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AUGUST 01-15, 2024

REACH LADAKH BULLETIN



In Conversation with
Tsering Lhamo,
Theatre Practitioner

People's Voice:

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi commemorates Kargil Vijay Diwas, launches Shinkun La Tunnel Project



Prime Minister Narendra Modi welcomed by MP Ladakh, CEC Leh and Kargil.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

DRASS: Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Kargil Vijay Diwas Shradhanjali Samroh in Drass, Ladakh, on July 26.

Kargil Vijay Diwas is observed annually to commemorate India's victory in the Kargil War of 1999. This significant day honors the bravery and sacrifice of the Indian soldiers who fought valiantly in the conflict with Pakistan, ultimately reclaiming territory and securing a decisive victory. This year marks the 25th anniversary of this significant victory, which highlights the courage and determination of the soldiers who fought valiantly at icy heights. As the nation celebrates this milestone, the families of the soldiers who made the ultimate sacrifice during the Kargil War remember their bravery and dedication.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi

emphasized, "This day tells us that the sacrifices made for the nation are immortal," highlighting the enduring legacy of the soldiers' valor.

Chief Executive Councillor Tashi Gyalson also paid tribute, honoring the memories of those who fought and fell during the conflict. In a notable development, PM Modi virtually conducted the first blast of the Shinkun La Tunnel Project. This critical infrastructure project includes the construction of a 4.1 km twin-tube tunnel at an altitude of 15,800 feet under the Shinkun Pass, located on the Nimu-Padum-Darcha road. The tunnel, with an estimated cost of Rs 1,681 crore, is expected to be the highest in the world upon completion.

The Shinkun La Tunnel Project, approved by the PM-led

cabinet committee on security in February of the previous year, will ensure all-weather connectivity to Leh. It aims to significantly enhance the swift and efficient movement of armed forces and equipment, fostering economic and social development in Ladakh.

CEC Tashi Gyalson extended gratitude to the Prime Minister for laying the foundation stone of the Shinkun La Tunnel and expressed congratulations to the people of Zaskar and Ladakh for this monumental infrastructure project.

Kargil Vijay Diwas is observed annually to commemorate India's victory in the Kargil War of 1999. This significant day honors the bravery and sacrifice of the Indian soldiers who fought valiantly in the conflict with Pakistan, ultimately reclaiming territory and securing a decisive victory.

Ladakh's Nomadic Festival: A new hope for preserving Changpa lifestyle and traditions



Nenzes Chodon

KARGYAM: The eastern region of Ladakh, particularly Changthang, has long been known for its sustainable nomadic lifestyle practiced by the Changpa people. Traditionally, they relied on pastoralism, herding yaks, goats, and sheep, and moving to find optimal grazing lands. Their animals provided essential resources such as meat, milk, and wool, which were used for food, clothing, and shelter.

However, recent shifts have transformed their way of life. The challenges of earning a stable income from traditional nomadism, combined with the appeal of modern amenities and economic opportunities from tourism, have led many Changpa to sell their livestock and adopt a more settled lifestyle. As a result, the number of Changpa who maintain their traditional nomadic way of life has declined significantly.

To preserve and revive the region's cultural heritage, the Ladakh Cultural Academy in Leh organized the first-ever two-day Nomadic Festival at Korzok Phoo, Tsomoriri Lake, in August 2021. The second festival was held at Chibra, Kargyam, and the third at Hanle. The 4th edition of the Nomadic Festival took place on July 27 and 28 in Chibra, Kargyam Changthang, where attendance tripled compared to the previous year.

Councilor of Chushul, Konchok Stanzin, called it "the time to stitch the torn tents and re-wear the worn shoes." He emphasized the importance of making youth understand and preserve the existing culture and traditions. Stanzin believes that educated youth can help transform and ease the hardships of the nomadic lifestyle. Making this lifestyle more accessible and less challenging would encourage more young people to live and experience the shepherd's life. He expressed that the aim is to educate youth, provide facilities, and enable them to live as modern nomads in the 21st century without compromising the traditional lifestyle, which would eventually lead to a cultural revival.

The two-day nomadic festival featured camps of nomads from different places in Leh, with tents made from yak wool. This wool, combed from yaks, is also used for weaving carpets and clothing. Similarly, the sheared wool from sheep is used for various purposes. Every tent displayed the inside of a nomadic camp, including earthen stoves, large stitched animal skin pouches used for churning, old utensils made of rocks, traditional foods, and men and women in tradition-

al dress performing songs and dances with traditional musical instruments such as the dranyen, daman, surma, and piwang in front of their tents.

The purpose of the Nomadic Festival is to showcase the lifestyle and culture of nomads in Ladakh. Executive Councilor Tashi Namgyal Yakzee stated that the festival provides a platform for Drokpas (nomads) in Ladakh and could encourage youth to learn about this lifestyle and how it can be made more convenient. While tourism offers an easy way to earn money, it is not a dependable source of income. In contrast, the Drokpa lifestyle is sustainable and dependable. The administration is making efforts to make the nomadic lifestyle more convenient and to promote and revive the products obtained from pastures. He highlighted the GI-tagged Pashmina of Ladakh and noted a 30% increase in the population of goats and sheep according to research conducted in 2022 and 2023.

People appreciated the effort made by the government by providing funds to celebrate the day that helps to restore the products used by ancestors and showcase the lifestyle the ancestors lived.

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Fortnightly News

DC Leh chairs review meeting for preparedness of 78th Independence Day



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Deputy Commissioner, Leh, Santosh Sukhadeve chaired a meeting to review the preparedness for the 78th Independence Day at DC Conference Hall on July 26.

DC, Leh, Santosh Sukhadeve reviewed the point wise agendas of the meeting department wise and asked the department heads to ensure on ground

implementation of the decisions made in the meetings.

Additionally, he asked the department heads to ensure to use as much local materials as possible, be it in the decoration flowers, refreshments or the mementos and prize gifts. Other than that, he instructed the departments not to use any plastic materials and especially

avoid the usage of plastic mineral bottles.

Further, he directed the concerned department to conduct two cleanliness drives before August 15.

The meeting was attended by ADC, Leh, Ghulam Mohd; SSP, Leh, Shruti Arora; CPO, Leh, Tsewang Gyalson and other concerned department heads.

Health Department, Leh focuses on childhood diarrhoea prevention and deworming strategies



During the meeting on Stop Diarrhoea Campaign and National Deworming Day, initiatives by the Health Department, Leh.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Deputy Commissioner Leh, Santosh Sukhadeve convened a meeting to discuss the Stop Diarrhoea Campaign and National Deworming Day, initiatives by the Health Department, Leh on July 27.

State Consultant/Nodal Officer MCH Ladakh, Dr Rinchen Wangmo presented a presentation on the Stop Diarrhoea Campaign, titled "Diarrhoea ki Roktham, Safai aur ORS se rakhen Apna Dyaan."

She highlighted childhood diarrhoea as a preventable tragedy and provided prevalence data. She also talked about strategies, objectives, pre-campaign planning and IEC activi-

ties and stressed upon the importance of multi-sectoral involvement which would include the departments of Women and Child, Drinking Water & Sanitation, Urban Development/Municipalities and Education.

Dr. Wangmo also gave an overview of the National Deworming Day, which is conducted bi-annually in Leh, Ladakh in March and September, differing from other states due to the local school calendar. The campaign involves the oral administration of Albendazole tablets to children to prevent parasitic worm infections.

Deputy Commissioner, Leh, Santosh Sukhadeve, directed the concerned

departments to collaborate effectively and emphasized the crucial role of IEC (Information, Education, and Communication) materials in spreading awareness. He urged for extensive dissemination of these materials to maximize the campaign's reach and impact.

The meeting was attended by key officials including the Chief Medical Officer Leh, Chief Education Officer Leh; District Social Welfare Officer Leh; Dy. CMO Leh; District Panchayat Officer RDD Leh; AD (P) RDD Leh; State Consultant/Nodal Officer MCH Ladakh; Child Development Project Officer, ICDS Leh; Executive Engineer, PHE Department Leh; Other concerned officials and officers.

Dr. Pawan Kotwal reviews arrangements for 78th Independence Day celebrations

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Dr. Pawan Kotwal, chaired a meeting on July 24 to review preparations for the 78th Independence Day celebrations, 2024.

The main events will be held at Polo Ground in Leh and Khree Sultan Cho Stadium in Kargil. Dr. Kotwal emphasized the need for a grand celebration and instructed that Raj Niwas, all government buildings, and Ladakh Bhawans be illuminated. He also directed that iconic sites like Leh Palace and Shanti Stupa, as well as streets, be decorated with flags and lights.

The Advisor called for thorough arrangements for parking, seating, drinking water, sanitation, and health services, with special attention to refreshments for participants, including school children and women.

Dr. Kotwal underscored the importance of promoting Ladakh's local products, such as Lilium flowers and locally made mementos, and showcasing Ladakhi culture. He directed all officials to ensure a smooth and hassle-free conduct of the Independence Day events across the Union Territory.

The meeting was attended by the Principal Secretary,



Pawan Kotwal reviewing the arrangements and preparations of 78th Independence Day celebrations, 2024.

School Education Department & Housing & Urban Development Department, Ladakh; Additional Director General of Police, Ladakh; Commissioner/Secretary, H&ME Department, Ladakh; Commissioner/Secretary to Hon'ble Lt. Governor, Ladakh; Secretary, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Department/Transport Department, Ladakh; Secretary, Food Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Department; Secretary, General Administration Department; IG, ITBP N/W Ftr. Choglamsar-IG, ITBP, Ladakh; Air Officer Commanding, 21 Wing IAF, Ladakh; Station Commander, HQ 14 Corps, Leh; State Informatic Officer, NIC, Ladakh; Commissioner/CEO, LAHDC, Leh; Deputy Commissioner/CEO, LAHDC, Leh; Senior Superintendent of Police, Leh; Chief Engineers, PDD & PHE, La-

dakh; Regional Transport Officer, Ladakh; District Informatics Officer, NIC, Ladakh; Additional Secretary/Under Secretary, GAD, Ladakh; Deputy Secretary, Cultural Academy, Leh; Under Secretary, Social Welfare/ Higher Education, Ladakh; Executive Officer, Municipal Committee, Leh. Office Chamber of Secretary, GAD, Ladakh; Station Director, Doordarshan Kendra/AIR, Leh, while Senior Superintendent of Police, Kargil; Director Health Services, Ladakh; Director School Education Department, Ladakh; Joint Director Information, Ladakh; Chief Planning Officer, Kargil; Chief Engineer, PW(R&B) Ladakh; Deputy Secretary, Cultural Academy, Kargil; Deputy Secretary, Cultural Academy, Kargil; Executive Officer, Municipal Committee, Kargil joined the meeting virtually.

Leh commemorates 25th Kargil Vijay Diwas: Tributes paid to fallen soldiers and war veterans



War veterans paying tribute to the martyrs on 25th Kargil Vijay Diwas.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: The Silver Jubilee of the Kargil Vijay Diwas (25th Kargil Vijay Diwas) was commemorated with great enthusiasm and patriotism in Leh on July 26.

The Executive Councillor for Minorities, Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC), Leh, Ghulam Mehdi, graced the event as the Chief Guest. Administrative Secretary of Tourism Department, UT Ladakh, Vikram Singh Malik, and District Magistrate, Leh, Santosh Sukhadeve attended the occasion at the Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Extension Centre, DIHAR, Leh. Ghulam Mehdi highlighted the importance of remembering and honoring the sacrifices of our brave soldiers. "We must continue to draw inspiration from their courage and valor and work towards a stronger and more united India," he added.

The Executive Councillor, Administrative Secretary, and District Magistrate, Leh, felicitated the veer naris, war widows, and war veterans, honoring their sacrifices and bravery during the Kargil War.

Earlier in the day, the District Magistrate, Leh, Santosh Sukhadeve, hoisted the National Flag at the Singay War Memorial at Singay Namgyal Chowk, paying tribute to the martyrs. He was accompanied by the Senior Superintendent of Police, Leh, Shruti Arora, who interacted with war veterans, veer naris, and war widows, acknowledging their contributions and sacrifices. The commemoration was marked by a sense of patriotism and respect, as the people of Leh came together to honor the heroes of the Kargil War.

The cultural program at Main Bazar Leh show-

cased the rich cultural heritage of Ladakh through performances by students of Government High School, Shey, Jamyang Public School, Leh, and a fascinating dance performance by the Arts of Motion Group. The event also featured a public quiz competition, engaging the audience and promoting awareness about the significance of Kargil Vijay Diwas.

The 25th Kargil Vijay Diwas celebration in Leh was a rich tribute to the spirit of the Indian Armed Forces and the sacrifices made by the brave soldiers who fought to protect the nation's sovereignty.

The event was organized by the Tourism Department, Ladakh in collaboration with the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, Leh, and the Ex-servicemen League.

CEC, Leh assesses Ladakh's first electronic public transport system



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: CEC, LAHDC, Leh, Tashi Gyalson, assessed the progress of the Khorlo Scheme, Ladakh's first electronic and application-based public transport system known as "Khorlo."

Highlighting Ladakh's commitment to becoming carbon neutral, CEC Gyalson noted that the Khorlo is designed to offer eco-friendly and convenient transport options for commuters in Leh Town. He further stated that this initiative will not only enhance the town's public transportation system but is also expected to generate employment opportunities for local people.

CEC underscored the importance of setting up charging points at various localities with all necessary facilities to support the new system.

During the meeting, Dy. Director, NIELIT, Phunt-

sog Toldan, informed the CEC that the Khorlo software application is nearly complete and recommended that decisions need to be made regarding geo-fencing, fare rates, and payment options. He also suggested conducting trial runs of Khorlo cabs before the official launch date.

In light of the upcoming launch of Khorlo cabs, CEC instructed the vehicle company to confirm the arrivals of the e-vehicles in Leh and ensure that the homologation is completed before the launch date. He further directed that the customization of the e-vehicles be handled by the company itself.

Additionally, the Assistant Regional Transport Officer, Inzar Ahmad, Leh, was directed to establish the cost of Khorlo rides. Deputy Director, District Motor Garages, Leh, Tundup Namgail, was instructed to come up with

the logo and tagline of Khorlo. Dr. Namgail was further directed to frame beneficiary guidelines for the sale of e-vehicles/ Khorlo cabs.

Dy. Director NIELIT, Toldan, was directed to assess manpower needs, salary structures, maintenance costs, and software upgrade requirements.

The meeting was attended by Dy. Chairman, Tsering Angchuk; Executive Councillor, Stanzin Chospheh; Deputy Commissioner, Santosh Sukhadeve; Dy. Director, District Motor Garages, Leh, Dr. Tundup Namgail; Dy. Director, NIELIT, Phuntsog Toldan; Chief Controller of Finance, LAHDC, Leh, Dr. Zulfikar Ali; Assistant Regional Transport Officer, Leh, Inzar Ahmad; Accounts Officer to DC, Leh; Owner of Mahindra Mentokling Motors, Jigmet Lundup; and other concerned officials.

DC Leh instructs early survey completion for Taklangla and Lachungla tunnel projects



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Deputy Commissioner, Leh, Santosh Sukhadeve chaired a meeting on July 26 with the Consultancy Service to review the preconstruction activities of Taklangla and

Lachungla highway tunnels.

The Consultancy Service gave a detailed presentation on the components required for the construction of the tunnels, total

requirement of land and other materials and how the construction of these tunnels will benefit the public.

DC, Leh, Santosh Sukhadeve instructed the SDMs of Kharu and Nyoma to complete the joint survey with the Consultancy Service by the first week of August so that the work on the projects can start at the earliest.

The meeting was attended by representatives of Chief Engineer, HIMANK, SDM, Nyoma and SDM, Kharu.

4-day CBSE training on Leading Transformation concludes



Participants during the 4-day CBSE training on Leading Transformation at DIET Leh.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: The 4-day CBSE training on Leading Transformation concluded on July 27 at DIET Leh.

Principal, DIET, Leh, Deldan Angmo expressed her gratitude and congratulations to all the participants and the resource persons for their dedication and active participation in the training sessions.

Meanwhile, a 2-day CBSE Science and Social Science training also concluded. The training programmed for Science and Social Science focused on equipping educators with innovative teaching strategies to enhance their classroom ef-

fectiveness and student engagement. While, Science and Social Science training programmed aimed to enhance the pedagogical skills of educators in these subjects, fostering a deeper understanding and improved teaching methodologies.

These training programs are part of DIET Leh's ongoing efforts to improve the quality of education in the region. By providing educators with advanced skills and knowledge, these initiatives aim to create a more engaging and effective learning environment for students, ensuring they are well-prepared to meet future challenges.

Bhoti Cell and Language Lab established at DIET Leh



During the inauguration of the Bhoti Cell and a newly developed Language Lab at the District Institute of Education and Training (DIET) Leh.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Deputy Chairman, LAHDC Leh, Tsering Angchuk, inaugurated the Bhoti Cell and a newly developed Language Lab at the District Institute of Education and Training (DIET) Leh on July 25. The event marks a milestone in the efforts to preserve and promote the Bhoti language and enhance educational resources in the region.

The inauguration ceremony was graced by Chief Education Officer Leh, Sonam Wangchuk, and Principal DIET, Deldan Angmo. The gathering included principals and headmasters of government schools, Bhoti teachers, and resource persons, showcasing a collective commitment to advancing education in Leh.

The newly established

Language Lab is equipped with modern facilities and technologies aimed at enhancing the linguistic skills of students and educators. It offers an interactive environment for learning, with resources tailored to the needs of the local community.

Following the inauguration, the Chief Guest welcomed the commencement of CBSE, (Leading Transformation program) training for the heads of institutions in the Leh district. This initiative aims to update the educational leaders on the latest pedagogical trends and strategies, ensuring the continuous improvement of education standards in the region. Film pedagogy is the 3rd program started at DIET by the Chief Guest.

Principal, DIET, Deldan Angmo acknowledged the efforts of all participants and expressed optimism for the future of education in Leh.

This event marks a promising start to the new academic initiatives in Leh, fostering a stronger educational foundation and preserving the rich cultural heritage of the region.

Stanzin Deachen to compete in Asian Judo Championship 2024

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

ZANSKAR: Stanzin Deachen from Pibiting, Zanskar, has been selected for the Asian Judo Championship 2024 in the 57 kg category, set to be held next month in South Korea.



Executive Councilor Er Panchok Tashi congratulated Deachen on her success in the national trials and her upcoming participation in this prestigious event. He highlighted her achievement as a source of great pride for the Zanskar community and the entire Ladakh region.

Tashi also praised Deachen's family for their support and acknowledged

her dedication to the sport. He wished her the best for her future endeavors, expressing hope for a stellar performance and a medal that would showcase her extraordinary talent.

Fortnightly News

Foundational literacy and numeracy training for Bhoti held



During the Bhoti Foundational literacy and numeracy (FLN) training program at DIET Leh.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: District Institute of Education and Training (DIET), Leh organised Bhoti Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN) training program on July 23. The initiative focuses on strengthening the fundamental principles of Bhoti language.

Resource person Gyen Stanzin Norboo provided hands-on experience to ed-

ucators from both government and private schools across the district.

The FLN training was conducted in the newly developed FLN Bhoti cell, especially designed to enhance Bhoti language skills. The advanced facility provided an optimal environment for the training.

The training session was inaugurated by Principal, DIET, Deldan Angmo. The training session saw active participation from the educators, each representing various schools within the district. This initiative underscores the department's commitment to enhancing educational standards and fostering professional development among teachers.

Workshop on bullying and cyberbullying prevention held in Leh



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: A one-day workshop on NCPDR Guidelines for the Prevention of Bullying and Cyberbullying in Schools was organised for the Principals and Headmasters of Private and Government schools in the Leh district at the District Institute of Education and Training (DIET) Leh on July 20.

Chief guest, Director of School Education, UT Ladakh, Tsering Paldan underscored the significance of addressing bullying and

cyberbullying to ensure a safe and supportive educational environment for all students.

The workshop featured detailed sessions led by representative of NCPDR Delhi, Anshun Goswami, District Social Welfare Officer, Nilza Angmo, Inspector, Incharge Officer Cyber Unit Leh, Jamyang Namgyal, and SI Cyber Unit Leh Dechen Angmo. These experts provided insights into the NCPDR guidelines, sharing practical strategies for prevention and discussing the

legal implications of bullying and cyberbullying.

The interactive format allowed participants to engage actively, ask questions, and gain valuable knowledge on implementing effective anti-bullying measures in their schools.

Principal DIET Leh, Deldan Angmo emphasized the importance of continuous efforts to combat bullying and cyberbullying and encouraged attendees to implement the learned strategies in their respective institutions.

Ladakh mega health camp by Tibetan Cancer Society and Rotary Eye Hospital concludes



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: The Tibetan Cancer Society, led by Founder and Director Tsultrim Dorjee, in collaboration with the Rotary Eye Hospital Maranda, successfully conducted the Ladakh Mega Health Camp across various regions, providing essential medical services to local communities.

The health camp aimed to deliver comprehensive healthcare services to the people of Ladakh. It featured the participation of 12 young nurses from different parts of the state and abroad, alongside Director Dr. Sudhir Salhotra, General Manager Raghav, and Optometric Specialist Mukesh from Rotary Eye Hospital Maranda in Palampur, Himachal Pradesh.

Starting on July 9, the health camps were held in Khaltse, Saspol, and

Nimmoo of the Sham region. Services included blood pressure and random blood sugar testing, electrocardiograms (ECG), consultations with general physicians, ENT specialists, H-Pylori stool check-ups, and eye examinations. The initiative continued with a two-day health camp in Diskit, Nubra Valley.

The culmination of this initiative was a two-day mega health camp at Housing Colony in Leh on July 20th and 21st. This event featured specialized doctors—a gynecologist, ophthalmology surgeon, internal medicine expert, and gastroenterologist—who provided advanced medical consultations and treatments to the local population.

Overall, the camps saw participation from 1,200-1,500 individuals who received treatment. At-

tendees also benefited from free general medicines and H-Pylori kits distributed onsite.

CEC Tashi Gyalson expressed his appreciation, extending gratitude to the organizers and volunteers for their dedicated efforts in making the health camp a resounding success. He emphasized the importance of such initiatives in improving healthcare access and raising awareness about critical health issues among the local population.

Looking ahead, there are plans to organize another Mega Health Camp next year, building on the success of this year's initiative. The organizers remain committed to continuing their efforts in serving the healthcare needs of the people of Ladakh and further strengthening community health.

Justice Tashi Rabstan lays foundation stone for multipurpose hall at District Court Complex Leh

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Justice Tashi Rabstan, Chief Justice (Acting) High Court of J&K and Ladakh laid the foundation stone for the Multipurpose Hall District Court Complex, at Melongthang, Leh through virtual mode from Jammu wing of High Court on July 23.

The multipurpose hall, estimated to cost Rs. 19.78 crores, will feature a ground floor auditorium with a capacity of 260 persons, a separate lounge and dining hall, a physiotherapy room, and a media room. The project is being executed by PWD Leh.

Addressing the gathering,



Chief Justice Tashi Rabstan expressed his gratitude to the Lieutenant Governor of UT Ladakh and Advisor Dr. Pawan Kotwal for approving the project. He urged the executing agency to complete the project in a time-bound manner, emphasizing that the hall will benefit not

only the court's activities but also those of other departments within the UT Administration.

Chief Engineer Abdul Mutalib detailed the provisions included in the hall's design, such as a conference hall, media room, physiotherapy room, and

gym. Principal District and Sessions Judge Leh, Spalzes Angmo, presented the vote of thanks.

Virtually attending the ceremony from the Jammu wing of the High Court were Shahzad Azeem, Registrar General of the High Court; M.K. Sharma, Principal Secretary to the Chief Justice; Sandeep Kour, Registrar Judicial Jammu; Amit Gupta, Member Secretary J&K Legal Service Authority; Anoop Kumar Sharma, Registrar Computers (IT) High Court; Prem Sagar, Secretary High Court Legal Services Committee; Rajni Sharma, Joint Registrar (Judicial) Jammu;

and Deldan Angmo, Mun-siff attached to the office of Registrar Computers (IT). In Leh, the event was graced by Splazes Angmo, Principal District and Sessions Judge Leh; Shashi Kant Bhagat, Administrative Secretary Law and Justice UT of Ladakh; judicial officers from the District Headquarters Leh; Shafi Lassu, President of the Bar Association Leh along with other members; Mutalib, Chief Engineer UT Ladakh; Gyatso, SE Leh; and Executive Engineers of PWD Construction Division and Mechanical Division Leh.

Hill Council Leh and Indian Army signs agreement for CTA Land (Melongthang)



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: In a historic move, a significant Handing and Taking Over ceremony took place between LAHDC Leh and the ARMY for CTA Land (Melongthang) on July 15.

The agreement was signed between LAHDC Leh, led by Chairman/CEC Tashi Gyalson, and the ARMY, led by Major Gen. Ravinder Kumar, Sena Medal GOC Leh Sub area, and Brig. KMS Rana, Station Commander Nimoo, in the presence of DC/CEO Santosh Sukhadeve.

CEC emphasized the army's crucial role in Ladakh, highlighting their contribution to the region's socio-economic development. He extended his

heartfelt gratitude to PM for bolstering border areas with vibrant village programs, leading to significant progress over the past three years and facilitating reverse migration.

GOC Sub Area highlighted that the land exchange program will yield positive impacts for both the Hill Council and the Indian Army. He conveyed sincere gratitude to the DEO, Army officials, and civil administration for their relentless efforts in ensuring the success of this exchange.

CEC Tashi Gyalson also highlighted the strategic importance of the land exchange, emphasizing its potential to facilitate

developmental projects crucial for the region's growth. He reiterated the commitment of LAHDC Leh to collaborate closely with the Indian Army towards shared goals of progress and security.

The signing ceremony was attended by Dy. Chairman LAHDC Leh, Tsering Angchuk; Executive Councillor for RDD, Tashi Namgyal Yakzee; Executive Councillor for Agriculture, Stanzin Chophel; Executive Councillor for Minority Affairs, Gulam Mehdi; Nominated Councillor, Ven. Konchok Tsephel, ACR, Leh, Shabir Hussain; DEO, Sunny Kaushal; PS, Tehsilidar, Army officers and other revenue officials.

CBT programme on Silk Weaving Techniques on Handloom commences at Leh



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: A Capacity Building Training (CBT) programme titled 'Silk Weaving Techniques on Handloom' was started on July 25 by Silk Technical Service Centre, CSTRI, Central Silk Board, Jammu with the coordination of Handloom Development Department, Leh.

The 10 days training program for 20 weavers was inaugurated by chief guest Director, Handloom Department, Mohammad Nazir Sheikh (JKAS) along with dignitaries at Handloom Campus, Leh.

Scientist-D and Coordinator of the training program, N. S. Gahlot briefed the attendees about the objective of the training program which is to introduce silk production activities in handloom sector and linkage of weavers of Ladakh for benefits of subsidy scheme (Silk Samagra-II).

He ensured technical support, training to produce value-added silk/pashmina products and improve the quality and

design of existing pashmina products. He suggested for up-gradation of existing low productive handlooms for enhancing production, quality and reduction of drudgery in favor of weavers/artisans. He suggested establishing a Common Facility Center (CFC) in Leh and Kargil districts for entrepreneurs and local stakeholder, weavers associated with the handloom sector, so that finished products can be prepared in UT Ladakh.

During the training program from July 25 to August 3, skills/capacity of 20 weavers will be improved. This will include development of silk/pashmina samples, reducing fabric defects, improvement of fabric quality, training course kit and an exposure field visit will be arranged for all the 20 trainees.

After successful training, certificates will be issued to all trainees by the Director, Central Silk Technological Research Institute (CSTRI), Central Silk Board, Bangalore.

The latest technologies/machines developed by scientists of CSTRI, Bangalore will be implemented by STSC Jammu in coordination with the Handloom Department of Leh.

Director, Handloom Department, Mohammad Nazir Sheikh (JKAS) interacted with all the weaver trainees and told them that it is a good initiative of the Central Silk Board for the development of silk and its blend products in UT of Ladakh.

He added that it is a great opportunity to learn new things from CSTRI and Central Silk Board officers.

He further expressed that product diversification can also be attained by the help of the on-going training programme and the product diversification will increase the sale demand of products having Leh, Ladakh origin with GI tagging.

Assistant Director, Handloom Department, Imtisaal Rasool, (KAS); Assistant Director, Handloom, Anjil Singh (KAS); Senior Technical Assistant, Silk Technical Service Centre, Jammu, Bharat Bhusan; Senior commercial officer, NHDC, Srinagar, Balendra Sachan; Technical Superintendent Weaving, Weavers Service Centre, Srinagar, Waseem Ahmad; M/s Charka Ladakh Weaving Society, Phyang, Leh; Achi SHG Phyang; M/s Chuchot Yokma Five Star; M/s Khullu the Yak Wool and other stakeholders and government officials were present in training inaugural program.

Sikyong Penpa Tsering leads delegation to meet Ladakh's L-G on Tibetan development projects



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: A delegation from the Central Tibetan Administration led by Sikyong Penpa Tsering met with Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Brigadier (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd) at the Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat on July 16.

Advisor Dr. Pawan Kotwal, ADGP Ladakh Dr. SD Singh Jamwal, and Commissioner/Secretary to the LG L. Franklin were present at the meeting.

Sikyong Penpa Tsering apprised the LG about the Central Tibetan Administration, which is established to support Tibetans in exile under the leadership of His Holiness the Dalai Lama. He informed the LG that Tibetans re-

side in 25 countries and 37 locations within India. Sikyong further explained the election process of the Central Tibetan Administration and sought the LG's support for development projects aimed at improving the lives of Tibetan people living in the Changthang region.

The LG asked Sikyong Penpa Tsering to provide a prioritized list of development projects so that the UT Administration can address these needs effectively. The LG also requested the Chief Representative Officer of the Sonamling Tibetan Settlement in Choglamsar, Leh to meet with the Advisor to review and prioritize the developmental works.

Ladakh to strengthen disaster response with new EOC upgrades, announces Dr. Kotwal



Meeting on the upgradation of the Emergency Operation Centre (EOC), Ladakh.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Advisor Ladakh Dr Pawan Kotwal, also the Chairman State Disaster Management Authority, UT Ladakh hold a meeting to discuss the upgradation of the Emergency Operation Centre (EOC), Ladakh on July 22.

The consultant team of Disaster Management, Relief Rehabilitation and Reconstruction (DMRRR) Ladakh, presented a detailed report on the proposed upgrade, including strengthening of manpower, equipment upgradation and technology advances to upgrade the EOC to an Integrated Command and Control System, with a flawless response and communication system.

Discussions were held on identifying sensitive locations, kinds of calamities that are most prone in Ladakh and the solutions most viable in the expanse

and terrane of Ladakh. Advisor Dr Kotwal stated that calamity-prone areas, including Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF) lakes and landslide-prone areas, must be identified for instrumentation and the entire project must be workable, actionable, and doable.

He also stated that the existing infrastructure and equipment must be incorporated in the upgradation and a committee be formed to ensure synchrony between the departments of Home, DMRRR, Indian Meteorological Department, and the executing department.

Administrative Secretary, DMRRR Amit Sharma, DC Leh Santosh Sukhadeve, Director IMD Sonam Lotus and other concerned officials were present during the meeting.

People's Voice

Ladakh's Gazetted recruitment delayed for 5 years: Aspirants frustrated

Yangchen Dolma and Stanzin Padma

Ladakh has faced a five-year delay in recruiting gazetted posts, with no positions advertised despite promises made when it became a Union Territory. This has led to widespread frustration among aspirants, some of whom have aged out of eligibility. Efforts to address the issue through protests and student initiatives have not yielded significant results. There is a pressing need for the administration to take proactive steps to resolve the delays and provide fair recruitment opportunities. Let's read what the aspirants have to say about it?

Padma Angmo, A resident from Takmachik:

I started preparing for the gazetted post in 2022. Before that, I worked in a company, but I didn't find much satisfaction, so I began my preparation. Although I have been preparing for the gazetted post for about a year and a half, I am facing many problems. The recruitment process in Ladakh has been very slow, with students waiting since 2019. This delay has raised questions for me about whether continuing the preparation is the right choice since the recruitment is not happening. It's also significantly affecting my mental health, and I'm not the only one facing these problems. Other students are also going through this. Some have become overage after preparing for years, and the delays from the UT administration are causing significant distress.

Five years is a very precious time in a student's life, and for a student preparing, every minute is crucial. Currently, the new MP of Ladakh is Haji Haneefa Jan, and we still hold onto hope that these issues will be taken seriously and that opportunities will be provided to aspirants as soon as possible.

Kausar Fatima, Resident of Chuchot Yokma:

I've been preparing for the civil service exam for four years now. Initially, the prospect of securing a gazetted job inspired me to embark on this journey. However, after five years, there still haven't been any officer-level positions available in any department. This situation has made me question whether I made the right choice, especially as time is running out. I'm hopeful that the new MP Haji Haneefa Jan will address the issues faced by unemployed students, as Ladakh's future depends on its young generation. Without job opportunities, Ladakh's future may not be as promising.

Despite starting with great enthusiasm and hope, my confidence has waned significantly, and many other aspirants are feeling equally disheartened.

Tundup Thinles, Former Unemployment Youth President:

"Despite almost five years having passed since Ladakh became a Union Territory, the recruitment process for gazetted posts has been plagued by delays and complications. A demand for a Board to handle divisional and state cadre positions in Ladakh was raised during the SSC, and although the Board has been established, no recruitment has occurred. The delegation tasked with framing the rules for gazetted recruitment, sent to the Lieutenant Governor by the President of India in November 2021 under Article 309 of the Constitution, has not expedited the process.

Recently, a recruitment rule was issued for the cooperative department for the position of Assistant Registrar. However, the recruitment process is stalled because the residency criteria have not been defined, posing technical and constitutional challenges. Despite the notification of this rule, recruitment seems unlikely in the near future due to unresolved issues regarding residency criteria, the Board, and the creation of a separate

cadre for Ladakh, as the government had promised. It appears that recruitment may not occur in the next 2-3 years.

Students prepare with the hope of securing a good government job in the future, but the prolonged delay in Ladakh is disheartening. Both Leh and Kargil have many aspirants for gazetted positions, including myself. Previously, there were numerous opportunities for preparation and recruitment across various departments, but these opportunities have vanished over the past five years. The government's decision to withhold opportunities for this long is highly unfair, resulting in many individuals aging out of eligibility. Recently, the Chief Executive Councillor, Tashi Gyalson of Leh mentioned the possibility of requesting age relaxation for those who have become overage during these five years. If implemented, this would be greatly appreciated and would uphold principles of natural justice.

Padma Stanzin, Student Union President:

Since 2019, nearly five years have passed, and thousands of aspirants have been waiting for gazetted post recruitment. Despite the efforts of students, including the SOUL initiative and hunger strikes, there has been no significant progress, which is deeply disheartening. Leaders seem to be taking little serious action, leaving the situation unchanged.

The student community has faced mounting frustration, mental stress, and the issue of becoming overage. The most distressing aspect is that many well-qualified aspirants, despite their capabilities, are being forced into lower-level posts such as orderly positions or junior assistant roles.

Ladakh urgently needs a divisional cadre board and a separate Ladakh Public Service Commission. Although a divisional cadre board has been recently established, delays are still evident, suggesting a deliberate attempt by the Hill Council and administration to stall progress. The youth, who are a crucial part of Ladakh's future, are being particularly affected by these delays.

Whenever we voice our concerns, there is often some movement from the administration, council, or MHA, but substantive discussions on this topic are rare. On February 19, 2024, a delegation meeting between the Apex Body and the Kargil Democratic Alliance addressed four major demands: statehood, the Sixth Schedule, and unemployment issues. One key discussion was about establishing a separate public service commission and the recruitment process. Although there was agreement on a 50% reservation, Ladakh leaders insisted on 80%, leading to a promise of a three-month wait for a resolution. As of now, there have been no updates from either the MHA or the council, but we remain hopeful for a positive outcome.

The LEAF (Ladakh Students' Union Federation), an umbrella association of all student unions, has stepped up to lead the issue. We recently held a seminar at the Pal Hotel with councilors, stakeholders, and dignitaries. It was concluded that another seminar, led by the council, will be organized.

If we do not achieve a satisfactory result after two or three more rounds of discussions, we will consider future actions, including protests or hunger strikes, as a means to press for resolution.

**Anonymous:**

It has been five years since Ladakh was granted Union Territory status, with a promise made for employment generation. Since then, many aspirants have dedicated themselves to preparing for gazetted posts. However, it is deeply disheartening that, despite these efforts, there has not been a single recruitment for gazetted posts in the past five years. In contrast, Jammu and Kashmir, which received UT status on the same day, has already recruited three batches of gazetted officers. This disparity highlights the clear

injustice faced by Ladakhi aspirants.

...continues on page 6

Independence Day

Independence Day, in India, national holiday celebrated annually on August 15. Independence Day marks the end of British rule in 1947, brought about by the Indian Independence Act of July 18 that year, and the establishment of a free and independent Indian nation. It also marks the anniversary of the partition of the subcontinent into two countries, India and Pakistan, which occurred at midnight on August 14-15, 1947. (In Pakistan, Independence Day is celebrated on August 14.)

Independence Day is marked throughout India with flag-raising ceremonies, drills, and the singing of the Indian national anthem. Additionally, various cultural programs are made available in the state capitals. After the prime minister participates in the flag-raising ceremony at the Red Fort historic monument in Old Delhi, a parade ensues with members of the armed forces and police. The prime minister then delivers a televised address to the country, recounting the major accomplishments of India during the previous year and outlining future challenges and goals. Kite flying has also become an Independence Day tradition, with kites of various sizes, shapes, and colours filling the sky. Also, to commemorate the day, government offices in New Delhi remain lit throughout the holiday, even though they are closed.

Courtesy: www.britannica.com

DID YOU KNOW

1. Hot water will turn into ice faster than cold water. An observation conducted in which a liquid (typically water) that is initially hot can freeze faster than the other liquid which is cold under similar conditions.
2. The Mona Lisa has no eyebrows. When Da Vinci had painted Mona Lisa, he indeed painted her eyebrows but over time these eyebrows were eroded due to cleaning over time to the point where it's no longer visible today.
3. Ants take rest for around 8 Minutes in 12-hour period. James and Cottel have conducted research which shows that ants have a cyclical pattern of resting periods where each nest respite collectively which lasts for around eight minutes in a 12-hour period.
4. The strongest muscle in the body is the tongue. The tongue itself is a muscle and it contains at least eight different muscles which are intertwined by creating a very flexible matrix.
3. When the moon is directly overhead, you will weigh slightly less. Yes, this is true, as per the calculation it is said that a person will weigh 0.48g lighter for a 100kg person.
4. When the moon is directly overhead, they are going to weigh 0.5g lighter as the moon attracts you in the same way it attracts water when it makes tides.
5. Camels have three eyelids to protect themselves from the blowing desert sand. Camels have different ways to adapt to their environment. They have a third clear eyelid that helps in protecting their eyes from blowing sand. Also, two rows of long lashes protect their eyes.
6. Minus 40 degrees Celsius is exactly the same as minus 40 degrees Fahrenheit. Indeed true, Celsius and Fahrenheit are two different temperature scales. The Fahrenheit and Celsius intersect at one point and they equal at -40 °C and -40 °F.
7. Chocolate can kill dogs, as it contains theobromine, which affects their heart and nervous system. Chocolate consists of an ingredient called theobromine (similar to caffeine) that is toxic to dogs. Dogs are not capable of breaking it down or metabolizing theobromine as humans can. Theobromine majorly affects a dog's central nervous system, heart and kidneys.

Courtesy: www.savit.in

SoulSpeak

Dr. P.P. Wangchuk

Be the hero of your own life



You can be the hero of your own life. Yes, certainly, but only if you think that you can! As they say, you are what you think you are. Actually, the proven fact is that your thoughts are your driving force. With the right and appropriate kind of thoughts, you can write your own destiny.

When we say that you can be the hero of your own life, it sends a powerful and positive vibe that makes you think and act accordingly. The first seeds of success germinate in

your thinking process.

Secondly, you can be the hero of your own life provided you go for all the right 'tools' needed and are used at the right time and opportunity. That calls for your leadership qualities to be brought to the fore and be given a free-rein. And then a somewhat selfish but necessary factor to take a great role is to single-mindedly go for personal growth in whatever area you have placed yourself in. That is because nothing, no outer force on this planet, can help you until you are ready to show and demonstrate that you can.

Once that is done, you need to be quite resilient as things have a way of going off the track, and you have to be patiently working hard and steadfastly to bring yourself on the right track. No amount of challenges on the way should ground you down forever. You may fall, but never let yourself fail. Get up and give another shot!

After having done a part of a job to a great extent, you will start having a feeling of achievement, and that will lead you to feel proud of yourself. This element of 'feeling proud of yourself' too turns out to be a great tool for success.

Of course, the basic human qualities that are needed to make you a hero of your own life are the universal qualities of love and empathy with a positive attitude. Unless and until you have these qualities, no other heroic qualities are good enough.

Courtesy: WongWorld

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

Fortnightly News

In Conversation with Tsering Lhamo, Theatre Practitioner

Interviewed by Nenzes Chodon

Q1. Tell us about yourself, where are you from and your educational background.

Julley! My name is Tsering Lhamo, and I am an actor, theatre practitioner, and drama teacher from Sumoor, Nubra Valley, Ladakh. I graduated from the National School of Drama, Delhi, where I earned my postgraduate diploma in Dramatic Arts with a specialization in acting. Since 2016, I have been passionately involved in theatre, dedicating my time to both performing and teaching.

Q2. What inspired you to choose a diploma in Dramatic arts for your post graduation from National School of Drama and what course did you have for your Bachelors?

Ever since I was introduced to theatre, I have found the world of storytelling through this medium incredibly captivating. Theatre offers a unique way to express emotions and connect with audiences on a deeper level. We all know that the National School of Drama, Delhi is a prestigious institution where one can learn the art of theatre and develop their skills thoroughly. For my Bachelor's degree, I pursued a B.Com, but alongside my studies, I was actively involved in college theatre. It was during this time that I got to know about NSD, and my passion for theatre grew even stronger.

Q3. How was your journey at NSD, was it challenging?

My journey at the National School of Drama was both incredibly challenging and immensely rewarding. NSD is renowned for its rigorous training and high standards, and being part of such a prestigious institution was a transformative experience for me. The challenges were many. The curriculum was demanding, with intense schedules and a wide range of subjects that pushed me to explore every facet of theatre, from acting and direction to design and production. The faculty, comprised of experienced and respected professionals in the field, pushed us to break our boundaries and explore the full extent of our creative potential. Our instructors encouraged us to step outside our comfort zones and experiment with different styles and techniques, which was exciting and daunting both.

Q4. How does it feel to be the first female artist from Leh-Ladakh to graduate from NSD?

Being the first female theatre artist from Leh-Ladakh to graduate from the National School of Drama is both an hon-



MESSAGE TO THE READERS

“I encourage you to explore and support the arts in your communities. Theatre and drama inspire, connect, and enrich our lives. Your engagement, as participants or audience members, helps sustain this vital art form. Thank you for your support and interest!”

our and a privilege. It feels incredible to represent my community and pave the way for future generations of artists from our beautiful region. Growing up in Ladakh, surrounded by its rich culture and storytelling traditions has deeply influenced my passion for theatre. This achievement is not just a personal milestone but also a testament to the support and encouragement I've received from my family and community. I hope to inspire young women in my region to pursue their dreams and to show that with dedication and perseverance, we can break barriers. I am committed to bringing the unique stories of Ladakh to the world stage and celebrating our cultural heritage through the arts. This accomplishment belongs to everyone who has supported me, and I am excited to continue my journey in the world of theatre and to contribute to the vibrant community of Indian performing arts.

Q5. Why do you think it is that very few people from Ladakh pursue degrees or diploma in Theatre or Drama artist?

There are several reasons why very few people from Ladakh pursue degrees or diplomas in theatre or drama. One of the main factors is the limited access to theatre education and resources in the region. Ladakh is geographically remote, and opportunities for formal training in the performing arts are scarce compared to urban centres. Many aspiring artists may not have the means to travel or relocate for their studies, which can be a significant barrier. Additionally, traditional career paths such as engineering, medicine, or government jobs are often prioritized due to cultural expectations and the perception of job stability. Theatre and drama are sometimes viewed as unconventional career choices, and there may be a lack of awareness about the opportunities and potential that exist within the performing arts. With increased support and opportunities, I believe more talented individuals from Ladakh will pursue their passion for the performing arts in the future.

Q6. You have performed over 20 plays, playing diverse roles so which role is your favourite ?

Choosing a favourite role from the many diverse characters I've had the privilege to portray is difficult, as each one holds a special place in my heart. However, if I had to choose, my favourite role would be that of Nora in A Doll's House by Henrik Ibsen. Directed by Amitesh Grover, this role allowed me to explore Nora's journey of self-discovery and empowerment, which resonated deeply with me. Bringing her to life on stage was a transformative experience. Her struggle to find her own identity and break free from societal constraints is a story that continues to be both relevant and powerful.

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Fortnight Highlights



Chairman/CEC Adv Tashi Gyalson and Sikyong, Central Tibetan Administration, Penpa Tsering laid the foundation stone for the upgradation of Playground at SOS Choglamsar.



Executive Councillor for Agriculture, Stanzin Chosphel in the presence of Director Horticulture, Tsewang Phuntsog; President Sham Valley Apricot Producer Cooperative Ltd and representative from the TATA Himmothan flagged off the dispatch of Apricot from Leh Ladakh to various Metro cities in India with major contributions from the collaborators of the Farmers Producers Organisation (FPO) of Sham valley.



Chairman/CEC Tashi Gyalson, LAHDC, Leh in the presence of DC/CEO Santosh Sukhadeve, distributed 120 solar streetlights to the Tibetan refugee camp, Das Pema, Thang Sing Sing area at Saboo and De-Zie.



Community Health Center (CHC), Khaltse conducted a multi-specialty MMU (Mobile Medical Unit) camp in Photoksar, Nyerak, Yulchung, Skumpatta, Lingshed and Dipling villages of Singayalok block from July 18 to July 22.



The fourth edition of a weeklong Ethical and Educational Exchange programme concluded on July 23 at the Shesrap Skyadtsal Ling, Library & Learning Centre, Thiksey Monastery, Leh. The programme was organised in collaboration with Thiksey Gonpa School, Shachukul Gonpa School and Disket Gonpa School.



A day-long career counselling and workshop on Pradhan Mantri Uchchatar Shiksha Protsahan Yojana (previously PMSSS) was held today at Government Degree College, Kargil by Nodal Officer/Consultant, PMSSS, J&K and Ladakh, AICTE, Professor Ajeet Angral.



Kunzes Dolma Jawo elected as President of Ladakh Buddhist Association Women Wing.



Chairman/CEC Tashi Gyalson, LAHDC, Leh extended heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to Dr. Tsering Stobdan, Agriculture Scientist at the Defence Institute of High Altitude Research, on the launch of his book "Seabuckthorn, the Superfruit".

Fortnightly News

In Conversation with Tsering Lhamo, Theater Practitioner

...Continuity of page 5

Q7. What is the status of Ladakh in carrying forward Theatre dramas, does it have the potential to flourish in future?

The status of theatre in Ladakh is currently in a nascent stage, with a growing but still limited presence in the region. Traditionally, Ladakh has a rich cultural heritage with various forms of storytelling and performance, but formal theatre, as we know it is relatively new and developing. Through theatre workshops and interactions, I've observed a budding interest and enthusiasm for the art form among the younger generation. To cultivate this interest, we need to provide continuous training and ensure that theatre workshops and classes are available in schools, colleges, and universities. Additionally, the infrastructure and resources necessary to fully support and expand theatre are still emerging. Despite these challenges, Ladakh has significant potential to thrive in theatre. The region's unique cultural backdrop, with its rich traditions and diverse narratives, offers a wealth of stories that could captivate audiences and create a distinctive theatrical identity. Additionally, there is increasing recognition of the importance of the arts in education, which could lead to more support and opportunities for aspiring artists.

Q8. You worked with several renowned directors, what all did you learn from them that you can apply to Ladakh?

Working with renowned directors has provided me with practical insights that I believe can greatly benefit the theatre culture in Ladakh. From these experiences, I've learned that establishing a team-oriented approach is essential for building a dynamic and supportive creative community. Embracing innovative techniques and experimenting with new methods can infuse our productions with fresh perspectives. Paying meticulous attention to detail ensures high-quality performances, even with limited resources. Engaging with the local audience by reflecting their stories and issues can make theatre more relevant and impactful. Finally, being resourceful with available materials and finding creative solutions can help us maximize what we have and achieve our goals. Implementing these lessons can help cultivate a vibrant and sustainable theatre community in Ladakh.

Q9. How would you inspire students to opt for Drama arts in their graduation or post graduation?

If you're thinking about Drama Arts, I'd say go for it! This field isn't just about acting on stage; it's about developing skills that are incredibly useful in any career. You'll learn how to communicate effectively, think creatively, and work well with others. These skills are not only essential for a career in theatre but are also highly transferable to various other professions. The discipline and teamwork involved in theatre production build strong collaboration and leadership abilities that are beneficial in any field. Theatre also offers a chance to explore different perspectives and express yourself in unique ways. Plus, getting involved in drama can open doors to various careers, from directing and writing to set design and production. I'd recommend getting involved in local theatre groups or taking part in workshops to see if it's something you're passionate about. Overall, it's a vibrant and rewarding path that can offer you a lot, both personally and professionally.

Q10. Do you have any plans to perform in Ladakh?

I recently performed a solo play titled Shyok in Ladakh, with three shows in Leh and one in Kargil. The audience response was very positive. We are planning additional shows for Shyok and also working on new plays to bring to Ladakh in the future.

New public library opens at Tungri Thang, Zanskar

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

ZANSKAR: Executive Councilor, Er Punchock Tashi inaugurated new public library at Tungri Thang in Karsha Block on July 18.

The library, constructed and funded by the Rural Development Department, aims to support local residents of Tungri Thang with educational resources, especially books for competitive exams. It's a significant step towards promoting literacy and learning within the community.

Agriculture Officer, Tser-



Executive Councilor, Er Punchock Tashi interacting with students during the inauguration of new public library at Tungri Thang in Karsha Block.

ing Norboo, Block Development Officer Karsha, Tsewang Rigzin, community members, and students of Tungri, Tahan and Shamuling were also present during the inauguration ceremony.

EC Tashi commended the initiative, highlighting its role in enhancing ed-

ucation and knowledge sharing in Tungri Thang. The library's collection includes a variety of books curated to meet the educational needs of residents.

The participants had the opportunity to explore the library's resources and discuss future plans for its expansion.

Shakti Udgosh Foundation flags off female biker rally from Leh

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: The Shakti Udgosh Foundation, led by Dr. Preeti Chaudhary, flagged off a significant biking rally, "Ride with Pride," from the Council Secretariat, LAHDC, Leh on July 23. The rally, spanning from Jammu to Siachen, features a team of 15 female bikers and symbolizes women empowerment. This event is dedicated to the nation, its citizens, and the armed forces.

The Shakti Udgosh Foundation, through initiatives like this rally, aims to honor bravehearts and spread messages of resilience and strength among women.

In a parallel feat of determination, Subodh Kunda Vijay Gangurde from Maharashtra, a world-record-holding cyclist, has



Flagging off a significant biking rally, "Ride with Pride," from the Council Secretariat.

conquered 371 mountains in as many days. His contribution to a greener India aligns with his mission to promote environmental sustainability and combat climate change. Joining him is Suresh Bangade, who has covered an impressive 12,000 kilometers on his bicycle, advocating for environmental consciousness through his remarkable journey.

CEC, Hill Council, Leh Tashi Gyalson praised their inspiring stories of grit and passion, noting how they exemplify a unified spirit and commitment toward building a sustainable future. Further, he highlighted that the combined efforts of these individuals and organizations exemplify the power of human endeavor in shaping a better world.

EC Tashi discusses reducing chemical fertilizers and boosting cash crops in Zanskar



Executive Councilor, Er Punchock Tashi, chairing a meeting on halting the use of chemical fertilizers in Kargil district and promoting cash crops in Zanskar.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: Executive Councilor, Er Punchock Tashi, chaired a significant meeting on July 24 at the Council Secretariat focused on halting the use of chemical fertilizers in Kargil district and promoting cash crops in Zanskar.

The meeting discussed the adverse effects of chemical fertilizers on soil health and the environment, and explored alternatives to these fertilizers. EC Tashi welcomed attendees and emphasized the meeting's purpose: addressing the impact of chemical fertilizers on soil health, water quality, and local biodiversity, as well as environmental concerns such as pollution and long-term sustainability issues.

In line with the Chairman/CEC of LAHDC Kargil's vision and the UT administration's goal of declaring Ladakh organic by 2025, EC Tashi proposed a district-wide ban on chemical fertilizers, stressing the importance of sustainable agricultural practices. The proposal received unanimous support from all attendees, leading to the Chairman/Chief Executive Councilor LAHDC Kargil approving a complete ban on chemical fertilizers in the district. Additionally, it was decided to enhance the subsidy on compost fertilizers by up to 90 percent to support farmers in transitioning to organic alternatives.

Furthermore, a proposal was made for a team of Agriculture Officers from Kargil and Zanskar to undertake an exposure cum official visit to the district headquarters of Lahoul Spiti at Kaylong around August 17th.

The meeting was attended by Ashique Hussain Basharat, Chief Agriculture Officer Kargil; Dr. Zakir Hussain, DRC Kargil; and Mohd Hussain HQA to CAO Kargil.

Report on 4th Khelo India Winter Games released



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Administrative Secretary of Youth Services and Sports, Vikram Singh Malik released a report on the 4th Khelo India Winter Games (Ice Event), held from February 2nd to 6th, 2024 in the UT of Ladakh. This prestigious event showcased the talents of athletes from across India and for the first time Ladakh has hosted a National Sports event.

The report highlights the seamless organization and execution of the Games, underscoring the dedication and hard work of all involved in making this event a monumental success.

The event has witnessed over 344 athletes (02 disciplines) participated in

the 4th Khelo India Winter Games highlights a strong enthusiasm and dedication to winter sports. The Games were not only about sports but also celebrated the rich cultural heritage of Ladakh through various cultural performances.

In the report, testimonials from organizers and athletes are recorded and recording such feedback are essential for the upcoming sporting events.

The Administrative Secretary congratulated the organizing team & Department of Youth Services and Sports for receiving an appreciation letter from (MYA) SAI for the successful conduct of the event.

Cycle rally 'Pedal for Patriots' commemorates Kargil Vijay Diwas



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: A cycle rally, 'Pedal for Patriots,' Kargil Vijay Diwas Ride, was successfully organized by the 'Fire and Fury Corps' Army Air Defence Brigade on July 26. The rally commenced from Spituk, Leh, and concluded at Khardung La, covering a total distance of 40 km.

The rally was part of the ongoing celebrations marking the Silver Jubilee of Kargil Vijay Diwas, in remembrance of the valiant heroes who sacrificed their lives for our nation's security and integrity in the icy heights of Kargil.

Officers, JCOs, and soldiers participated, demonstrating unwavering dedication and spirit. The event

was marked by vibrant displays of patriotism, with cyclists carrying flags and banners commemorating the Kargil War heroes. It showcased the unity and mutual admiration among the participants for the courageous warriors who laid down their lives for our nation.

The rally served not only as a tribute but also as a reminder of the unity and resilience that define our nation. It fostered a sense of patriotism among the participants, reinforcing their love and commitment to the nation. The sacrifices of our heroes ensure our nation's security, and their legacy inspires us to strive for a united and strong India.

People's Voice Ladakh's Gazetted recruitment delayed for 5 years: Aspirants frustrated

...Continuity of page 4

The seminar was convened in response to a notification approved by the UPSC for the Assistant Registrar position in the cooperative department, which included a clause regarding residency. The main issue is that we only have "Ladakhi" residency status. Our primary concern was whether the Ladakhi Residency Certificate (LRC) would be applicable for gazetted posts, and if not, what alternatives exist. We also sought to understand why the recruitment process has been so slow.

During the seminar, we discussed whether aspirants who have been preparing for five years would receive any relaxation or additional time once the notification is issued. We hope that the next meeting will address these issues and reach a conclusion, as unresolved matters continue to delay gazetted recruitment.

While the response from the administration has been positive, it is frustrating that significant action only follows proactive activities by students. Stakeholders often respond only after aspirants take action, rather than addressing issues proactively. We urge the councils and administration to take decisive steps in this matter.

Despite assurances since Ladakh became a UT, recruitment for subordinate posts remains incomplete, and the lack of gazetted positions—those with decision-making power—remains a major concern. As Ladakhis, we wish to have a role in decision-making to contribute to the region's development. The ongoing delay is turning aspirants' hopes into frustration. It is crucial that the council and administration address these issues with urgency.

I also encourage all Kargil aspirants to raise their concerns with their leaders. By presenting a unified front, we can work together to push for speedy recruitment.



Tsewang Gyalson, an aspirant from Urbis:

Firstly, I would like to thank the Reach Ladakh team for understanding the issues faced by students, especially when those who should be addressing these concerns are not taking adequate action. I completed my graduation in 2019, and since the pandemic, I have been preparing for gazetted posts. However, no gazetted positions have been advertised in the past five years. This prolonged delay has caused many students to age out of eligibility despite their qualifications and skills. This situation is not merely an individual failure but a collective failure of society.

The ongoing delay is likely to continue, particularly because there has been no consensus on reservation policies. The solution lies in all stakeholders coming together to discuss and reach a consensus to expedite the recruitment process. This issue affects not only students but the entire society across different regions of Ladakh.

Despite being a critical issue, it is rarely discussed. The visible symptoms of this crisis include widespread unemployment, unadvertised posts, well-qualified aspirants being forced into subordinate roles, and those preparing for years suffering from mental distress. Although these problems may not always be apparent, individuals are grappling with intense frustration and agony.

It is crucial that the administration takes this issue seriously and addresses it with the urgency it demands.

It's not the issue of only students its issue of whole society of different regions of Ladakh.

This issue is very less talked issue while it is clearly visible that we all are facing unemployment crisis, posts not being advertised, well qualified aspirants have to join subordinate jobs, and those who have been preparing since many years are getting affected mentally. Though it cannot be seen but every individual is facing at their own level. They are still struggling with fierce, agony and frustration.

I think this issue must be taken up seriously by the administration.

Fortnightly News

Forest Division Kargil organises “Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam” plantation drive



Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: Forest Division Kargil organized the “Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam” plantation drive aimed at environmental conservation on July 27.

The event was graced by the presence of Mohd Ali, Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) Kargil, who was the chief guest. The program commenced with a pledge ceremony, during which participants vowed to protect and preserve the environment.

Dr. Amitab, Principal of (PM Shri) Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya Kargil, was also present and urged students to consider the environmental impact of their actions.

He lauded the Forest Division for organizing the program and planting for mother “Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam” at (PM Shri) Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya Kargil, making this event possible.

The students presented speeches on the role of plantation in environmental protection and highlighted how planting trees can significantly contribute to a sustainable environment.

Mohd Ali, DFO Kargil, emphasized the primary objective of the plantation drive and spoke on the fragility of Ladakh’s environment. He expressed gratitude to all participants for making the event suc-

cessful. The “Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam” plantation drive marks a significant step towards fostering environmental awareness and action in Drass. The collaboration between the Department of Forest and (PM Shri) Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya Kargil underscores the importance of community involvement in environmental conservation efforts.

During the drive, 30 different species of poly bag plants were planted by the students. A painting competition was also organized in which 50 students participated.

Training for mushroom production concludes at SKUAST KVK-1 Kargil



During the four-day Training of Trainers (ToT) program in mushroom production.

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

KARGIL: Four-day Training of Trainers (ToT) program in mushroom production conducted from July 24 to 25 at SKUAST KVK-1 Kargil.

The program was organized by LRLM Kargil in collaboration with KVK-1 SKUAST Kargil with an aim to empower 20 SHG members with skills and knowledge on mushroom production.

Dr. Nasreen, Senior Scientist, SKUAST KVK-1 Kargil, was the resource

person for the training. The program was also attended by BPM TSG, BPM Sankoo, and DPM LRLM. During the training, participants learned about spawn production, mushroom cultivation, processing, and marketing. The program also aimed to promote entrepreneurship and economic empowerment among rural women.

All 20 SHG members successfully completed the training, and certificates were distributed to the

participants.

Padma Angmo, ACD Kargil, appreciated the efforts of SKUAST KVK-1 Kargil and participants, emphasizing the importance of mushroom production in enhancing livelihood opportunities.

The training was conducted under the aegis of the LRLM initiative, aiming to promote sustainable livelihoods and economic empowerment among rural women. Jammu & Kashmir.

ALSisar Impact-backed Siachen Naturals™ secures first-ever equity funding in Ladakh valued at INR 4.25 Crore

Reach Ladakh Correspondent

LEH: Ladakh-based startup Siachen Naturals™ has recently closed its pre-seed funding round with a valuation of INR 4.25 crore, marking the first instance of equity financing secured by a startup in Ladakh.

The funding round was led by prominent investors, including Anuj Sharma, Founder of ALSisar Impact; Sonali Mehta-Rao of Ahaana Ventures; Urvashi Devidayal, Former South Asia Head of Thomson Reuters Foundation; and Manoj Jain, a Silicon Valley-based angel investor and startup finance leader.

Siachen Naturals specializes in creating authentic Ladakhi natural soup mixes, porridges, and other healthy breakfast products using locally grown, organic ingredients. These products, celebrated for their health benefits and traditional heritage, are handcrafted using environmentally-friendly methods such as solar dryers, glacier water turbines, and eco-friendly packaging.

Founded by Tsetan Dorje, a native of Aranoo village near the Siachen Glacier, Siachen Naturals aims to empower local Ladakhi

communities, particularly women from Siachen villages, by addressing socio-economic challenges that lead to migration and unstable livelihoods through sustainable business practices. Dorje, an alumnus of the SECMOL alternate school founded by Sonam Wangchuk and a recipient of the prestigious Naropa Fellowship, has also received catalytic funding from OYO Rooms Founder Ritesh Agarwal and IIT Mandi Catalyst.

Siachen Naturals provides fixed-income opportunities, training, infrastructure, and advance pay-

ments to support stable livelihoods and promote regenerative agricultural practices. Reflecting on his journey, Tsetan Dorje states, “Our ambitions for Siachen Valley and Ladakh are boundless. We aim to create a prosperous and happy Ladakh that preserves our values and traditions while offering equitable economic opportunities. Amid the challenges of climate change, preserving our land, traditions, and farmers is urgent. This milestone is just the beginning; we are taking Ladakh’s flavors to the world.”

ALSisar Impact, known for supporting local and indigenous entrepreneurs in the Himalayan startup ecosystem, has been working with Tsetan Dorje since Siachen Naturals’ inception in 2022. With products quickly selling out in Ladakh and expanding into northern India markets, the brand’s popularity continues to grow, as evidenced by sold-out exhibitions in Mumbai. Anuj Sharma, Founder of ALSisar Impact and investor in Siachen Naturals, believes the company is setting a global example of responsibly harnessing natural resources while preserving cultural heritage and building climate resilience.

INDIAN INSTITUTES OF MANAGEMENT (IIMs)

Ahmedabad, Amritsar, Bangalore, Bodh Gaya, Calcutta, Indore, Jammu, Kashipur, Kozhikode, Lucknow, Mumbai, Nagpur, Raipur, Ranchi, Rohtak, Sambalpur, Shillong, Sirmour, Tiruchirappalli, Udaipur, Visakhapatnam

COMMON ADMISSION TEST CAT 2024

The Indian Institutes of Management will conduct a computer-based Common Admission Test 2024 (CAT 2024) on **November 24, 2024** in three sessions. Detailed information on CAT 2024 may be obtained from the CAT website.

CAT Website : www.iimcat.ac.in

CAT 2024 is a prerequisite for admission to various Post Graduate and Fellow/Doctorate programmes of IIMs. CAT 2024 scores are allowed to be used by listed non-IIM member institutions. A list of such institutions is provided on the CAT website. IIMs have no role in the selection process of non-IIM institutions.

CAT 2024 ELIGIBILITY

Please refer to the detailed notification on the CAT website. Applicants should note that mere fulfillment of the minimum eligibility criteria will not ensure consideration for shortlisting by IIMs.

RESERVATIONS

Refer to the CAT website for information regarding reservation of seats for various categories of applicants. No change in the category will be entertained after CAT registration.

REGISTRATION FEES

₹ 1250 for SC, ST and PwD category candidates.
₹ 2500 for all other categories of candidates.

Please note that a candidate needs to pay the registration fees only once, irrespective of the number of institutes he/she is applying for. Fees once paid cannot be refunded under any circumstances.

IMPORTANT DATES

Registration opens : August 01, 2024 (10:00am)
Registration closes : September 13, 2024 (5:00 pm)
Admit card download: November 05 - November 24, 2024
Test date : November 24, 2024
Result declaration : Second week of January, 2025 (Tentative)

TEST CENTRES

CAT will be conducted in test centres spread across around 170 test cities. Candidates will be given the option to select any five test cities in order of their preference. The list of cities may be subject to changes based on the discretion of the CAT authorities.

DISCLAIMER

This advertisement is only intended to be an announcement for CAT 2024. For detailed information, rules and procedures regarding CAT and the admission process of various IIMs and other updates, candidates should visit the CAT website.

Any dispute concerning CAT 2024 would be subject to the jurisdiction of the competent Courts within the territorial jurisdiction of the City of Kolkata only.

IMPORTANT

Candidates must declare and maintain a valid and unique email account and a mobile phone number throughout the selection process.

NOTICE

Service No 6946239H Rank Nk Chelimilla Subbarayudu Unit 254 (I) ABOU C/o 56 APO, has claimed that his wife name has been wrongly entered as C Subbaratnamma instead of Chelimilla Subbaratnamma in his Service record and produced an affidavit duly verified by Notary Public Leh with Certificate No. IN-IN-LA/07038182898066W for making necessary corrections. Hence the notice is hereby served through the press to file an objection if any to the concerned authority within 7 days from the date of publication.

NOTICE

Whereas Stanzin Angchuk S/o Tsering Dorje R/o Tangtse Durbuk, Leh Ladakh has claimed that his name has been wrongly entered as Stanzin Angchuck instead of Stanzin Angchuk in his son Tsering Paldan school record of St Peters school Chuchot Yokma Leh registration no 2250002000500030. Hence, notice is hereby served through press to file objection if any in this regard report to St Peters school Chuchot Yokma Leh office within 7 days from the date of issue of this notice.

NOTICE

I, Ali Khan S/o Ghulam Quadir R/o Partapur Nubra UT Ladakh do at this moment notify that my father name has been wrongly entered as Ghulam Quadir instead of the correct and actual name as per my Adhar card Ghulam Quadir in my Contractor card No: D-230 Dated:10/07/2013. Now I am applying for changes in my Contractor card and objection, if any may be conveyed to PWD Circle Leh Ladakh within 07 days from the publication date.

NOTICE

Whereas, Tsering Norboo S/o Tsewang Namgail R/o Domkhar Leh, UT Ladakh has claimed that his son's name has been wrongly entered as Sonam Diack instead of Sonam Delak in his son's Birth Certificate. Hence, the notice is hereby served through the press to file an objection in this office of Registrar Birth & Death, Municipal committee Leh, within 7 days from the publication date.

Registrar Birth & Death,
Municipal committee Leh.

THE NEW INDIA ASSURANCE CO. LTD.

Chandigarh Regional Office (350000),
36-37, Sector 17A, Chandigarh-160017,
Ph: 0172-2701756, 2702806, 2704954, Website: www.newindia.co.in
CIN No: L66000MH1919GOI000526 | IRDA Registration No: 190

REQUIRED COMMERCIAL PREMISES ON LEASE BASIS AT LEH (UT LADAKH)

We intend to acquire the Commercial Premises of about 400 Sq. Ft. carpet area on lease basis preferably at Ground Floor in a ready state of possession at LEH for office use. interested parties may submit their offers through Courier/ Registered post in separate sealed envelopes mentioning 'Technical BID' and 'Financial BID' placed in an envelope super- scribed "OFFER OF PREMISES FOR LEH" along with the copy of the duly approved plan, title deed, layout of the building etc. latest by 16th August, 2024 at the below mentioned address:

THE OFFICE INCHARGE
THE NEW INDIA ASSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED,
GULLA CHAMBERS, OLD ROAD,
LEH (UT LADAKH)

The Tender Formats i.e. TECHNICAL BID AND FINANCIAL BID can be collected from the above said address of LEH office on any working day during office hours excluding Saturday and Sunday. The Company reserves the right to accept or reject all or any of the offers in full or in part without assigning any reasons thereof.

DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER
REGIONAL OFFICE, CHANDIGARH

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of India Enterprise)

NOTICE FOR APPOINTMENT OF MAK™ LUBRICANTS DISTRIBUTORSHIP

Bharat Petroleum is a Fortune 500 Public Sector Oil & Gas Company. We are the makers of **MAK™** Lubricants - one of the top Lubricants brands in the country. **MAK™** Lubricants are approved by leading vehicle manufacturers and has tie-ups with major OEMs (Original Equipment Manufacturers) for Genuine Oils. Our range of lubricants includes automotive & industrial lubricants, greases, gear oils, brake fluids and coolants. We wish to appoint Primary Lube Distributors (PLD), to cover the market in LEH.

The detailed advertisement is available in our website www.bharatpetroleum.in. → Tenders → View Tender → Select Date From (01.08.2024) Due Date (22.08.2024) → Select Department: Lubricant-Distributorship → Choose a Tender Type: Press

Forms can be downloaded from the website which should be filled and submitted along with the application fees at respective territory offices, follow the instructions to apply as given in the website. Corrigendum, if any, will be published only in the website mentioned above.

Last date of submission of application : 22.08.2024 by 17:00 Hrs.
Contact details of the Territory manager:
Territory Manager (Lubes), Jalandhar - 7544008821/8800438892

NOTICE

I, Tashi Lundup S/o Sonam Dorje R/o Phyang, Leh Ladakh, do hereby notify that I have lost my driving license bearing no. JK-1020170020224 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.

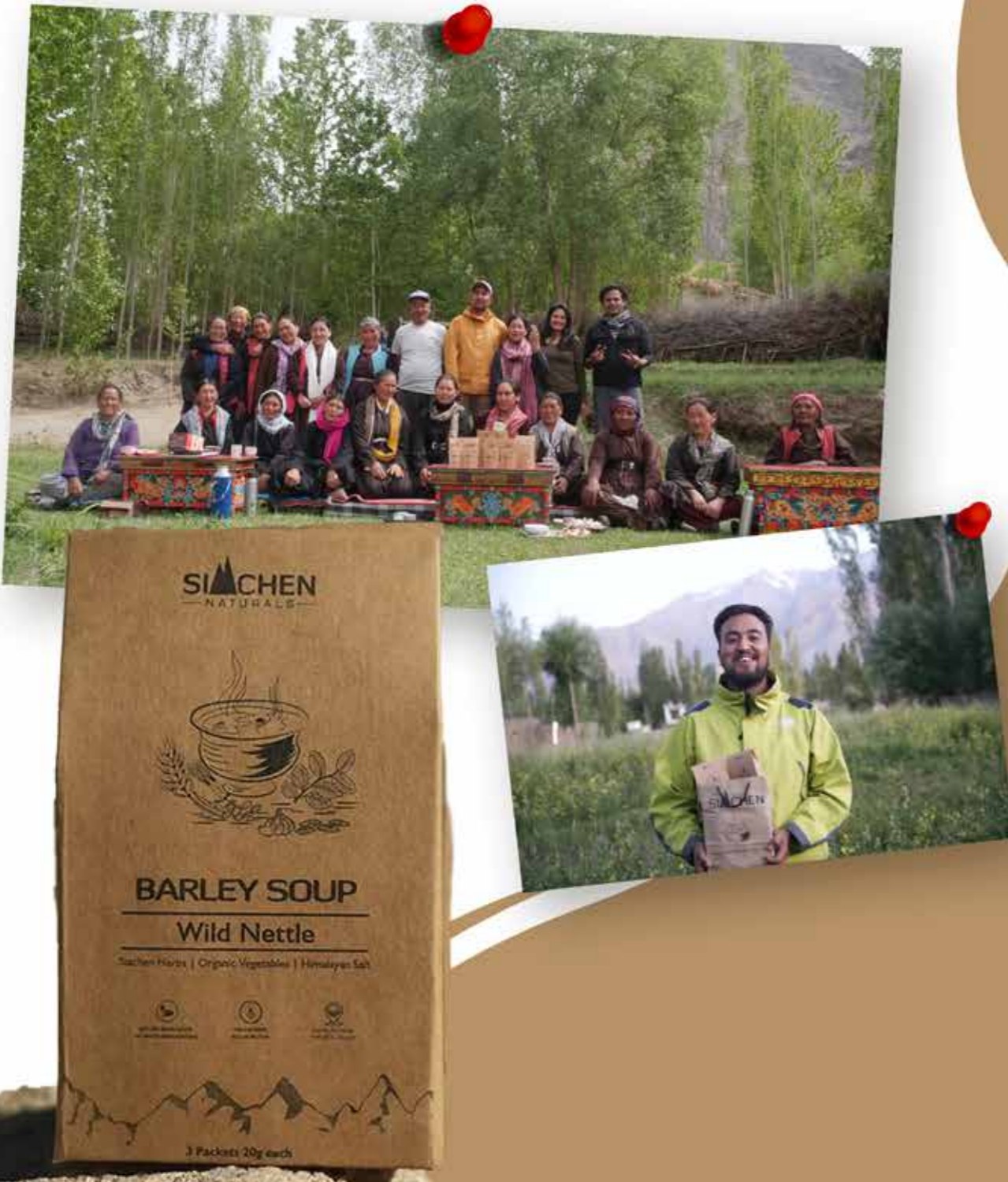
Advertisement

Siachen Naturals™ Celebrates First-Ever Equity Funding



ALSisar Impact-backed Siachen Naturals™ secures the first-ever equity funding in Ladakh valued at INR 4.25 crore.

Discover the authentic taste of Ladakh with Siachen Naturals' handcrafted, organic soup mixes, porridges, and healthy breakfast products. Crafted from locally sourced, organic ingredients, our products not only offer profound health benefits but also help preserve the rich heritage of our region. By choosing Siachen Naturals™, you contribute to empowering local communities and maintaining age-old cultural traditions.



Explore our delicious products at www.siachennaturals.com and get updates by following us on Instagram @siachennaturals.

Ladakh Buddhist Association

3D VIEW OF CHOWKHANG VIHARA, LEH

JKBMERC00509710@jkb

NAME: LADAKH BUDDHIST ASSOCIATION
MORNA (CHOWKHANG)

སྐོ་ཇོ་ཁང་གསར་བཞེངས་ཀྱི་ཆེད་དུ་ཐྱེད་ཀྱི་ཞལ་འདེབས་རིན་ཅན།

Donation for the Reconstruction of Chowkhang Vihara, Leh

Scan the QR code to donate.

After payment, WhatsApp a screenshot with your name, address, and contact number to 9596843716.

For inquiries, contact Mr. Neema Tashi at the same number.



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