



"Ladakh: A journey to the heart of nature"



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Inshorts

India again elected to UN's PBC

NEW YORK: India has been re-elected to the UN Peacebuilding Commission for 2025-2026. India's current term on the Commission was expiring on December 31. "India has been re-elected to the UN Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) for 2025-2026. As a founding member and major contributor to @UNPeacekeeping, India is committed to continuing its engagement with the PBC to work towards global peace and stability," the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations said in a post on X on Thursday. The Peacebuilding Commission is an intergovernmental advisory body that supports peace efforts in conflict-affected countries and is a key addition to the capacity of the International Community in the broad peace agenda, according to its website. The PBC is composed of 31 Member States. ▶P11

India's concern 'Unwarranted': B'desh Minister

DHAKA: Bangladesh on Friday claimed India followed "double standards" on protection of minority communities and accused the neighbouring country's media of conducting an "industrial scale misinformation campaign" against Dhaka. Amid a row over the arrest of Hindu leader Chinmoy Krishna Das on sedition charges, Bangladesh interim government's Law Affairs Adviser Asif Nazrul in a Facebook post said India's unwarranted concern for Bangladesh continues. "In India, numerous incidents of brutality on minority Muslim community is going on. But they don't have any remorse or embarrassment (over those incidents)." ▶P11

Parliament adjourned till Monday

NEW DELHI: Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha proceedings were adjourned for the day on Friday as opposition MPs protested the rejection of adjournment notices for a discussion on allegations against the Adani Group, and the violence in Manipur and Sambhal. Both the Houses will meet again on Monday. Soon after laying of listed papers in the morning session, Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar said he had received 17 notices for adjournment of scheduled business under Rule 267 of the House. ▶P11

Patrolling pact implemented as per agreed timelines with China: Govt

NEW DELHI: India and China have implemented a pact sealed last month on patrolling in Depsang and Demchok along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh as per agreed modalities and timelines, the government said on Friday. The two sides reached the agreement on disengagement and patrolling in the last two friction points on October 21. Minister of State for External Affairs Kirti Vardhan Singh said in Lok Sabha that the terms of the disengagement agreements reached prior to the latest pact continued to hold in relevant areas in eastern Ladakh. "India and China reached agreement on patrolling arrangements along the LAC in India-China border areas in Depsang and Demchok on October 21 leading to disengagement," he said. "It has been agreed therein that patrolling activities and, wherever applicable, grazing will resume as per longstanding practice before friction started in these areas," he said. "The agreement has since been effected and implemented as per modalities and timelines agreed," Singh added. The minister was replying to a question. "The terms of the disengagement agreements reached prior to October 21 continue to hold in relevant areas in eastern Ladakh. "The terms of the agreements apply mutually to both sides and are without prejudice to India's positions on LAC or boundary lines," he said. Singh said the government continues to keep a constant watch on all developments having a bearing on India's security and takes all the necessary measures to safeguard its sovereignty and territorial integrity. Indian and Chinese militaries are carrying out one round of patrolling ▶P11

Modi handled India-China LAC differences well: EAM

NEW DELHI: In his meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping in Kazan last month, Prime Minister Narendra Modi underscored the importance of properly handling differences and disputes between India and China and not allowing them to disturb peace and tranquility in the border areas. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said this in the Lok Sabha on Friday while replying to a question on the border issue with China along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh matter.



PM Modi and Jinping held talks on the sidelines of the 16th BRICS Summit in Kazan on October 23, two days after India and China reached an agreement on disengagement in Demchok and Depsang, the two last friction points along the LAC in eastern Ladakh. The disengagement at the two points marked a virtual end to over four-year stand-

off between the two sides in the region. At a media briefing, external affairs ministry Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal, responding to a question on patrolling in the contested areas, only said that work is being done and progress is being made. In his reply in the Lok Sabha, Jaishankar said, "During the meeting, Prime Min-

ister Modi welcomed the agreement for complete disengagement and resolution of relevant issues that arose in 2020 in the India-China border areas. "He underscored the importance of properly handling differences and disputes and not allowing them to disturb peace and tranquility in the border area," he added. The external affairs minis-

ter also referred to remarks made by Chinese foreign ministry Spokesperson Lin Jian on October 21. The official had said that China commends the progress made and will continue working with India for the sound implementation of these resolutions. The readout of China's ministry of foreign affairs, following the meeting between PM Modi and President Jinping, mentioned that the two leaders commended the important progress made through intensive communication on resolving the relevant issues in the border areas, Jaishankar said. The government regularly takes up any transgression along the LAC with the Chinese side through established mechanisms, including border personnel meetings, flag meetings, meetings of the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border Affairs as well as ▶P11

Create fire lines to preserve Sea Buckthorn, says Advisor

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LEH: The Advisor to the Lieutenant Governor UT Ladakh, Dr. Pawan Kotwal chaired a meeting on the 'Constitution of UT level Sea buckthorn Mission' at the Civil Secretariat Leh and instructed the officials to create fire lines as early as possible for its preservation and promotion. Commissioner Secretary, Agriculture and Horticulture, Lalitkuma Franklin provided a comprehensive PowerPoint presentation on the Sea buckthorn cultivation in UT Ladakh. The presentation covers key aspects including UT schemes: Special Development Packages, CSS scheme: Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture. During the meeting, discussions and deliberations were held on the requirement of modern techniques and methods to improve sea buckthorn harvesting. The meeting also discussed UT schemes (SDP) being implemented for the promotion of sea buckthorn in UT Ladakh and milestones achieved under these schemes. It is pertinent to mention



here that the Ladakh region is harvesting 5-6% Sea buckthorn annually, 666MT was harvested by berry collectors in the year 2024, while 315 MT was harvested in the year 2023. Keeping in view the financial and medicinal value of Sea buckthorn, Advisor Ladakh, Dr. Pawan Kotwal instructed the officials to create fire lines as early as possible for its preservation and promotion. He further said that the farmers of the UT Ladakh should be encouraged to cultivate sea buckthorn. Both the District Magistrates of Leh and Kargil have been instructed to identify the land for the Sea Buckthorn nurseries, where all the environmental conditions are favorable. Emphasizing on the

contract farming, the Advisor said that it should be introduced. It is a formal or informal agreement between farmers and buyers that outlines the terms and conditions for the production and marketing of agricultural products. The meeting discussed the bottleneck areas, including the challenges faced by entrepreneurs and buyers engaged in Sea buckthorn processing, and explored strategies for enhancing harvesting tools and methods. The meeting was attended by the Principal Secretary of UT Ladakh; Commissioner Secretary Health and Medical Education UT Ladakh; Commissioner Secretary of Agriculture and Horticulture UT Ladakh; Additional Principal Chief Conservator ▶P11

Leh Depts to ensure biometric attendance

LEH: On the directions of Deputy Commissioner Leh, Santosh Sukhadeve, directing all concerned departments to install biometric attendance systems at the earliest, the Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Leh, Ghulam Mohd (JKAS) conducted surprise visits to various government offices to inspect staff attendance in Leh. The ADC inspected the various departments including Department of Information, Archives, BDO Leh, Rural Engineering Wing (REW), Tehsildar Office, ICDS, Soil ▶P11

LG Mishra orders probe into financial irregularities in Homestay Policy

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LEH: Amidst allegations of financial irregularities and favoritism under the UT Ladakh Homestay Policy-2023, Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh B.D. Mishra on Friday announced a comprehensive inquiry into claims of misuse of public funds and assets. The inquiry, aimed at ensuring transparency and accountability, comes after allegations surfaced accusing officials of favoring National Conference (NC) party workers during the distribution of Homestay assets. The controversy erupted after Skalzang Wangyal Gara, former Executive Councillor of the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC) Kargil, submitted a detailed written

complaint to the LG. Gara alleged that the Tourism Department of Kargil, under the influence of LAHDC Kargil, violated merit-based norms by distributing assets to politically affiliated individuals instead of deserving beneficiaries. Gara's complaint specifically accused Rehmatullah Bhat, the Assistant Director of Tourism in ▶P11

Gyalson seeks special relaxation for Ladakh in budget allocations

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LEH: Chairman, CEC, LAHDC Leh, Adv. Tashi Gyalson expressed concern over the curtailed budget for Ladakh, and emphasized that the Government of India (GoI) should consider providing special relaxations to the region due to its short working season, challenging terrain, and limited manpower. The CEC suggested that the excess surrender of funds should be taken in January instead of October to get a

clearer picture of funds required till March ending. CEC Tashi Gyalson made these statements while chairing a meeting at the DC Conference Hall, Leh, to review the financial and physical sta-



tus of developmental works being executed under the Special Development Package (SDP) and the State Sector the other day. The CEC outlined that billing for ▶P11

MP Haneefa felicitates Rinchen Youdol for historic achievement

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KARGIL/NEW DELHI: In a proud and heart-warming gesture, the Member of Parliament from Ladakh, Haji Haneefa Jan, met with Rinchen Youdol, the celebrated Bronze Medalist of the 1st World Para Poomsae Taekwondo Championships, at Ladakh Bhawan, Delhi on Friday. Acknowledging Rinchen's groundbreaking achievement on the global stage, Haji Haneefa Jan presented her with a cash prize of ₹50,000 as a token of appreciation for her extraordinary performance. This gesture underlines his commitment to encouraging



young talent from Ladakh who represent the region and India internationally. While addressing the occasion, Haji Haneefa Jan conveyed his immense pride and best wishes for Rinchen's future endeavours. This momentous occasion celebrates not ▶P11

14 LAB-PMJAY cards created for elderly ppl

NEW DELHI: Till November 25, approximately 14 lakh Ayushman Vay Vandana cards have been created for senior citizen beneficiaries aged 70 years and above under the Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY), the government informed Parliament on Friday. The estimated number of families with beneficiaries aged 70 years and above is 4.5 crore, which corresponds to the six crore individuals under the scheme, Minister of State for Health Prataprao Jadhav said in a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha. Till November ▶P11

Modi slams Opposition for disrespecting Constitution

BHUBANESWAR: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday criticized Opposition parties for tarnishing the country's image, disrespecting the Constitution, and misleading people onto the wrong path. The PM alleged that the Opposition regularly engages in spreading propaganda against the BJP-led central government. Modi, addressing party workers here, also said that the opposition has only one aim, "to somehow capture power by misleading people". "Those who consider

power as their birthright have not been in power at the Centre for the last decade," he said in an apparent dig at the opposition. The prime minister said the BJP dedicatedly worked for the development of Odisha, even when the party was not in power in the eastern state. "The Odisha poll results surprised many big political experts, who had completely rejected the idea of BJP forming government in the state... BJP's election success in Odisha, Haryana and Maharashtra shows the ▶P11

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