasised the impor-

tance of adhering to the

Media Certification and

Social welfare director inspects Anganwadi centres in **Partapur**

approaches.

implemented

wider audience.

between working for the He also emphasised on

of social media in am- on the prevalence of cyber-

plifying the message. He crime in Leh and discussed

portance of digital PR and emphasised that the main

Monitoring Committee ment staff and the students

guidelines during MCC. of EJM College.

media.

through

dience about recent cases of cyber fraud in which the victims were from Kargil. She also got into a lively interaction with the audience and replied to their questions.

Addressing the legal dimensions of cyber security, Legal Assistant of Directorate of Information, Muzaffar Hussain outlined the existing laws related to cybercrime in India and informed the audience about the supervisory and monitoring bodies involved. Further, he clearly pointed out that many cases of cyber crime have no positive outcome as the perpetrators are sitting in foreign lands and our law enforcing agencies have no jurisdiction there.

The representative of Cluster Head, J&K Bank Kar-

pre-certification of political

advertisements and the need

paid news and actual news

to ensure a fair and trans-

In the third session, Sub In-

spector Mohd Ali shed light

their countermeasures. He

objective is to educate the

general public, students,

state police about the use

of technology and internet

The programme concluded

with Assistant Information

Officer (AIO) Rinchen Dol-

ma expressing her heartfelt

gratitude to everyone for

The programme was attend-

ed by private media per-

sons, information depart-

their participation.

Army/Paramilitary

parent election process.

differentiate between

gil, Zeeshan Ali briefed the participants about various bank-related cyber frauds and data privacy issues particularly bank-related cyber phishing.

District Informatics Officer, NIC-Kargil, Iftikhar Hussain (Nodal Officer, IT Applications) briefed the audience about the working mechanism of EVMs, VVPAT machines and the significance of various applications of Election Commission of India like cVIGIL, KYC and Saksham.

The Regional Arts & Theatre Art Group (RaN-THAG), led by its Director Kacho Ahmed Khan, presented a play demonstrating the vulnerability and severe consequences of cyber frauds in an innovative and effective

A short film on digital payment fraud was also screened during the course of the workshop in order to bring home the simple point that anybody and everybody could be targetted by scamsters irrespective of the level of awareness.

In his address, the Joint Director, Information, Imteeaz Kacho said that

the Department of Infor-

mation and Public Relations is organising workshops in both Kargil and Leh on the same day on various topics including cyber security. He added that that the Secretary of the Department was very particular about having workshops on cyber frauds in order to sensitise citizens and government employees alike about the risks involved. He emphasised the importance of caution and awareness in today's digital era and expressed concerns about how Government employees uploading data regarding various schemes may become victims of cyber crimes. Further, he extended gratitude to all esteemed guests and experts for sharing their valuable knowledge on cyber frauds and various mitigation strategies.

Kacho lauded the efforts of the participating students in their attempt to learn as much as possible from the resource persons and speakers. He pointed out how effectively RaNTHAG has been revolutionising the theatre scene in Kargil through hard-hitting messages regarding social evils and other issues.

SVEEP team organises cricket match to spread voter awareness



LEH: The SVEEP team of UT Ladakh organised a cricket match with two teams comprising election staff at NDS Ground on April 22.

The cricket match was played between the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) team, led by Captain Tashi Tundup, District Information Officer of NIC, Leh, and the District Electoral Officer (DEO) team, led by Captain Dr. Zulfikar Ali, Nodal Officer for Election Expenditure Monitoring (EEM).

The match aimed to inform, motivate, and empower first-time voters and youth, emphasising the importance of voting in a democracy and encouraging everyone to exercise their right to vote.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent The winning trophy was presented to the CEO team by the first Chief Electoral Officer of UT Ladakh, Yetindra M Maralkar. Additionally, the Man of the Match trophy was awarded to Tashi Tundup, DIO

> State Nodal Officer for SVEEP, Dr. Tsewang Morup, also participated in the match, alongside other officials including Assistant Chief Electoral Officer Delex Namgyal, District Nodal Officer for SVEEP, Tajamul Ara, State SVEEP Icon Phonsok Ladakhi, and District SVEEP Icons in Leh Tsewang Dorje and Stanzin Dorjai Gya.

> The match comprised 20 overs, with the CEO team scoring 185 runs with 7 wickets and the DEO team scoring 168 runs with 9 wickets.

World Heritage Day celebrated at Leh Palace



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: The Archaeological Survey of India, Mini Circle, Leh in collaboration with Archives, Archaeological and Museum, UT Ladakh and Himalayan Cultural Heritage Foundation celebrated World Heritage Day on April 18 at Leh Palace.

Dr Sonam Spalzin from the Archaeological Survey of India, in her welcome speech spoke about the importance of World Heritage Day and how this day is an opportunity to spread awareness among the younger generation especially the students.

The chief guest at the celebration was Programme Head, AIR, Leh, Sonam Wangchuk.

Founder, Himalayan Her-Wangchuk talked about how Ladakh has an abundance of monuments, folk songs and folk stories.

Assistant Professor, History, UoL, Dr Phuntsog An-

gmo spoke about the rich cultural heritage of Ladakh and how there are ample research opportunities for the students of Ladakh. She also talked about how Ladakh is home to both tangible and intangible heritage.

Padma Shri Morup Namgyal, special guest, enlightened the audience with stories and songs that revolve around Leh palace and encouraged everyone especially the students to know about Ladakh through its stories.

Dorjay Stakmo, special guest, sang two folk songs for the audience and the guests and audience also participated in performing the traditional Ladakhi dance.

The celebration ended itage Foundation, Sonam with the presentation of mementos.

> Other special guests included Sangeet Natak Akademi Awardee, Tashi Jorgyas, Wangyal Tsering and Gyen Nyantak.

People Voice:

Key Expectations From Lok Sabha Polls

Yangchan Dolma and Stanzin Padma

Skarma, a resident of Skurbuchan: As we approach the Lok Sabha election, I believe it is important for Ladakh's future that our representative possesses qualities like vision, integrity, and empathy. Previously, as part of Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh lacked development. Since becoming a Union Territory in 2019, we have hoped for progress, but challenges such as ecological preservation and unemployment remain. It is crucial for all candidates to priroitise Ladakh's needs for real progress, regardless of which party forms the government at the center.

Tashi Dolker, a student at Ladakh University: As the Lok Sabha election draws near, parties are picking candidates for Ladakh's single parliamentary seat, making voters like me think carefully about who to support. We all want leaders who are honest, educated, and accountable. These qualities are really important for good leadership. Ladakh's recent political activity has made people more aware of what we need from our leaders. Now, we know that a leader needs to listen to us and focus on our community's needs, not just their party's goals.

We need leaders who can talk to us, take action when needed, and think carefully before making decisions. When parties promise things during election time, it's important to make sure they can actually deliver on those promises. The government declared Ladakh a Union Territory, which was a big moment for us. But now we realise we need something more to protect our interests.

We are demanding the implementation of the 6th Schedule to give us more control over our affairs. Unemployment is a big problem here, and we need more jobs. The money we get for development needs to be used properly, and we want to see clear plans for that. We also want our language and culture to be protected, and we need better waste management to protect our environment.

> Mehdi Shah, a resident of Turtuk: Our next representative should also be brave enough to stand up for public demands like statehood and implementing the 6th Schedule, while also earning the trust of the people with real actions, not just words. It is important that he do not divide Leh and Kargil but unite everyone as residents of Ladakh. I encourage young voters to carefully assess candidates, choosing someone who will genuinely fulfill our needs and contribute to Ladakh's progress.

As a voter, I think it is crucial for politicians to focus on key issues like healthcare access, better education, protecting the environment, social justice, and honest governance in their plans for the future. These are the things that really affect our well-being and what tomorrow looks like, and tackling them shows a real dedication to serving the people.

> Padma Ladol, a resident of Basgo: The leader of Ladakh should prioritise representing the voices of local people, while also showing respect for tradition and fostering unity within the community. Considering Ladakh's ecological sensitivity, the leader should promote sustainable development while being mindful of the environment and ecosystem's fragility.

In my view, a political party's manifesto is crucial for voters to trust and rely on when casting their vote. It is essential for the manifesto to be clear, transparent, and achievable. For Ladakh, the manifesto should focus on key demands, including implementing the 6th Schedule, establishing a Public Service Commission, ensuring separate Lok Sabha seats for Leh and Kargil, and striving for statehood. Also, it is crucial to include our script (Bhoti) in the 8th schedule.

> Chamba Tsetan, a resident of Kargyam: One quality I value in a leader is integrity - being honest and having strong moral principles. A leader with integrity will always prioritise the basic needs of the people.

The ongoing demands for implementing the 6th schedule and safeguarding our land and culture must be top priorities. Unfortunately, unemployment is a major issue in Ladakh and needs attention. Howev er, I am not just talking about creating more government jobs because that won't solve the future job market. We need to create new opportunities for youth in the private and business sectors. To achieve this, we must focus on improving youth employability. The future of Ladakh lies in becoming self-reliant, with a strong emphasis on organic agriculture, pastoralism, and responsible tourism.

> Stanzin Chosphel, a resident of Kyungyam: When choosing a leader to represent Ladakh in the Lok Sabha, integrity, empathy, strategic vision, cultural preservation, environmental stewardship, inclusivity, and honesty are crucial. Ladakh's diverse communities need a leader who understands their unique needs and can navigate the challenges of our remote and rugged terrain while preserving our culture and environment.

We need leaders who will protect our fragile ecosystem from the threats of climate change and unregulated tourism. This includes promoting renewable energy, water conservation, and responsible tourism practices. Besides, unemployment, especially among our youth, is a pressing issue that needs to be addressed through job creation and skill development programmes.

Political parties must prioritise these issues in their manifesto for Ladakh. By doing so, they can contribute to Ladakh's sustainable development and ensure our unique identity and aspirations are represented effectively at the national level.

Dechan Yangdol, a student at Ladakh University: In my opinion, the ideal candidate for the upcoming election should have expertise in addressing current challenges and understand the concerns of the people and the land. Priority should be given to issues like implementing the 6th schedule or achieving statehood, ensuring employment generation, and supporting youth.



The World of

WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY



- World Press Freedom Day was proclaimed by the UN General Assembly in December 1993, following the recommendation of UNESCO's General Conference. Since then, 3 May, the anniversary of the Declaration of Windhoek is celebrated worldwide as World Press • Freedom Day.
- After 30 years, the historic connection made between the freedom to seek, impart and receive information and the
- public good remains as relevant as it was 1. celebrate the fundamental principles of at the time of its signing. Special commemorations of the 30th anniversary are 2. planned to take place during World Press
- of the need to respect their commitment to press freedom. It is also a day of reflection among media professionals about issues of press freedom and professional ethics. It is an opportunity to:
- press freedom;
- assess the state of press freedom throughout the world;
- Freedom Day International Conference. 3. defend the media from attacks on their independence;
- May 3 acts as a reminder to governments 4. and pay tribute to journalists who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

Courtesty:un.org

DIDYOUKNOW



- 1. The circulatory system is more than 60,000 miles long.
- 2. The Pope can't be an organ donor.
- 3. The world's longest concert lasted 453 hours.
- 4. It's impossible to hum while holding your nose.
- 5. Africa is the only continent in all four hemispheres.
- All mammals get goosebumps.
- 7. Japan has one vending machine for every 40 people.
- 8. McDonald's once made bubblegum-flavored broccoli.
- 9. Finland has more saunas than cars.
- 10. The longest time someone has spent holding their breath underwater is 24 minutes and 37 seconds.
- 11. Frida Kahlo painted 55 self-portraits.
- 12. Avocados are actually fruits, not vegetables.

Courtesy: today.com

SoulSpeak

Dr. P.P. Wangchuk

Success leads you to better luck



You may call it 'luck' for your success, but the fact is that it was your hard work, sincerity and consistency that did the magic of letting you realise your goal.

Most of us call it our 'bad luck' when we fail to succeed in an endeavour. And, when we succeed, we may or may not give the credit to our luck. Actually, there is nothing called luck as such. Your success is a direct result of the total inputs of your endeavours over a period of months or years.

Nothing that we call great today was done in a day or two. They took years and years of thinking and action, smart and systematic planning. Those of you who have read English literature would know that Milton had taken several years to complete his magnum opus, Paradise Lost, in 1667; and later Paradise Gained in 1671. He used to get up at 4 am to write as if his objectives were his obsession.

Similarly, there are so many other examples of one doing great things but only after years of sweat. For instance, Noah Webster is said to have taken 36 years to complete Webster's Dictionary, everybody's 'beloved' until the laptop replaced it in recent times.

Lest I be accused of bias towards English literature, I add that Thomas Edison had to languish through great mental and physical pain before he could perfect the light bulb in October 1879, 14 months after other forms of light had been already invented.

And, to be honest, I have been a student of English literature, with Shakespeare and Milton as my favourites!

I take up here a lovely Oprah Winfrey quote: "I believe luck is preparation for meeting an opportunity. If you had not been prepared when the opportunity came along, you won't have been lucky."

So, one can say that success and luck are nothing but an intertwined 'game' that plays for each other. Success brings you luck, and luck gets you more success! Best of luck!

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

In Conversation with

Dr. Padma Deskit, first woman surgeon of Ladakh

Interviewed by Yangchan Dolma

Q1. Tell us a bit about your yourself, including your educational background and what inspired you to pursue a career in surgery?

My name is Padma Deskit. I was born in Leh. I completed my MBBS from Lady Hardinge Medical College, Delhi and pursued my postgraduation in surgery from Government Medical College, Jammu. I have been working as a senior consultant surgeon at SNM Hospital Leh for the past 18 years. My father was a doctor and my mother also worked in the health department. Surgery as a career for women in those days was not common. It was my father who sowed the seed of my love for this speciality and later while studying at Lady Hardinge Medical College, seeing the confident surgeons handle various life-threatening trauma and abdominal emergencies I realised that I needed to follow this stream.

Q2. Could you share some of the experiences and challenges you have encountered in your profession?

Every day is a challenge for a surgeon, no matter where he or she is working. But working in Ladakh means facing double the challenges due to the resource-limited setting, especially during my initial years.

Q3. Tell us about some of the major surgeries you have performed so far?

I have performed several major surgeries, including saving a 4-month-old baby with a large segment intussusception after a successful right hemicolectomy, performing scalp reconstruction on a young engineer during the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic, where both the patient and I shed tears of happiness upon seeing the result, and saving the limb of a Nepali laborer after vascular repair, among many others.

Q4. Tell us about the research papers you've written and published?

I have been involved in several research projects. I collaborated with DIPAS (Defence Institute of Physiology and Allied Sciences) on a study investigating the feasibility of using a blood marker called BNP to predict high altitude-related conditions. I also did a study on emergency care at SNM Hospital, in collaboration with the Department of Public Health at AIIMS Jodhpur, as part of my training in Public Health Policy and Health Management. I was also selected as the principal investigator in a hospital-based cancer registry project in collaboration with ICMR-NCDIR. I recently reviewed an article for the International Journal of Surgery Case Reports, a publication by Elsevier.



MESSAGE TO THE READERS

Building a healthy society with a strong public healthcare system is very important. It is all about making sure everyone has access to quality healthcare services, regardless of their background or income. By investing in healthcare infrastructure, promoting preventive care, and ensuring affordable healthcare for all, we can create a society where everyone has the opportunity to lead a healthy and fulfilling life.

Q5. You were awarded a scholarship by the Royal College of Surgeons of England in 2017. Could you tell us about the program and how it helped you upon your return to Ladakh?

The program was designed to train surgeons in regions facing armed conflicts, such as Syria and Afghanistan. I presented a paper at the International Conference of the Red Cross. One of the tutors from the Royal College was in the audience, who thought I could be a potential candidate. Following several rounds of telephone interviews and background checks, I was awarded the scholarship. After completing the training, I applied the skills acquired to handle various complex trauma cases in Leh.

Q6. Since you are the first female surgeon of Ladakh, what impact do you hope to have on your community and beyond?

Thankfully Ladakhi society is very unique unlike the rest of India, girls are given equal opportunities in all spheres of life. But lately, I have realized that there do exist some glass ceilings which are yet to be broken. I hope the coming generation of females will break those barriers as well and make a name for themselves and Ladakh not only in India but in the entire

Q7. What advice would you give to young girls and boys who want to pursue a career in medicine?

I would like to advise all the young boys and girls who wish to pursue a career in medicine that unless you are motivat-

ed and inspired to become a doctor it becomes tough to pursue medicine as it is a very long journey and you are a student all your life. Unlike other professions, you get settled only in your 30s. For a girl, balancing home, kids and profession is challenging, but if you love your job then the journey becomes easier.

Q8. How do you envision the future of healthcare in Ladakh?

One of the best things about the Ladakhi healthcare system at this point is that there is no corporate or private player, so health care is still affordable and accessible. But in recent times, there have been many instances where doctors have been shamed and defamed on social media for no fault of theirs, which demoralizes them. People who criticise the doctor should shadow a doctor for one day to realize the difficulties and constraints that one faces given the absence

...continues on page 6

Fortnight Highlights



Ladakh University students performing a street play as part of SVEEP campaign in Leh market.



Animal Husbandry Department, Leh, observing World Veterinary Day.



Brij Mohan Sharma, Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, planting Lycium ruthenicum (Goji Berry) plants at the Trans-Himalayan Herbal Garden of the National Institute of Sowa-Rigpa on World Earth Day.



School students in Leh participating in a cleanliness drive on World Earth Day organised by the Ladakh Pollution Control Committee.



CEC Tashi Gyalson and Executive Councillor for Minority Affairs, Ghulam Mehdi, bid farewell to Commissioner Secretary (Tourism/Labour & Employment) Mehboob Ali Khan, who has transferred to the Ministry of Finance, GoI.



Commissioner/Secretary Dr. Lalthinkhuma Franklin and Chief Electoral Officer UT Ladakh Yatindra M. Maralkar inaugurating the Apricot Blossom Festival in Saspol village.



Khensur Rinpoche Lobzang Tsetan cutting the ceremonial cake during the 35th birth anniversary of the 11th Panchen Lama at Lamdon School.



Thiksey Rinpoche and Drukpa Thuksey Rinpoche during the Golden Jubilee celebration of Gompa Association Ladakh.

Fortnightly News

District Legal Services Authority organises awareness programme on Motor Vehicles Act and Rules

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Leh organised an awareness programme on the Motor Vehicles Act and Rules at the Taxi Union office, on April 23.

Deputy Chief Legal Aid Defence Counsel, Nema Stanzin, delivered a lecture on the functioning of DLSA, eligibility under Leh, Parveez Ahmad in-Section 12, and the Motor Accident Claim Act. Assistant Legal Aid Defence Counsel, Phuntsog Stobgyal, addressed the topic of the Motor Vehicle Act 1988 and compulsory insurance.

Inspector of Traffic Police, faced by the taxi union.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Continuing the

awareness programme on

drugs and substance abuse

organised by the Cultural

Wing of the Department

of Information and Public

Relations Leh, in collab-

oration with the Ministry

of Information and Broad-

casting, Government of

India, and the District Ad-

ministration Leh, a similar

programme was conducted

at Mahabodhi Residential

School, Choglamsar on

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: The Department

of Botany, Eliezer Joldan

Memorial College Leh, or-

ganised a field visit for the

students of the second se-

mester skill enhancement course to the vermicom-

posting unit at the Defense

Institute of High Altitude Research (DIHAR), Leh

The aim of the field visit

was to enhance student's

practical knowledge and

skills in vermicomposting. DIHAR is renowned

for its expertise in vermi-

composting techniques, especially in high-alti-

tude regions like Ladakh.

Therefore, students were

eager to observe and learn

from the advanced practic-

es and technologies em-

The visit provided the

students with valuable in-

sights into vermicompost-

ployed at DIHAR.

on April 19.

April 23.



formed about road safety awareness, while Sub Inspector Phunchok Dorjey gave instructions on vehicle documentation.

President of the Taxi Union, Thinlay Namgail, addressed the challenges

Drug awareness programme held at Mahabodhi Res-

idential School

Dr. Padma Angmo from

with Vice Principal Skar-

ma Nodon, Assistant Ex-

hibition and Culture Offi-

cer Stanzin Wangmo, and

Culture Assistant Sonam

Youton from DIPR Leh,

as well as faculty and staff

members of Mahabodhi

and their parents, were

Dr. Padma Angmo spoke about the various stages

EJM College organises field visit to DIHAR vermi-

composting unit

present during the event.

Approximately 150 participants were present at the event.

The event was attended by PLVs, Sub Inspector, Mohd Ali, Vice President and Secretary of the Taxi Union, all Executive members, Taxi owners and drivers.

come substance abuse, en-

informed and away from

such menace. Vice-Prin-

cipal Skarma Nodon and

AE&CO Stanzin Wang-

mo also shared their views

Later, students were en-

consult with Psychiatrist

Dr. Padma regarding their

concerns related to mental

during the event.

well-being.

tural system.

for

Assistant Professor of

Botany, Dr. Tsetan Dolker,

also shared her expertise to

the students regarding ver-

micomposting. She high-

lighted that vermicom-

posting is an eco-friendly

and sustainable method

that involves the conver-

sion of organic waste into

vermicompost.

waste management

MAHABODHI RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL

A Senior Secondary School

Psychiatrist and Drug of implications and cor-

De-Addiction Specialist, rective measures to over-

SNM Hospital Leh, along couraging students to stay

School along with students couraged to speak and

Zangskar GDC organises one-day tour for students Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: The Environmental Science and Education Department at GDC Zanskar jointly organised a study tour for second-semester students to Zangla Village of Zangskar Subdivision on April 20.

The tour aimed to provide hands-on training and bridge the gap between employability and skills by offering practical learning opportunities.

During the tour, students received valuable information and knowledge about the process of making paneer and cheese from Stanzin Donsal, a nun at Chamgchub Choling Nunnery, Zangla.



the region. Members of the SHG shared their experiences in carpet weaving, and students were provided practical knowledge of carpet weaving through demonstrations.

Towards the end of the tour, a waste audit at the household level was conducted, and residents were urged to take responsibility for their waste and ensure effective waste management to preserve the ecology and beauty of the region.

under the supervision of Thopstun Dolkar, Faculty of Environmental Science, and Shagufta Zehra, Faculty of Education.

students actively participating by displaying plac-

ards and banners to raise

awareness about eliminat-

Ruksana Parveen, District Officer LPCC, highlight-

ed the necessity of elim-

ing single-use plastic.

Memorial College in Leh organised a one-day field trip to the Defense Insti-The tour was conducted tute of High-Altitude Research (DĬHAR) and the Ladakh Organic Farmers Foundation Farm (LOFF) at Chuchot Shamma on April 22.

> The trip aimed to provide practical insights into poultry and cattle breeds, along with hands-on experience in Rainbow trout culture for the 6th-semester students of Batch 2021. Accompanying the students were two faculty members, Assistant Professors Dr. Nasima Bano and Gul Jabin.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Department of Zo-

ology at Eliezer Joldan

At LOFF, students delved Recirculatothe

Aquaculture System (RAS) hatching technology focused on Rainbow trout, which is spearheaded by farmer and entrepreneur Zabir Ahmad. Ahmad elucidated the fundamental requirements for trout spawning, emphasising its potential applications.

EJM College organises field trip to

DIHAR and LOFF

pioneering RAS hatching technology, successfully implemented for the first time in Ladakh's private sector in collaboration with ICAR-DCFR, Bhimtal, was discussed as a viable avenue for entrepreneurs in various fisheries-related endeavors. Ahmad elaborated on the diverse opportunities in fishery, including Trout culture, aqua gardening, aerobic composting, and Aromatic lab techniques, among others.

Cleanliness drive held in Leh on World Earth Day



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: The Ladakh Pollution Control Committee celebrated World Earth Day 2024 on April 22.

To commemorate the occasion, LPCC organised a cleanliness drive in Leh Nallah, involving students from Government Girls Higher Secondary School and Sindh Public School.

cluded at Shenam, saw country.

inating single-use plastic due to its significant littering potential. Students were encouraged

to carry forward the message of eliminating single-use plastic (SUP) by The cleanliness drive, ini-tiated at Karzoo and con-responsible citizens of the

Selfie point at Hamboting La inaugrated

Reach Ladakh Correspondent KARGIL: The Forever

In Operations Division and Tourism Department Kargil inaugurated a selfie point at Hamboting La on April 24.

Situated along the Kargil-Leh Battalik highway, its strategic placement ensures that locals and tourists can easily access and enjoy the captivating scenery of Kargil Valley and adds to the pride the visiting tourists have in the Armed Forces.

Dr. SD Singh Jamwal, IPS, ADG Ladakh Police, was the chief guest. SSP Kargil Shree Ram R, IPS, and AD Tourism Kargil, Rehmatullah Butt, along with

senior Army officials and Kargil civilians, were also present, marking its opening to the public.

Kargil Selfie Point is not just a photo spot, it adds to the immersive experience that encourages self-ex-pression and celebrates the beauty of Kargil.

Officials said that this initiative reflects the Army's commitment to enhancing community engagement tions of the area.

and providing a space that truly resonates with the spirit of vibrant India.

They also added that the innovative space will set new standards to the way visitors capture and share their memorable moments while visiting the remote border region of Hamboting La in Kargil district. This has even refreshed the Hamboting La pass in the list of tourist attrac-

LEH: The CSIR-Indian

Institute of Integrative Medicine Srinagar/Jammu organised a one-day awareness programme on lavender cultivation and distribution of lavender (QPM) under CSIR-Aroma Mission Phase III at IIIM-field station Palam on April 20.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

The programme was held under the guidance of Dr. Zabeer Ahmad, Director of

IIIM.

Awareness programme on laven-

der cultivation

Dr. Padma, Scientist at IIIM branch, Srinagar, explained lavender cultivation techniques and its importance to farmers. Besides, 30,000 lavenderrooted plants were distributed to 19 farmers.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks presented by Rigzin Dorjai, a farmer from Wanla.

Expenditure Observer holds meeting with election officials He also talked about how



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Election expenditure observer for Ladakh Parliamentary constituency, Gajendra Singh (IRS), held a meeting with dis-trict election officials on April 27 at the DC office.

The meeting began with a briefing by Nodal Officer, Election Expenditure Monitoring, Dr. Zulfikar Ali, about the training conducted till now for the different teams and the details of the appointed nodal officers.

The EO, Gajendra Singh, talked about the role of Flying Surveillance

misdoings and ensuring free and fair elections. Teams (FSTs), Video Surveillance Teams (VSTs), Video Viewing Teams

Surveillance Team to also check for Model Code of Conduct violations along with the expenditure. He also instructed the Lead Bank Manager to send a daily report of cash deposits and cash withdrawals along with suspicious ac-

(VVTs), and the account-

register.

tivity reports.

Further, he opened the floor for doubts and queries and encouraged everyone to contact him or other officials if any doubt

the work that each of the team is doing helps in pre-

venting election-related

ing team and how all of their combined efforts help The officials present at in maintaining the shadow the meeting were Deputy District Election Officer, Leh, AG Zargar; SSP, He instructed the Video Leh, Shruti Arora; Nodal Officers, Leh, Excise & Taxation Officer, Virinder Singh Pawar; Head of FSTs, SSTs, Lead Bank Manager; Accounting and Video Viewing Team, Leh; AD Tourism, Leh, Fesal Iqbal Tantray, members of the VSTs and the other officials from different Sub Division joined online.

court complex Khaltse



Plantation drive held at Munsif

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KHALTSE: Tehsil Legal Services Committee, Khaltse organised a plantation drive at Munsiff court complex on April 20.

Chairman TLSC, Khaltse, Wangial Tsering and Assistant Public Prosecutors (APP), Khaltse, Dechen Angmo encouraged the participants to carry out maximum plantation and

encourage others to do the same. Saplings of apples and plums were also planted in the court complex.

The programme was attended by staff and students of Higher Secondary School, Khaltse, Staff of Court, Para Legal Volunteers of Khaltse, Skurbuchan, Lingshed and Temis-

FCS&CA officials inspects restaurants in Khaltsi



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KHALTSE: A team led by Naib Tehsildar, Mohammad Yousuf, along with Tehsil Supply Officer, Mohd Afzal Khan from the Food ,Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs (FCS&-CA) department, conducted a surprise inspection of restaurants at the Khaltse market on April 23.

During the inspection, the team identified the use of uncommercial cylinders in several hotels/restaurants. They seized the cylinders and imposed fines totaling Rs 10,000 on the defaulters. Additionally, the team assessed food standards, hygiene practices, and verified necessary documents

Zanskar celebrates Earth Day with plantations and environmental awareness events

ing and also inspired them

to contribute positively to

environmental sustainabil-

ity initiatives in our re-

gion, as vermicomposting

is also an alternative way

Deskyong Namgyal, the

Technical Officer, shared

his experience with the

students on how to adopt

vermicomposting and its

importance in the agricul-

in waste management.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: Government Degree College Zanskar in collaboration with Forest Department, Range Zanskar observed World Earth Day on April 22.

The day reminds citizens across the globe about the importance of environment conservation, sustainability and encouraging people to come together to take Falzang Angmo, 4th Seaction for a healthier planet and brighter future.

The event commenced with a plantation drive at the college premise. More than 50 saplings of willow (sps) were planted in presence of Sub Divisional Magistrate, Romil Sing Donk, Forest Range Officer Zanskar, Mohd Ilyass, faculty members and students.

A debate competition on the theme "Planet vs Plastic" was also held after plantation drive, in which the college students partic-



mester, Stanzin Dawa 6th Semester and Tsering Dolm 4th Semester student bagged 1st, 2nd and 3rd positions respectively.

Assistant Professor, Environmental Science, Thuptan Dolker threw light at length on health issues caused by micro-plastic and waste treatment.

Assistant Professor Zoology, Dr Abid Hussain emphasised on plastic pollution on marine, riverine and terrestrial ecosystems and its effects on different biodiversity. He also dis-

cussed chemicals released due to usage of plastic and its product on human health.

SDM Zanskar, Romil Sing Donk, who was the chief guest on the occasion, spoke at length on the theme and suggested reducing the plastic usage and free environment from plastic.

Forest Range Officer Zanskar, Mohd Ilyass presented vote of thanks. The program was moderated by Dr Jamphel Shayam, Assistant Professor English. In the end, certificates and prizes were presented to the students.

In conversation with Dr. Padma Deskit, first woman surgeon of Ladakh

... continues from page 5

of super speciality care and advanced care. Our hospital has equal gender representation in all specialities. I hope that the coming of the medical college will bring all super-speciality care to Leh.

Q9. Are there specific medical issues or concerns in Ladakh that you are particularly passionate about addressing?

The burden of cancer in Ladakh is increasing day by day. I am very passionate about addressing this concern by raising awareness among the masses so that the disease is detected and diagnosed at an initial curable stage. I am committed to advancing my skills to provide optimal surgical care to cancer patients.

Q10. How do you manage medical emergencies in remote areas? How do you maintain a balance between your professional responsibilities and personal life?

Managing a medical emergency in any remote area is always a challenge. All medical emergencies are a race against time. Having said that, timely care is possible only if we have dedicated emergency medical services(EMS) like heli evacuation routes staffed with trained pre hospital caregiver. Regarding managing work-life balance, I would say my family is my biggest support, especially my mother, who inspires me to work harder every day, and my husband, who is my greatest strength.

Fortnightly News

Food safety awareness programme held



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: The Drugs and Food Control Organization Ladakh, in collaboration with the College Cultural and Seminar Committee and the Department of Commerce and Sociology, organised a food safety awareness programme at GDC Kargil on April 25.

The event began with As-

sistant Professor of English, Archo Fatima, introducing the distinguished guests and welcoming all attendees.

Shahnaz Zahra, Food Safe-Yaseen, Food Analyst, led to witness demonstrations

of food testing techniques firsthand. These interactive sessions provided insights into the significance of following food safety protocols, empowering students to advocate for safe food practices within their communities.

Thinles Chondol, Assistant Professor of Commerce, expressed gratitude to the Drugs and Food Control Organization and its speakers for their informative session on food safety practices.

She also thanked Principal Dr. Amina Qari for approving the event and praised the active participation of both staff and ty Officer, and Humaira students, highlighting the importance of such collabengaging sessions on food orative efforts in raising testing, allowing students awareness about public

Ladakh University students stage play for voter awareness

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: As a part of the Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) campaign, Ladakh Univesity students performed a short street play in Kharu and Choglamsar on April 25, to raise awareness among the public about the importance of exercising their right to

The SVEEP team from Leh, led by SVEEP Nodal Officer Tajamul Ara (Deputy Director NYK), along



Ladakh University students performing a street play as part of the voter awareness programme at Choglamsar

with district SVEEP icon Stanzin Dorjai Gya and SDM Kharu Sonam Dorjai, interacted with the public to provide informa-

tion about facilities available for specially-abled persons and senior citizens above 85 years of

National Institute of Sowa-Rigpa, celebrates World Earth Day with plantation drive

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: The National Institute of Sowa-Rigpa, Leh celebrated World Earth Day at Trans Himalayan Herbal Garden of National Institute of Sowa-Rigpa, opposite Phey village on April 22.

The plantation drive began by planting Lycium ruthenicum (Goji Berry) plant by Chief Guest, Brij Mohan Sharma, Additional Principal, Chief Conservator of Forest and Guest of Honor Sajjad Hussain Mufti. Chief Conservator of Forest, Union Territory of Ladakh.

Director National Institute of Sowa Rigpa, Dr



Padma Gurmet welcomed the guests and briefly explained about Trans Himalayan Herbal Garden and the World Earth Day. Both the dignitaries apreciated the effort of National Institute of Sowa-Rigpa for establishment of Trans-Himalayan Herbal Garden with more than 100 plants species.

Director National Institute of Sowa-Rigpa, Dr. Padma Gurmet along with Officer, staff and students of National institute of Sowa-Kigpa nave partic ipated in day long plantation drive by planting large number of medicinal plants, shrubs and tree species on the occasion.

Selfie point at Hamboting La inaugrated



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

In Operations Division and Tourism Department Kargil inaugurated a selfie point at Hamboting La on April 24.

Situated along the Kargil-Leh Battalik highway, its strategic placement ensures that locals and tourists can easily access and enjoy the captivating scenery of Kargil Valley and adds to the pride the

KARGIL: The Forever visiting tourists have in the Armed Forces.

> Dr. SD Singh Jamwal, They also added that the IPS, ADG Ladakh Police, innovative space will set was the chief guest. SSP Kargil Shree Ram R, IPS, and AD Tourism Kargil, Rehmatullah Butt, along with senior Army officials and Kargil civilians, were ing La in Kargil district. also present, marking its opening to the public.

Kargil Selfie Point is not

just a photo spot, it adds to the immersive experience that encourages self-expression and celebrates the beauty of Kargil.

Officials said that this initiative reflects the Army's commitment to enhancing community engagement and providing a space that truly resonates with the spirit of vibrant India.

new standards to the way visitors capture and share their memorable moments while visiting the remote border region of Hambot-This has even refreshed the Hamboting La pass in the list of tourist attractions of the area.

NOTICE

An application has been received from Tasleem Hussain Dar S/o Mohd Qazim Dar R/o Khoshi Pora, Srinagar, A/P Agling, Leh Ladakh owner of vehicle no. JK 10A 6116 for issuance of duplicate Registration Certificate of the abovesaid vehicle in lieu of the lost documents. Now, it is therefore notified for the general public information that objection if any shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport Officer ARTO within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.

NOTICE

Whereas Jahangir Ali S/o Ali Hussain R/o Largyab Pachathang Nobra UT Ladakh has claimed that his name has been wrongly entered as Jangir Ali instead of Jahangir Ali and also his wife's name has been wrongly entered as Sakena Khatoon instead of Sakina Khatoon in his son Rajab Ali's School Record of Govt. High School Largyab Pachathang Nobra. Objection, if any may be conveyed to the concerned authority of Govt. High School Largyab Pachathang Nobra UT Ladakh within 7 days from the date of publication.

NOTICE

I, Deldan Namgyal S/o Chering Phunchok R/o Tukcha Leh, Ladakh do hereby notify that I have lost my driving license bearing no. JK1020150015490 and I am applying for a duplicate driving license. Objection if any may be conveyed to Assistant Regional Transport Officer (ARTO) Leh, Ladakh within 10 days from the date of publication.

GDC Khaltse celebrates World Earth Day

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Department of Environmental Sciences, Government Degree College, Khaltse celebrated World Earth Day themed, 'Planet vs Plastics' on April 22.

Assistant Professor, Department of Environmental Sciences, Dechen Angmo talked on adaptive strategies, ideological analyses, and alternatives for reduction of plastic wastes.



cal discourses on the envi-A drawing competition ronment. was also conducted in the

Staff and students of Government Degree College Khaltse were present on the occasion.

with nature and theoreti-**KVK Kargil observes World Earth Day**

campus for students to

learn about ethical prac-

tices to live in harmony

Reach Ladakh Correspondent KARGIL: Forest Department Kargil in collaboration with KVK, Kargil celebrated World Earth Day at Government High School, Minjee, Kargil on 22 April.

A large number of students, faculty members, of Government High School, Minjee, extension workers of the Forest Department and scientists of KVK, Kargil were present.

During the day-long programme, a series of lectures were delivered on the importance of Earth Day followed by planting of an evergreen state tree juniper inside the school premises.

Dr. Mehdi, Chief Scientist, KVK, Kargil, delivered an elaborated lecture on technologies for successful growing of trees under deficit water conditions and their protection from different insect pests and diseases, as many non-traditional insect pests are emerging due to climate change in the region.

Later in the session, Dr. Mehdi and his team demonstrated the identification and locating of hibernated pupae of popular defoliators (Pheosia albivertex) to the participant in the most affected area (Dangue tse Minjee).



invaluable for educating individuals on how to address insect pest challenges effectively. After a thorough demonstration, the entire team was involved in the collection of pupae in carry bags.

To boost the morale of students and also to make the mission successful, prize money was kept from KVK, Kargil, for the participants who collected the highest number of pu-

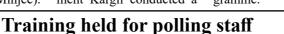
Mohd Hussain, a 10th grade student at Government Middle School Minjee, collected 51 pupae during the 2-hour exercise, which shows his dedication and interest in environmental conservation efforts. Since a single pupae may multiply into hundreds of leaf eating caterpillar in the season.

Further, the Forest Department Kargil conducted a

drawing competition on conservation of the environment. Certificates were distributed to the top three participants, adding recognition to their creativity and contribution to the cause.

Headmistress of the School Zarina Batool, on behalf of students and faculty members, expressed their gratitude to the organisers for choosing their school for this important event. She said that their faculty members and students gained good knowledge and exposure about the plantation techniques and management of forest trees from insect pest

Niyaz Ranger, Forest Department Kargil, extended gratitude to KVK and faculty members of the school for their cooperation, highlighting their keen interest in ensuring the success of the programme.





Reach Ladakh Correspondent ed by Nodal Officer, Ex-

LEH: Ahead of the upcoming Lok Sabha elections, a training session was organised for the Video Surveillance Teams (VSTs) and the camerapersons of the Flying Squad Teams (FSTs) and Static Surveillance Teams (SSTs) at the DC office on April

The training was conduct-

penditure and Monitoring, Dr Zulfikar Ali. He talked about the roles and responsibilities of the VSTs, cameramen of FSTs and SSTs and how these teams have to tackle different situations during the election period.

He also talked about what to record during an election campaign and the process of submitting the of the FSTs and SSTs.

recorded evidence along with the cue sheet.

Additionally, he said that all of the teams have to stay vigilant since the nomination period has started and ensure that they are present in their respective locations. The training ended with Dr Zulfikar Ali responding to the queries by members of the VSTs and cameramen

State Nodal Officer chairs meeting on election coverage and media guidelines



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: The State Nodal Officer for Media, Imteeaz Kacho, held a meeting at the Council Secretariat in Kargil on April 27. The meeting focussed on various aspects of media coverage, adherence to election guidelines, and ensuring responsible journalism during the electoral process.

Assistant Director Murtaza Ali, representatives from All India Radio and Doordarshan and members of the Press Club of Kargil, along with representatives from printing attended the meeting.

Kacho commended the nation. media for their proactive voter is left uninformed.

ing Committee (MCMC), clarify doubts.

and publishing agencies emphasising its role in monitoring cases of paid news and certifying adver-Joint Director Imteeaz tisements before dissemi-

role in promoting voter Kacho urged strict adherawareness and supporting ence to guidelines proelection authorities in dis- hibiting content targeting seminating crucial infor- specific religions or commation. He urged media munities, emphasising acprofessionals to continue countability and transpartheir efforts to ensure no ency in all election-related activities.

Assistant Director Mur- The meeting provided an taza Ali shed light on the opportunity for media profunctioning of the Media fessionals and stakehold-Certification & Monitor- ers to discuss concerns and

DLSA observes International Labour Day



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: District Legal Services Authority celebrated International Labour Day at Melongthang on May 1. Deputy Chief, Legal Aid Defence Counsel, Advocate Nema Stanzin made the workers aware of their rights and the compensation schemes available through the Labor depart-

ment and other government schemes.

He also emphasised the importance of safety gear and precautions to be taken during construction

Additionally, DLSA distributed gloves to the workers for their safety.

Cleanliness drive held at Kharu market



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: A cleanliness drive was organised at Kharu market here on April 27. The drive was a collective effort of CII Foundation, UT Administration, Kharu Market Merchant Association and community members.

Sub Divisional Magistrate, Kharu, Sonam Dorjay, highlighted the urgent need for effective waste management practices and the role it plays in preserving the pristine beauty of the Himalayas. He commended the dedicated efforts of the CII Foundation members for their commitment to waste management. He also acknowledged the Market Association and house owners for their diligent adherence to waste continuity measures, ensuring cleanliness in every corner of the market.

Block Development Officer, Kharu, Manzoor Hussain spoke about waste management in Ladakh. He emphasised on waste management practices specific to Ladakh and

stressed significance of the Swachh Abhiyan campaign and highlighted its impact on the overall wellness and health of the community.

Chairman, CII, Nawang Thinles delivered a speech, providing CII's perspectives on waste management in Ladakh. He emphasised the significance of waste management and the role played by the CII Foundation in promoting sustainable practices.

A total of 275 ticipated in this cleanliness drive. As a gesture of support, the CII Foundation distributed free dustbins to all Market Association member. The President of the Merchant Association received a total of 18 dustbins for the market area, while 2 were given to the local police post in Kharu. The event witnessed active participation from various stakeholders, including members of the Merchant Association, Army representatives, and GREF representatives.

Third phase of training for polling personnel held



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: In preparation for the upcoming Lok Sabha election, the third phase of training sessions were held on April 26 for the employees of the Education and other departments at the District Auditorium Hall.

The training was conducted by District Level Master Trainers (DLMTs) Kacho Hassan Khan, Mohd Ali, and Mohd Hassan. Presiding Officers/Polling Officers received intensive training during the session. They were instructed on

the proper functioning of EVMs/VVPATs, the EDC process, and compliance regarding various statutory and non-statutory forms involved in conducting elections. Additionally, a demonstration was conducted on the mock poll procedures and sealing of EVMs, etc.

The training concluded by highlighting each officer's designated duties to ensure the seamless conduct of the poll, emphasising transparency throughout the process.

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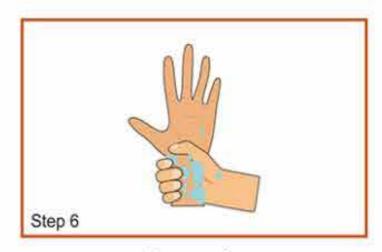


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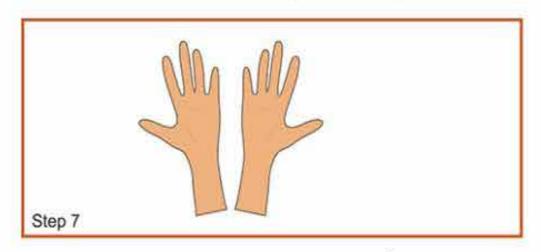


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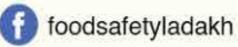


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